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

Volume IV

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

United States Government Printing Office
Washington, 1942

Electronically published by
American Naval Records Society
Bolton Landing, New York
2011

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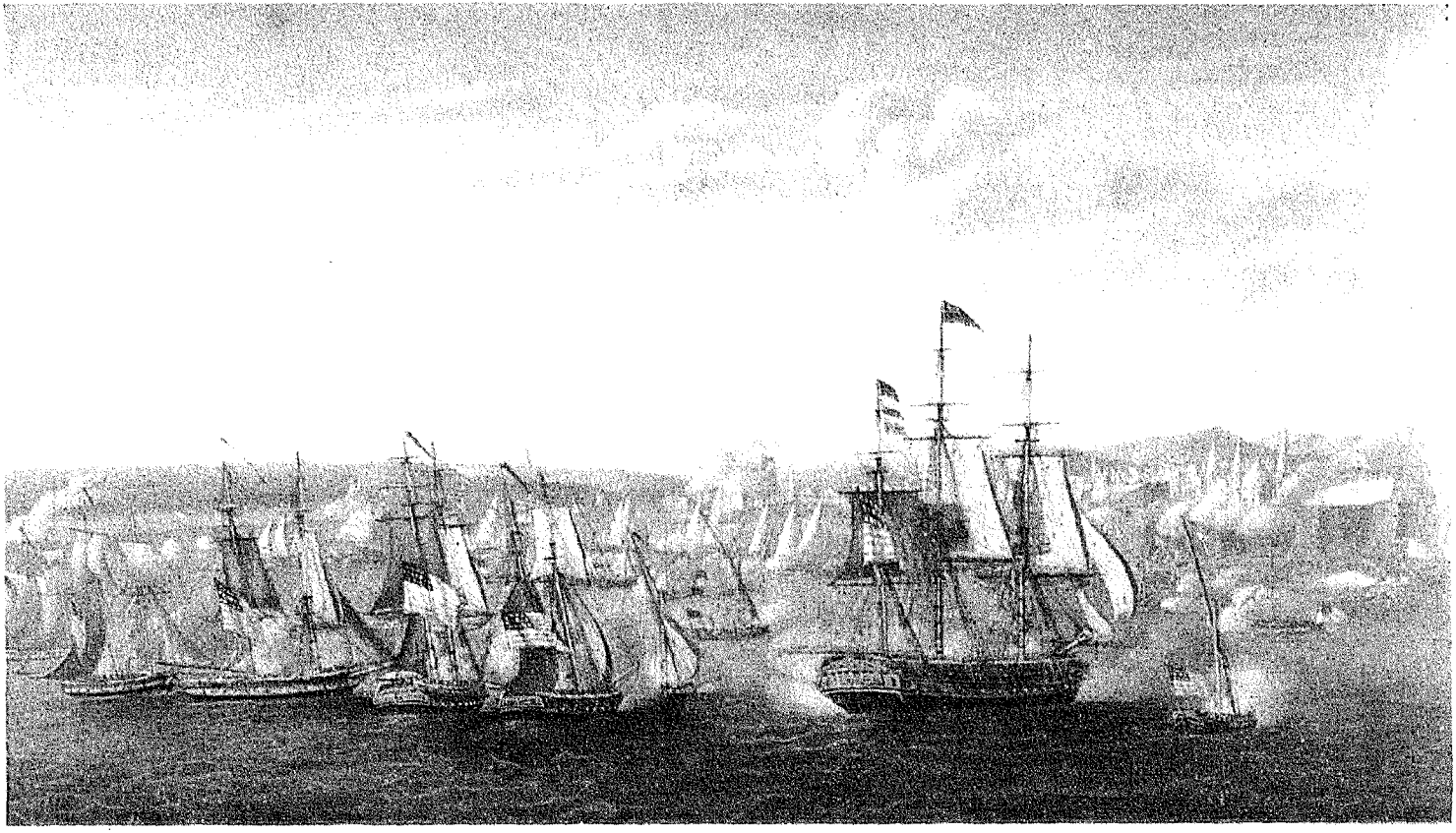
NAVAL OPERATIONS

FROM APRIL TO SEPTEMBER 6, 1804

WARS WITH BARBARY POWERS



ATTACK ON TRIPOLI, 3 AUGUST 1804.

NAVAL DOCUMENTS

RELATED TO THE

UNITED STATES WARS WITH THE BARBARY POWERS

VOLUME IV

NAVAL OPERATIONS

INCLUDING DIPLOMATIC BACKGROUND
FROM APRIL TO
SEPTEMBER 6, 1804

PUBLISHED UNDER DIRECTION OF
The Honorable FRANK KNOX
Secretary of the Navy

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

By Authority of Act of Congress
Approved March 15, 1934

UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON : 1942

PREFACE

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

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

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

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

The first volume of the Barbary Wars series, already published, dealt with the voyage of the U. S. S. *George Washington* from Algiers to Constantinople under compulsion by the Dey of Algiers; the declaration of war by Tripoli against the United States; the sending of a squadron under Commodore Richard Dale to the Mediterranean; the capture of the Tripolitan cruiser *Tripoli* by the U. S. schooner *Enterprize* and the blockade of Tripoli.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

of the appropriation made for the commencement of this work as contained in the Naval Appropriation Act for the fiscal year 1935, $12,000 ("A" item), together with the unexpended balance for this purpose for the fiscal year 1940: *Provided*, That nothing in such Act shall preclude the Public Printer from furnishing one hundred and fifty copies of each volume published to the Library of Congress."

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

ILLUSTRATIONS

Page

Attack on Tripoli by U. S. squadron under Commodore Edward Preble, 3 August 1804. Frontispiece

From a painting by M. F. Cornè in the Maine Historical Society. Reproduced through its kind cooperation.

Map of the port of Saragosa (Syracuse) in Sicily 40

Reproduced from "The Mediterranean Pilot" published by W. Heather, London, 1802, now in the possession of the Library of Congress.

Map of Valetta Harbor, Malta 114

Reproduced from "The Naval Chronicle" for 1811.

Commodore Edward Preble 159

Reproduced from the portrait by Rembrandt Peale by courtesy of Lieutenant Commander Dundas Preble Tucker, U. S. Navy, Great-great-grandson of Commodore Preble.

Commodore Preble's Squadron attacking Tripoli on 3 August 1804. 204

Reproduced through the kindness of the Naval Academy Museum from the painting in its collection by M. F. Cornè.

The Gunboat action during the attack on Tripoli 3 August 1804. 248

A sectional view from the painting by Cornè at the Naval Academy Museum. The stern and mizzen-mast of the *Constitution* appears at the right. The Brig *Siren* and the Schooner *Vixen* (left to right) are shown in the foreground.

Lieutenant Stephen Decatur and Midshipman Thomas Macdonough boarding a Tripolitan Gunboat during the attack on Tripoli by the squadron of Commodore Preble on 3 August 1804. 290

Reproduced by courtesy of the Naval Historical Foundation from the painting in its collection copied in 1858 by D. M. Carter from an original by Chappel.

Map of the port of Tripoli, indicating maneuvers of squadron during the battle of 3 August 1804 336

Reproduced through the courtesy of the United States Naval Academy Museum, from an original drawing in its collection, made by Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, United States Navy, in 1804.

Attack on Tripoli, 3 August 1804 354

From a water color attributed to Charles Warren. Reproduced by courtesy of the Mariners' Museum, Newport News, Virginia.

Page

Commodore Preble's Squadron engaging the Gunboats and Forts of Tripoli on 3 August 1804 (identification sketch facing) . . 434

Reproduced by courtesy of President Franklin D. Roosevelt from a print in his collection by Charles Denoon.

An attack on Tripoli by U. S. Squadron under Commodore Preble 474

From a painting on wood by an unknown artist in the Maine Historical Society, through whose kindness this reproduction is made.

U. S. Ketch *Intrepid* 499

From a sketch in a letter from Midshipman William Henry Allen to General William Allen, 14 November 1804. Reproduced by courtesy of the Henry Huntington Library and Art Gallery, San Marino, California.

The Ketch *Intrepid* 508

From a sketch by Midshipman William Lewis (lost in the *Epervier* in 1815). Reproduced from the original in the collection of Captain C. W. Cook, O. R. C., U. S. Army, by his courtesy.

Map of the Mediterranean Region 524

ABBREVIATIONS INDEX TO SOURCES

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

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

NAVAL OPERATIONS

FROM APRIL TO SEPTEMBER 6, 1804

WARS WITH BARBARY POWERS

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FROM APRIL TO SEPTEMBER 6, 1804

WARS WITH BARBARY POWERS

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

at 5 Cape Poirchee bearing N ½ W in a range with mount Etna at 6 the town of Syracuse bore N W by N at 7 the town N W at ½ past 8 Spoke the U, S. Schooner *Vixen* Cap^{t} Smith came on board us, at 9 Cap^{t} Sommers of the U. S. Schooner *Nautilus* came on board us at daylight employed beating in to the harbour of Syracuse at 8 Spoke the Ship *Vinilla* of boston from Malta to Messina the town bearing N N W, set the larboard Studding sails and bore away for Malta in Comp^{y} with the *Vixen* the convoy having got in

[NDA photostat.]

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

Strong Gales from the N N W & Cloudy Weather; Standing to the W S W under close reefed topsails and Courses. At 2 P. M. more moderate. Made more Sail; At 6 Swayed up top gall^{t} Masts At 8 A. M. up top gall^{t} Yards. At 10 A. M. Made Signal for Cap^{t} Stewart; he came on board: I gave him orders to proceed to Tunis Bay, in company with this Ship, as I think it necessary to display some forces before Tunis, in order to check their intention of hostilities towards us — Supplied the *Siren* with a quantity of Wood & Coal. At Noon laying to, Supplied the *Syren* with a topmast studding sail boom to make her a Jibb boom. Latitude observed 34°00′ North — Tripoly bore South dis^{t} 60 Miles. Lampedosa N N W ½ W. dis^{e} 98 Miles

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

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

At ½ past 7 the Commodore made signal, prepare to send up top gall^{t} yards. At 8 sent up top gall^{t} yards At ½ past 8 TK^{d} to the N N W. At 11 the Commodore made signal for all Commanders to repair on board him, back'd the main topsail, lowr'd down the cutter, L^{t} Stewart went on board the Commodore with the first Officer of the Prize ship *Madona de Catapoliagne*. ½ past 11 brail'd up after main sail haul'd down fore top mast stay s^{l} — the boat return'd with the 1st Officer of the prize went on b^{d} the Comm^{e} again Meridian moderate breezes & pleas^{t} boarded fore tack musterd the crew

Latt: Obs: 34°1′ N.

[NDA.]

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

NAVY DEPM[t]
April 2, 1804 —

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

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

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

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

NAVY DEPMT
April 2, 1804 —

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

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

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

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

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

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

NAV. DEP
Ap. 3[d] 1804

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

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

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

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

NAV. DEP
Ap[l] 3[d] 1804

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

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

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

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

Let me hear from you frequently —

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

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

NAVY DEPT —
April 3. 1804 —

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

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

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

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

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

NAVY DEPMT —
April 3. 1804 —

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

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

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

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

[Stephen Decatur Col.]

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

NAVY DEP[t]
April 4. 1804 —

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

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

NAVY DEPMT —
April 4, 1804 —

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

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

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

Blank Shipping Papers you will herewith Receive. —

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

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

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

GIBRALTAR *4 April 1804.*

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

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

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

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

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay 4th April 1804

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

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

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

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

[LC original.]

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

Moderate breezes from the W S W — Employed working ship to windward between Zembra Island & Cape Farina — At 2 P. M. the wind shifted from W S W to N b E which is fair for Tunis — Hauled over for Cape Farina till it bore by compass N W b W ½ W We then bore up for Cape Carthage which bore S W 5 leagues — This Cape forms the North entrance to the Anchorage at Tunis As you haul in with cape farina you will observe some broken sand patches resembling snow, and a Watch Tower to the West of them, and some buildings to the West of them, and some buildings near the shore on the south side — Cape Carthage is of a moderate height with an old watch tower on it and is higher than any projecting point between it and cape farina — Ten miles to the N E of Cape Carthage we had 24 fathoms soft bottom, at 6 pm anchor'd with the small Bower in 10 fathoms water — Veered to one third of a cable — We are now at Anchor in the outer road stead leading to Tunis which bears West 9 miles, Cape Carthage N N W nearly 3 Miles — Goletta Castle which guards the Entrance to Tunis bears W b S ½ S 5 Miles — It shews near about 50 Guns, and a fort nearly on a level with the Sea shews 17 large guns A little to the S. W. of the Castle near Cape Carthage is a small Castle shewing 8 Guns We are secure in this situation from the winds excepting between N E b E & N b E. The S E wind has a reach of 10 Miles — Cleared ship & slept at Quarters during night with springs in readiness — Moderate thro' the Night — *Syren* in company. — At 6 A. M. hoisted a Jack & fired a gun as a signal for a shore boat — Made signal for the *Syren* to weigh and for her Captain. At 10 she weighed & stood up the harbor — This forenoon stayed the Topmasts & set up the rigging

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

Noon moderate breezes from the E N E —

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

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

At ½ past 7 took in top gall^{t} sails, down jib took in all sail & came too in 10 fathoms water abreast of the City of Carthage in Tunis bay, prepar'd the boarding pikes, battle axes, the marines of the watch under arms —

Midnight clear & pleas^{t} all the watch under arms. At ½ past 6 L^{t} Stewart went on board the Commodore P^{r} signal ½ past 7 got under way p^{r} signal of the Comm^{r} L^{t} Stewart return'd with the Pilot of the Frigate, Hove up made sail & stood farther up the bay of Tunis At 9 mann'd the cutter, the Pilot went to the town in her —

Meridian back'd the main topsail —

[NDA.]

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

NAVY DEP^{t}
April 5, 1804 —

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

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

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

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

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

TRIPOLI BARBARY *5th April 1804*
rec^{d} 2^{d} June 1804

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Extract from last letter.

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

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

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

Copy PARIS *5th April 1804*

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

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

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

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

(Copy) U: S. Ship *Constitution*
Tunis Bay 5th April 1804

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

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

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

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

His Excellency
Hamouda Bashaw Bey
of Tunis

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

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

MESSINA *April 5th 1804*

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

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

Seamen of the UNITED STATES SCHOONER *Enterprize*

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

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

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

[NDA photostat.]

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

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

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

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

Commences fresh breezes clear & pleas[t] weather. ½ past Meridian the Cutter return'd. At 1 the Comm[r] made signal to speak us, run up the Cutter made sail & beat out of the harbour At ½ past 2 came

too with the starb^{d} anchor in 10 fathoms, Cape Carthage bearing N W. Point Soliman E ½ S L^{t} Stewart went on b^{d} the Comm^{r} At 4 a signal from the Comm^{r} to get under way, brought too. ½ past 4 L^{t} Stewart return'd run up the cutter, made sail & stood up the bay. At 5 M^{r} Davis our Consul came on b^{d} in a shore boat. Wore round & stood for the Comm^{r} ½ past 5 came too again. At 6 L^{t} Stewart & the consul went on b^{d} the Comm^{r} who fired a salute of five guns — Midnight all the watch under arms L^{t} Stewart return'd run up the cutter. Light airs & pleas^{t} At 8 L^{t} Stewart went on board the Comm^{r} At 10 L^{t} Stewart return'd, the Consul left the Commodore, who fired a salute of 5 guns. ½ past 10 the Consul went to Tunis —

Meridian light airs from the West & warm weather. ½ past Meridian L^{t} Stewart went on b^{d} the Comm^{r} At 10 he return'd — Midnight light airs & variable. —

(NB those remarks include 36 hours.)

[NDA.]

To General William Allen from Midshipman William Henry Allen, U. S. Navy

NEWYORK *6th April 1804*

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

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

[Huntington Library Quarterly.]

[6 April 1804]

Soundings off Cape Carthage and vicinity

The old castle on cape Carthage bearing N, W ½ N, ½ mile, you have 7 fathoms. Steering W S W p^{r} Compass ½ mile from the shore you have 4 fathoms from Carthage up to a rocky point on which there is a low battery of four Guns.

Goletta W b N 1 & ½ Mile
Cape Carthage N E ½ E &
Cimario E N E — } You have 4½ fath^{s}

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

TUNIS BAY *April 6th 1804.*

[LC. EPP, Vol. 10, Feb.–April 1804.]

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

AMERICAN HOUSE,
Tunis April 6th 1804.

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

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

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

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

[NDA photostat.]

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

Light Airs & variable. Crew employ'd repairing sails making nippers &c &c Wind from the N East fresh & pleas^{t} At 6 a signal from the Comm^{o} to get under way. At ½ past 6 weigh'd & stood out of the bay. L^{t} Stewart came on board. At 7 came too in 6 fathoms. At ½ past 7 beat to quarters cast loose the guns, set the watch each man under arms —

Mid night dark & heavy gales. —

[NDA.]

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

NAVY DEP^{T}
April 7, 1804 —

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

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

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

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

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

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

[LC original.]

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

Moderate Breezes from the W N W. & cloudy. At Anchor in Tunis Bay, *Syren* in company, At 5 P. M. a shore boat came off with the Drogerman of our Consul who brought me a letter from him which informed me that the Bey insisted on my landing to pay my respects to him, and to pay for certain Tunisian property taken by Comm^{re} Morris's Squadron. I answered the letter by saying I knew nothing of the property in question, and that an appearance of a gale obliged to put to sea immediately, Ordered the *Syren* to stand into the bay and anchor abreast of the Goletta to recieve any communication from the Consul; At 6 P. M with the Wind from the N W b N, weighed anchor and stood to sea under close reefed topsails & Courses; Blowing very heavy. At Midnight passed Zembra Island: about 5 miles on Our lee Beam. At ½ past 2 A. M. it bore S b W 3 leagues. At 4 A. M it blew a heavy Gale; Handed fore & Mizen top Sails and launched top gall^{t} Masts. At 6 A. M. the gale had increased with Violent Squalls — handed the foresail. At 7 A. M. we were 30 Miles to the North of Cape Bon. Wore Ship to the W S W. & brought to under reefed mainsail & storm stay sails: A heavy Sea. At Noon saw Cape Bon S S W dis^{t} about 20 Miles — * * *

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

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

Moderate breezes from the W N W.

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

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

At Midnight passed Zembra Island nearly 5 Miles on our Lee Beam — At ½ past 2 A. M. took our departure from it bearing S b W, 8 miles By 4 A. M. we had handed the fore and Mizen Topsails & Launched top gall^{t} Masts.

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

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

Brought to under reefed Mainsail & storm stay sails — The ship labors & pitches heavy — Set forward the fore runners & tackles in order to ease the bowsprit — The weather was hazy & overcast with heavy gales all the forenoon & the land was obscured till a little before noon when we saw Cape Bon bearing S S W ½ W distant by our observation 14 Miles —

The Gale continues from the N N W.

Latitude observed 37°22′ N.

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

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

Commences with stiff gale, & cloudy squally weather. At 4 hoisted out the barge & sent M^r^ Budd with the Tunissian (that had staid on board all night) on shore. ½ past 7 the barge return'd, let her astern & pay'd out more cable, over haul'd a range of the L^d^ cable ½ past 9 unbent top gall sails & bent the old Ones — Meridian still blowing very heavy from the N. N W crew employ'd middle stitching sails blacking hamm^k^ cloths &c at 7 beat to quarters & gave the watch their arms —

Midnight strong gales & cloudy. —

[NDA.]

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

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

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

[NDA.]

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

NEW YORK *April 9^th^ 1804.*

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

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

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

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

[NDA. MC LB, 1804–5.]

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

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

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

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

[LC. EPP, Vol. 10, Feb.–April 1804.]

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

PARIS *9th April 1804*

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

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

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

(Signed) ROBt R. LIVINGSTON

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

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

NAVY DEPM[t]
9 April 1804.

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

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

[NDA. USMC, LB, 1804–1820.]

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

stood in for the Harbour [of Syracuse] at ½ past Seven brought too with the Starb[d] Anchor in [space] fathoms Water —

[NDA photostat.]

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

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

NB (Those remarks include 12 hours.)

[NDA.]

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

NAVY DEP[t]
April 10, 1804 —

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

R[t] SMITH

(☞Returned as a dead letter —)

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

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

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

[NDA photostat.]

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

[NDA.]

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

NAVY DEPM[t]
April 11. 1804 —

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

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

[11 April 1804]

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

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

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

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

MALTA *April 11th 1804*

[LC. EPP, Vol. 10, Feb.–April 1804.]

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

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

[NDA photostat.]

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

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

Latt: Obs: 36°43′ N.

[NDA.]

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

NAVY DEPT
April 12. 1804 —

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

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

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

1 Sailing Master —
1 Surgeon and 1 Surgeon's Mate. —
1 Purser.
1 Storekeeper.
1 Clerk of the Yard.
1 Head. Carpenter.
1 Plumber —
1 Head Blockmaker.
1 Head Cooper. —
2 Boatswains —
2 Gunners &
1 Sailmaker —

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

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

I enclose letters to

M^{r} Lovell — Sailing Master,
M^{r} Doughty — Head Carpenter. —
M^{r} King — Plumber. —
M^{r} Hanson — Purser —
M^{r} Smallwood. Clerk of the Yard — attaching them to the Yard in virtue of the above recited Law, and directing them to report themselves to the Commanding Officer of the Yard. —
D^{r} Bullus is the Surgeon and M^{r} Jn^{o} Harrison the Surgeon's Mate. —

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

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

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

Your pay &^{c} commenced *28th March 1804*. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

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

LEGHORN *12th April 1804.*

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

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

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

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

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

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

Anchd. in Malta harbour.

[LC original.]

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

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

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

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

(private) DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
April 13th 1804.

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

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

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

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

LEGHORN *18th April 1804.*

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

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

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

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

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

[NDA photostat.]

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

Strong Gales from the N b W. rec'd on board a large Quantity of Slop Cloathing — Lt Smith informed me that he arrived at Algiers and delivered the dispatches for Colo Lear, and returned 10 days since with Mr O'brien late the U. S. Consul at that place; He came here by my request to assist in any negotiation with Tripoly, as he understands the language of the Country; Ordered the *Vixen* to sail for Tripoly. At 4 P M she got under way. Mr Obrien came on board with his Baggage. At 7 P. M. having completed our business here weighed our Anchors and put to Sea — Steered to the N E for Syracuse

Latitude Observed 36°13′ No: Cape Passari at Noon bore N E b N ½ N 12 Leagues

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

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

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

[LC original.]

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

At ½ past 1 light breezes from the So all sail set standing in for the harbour of Syracuse. At 2 came too in 6 fathoms with the larboard bower the light house bearing E by S ½ S the (*Argus* Brig & Schooner *Nautilus*) store ship (*Woodrup Simms*) & the two prizes to the *Siren* at anchor in the harbour ½ past 3 Lt Hull & Summer's came along side, hoisted out the barge & launch, lowr'd down the cutter. ½ past 4 moor'd with the stream to the N E Ends with light airs from the S. E & fine weather

NB (those remarks include 36 hours)

[NDA.]

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

PARIS *14th April 1804.*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

[NDA photostat.]

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

Sailed for Syracuse.

[LC original.]

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

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

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

At day light saw the Cape bearing N W 4 leagues — This Cape is a barren desolate Island nearly two leagues in circumferance — Upon it stands a large square watch tower — You have white water nearly 4 Miles from the Cape — We have come over this colored water several times — Our soundings were from 17 to 20 fathoms nearly three miles to the S E of this Cape. From day light till noon light airs and variable from the eastward — Employed working ship to Windward between Cape Passari and Saragosa which bore at Noon N E b N 5 leagues and the Cape S W b W ½ W 4 leagues —

Several small craft in shore: fired a gun and hoisted English colors — Surgeons report 6 sick, 7 convalescent & 5 discharged The Commodore is on the recovery — He attend^{d} the deck.

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

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

Meridian Lieu^{t} Summers & Hull came on board, gentle breezes from the S S E & pleas^{t} At ½ past 3 P. M the *Constitution* came too in the harbour. rec^{d} a quantity of mutton & Potatoes for the use of the crew, Carpenters employ'd fitting capstern. ends with moderate breezes & pleas^{t} wind S. E

[NDA.]

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

Siren SIRACUSE
April 15th 1804

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

[LC. EPP, Vol. 10, Feb.–April 1804.]

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

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harb: 15th April 1804

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

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

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

U S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harb. 15th Apl 1804

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

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

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

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

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

Mr EDWARD N. COX
Sailg Master of U S Schooner *Nautilus*

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

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

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

[NDA photostat.]

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

Arrived and anchd. in Syracuse Harbour.

[LC original.]

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

Wind E S E. Standing in for Syracuse harbour. At ½ past 3 P. M. entered and anchored in 7 fathoms — Found the *Syren*, *Argus*, & *Nautilus* at Anchor and the ship *Woodrop Sims*, Mills Reddick Master from Norfolk loaded with stores for the Squadron; The *Argus* convoyed her up. Considering our situation with Tunis, I have thought prudent to keep the *Argus* aloft, and have this day ordered her and the *Syren* to sail for the Blockade of Tripoly; The *Nautilus* having recieved considerable damage & lost 4 of her guns in a heavy gale of wind off Tripoly I ordered her to Messina to repair,

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

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

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

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

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

[NDA.]

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

UNITED STATES SCHOONER *Nautilus*
16th April 1804

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

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

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

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

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

U S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harb[t] 16[th] April 1804

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

UNITED STATES FRIGATE
Constitution 16th April 1804.

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

(Signed) EDWARD PREBLE

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

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

LEGHORN *April 16, 1804*

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

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

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

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

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

J: BARNES

EDW^{d} PREBLE Esq^{r}
Commander in chief of the U. S. Squadron

[LC. EPP, Vol. 10, Feb.–April 1804.]

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

These 24 hours Commences with light airs and Variable at 5 AM moderate breezes and Clear Weather weighed Anchor and made sail at ¼ p^{t} Captain Hull went on board the Commodore at 6 M^{r} H, Magrath left the Brig having obtained permission to return home and M^{r} Brooke came on board and Succeeded him as Sailing Master at 8 Captain Hull returned made sail and stood out of the harbour [of Syracuse]

[NDA photostat.]

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

This day begins with light airs & Variable at 5 AM moderate breezes and clear weighed anchor and made sail at 6 M^{r} H. M^{c}Grath left the brig with permission to return to the United States and M^{r} Brooke came on board to succeed him at ½ past 8 strong breizes close reeft the topsails reeft the boom mainsail sent down the top Gallant yards furled the mainsail launched the flying Jib boom and ringtail Boom at 11 set the main storm staysail —

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

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

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

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

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

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

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

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

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

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

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

[NDA.]

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

NAPLES APRIL *17th 1804*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804.]

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

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbour 17th April 1804

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

Send me the odour of roses by the bearer, which Mr Davis purchased for me.

Lt Commt Decatur
Enterprize at Messina

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

[17 April 1804]

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

[NHF. Dent's LB.]

[17 April 1804]

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

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

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

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

[17 April 1804]

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

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

yourself the Charge and duty of Lieutenant agreeable to the regulations of the Service for which this shall be your sufficient Authority —

Given under my hand on board
the Unites States Ship *Constitution*
this 17 Day of April 1804
Signed E: PREBLE

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

[17 April 1804]

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

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

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

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

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

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

[LC original.]

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

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

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

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

[NDA.]

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

NAVY DEPM^{t}
April 18.1804 —

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

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

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

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbour 18th April 1804

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

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

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

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

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

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

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

Recieved from the *Woodrop Sims* Store Ship 27 Bolts of russia canvass, 22 bolts of which were damaged by the leaking of the Store Ships decks — Nine bolts of No 2 & three bolts No 1 English. 144 Pounds sewing twine — Sixty two lb of the twine was damaged & tottally unserviceable We also recieved six coils of running rigging The damaged canvass was ordered to be scrubbed in order to take out the black mouldy places

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

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

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

Noon light airs from E S E.

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

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

Commences with moderate breezes from the N. W. with Pleasr weather Recd a quantity of mutton & Vegitables. At 9 the *Enterprize* came too in the harbour [Syracuse] —

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

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

[NDA.]

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

NAVY DEP^{t}
April 19, 1804 —

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

[NDA. Nom. Appts., 1798–1820.]

[Enclosure]

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

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

"FRIDAY *13th April, 1804.*

"PRESENT,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NAVY DEP[t] *April 19. 1804* —

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

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

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

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

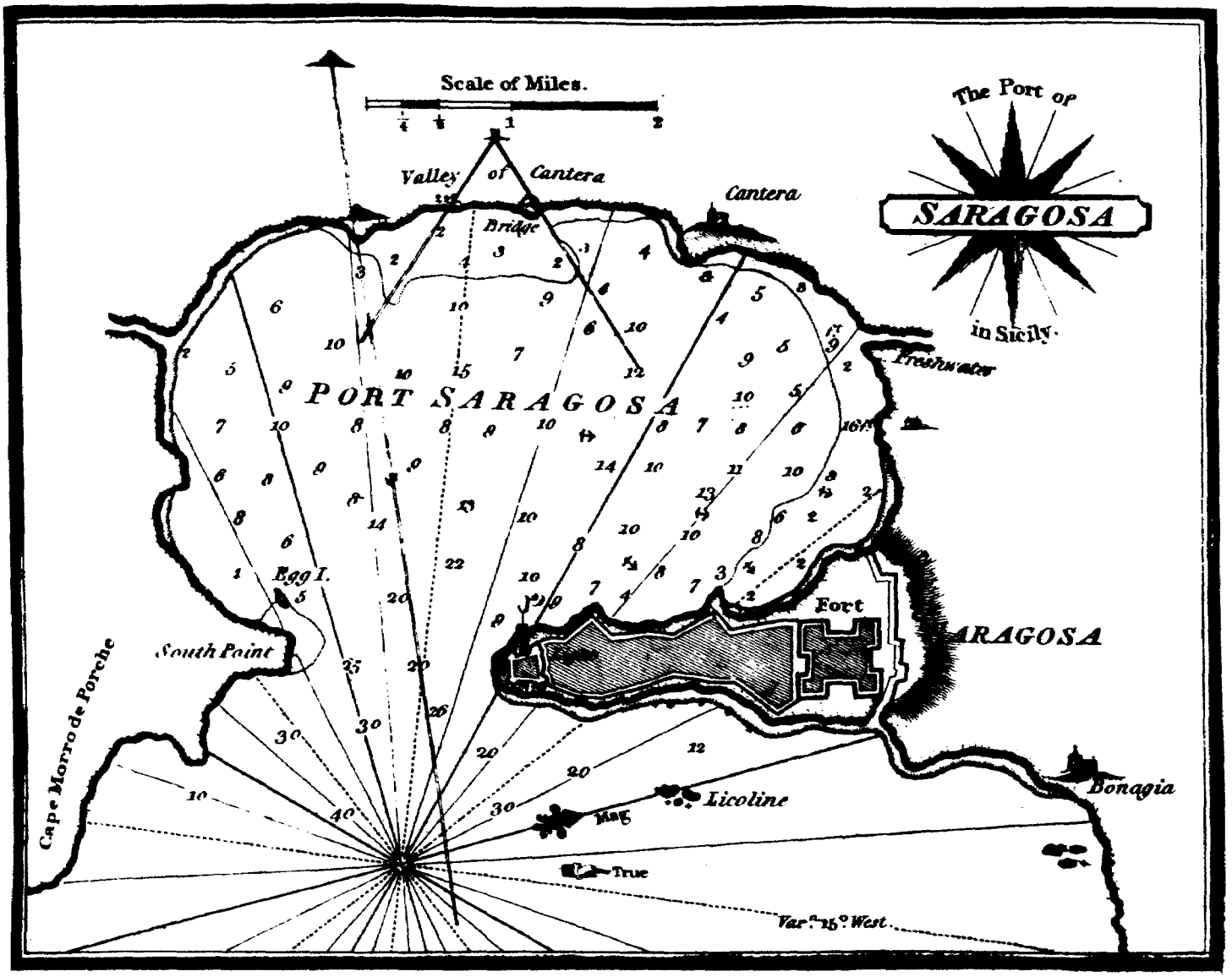
To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbour 19th April 1804

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The *Scourge* will be fitted from this Ship's Stores and Manned by the different Vessels of the Squadron and will be ready to sail in a few days for the Blockade I have appointed Mr Wadsworth and Mr Izard acting Lieutenants of her, and Mr C Morris, Acting Master Mr Brooks has been appointed Master of the *Argus*, in place of Mr Magrath permitted to return to the U S by his own request on account of ill health — Mr Harrison Master of the *Syren*, and Mr Cox master of the *Nautilus* have likewise been permitted to go home on acct of their health, and Mr Burrows appointed to the former, and Mr Casson to the latter as acting Masters Mr Livingston has written me a letter, and requested permission to resign, to save himself from a trial by Court Martial for serious charges. I now enlcose you his commission, which I hope you will accept to save the feelings of his friends. He goes home in the Store Ship. Mr Ridgley and Mr Israel stand next for promotion as they are certainly two of the smartest Officers of their rank in the service.

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

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

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

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

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

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

[19 April 1804]

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

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

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

Signed, EDWARD PREBLE

To M[r] STEPHEN CASSION

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NAVY DEP^{T}
April 20. 1804 —

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

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

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

NAVY DEPM^{T}
20 April 1804

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

[NDA. USMC, LB, 1804–1820.]

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

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

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

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

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

U S SHIP *Constitution*, SYR^{e} H^{r}
April 21st 1804.

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

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

E P.

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

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

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

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

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

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

SYRACUSE *21st April 1804*

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

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

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

I remain D^r Sir
Yours truly

F: LECKIE

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

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

Constitution 21st APRIL 1804

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

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

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

M^rs F LECKIE

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

[21 April 1804?]

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

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

MARCELLO D^e GREGORIO

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

[LC. EPP, Vol. 9, Jan.–Feb. 1804.]

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

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

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

[NDA photostat.]

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

NAPLES *April 22^nd 1804*

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

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

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

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

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

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

Enclosed is a letter from Mr Barnes —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804.]

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

NAPLES *April 22nd 1804.*

SIR The undersign'd Agent of the United States of America embraces this opportunity to inform your Excellency that he has inform'd Comodore Preble by post of the permission granted by his Sicilian Majesty (QDC) to make use of four of his Majesty's gun & four of his mortar boats artillery & other necessary apparatus: & now dispatches Mr Robt Spence an Officer in the Navy of the United States to Messina in order to convey the intelligence to said Commander wherever he may be with the greatest possible dispatch: & at the same time takes the liberty to remind your Excellency of the permission granted to deposit fourteen bales of cloathing for the American prisoners at Tripoli in his Majesty's stores untill call'd for by some of our vessels of War & request your Excellency to grant the necessary permit. —

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

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

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804.]

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

April 22nd 1804

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

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

(Signed) MARCELLO DE GREGORIO

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

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

U. S. Ship *Constitution* Ap[l] 22[d] 1804
Syracuse Harbor

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

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

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

U S. Frigate *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbour
22nd April 1804

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

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

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

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

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

Under the conviction that I shall in all cases meet your cordial co-operation
I subscribe myself with
Sentiments of esteem
Yr. M. Ob. Servt

(Signed) E PREBLE

JAMES SIMPSON Esqr
U S. Consul at Morocco

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

[22 April 1804]

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

SIR You will turn over to the U. S. Brig *Scourge* Lt Dent, as many men as you can conveniently Spare
Constitution Apl 22 1804

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

[LC original.]

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

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

[NDA photostat.]

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

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

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

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

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

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

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

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

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

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

(NB those remarks include 12 hours)

[NDA.]

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

NAVY DEPM^{t} *April 23, 1804* —

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

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

You will keep me regularly informed of all your proceedings —

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

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

U. S. Ship *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbor Ap^{l} 23^{d} 1804

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

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

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

U. S. Ship *Constitution*
April 23^{d} 1804

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

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

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

[23 April 1804]

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

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

Constitution 23rd April 1804

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

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

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

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

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

Beating out of the Bay At ½ past 8 came too in the harbour of Malta in 10 fathoms with the store ship — At 10 furld all sail & hoisted out the barge —

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

[NDA.]

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

NAV. DEP
April 24th 1804

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

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

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

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

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

NAV. DEP[t]
Ap 24th 1804

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

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

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

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

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

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

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

[NHF. Dent's LB.]

[24 April 1804]

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

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

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

[24 April 1804]

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

(Copy)

GREETING

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

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

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

(Signed) GEORGE DAVIS

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804.]

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

Copy

TUNIS *April 24th 1804*
9 P. M.

SIR, I have the honor to inform you, that this morning the U. States Schooner *Enterprize*, anchored in the road of the Gouletta, and about 6, in the evening, had the pleasure of receiving Mr OBrien on shore, who delivered me the dispatches you did me the honor to write, all of which have been heretofore duly acknowledged, except Nº 7 & 8.

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

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

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

[24 April 1804]

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

Narrative or extract of remarks written at Sea

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

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

I find that our Squadron has taken and done as Viz

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

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

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

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

I am sorry to have left the territory of Patroon Grandi without receiving the requisite receipt or certificates from you for the articles of the Govt of the U. States delivered by me to you, but hope you will forward me the requisite on this tack by two different conveyances by way of Tunis under cover to George Davis Esqr the American Charge d'Affairs, whoom I learn is thus officially confirmed by our Government

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

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

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

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

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

At midnight strong gales with a heavy sea made Sigl Nº 4 to the *Vixen* which was Shewn 45 Minutes and not answered set and took in sail as Necessary at ½ pt 11 Tkd to N, E, — At Meridian a very heavy swell the *Vixen* in Sight astern Sounded in 110 fms soft oozy Bottom —

[NDA photostat.]

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

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

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

Surgn report 7 sick, 4 convsqts & 1 discharged.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

> "*To his Excellency the Grand Bashaw of Tripoli:* The petition of the whole of the American prisoners, most humbly sheweth:—
>
> "That your humble petitioners, when doing with all their power, as they are commanded, are most cruelly beaten by our wardens, stoned, insulted, and spit upon by the soldiers and others; required to carry burthens impossible for us to sustain; and chased and bruised, until we are, or soon shall be, unable to labour at all.
>
> "From the many acts of justice, kindness, and generosity we have experienced from your Excellency, we cannot suppose that such conduct is authorized by your commands; or that we should be punished for what is out of our power to perform; or for the actions of others, which we have no agency in, and which we cannot prevent.
>
> "Returning your Excellency our sincere and humble thanks for your bounty and privileges heretofore shewn, and relying on your goodness and protection, we therefore most humbly pray, that your Excellency would interpose your royal authority, and grant us a speedy relief. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will remain your Excellency's most humble, faithful and obedient servants."

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NAV. DEP
25. April 1804

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

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

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

TUNIS the *25th* of *April 1804*

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

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

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

(Signed) RICHARD OBRIEN

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

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

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

[NDA photostat.]

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

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

Surgeons report 8 sick 4 conv^{s}^{ct} —

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

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

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

NAVY DEP^{t}
April 26, 1804 —

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

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

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

NAVY DEPM^{t}
April 26, 1804 —

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

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

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

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

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

NAV DEP
Ap 26th 1804

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

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

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

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

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

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

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

[NDA photostat.]

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

Light breezes from the N E. At single Anchor in Saragosa — At ½ past 12 weighed & proceeded to sea Left the *Scourge* refitting with 37 men on board her John M^{c}Fate boatswains Mate of the *Constitution* has been appointed boatswain of the *Scourge* In proceeding to Sea we had light and Variable airs with a heavy swell — In passing the outer point it fell nearly calm. Bitted a range on each bower cable. At 4 P. M. a dead calm with an offing of two miles from the outer point At Sundown mustered at Quarters. Cape Passari bore S W b W nearly 4 leagues Cape Porco N b E ½ E 9 miles From this time till day light we had calms or light airs from the N W. Ships head to S S E and S S W Saw Cape Passari at day light bearing N W 4 or 5 leagues & six strange sail to the W b N Gave chase under all plain sail. At 7 A. M. discovered them to be ships of war standing for us — Cleared for action & slung the yards. At ½ past 11 we boarded the headmost ship which was the Neapolitan Commodore He had in company a Squadron of Six fine frigates At Noon Cape Passari bore N b W — The Neapolitan Squadron parted company to the Eastward —

Latitude Obs^{d} 36°29′ N.

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

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

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

(N. B. These remarks include 12 hours)

[NDA.]

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

AMERICAN GARDEN, near ALGIERS
April 27th 1804

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

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

Mrs Lear is in good health and joins me in respts & affectionate regards for your good sister, brother & self, and rememberance to all acquaintances. —

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

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

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

AMERICAN GARDEN Near ALGIERS
April 27th 1804

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
April 27th 1804

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

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

Mr Edwd N Cox
Prize Master of Brig St *Crucifiso*

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

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

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

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

Latter part fine Weather Variousy Employed

[NDA photostat.]

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

Navy Dept
April 28: 1804 —

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

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

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

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

[28 April 1804]

Appointment of Buller Cocke as Storekeeper

To all who shall see these Presents, Greeting. —

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

Given under my Hand and Seal of the Department this 2[8] day of April 1804 and in the 29th year of Independence. Rt Smith *Secry Navy.*

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

[28 April 1804]

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

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

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

MALTA *April 28 1804*

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804.]

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

At 1 Spoke the United States Brig *Syren* Capt Hull went on board backed the main top sail at 2 P, M, filled away made and shortened sail as Necessary At Sundown Tripoli bore S W b S distc 3 leagues Brig and Schooner in Compy

[NDA photostat.]

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

Fresh breezes from N N W. Standing off & on Valetta waiting the return of the boat. At ½ past 12 Mr Higgins the Navy Agent came off in a shore boat — At 2 P. M. the cutter returned. By ½ past two P. M. had dispatched the shore boats. We then bore up to the S E to the assistance of the russian prize ship which as I mentioned sailed from Saragosa two days ago. She had 4 feet water in her hold — The Commodore ordered her to proceed round the S E. point of Malta & anchor in the Harbor of Narsa Scirocco — We then bore up in chase to the S E. Up top gallt Yards At 6 P. M. spoke H B M brig *Morgiana* from Trieste bound to Malta with two ships under convoy From this time till day light, light and Variable breezes from the Westq Punished Leonq Cozzens and George Simmons with 3 dozn lashes each, for drunkeness, neglect of duty & disobedience of Orders — William B Brown with 2 dozen for stealing & disobedience of orders — and Mathew Brophy with one dozen for disobedience of Orders — At 10 A. M. calm. Out cutter — Valetta Harbor N W b W ¼ W 7 or 8 Miles — The Commodore left the ship in order to proceed to Malta in the cutter — A breeze springing up he returned — Filled & stood in towards the Harbor From 9 A. M. till 11 a dead calm — From this time till noon light breezes from S W b S — Noon Valetta Harbor W b N ½ N — Surgeons report 8 sick 3 convalescent

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

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

Commences with fresh breezes & pleas[t] At ½ past Meridian took in sail & spoke the *Argus* & *Vixen* ½ past 1 L[t] Hull & Smith came on board. At 2 fill'd away & made sail. At 3 discov'd the land ahead —

Latt: Obs: 33° 1′ N.

[NDA.]

[29 April 1804]

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

The Officers of the Gun Room request the pleasure of Comd[re] Preble's company to Dinner to day —

29[th] April 1804

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804.]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from Richard O'Brien, Tunis

(Copy) Tunis *29[th] of April 1804.*

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

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

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

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

[29 April 1804]

Comments by George Davis and Richard O'Brien concerning Tunis

Remarks on the affairs of the U S. at Tunis.

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

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

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

"Well" says he "you have seen the Bey" — Answer Yes: —
"What did you bring him"?
A letter from the President, which gave a refusal of giving this Government a frigate —
"What is the motive for this refusal"?
We want to keep all our own force.

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

U S — We answ^{d} We must candidly assure you that you may forever extinguish the idea or hope of getting a ship of War from the U S.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

TUNIS *29th April 1804* —

(Signed) RICHd OBRIEN
GEORGE DAVIS

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

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

at ¾ past 1 P. M, Wore Ship to the S, E, the Squadron fired Several Shot at a Battery to the Westward of Tripoli which was returned made and Shortened sail Occasionally at Sun down the *Syren* and *Vixen* in Company

[NDA photostat.]

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

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

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

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

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

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

Latitude Observed 36° 3′ N.

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

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

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

[NDA.]

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

NAVY DEPM^{t}
April 30, 1804 —

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

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

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

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

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

TRIPOLI BARBARIE *30th April 1804*
(rec^{d} July 13th 1804)

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

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

As I know the satisfaction you feel in hearing from us, I shall frequently trouble you with my letters; altho they will be barren of news and contain a repetition of close confinement and anxious feelings
Please to tender to M^rs^ Lear my best respects and sincere wishes for her happiness and believe me to be D^r^ Col^o^
with grateful feelings for your attention
Your sincere but unhappy friend

W^m^ BAINBRIDGE

Col^o^ LEAR, *Consul General, Algiers*

[Written on back of letter: — "you will be pleased to scorch this letter and all others from the *same quarter*, over a hot fire—G. D. (George Davis)"]

[The following was written in lime juice and copied from photostats of the original.]

This is wrote with lime juice which is not visible until heated by fire· This information to you will enable us to correspond freely without danger of detection as letters on common subjects will be permitted to pass to and from our prison.

The person who comes to negotiate with this government should be a person of moderation and and address for only such a character will take with Sidi Muhammed Minister of Foreign Affairs, who is a man of much penetration and great politeness and has the entire confidence of the Bashaw. a generous *fee* properly given him would in my opinion be attended with great advantage in negotiating — I believe the Bashaw is desirous of peace but no doubt his demands will be big. to effect it the United States must *pay* or attack him by land 4 or 5000 troops properly commanded and landed without giving him much time to collect his forces should be able to beat him [or "to take Town"]

Pray let me hear from you as frequently as possible give me confidential information on the determination of our Government and inform me how Algiers stands toward the United States. I am certain that you will excuse these request[s] for the goodness of your heart will surely feel my anxiety on these points.

The interest of France is very great hear if she offers her assistance it should be done by a French man direct from France and not through their consul — [*]

[*There are about five more lines of this letter and four lines of closing remarks and signature. These, except for a few scattered words, are illegible.]

[Stephen Decatur Col.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 30 April 1804

These 24 hours Commence with fresh breezes and Clear Weather at ½ past 1 P M, saw a small Vessel at anchor under the land set all sail and stood in at ½ past 2 hove too and sent all the boats under the Command of Lieu^t^ Blake to bring her out the boats returned at ½ past 4 she proved a small sloop laden with earthen Ware Spoke the U S. Schooner *Enterprize* old Tripoli bore S. S. W dist^e^ 3 Leagues made and set sail as Necess^y^ got out a hauser and made the prize fast astern —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 30 April 1804

Commences with clear & pleas[t] weather. At ½ p[t] Meridian L[t] Stewart return'd, accompanied by L[t] Smith, hoisted up the cutter. * * * * * At ¼ past 2 * * * L[t] Smith went on board the *Vixen*. * * * [Meridian] Tripoli bearing S. S. W. The *Vixen* still in Co: —

[NDA.]

[May 1804]

Statement of the Tunisian Naval Force

One Frigate carr^{g} { 26 nine P^{drs} on her main deck / 10 Six P^{drs} on her Quarter deck } One year Old, Built at Port Farina, ready for Sea

One D^{o} ____ D^{o} { 28 Eighteen p^{drs} on her gun deck / 14 Nine p^{drs} Quarter deck } Building but not quite finished

Two Xebecks ____ 34 Guns each 9 & 6 p^{drs}, A present from Spain, Both new & ready for Sea.

One D^{o} ____ 32 Guns—French built & lately coppered at Malta—Ready for Sea

Nine Sail of Xebecks & Polacres from 30 to 24 Guns — Some out & some ready for Sea

Ten Sail of D^{o} & D^{o} " 16 to 12 Guns — D^{o} ____ D^{o}

Ten Sail of D^{o} & D^{o} " 10 to 6 Guns — D^{o} ____ D^{o}

Thirty Row Gallies of 1 & 2 Guns & from 30 to 40 Men each D^{o} ____ D^{o}

Ten Row boats mounting each 1 long Swivel & carrying 50 Men each.

Seventy four Sail in All —

N, B, — All their cruizes from 6 to 44 guns carry 10 Men to a gun— This is the compliment of men established by the Algerines to enable them to fight both broad sides at Once and leave a sufficient number for sail trimmers & boarders — May 1804 —

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

[May 1804?]

Algerine Naval Force

One frigate of	44 Guns
Portuguese Benguensa	44 Dº
American Renegado	34 Dº
Xebeck of	32 Dº
Polacre of	18 Dº
Xebeck Vecho of	26 Dº
Brig *Philadelphia*	22 Dº
Schooner *Bowers* [or bowers?]	16 Dº
Xebeck of	34 Guns
Dº of	18 Dº
Schooner of	14 Dº
Forty or fifty gun boats —	

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

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

TUNIS *May 1st 1804*
10 P. M

SIR I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your several communications, of the 17th January 3d and 18th February and 18th of April, all of which were handed me by the Ex Consul Mr OBrien — his Excellency the Bey, 'tho silent is far from being, in a better humour, than when you left us; notwithstanding, that his claim for the Captured property, will be settled without delay —

his demands, on the Government of the U. States far exceed, any thing anticipated — in an audience, with the Sapatapa, on the 28th Ultimo Mr OBrien & myself, informed him — the length to which we should go—as yet he gives me to understand, it is too insignificant for his acceptance — one of his chief Agents, inform'd me this evening, that the Bey is resolved to give an absolute refusal to, the proffer,d terms — the consequences of which I am not authorised even to suggest — perhaps he will again write to the President, leaving us in Statu quo, untill an answer can be received — he probably waits the arrival of the Russian Fleet in those Seas, and learn whether their intentions are as is whisper,d, to make him a visit — or, what is more probable, intends to see the result of our negociation with Tripoli — whatever may be his views, or intentions; it is of the first importance that a vessel should look in here very frequently which will never be detained longer, than to send my dispatches to you, on board — the Tunisien property to the Amount of nearly five thousand dollars is to be paid for immediately, agreable to the promise of Mr OBrien & myself — a *bill* can not be negociated on Algiers, for that amount — and I have no funds will you accept *one*, on Col. Lear for five thousand dollars, in order that the affair may be closed? —

Will you make any Provisional deposit here for the use of our country men at Tripoli? a Spanish Vessel, sailed a few days since for that port with my passport, and a thousand dollars, at the disposal of Capt B — I have the honor to enclose a copy for your information —

GEORGE DAVIS
[*Surgeon, U. S. Navy*]

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804.]

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

TUNIS *the 1st of May 1804.*

Sir. I agree with you that sound policy and the Usanse of this country points out to you your true course of attacking the Bey thro' the pockets of his Ministers of influence; and as it has already been observed that there is no security for your making them just compensations, you are hereby authorized to give the sum of five thousand dolars as greasing fees, and render yourself responsible for the payment of the same if possible in three months from this date, or to be paid before your departure from this country provided this sum will be the means of their accomplishing the arrangement for Eight fathoms in cash p^{r} Annum, and a regalia in proportion, if done for nine.

I shall also recommend to Government that ten fathoms be continued in the Consulate, that the remaining or extra two (if done for Eight) and one (if for Nine) be continued as occasional doucers, and Stand Bys to answer as Stays and Shrouds to steady the Mast, if thus arranged.

The Consular Regalia or present for the Bey, Ministers and aids, must depend on our Government forwarding, on their officially establishing or confirming the Consul at Tunis, the requisite articles &c^{a} to the amount I shall inform our Gov^{t} of as fully as within the knowledge of Sir [R. O'Brien]

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

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

[Off Tripoli.] These 24 hours Commence with fresh breezes and clear at 8 strong Gales got down the Top Gallant Yards and took in sail as Necessary the *Enterprize* to windward at 11 the Prize parted the hauser and west astern at 12 Tacked to the S^{o} Westw^{d}

[NDA photostat.]

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

(Copy) UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay 2^{d} May 1804 —

SIR, The Ports of Farina, Bizerta, and Jerba, in the Kingdom of Tunis, are places frequented by Tripolitan Cruisers whenever they can escape from their own Ports, and should they capture any of Our Merchant Vessels, those are the Ports they would be most likely to send their Prizes to, not only so, but if the Tunisines should capture our Vessels under the Consular Passport without giving us any previous notice those are the Ports they would be most likely to send such Vessels to for the purpose of concealing their depredations from Your knowledge as long as possible. I therefore think it advisable that You appoint a confidential Agent at each of these places in order that You may receive the earliest intelligence of whatever may be interesting to our Government. I have no doubt but such a measure will be approved by the Hon^{ble} Secretary of State, and that a small Salary not exceeding one hundred and fifty Dollars p^{r} annum would be readily allowed to such Agents in order to insure their fidelity. Should

any important event occur you will do well to hire a Swift Sailing Boat, and send her to me off Tripoli with intelligence.

I believe if the Government knew how much Your private Secretary is to be relied on in case of any accident to Yourself, and the immense advantage he must on all occasions be to you from his thorough knowledge of all the languages Spoken in the Tunisian Regency, that they would not hesitate to allow You to retain him in Your Service particularly as his dismission will lessen the Respectability of Your Official appointment with the Regency. I should at any rate advise you to retain him untill You can again hear from the Department of State.

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

To Captain Richard V. Morris, U. S. Navy, New York, N. Y., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM^t^
May 2: 1804 —

Enclosed is a copy of the opinion of the Court of Enquiry [See 31 August 1803] in your case. Upon receiving this opinion I transmitted it to the President of the United States who is, at this time, at Monticello. He is expected at the Seat of Government in a few days, and on his arrival, it will be determined what further proceedings shall be had on the Case. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Wednesday, 2 May 1804

Fresh breezes from S b W. — Working ship up Tunis bay. At 2 P. M. we tacked in 20 fathoms 1½ Miles E N E from Cape Carthage— Stood over for Cape Tortas till 3 P. M. when we tacked & stood up for the Anchorage At 4 P. M. came to, with the best bower in Tunis Bay in 7 fathoms in muddy bottom. Veered 60 fath^s^ and furled sails —

Our situation is 3 miles from Cape Carthage bearing by compass N b W — Cape Farina N b E. — Zembra Island N E b E ¾ E — Castle Golletta which guards the Entrance to Tunis W. nearly 6 Miles —

At Sundown fresh Breezes & Overcast weather Down top gall^t^ Yards & bent the sheet cable. Mustered the ships company watch & watch & Employ'd them in washing & scrubbing their cloathes On anchoring, hoisted a Jack & fired a gun as a Signal for a shore boat — At 8 A. M. sent the Pinnace with the Pilot & six men on shore. He returned at 11 A. M. with Consul O'Brien and Doctor Davis — Saluted with 5 Guns.

Fresh breezes from S b E all the forenoon Ships company fleeting the fore topmast rigging and cleaning between decks.

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

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay May 3d 1804.
Recd June 2d 1804.

DEAR SIR, I have been hond with your dispatches by the *Vixen*, for which, accept my thanks. Be assured it is no small degree of gratification to me, that my conduct in these Seas meets your approbation The thanks of the President have been conveyed to me by the Secretary of the Navy, and I have received a very flattering letter from the Secretary of State: as a friend these circumstances will please you, and be assured is the highest reward I ever can receive for my services.

Mr OBrien has settled his family at Malta; he came here last week in the *Enterprize* from Syracuse, and I have now called in to take him away Mr Davis and himself have had a long conference with the Bey; his demands are very imposing, but he knows his own interest and exposed situation to our attacks too well to declare war against us. However, nothing has so good an effect to convince him that he cannot make war with impunity as frequently shewing a force in this Bay.

This being the only frigate we have in the Mediterranean, it is to be regretted that to keep this Regency in check, I am obliged occasionally to leave my Station before Tripoli. It is surprising that more force has not been sent out — I am contemplating a bold stroke against Tripoli — One successful dash at them will effect a peace, and make them remember the war.

Mr Davis has no money and cannot negociate bills: It has become necessary to pay the Bey of Tunis for the captured property immediately; and to enable him to do this, I have supplied him with four thousand dollars from this Ship, it being all the money I have on board excepting Gold, and have taken triplicate receipts for the same. From what I have seen of Mr Davis, and from Mr OBrien's opinion of him, I think the Government will do well to establish him as Consul for this Regency. I have recommended his appointing a confidential Agent at Ports Farina Bizerte & Jerba for the purpose of giving me early intelligence of any movements interesting to us: he will enclose you a copy of the letter, and give You all the interesting information from this quarter. I have had the French Commissary at Tripoli on board, and delivered him the originals of which I send you a copy by this conveyance; but Mr Beaussier is too much in the interest of the Bashaw to serve us, and it is for the interest of the French Government that we should be at war not only with Tripoli but with Tunis, in order that we may blockade the ports of the two Regencies, and cut off all supplies of provisions from the British at Malta & Sicily if they should take possession of it. We must depend on ourselves to effect Peace and protect our Commerce.

Present my best regards to Mrs Lear, and request her to accept my thanks for her very elegant Present — this token of her consideration will ever be dear to me

P. S. We have captured four prizes, one of them a Brig of 16 Guns, which I have taken into the service and given the Command to Lieut Dent. —

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

[3 May 1804]

To John S. M. Matthiew, U. S. Consul, Naples, from N de Manzo, Russian Counsellor and Agent General, Naples

The Underwritten Honorary Counsellor & Agent General of his Imperial Majesty of all the Russias in the two Sicilies presents his distinguished Compliments to M^r^ Jn^o^ Matthiew Consul General of the U. S. of America, & does himself the Honor to acquaint him, That from on the part [sic] of the Counsellor of State, and Consul Gen^l^ of his august Sovereign in Sicily, It has been communicated to his Imperial Majesty's charge d'affaires to this Royal Court, That the russian Polacca named the *Madonna Catapologhi* commanded by Captain Geo^o^ Morfino went out of the Port of Tripoli on the 29th day of March of the current Year, and was hailed on the following day by an American brig to bring too, which brig afterwards (against all Rules established by Maritime Powers) carried the Polacca into the Port of Syracuse as a lawful Prize, owing to the Blockade of the Port of Tripoli by the American Squadron —

To be convinced of the Illegality & Injustice of this Procedure, it is only necessary to take into just Consideration, that the above Polacca departed from Smyrna on the 6 of November 1803 freighted for Gerba, that in consequence of bad Weather, she was constrained to enter Tripoli on the 26 Day of the following Month December, where the Captain was obliged by the Bashaw to unload his Cargoe and to abide upwards of 2 Months ere he could recover his Freight for the same

After this, having let his Polacca on Freight to Gaetano Schimbro an english Subject to carry a Cargoe of Sheep and Oxen for the British Troops at Malta, Captain Morfino departed from Tripoli on the said 29 day of March of the current Year and on the following one as is already mentioned was taken at the distance of 80 Miles from that Port.

These veridical and incontestible facts ought Sufficiently to convince the Consul Gen^l^ of the U. S that Capt^n^ Morfino leaving Smyrna at a time when the Port of Tripoli was not as yet in a state of Blockade, could not consequently have any Notice thereof, and so much the more so since the Circular of M^r^ Matthieu bearing date of the 14^th^ Xmber 1803 notifying the Blockade of Tripoli was not as yet received in those Parts; therefore it cannot be said that Capt^n^ Morfino has contravened the official Notice of the Blockade of Tripoli by the forces of the U. S of America, as he had not nor could he have any Indication thereof —

The Writer moreover hopes that the Consul Gen^l^ will be pleazed to weigh in his Mind that the Blockading of a Port prohibits other Vessels going therein but not that of their coming out

The above Polacca having been thus carried into the Port of Syracuse where She has performed Quarantine and is not yet released; the Captain & Crew having been disbanded contrary to every Maritime Law and Rule & consequently ignorant of what Port the Polacca may have been conducted to for the formal decision of the Legality or Illegality of the Seizure, The underwritten thinks himself authorized both by the duties of his Station & the ties of Friendship which Subsist between his Sovereign & the U. S of America, to make the most lively Instances to M^r^ Matthieu that he will be pleazed to give

effectually and solicitously those Cautions which may contribute to the regular and due Release of this Polacca

The Writer hopes for a quick and fortunate Issue to this his official Letter and to have the satisfaction of making it known to the Charge d'affaires of his Court in order that the same may render a just Account of the Esteem in which the U. S of America hold the good Correspondence which exists between them and his Imperial Majesty, or of the Necessity of adopting those Measures which the Advantage and Security of his Subjects' Commerce may induce him to deem seasonable and requisite —

Signed N DE MANZO

NAPLES, 3d *May 1804*

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 3 May 1804

Sailed for Naples.

[LC original.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Thursday, 3 May 1804

Fresh Breezes & frequent squalls from the Southd Laying at single Anchor in Tunis Bay. Ships company employed working up Junk Unbent the main top mast stay sail & bent a new one; the Old one cut up to repair lower studdg sails.

At 4 P. M. let go the small bower. Fresh breezes from the Southd thro' the night. At 8 A. M. shortened in 20 fathams — Sent up Royal & top gallt Yards. At 10 A. M. sent the pinnace on shore to land Consul Davis: Consul O.Brien remains on board.

Towards noon, weighed & came to sail — Stowed the two Bowers Surgeons report 7 sick, 5 convalescent & One dischargd Noon laying to in Tunis Bay, waiting the return of the boat. Winds Moderate from S S E.

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

To Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Argus*, off Gibraltar, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPt
May 4: 1804:

The Gun Carriages having been delivered to the Emperor of Morocco, and pacific dispositions towards us having been manifested by him, it is conceived that your remaining with the *Argus* in his neighbourhood to watch his movements, is now unnecessary. You will therefore, immediately on receiving this Letter proceed up the Mediterranean and join the Commodore of the Squadron. —

Commodore Preble is so far remote from Gilbratar, and the conveyance of Letters from that place to him so difficult and tedious, that it is more than probable he remains unapprized of the proceedings in that quarter. For this reason you receive these orders immediately from me. —

[NDA. LB, 1799–1807.]

To Josiah Fox, Washington, D. C., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP^{T}
May 4th 1804

You will consider yourself as hereby appointed head Ship Carpenter and Navy Constructor to this Department and you are hereby attached to the Navy Yard at Washington under the law supplementary to the act entitled an act providing for a naval peace establishment and for other purposes — you will take the accompanying oath and return it to this office with a letter accepting this appointment — your pay will commence from the time your predecessor left the office —

Your General duties will be to Keep regular accounts of all the timber plank, scantling, and other materials in the Carpenters Department — that now are or that may hereafter be deposited in the navy yard at this place — to receive returns of the timber plank scantling &^{c} in all the navy yards in the United States — to keep regular accounts thereof so that whenever called upon you will be able to furnish us with particular information on the Subject — You are to Superintend the building and repairing of all ships that may be Ordered to be built or repaired at this place or when specially directed, when Ordered to be built or repaired at any other place in the United States — you are to make drafts and models of Vessels whenever called upon you are to inspect and measure all the timber that may hereafter be received at the navy yard at Washington — to attend to the sizing of the Spars to see that the whole timber Spars &^{c} are kept in a State of preservation and when required you are to inspect into the state of the public Timber plank &^{c} in the different navy yards of the United States to see that proper means are pursued for its preservation —

In these your General duties will consist — as early as a general System can be devised, it will be done and the duties of all the heads of the different branches will be classified and made known to them respectively You will then receive instructions more in detail for the particular Government of your conduct —

The Timber &^{c} now in the yard you will receive by inventory as soon after the present Squadron Sails as it can be effected that which may hereafter be deposited there you will be charged with receiving — Until the Squadron shall sail and the timber now in the yard be delivered over to you by inventory you will make your requisitions for Timber required for the repairs of the Squadron going out, on Cap^{n} Cassin —

For your Services you will receive 2000 Dollars P^{r} annum & the public will Supply you with a House —

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 4 May 1804

At ½ past 7 saw a sail off the Weath^{r} Quarter exchanged Sig^{ls} with the U. S. Brig *Syren* wore Ship to the N, E, at 8 Strong gales and Clear Weather

[NDA photostat.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from John S. M. Matthiew, U. S. Consul, Naples

Naples May 5th 1804

Sir,

Though I have not had the honor of a letter or any account from you this good while however I think it my duty to inform you that Mr Cathcart who departed about eight days ago for Leghorn has left with me at your disposal 14 Bales with clothing for our people in the hands of the Tripolines which with the consent of the Custom House directors, I keep in a Warehouse until I receive your orders about the same which I hope you will favour me with as soon as possible to save Magazine Rent

Enclosed I send you two billets I have recd from the Russian Agent General here, with my answers—with regard to the Russian Ship taken by a Brig [*Madona Catapoliana*] of the fleet under your command as she came out from Tripoly. I pray you will give me your instructions about this matter for my Governmt

I must inform you that the strictest friendship passes between this court and that of Russia, and the Agent here is making his endeavours to have the King interfere that he may gain his point.

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

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

Light airs from the E N E—We are standing in for the N W point of Sicily. At 2 P. M. boarded three Imperial ships from Leghorn bound to Constantinople The E N E wind was light all the forenoon—Tacked as often as necessary.

At Sun down we were nearly 3 leagues N W b N from a small village situated at the bottom of the Mountains of Old Trapano—At 9 P. M. light airs from the W N W, which continued through the night Steered E N E by compass, which is parralel to the shore At 10 P. M. the weather became overcast—Stowed the light sails—

At 7 A. M. Saw the Island of Ustico bearing E N E nearly 7 leagues, & Cape Galos which makes the starboard entrance to Palermo S E b E—9 or 10 Leagues At 9 A. M. the Haze cleared away to the Westwd Saw three strange ships of war in that Quarter They stood for us—We fired a gun & shewed our colors—They then changed their course from E N E to S W & hoisted Neapolitan Colors—

Surgeons report 6 sick, 7 Convalescts—

Noon light from N b W

Steering N W b W by compass 5 leagues from Cape Galos; nearly the same distance S W from the Island of Ustica—Standing in for Cape Galos

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

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

MARSEILLES *6th May 1804*

SIR I confirm you my respects of the 28th ulto This is to advise you that by letters from Algiers of the Jew house of Bacery to their house here 36 days date via Tunis, late Consul General, OBrien had left Algiers as Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States to treat for a peace with Tripoly; they giving me this intelligence before yes-

terday evening added that Consul OBrien had arrived at Tunis on his way to Tripoly — Yesterday evening, the Foreign Relations Agent in this place delivered me a packet containing a letter from my friend Mr Beaussier at Tripoly, whereof there inclosed a copy requesting you to forward it to the Secretary of State at Washington with the one also inclosed from Capt Bainbridge; after your perusal for your own private Government; as it would not be proper, that friendly confidential letters might be known by every body. —

On the moment of this mail's departure, I received a letter from Geo: Davis Esqr charged with the U. S. Consulate at Tunis, dated 27 Apl with a heavy packet for the Frigate [sic] of State — he mentions me nothing about misintelligence between Tunis & U. S. only that Commodore Prebble is making preparations for a vigorous campaign against Tripoli, & trusts we shall obtain by balls what was supposed could not be procured with money. —

Consul OBrien was then with him —

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

To Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy, from Captain Alexander Murray, U. S. Navy

WASHINGTON *6th May 1804*

DEAR SIR Your much esteemed favor of the 8th Novr was this Day received, & be assured that you have not a friend that feels a more keen regret for your unhappy situation than myself, your observations are but too just in suposing that the unfortunate are ever liable to censure, but a man in conscious rectitude of conduct need have no fears from the Honest part of this World, your conduct will be investigated by Men who are your friends & justice done you under the clearest conviction of your whole official & officer like deportment having been such as to do you Honor, I have never heard you censured by any one, except a regret that the ship had not been left in such a state as to prevent her being serviceable to the Enemy, but it is evident you could not have supposed it possible for her to have been got off from the situation she was in, those Ideas I trust will have but little influence, & you will not find any aggravating circumstances to add to your present affliction but be recieved here with every consoling attention & I beg you will not suffer any reflections to corrode your peace of mind but look forward to a happier change of fortune, who hath been hitherto very niggardly in her distribution of favors towards you, I, my friend have had many bitter draughts in my life time, & some serious aggrevations, yet to encounter from too much zeal in my Countrys service, but a conscious rectitude of mind supports me beyond dispair, & hope still inspires me I beg you will frequently let me hear from you & make my cordial & condoling respects to all your Officers with assurances of my perfect regard & believe me unfainedly

[NDA. A–4.]

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

These 24 hours Commences with strong gales with a heavy sea —

At ½ past 6 sent down the main yard saw a brig [on] our lee Quarter which we supposed to be the *Syren* —

[NDA photostat.]

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

NAVY DEP^{T} *May 7. 1804* —

In consequence of the Capture of the *Philadelphia*, information of which we did not receive till the month of March last, we have put into Commission

The Frigate *President* —
The Frigate *Congress* —
The Frigate *Constellation*
The Frigate *Essex*

all of which will sail, we hope, in the course of the present month.

The *John Adams* armed *en flute* and carrying provisions for the Squadron will also sail in the course of the present Month. —

Your letters of the 17 & 20 January I received the 5th instant — they afford us high satisfaction and fully justify us in having reposed such high confidence in you, and it is with great pleasure that I repeat to you the assurance that your whole conduct has received the unqualified approbation of the President of the United States, and that his Confidence in you remain's unabated. —

[NDA. LB, 1799–1807.]

To the Commanding Officer of any U. S. Ship of War to arrive at Syracuse from the United States, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
off Palermo 7th May 1804 —

Sir, On your arrival at Syracuse, you will take on board as much provisions and water as you can conveniently stow; and as soon as your ship is ready for sea, you will sail for the coast of Tripoly to join the Squadron in the Blockade of that place. If you have any dispatches for me, leave them with M^{r} Dyson our Agent. I expect to be in Syracuse in ten days at farthest You will find off Tripoly the *Syren, Argus, & Scourge* Brigs, with the *Vixen* and *Enterprize* Schooners. I shall stop but one day at Syracuse before I proceed to join the Squadron.

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

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

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
off Palermo 7th May 1804

SIR On your arrival at Syracuse notwithstanding the order I left with M^{r} Dyson previous to my sailing from there you will remain in that port until my arrival which I expect will be about 10 days.

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

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

fresh breezes from the S E, round cape Galos, at 3 we weathered the Island & stood into Palermo Bay, at 4 took in sail & brought too off the Town, sent a boat on shore, we were at this time ½ a mile east of the mole head in 35 fathoms water, at 6 the boat returned, M^{r} Gibbs our agent came off, delivered his Letters for the Squadron to be sent to Syracuse by a courier, at ½ past 7 He returned on

shore in a shore boat Several of which came off with a supply of Vegitables, we made sail & steered to the N N E, at 8 took our departure from Cape Galos bearing W B S ½ S 3 leagues, Bound to Naples, at 9 spoke a Ragusa Brig from Ragusa bound to the Levant, fresh breezes all night, at 10 A M saw the land of Ischia to the N E, at noon the Island of Ischia bore N b E ½ E, variation corrected, distant 12 leagues

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from James Mackenzie and A. Glennie, London, England

LONDON *8th May 1804*

SIR We have this day recieved your favor dated Harbor of Malta 7th March last.

A few days back we recieved an imperfect account from Messrs John Ross & Co of Malta, that your name had been forged on Bills upon us which we did not credit, the bills in question having come through so very respectable a channel with original & duplicate of letters of advice from you, which being also forwarded by a very respectable house at Lisbon, and accompanied the same Post by the letter of Credit from Mr Robert Smith Secretary to the Navy in your favor, Indorsed by Mr John Gavino with a date at Gibraltar 17th Sepr 1803, all these regular circumstances combining, and having never been favored with a letter from you, nor your Signature from the Secretary of the Navy, as in former Instances, we could not suspect that any forgery had been committed against you, and therefore very readily accepted your bills, being desirous of paying the respect due to the Signature of any Officer placed in so high a station by the Government of the United States: If you had favored us with a few lines inclosing the Secretary's letter of Credit in your favor, and saying from the circumstance you now communicate, of having brought specie out with you, that you would have no occasion, to make use of the Credit for some time, it would have prevented the fraud by enabling us to detect it in the first Instance: As the letters of advice accompanied by the Secretary's letter of Credit in your favor came forward through such regular channells, and the Bills were all presented by respectable houses we had no reason, whatever, for suspicion, and therefore could not detect it

We regret very much that such a fraud should have been committed on you and the Government of the United States, and shall do every thing in our power to trace it back to the Origin if possible: From the present appearance of the matter, as far as we can judge of it, the act must have been committed by some person who had access to know that you had the Secretary's letter of Credit on us and the time it was forwarded to us — We therefore suspect some person about yourself or in Mr Gavino's Office, or about him — What is most to be lamented, that so much time has been lost in finding out the fraud, that the money will be all dissipated The circumstance of your not knowing any person of the name of Laurent Brown, we could not know here. We are not even now informed of the name of your Purser or Secretary, and several Bills have been drawn upon us by the Commanders of United States Ships of War payable to their Pursers —

Signed JAs MACKENZIE & A GLENNIE

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Wednesday, 9 May 1804

Calm at 1 P M a light breeze from W S W, stood in for Naples Bay passed between the Islands of Ischia & Capri, at 7 P M anchored one mile from the City of Naples in 25 fathoms water muddy Bottom the light house bearing N ½ W one mile, Fort S^{t} Elma N W B N the north part of Capri Island S S W ¼ W, 8 leagues, calm all night in the morning the health Officer, and American Consul visited the ship, obtained Pratick, at 10 A M went on shore, I waited on General Acton the Neapolitan prime minister, and was favorably received, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

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

½ past 3 low^{d} down the cutter, back'd the main topsail Lieu^{t} Stewart went on shore at Lampadoza. At 5 L^{t} Stewart return'd, run up the cutter fill'd away & boarded fore tack At ½ past 7 the E. end of Lampadoza bore N by E 3 miles. — At ½ past 8 squar'd the yards. At 9 sounded in 35 fathoms, grey sand & coral —

Latt: Obs 35° 6′ N.

[NDA.]

[10 May 1804]

To Sir John Acton, Prime Minister of State, The Two Sicilies, from Captain Edward Preble. U. S. Navy

To His Excellency General Acton

His Sicilian Majesty's Minister of State

It being mutually the Interest of His Sicilian Majesty and the United States of America that the Corsairs of the Bashaw of Tripoly and the Sea Port Towns at which they are fitted out, and by which they are protected should be destroyed. I am induced in behalf of my Government, to request Your Excellency to grant me a supply from some of His Majesty's Ports in Sicily of eight Gun and two Mortar-Boats prepared for Sea with a sufficient stock of Powder, Shot Shells, Muskets Sabres &c^{a} If those Boats could be loaned to the U S: to be returned in as good order as when received; or in case of their loss, to be paid for agreeable to a just estimation of their Value, or replaced with new ones to be built for that purpose, it would be agreeable to us, as such Boats could not be navigated to the United States We are also in want of eight long Brass Cannon 24 or 32 pounders with Ship Carriages for two Vessels to act as floating batteries to go into the Harbour of Tripoly with the Gun-Boats, and take a position so near the shore that the Guns from the Tripoline Batteries cannot be brought to bear on them, but from whence they will be able effectually to destroy the Bashaw's Castle, and also the Town. Those Vessels and Gun-Boats will enable us to enter the Harbour of Bengaza and totally destroy that Town; the destruction of which, is of importance, as the Bashaw intends building and equipping his light Cruisers at that place whilst Tripoly is blockaded. They will likewise enable us to destroy Derna, and all his other Sea Port Towns. As the season is now arriving when Gun Boats can be employed to most advantage — Your Excellency's order for a prompt supply of

the above requisition will insure to His Sicilian Majesty and Your Excellency the lasting gratitude of the U. S.

U S. S *Constitution* — NAPLES BAY — *10th May, 1804.*

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

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

This day begins with light breezes and Pleasant Weather tacked and Wore ship as Necessary the town of Tripoli bore SE b S. distance 7 miles at 8 light breezes sounded in 75 fathoms Water —

At midnight light airs saw a light on shore sounded in 80 fathoms Water Current setting W b N about 3 fathoms per hour set and took in Sail Occasionally —

At Meridian light airs and Clear Weather Variously emp^{d}

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Thursday, 10 May 1804

ordered fresh Beef for the ships company while in port, I dined with the prime minister, and presented him with an application in writing for the loan of eight Gun boats, two bomb Vessels and eight brass guns, with amunition &c, — which he promised to lay before the King, and give me an answer as soon as possible, — at ½ past 8 P M on going to the mole to return on board, I found the Barge & Pinnace there, the Pinnace was waiting for Lieut^{t} Gordon & several other Officers who had been ordered to return on board at sun down, two of her men had deserted after that time in the absence of the Midshipman, Mr. Page who had charge of her and who contrary to orders had left the boat, and allowed the people to go on shore, for which I ordered him under an arrest to be tried by a court Martial, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

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

Light breezes from the S W. At single Anchor in Naples bay — Ships company employed as Necessary Sail Makers employed in making a new sett of white hammock cloths — Liberty is granted to the Officers on shore — Towards Evening calm — Hove up & down to keep a clear Anchor —.

Mustered ships company at Watch & Watch — Calm during the night —

A. M. recieved 525 pounds fresh Beef — Ships company employed shifting the fore top gall^{t} rigging setting up the bobstays & cleaning ship — Carpenters repairing the Bill boards. —

Surg^{n} report 4 Sick, 7 Conv^{sc}^{t} —

At 10. A. M. moderate breezes from S W — Veered to 60 fath^{s}

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

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Hampton Roads, Va., from Midshipman Johnston Blakely, U. S. Navy

NORFOLK *11th May 1804.*

SIR The Ship being still deficient in two American Ensigns which the Agent says can be made here, you will be pleased to say if they shall be procur'd

The whole morning has been spent in endeavors to ship men for the *Congress* I am sorry to add without success. I have spoken to every landlord of this place who have promised to make use of all their exertions to procure them. The oak plank and scantling you were pleased to order will be sent to the ship tomorrow.

[F. D. Roosevelt Col.]

To Stephen Cathalan, Jr., U. S. Commercial Agent, Marseilles, France, from James Leander Cathcart, Leghorn

Copy LEGHORN *May 11th 1804* —

Dr SIR On my return from Naples I was honor'd with your esteem'd favors of the 29th of March & 6th & 20th of April with their enclosures a copy of the parts you desire shall be forwarded to the Department of State & to Commodore Preble by the first conveyance —

My motive for going to Naples was in consequence of a request from Comodore Preble to that purpose in order to proceed before Tripoly with him he having promised to be at Naples on the 30th of March but being prevented by the threats of the Bey of Tunis he was obliged to concentrate his little force & proceed before that place since said period I have received no farther information from him. —

The Government of Naples has sent to Sea two large Frigates & four corvettes to guard their coast & annoy the Tunisians should they put to Sea this summer, a Seventy four gun ship is a fiting out with all expedition & will be mann'd with the crews of the corvetts which are recalled for that purpose the Seventy four & two large Frigates will be kept continually at Sea: So that if the Tunitians do declare war against us this force will be of infinite Service to us untill a reinforcement arrives from the United States I have likewise procured from the Government of Naples the loan of four Bombardes & four large Gun boats Artillery Mortars Bombs ammunition & every apparaties compleat. the Boats are ready for sea at Messina & an order was forwarded to the Count Tourne or in his absence to the governor of Messina to deliver them to Commodore Preble upon demand before I left Naples, & to render him every service in his power thus you are inform'd that my Journey to Naples was not all together unproductive of good effects as it will prevent Mr Livingston & yourself from being put to any inconvenience in consequence of the Comodores or my letters on the subject of procuring Gun & Mortar Boats artillery &c. & I request you to forward a Copy of this letter to him & to render him by respects. — The destroying of the *Philad*a reflects honor on Commodore Preble & the brave men that put his orders into execution a few more such gallant actions will establish our character in this Sea, & render the mediation of any government unecessary.

I am happy to Inform you that I have received permission to return to the U. States & request you to inform me if in your port there is

any vessels bound to Baltimore with accomodations calculated for a family & if there are when they will be ready to Sail

True Copies MARSEILLES the *24th May 1804*

STEPHEN CATHALAN Junr

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

[11 May 1804]

To Midshipman Octavius A. Page, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

SIR You will consider yourself under arrest for neglect of duty in suffering two men to desert from a Boat under your charge when on shore at Naples last evening — You are therefore to answer for your conduct before a Court Martial

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*

Naples bay — May 11th 1804

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

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

Nº 14. TUNIS *May 11th 1804.*

SIR, The letter you did me the honor to write on the 26th December 1803 — was handed me, with its enclosures, on the evening of the 24th ultimo by Richd O'Brien Esqr, who came here in the U. S. Schooner *Enterprize*, at the request of the Consul Genl Lear, in order "to confer with me, and ascertain the precise expectations of the Bay of Tunis, and close our affairs with this Regency if it could be done on admissible terms" — (Nº 1, contains copies of Mr OBrien's communications to me.)

The President's letter was delivered to the Bey on the morning of the 27th, when Mr O'Brien was presented; *not as one authorized*, to enter into any negociation with His Excellency; but as the ex-Consul of the U. S. for Algiers; who offer'd this mark of respect, to Hamouda Bashaw Bey of Tunis. — I have the honor to enclose you Nº 2, all that transpired during Mr O'Brien's stay; and as worded by himself. — On the evening of the 29th was sent for, by the Commercial Agent, who in the course of conversation, expatiated largely on the *advantages* resulting from our Peace with this Regency — and contrasting it with the insignificancy of the offers made for its retention — These were answered by *shewing*, that the advantages were mutual; and that his Master, had a greater commercial interest, in the preservation of the Peace with the U. S., than *Mine*; as *we* should be enabled, to continue our Commerce in those Seas, in case of a war, while all his Ports, would be placed, in the Situation that Tripoli now is — he gave me many assurances, of his friendly influence, (*which has been exercised on a former occasion*), and concluded with observing that nothing would be done, unless my visits were made alone — Altho' His Excy was much the friend of Mr OB., and sensible of his attention, he did not, wish him (Mr OBr) to be informed of the manner Affairs were transacted in his Regency. — Commodore Preble, arrived on the evening of the 1st Inst., and Sailed with Mr OB. the following afternoon — On the 3d visited the Sapatapa, at the Commercial Agents, where the discussion was again renewed — the Sapatapa, commenced with observing that, "his Master, had charged

"*him to say*, and *me* to make known to my Gov^t *that Hamouda Bashaw*, "*was not a mendicant, nor even in distress — that he did not ask alms* — "and considered the offers made him, rather as an indignity than "a mark of our friendship — With respect to the President's letter, "which had been read, it was most friendly and Satisfactory — he "stated, that his Master expected we would observe the rule, of all "Christian Nations, towards him, that his political existence, not "only urged him to repeat the request; but would force him to insist "on a compliance with the Demand, (to wit) of sending a Regalia of "Naval Stores, every two years — that we had made too great a "difference between him and the Dey of Algiers; *he was not inferior*, "and would be treated with the same respect — his Master asked no "more than we gave there, and would receive no less — that if (as "had been insinuated) we felt a disposition to change the System of "Barbary; we had only to continue the war with Tripoli, and with-"hold our Regalia from Algiers, and nothing would be expected from "his Master." — Much was said by me, on our strict and religious observance to Treaties; and which was offer'd as the sole reason for having sent any Naval Stores to Algiers — he simply answered, whatever may be the motives; the effect, with respect to my Master, is still the same —

I then repeated, the arguments before stated, and concluded with assuring him, that the expectations of the Bey, were most vain — that the U. States, would never send a Cargo of Naval Stores, to the Regency of Tunis, if war should be the consequence. — On the 6^th^ was sent for by the Sapatapa, when the same conversation was repeated; but with less warmth *on his part* — he thus concluded — "a "handsome consular Regalia will certainly be sent to the Prime Min-"ister & Sapatapa — in addition to which something is expected for "Sidi Jussuph, the friend and advocate of Your Gov^t; a Biennial "Present in naval Stores to commence from this date, or their Value in "Cash, agreable to what, they can be procured for in Trieste — on "these terms alone, we shall continue long, and lasting Friends" — I informed him that I would write — altho' I was well satisfied my Master, would never consent to any farther Sacrifices, than had been already offered —

The Bey, and his Ministers are too much occupied at this moment, with the movements of the Grand Signior, and Emperor of Russia, (from whom they have long expected an unpleasant visit) to determine immediately on our Affairs — They also wait the result of our measures now in prosecution against Tripoli — And rest assured Sir, unless a National Character, be established on the Ruins of that Pirate, we shall never remain in Security with this. — I send a Copy of this Dispatch by an express, to the Consul Gen^l Lear, whose advise on this, and every other occasion, will guide my Conduct.

The Tunisien Property is paid for to the amount of four thousand Six hundred & twenty three Dollars, including all demands for the Charter of a Vessel to Malta, Demurage &c &c — The Demoiselle Anne Porcile, has received her tiskara, the expences of which I have been compell'd to pay by order of the Bey — Altho' the Consulate of the U. States at this Regency, is placed far beneath that of any other Nation — I should feel no reluctance; but rather a sensible pleasure by a prompt compliance with your orders, relative to the dismission of the Secretary; was I not well convinced it would prove an injury to

the interest of my Country — there is at all times, a great necessity for a Confidential Person, who is acquainted with the languages of the Country, but under existing circumstances, an indispensable one — I have therefore with the advice and consent of Commodore Preble, retained him untill your farther orders; N° 3, is his letter on the Subject —

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

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

at 7 the town of Tripoli bore S E ½ E at 8 spoke the U, S Schooner *Vixen* Cap[t] Smith came on board sounded in 35 fathoms fine white sand

at 10 A M 3 strange sail in sight —

[NDA photostat.]

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

At 5 from the N W. At 6 saw 2 sail of[f] the Starb[d] bow, turn'd the reefs out of the topsails, set top gall[t] sails, royals, stay sails, steering sails, jib & flying jib, courses & after main sail in chace of the sail on our larb[d] bow. At ½ pas[t] 6 the chase prov[d] to be one of the squadron, squar'd the yards, took in square & after main sails, jib, stay sails, steering sails, in chase of a brig on our lee beam. At ½ past 8 hoisted out the barge. L[t] Caldwell went in her with the boats crew & 4 marines arm'd in chace of the above brig. At 9 discov[d] her to be the U. S. Brig *Scourge*. ¼ past 9 took in royals & made signal for the barge to return. At 10 she return'd —

Latt 33° 24′ N.

[NDA.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. FRIGATE *Congress*
Navy Yard May 12. 1804

SIR I have this day rec'd (by your directions) extract of a Letter from James Sim[p]son Esq[r], to the Secretary of State, stating complaints of Passengers, and Araiz or Cap[t] Omar of the Tripoline Ship *Meshouda*, of losses sustain'd by them while in my custody, without mentioning any particulars, which can give me the least clue to what he means; — After I consented to give up the *Meshouda* to the Emperor, I had the precaution (in Gibralta Bay) to send for the American & Moorish Consuls, and in their presence required the affermation of both the Tripoline & Moorish Capt[s], relating to the treatment they received on board the *John Adams* during their Captivity; when these people declared in the presence of both the Consuls, that their treatment was such, in every respect, as to reflect honor on the American Nation. — This being confess'd, to convince them more plainly of American generosity, to people with whoom they had but a few hours before, been at War, I made the *Mishouda* a present of a new Cable, to prevent her being wrick'd, after she was out of my possession. — The Tripoline & Moorish Capt[s] lived in the Gun Room of the *John*

Adams, with the Lieutenants, and so far from suffering a loss by their Captivity; were supplied frequently with Clothes by the Gentlemen with whoom they lived.—

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

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

TUNIS *May 12th 1804*

SIR I have the honor to enclose, for your information an extract, from my present dispatch to the Hon^ble^ The Secretary of State; by which you will learn, the result of our negociation with this Regency — recent letters from Constantinople, having advised his Excellency the Bey; that the Fleet of the Grand Signior is ordered to Sea, with all possible expedition — and a Russian Force being daily expected in those Seas; withdraws for the moment his attention from us — he has long expected, an unpleasant visit from these quarters — and altho the position of Europe, and probable movements of France, assign plausible reasons for these Armaments — His Excellency wishes to be fully prepared, for an immediate arangement, of the greater evil; and take us at his leisure — There is also a strong motive, why His Excellency, should at this time, be indecisive, in treating with the U. States — *he waits the result of your summer campaign, against Tripoli* — and on your success there; be assured Sir depends our future respectability here — A National character is yet to be established, with these States — *it must be dreadful to Barbary* — or, we shall ever, bow the neck, and receive the tributary yoke, of half a dozen Pirates —

Your correct knowledge of the enemies position, and proposed manner of prosecuting the war; augurs Laurels, for yourself and new dignities for your Country — Wishing you that success, which your well digested plans, allows us to hope for

GEORGE DAVIS

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 12 May 1804

all sail set in Chace at 3 P M hove to and spoke the U, S, Brig *Syren* with *Scourge* and *Enterprize* Cap^t^ Hull went on board the *Syren* At sundown Tripoli bore S W b W ½ W distance 7 or 8 Miles sounded in 48 fathoms water Bottom fine Yellow sand and Shells tacked Occasionally

At Meridian fine Weather all the Squadron in Sight Tripoli bearing S ½ E

[NDA photostat.]

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

moderate breezes and pleasant weather, — Mr Matthews our consul applied to me to receive 14 Bales & Boxes of clothing on board to be conveyed to Tripoli on account of James Leander Cathcart Esq^r^ for the use of the Prisoners captured in the *Philadelphia* which were accordingly taken on Board, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 12 May 1804

½ past 2 spoke the *Argus* L^t Hull the *Scourge* L^t Dent, the *Vixen* L^t Smith, the Lieut^ts came on board. At [space] spoke the *Enterprize* L^t Decatur came on b^d — At 6 finish'd blacking the bends, hoisted in the boats & stow'd them. At 7 the Commanders return'd on board their respective vessels. Tripoli bore South 3 leagues.

Midnight clear & pleas^t all the squadron in sight * * *

Latt: Obs: 33° 6′ N.

[NDA.]

[13 May 1804]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Archibald McMillan

HONORD SIR I presume the nature of my address, will in some measure plead my apology for the Liberty I take in thus troubling you —

Being Sir, a native of America & a number of Years from that Country and being anxious to return, I most humbly entreat you if possible, Sir, to endeavor to extricate me from this Service, on my entering — into that of the united States' — I never received any entering Money in the British. Service, as I was a prest-man — and that there is several men who knows me on board your Ship — that knows all my family & connections and the State that I am from, & the small Estate of my own, in the Town of Salem — the names are M^r Steel Sail-Maker; — Glover — Osborne — Camel — & Downs —

ARCH^d M^cMILLAN

On Board H: M: S: *Kent*
Naples Bay, May 13, 1804.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Sir John Acton, Prime Minister of State, The Two Sicilies

NAPLES *13^th May 1804*

Having had the Pleasure to place under the eyes of the King my Sovereign Your Excellency's favor of the 10 Int with which you have been pleased to make known to me the Determinations of the Government of the United States of America which you are charged with against the Regency of Tripoli and your Desire to have for this Purpose Eight Gun Boats and Two bomb Vessels, with a discreet Quantity of Warlike ammunitions, and more over Eight brass Guns, of 24 or 32 Pounds Metal, with their Tackle or Carriages, So as to Serve for floating Batteries; I have the Satisfaction of being able to assure your Excellency, that his Majesty, always favorably inclined towards those States with which He is in Friendship, embraces very willingly this Opportunity of favoring the Government of the United States of America, by seconding its Operations against the Common Enemies. And he has in consequence given Orders that there be placed at your Disposal the Vessels, Tackle & Ammunition which you ask for, and *that* under the Title of a friendly Loan; reducing only to Six, the Number of the Gun boats, in case it should not be otherwise feasible. I am at the same time desirous of making known to your Excellency

that You may understand direct relative to this Affair, with the Commander of the Royal Navy, Brigadier Count di Thurn to whom the necessary Orders have been given, and in the meantime I have the Honor to Subscribe Myself &ᵍ

Signed GIOVANNI ACTON

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Brig *Argus*, 18 Guns, kept by Sailing Master Samuel B. Brooke, U. S. Navy, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 13 May 1804

These 24 hours Commence with modᵉ and Clear Weather standing in for Tripoli at 4 P M, close in with the town fired 2, 18 pound shot at it which done no damage immediately all the batterys were open'de on us but without effect the *Syren Enterprize* and *Vixen* firing at a small battery West of Tripoli distᵗ about 1 league a Number of Gunboats came out to the reef firing at us at sunset the town bore SE¼ E, sounded in 35 fᵐˢ fine White sand lay too —

At 10 P M filled away under easy sail to the NW, At 2 AM wore ship at sunrise Tripoli bore S E b S ½ S distᵗ 3 leagues the other Cruizers in sight sent Henry Fleck, John Akerman, Robᵗ Barney, Samˡ Blyth & James Roberts seamen and Pat. Lynch and Willᵐ Bonny marines on board the *Scourge* —

At Meridian Pleasent Weather empᵈ as Necessary —

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

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

These 24 hours Commence with moderate Clear Weather standing in for Tripoli at 4 P, M, being Close in with the town fired 2 Eighteen Pound Shot which did no damage Immediately the Batterys were all open'd on us but without effect, the Squadron firing at a small Battery to the Westward of Tripoli fresh breezes at 10 AM sent Henry Fleck, John Akerman, Robert Barny, Samˡ Blyth, and James Roberts Seamⁿ Patᵏ Lynch & Wᵐ Bonny Marᵉˢ on board the U, S, Brig *Scourge*

[NDA photostat.]

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

pleasant weather, — Received a letter from General Acton the prime minister with an order from the King to supply me with six cannon for floating Batteries with Powder & shott, for them, six Gun Boats & two Bomb Vessels, armed & equipped with military & Naval Stores to operate against Tripoly, the order expressed that this supply was to be considered as a friendly loan from the King of the Sicilies to the United States, entered 5 seamen who said they were Americans & did not belong to any ship

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

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

At 4 took in after main sail & stood in for the small fort to the Westward of Tripoli At ½ past fore commenced a heavy fire on the

fort, which they return'd assisted by a small battery on the beach — Same time the remainder of the squadron commenc'd a fire on the town, immediately after 10 gun boats stood out & attacked them assisted by the batteries of the Town — At 5 hove about & made all sail to attack the gun boats — ½ past 5 the gun boats hove about & stood in for the town took in sail & bore down for the squadron. At ½ past 7 hove too L[t] Stewart went on b[d] the *Enterprize*. 11 he return'd fill'd away & made sail — Midnight light airs & pleas[t] At 4 wore to the S. W. 7 made all sail in chace of 2 sail of[f] our lee bow At 8 the chace prov[d] to be the *Argus* & *Enterprize* — At 10 took in sail — Meridian fresh breezes & pleas[t] carried away the fore & sprung the main top gall[t] masts & yards, three men from the *Vixen* & *Enterprize* assisting the carpenter & Armourer. —

Latt: Obs: 33° 8′ N.

[NDA.]

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

NAVY DEPM[t] *May 14, 1804* —

In all cases where Apprentices are entered for the Navy Service and claimed by their Masters, they must be given up. If they should have any of the Advances made them by the Public, it must be delivered up to the Recruiting Officer. Be pleased to give directions accordingly.

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

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

LEGHORN *May 14[th] 1804.*

D[r] SIR. By my letters of the 17[th] 22[nd] & 24[th] Ult[o] & enclosures you will be inform'd of my opperations at Naples copys of the whole I forwarded to you by M[r] Spence which I hope you will receive in due season. —

A few days after my arrival at Leghorn I receiv'd leave from the President to return to the United States which I intend to benefit by immediately & again beg leave to renew my request that you would if compatible with the service permit one of our small vessels to convey myself & family to Gibraltar this request includes more than my personal safety for should I be captured, the United States in honor would be bound to redeem me if you cannot grant my request I must run the risk as I have been so little the favorite of Mammon since I have been in the Service that I can't stay here above six or eight weeks without going in debt which I dont contemplate. —

I should be happy to hear from you as soon as possible & remain very respectfully. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804.]

[14 May 1804]

To Sir John Acton, Prime Minister of State, The Two Sicilies, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

His Excellency General ACTON
His Sicilian Majesty's Minister of State &c[a]

In addition to what I had the honor to represent to your Excellency a few days since relative to the extraordinary Quarantine to which the

vessels of the United States are subjected in this Port, I herewith take the liberty agreeable to your Excellency's permission to transmit to you the memorandum enclosed [*] — setting forth a precise statement of facts, and the disadvantages which result from it to the commerce of the United States with this Country fully persuaded of the friendly disposition of Your Excellency towards the Government of the U S. and of your inclination to favour its interest. I beg leave to request that you will be pleased to give the matter its just consideration, and to cause such orders to be given as will tend to do away the grievance in question; and that the American Vessels may be as favorably rec^{d} in this port as they are in the other ports of the Mediterranean. If your Excellency can consistently allow me to make an early report to my Government of the successful issue of this application, I should consider it as a peculiar favour, and be happy in remembering it with those sentiments of gratitude with which I have the honor to subscribe myself

14th MAY 1804

[*To be found in below-mentioned source, on pp 234–236.]

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Brig *Argus*, 18 Guns, kept by Sailing Master Samuel B. Brooke, U. S. Navy, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 14 May 1804

This day begins with light breezes and Pleasant Weather the *Enterprize* in C^{o} standing in for Tripoli at 2 made sail the Schooner Astern at 4 old Tripoli bore E ½ S dist^{t} 3 or 4 leagues at 5 the *Enterprize* N^{o} 361 & 434 saw 5 sail at anchor under the land sent a boat on board the *Enterprize* the land bore south dist^{t} 3 leagues

Lat^{e} Obs^{d} 33° 05′ N.

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

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

First part of these 24 hours pleasant Weather *Enterprize* in Company standing in for Tripoli at 4 old Tripoli bore E ½ S Dist^{e} 3 or 4 Miles at 5 the *Enterprize* made the Sig^{l} 361 and 434 saw 5 small sail at anchor under the land —

Middle part fresh Breezes and Cloudy Standing off Shore sound^{d} frequently as per log and tacked when Necessary at ½ past 9 AM Captain Decatur Came on board sent a Kedge anchor and hauser on Board the *Enterprize*

At Meridian pleasant Weather the *Enterprize* in C^{o} Variously Emp^{d}

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Monday, 14 May 1804

Pleasant weather received an order from the Prime Minister on Count de Thurn commander in cheif of the Neapolitan Navy to deliver me six peices of 24 pound Cannon with carriages &^{c} compleat, and a quantity of Match Rope, Powder, Ball & grape shott sufficient for one hundred rounds to each Gun, and likewise an order for Six

Gun Boats & two Bomb Vessels compleatly fitted with Guns, Mortars, Powder, Shott, Shells &c to be delivered at Massina, the whole to be considered as a friendly loan from the King of Naples to the United States for the reduction of Tripoly

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

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

½ past 3 sent the cutter on board the *Vixen* with a Kedge Anchor &c. At 4 took in fore sail & fore top mast stay sail, hoisted out the barge. sent the boats crew & 4 marines well arm'd in Co: with the *Vixens* boats on board the *Vixen* the Cap^{t} went in the barge ashore with the *Vixen's* 20 miles to the Eastw^{d} of Tripoli in order to plunder, a few minutes Previous to their landing the turks on shore saluted them with a few musket-shot, which was return'd by the boats & the turks were obliged to retreat in the bushes. At 7 finding the Inhabitants gathering very numerous & night approaching thought it most prudent to return to the boats & return on board. At 10 the barge return'd fill'd away & stood to the N^{d} The *Scourge* in Co.

[NDA.]

[15 May 1804]

Clothing for U. S. Prisoners in Tripoli

INVOICE OF CLOATHING PREPARED FOR TRIPOLY

NCN — N^{o} 1 @ 3	628 Shirts		
4 — 7	300 cloth Jackets & Trowsers	9 Bales	
8 — 9	300 duck D^{o} D^{o}		
10	300 P^{r} Shoes — a box		
11	300 p^{r} D^{o} — a box		
12 – 13	320 Sailors Hats — 2 boxes		
14	Officers Cloathing 2 D^{o}.		

NAPLES *May 15th 1804*

Recieved on board the U. S. Ship *Constitution* (from John Matthiew Esquire U. S. Consul at Naples fourteen bales, in boxes, of cloathing, on acc^{t} & risk of Ja^{s} L. Cathcart Esq^{r} to be delivered to Keith Spence, purser of the late U. S. Frigate *Philadelphia*, in Tripoly, for the American Officers & Crew Prisoners there, if willing to recieve them, If not, to be delivered to W^{m} Higgins Esq^{r} U. S. Naval Agent in Malta at the disposition of the said Ja^{s} L Cathcart —

Signed EDW^{d} PREBLE

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

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

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Naples Bay 15th May 1804.

SIR. I arrived here the 7th ins^{t} & have not been able to effect any thing with this Government until this day, notwithstanding promises, I found that nothing could be done without a memorial to the King, which I accordingly sent in, & have at length obtained what I asked for,

& shall leave this tomorrow. I regret that you had left here previous to my arrival, & that you did not leave me a few lines respecting the clothing. Mr Spence the Purser of the late Frigate *Philadelphia* has been supplied by me with six months clothing for all the crew of that ship, and the Officers have been furnished with what they wanted. I shall however endeavour to prevail on them to take from your supply what they may want in future; but as they must pay for what they receive, it will depend on the price whether the Officers will receive any of the clothing provided for them: nothing can be done until an Invoice is furnished. —

It will be well to write to Mr Higgins and authorise him to dispose of the clothing to the Pursers of the Squadron, who will readily purchase it, if it is laid in as reasonably as they can procure it at Malta. I shall do all in my power that it may be expended in the Squadron. —

Mr OBrien is with me; we have been at Tunis, & I beleive we are in no danger of a War with that Regency at present. — Doctor Davis is confirmed by our government & his Salary &c establish'd the same as the former Consul. I am in momentary expectation of the arrival of three frigates from the United States, & with the assistance of the gun & mortar boats I hope to be able to give a good account of our affairs with Tripoly before the summer closes. I understand you left some money here at my disposal but as you have left me no advice respecting the business, I cannot with propriety take it. —

[NA. SDA. CL, Tripoli, Vol. 2, 1801–1805.]

To Robert R. Livingston, U. S. Minister to Paris, France, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Naples Bay May 15th 1804.

SIR, Since last I had the honor to write you, I have again visited Tripoly, and I find nothing can be done with that Regency without a sum of money which it would be mortifying and disgraceful to the United States to pay. I have therefore come here to obtain the loan of some Gun Boats and Bomb Vessels which owing to the situation of the harbour of Tripoly are absolutely necessary to enable me to bring the Bashaw of Tripoly to our own terms. His Sicilian Majesty sensible that we are fighting his battles as well as our own, has readily granted me whatever I have required, and I sail immediately to commence my operations. On my way here I touched at Tunis, and from the information I recd from our Consular Agent, I believe the Bey will consider it more for his interest to keep in peace with us, than to declare War, whilst we have a Squadron in these Seas, and I am now confident that we have nothing to fear from that quarter at present The Barbary Powers are waiting the issue of our attack on Tripoly, and will be governed by it in their conduct towards us, I hope it may be such as to make them fear and respect us. No addition to my little Squadron has yet arrived.

His Excellency Robt R: LIVINGSTON
Minister Plenipotentiary from
the United States of America
To the French Republic, Paris

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

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

U S. Ship *Constitution*
Naples Bay May 15th 1804

Sir, I was in Tunis Bay a few days since where Mr OBrien again joined me. I enclose for your information a detail [29 April 1804] of what passed between him, Mr Davis, and the Bey. His Highness is dissatisfied with our refusing to give him a Frigate, and pretends that the ten thousand dollars pr Annum offered him by our Government is too trifling a consideration for his friendship. I believe it would have been for our Interest not to have given him a cent; his ports are all so exposed, that I do not believe he will dare to declare War, and if he does, I am convinced he will repent it, However much will depend on our success with Tripoly. it has become absolutely necessary to our National and Naval Character in the Eastern World, that we humble that Regency and bring the Bashaw to our own terms this cannot be done without the assistance of Gun Boats and Bomb Vessels &c^{a} I therefore came here to obtain them, and have succeeded. I enclose you a copy of my application, and the answer. His Sicilian Majesty considering that it is asmuch for the interest of his Kingdom as for the United States that the Corsairs of Tripoly should be destroyed, has loaned us Six Gun Boats and two Bomb Vessels, with Arms and Ammunition &c^{a} they are to be immediately got ready at Messina, for which place I shall sail this evening with the Royal order for them. The absolute necessity that something prompt and decisive should be done in order to make us respected in these seas I hope will plead my apology with the President for the measures, I have adopted to procure the means. Tripoly is at present effectually blockaded by all the Vessels of the Squadron excepting this Ship, and the *Nautilus* whose repairs are not yet finished. I have not yet heard of the arrival of the *John Adams* in these seas, but hope I soon shall as we will be in great want of men in our attack on the Barbarians I hope ere long to be able to advise you of a successful termination of the War with Tripoly.

A favourable opportunity to draw on you for 5000 dollars for the use of the Squadron at 2½ pr Cent advance, has induced me to do so in favor of Frederick Degen & Co This is the only Bill I have drawn excepting the one at Cadiz for 3500 dollars in November last.

The rigorous quarantine our Merchant Vessels are obliged to perform here, has induced me to represent to this Government the injury our Mercantile Interest sustains in consequence thereof, General Acton the prime Minister has assured me that something favorable shall be immediately done with respect to this business.

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

[15 May 1804]

To Signore Maresciallo Marchese Espluga, Messina, from General Bartolommes Forteguerra, Naples

Copy

The King having been pleased to accede to the demands made by Mr Preble Commander in chief of the Sea forces of the United States of America in the Mediterranean has ordered that the Department of

Messina deliver to him by way of Loan Six Gunboats and two Bomb ketches to be employed in an hostile expedition against the Barbary powers, and it is his pleasure that the same be furnished with a complete inventory, manned with not less than five nor more than 15 Seamen besides their respective Masters. — and that over and above said equipment two Cannoneers most skilled in the use of the mortar be embarked on board the said Bomb ketches And for this purpose the Brigadier General Thurn is to come to an understanding personnally with the said American Commander according to the orders received — It is his Majestys intention that the consignment of the said boats be made with Duplicate Inventories signed by the American Commander and by the Commander of the Department of Messina with whom they may serve as Documents on the restitution And that the men who shall serve on board the said vessels to the number indicated shall be at the charge & expence of the Americans from the moment the boats shall be consigned until their restitution — It is his Majesty's intention that Six Cannons of the Calibre of 24 furnished with their Carriages, implements, and ammunition for 150 shot with ball be provided by the said Department according to the wishes manifested by the said Commander — I communicate this to you in his Majestys name for your information and execution on your part

BARTOLOMMES FORTEGUERRA

NAPLES *15th May 1804*
Sig[r] MARESCIALLO MARCHESE ESPLUGA — *Messina*

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804.]

Guns and Ammunition Received by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Naples

GUNNERS STORES REC'D FROM THE ARSENAL AT NAPLES

Six guns_____24 P.[drs]
Six carriages____24 linch pins — 12 forelocks
Six Beds
Twelve Coins
Seventy four bbls powder — 24 Cantar & 48 Rottolo
Three hundred & 75 Parch[t] Cartridges_____ 24 P[drs] } *600*
Two hundred & 25 flan[l] D[o] D[o]
Six hundred round shot_____ D[o]
Sixty Grape_____D[o]_____ D[o]
Two Ladles_____ D[o]
Two Worms_____ D[o]
Six Spunges & rammers_____ D[o]
One hundred & 47 lb Match rope
Six Cannon Cartridge boxes —

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

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

These 24 hours Commence with Moderate breezes and Clear Weather *Enterprize* in C[o] at 4 P, M, saw a Sail off our lee bow made sail in Chace at ½ past came up with the Chace she proved to be a Spanish Ketch from Tunis bound to Tripoli with a pass from the American

Consul at Tunis tacked Ship as Necessary the Schooner and Ketch in Company at ½ past 7 made the land at 9 AM saw a small Latteen boat under the land hove too and sent the boats on Shore under the orders of Lieu[t] Vansc[h]aick at 10 the boats returned p[r] Sig[l] without the boat fired three Shot on Shore fine pleas[t] Weather

[NDA phosostat.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Brig *Argus*, 18 Guns, kept by Sailing Master Samuel B. Brooke, U. S. Navy, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 15 May 1804

These 24 hours Commence with fine Weather the *Enterprize* in Company at 4 P M saw a sail off the lee bow made sail and gave chace at ½ past 4 came up with her she proved to be a Ketch from Tunis bound to Tripoli with a pass from the american Consul at Tunis at ½ past tack[d] ship at 8 in T. G sails and tacked —

At midnight light airs and Clear wore ship to the S. E. the Schooner in sight —

A, M, At ½ past 7 saw the land ahead hauled the foresail up the Schooner out of sight at 9 saw a Small latteen boat under the land bore away sent the boats under the Command of Lieu[t] Vanscaick on shore at 10 they returned without the boat fired 3 Shot at some Turks on shore filled away at Meridian fine Weather

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

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

At 9 AM discov[d] a brig & Ketch bore away & made all sail in chase ½ past 11 came up with the Ketch, she prov[d] to be spanish from Tunis bound to Tripoli — Meridian Lying bye the Ketch to leward Tripoli bearing S E 3 leagues —

Latt: Obs: 33° 00′ N.

[NDA.]

To Richard V. Morris, former Captain, U. S. Navy, New York, N. Y., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP[t] *May 16, 1804*: —

With my Letter to you of the 2[d] instant I transmitted to you a copy of the opinion of the Court appointed to enquire into your Conduct as Commanding Officer of the late Squadron of armed Vessels of the United States, in the Mediterranean. This opinion having satisfied the President that it is not the public Interest that you should be longer continued in command in the Navy of the United States, I have it in charge from him to inform you, that he has revoked your Commission. — [See 31 August 1803.]

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

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

Pleasant weather, Received on board the six cannon before mentioned with ammunition &c for them, from the Neapolitan arsenal, Ships draft 22 feet 9 aft 21.5 forward 6 sick, 5 convalescent.

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

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

Moderate breezes from the West^{q} — At Single Anchor in Naples bay — Towards evening recieved by a flota from shore 6, 24 pounders — 624 round shot — 73½ bbls powder 4406 lbs The Six guns were complete with carriages, rammers & Ladles — Charles Smith Seaman attempted to desert. He was detected and confined. A. M. rec'd 523 lb fresh beef Ships draft 22 ft 9 In & 21 ft 5 In — Ships company employed as necessary —

Surgeons report 6 sick 5 convalesc^{t}

Noon light airs from the Westward —

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

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

Light airs & pleas^{t} At 1 dismiss'd the Ketch & permitted her to Enter the harbour of Tripoli ½ past 1 fill'd away & wore to the S^{q} & E^{q} Single reef'd the topsails boarded fore & Main tacks & set after main sail — 2 TK^{q} to the N E & spoke the *Argus* L^{t} Stewart went on board of her At ½ past 5 TK^{q} to the S. E^{q} At ½ past 7 TK^{q} to the N E. At 8 took in courses, top gall^{t} sails, fore top mast stay sail & hove too L^{t} Stewart ret^{d} Midnight light airs & clear fill'd away — At 4 TK^{q} to the S. E^{q} At 6 discov^{d} a sail on our lee bow made sail & gave chace. At ½ past 6 hauld our wind again. took in fore sail & top gall^{t} sails —

At 7 wore to the N E, the *Argus* & *Scourge* in sight hove too. At 9 fill'd away. 11 brail'd after main sail — Meridian wore to the S E — Light airs & pleas^{t} —

Latt Obs 33° 16′ N.

[NDA.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 17 May 1804

the *Scourge* to Windward bore down & Joined us Cap^{n} Hull went on board Tripoli bore S W b W ½ W at 6 hove too under Topsails head to the Northward & Eastw^{d} *Syren* and *Scourge* in Sight at 4 AM filled away the head S W set and took in sail Occasionally —

[NDA photostat.]

[18 May 1804]

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

NAVY DEPM^{t} *May 21, 1804* —

The President of the United States having been pleased to raise you to the Station of Master Commandant in the Navy, I have the pleasure herewith to transmit to you your Commission bearing date 18th May 1804 — to rank N^{o} 4 of the Masters Commandants commissioned on that day. —

Similar Letter to Cap^{t} G^{o} Cox. Care of Commre Barron — To rank N^{o} 8. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

[18 May 1804]

Appointments to rank of Master Commandant

NAVY DEPM^t
May 29: 1804 —

To Ch^s Stewart esquire. Commander of the *Siren*
Isaac Hull esquire Commander of the *Argus*
John Smith esquire Commander of the *Vixen*
R^d Somers esquire Commander of the *Nautilus*
Care of COMM^rs
Mediterranean

SIR, The President of the United States having been pleased to raise you to the rank of Master Commandant, I herewith enclose you your Commission.

R^t SMITH

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

[18 May 1804]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from P. d'Karpow, Russian Chargé d'Affaires, The Two Sicilies

SIR Having been informed by the Consul General appointed by my august Sovereign at Messina, that a Brig belonging to your Squadron had at the distance of 80 miles from Tripoli, captured a Merchant Vessel named the *Virgin of Catapolaghi* [*Madona Catapoliana*], commanded by George Morfino, under Russian Colours, which port she had left freighted for Malta; and that the above mentioned Vessel having been carried into Syracuse was there declared a lawful prize; I in consequence directed the Agent belonging to my Court here, to make the necessary representations on the subject to the American Consul General.

These representations were made in three notes bearing date the 3^d 4^th & 10^th instants, which were communicated to you.

In answer to these notes you produced through the channel of the American Consul General the copies of certain Documents, on the strength of which you considered yourself authorised to seize the said Vessel, and to dismiss Her crew — These documents consist of the copy of a Convention agreed on between the Master & his Pilot; and of two simple attestations of the latter declaring. First. That on the 5^th of November, the day of the Vessels departure from Smyrna, it was already notorious that the Port of Tripoli was blockaded by an American Naval Force.

Secondly. That in consequence of his knowing this circumstance, the Master, whose Vessel was freighted to Tripoli, had taken the precaution to clear her for Gerba —

These then Sir, are the only grounds on which you found your reasons for considering the above mentioned Vessel a lawful prize: But I must object to them.

First. That the official Communication of the Blockade of Tripoli having been made by the American Consul Gen^l on the 14^th of December 1803, in consequence of a letter he received from you dated from Gibraltar the 12^th of the preceding November, it is not possible, that on the 5^th of that month, the day on which the Vessel sailed from Smyrna your dispositions should have been known there. Besides,

on the supposition that they were, allow me to observe to you, that Towns & Ports should be blockaded, not by Manifestoes only, but by a military force; and at the period alluded to, there can have been none, as the Vessel in Entering the port of Tripoli met with no opposition. — With regard to the second point, had the Vessel being freighted any where but at Smyrna, I am ready to admit the possibility of the Captains having had the precaution to frame two contracts, one real, the other simulated, but as all Contracts are drawn up in the Consular Chancellors Office at Smyrna, I can not for a moment suppose that the Russian Consular Chancellors Office can have been guilty of such an irregularity.

Independent of these objections, do you imagine Sir, that the simple deposition of a Mercenary Pilot, either guided by the motives of revenge or venality, is sufficient to justify your measures? It would be the height of justice, as well as pregnant with many inconveniences —

I must in addition to these remarks, observe, that though the Maritime Laws of all Nations Forbid in case of Blockade, the Entrance of Vessels into the Blockaded ports, they do not prevent their leaving them. This is a point universally known, & which cannot be controverted —

I flatter myself Sir, that in consequence of what I have had the honor to represent to you, you will not resist the just demand I here make that the Vessel in question with her Cargo be restored, & the master of her indemnified for the Injury sustained by his detainder. —

The Government to which I belong having never submitted to the arbitrary measures of any power, can not see her flag insulted, with indifference, & I trust Sir that a proper regard for the harmony subsisting between my August Sovereign & your Government, will induce you to avoid the risk of interrupting that good understanding, by persisting in considering the Vessel I claim as a just prize; and that you will Enable me to make a satisfactory report of the affair to my Court.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 9, Jan.–Feb. 1804.]

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

Nº 9. (Copy) TUNIS *May 18th 1804.*
Recd June 1st

SIR, An express for the Bey of Constantine, allows me to inform you, that on the 15th inst. I had the pleasure to forward you by a Courier express, a dispatch containing the result of our negociation, with this Regency; copies of my accounts, and triplicates of my former Communications; all of which I trust have come safe to hand. The Courier is to bring your answer in 26 days from the day he left Tunis, and receives one hundred and sixty Piastres; if latter one hundred & fifty; and if in less time a trifling presant.

It is with pain I announce to you a return of difficulties; the Bey yesterday ordered me to leave his Regency, having been inform'd, that my Passport for the Spanish Bombard to enter Tripoli, with a Choux of the Grand Signior, had not been respected; the Vessel being forced into the Island of Jerba, where she now is — As also that several Sandals of the Island Jerba, had been captured by the Americans —

Some conversation with the Minister rendered him less violent; when he directed me to write to the Commodore, & inform him, that

unless the said Sandals were returned without delay, and ample Justice rendered for all injuries sustained, that he would without hesitation adopt such measures as would enable him to pay himself; and in case his Subjects were again molested in any one instance; he would not even allow me time, to make a statement to any Person — It is very certain that as long as our difficulty continues with Tripoli, we shall never be free'd from these complaints — A Statement shall be made to the Commodore, without delay; and you will be pleased to direct the measures which are to be taken by me. —

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

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

TUNIS *May 18th 1804.*

SIR, It is to be regretted, that unforseen, and incalculable occurrences so happily combine with the Policy of these States, as ever to coincide & support their views — (to wit) that a Nation shall never be free'd from a demand — one difficulty is no sooner settled than another presents itself. — On the 17th was sent for by the Bey, whom I met passing from the hall of Justice to the audience chamber — he stopped, and in a peremptory & menacing tone demanded if the American Consul was present. — I offered him the usual mark of submissive respect — when he thus addressed me — *Go — leave instantly my regency — You wish war with all the world, and since You have resolved to force me into, I am contented.* — These words were frequently repeated; and without allowing me time to demand the cause of his displeasure, retired to his chamber. — I addressed myself to the Sapatapa; who informed me, that two Sandals, belonging to the Island of Jerba, had been captured by our Cruisers; and that I had deceived his Master, in the Passport given for the Chaoux of the Grand Signor to enter Tripoli — that the Vessel had been boarded by an American Brig & Schooner, and detained three hours, when one of the Commanders informed the Capt. of the Bombard, that the Passport was not valid — that he might enter Tripoli; but if he attempted to come out, the Vessel would be captured; and all on board without distinction considered as enemies, and made prisoners of war — in consequence of which the Commander desisted from his voyage, & put into Jerba, where he now is — I informed the Sapatapa, that these difficulties should be corrected — that with respect to the Capture, I would be fully informed by the Commodore, and ample Justice should be rendered without any delay — that the Passport should be renewed, and no future difficulties would arise; assuring him that so conscious was I of its being respected, that I had placed on board that Vessel one thousand Dollars, for the use of the Americans at Tripoli. — Some time after, was called for by the Bey; who directed me to write You, that the Vessel should be immediately returned with a just recompense, for all damages sustained by the Claimants — that unless this was acquiesced to immediately, *he should be compelled to pay himself* — that he would receive no excuses for delays in aranging the affair — he also desired me to state, that if his Subjects, were again molested by any of our Cruisers, he would drive me from his Regency, without a hearing.

It is very certain, that we shall never be freed from similar complaints, and outrages on the laws of Nations, as long as our difficulty continues with Tripoli — *these are evils without a remedy*; for where one party alone, has the right to accuse, adjudge, & condemn — there is but a partial field for reasoning or argument; on this point you will be pleased not only to instruct me fully, but inform me of the measures you wish taken — I can only say, that procrastination is ever attended with serious evils; and that the usual interest for delays with this Regency, in similar transactions, is more than Cent per Cent.

I cannot omit expressing my surprize at the non respect shewn to my Passport; and which circumstance I am satisfied is not only without Your knowledge; but will meet Your earnest disapprobation. Such occurrences not only tend to lessen my respectability with this Gov^{t} as a public character; but involve me personally.

You are too well convinced of my desire, to see crown'd with success Your unceasing exertions; to suppose that any measures of mine shall ever tend to lessen the effect of Your projected plans —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804.]

To Brigadier Count d'Thurn, Commander in Chief of His Sicilian Majesty's Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

MAY 18th 1804

I have the honor to enclose you a set of private Signals between the ships of War of His Sicilian Majesty and those of the United States.

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

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

Moderate breezes from the W. S. W — At Single Anchor in Naples — Recieved this afternoon — Rec'd this afternoon 70 boxes candles part mould & part not — Supposed to contain nearly 11000 lb W^{t}. Departed this life Jacob Hendrickson, killed by a fall from the fore Catharpins — In the evening his body was committed to the deep — Discharged three Seamen who had entered three days ago — They were deserters from a ship in the Harbor — Towards evening made ready for weighing — At Sundown calm which continued till midnight when a light breeze sprang up from S W b S which is right into the Harbour — At 8 A. M. it had encreased to a gale Veered to 80 fath^{m} let go the small bower — Veered to a cable & half on the best bower & unslung the lower Yards

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

To P. d'Karpow, Russian Chargé d'Affaires, The Two Sicilies, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Under sail NAPLES BAY
May 19th. 1804.

SIR, I have this morning rec^{d} a letter from you of yesterday's date, which was brought on board at a late hour last night and after I had retired to rest. The papers respecting the Polackre in question which I desired the Consul of the U S to present to you are not the

only documents which I have to confirm me in my opinion of the legality of the detention of that Vessel. But those papers alone I supposed would have been satisfactory to you. I shall however write you more fully from Malta on my arrival there: At present I shall only observe that Captain Marfino has made many misrepresentations, and that you must know that the Vessel detained cannot be declared a good prize until legally condemned by the Court of Admiralty of the United States. The Boat by which I send you this, is passing towards the shore, and only leaves me time to subscribe myself.

P. D'KARPOW Esq[r]

Charge d'Affairs from His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Russia, to His Majesty the King of the two Sicilies &c[a]

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 19 May 1804

These 24 hours Commence with moderate Breezes and pleasant Weather at 4 P, M, the Town of Tripoli bore SSE ½ E the *Syren* and *Enterprize* in Company —

At Midnight moderate breezes and pleasant Weather tacked Ship Occasionally made and Shortened Sail as Necessary

At 8 AM, both brigs and Schooner *Enterprize* in Sight.

At Meridian Tripoli bore SWbS dist[t] 4 Leagues —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Saturday, 19 May 1804

At anchor in Naples Bay, the Gale from the S W B W blowing into the Bay still continues which Keeps us here, at 3 P M the gale abated unmoored, in the Night calm, at 1 A M a light Breeze from the E N E, weighed and made sail out of the Bay, at day light becalmed 3 leagues from the City, — Boarded the Schooner *Betsey*, Wellman master from Boston 60 days out received some Letters and Newspapers, stood for the Island of Capri, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

[20 May 1804]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Midshipman Octavius A. Page, U. S. Navy

SIR I take the liberty notwithstanding your declaration at the time you arrested me to Solicit a release. When you diliberate cooly on my conduct and hear my defence you will I am confident acknowledge it not so culpabable as you at first thought it — But release me from a confinement which is particularly distressing at this time on the Eve of our Expedetion to Tripoli the only opportunity for a long time an officer in our service will probably have of distinguishing himself. When you Consider that a Court Martial is at all times disagreable and in very few Instances honorable you will I am Induced to beleive overlook the imprudence (I can call it by no harsher name) I was guilty of without bringing me to trial

MAY *20th 1804* —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804.]

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

GIBRALTER *May 20th 1804.*

DEAR SIR My last to you was the 25th Ulto: P^{r} Duplicate on the subject of the Bills order Laurent Roberts, on which subject I could not get the least information either regarding the bills or the person, which am sorry for, but hope Mackenzie & Glennie will be able to clear it up, to whom & Sec^{y} of the Navy have written several letters thereon.

On the 4th Inst. M^{r} Lewis delivered me your duplicate of 7th March & by post I recieved that of 19th D^{o}, informing me of your apprehensions regarding the Tunisians &^{c} which will lay before the Comm^{r} of such State Vessels as may drop in here: the report from the U. S. is, that five frigates were preparing for these seas Viz^{t} *United States, Congress, President, John Adams & Constellation* with two Brigs, two Schooners and a Gun Boat, but have not learned the names of the Commanders excep^{t} Cap^{t} Ja^{s} Barron who, they say, has the first — If this force joins you, I hope you will bring the Barbarians to terms — All quiet with the Emp^{r} of Morrocco —

As to News, have none; —

* * * * * * *

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy

TRIPOLI *20th May 1804*

DEAR SIR Since you was off here on the 26th of March I have done myself the honor of writing to you at the following dates. 27, 29, 30th of March, 30th of April and 9th of May in all of which I have expressed the great want of Cloathing for our Seamen — I have made every exertion in my power to procure a supply in this place, but am only able to get a few shirts and trowsers made in the course of many days; not near adequate to their constant demands — I sincerely wish that you may be enabled to send us a supply immediately.

Since my last letters nothing particular has transpired.

I enclose you an answer to your letter which you did me the honor to write conveying the the thanks of the President of the United States and the Secretary of the Navy respecting the capture of the Moorish ship *Mirboha.*

We are all extremely anxious to hear from you.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804.]

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

TRIPOLI BARBARY *20th May 1804*
(rec^{d} 19th Aug^{t} —)

DEAR SIR, I this day received your much esteemed letter of the 24th of February, — yours of the 12th of the same month came to hand on the 5th ult^{o}. I done myself the pleasure of writing to you on the 3^{d}, 5th, & 30th ult^{o} and hope they will reach you. The long detention and uncertainty of letters between this place and Algiers may leave you a length of time without letters from me; if this should be the

case, I pray that you will not attribute it to neglect or want of attention in keeping you informed of our situation; for exclusive of conceiving it my duty, I always feel pleasure in addressing a Friend. To my letters of last month I refer you for our situation, — no change since has taken place. Our people are much in want of cloathing, which I have daily expected for these two months past from Commodore Preble: I do every thing in my power to procure cloathing in this place, but with difficulty can only get a small supply, not near sufficient for their constant demand. I trust that you will do me the justice to believe that no exertions of mine will be wanting to render the unfortunate seamens situation as comfortable as lays in my power.

I am happy to say, owing to your attention in so early placing funds in the hands of M^{r} Davis at Tunis, whose attention claims my thanks for his frequent remittances, we are provided with sufficient funds: Articles, and not money are our wants.

I received a letter from my friend Consul Kirkpatrick at Malaga, which you notice in yours; I am very much obliged to him for his generous attention, and well know it proceeds from real friendship; but until I have reason to believe (which God forbid I ever should) that I have forfeited the protection of my government I shall not want other resources than through that channel; and if I did, believe me my dear friend that I should most readily have called on you. It was entirely unnecessary for you to have offered yourself personally to me, the sympathy which you took in my misfortune was sufficient to convince me that I was at liberty to demand your services as a friend.

We are waiting with the greatest anxiety for news from our Country.

My best respects to M^{rs} Lear and believe me D^{r} Col^{o} to be truly yours

W^{m} BAINBRIDGE

[Stephen Decatur Col.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 20 May 1804

at ½ past 4 hove to and spoke the Schooner Captain Decatur came on board at 6 the town of Tripoli bore S b E distance 2 leagues set and took in sail as Necessary — * * * at ½ past 9 AM, heard the report of 6 Guns to the Westward

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Sunday, 20 May 1804

Moderate breezes from the West^{d} We are nearly 7 Miles to the West^{d} of the City of Naples — At ½ past 12 the shore boat left us — We filled and made all plain sail for the passage between Cape Campinella and the East end of the Island of Capri. By 3 P. M. we were thro — This passage is nearly 4 miles broad clear of danger and has anchorage all the way across — In the middle 60 or 70 fath^{s}. — On the Island side it is defended by a Castle, and on the other side by a nine gun battery — At ½ past 3 P. M. We set the Starboard Studd^{g} Sails and steered by compass S b E. in order to make the Island of Stromboly which is situated nearly S E b S ½ S, 95 Miles —

The Wind was light and Variable till sundown, when it fell calm — At Sundown we are 12 Miles S E b S from the Island of Capri, nearly 6 leagues W B N from Cape Livosa which is the Eastern point of the Gulf of Salerno At 8 in the Evening a light breeze sprang up from the West^{d} which continued veering to the South^{d} —

At ½ past 1 A. M. tacked to the South West. —

At 6 A. M. the Island of Capri bore by compass N b W ½ W nearly 9 leagues. At 8 it bore by compass N ¼ E. 12 leagues At 9 fresh breezes from the S E — Stowed the light sails & steered S W by Compass —

On our leaving Naples, our intended passage for Saragosa was through the Straits of Messina, but the Easterly winds prevailing makes this passage hazardous, in consequence of which the ship was ordered on a S W Cource, in order to pass round the Western part of Sicily. At 11 mustered at Quarters

Surgeons report 5 sick & 7 convalescent —

At noon fresh breezes from S E b S. Overcast weather

Latitude Observed 39° 27′ No:

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

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Midshipman Edward N. Cox, U. S. Navy, prize master of *St. Crucifisso*

MALTA *May 21st 1804*

SIR The day I left Syracuse I met with a severe gale of wind which did me so much damage that I thought it prudent to run into Malta; the necessary expences that would attend her being refitted here would be more than I thought proper to incur without the approbation of Cap^{t} Somers I have therefore Sir with your consent landed every thing in Charge of M^{r} Higgins and taken my passage in the Store Ship Permit me Sir to thank you for the Politeness I have recieved from you, and that you may be attended with success the ensuing Summer is the sincere wish of

Signed EDW^{d} N Cox

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

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

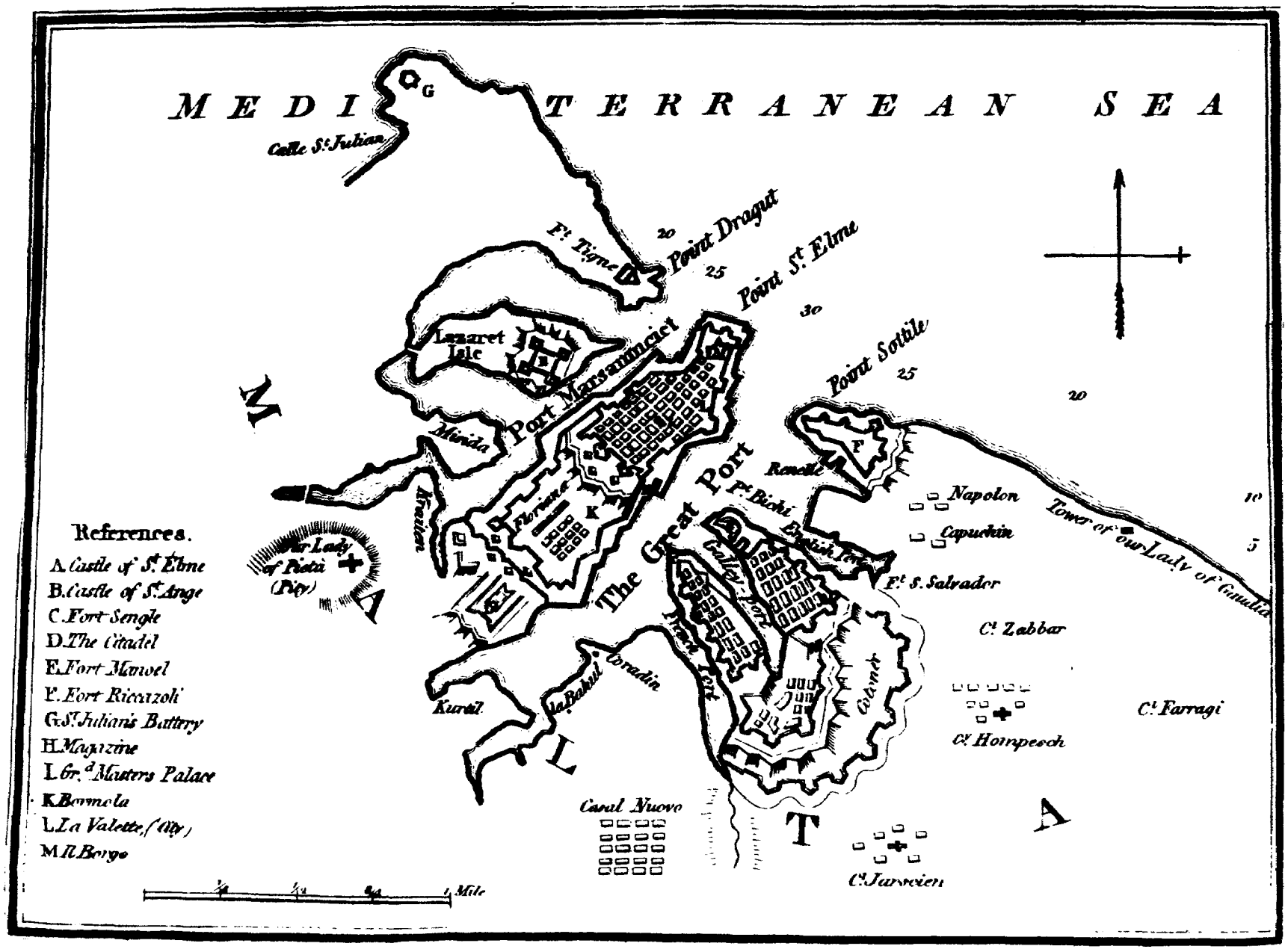
NAVY DEPM^{t} *22 May 1804.*

Commodore Ed^{d} PREBLE.

Mediterranean.

Your Dispatches bearing date the 10th of December 1803, conveying to us the unpleasant information of the accidental Loss of the *Philadelphia*, were not received till late in the month of March last. The President immediately determined to put in Commission and to send to the Mediterranean a force which would be able beyond the possibility of a doubt, to coerce the Enemy to a peace upon Terms compatible with our Honor and our Interest. A due regard to our situation with Tripoli and precautionary considerations in relation to the other Barbary Powers, demanded that our forces in that quarter should be so far augmented as to leave no doubt of our compelling the existing Enemy to submit to our own terms, and of effectually checking any hostile dispositions that might be entertained towards us by any of the other Barbary Powers.

VALETTE.


MEDITERRANEAN SEA
Calle St. Julian
G
Ft. Tigne
Point Dragut
Point St. Elme
Lazaret Isle
Port Manoel
Point Sottile
Mirida
Port
Florian
Fortune
Ricazoli
Our Lady of Pieta (Fort)
The Great Port
Pt. Bichi
English Fort
Cavalier Port
French Fort
Galley Port
Ft. S. Salvador
Napolon
Capuchin
Tower of our Lady of Guadia
C. Zabbar
C. Hompesch
C. Farragi
C. Janssen
Casal Nuovo
Kurtil
La Bakul
Toradin
References.
A. Castle of St. Elme
B. Castle of St. Ange
C. Fort Sengle
D. The Citadel
E. Fort Manoel
F. Fort Ricazoli
G. St. Julian's Battery
H. Magazine
I. Gr.d Masters Palace
K. Barracka
L. La Valette, (City)
M. R. Borgo
Mile

The following Frigates have accordingly been put in Commission and will soon proceed to the Mediterranean. —

President.....Commodore Barron.
Congress.....Captain Rodgers
Essex.....Cap^{t} Ja^{s} Barron.
Constellation.....Cap^{t} Campbell. —

Your good sense will perceive that we have thus been unavoidably constrained to supersede you in a Command in which you have acquitted yourself in a manner honorable to yourself and useful to your Country and in all respects perfectly satisfactory to us. The only Captains in the Navy now in the U. States junior to yourself are Captains James Barron and Campbell, and as the Frigates cannot be commanded but by Captains, we of necessity have been obliged to send out two Gentlemen senior to yourself in Commission. —

Be assured, Sir, that no want of confidence in you has been mingled with the Considerations which have imposed upon us the necessity of this measure. You have fufilled our highest expectations and The President has given it in an especial charge to me, to declare that he has the highest Confidence in your Activity, Judgment and Valour. Through me he desires to convey to you his Thanks for the very important services which you have rendered to your Country, and I beg you to be assured, Sir, that it affords me great personal satisfaction to be the medium of conveying to you his sentiments in relation to your Conduct. —

[NDA. LB, 1799–1807.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 22 May 1804

* * * * * * *

Latter part at 6 Saw 2 Strange sail ahead set and took in Sail Occas^{y} at 8 Exchanged Sig^{ls} with the U. S. Brig *Syren* — People Variously Emp^{d} Both Brigs in Sight —

[NDA photostat.]

[23 May 1804]

Circular to Collectors of Customs from Secretary of State

Notice is hereby given, that it has been deemed expedient to change the form of the Mediterranean passport issued to Vessels of the United States; that from the eighth day of July next, those of the new form will be issued at the Custom-houses to every Vessel, for which application may be made on a compliance with the terms prescribed by law and surrendering the former passport of which she may be possessed, if any, in which latter case no fees will be required for the exchange; and that by an arrangment agreed upon with the Barbary powers, with whom we are at peace, either the old or the new form of passport will be sufficient to protect the Vessels of the United States from capture until the 1st of July 1805, after which the old form of passport will be unavailable and the new one alone in use.

JAMES MADISON.

DEP^{t} OF STATE, *23^{d} May 1804.*

NOTE — The Printers of the laws of the U. States, were requested to insert the above in their Gazettes twice a week, for the space of

six months — and the Collectors of the Customs, to keep a copy of it posted up in their offices.

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

To Secretary of State from Joseph Pulis, U. S. Consul, Malta

MALTA *23rd May 1804.*

HONOR'd SIR I have the honour to inform your honour that few days since has pass'd this Island five Russian Frigates who have arrived at Corfu, landed their Troops, and lodged them in the respective Forts & Castels. —

And are daily expected According to the Levant News about fifteen Russian Men of War. — The Grand Caire after a very sanguine Battle has been restored to the Grand Signor. — Commodore Preble days past has entered this port with Consul O'Brien on board who proceeded for Tunis, and are daily expected, We have no intelligence of any Tripoline Cruisers being at Sea, of which I strickly inform the Commodore, and other of our Cruisers by every Conveyance. —

[NA. SDA. CL, Malta, Vol. 1, 1801–1834.]

[24 May 1804]

[NOTE: A document dated 24 May 1804 indicates that Stephen Cathalan, Jr., was appointed U. S. Vice Consul, 17 June 1790; U. S. Commercial Agent, 8 July 1801; that he was a native of France but was recognized as a Citizen of the United States although he had not received Certificate of Naturalization.]

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

To Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP[t] *24: May 1804* —

Herewith you will receive your authority to subdue, seize and make prize of all vessels, goods, and effects belonging to the Bashaw of Tripoli or to his Subjects & also the Statute upon which that Authority is founded.

In executing the duties arising out of this Commission you will attend to the following regulations and Instructions.

Your Commission extending only to the vessels, goods, and effects belonging to the Bashaw of Tripoli or to his Subjects, you will bear in mind that the Rights of all other Nations are to be duly respected; that we are at peace and wish to continue at peace with them, and that an American Commander ought to be as much distinguished for his attention and adherence to all the rights of humanity and hospitality as by his firmness in support of the Honor of his Country.—

You are to refrain from exercising the powers of capturing or of re-capturing in waters within the jurisdictional limits and under the protection of any other nation, in order that their peace and Sovereignty may remain unviolated. We shall scrupulously and without Indulgence examine that Conduct which shall bring us into collision with any other power.

All Vessels, Goods and Effects captured in virtue of your Commission, are, if practicable, to be sent into some port in the United States to be proceeded against & distributed according to Law and you will keep in mind that a Vessel captured by you cannot be adjudi-

cated by any of our Courts unless she be brought into some Port of the United States. —

All prizes sent into port must be accompanied by all passes, Charter-Parties, Commissions, Bills of Lading, Invoices, Letters and other Documents and Writings found on Board which are to be directed to the Judge of the District to which such prize may be ordered to proceed.

You are as far as may be in your power to aid and free any public or private American Vessel attacked by the Enemy or in their possession.

On your return home Convoy must be given to our Merchant Vessels. You will not suffer your ship to be detained in port for any unreasonable length of time. Give as much previous notice at The places where you may intend giving Convoy as may be in your power, and state the time of your Sailing and in no instance will you delay sailing longer than 48 hours after the time you shall fix on for sailing.

However on the subject of Convoy and with respect to the disposition of any Prisoners you may take and on all other Subjects not herein expressly provided for, you will receive particular Instructions from the Commodore.

Should any other of the Barbary Powers declare War against us, it is The Command of the President that you protect our Commerce by all the means in your power.

John Gavino Esquire is our Agent at Gibraltar and Degen, Purviance & C^{o} are our Agents at Leghorn. We shall also have Agents at Naples, Syracuse and Malta, all of whom will render you every assistance that may be necessary.

The Seamen, Ordinary Seamen and Boys of your present Crew are to be transferred to the *Enterprize* or to such other of the public vessels now in the Mediterranean as may be directed by the Commodore, who will take measures to furnish you with a Crew for your return. However I have written to Commodore Preble particularly on this subject and you will take his orders. —

[NDA. LB, 1799–1807.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Monsieur Beaussier, French Chargé d'Affaires and Commissary General, Tripoli

TRIPOLI in BARBARY *24th May 1804*

Sir, Not having had the honor of hearing from you since the 28th March last as you quitted these coasts in a Gale of wind I could not find an opportunity of leting you hear from me I this day profit of a Speronare returning to Malta to transmit you the Letter which I wrote you the day after I left the Frigate & which I have kept seald by me in hopes of seeing you soon return. I have learnt that you went to Tunis from which place you saild on the 9th April & arriving at Malta you receiv'd on Board M^{r} OBrien ex-consul of the U S at Algiers He arrived at Tunis on the 24 of said Month in the S[c]hooner *Enterprise*

They write from Leghorn that M^{r} Cathcart ex Consul in this Regency is gone by land to Naples from whence He intends going to Syracuse or Malta —

The Treatment of prisoners & slaves far from being worse is better by Intrest with Sidi Mahomet Dghies I procure them all the in-

dulgences which depend on my perseverence to claim to alleviate their unhappy situation

I have the honor to salute you

BEAUSSIER

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 24 May 1804

These 24 hours Commence with fresh breezes and Clear Weather at 4 the town of Tripoli bore SbW distᵗ about 4 leagues set and took in sail Occasionally

At Midnigh fresh breezes and Clear wore Ship to the Sᵈ&Wᵈ made and Shortened Sail frequently as Occasion required at ½ past 10 Spoke the *Scourge* Captain Dent Came on board —

At Meridian dᵒ Weather people Variously Employed —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Thursday, 24 May 1804

Light breezes from the Northward standing in for the Straits of Messina the entrance bearing S S E, 2 leagues, at 3 Calm made signal for a Pilot, a boat from a Greek ship was spoken with from Constantinople & Messina, at 5 P M a Pilot Boat came off & left a Pilot who informed us that we must wait untill morning to pass the straits the wind and current being contrary at present, Spoke an Imperial Brig from Triest for Barcelona, and the American Ship *General Waine* from Messina for Christiana in Norway a Strong Current setting us to the Northward & westward, a light Breeze through the night & calm all the morning, Entrance of the Straits bears S ½ E, 4 leagues, Scaled the six new 24 pounders and loaded them for service, at noon a light breeze from the westward made sail for the Straits, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 24 May 1804

Fresh breezes & a heavy sea the *Scourge* on our weather bow At ½ past 6 saw 2 sail to leeward, turn'd the reef out of the fore sail, set top gallᵗ sails & square mᵃ sail At 10 haul'd up square main sail. At ½ past 10 exchanged signals. At ½ past 11 back'd the mᵃ top sail spoke the *Enterprize*. Lᵗ Decatur came on board made the land ahead. —

Latt Obs 33° 6′ N.

[NDA.]

To Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPMᵗ *25, May 1804* —

Presuming that The *John Adams* is now nearly completed for Sea, I have to direct that you weigh Anchor without any avoidable delay and proceed immediately to Gibraltar where if necessary you will water your Ship and where you may probably gain information with respect to the dispositions entertained towards us by Morocco and

other powers which may be useful to yourself and to the Commodore aloft. You may also know where the Squadron may be.

From Gibraltar you will proceed to Algiers where you will see the Consul General of the United States, M[r] Lear, to whom you will communicate the number of Vessels we have sent out to re-inforce the Squadron and from whom you may also receive much information useful to yourself and to the Commodore aloft. Without waiting at Algiers any longer than cannot be avoided, you will proceed to Syracuse, Malta, or such other of the neighbouring Islands or Places as may have been fixed on by the Commodore of the Squadron for a Deposit of the provisions, and deliver the Provisions at such place to such person, or persons and under such arrangements as may be prescribed by The Commodore. of all which M[r] Gavino Consul at Gibraltar, can, I presume, give you particular information. —

After delivering all the provisions you may have on Board excepting such as you may want for the use of the Ship, you will receive your further orders from the Commodore of the Squadron who will direct you to return immediately to the United States unless your Services in the Mediterranean should be imperatively required. If you should receive no orders from the Commodore either before or after you land the provisions and should not have heard from him or have seen him, you will, after landing your Provisions, proceed in search of him, and when you shall fall in with him, communicate your orders to him and also what you may have done under them. —

Be pleased to deliver the enclosed Letters directed to Commodore Preble and to John Gavino Esq[r] Gibraltar. You have on board six thousand Dollars in specie which you will deliver to John Gavino Esquire at Gibraltar, taking his receipt therefor. I have also advanced to your Purser 2000 Dollars to pay for small Expences at the ports you may touch at.

You will write to me on leaving Hampton, on your arrival at and leaving Gibraltar, and on your arrival at and leaving Algiers, and by all convenient opportunities you will keep me informed of your proceedings. —

As you have already been furnished with all the Instructions and Authorizations requisite for the government of your conduct on a Cruise I have only to subjoin my best wishes for your prosperity. —

[NDA. LB, 1799–1807.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 25 May 1804

These 24 hours Commence with mod[e] Breezes and Clear pleasant Weather the *Syren Scourge* and *Enterprize* in C[o] at 4 Tripoli bore SSE Dist[e] 3 leagues Set and took in sail Occasionally —

At 1 AM hove too at 6 filled away to the Southw[d] and Eastw[d] Tripoli bearing SbW ½ W dist[e] 9 or 10 Miles at 11 made the Sig[l] 995 to the Brig and Schooner in Sight At Meridian Tripoli bore SWbS dist[e] 4 leagues Emp[d] as Necessary

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Friday, 25 May 1804

A Gentle breeze from the Northward & Westward, at 4 P M entered the Straits of Messina, this passage is about 3 miles wide at the Faro and is considered dangerous on account of the violence of the current High water at 9 OClock full & change, steered from the enterance of the Straits for the Port of Massina, which is situated S W, about 3 leagues distance, — at 6 P M anchored at the entrance of the Port in 24 fathoms water and moored with a Hawser fast to the shore, the light house bears S E B S, half a mile from the tower of Faro N E B E 8 miles, three Neapolitan Frigates sailed on a Cruize, established guard boats to prevent surprize, found here the *Nautilus* new coppered, but the repairs of her upper works not yet finished Visited Six Gun boats which are ready for sea intended for our service, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

[26 May 1804]

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

NAV. DEP^{t}
May 30, 1804

Herewith you will receive an appointment as navy agent for the several Barbary Regencies —

You will receive instructions from and obey the Orders of Commodore Barron and will render to our Squadron in the mediterranean every assistance in your power.

As a compensation for your services you will be allowed at the rate of 1200 Dollars P^{r} annum and the Rations of a Lieutenant in the Navy of the United States

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[Enclosure]

[26 May 1804]

COMMISSION

To all who shall see these presents GREETING

Know ye that reposing special trust and confidence in the Zeal fidelity and Abilities of William Eaton I do hereby appoint him agent of the navy Department of the United States of America for the Several Barbary Regencies —

In Testimony whereof I have hereunto Subscribed my name and affixed the Seal of the Navy Dep^{t} of the U. S of America at the City of Washington this 26. May 1804.

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

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

UNITED STATES SCHOONER *Enterprize*
Off Tripoli May 26th 1804

SIR, I proceeded agreeable to orders with Consul Obrian to Tunis, where I arrived in Eight and Forty hours; the day after my arrival was informed by our Charge de Affairs that he had no dispatches for

you when I got under way, in heaving up I parted my cable and lost my anchor, — I left at Tunis a Tunisian Frigate of 32 Guns, and four Xebecs, the Xebecs appeared ready for sea; The day after I left the roads I boarded a Tunisian Tartan loaded with Cannon & bound to Ferrina, the same day spoke a spanish ship from Tunis bound to Susa, on the Twenty Eighth boarded an Imperial Brig from Sphaxa bound to Triest, on the 29th Boarded a Spanish Ketch from Tunis, bound to Tripoli with an Ambassadore of the Grand Seniors on board, this Ketch had Mr Davis passport on board she had also one thousand dollars on board for Capt Bainbridge and a package for the Danish Consul, the Passport is directed to you and all commanders of American Cruizers that might fall in with her, a Copy of which passport with the Manifest I inclose you, conceiving that Mr Davis would not give a passport of this nature without your permission, & the inconvenience The stopping her would occasion to our prissioners, I suffered her to pass After Assertaining she had nothing more on board than the permission specified,—The same day I Joined Lieut Hull to the westward of Tripoli where I have continued to Cruize up to this period, — We have had a great deal of Bad weather and I am sorry to inform you we are very sickly, since my being on the station I have lost one man, and have had one third of the Crew sick with fever, —

I have now six days provissions on Board & shall leave the station this Evening or tommorrow morning

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804.]

To Robert R. Livingston, U. S. Minister to Paris, France, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Messina Harbour 26th May 1804

SIR, I have the honor to enclose you duplicate of my letter from Naples of the 15th instant, since which time nothing material has transpired. I arrived here yesterday and find that the Gun Boats which the King of Naples has loaned us are all ready for Sea, but the Bomb Vessels require repairs to make them serviceable which it will take two or three weeks to effect; as soon as they are finished I shall commence my operations against Tripoly.

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 26 May 1804

Cruising on and off Tripoli

This day begins with light breezes and Clear Weather at 3 Captains Stewart Decatur and Dent came on board set and took in sail Occas[y]

At 10 the Captains returned on board their Respective Ship at sunrise the town of Tripoli bore W S W dist[e] 8 miles at ½ past 10 filled away standing in for the town in Company with the *Syren* —

[NDA photostat.]

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

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Messina harbor May 27th 1804

SIR I do hereby appoint you Agent for the Squadron of the U. S. under my command in the Mediterranean, Authorizing you to purchase supplies as may be wanted for the use of the Said Squadron, to issue the same and to transact all such business as is generally transacted by Agents.

You will at all times supply the ships & vessels of the Squadron with such articles as they may want, on the requisition of their respective commanders, taking Duplicate Reciepts for the same —.

From the representation I have made to the Navy Department, I have no doubt that the President of the U. S. will confirm you as Navy Agent for this place

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

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

TUNIS *May 27th 1804.*

SIR, A Vessel sailed for Tripoli with my Passport on the 24th ultimo, having on board one thousand Dollars for the use of the Officers & Seamen, at which period I offer'd you a line, forwarding at the same time several letters from the Commodore, Consul Lear &c &c — all of which I trust have come safe to hand.

The reports relative to the Situation of our Officers & Seamen, are very different; all however combine in speaking much of the humane and kind attention of the Prime Minister Mahomed Dghies. — It is most certain, that the restrictions under which you are placed, with respect to receiving communications from your friends; and a prevention of seeing the Consuls, are unprecedented severities; but as sound Policy on the part of His Excellency, urges a mitigation of this rigour; I trust, interested motives, (if *humane ones, are unknown*) have ere this relaxed the Galling chain.

The incalculable movements of all Europe, predict a *new era, big with the fate of Kingdoms, States, Empires, & Worlds.* — An epocha, more replete, with the destiny of Governments, than any period since the downfall of Rome. Recent arrivals from Marseilles inform us, that *Bonaparte*, is actually declared *Emperor* of the *Gauls, King* of *Navarre & Italy*, to be continued in his descendants. Private letters to various characters, state, that he is to be divorced, and marries the Sister of Alexander the Emperor of Russia. — his brother also forms some Royal connection, to provide against the failure of issue on the part of the first. — What wd be the probable result? *The fate of the Northern Powers, the commercial existence of Great Britain, the Ottoman Empire, are all involved in such an event.*

A Russian fleet is daily expected in these Seas, consisting of thirty Sail — the fleet of the Grand Signior, is ordered to Sea with all possible expedition — even FERDINAND of NAPLES, has now, a Maritime force cruising in two divisions—Charles of Spain, seems also to have taken a decisive part against that Power, whom he ought most to dread: in a word each Power, seems preparing for self defence; and in such a way, as wholly leaves in the field of conjecture, the shallow

politicians of Tunis. — I much regret that your immediate position does not allow me to offer any comments on the picture before us.

Commodore Preble, sailed from this Port, on the 2^{d} Inst. with M^{r} O'Brien; from whom I have the pleasure to enclose you a letter. — I have recently received several packages from my friends in the U. States, with letters from Government of 26th December, and fancy that Cathcart, is now biting with Sorrow the dust of his folly. — I have reason to Suppose that Commod^{e} Morris, has resign'd; the motives for which, are unknown to me; or at least offered in such a way as does not authorize me to enter into a detail —

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

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Sunday, 27 May 1804

The General of the marine department, Admiral Espluger informed me I might take possession of the six Gun boats, and that the two Bomb Vessels would be ready in three weeks, received a supply of six hundred rounds of Powder & Shott for the Gun Boats, the Neapolitan Powder is not so strong by one third as the American, arrived and sailed his Britanic majestys Ship *Maidstone*, Surgeons report 5 sick, 7 convalescent

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 27 May 1804

Cruizing on and off Tripoli

at 1 P M, Cap^{t} Hull went on board the *Syren* & returned at ½ past 6 filled away and wore Ship to the S W,

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 27 May 1804

Light breezes & pleasant, the *Argus* in Co: At 1 hove too. Lieu^{t} Hull came on board. At 5 L^{t} Hull return'd fill'd away. At 7 Tripoli bore S ½ W 4 leagues. At 8 reef'd the topsails — The *Argus* in Co:

Latt: Obs: 33° 4′ N

[NDA.]

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

NAVY DEP^{t} — *May 28, 1804* —

I enclose letters directed to —

Frederick Degen esq^{r} Naples —
Will^{m} Higgins esq^{r} Malta —
George Dyson esq^{r} Syracuse —

containing their Appointments as Navy Agents at the places of their respective residencies. Be pleased to forward them by the earliest conveyance.

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

To Degen, Purviance & Co., Leghorn, from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP^{t} *May 28th 1804*

The following Gentlemen are appointed navy agents for this Department Viz —

Frederick Degen Esq for Naples
George Dyson Esq — for Syracuse
William Higgins Esq for Malta

They are empowered to draw on you for the amount of the Supplies that may be furnished by them respectively to our Squadron their bills must be Countersigned by the Officer Commanding the Ship that receives the Supplies

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

To James Monroe, U. S. Minister to London, England, from James Mackenzie and A. Glennie, London, England

NEW BROAD STREET, *May 28th 1804*

SIR We beg leave to lay before your Excellency the enclosed copy of correspondance by which it will appear that a fraud to the extent of £4000. Sterling has been committed on the United States of America and Comm^{re} Edward Preble commanding their Squadron in the Mediterranean — Your Excell^{y} will find that as agents to the Navy department of the U. S. we received a letter of the 14th July 1803 from Rob^{t} Smith Esq^{r} the Secretary of that department advising us of the Squadron & that the commanding Officers would draw on us for the Disbursements of their Vessels — This letter was received by us on the 9th of November last; it was forwarded by M^{r} Jn^{o} Gavino the Agent of the United States at Gibraltar and its authenticity is not questioned — . By the same post we received the letter purporting to be from Comm^{re} Edw. Preble under date of 27th of Septem^{r} and Stated in the correspondence advising his having drawn upon us six setts of Bills of Exchange, making in the whole £4000. Sterling, which bills were presented for acceptance by respectable merchants on the 9th & 15th of November, were imm^{y} accepted by us & paid the 2^{d} & 8th December following — . On the 15th of Novem^{r} we wrote Comm^{e} Edw. Preble acknowledging the receipt of his letter & of the Honor paid to his drafts — On the 8th of Decem^{r} following we wrote to Rob^{t} Smith Esq^{r} Secretary acknowledging the receipt of his letter of credit and with advice of our having honored the Bills of Comm^{re} Preble for £4000. and placed the same to the debit of the Navy Department, & on the 27th Feb^{y} we forwarded the Original bills to Rob^{t} Smith Esq^{r} the Secretary in America which we are directed in all cases to do — We could not be aware of any irregularity and were therefore much surprized to receive a letter from Comm^{re} Preble under date of the 7th March last, a copy of which & our reply thereto, your Excell^{y} will find in the correspondence and we trust your Exc^{y} will see that it was not in our power to act in any other manner than we did — The letter of credit from the Secretary came by the same post with the letter of Advice of the Bills; the latter was forwarded by the respectable house of Mayne & Brown of Lisbon & who superscribed the letter as having forwarded it, and the respect that was due to the Bills of an Officer placed in so high a station by the United States made us imm^{y} honor them — The respectable hands

through which the bills had passed & by whom they were presented together with the letter of credit from the Secretary that accompanied them made it impossible to suspect, & the want of being furnished with the Commodores Signature made it equally impossible to detect, as he had not before drawn any bills upon us —. Under these circumstances we have to hope that your Excellency will be satisfied that no possible blame can attach to us, that we had not the means of prevention and that you will represent it to the goverment of the United States accordingly — It is impossible for us to suggest by what means the fraud has been committed; but it must be obvious that it has been done by some person in the confidence of the Commodore & well acquainted with his Authority — By our enquiries here we have reason to think that the bills came through Cadiz to Lisbon, and as the Original bills were sent to America before any suspicion arose, and what occurred has taken place in a foreign country, there does not appear any act which we as individuals can do, to unravel the mystery — But you Excy in your official capacity may do more, & we beg to submit to you the Propriety of your writing to the Minister or Consul of the U. S. at Lisbon to ascertain from the House of Mayne & Brown there, the means by which & the Person at Cadiz from whom they received the same, and to furnish the Minister or Consul at the latter place with information from which & what your Excellency may write him, he must not only be able to trace the fraud to it's Original source, but may be able to obtain that redress through the means of a public minister which Individuals resident here could not do in a distant country —

If your Excellency should approve the measure we beg leave to offer our assistance in any way that we can to furnish the means of enquiry and shall with much pleasure wait on you at any time you will be pleased to appoint —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

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

Copy — TANGIER *28th May 1804.* —

DEAR SIR My last respects to you was the 22d Feby since when I have not been favoured with any from you. — The Emperours new Ship *Maimona* of 30 Guns and Seventy Men is about to sail from Salle for Lisbon, to be there Coppered and her equipment completed — the two Ships at Larach are getting ready for Sea, but no time has yet been fixed upon for their departure. — The Galleys will no doubt also Cruize as usual. — The Mother and Family of a young Man named Mohamet Ben Ally Ben Seid, who was on board the Vessel you captured some time since comeing from Tripoly, have applied to me for his enlargement, and as I can vouch for his being a Native of this place, and that his Family and connections are all here, I doubt not but you will give him his liberty, in conformity to the engagements to that effect in the Treaty of 1786. — Your speedy answer on this point will be very acceptable. —

The Emperour expressed himself highly satisfied with the Present of the Gun Carriages — but I am sorry to say they are all for Sea and not land Service. — I have however told them they will answer for both; my chief fear is that they will be found short for the Guns when they come to make use of them. —

Your Navy Agent to whose care the shipment was trusted sent but one handspike for each Carriage, which has obliged me to have a hundred made at Cadiz, that the want might not be reported to the Emperour. —

Mr^s^ Simpson joins me in every good wish to you, and I beg you will be assured I am

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804.]

To James L. Cathcart, Leghorn, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Messina H^r^ May 28th 1804.

DEAR SIR I am hon^d^ with your esteemed favor of the 14th instant but have not yet received either of the letters you mention to have written me last month. I think it probable they may have been sent to Malta.

I sail from this in a few hours with six sail of Gun Boats, and shall have two Bomb-Vessels ready in 20 days. The Gun Boats are in fine order; if I can reach Tripoly with this force added to our own Vessels, I think it probable the Bashaw's Gun Boats and Cruisers may meet the fate they long since ought to have met with; and his old walls rattle about his ears.

I am obliged to lay up two of our Schooners in order to mann the Gun Boats, as no reinforcement has yet arrived, which makes it impossible for me to send a Vessel to Leghorn. It would afford me pleasure if I could do it, but I must first have a look at Tripoly. I do not apprehend you will be in any danger from the Barbary Cruisers in going to Gibraltar

I beg you to accept my best wishes for a pleasant and safe passage, and to believe me respectfully

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

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

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Messina Harbour 28^th^ May 1804.

SIR You are requested to pay Monthly to the families of the Ninety six Neapolitans employed in the service of the United States on board the Gun Boats loaned to us by the King of Naples one half their monthly pay as it becomes due — Their pay is to be double what they at present receive from the Neapolitan Government.

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

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

U. S. FRIGATE *Constitution*
May 28^th^ 1804

SIR You will proceed from this port direct for Syracuse with the Gun boats of the U. S. N^o^ 1, N^o^ 2, N^o^ 3, N^o^ 4, N^o^ 5, & N^o^ 6 placed under your command, and on your arrival there, wait my farther Orders — You will leave the *Nautilus* under the direction of L^t^ Reid untill her repairs are completed, & leave with him the Sail^r^ Master,

Boatswain, Gunner, Cook, 6 or 8 Seamen & a guard of Marines — You will give M^r^ Reid orders to prepare the *Nautilus* for Sea, as soon as possible

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

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 28 May 1804

At 8 AM Tripoli bore SSE ¾ E dist^t^ 8 Miles
At Meridian Spoke the U. S Brig *Syren* the *Scourge* and *Vixen* in Company

[NDA photostat.]

To Lieutenant John Cassin, U. S. Navy, Navy Yard, Washington, D. C., from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. FRIGATE *Congress* One Mile
above Maryland Point *May 29^th^ 1804*

SIR I left Alex^a^ yesterday morning about 9 O'Clock, and anchor'd here at 5 the same Evening, Twenty one feet was the least Warter I had coming over Matta Woman Shoal, altho I cross'd it in the last quarter of the Ebb. I am now filling up all my Warter, but will not venture to take my Guns on board, untill I pass Maryland Point, so soon as the Wind changes, which is now at S. E. I shall proceed a few Miles down for that purpose, — If the Wind shifts in our favour I am in hopes yet to be in Hampton Rhoads, with all our Guns & the Schooners Cargo of Beff & Pork, which accompanied me here, *on board*, in 3 or 4 days — Nothing shall prevent me from getting out of the Potomack as soon as possible, on many accounts, It appears to me impossible that a crew can be healthy, while drinking this warter in an unfermented state. A number of our people have got a Cursed Desuntary already —

I send you two small lists which I beg your attendance to forwarding as soon as possible — King, has got the dimentions of every thing in the Iron way, inserted in the list, as also the Block maker, I think it advisable that you put the Powder & such provision as you have to send down into good Craft, in case they have to follow me to Hamton Roads — be pleased to send three looking Glasses by some conveyance which were shipped round from Balto. in the Schoo. *Polly & Sally*, Keith master which I have not yet recieved. —

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

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Congress*, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t^ *29^th^ May 1804* —

Herewith you will receive your authority to subdue, seize and make prize of all vessels, goods, and effects belonging to the Bashaw of Tripoli or to his Subjects, and also the Statute upon which that Authority is founded.

You will place yourself under the command of Commodore Samuel Barron and obey such orders as you may receive from him.

[Similar letters sent to Captain James Barron of the *Essex* and Captain Hugh G. Campbell of the *Constellation*, dated 29 May 1804.]

[NDA. LB, 1799–1807.]

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

NAVY DEP^{T} *29 May 1804* —

Cap^{t} Chauncey is the Bearer of this Letter. He commands the Store-Ship *John Adams*, having on board for the use of our public Ships, Bread, Beef, Pork &^{c} per Invoice which he will hand to you.

Should you have an Expedition on foot in which you may require immediately the services of the *John Adams*, you will detain her for such an Enterprize. If you should not require the services of the *John Adams*, you will order Cap^{t} Chauncey to return immediately to the Eastern Branch touching however on his way out of the Mediterranean at such ports for Convoy as you may direct. It is intended to keep the *John Adams* constantly employed as a Provision Vessel, therefore you will perceive that it will not be proper to detain her longer than is absolutely necessary. —

I enclose Letters to M^{r} Stewart, M^{r} Hull, M^{r} Smith and M^{r} Somers, containing their Commissions as Masters Commandants in the Navy. I also enclose a letter for M^{r} Dent, containing his Commission as a Lieutenant Commandant, and a letter to M^{r} Morris with his Warrant as a Purser, all of which be pleased to deliver. —

[NDA. LB, 1799–1807.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 29 May 1804

Cruizing on and off Tripoli

at 3 Cap^{t} Dent Came on board and returned to the *Scourge* at 8, Wore Ship to the Northw^{d} Tripoli bearing S, S, W,

[NDA photostat.]

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

Moderate breezes from the N & E and pleasant weather, I this day ordered Lieutenant Somers to take command of the Gun Boats for the present with all of the Officers and Crew of the *Nautilus* to man them, except one Lieutenant, the master, Boatswain, Clerk, and a few petty officers and twelve or fifteen men to take care of her and prepare her for sea as soon as her repairs are finished, I also agreed with the General of Marines to ship Fifteen Neapolitans to serve in each Boat under our flag, sent two Midshipman on board each Boat from this ship to assist in sailing them to Syracuse, — The boats are all Sloop Rigged with a latteen sail & Jib, they are about 25 tons and one long 24 pounder in the Bow, I have engaged two Bombardiers here for the mortar boats, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

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

Moderate breezes from the N E. — At Single Anchor in Messina — The Commodore has selected from a number; 6 Gun boats & 2 Mortar Boats which are to be employed against Tripoly — The Bombards are under repair & will not be ready for some time — This day Cap^{t} Somers with all the crew of the *Nautilus* (a few excepted who are left to take care of her) was ordered on board the Six Gun boats which

are now under American colors The following Mates & Midshipmen were appointed to them from the *Constitution* Viz Messrs Reid & Deacon Mates — Messrs Brown, Ridgely, Laws, Nicholson, Hall, Casey & Marcellin Midshipmen.

These Gun boats are about 25 Tons, Sloop rigged with a Lateen sail carrying One 24 Pdr — Fifteen Sicilians are attached to each besides the *Nautilus's* men — Supplied them this day (for which the Purser of the *Nautilus* reciepts) with 6 Barrs beef, 1029 lb bread — lent them also 14 bags. A Bombardier is also employed by the Commodore to attend the repair of the Bombards We also supplied the Gun boats with 46 bbls of Naples powder, 41½ rottolo each make 1903 rottolo deduct 8 rottolo pr bbl leaves 1535 rottolo

One hundred Rottolo is equal to 180 English lb, which makes the powder supplied the gun boats 2763 lb. — Surgeons report same as yesterday

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

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

U. S. Frigate *John Adams* 30th May 1804

Sir I herewith transmit you a Copy of the Muster Roll of this day, by which you will perceive that I have the whole Number of Men and Boys contemplated for this Ship, but not of that Description ordered; We have sixteen Ordinary Seamen and Nine Boys instead of that Number of Seamen; We also have four Quarter Masters and four Boatswains Mates more than we are entitled to, but can be made to do Duty as Seamen, and rated on the Books as such

I also have the honor of informing You, that the *John Adams* is now ready to proceed for Hampton Roads the first fair Wind, I have the Honor to be

[NDA. MC LB, 1804–5.]

[About 30 May 1804?]

Concerning "Free Flags" and "Subject Flags"

Memo.

There are various Countries who in their commercial arrangements with the court of Naples have stipulated peculiar and very advantageous priviledges for their Merchant Vessels such as England, France, Holland, the Ottoman Empire & some others, in consequence of which the flags of these Nations are here deemed *free flags*. The advantages arising to these Nations are, that their Vessels are not subject to visit of the Custom House. They are relieved from the necessity of manifesting their Cargoes within a limited period after their arrival need only manifest their respective Packages as they wish to land them. everything when once on board the Vessels is free from search, and their sides are sacred even from the approach of an armed force of the Country. The Vessels of the Nations not having a commercial treaty are deemed *Subject flags*, among which are the Americans, Danes Swedes &c and are obliged to give in a manifest of their whole Cargoes within 24 Hours after they receive prattique to make known thus the exact contents of the Cargoes they bring to enter into Bonds to produce certificates of landing of any goods which once manifested they may wish to carry elsewhere to produce these Bonds from the

place for which they clear them out they are subject on their arrival, at their departure, and even at any intermediate period to the search of the Custom House and the slightest irregularity or disagreement with the manifest or clearance subjects them to the most serious consequences, even to the forfeiture of Vessel and Cargo The many advantages in favor of the former are too obvious to need comment, and it is no less so, how beneficial it would be to the United States, if by some arrangement with the Neapolitan Government their Vessels could be placed on the footing of the most favored Nations —

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

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

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbour 30th May 1804

SIR I had the honor to enclose you triplicate dispatches from Naples Bay the 15th instant. I left that Bay on the 20th and arrived at Messina the 25th where the *Nautilus* was still repairing. I regret that it has been found necessary to give her a thorough repair, and new copper her. She has been coppered with the copper brought out in this Ship. Her repairs will be finished in three weeks. At Messina I recd six Gun Boats, each carrying a long 24 pounder with a sufficient quantity of Shot, Powder, Small Arms &cs — and arrived here this morning with them. I have taken the principal part of the Officers and Crew of the *Nautilus* to bring them round to this Harbour leaving however the 1st Lieut and a sufficient number of the crew to get her in readiness for sea when her repairs are finished. The two Bomb Vessels which we are to have are repairing with great expedition and will be ready for sea in 12 or 14 days at farthest; as soon as they are compleated for service they will sail for Tripoly with the Gun Boats. I have been obliged to discharge a part of the Crew of the *Enterprize*, and with the remainder of them and the crew of the *Nautilus* I shall mann the Gun & Mortar Boats. It is to be hoped some reinforcement to the Squadron will shortly arrive, otherwise we shall attack Tripoly under many disadvantages, but as the season for Action will soon pass away we must make an attempt which if it succeeds will be the more glorious to the Officers and Seamen of the Squadron. The Bashaw has encreased his Batteries and Gun Boats, and considers himself so safe as to defy our utmost exertions against him, a short time will determine how far he is right

I have just received intelligence of the sailing of twelve sail of Tunisian Cruisers from their Bay, and shall sail immediately for it to learn their object. The Officers prisoners at Tripoly continue to be close confined and well treated. the Seamen and Marines are obliged to work hard, fare hard, and are badly treated. — I shall go from Tunis Bay off Tripoly.

Our Brigs and Schooners have had several spats with the Enemy's Gun Boats and Batteries, but little damage has been done — I have borrowed from the King of Naples six long 24 pounders which I intend to put on the deck of some Merchant Vessel to be hired for the purpose as a floating Battery, but have mounted them on the upper deck of this Ship. They are fine Battering Cannon, and I expect will do good service —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Wednesday, 30 May 1804

At anchor in Massina, Gave a receipt to the General of Marines for the Six Gun Boats and their military & Naval Stores, appointed Mr Broadbent Naval Agent for the Squadron, and left orders with him to pay the families of those Neapolitans in our service half their monthy pay as it becomes due, hoisted the United States Flag on each of the Boats, at 10 A M weighed & sailed with the six Gun boats in company, they are distinguished by numbers Viz^{t} N^{os} 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6, at noon we were about 3 leagues S W from Massina

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Wednesday, 30 May 1804

Moderate breezes from the Eastward. At Single Anchor in Messina — clearing Ship for Sea — At 6 P. M. made the Signal to the Gun boats to prepare to Sail — Supplied them with an Ensign & pendant each, exclusive of 22 signal flags made from the Old signals belonging to the *Constitution* — Moderate breezes from N E during the night. At 7 A. M. the wind shifted to N N W — ran a Kedge out to the Eastward, two hundred fath^{s} At 9 A. M. a shore boat came alongside with 9 hands as assistants or Pilots — At 10 A. M. weighed, slipped the Hawsers, and came to sail — At this time our 6 gun boats were under weigh & running out in the Offing One of our cutters was left with the shore boat in order to bring off the Hawser & Kedge which they did by 11 A. M. Bore up and made sail thro' the Straits to the South^{d} in Order to proceed to Saragosa, bearing from us S b W ¼ W 66 Miles — The Squadron of Gun Boats S W near 6 Miles L^{t} Somers of the *Nautilus* is Commanding Officer of the Gun boats

The direct course thro' the Straits of Messina is S W nearly 20 Miles — There is no danger 50 fath^{s} from shore on either side — These Streights should never be attempted in a gale of Wind — There are two low points on Sicily side & one the other side — The Ebb which runs to the North^{d} will bring you home on Sicily side; and the Flood which runs to the South^{d} will bring you home on the other side. There is Anchorage on either side In some places One cable's length & in other places two, from the shore

Surgeons report 5 sick, 6 convalescent.

We are 9 Miles S W from Messina — The Squadron of Gun boats S W — 2 Miles —.

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

To John Randolph, Jr., Farmville, Va., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP^{t} *May 31. 1804*

I have received your letter of the 27th ins^{t} —

I enclose a letter to Commodore Barron which your friend will deliver at Hampton — the Squadron will probably sail from Hampton in the course of two weeks from this date — the Commodore will give Orders for your friend to be received on board of such ship as can most conveniently afford him room — The ships will all go in the first instance to Gibraltar thence proceed to Syracuse — The *John Adams*

a Provision ship armed *enflute* will return immediately touching probably at Naples & Leghorn on her way out of the Mediterranean to afford convoy to our merchant Vessels — If your Friend pleases he may return in the *John Adams* he could join her at Naples or Leghorn

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

[31 May 1804]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from President Thomas Jefferson

THOMAS JEFFERSON —
President of the United States of America

INSTRUCTIONS —

(Seal)

To Commodore Samuel Barron Commanding a Squadron of Armed Vessels belonging to the United States: —

Given at the City of Washington in the District of Columbia this 31.st. Day of May, in the Year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and four, and in the 28th Year of our Independence —

WHEREAS, it is declared by the Act entitled "an Act for the protection of the Commerce and Seamen of the United States, against the Tripolitan Cruisers" That it Shall be lawful fully to equip, Officer, Man and employ, Such of the Armed Vessels of the United States, as may be judged requisite by the President of the United States, for protecting effectually the Commerce and Seamen thereof, on the Atlantic Ocean, the Mediterranean and adjoining Seas: and also, that it shall be lawful for the President of the United States to instruct the Commanders of the respective public Vessels, to subdue, seize, and make prize, of all vessels, goods and effects, belonging to the Bey of Tripoli or to his Subjects —

WHEREFORE, and in pursuance of the said Statute, You are hereby authorized and directed to subdue, seize, and make prize, of all vessels, goods and effects, belonging to the Bey of Tripoli, or to his subjects, and to bring or send the same into port, to be proceeded against and distributed according to Law —

AND in virtue of the Act of Congress entitled. "an Act further to protect the Commerce and Seamen of the United States, against the Barbary powers". You will consider Yourself hereby further authorised and directed to proceed against any other of the Barbary Powers which may commit hostilities against the United States, in the same manner, and to the same extent, as You have been Authorized and directed to proceed against the Vessels, goods, and effects belonging to the Bashaw of Tripoli or to his Subjects —

Sign^{d} — TH. JEFFERSON
President of the United States of America

(Seal)

By command of the President of the United States of America
Sign^{d} R^{t} SMITH
Secretary of the Navy

[Mrs. James S. Barron original, and NDA. LB, 1799–1807.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM[t] *May 31, 1804* —

Sensible as you must be that it is the interest as well as the disposition of the United States to maintain the rights of Neutral nations, you will, I trust, cautiously avoid whatever may appear to you to be incompatible with those rights. It is, however, deemed necessary and I am charged by the President to state to you what, in his opinion, characterizes a Blockade. I have therefore to inform you that the Trade of a neutral nation in articles not contraband, cannot be rightfully obstructed to any Port not actually blockaded by a force so disposed before it as to create an evident danger of entering it. Whenever therefore you shall have thus formed a Blockade of the port of Tripoli, you will have a right to prevent any vessel from entering it and to capture for adjudication any vessel that shall attempt to enter the same with a knowledge of the existence of the Blockade. You will however not take as prize any vessel attempting to enter the port of Tripoli without such knowledge; but in every case of an attempt to enter without a previous knowledge of the existence of the Blockade, you will give the Commanding Officer of such vessel notice of such Blockade and forewarn him from entering. And if after such a notification such vessel should again attempt to enter the same port, you will be justifiable in sending her into port for adjudication.

You will, Sir, hence perceive that you are to consider circular communications to the neutral powers not as evidences that every person attempting to enter had previous knowledge of the Blockade, but merely as friendly notifications to them of the Blockade in order that they might make the necessary arrangements for the dis-continuance of all commerce with such Blockaded port. —

[NDA. LB, 1799–1807.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP[t] *May 31, 1804* —

Herewith you will receive your Authority to subdue, seize, and make prize of all Vessels, Goods, and Effects belonging to the Bashaw of Tripoli or to his subjects, which likewise comprehends your Authority to subdue, seize, and make prize of all Vessels, Goods, and Effects belonging to any other of the Barbary Powers, which may commit hostilities against the United States.

In executing the duties arising out of your Commission, you will attend to the following regulations & instructions.

Your Commission extending only to the Vessels, Goods, and Effects belonging to the Bashaw of Tripoli or to his Subjects, and to the vessels, goods and effects of any other of the Barbary Powers which may commit hostilities against the United States, you will bear in mind that the rights of all other nations are to be duly respected: that we are at peace and wish to continue at peace with them and that we are desirous of being distinguished for our attention and adherence to all the Rights of humanity and hospitality, as well as for firmness in support of the honor of our Country. —

You are to refrain from exercising the powers of capturing, or of re-capturing in waters within the jurisdictional Limits of any nation at peace with us. The Marine League is the distance from the Shores

on which our Government acts. We must respect their Sovereignty. We shall scrupulously and without Indulgence examine that conduct which shall bring us into Collision with any other power.

All vessels, goods, and effects captured in virtue of your Commission, must, if practicable, be sent into some port of the United States, and to be proceeded against and distributed according to Law. They must be accompanied by all passes, charter-parties, commissions, Bills of Lading, Invoices, Letters and other Documents and writings found on Board, which are to be directed to the Judge of the District to which such prize may be ordered to proceed. You will keep in mind that a Vessel captured by you cannot be adjudicated by any of our Courts unless she be brought into some port of the United States.

In all Cases of re-capture you will endeavour to accommodate the owner or owners of the Vessels re-captured, by making such Arrangements with them as will permit them to prosecute their voyages.

With respect to Prisoners, it will be desireable if a cartel can be established to effect an exchange. If this should be found impracticable, you will then dispose of the Prisoners to any of the powers at war with their respective Countries with a reservation that they shall be restored to the United States in the event of their demanding them on an adjustment of their differences. If this plan should also be found impracticable, you will dispose of the Prisoners at your discretion, so as not to be at any Expence to the United States if it can be properly avoided. —

All the Officers under your Command will receive their Instructions from you for the general as well as for The particular government of their Conduct. They are all clothed with Commissions to subdue, seize, and make prize of all vessels, goods and effects belonging to The Bashaw of Tripoli or to his Subjects. They will take their orders from you with respect to their conduct towards any other of The Barbary Powers that may Commit hostilities, against the United States. —

As the Officers of the Squadron will occasionally require advances of small sums of money to procure Clothing suitable to their stations, and other Articles, they may be indulged; care however must be taken that the sums advanced do not exceed the amounts due.

With respect to payments to Marines abroad, you may make occasional advances to the Officers Commanding the Marines on board of the respective Ships, to make small payments to the privates— But these advances must not exceed one third of the Sums due.

[NDA. LB. 1799–1807.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^{T} *May 31. 1804* —

With respect to the Crew of the late frigate *Philadelphia*, now Captives in Tripoli, it becomes us to alleviate their sufferings as far as we can consistently do it. With this view we think it will be expedient to transmit to M^{r} Keith Spence small sums of money from time to time, to be by him applied to the purchase of such Clothing and Provisions as Captain Bainbridge or in his absence L^{t} Porter may deem necessary for the comfort of the crew. — M^{r} Keith Spence was the purser of the *Philadelphia* and Has the accounts of the crew

and knows what is due each individual, and the component parts of the ration. It will be well for you to require of him a due roll of the Crew, and you will instruct him in the issues of provisions not to exceed the rations allowed by Law, and in the purchase and issues of Clothing he must be governed entirely by Captain Bainbridge or in his absence by Lt Porter. He must keep the original Bills of purchase upon which he may charge for his Trouble and responsibility 10 pr Cent. These Bills must be signed by Capt Bainbridge or Lieut Porter, and must be exhibited to this department in the settlement of The Accounts of Mr Spence. Upon the purchase of provisions, which must be under the same restrictions, he is to charge nothing for his Trouble.

I am not certain that Clothing can be purchased in Tripoli. You will be better able to ascertain on your arrival in that quarter, and will use your discretion either to send to Mr Spence funds for purchasing them in Tripoli, or send the Clothing itself to Mr Spence. You will judge which will be most expedient, and you will also judge as to the manner of furnishing the Supplies. Probably it will be the better plan to send them to some foreign Agent in that Regency, of friendly dispositions towards us, with directions to deliver them as they may be required. I commit the Subject, however, entirely to your discretion.

We do not conceive that it would be proper to advance any money to the privates of the Crew. —

[NDA. LB, 1799–1807.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPt *May 31. 1804* —

The Establishment of an Hospital for the Sick and Disabled Seamen of the Squadron, has been heretofore allowed, but no such establishment has as yet, I believe, been made. Care must be taken of our Seamen and great advantages will result from their being made sensible that we regard them as an useful Class of Citizens and in all respects deserving of our Care and Attention. I deem it therefore proper to invest you with a discretionary power to establish an Hospital in Syracuse, if permitted, or in some other of the most healthy ports in the vicinity of Tripoli. You may commit the Superintendency of it to one of the Surgeons of the Fleet and if necessary allow him a Mate. A Chest of Medicines was sent out to Gibraltar to be used in such an establishment. Should you find it there, you will take it with you and use it if you find it necessary, and another will go out in the present Squadron.

P. S. Doctor Cutbush being the oldest Surgeon in the Squadron, you will appoint him to the Hospital. —

[NDA. LB, 1799–1807.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPt *May 31, 1804* —

Captain Wm Bainbridge having solicited an investigation of his conduct with respect to the loss of the late frigate *Philadelphia*, I have to direct that should Capt Bainbridge be released from Captivity, you

will take some convenient opportunity while in the Mediterranean, and call a court of enquiry upon him. You will appoint Cap^{t} John Rodgers, Captain Ja^{s} Barron, & Cap^{t} Hugh G. Campbell members of The Court, with directions to enquire into the circumstances, and to report to you their opinion thereon, which you will transmit to me. —

[NDA. LB, 1799–1807.]

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

NAVY DEPM^{t} *May 31, 1804* —

The *John Adams* carries out a Crew entered for two years. This Crew you must put on Board of The *Enterprize*, if you cannot re-enter the present Crew of the *Enterprize* which however it is hoped you will be able to do. You may offer to the Able Seamen 12 — to the ordinary Seamen 8, and to the Boys 6 Dollars. If you cannot re-enter them they must be put on Board of The *John Adams* and sent to this Country with her.

The Subject is submitted to your discretion. —

[NDA. LB, 1799–1807.]

To Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Siren*, from Midshipman Thomas O. Anderson, U. S. Navy

Siren MAY 31st 1804

SIR — I have to inform you of the desertion of five of the men under my charge from on board the Polacre Ship *Madona* [*Catapoliana*] lying in the harbor of Malta — On the 9th of May George Brown and W^{m} Hays ran from the Ship in the night and went on board an English Privateer in the harbor under under Quarantine — The Moment I found out that they had deserted, I went alongside of the Privateer and demanded them The Captain at first denied having them on board but at length acknowledged they were on board, that it was impossible for him to deliver them up, he having recieved Orders from Governor Ball not to deliver up any man who called himself an Englishman & put himself under his protection

May 15th William Van Dyke, John Bennett and W^{m} Due were taken out of the ship by Lieut Parker of the British frigate *Narcissus* while I was on Shore — I went on board the Frigate and demanded them of the Captain as American Seamen, but was preremptorily refused — The reason he assigned was that they called themselves Englishmen, and had applied to him to take them out of the Ship — I expostulated with him on the Impropriety of taking American Seamen out of a Prize belonging to a cruizer of the U. S. — He shewed me an act that had passed for every Commander in the British Navy to take his Majesty's Subjects where they found them — I told them they were not Englishmen, but Americans — He said they Called themselves Englishmen that they had placed themselves under his protection and that it was more than his Commission was Worth to give them up —

You may be assured Sir that no endeavors were neglected by me to recover them and I am Sorry to say there were inefectual —

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

To William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta, from Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES BRIG *Argus*
off Tripoli 31st May 1804

SIR, I take the liberty to send to your care the Ketch *Virgine Del Rosario*, Prize to the United States Brig *Argus*, taken leaving the Port of Tripoli, I have given Mr Stewart Orders to follow your directions concerning her, and any other difficulties that may happen him, you will learn by the enclosed passport from Consul Davis, and other Papers, that this Vessel has been suffered to enter the Port of Tripoli with an Embassador of the Grand Signior and his Suite, but we now find her leaving that Port with a number of Slaves on board, which I have no doubt belongs to the Bashaw of Tripoli I am in hopes to be in Malta before the Ketch gets Pratique but should I not, I wish you to use your own judgment as respects the Embassador and his Suite, but all, except such as entered the port of Tripoli with him, I wish to have remain on board until further Orders. — I shall be thankfull to you for any services rendered Mr Stewart, and your attention to the Prize. Mr Blake left this some days since for Malta, should he be there he may be of service in searching the Vessel, and attending to the Crew & c —

Your obedt Servt

(Signed) ISAAC HULL

[NDA. Isaac Hull LB, 1803–1804.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Brig *Argus*, 18 Guns, kept by Sailing Master Samuel B. Brooke, U. S. Navy, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 31 May 1804

These 24 hours Commence with Calm and Sultry Weather —
At 6 wore ship to the S & E Tripoli bore S E 3 Leagues —
At midnight fine Weather
At 4 AM light breezes —
At sunrise wore ship and backed the maintopsail Tripoli S W b S 4 leagues at 8 filled away saw a strange sail under the land standing towards at 11 boarded her she proved to be a Ketch from Tripoli bound to with an Ambisador and Presents to the Grand Signor took possession of her and sent Mr Stewart Mr Pettigrew and the following men on board of her Viz Livingston Barns, Mathew Pease Josh Murray Geo Thorn Jas Hoyt Seamn & Freds Smith John Wilton & Jas Edlin Marines ordered her for Malta

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

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 31 May 1804

Cruizing on and off Tripoli
This day begins with Calm and Sultry Weather Wore Ship to the N E Tripoli bearing S ½ E 3 leagues set and took in sail as Necessary At 8 AM, saw a Sail under the land Stand towards us at 11 boarded her she proved to be a Ketch from Tripoli bound to Malta with an Ambassador and presents for for the Grand Signior took possession of her and Sent her to Malta The *Syren Scourge* and *Vixen* in company — * * *

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Thursday, 31 May 1804

Moderate breezes from N E & pleasant weather. Running along the side of Sicily between the Gulf of Catania and the Port of Augusta with an Offing of 7 Miles — Towards evening it fell calm.

At 8 P. M. Augusta light house bore N W b W ½ W 6 miles At Sundown Saragosa in sight from the mast head bearing by compass S ½ E nearly 8 leagues —

From this time till 2 A. M. light breezes from the E. At ½ past 2 A. M. being dark & hazy & supposing the ship to have ran her distance we brought to, till day light, when we made sail for Saragosa bearing W b N. 4 leagues Unstowed the two bowers —

Light airs or calms till ½ past 11 A. M. at which time we came to in Saragosa in 8 fath^{s} ¼ of a Mile W b N from the Light house

Veered to 20 fathoms on the small bower & furled sails. Found here the U. S. Schooner *Enterprize* L^{t} Decatur and L^{t} Somers with the 6 gun boats which parted company from us at 10 last evening — On anchoring made the necessary arrangements for watering ship — 20,000 Gallons are wanted to compleat our water — Noon light Airs from E S E.

Surgeons report 5 sick, 4 convalesc^{t}

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

To Accountant of the Navy from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP^{t} *June 1st 1804*

Surgeons and Surgeons mates in the Army being allowed Quarters and to draw Wood at the rate of One Cord P^{r} month from the 1st October to the 1st April and half that Quantity for the other months of the year and the Surgeons and Surgeons mates of the Navy Stationed at the navy yard at Washington being allowed by Law the same pay and Emoluments; and as I can see no good reason why an equivalent in money should not be allowed, in lieu of the Quarters and Wood, especially as by allowing it the Commission to the Contractor for the Rent and Purchases will be saved — You will therefore allow to these officers at the rate of ten dollars P^{r} month in lieu of Quarters and the Value of Wood they may be entitled to draw estimated at the Contract Price or Price paid for Wood Supplied at the Marine Barracks —

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM^{t} *June 1, 1804.*

Commodore S. BARRON.

I enclose Commissions for

M^{r} H. I. Reed
S. Vanschaick
C. Gadsden.
J. T. Leonard.
J. Maxwell
J. Trippe
E. N. Cox
O. H. Perry.

M^{r} J. Bainbridge } Same date.
R. Henley }
J. M. Gardner
W. Crane
S. G. Blodget } Same date
J. Gibbon }
A. C. Harrison
D. T. Patterson
D^{l} Murray,

to be Lieutenants in the Navy of the United States. —

Let it be known to each of these Gentlemen that such Commissions are in your possession and will be delivered when they shall apply to you to be examined and found upon examination to be qualified for the Station. They are arranged in the preceding List agreeably to rank. To avoid heart burnings it would be desirable that this relative rank should be preserved. If an application for examination should be made to you by any one of the Gentlemen on this List junior to the others who may not have applied, you will notify such senior officers of the circumstance and also the Officers junior to the Applicant and inform the Senior Officers that they may be first examined if they please — If they decline the offer, the junior Officer must then be examined and if he should be found qualified for the Station, you may deliver his Commission, numbering it agreeably to merit. Still however keeping in view that where there is only a shade of difference, and the Senior Officer shall possess qualities which will render him conspicuous at some future day, the date of warrant is to be respected, but in Cases where the junior Officer shall be decidedly superior, you will give him rank.

You will not be unmindful of the situation and rights of the unfortunate Midshipmen in Captivity.

There will be several Gentlemen in the Squadron acting as Lieutenants for whom you have no Commissions. Let it be known that they will be examined under the regulations prescribed for the examination of those for whom you have Commissions and that Midshipmen are not to be promoted in the Navy as a matter of right according to the date of their warrants. You will keep me informed of all the examinations that may be made.

Mr M^{c}Grath Sailing Master of The *Argus* has resigned — You may give him a passage to this country in the *John Adams*. You will appoint his Successor which may be Mr Suggs or such other Officer as you may judge most expedient to appoint.

Mr Baker, Purser of the *Siren*, has also resigned, Mr Harris, a Passenger in the *Congress*, is to take his place, and Mr Baker is to be permitted to return to the United States in the *John Adams*.

Doctor Marshall now in the *Siren* is to be removed to the *Constellation*, and Doctor Archer now in the *Constellation* is to supply Doctor Marshall's place as Surgeon of the *Siren*.

Lieut Livingston I fear is not qualified for the high station he holds in the Navy. It may be proper to order him home in the *John Adams*. You will however exercise your discretion on the subject.

The Ships going out are not officered agreeably to our wishes. On your arrival in the Mediterranean you will make such disposition of the Officers as may be most advisable.

I have given directions to Commodore Preble to re-enter if practicable the Crew of the *Enterprize* whose terms of service have expired. It will be very agreeable if they can be re-entered — Seamen at 12$ ordinary at 8$ and Boys at 6$ — If they cannot be re-entered they are to come home in the *John Adams* and the Crew of The *John Adams* are to be attached to such vessel or Vessels as may be judged most advisable. The *John Adams* is to return to the United States immediately after Landing her provisions unless her Services shall be imperatively required for some expedition that may be on foot. It is intended to keep her constantly employed as a provision Vessel.

It will be well to direct her on her way home to touch at Naples and Leghorn to afford Convoy to our Merchant Vessels. —

[NDA. LB, 1799–1807.]

To Midshipman John B. Nicholson, U. S. Navy, Washington, D. C., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM^t *June 1, 1804.*

You will consider yourself attached to the Frigate The *John Adams* as one of her Officers and will immediately report yourself to her Commanding Officer. If on the arrival of the *John Adams* in the Mediterranean the Commodore should not have occasion for her but should order her to return to the United States, you will then report yourself to the Commodore, shew him this Letter and he will assign you a station on board of one of the public ships under his Command.

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

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

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbour 1^st *June 1804*

SIR. On my arrival here yesterday, I was honored with your several letters of the 28^th March 6th and 16th of April — I was lately at Naples and obtained the King's order for Six Gun and two Mortar Boats — a number of Battering Cannon — 200 Barrels of Powder — Muskets, Pistols, and every article which I requested for an attack on Tripoly The Gun Boats are now in this Port under the Flag of the United States — the Bombards are not yet ready, as soon as they are, we shall commence our operations and I hope with success. I thank you for your obliging offers of Money &c^a but have no occasion to draw on London even if I had, you need be under no apprehension that I should be imposed on for want of a knowledge of Exchange, which by the way is much more favorable to the drawer at Malta, than any other place in the Mediterranean.

I did not bring out any letters for you, as I observed in a former letter, but a few days since a Gentleman came on board at Messina with a packet from the state Department for you, which I presume is what you have been waiting for — the Packet cover was worn out, and had the appearance of having travelled much.

I hope on the receipt of your papers you will visit Sicily as some very serious representations have been already made, and more will be made to our Government by the Masters and Supercargoes of our Merchant Vessels of the inconveniencies they suffer for want of a Consul in the Island of Sicily. I likewise hope you will see the necessity of appointing such characters for Vice Consuls in the different ports, as I can employ for Navy Agents, you must be well aware of the advantages arising to our Commerce from having Merchants of respectability for Vice Consuls, I have appointed M^r Gibbs, M^r Broadbent, and M^r Dyson as agents for the United States Squadron at Palermo Messina and Syracuse. from the respectability of those Gentlemen and their steady attention to the concerns of the Squadron, I have been induced to mention them in very favorable terms to our Government. The above named Agents whether they

are Consuls or not, will receive the consignments of every American Cargo, and all the business of the Navy Department.

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

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

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbour 1st June 1804.

Dr SIR. I arrived here yesterday with the six Gun boats which I mentioned in my letter from Messina, & am honored with your several communications of the 17th 18th & 24th of April with their enclosures. I sincerely thank you for your exertions with the Neapolitan Government in the procuration of gun & mortar boats, but regret that your journey has been attended with so many unpleasant circumstances as you mention. The six Boats which I have here, carry each a long French 24 pounder, & will have 40 Men. —

The mortar boats are repairing & will be ready in three weeks, as soon as they are compleated for service, I shall commence an attack on Tripoli, & hope by exertion, to bring the Bashaw to terms of Peace honorable to the United States; for be assured, to no other terms shall I consent. — Mr OBrien is not authorised (as you supposed) to beg or to negotiate a Peace with Tripoli: that power was delegated to Col! Lear, who has delegated it to *me*. Mr OBrien came up for the purpose of affording me what assistance the knowledge he has of the Barbary language can give me, as in case of negotiation, a person who will faithfully interpret whatever I may be disposed to make known to the Bashaw, is of the first consequence; this I am confident Mr OBrien will do, & I can assure you, that you mistake that part of his character, which leads you to beleive he wishes us to *purchase* or *beg* a Peace, as he is as anxious that we should beat them into it, as I am myself I value the national character of my Country too highly, to consent to a peace which the most powerful Nation in Europe would blush to make. — It is to be regreted that any circumstance should have deprived us of *your services*. —

I thank you for the Tripolitan Treaty, & for the Cypher, both of wch, may be useful, I shall attend to the *key* with you which you request; but I request you, by no means to write in Cypher to Captain B —, as it will create suspicion, & cause him to be ill used; and deprive him of any future correspondence, all letters to, or from the Prisoners are opened; the Officers are all confined in one large room in the centre of the Bashaw's Castle, and none of the Consuls allowed to see or speak to them. I do not allow any officer of the Squadron to write to them at present, for fear of some imprudent communication. —

I shall attend to the enquiry & investigation of the Affairs you wish me to, should I land at Tripoly; & be assured, I have no doubt of your zeal to serve our country on every occasion. —

It will be well for you to forward the Invoice of the 14 bales of clothing as soon as possible, as the Pursers cannot distribute any, until it arrives, the clothing shall be attended to, the money I shall not want, you will therefore, give your orders to Mr Degen respecting it. I wish it was in my power to send a vessel to take you to Gibraltar, but it is not at present. —

I am expecting a re-inforcement of two or three frigates, but whether they arrive or not, I shall make the attempt to subdue, the stubborn temper of the Bashaw. —

I wish you a prosperous & pleasant passage to the United States, & remain with much respect. —

[NA. SDA. CL, Tripoli, Vol. 2, 1801–1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 1 June 1804

Cruizing on and off Tripoli This day begins with light airs and Sultry W^r Capt. Hull went on board the prize sent some provisions on board of her the Master of the prize and 6 men came on board us at 4 AM, the Ketch in C^o wore ship to the Westward at 5 Wore again to the Eastward and sent the boat on board the prize at 6 the boat returned wore ship and made sail at 9 saw a Strange sail tacked at 11 3 Strange sail in Sight tacked to the Westward —

[NDA photostat.]

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

Light Eastly winds & pleasant weather the *Enterprize* & six Gun boats in company, employed 5 Boats to bring off Water, directed the Ketch *Intriped* to be fitted up as a Hospital Ship, to receive the sick from The *Enterprize* the crew of that Vessel being unhealthy, in consequence of the time of service of that Vessels Crew having long since expired I ordered twelve of the Crew to be discharged, who insisted on being released, the remainder were prevailed on to remain a few weeks longer, Received several letters from Naples & Leghorn, and one from Portland in America, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Friday, 1 June 1804

Moderate breezes from the Eastward — At single anchor in Saragosa. *Enterprize* & 6 Gun boats in company The *Intrepid* which we left under charge of a Midshipman & three seamen, this day hauled out into the road — At sundown calm — Hove up and down in Order to keep a clear Anchor— At 8 P. M. mustered the larboard watch as an anchor watch — At day light five shore boats came along side for Empty water casks Recieved, this forenoon, 120 gang casks Water —

Surgeons report 6 Sick — 2 conv^sgt & 1 discharged Among the sick is L^t Elbert of a fever

Noon light breezes from the South^d

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

To the U. S. Consuls in Europe from Secretary of State

(Circular) DEPARTMENT OF STATE, *June 2^d 1804.*

SIR. On receiving information of the loss of the *Philadelphia*, an act of Congress was passed whereby a Million of dollars, was appropriated to enable the President to impart such vigor to the conduct of the war, as might at once change the exultation of the enemy in his casual fortune into a more proper sentiment of fear and prepare

the way for a speedy & lasting peace with Barbary. The five following frigates have therefore been appointed to sail into the Mediterranean, and will proceed without delay, viz.

The *President* of 44 guns	Commodore S. Barron.
The *Congress* of 36 d^{o}	Cap^{t} Rodgers.
The *Constellation* 36 d^{o}	Cap^{t} Campbell.
The *Essex* 32 d^{o}	Cap^{t} J. Barron.
& The *John Adams* armed en flute,	Cap^{t} Chauncey.

making our whole force in that Sea to amount to 6 frigates & five Sloops of war.

It having been found necessary to change the form of the Mediterranean Passport now in use, arrangements have been made with the Barbary powers, by which either the old or the new form will be sufficient to protect our Vessels until the 1st of July 1805, after which the new form only will be valid.

JAMES MADISON.

To the Consuls of the
U: States, at Naples. Cadiz,
Malaga, Leghorn, Marsailles.
Cette, Genoa, Sicily, Trieste, Malta,
Barcelona & Gibraltar.

[NA. SDA. Despatches to Consuls, Vol. 1, Oct. 1800–Feb. 1817.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^{t} 2^{d} June 1804 —

It will be proper that you issue to the Commanders of the several vessels of your Squadron, instructions, directing them to require their Midshipmen to do duty in the Tops and to perform such other services as will contribute to their improvement in Seamanship and the other Branches of their profession.

[NDA. LB, 1799–1807.]

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

NAVY DEP^{t} *2nd June 1804* —

I have received your communication announcing the loss of the Frigate *Philadelphia* and agreeably to your request I have directed the Commodore of the Squadron to institute a Court of Enquiry upon your Conduct in that affair, when you shall be enlarged.

From the high charater you and your Officers previously sustained, I cannot but indulge a sanguine hope, that the Court may find no cause to pass a censure upon your Conduct. —

[NDA. LB, 1799–1807.]

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

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse June 2^{d} 1804

SIR You will sail as soon as possible with the *Enterprize* under your command, & proceed to join the Squadron in the Blockade of

Tripoly. You may touch at Malta for such provisions & stores as you cannot be furnished with from the U. S. Stores at Syracuse —

I expect to joint the Squadron off Tripoly in a few days

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

Extract from log book of U. S. Brig *Argus*, 18 Guns, kept by Sailing Master Samuel B. Brooke, U. S. Navy, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 2 June 1804

This day begins with moderate & Clear Weather all sail set on a Wind the *Vixen Syren* and *Scourge* in Sight At 4 P M. the town of Tripoli bore W b S Mustered the Crew at Quarters at 5 in Courses and down flying Jib At 6 the town of Tripoli bore S^{o} distant about 6 or 7 miles

At midnight Calm and Clear Weather —

At 4 AM sounded in 45 fath^{s} water —

At 6 Tripoli bore S b E dist^{t} about 3 leagues —

At 8 let a reef out of the top sails and set T. G. Sails At 9 loosed all sails to Dry and set all sail necessary

At Meridian Moderate and pleasant Weather Tripoli S ½ E dist^{t} 8 miles —

Lati^{e} Observ^{d} 33° 05′ N.

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

To Degen, Purviance & Co., Leghorn, from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP^{t} *June 3^{d} 1804*

We have a Squadron of Ships which will sail from the United States in the Course of two weeks for the Mediterranean to consist of

The Frigate *President* Commodore S. Barron.

The Frigate *Congress* Cap^{n} John Rodgers

The Frigate *Constellation* Cap^{n} H. G. Campbell

The Frigate *Essex* Cap^{n} James Barron

The Frigate *John Adams* armed *en flute* a store Ship Commanded by Cap^{n} Isaac Chauncey

These ships are intended as a reinforcement to our Squadron at present in the Mediterranean and their respective Commanders are instructed to draw upon you for the Disbursements of their Vessels in the manner prescribed to our former Squadron —

As it may be frequently convenient and advantageous for our Commanders to draw upon Naples it will be agreeable to me that you Deposit a Credit for that purpose with Frederick Degen Esq navy agent —

[Same letter, without the last paragraph, sent to James Mackenzie & A. Glennie, London, dated 2 June 1804.]

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

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

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbour 3rd June 1804 —

SIR I am honored with your favor of the 26th December last the contents of which to me was highly flattering, and be assured that my first and most ardent wish is, that I may continue to merit the approbation and confidence of my Country.

I take the liberty of enclosing for your perusal a letter and memorandum which I presented to General Acton, Prime Minister of the Neapolitan Government respecting a grievance of such magnitude that I could not pass it without remonstrance and I hope and trust that Government will not construe this interference into an over step of the power vested in me especially when they consider the serious consequences attending this unprecedented restriction on our Commerce.

Although I did not tarry at Naples long enough to receive the Minister's official declaration that the grievance was removed. Yet I had his verbal assurances that it should be done immediately. I likewise enclose for your perusal a memorandum of commercial advantages that other Nations have over ours by virtue of certain regulations mutually agreed upon, and I cannot but suggest Sir that the want of these necessary regulations with this Government must be attributed in a great measure to a want of Consuls or Agents of character and information.

It is said that a Major Barnes has the appointment of Consul to this Government, but that gentleman has not been in Sicily or Naples this long time. I am informed that he is speculating at Leghorn, in truth he is spoken of with no great degree of respect by gentlemen of respectability in this Country. It may be needless for me to remark how natural it is for National Character to be judged from that of an individual, more especially when such individual supports a commission and National Uniform.

Under the impression that Government will (as far as may ly in their power) remedy this grievance

[See 14 May 1804.]

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

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

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbour 3rd June 1804.

DEAR SIR I arrived here the morning after I left you. the Gun Boats behaved well. I rely much on your exertions and friendly offers of hurrying the equipment of the Bomb Vessels and the *Nautilus*, but the Bomb Vessels are of the first consequence. I sail this evening to the Southward.

I have nothing new to communicate — please deliver the enclosed to Mr Gorham.

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

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

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbour June 3d 1804

SIR You will remain in this harbour with the gun boats of the U. S. Viz N° 1, N° 2, N° 3, N° 4, N° 5, & N° 6 under your command untill farther orders from me. It is expected that you will at all times keep them in a state of preparation for Action, & exercise the men by getting under way as often as every other day & oftener if you think proper I wish the Utmost harmony may subsist between the Citizens

of the U. S. engaged on board of them whether they were born in America or elsewhere — You will take the Ketch *Intrepid* under your charge, and your Surgeon is to attend to the sick on board her, and direct him occasionally to visit the Castle where the Tripoline Prisoners are confined and attend to the Sick there; — I send you letters to be delivered to the *John Adams* & one to any other ship that may arrive in my absence.

I expect to return in ten days — Keep up a correspondence with M^{r} Broadbent & L^{t} Reed, that you may be able to acquaint me, on my return of the State & Condition of the two Bombards & the *Nautilus* at Messina. — The same rules are to be observed on board the Gun boats as on board the other Vessels of War.

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

To whom not indicated from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

JUNE 3^{d} 1804

SIR It is necessary that all the Neapolitans on board the Gun boats subscribe to the same articles of Agreement which the Seamen of the Ships of war of the U. S. do, leaving the space appropriated to each Captains name blank — You will see this done tomorrow — Fill up three of the Commanders names with your own, L^{t} J. Decatur & L^{t} Bainbridge, and leave the other three blanks —

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

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Monsieur Beaussier, French Chargé d'Affaires & Commissary General, Tripoli

TRIPOLY *June 3^{d} 1804*

SIR Independant of this Certificate that will be presented you, I have the honor to inform you that there are French Merchants of Marseilles who were proprietors of the Ligurian prize taken by a Corsair of this regency and restituted at my request by the Pacha — Citizen Didier Genevay authorized is come to recieve the Vessel, and is embarked thereon on his return: He will bring you this Letter — The good & perfect Intelligence which exists between the U. S. of America & the French Republic assures me that you will let pass freely said French property which has been masked only to preserve it from the Capture of the Enemy —

P. S. The Treatment of Prisoners is as much better as possible — They cannot account for the retard of the Cloathing —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 3 June 1804

Cruizing on and off Tripoli at ½ past [sic] standing in for the town fired two shot which were not returned wore Ship and stood off the town bearing S E b S distance about 4 miles AM at 5 saw a sail stand^{g} out of Tripoli she proved to be a Spanish Ketch bound to Syracuse

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Brig *Argus*, 18 guns, kept by Sailing Master Samuel B. Brooke, U. S. Navy, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 3 June 1804

This day begins with moderate and fine Weather at ½ past 1 P M Tacked to the N, E, —

At 5 standing in for the fort to the Westward of Tripoli fired 2 shot which was not returned Wore ship tacked and Stood for the town fired 2 Shot at it wore Ship and stood Off at 6 standd off under Topsails mainsail and Jib Tripoli bore about S E b S distt about 2 Leagues

At Sundown Tripoli bore S E b E distt 4 miles

At 11 wore Ship to the N & E, At ½ past saw a Sail standing out of Tripoli — At Meridian boarded her she proved to be a Spanish Ketch bound to Syracuse Tripoli bore S b E distt 3 Leagues

Latd Obsd 33° 13′ N.

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

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Sunday, 3 June 1804

Light airs from the Southd — At Single Anchor in Saragosa. *Enterprize* & Gun boats in company The following mates & midshipmen were ordered to rejoin the *Constitution* from the Gun boats. Mr Reid, Messrs Nicholson, Hall, Casey & Laws Towards evening the *Enterprize* sailed on a cruize off Tripoly —

Completed our water having recieved 375 Gang Casks which contains 20.625 Galls —

Supplied the Gun boats with 54 Barrels of Naples Powder containing 3,256 English pounds.

At Day light sent the large cutter on shore after rum —

We recieved from the *Constitutions* Stores at Syracuse 24 Trucks for 24 Pounders, and a number of Blocks from the *Philadelphia's* stores.

Surgeons report 6 sick, 4 convalescts

Noon light airs from the Westward —

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

To Lieutenant Colonel Commandant Franklin Wharton, U. S. Marine Corps, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. States Frigate *Congress*, Potomack
June 4th 1804

Sir I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 29th Ulto, this Inst, the subject of which is painful to me indeed, not only because Mr Shields who is under my command, should so commit himself as dare offer Violence to a Seargent or Sentry of the Corps, but particularly that he should behave so unlike a Gentleman & Officer as to use insulting Language of yourself and Mr Fenwick. Mr Shields I arrested immediately on receipt of your Letter, and herein enclose you the Charges with which he is furnished and which I shall Exhibite at his trial. — You will oblige me by furnishing the Evidence in support of these Charges, previous to the Squadron leaving Hampton Rhoades as I am determined such unwarrantable conduct shall receive the reward it merits —

P. S. I shall apply to the Commanding Officer for a Court Martial on M[r] Shields the Instant the Evidence is furnished.

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

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP[t] *June 4: 1804* —

You will take in the Squadron not exceeding 3 months' water including the ground Tier, & it is our expectation that you will, if practicable, take out 6 months' provisions. If you do not, I fear you will experience embarrassments in your operations in the Mediterranean.

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM[t] *June 4: 1804* —

You will consider yourself authorized to employ as many gun-boats to aid your operations in the Mediterranean as you may think proper. They may be hired or accepted on loan. —

[NDA. LB, 1799–1807.]

To Nicholas C. Nissen, Danish Consul, Tripoli, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

(Copy) ALGIERS *June 4[th] 1804.*

SIR, It is with great satisfaction that I have the honor to inform You that, in a letter which I received a short time since, from the Secretary of State of the United States, he has directed me, by order of the President of the United States, to present You with a snuff-box ornamented in a suitable manner, and particularly with the Arms of the United States, to mark it as a National Present; in acknowledgement of Your good Offices and services rendered in attending to the Subsistance and accommodation of Captain [Andrew] Morris & crew of an American Vessel [*Franklin*] which was captured last year by one of the Bashaw's Cruizers.

I shall write to Leghorn, by a Vessel which sails in a few days from hence, to have the said order executed, which when done shall be forwarded with a letter expressive of the sentiments which dictated the gift.

I have not yet received a line from the United States since they have heard of the loss of the *Philad[a]* and the unhappy captivity of our Citizens. Your kind attentions to Captain Bainbridge, his officers, and crew, so far as you have been able to give them, will afford another cause of grateful sensibility towards you, which will not be forgotten neither by my Countrymen nor our Government. Accept, my dear Sir, my tribute of thanks for Your benevolent acts and intentions towards my unfortunate fellow Citizens. I am persuaded that the same goodness of heart which prompted you to give them all the alleviation in your power, will still influence you to continue those attentions. I am in anxious and daily expectation of receiving from my Government orders which will afford substantial relief to my unfortunate Countrymen In the mean time it may not be proper to say more on this subject.

This letter is committed to the care of your worthy coleague here, who puts it under cover to Your Consul in Tunis I need not say

how happy I should be to hear from You through this, or any other channel.

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

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

Triplicate TRIPOLI BARBARY *June 4th 1804*

DEAR SIR, I done myself the pleasure to write you on the 20th ult° in which I mentioned that I was daily expecting to hear from Com° Preble, and receive a supply of cloathing for our seamen, which they stand much in need of; I have not yet had the pleasure of hearing from him, but presume that it cannot be long before he will appear off here with news from our Government, for we have not heard a word from America in answer to our letters announcing our unfortunate captivity. This detention of news from our friends in that quarter makes the hours pass heavily with us; and the long time it takes for letters to come from Algiers deprives us of the pleasure of hearing from you as frequently as we could wish, as your letters always give us consolation & information.

No change has taken place since my letter of the 20th of last month, except the seamen have been removed from the appartments they occupied to others much more commodious; — their present prison is an excellent building: The change has relieved me from much anxiety on their acct, fearful that the hot months of July & August would be attended with serious effects, owing to the cooped-up situation they were in, but they now enjoy much purer air than their Officers.

Your letters of the 16th Decemr 12th & 24th Februy have been received. I have wrote you under 9 different dates, probably some may miscarry — should you not hear from me as often as you might expect I hope you will not attribute it to neglect; for, exclusive of my duty to keep you informed of our situation, I feel much pleasure in corresponding with you, and am sorry that I have not a more interesting scene to write of than the walls of a close prison afford.

With respectful compliments to Mrs Lear, and best wishes for the happiness of yourself

[Stephen Decatur Col.]

To George Dyson, U. S. Navy Agent, Syracuse, from Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES BRIG *Argus*
off Tripoli 4th June 1804

SIR, I send to your care the Ketch *Le St Jean Baptiste* Prize to the United States Brig *Argus*, and Schooner *Vixen*, you will please supply Mr Henley with what Provisions he may want for his crew. — I have given him Orders to advise with you on all matters relative to the Prize, and will thank you to render him any service he may stand in need of, I shall be in Syracuse in a few days, when I shall determine what can be done with her. —

[NDA. Isaac Hull LB, 1803–1804.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Brig *Argus*, 18 guns, kept by Sailing Master Samuel B. Brooke, U. S. Navy, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 4 June 1804

This day begins with fresh breezes and Clear Weather at ½ past Merid^{a} sent Geo^{e} Owlin Q^{r} master and W^{m} Dougherty, O. Seaman onboard the Ketch and provisions at 1 saw a sail ahead made all sail in C^{o} with the *Vixen* at 3 Spoke a Tunisian Galley from a Cruise the *Vixen* in Chace of the other sail wore Ship and stood in Shore at 6 in top Gall^{t} sails ½ past 7 reeft the topsails & tacked Ship to the Northw^{d} & Eastw^{d} brailed up the mainsail and haul'd down the Jib at 3 T,k^{d} to the Southw^{d} set the B. mainsail and Jib at 6 let the reefs out of the topsails and set T. G. Sails At 8 Tripoli bore S ½ W dist^{t} 3 or 4 leagues at ½ past 9 stand^{g} in for the town fired 3 Shot at it, wore Ship and Stood off hauled up the foresail down Jib and brailed up the Boom Mainsail —

At Meridian Tripoli bore S E b S ½ S dis^{t} 3 Leag^{s}
Lat^{e} Obs^{d} 33° 03′ N.

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

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. FRIGATE *Congress*, S^{t} MARYS
June 5th 1804

SIR I have the honor to acquaint you the *Congress* the *Congress* anchor'd here last evening at Sun Set, in company with the *President*, — and that I am this instant getting underweigh to proceed to Hampton Road, having all the Guns on board & such provisions as followed in Craft, I am sorry I did not take all the Guns on board at the mouth of the Eastern Branch, as I am now perfectly satisfied there is water sufficient for the largest ship in our service with all her Guns & Provisions on board —

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

[5 June 1804]

Concerning Thomas Woods, prisoner at San Lucar

MEMORIAL of a number of American Citizens to Joseph Yznardy Esquire, Consul for the United States of America, resident at the city of Cadiz.

WE the undersigned Citizens of the United States of America, Hearing, with the deepest regret and commiseration, the shocking calamities which an American Seaman, Thomas Woods, during a confinement of nearly three years in a dismal prison at San Lucar, has suffered, and still continues to suffer; feel ourselves compelled from motives of humanity, RESPECTFULLY to intreat you'l make use of the influence vested in you as Consul of the United States, to have this, our ill-used, unfortunate countryman released from imprisonment; and that you will extend to him the provision allowed by government for citizens in his predicament. — Your memorialists beg leave further to observe, that from recent accounts received from the prisoner, his health of late has become very much impaired, and if speedy relief is not administered it may arrive too — late. — Con-

fiding in your willingness to serve this unfortunate man, your Memorialists pray you to accept the assurances of their respect.

Cadiz 5 June 1804.

C B Seaman	Thos Willson [Hillson?]
Sam[l] Peck	Geo W, Elroy
Cha[s] Rhind	H[y] Boit
John Graves	Dan[l] Truman

Isaac Atkins

[NA. SDA. CL, Cadiz, Vol. 1, 1791–1805.]

[5 June 1804]

To Lieutenant Joseph Tarbell, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Sir The iminent danger which you a few moments since ran this ship into, either through neglect or want of Judgement obliges me to withdraw my confidence in you, so far as to consider it imprudent that you should in future be intrusted with the charge of a watch on board her as her loss would involve incalculable consequences to the U. S. — You will therefore consider yourself as a supernumerary untill ordered to some other Vessel of less consequence —

Given on board the U, S, ship *Constitution June 5[th] 1804* at ½ past 2 P. M. off the Island of Malta.

Signed, Edward Preble

L[t] Tarbell of the Navy

Present.

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

[About 5 June 1804?]

To the Commander of any U. S. Ship of War at Tripoli from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

To the Commander of any of the United States Ships of War before Tripoly

GREETING

There is embarked on board Said Bombard *La Vergenia del Rosario*, three boxes & one Jar marked NGN the Property of C N Nissen Esquire the Danish Consul at Tripoly: as also one box marked W B — containing one thousand dollars for said Consul Nissen at the disposal of Cap[t] W[m] Bainbridge —

(L, S —) In witness whereof I hereunto Set my name

Signed, George Davis

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

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 5 June 1804

Cruizing on and off Tripoli These 24 hours Commences with fine Clear Weather at Meridian sent Geo[e] Owlin Q[r] master and W[m] Dougherty O. Seaman on board the prize with Provisions at 1 saw 2 Sail ahead made all sail in Comp[y] with the *Vixen* at 3 Spoke a Tunisian Galley from a Cruize the *Vixen* in chace of the other sail

[NDA photostat.]

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

Wind S W and pleasant, working towards Cape Passari, three ships of War in sight, in the S E, quarter, standing towards us, at 4 spoke an Imperial Brig from the Levant bound to Alicant, at 3 P M discovered the three strange ships to be Frigates, at 5 having approached within two miles, and they not answering the private Signal, beat to quarters and cleared ship for Action, at 6 they hoisted Neapolitan colours, at ½ past 6 spoke them, a Boat came from the commodore to receive Private Signals, which I gave them, three ships of this Squadron left Massina the 25th Ultimo on a cruize against the Barbary States, at Midnight passed Cape Passaro with a moderate Breeze from the N W, Stood to the Southward & Westward for Malta, at 6 saw that Island the S E, end bearing S W B W, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPMt *June 6. 1804* —

Commodore S. BARRON.

With this you will receive Letter Nº 1 — containing your Instructions for the general government of your Conduct on a Cruise. [Nos. 1 to 6 are dated 31 May 1804.]

2. Letter laying down the principles of Blockade.
3. Letter of instructions in relation to Officers.
4. Letter of Instructions in relation to the Crew of The *Philadelphia* now captives in Tripoli.
5. Letter authorizing the establishment of an Hospital.

Nº 6. Letter ordering a Court of Enquiry upon Capt Bainbridge. —

7. Letter directing that Midshipmen shall do duty in The Tops. — [2 June 1804.]

The loss of the frigate *Philadelphia* which may have operated with the Barbary Regencies to the prejudice of our national Character, and has subjected a number of our Fellow Citizens to the Condition of Slaves, requires our attention. All that a sound mind, an ardent Zeal and daring valor could achieve with the force committed to Commodore Preble, has been performed by him, His force. however, is not adequate to the accomplishment of our purposes, we therefore have put four additional Vessels in commission and the President having the highest confidence in your judgment, valor and enterprize has been pleased to confer upon you the Command of all our forces in The Mediterranean which on your arrival there will consist of

The frigate *President* —	of 44 guns.
The frigate *Congress*	of 36 guns.
The frigate *Constitution*	of 44 guns.
The frigate *Essex*	of 32 guns.
The frigate *Constellation*	of 36 guns.
The Brig *Siren*	of 16 guns.
The Brig *Argus*	of 16 guns.
The schooner *Vixen*	of 12 guns.
The schooner *Nautilus*	of 12 guns.
The schooner *Enterprize*	of 12 guns &

The *John Adams* armed *en flute* which is to be employed as a Transport Ship. —

With this force it is conceived that no doubt whatever can exist of your coercing Tripoli to a Treaty upon our own Terms and of your preventing the effects of hostile dispositions which may be entertained towards us on the part of any other of the Barbary Powers. —

The varying Aspects of our Affairs in the Mediterranean — the great distance between this Country and the probable places of your operations render it improper to prescribe to you any particular course of Conduct. We therefore leave you unrestrained in your movements and at liberty to pursue the dictates of your own judgment, subject to the general accompanying Instructions.

It is however the expectation of the President that you will without intermission maintain during the Season in which it may be safely done, an effectual Blockade of Tripoli, and that you will by all other means in your power annoy the Enemy so as to force him to a peace honorable to the United States, and it is submitted to you whether during such Blockade it would not be adviseable to keep some of your Squadron cruising off Cape Bon.

With respect to the Ex-Bashaw of Tripoli, we have no objection to you availing yourself of his co-operation with you against Tripoli — if you shall upon a full view of the subject after your arrival upon the Station, consider his co-operation expedient. The subject is committed entirely to your discretion. In such an event you will, it is believed, find M^r^ Eaton extremely useful to you.

You will keep a vigilant Eye over the movements of all the other Barbary Powers, & communicate frequently with our Consuls at Algiers, Tunis, and Tangier, and should any of these Powers be induced to declare or wage war against the United States, it is the Command of the President and you are hereby instructed to protect our Commerce by all the means in your power against them.

Col^o^ Tobias Lear our Consul General at Algiers is invested by the President with full power and authority to negociate a Treaty of Peace with the Bashaw of Tripoli, and also to adjust such terms of conciliation as may be found necessary with any of the other Barbary Powers. He is therefore to be conveyed by you to any of these Regencies as he may request of you, and you will cordially co-operate with him in all such measures as may be deemed the best calculated to effectuate a termination of The war with Tripoli and to ensure a continuance of the friendship and respect of the other Barbary Powers.

Colonel Lear has made some advances on account of the Crew of the late frigate *Philadelphia*. You will ascertain from him what the amount may be and re-imburse him out of the funds at your Command. —

For the Disbursements of your Squadron, you have on Board of your Ship 20,000 Dollars, and a credit is deposited for you with Mess^rs^ M^c^Kenzie & Glennie, London, and Mess^rs^ Degen, & Purviance, Leghorn, who will also deposit a credit for you with Frederick Degen esquire at Naples. In all your Bills you will be particularly careful to mention the purposes for which they are drawn.

The following Gentlemen are our Agents,
Mess^rs^ Degen & Purviance — Leghorn.
Frederick Degen Esq^r^ — Naples

George Dyson Esq^{r}	at Syracuse —
William Higgins Esq^{r}	at Malta —
John Gavino Esq^{r}	at Gibraltar
Stephen Cathalan Esq^{r}	at Marseilles and Toulon. —

They will all give to your Squadron every assistance in their power. M^{r} Eaton is our Agent for the Barbary Regencies. He is to be suffered to return to The United States whenever he shall request it.

We have a deposit of provisions in Syracuse which with the Cargo of The *John Adams* will, we calculate, be sufficient for the Squadron till the first December next. We shall immediately send a small vessel carrying about 800 Barrels with provisions to be landed at Gibraltar where she will probably arrive before the Squadron. The Squadron can call there and replenish should this Vessel have arrived. If she should not have arrived the Squadron will proceed aloft and the provisions to be carried out in this small vessel will be deposited in Gibraltar subject to your orders for the use of the Squadron. In a few weeks we shall send you another Provision Vessel with directions to go first to Gibraltar, thence to proceed aloft if required. —

I enclose a Letter to Commodore Preble left open. You will be pleased to deliver it to him yourself without Sealing it. I also enclose a Letter for Cap^{t} Bainbridge which you will be pleased to forward.

As soon as your Squadron is ready for Sea you will weigh Anchor and proceed off Tripoli with all practicable dispatch. If you can take out in the Squadron, a Bowsprit from Norfolk for the *Constitution* it will be desireable — If you cannot take it out we shall shortly send it by a Provision Vessel.

You will keep me constantly informed of all your proceedings.

I have only to subjoin my wishes for your success and glory. —

[NDA. LB, 1799–1807.]

To John Gavino, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar, *from* Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP^{t} *June 6th 1804*

This letter will be handed to you by Captain John Grayson having on board of the schooner *Eleanor* under his command provisions for the use of our Squadron P^{r} bill of lading enclosed — my object in sending this small vessel to you is to replenish the Squadron now going out on their arrival at Gibraltar — should the Squadron be in Gibraltar when the *Eleanor* shall arrive then inform Cap^{t} Jn^{o} Grayson that he is to deliver her cargo agreeably to the Orders of the Commodore — it may be taken from on board the Schooner *Eleanor* immediately into the ships of the Squadron — But if Cap^{n} Jn^{o} Grayson should arrive at Gibraltar before the Squadron or not till the Squadron shall have left Gibraltar you will have the provisions landed without delay and Deposited in Store giving the requisite information to the Commodore of the Squadron

Let me Know whether the Cargo has been delivered in good Order & when you shall have received it if not in good Order state particularly the deficiencies —

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from Secretary of State

DEPARTMENT OF STATE *June 6th 1804*

SIR,

[Added to circular of Secretary of State of 2 June 1804 sent to Tobias Lear, was the following:]

Commodore Barron has orders to provide at a suitable time for your joining him in order to the negotiation of a peace with Tripoli. This we hope may now be effected under the operation and auspices of the force in the hands of that Officer without any price or pecuniary concession whatever. Should adverse events or circumstances of which you can best judge and which are not foreseen here, render the campaign abortive, and a pecuniary sacrifice preferable to a protraction of the war, you are authorized to agree in the last instance and in that only to the terms of peace specified in my letter to Mr Cathcart of the 9th of April 1803, with such modifications as may be convenient. Of the Twenty thousand dollars permitted to be given as the first purchase & Consular present, five thousand are to be retained until a Consul for Tripoli to be commissioned by the President shall arrive. Should you be able to reduce the terms, as may be expected, you will retain a proportionate sum for this object. On peace being made you have authority to place at Tripoli a temporary Agent to attend to our affairs. For the ransom of the Prisoners, if a ransom be unavoidable, you may stipulate a sum not exceeding five hundred dollars for each prisoner including Officers, but deducting from the number in the hands of the Bashaw, those promised to Capt Dale to be released in return for the release of some of the Bashaw's Subjects who had been captured by him, and also as many as may be considered an equivalent for the captures of Capt Preble.

A desirable shape to give the ransom money would be an annuity payable in four or five instalments. This rate of ransom must not be yielded however without such a change in our affairs by accident to the Squadron or by other powers joining against us in the war as is very unlikely to happen; and you will bear in mind that the sum of 500 Dollars pr man connected with terms which were otherwise favorable was the voluntary offer of the Bashaw to Capt Preble in the month of January prior to the reverse which he has since experienced, and to his knowledge of the force now sent against him.

Of the co-operation of the Elder Brother of the Bashaw of Tripoli, we are still willing to avail ourselves, if the Commodore should judge that it may be useful, and to engage which as well as to render it the more effectual he has discretionary authority to grant him pecuniary or other subsidies not exceeding twenty thousand dollars; but the less reliance is placed upon his aid, as the force under the orders of the Commodore is deemed sufficient for any exercise of coercion which the obstinacy of the Bashaw may demand. The power of negotiation is confided to you in the first instance, but in case of accident it is to devolve on the acting Commander of the Squadron.

A very elegant sabre, prepared in London, and intended for a present, the motive of which no longer exists is delivered to Commodore Barron to be deposited in your hands, and which you may apply to any necessary purpose. Its value in London was [679] Pounds Sterling. It is the same which was returned to this Department by Mr W^{m} Eaton. The enclosed advertisment will inform you of the

manner of carrying into effect the proposed change in the Mediterranean passport. The Navy Department have made an arrangement for repaying you the advances stated, in your letter of the 24 Dec^{r}, to have been made for the relief of the Officers and Crew of the *Philadelphia*. Exclusive of this, the following conjectural estimate is made of the state of our pecuniary transactions.

You were provided with funds to the amo^{t} of		$97.000
Instead of 24.000, which you was to receive from M^{r} Cathcart; you rec^{d} from him in Cash	12.000	
A Consular present which you suppose will sell for	20.000	
	32.000	
	24.000	
Add the difference	8.000	8.000
		$105.000

(Note — It is supposed another estimate ought to follow) [*]

From a quantity of Brass now on hand it is in our power to furnish the 10 twenty four pounders and five eighteen pounders requested by the Dey of Algiers. They will not perhaps cost without freight more than Eighteen thousand dollars & if they would be taken for a years annuity as M^{r} OBrien suggests, it would be an advantageous measure to send them, but if otherwise, as he imagines the rate at which the Danes & Swedes & Spaniards furnish them, produces a loss of not more than a fourth or a third upon the cost, they form a remittance preferable in a high degree to the list handed you by the Minister of Marine on the 26th Dec^{r} last. It is believed that they can be prepared in two Months. In the mean time the Cargo of the *Sally*, which was wrecked near S^{t} Lucar will be repeated, with such additions as are hinted in your letter of the 24th Dec^{r} as substitutes for part of the list of the Minister of Marine. The articles of that list being so disadvantageous you will lose no opportunity of obtaining its retraction, as respects the powder, cordage & cable; and if the money is received at the rate of 30,000 dollars pr. year, according to the undertaking of the Jews, after the brass guns, timber &^{c} are forwarded there will be nothing due even for the current years annuity, consequently there will be no claim to the list being remitted, at least for the present. The ransom money of the prisoners is provided for by a credit, which the Sec^{y} of the Treasury has given you on the House of Sir Francis Baring & C^{o}; a copy of the letter to whom is enclosed.

M^{r} Eaton has presented his accounts comprehending various charges, for which the regular vouchers could not be procured from the nature of the case. I enclose an abstract of the whole and request you will take a convenient opportunity of examining them either in person when you may go to Tunis, or thro' the medium of D^{r} Davis. In particular I wish for information respecting the cause of the detention of the *Gloria* at Tunis after her return from Gibraltar, and what she could have chartered for per month; of the truth of the extortion

by the Bey's Minister, and any illustration you may be able to procure of the transaction, which resulted in charging the sum stated for the detention of the *Ann Maria* at Tunis. Under the instructions formerly given to Mr Cathcart to propose a periodical sum to be paid to Tunis, and which have been repeated to you, he made the offer which they authorised, but it was declined by the Bey's Minister. We are therefore now under no obligation to acceed to it; and unless the pacification with Tripoli should contrary to our expectation set a precedent, you will be silent with respect to the periodical payments to Tunis, & even repel them if the subject should be revived by the Bey. You will judge from your communications with Mr Davis and other means of information, how far it may be requisite, if a favorable accommodation takes place with Tripoli, for you to go to Tunis, for if the Bey remains quiet, and does not expect you, and especially if the President's last letter to him should have silenced his demands, it may be expedient to avoid Tunis. But if his expectations of the Frigate or other exorbitant sacrifices render it necessary for you to come to a final explanation with him you will concert with the Commodore the exhibition of such views of his injustice & the Naval faculties of the U: States as may repress or very much reduce his hopes of obtaining sacrifices from us; for it was not only to over awe Tripoli, that the expense of equiping this Squadron was incurred, but upon a calculation of its salutary effect upon the other Regencies, and especially Tunis whose unfriendly conduct might require its presence. It is hardly necessary to observe that this remark is not meant to prompt undue provocations to war, much less a commencement of it; Your prudence will be a security that your communications with Tunis will be addressed to such motives only, as may have the best effect upon the preservation of peace according to the circumstances under which your intercourse may be conducted.

Enclosed is a letter from the President to the Dey of Algiers, in answer to his request for the Cannon.

[NA. SDA. Despatches to Consuls, Vol. 1, Oct. 1800–Feb. 1817.]

[*Estimate which followed.]

Balance carried forward		$105, 000
Your Expenditures and those of Mr OBrien have been for the Consular present	20, 000	
The Biennial present	16, 000	
Account of OBrien	4, 000	
Capt [Andrew] Morris and his crews ransom	6, 800	
	46, 800	
You have further to expend for debt to the Jews	15, 800	
Dr Davis at Tunis — say	4, 000	
Yourself for salary &c say	4 000	
		70, 600
		34, 400
May be wanted for purchasing peace with Tripoli and your expences in going there and to Tunis		22 000
		12, 400

On the other hand we Owed in Sep^{t} 1803 two years annuity to Algiers — say at 30,000	60, 000
We have remitted only	14 000
	46, 000
cash unappropriated in your hands	12 400
	33, 600
To be remitted from the Treasury	20, 000
Leaving a debt of	13, 600

But if the peace should be made with Tripoli without a pecuniary sacrifice or with a small one, the whole or part of the 20,000 will be applicable to its discharge.

[Stephen Decatur Col.]

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

DEPARTMENT OF STATE *June 6th 1804.*

SIR.

* * * * * * *

[See Circular of 2 June 1804] On M^{r} Lear's departure he was furnished with a number of the tops of the new Mediterranean passport, which we wished to substitute for that now in use, and by the same opportunity a copy of the new passport was sent to you. You were also requested to procure an understanding with the Emperors Government in order that the change might be brought about without inconvenience. Tho' you have not reported to me your proceedings on the subject, it has been taken for granted that the arrangement has been effected; but least by any possibility it may be otherwise I enclose another copy of the passport together with a copy of the advertisment which has been published to notify the change, and I request your immediate attention to arrange the business on the principles of the latter.

Cap^{t} Rodgers assures us that so far from the people of the *Meshouda* having cause of complaint, they expressly & publickly declared their satisfaction with the treatment they experienced. I await however the final report you intend to make before any opinion is formed of the reality of the complaint or the satisfaction due. In the mean time as the demand is not large, a confidence is reposed in you to quiet it, if it cannot be avoided before you receive instructions from Government.

I am &^{c}

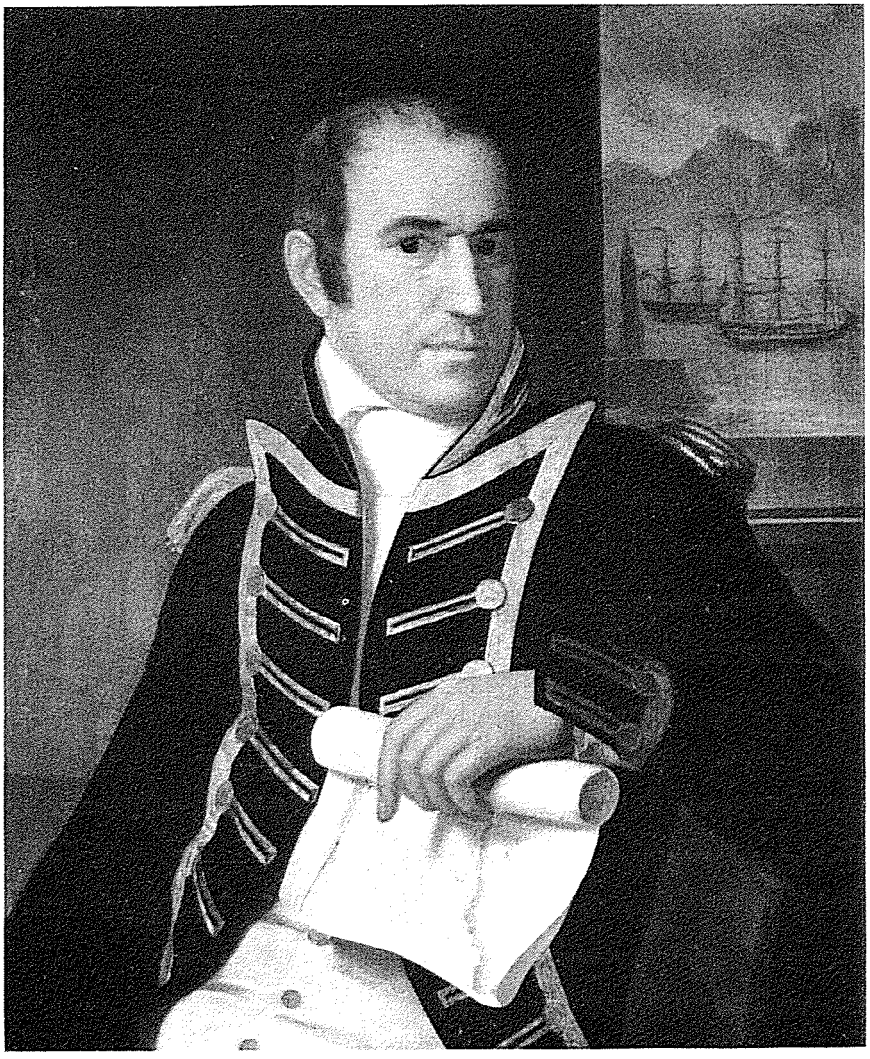
JAMES MADISON

[NA. SDA. Despatches to Consuls, Oct. 1800–Feb. 1817.]

To M. d'Italinsky, Russian Ambassador to Constantinople, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES S. *Constitution*
Malta Harbour 6th June 1804

SIR. I was this day honored with a letter from the American Consul at the Court of S^{t} Petersburg enclosing copy of a letter from His Imperial Majesty's Chancellor to him, offering to engage the Grand Seignior to mediate for the release of our Country Men, Prisoners to the Regency of Tripoly.



COMMODORE EDWARD PREBLE. U S. NAVY.

As His Majesty's intercession with the Ottoman Porte is through you, I have taken the liberty to enclose a copy of remonstrance made to that Government through the medium of the French and English Ambassadors; the facts therein contained will enable you to urge the *honorable* intentions of your Sovereign with more propriety, and a greater prospect of success; and thereby more firmly cement that harmony and good will which has so long subsisted between the Russian Empire and the U S of America

About two months since I captured a Ship [*Madona Catapoliana*] under Russian Colours which made shift to get into Tripoly with Military Stores, and came out laden with property belonging to a Tripoline Consul this was a most flagrant violation of the blockade, but so deeply was I impressed by the generous interposition of His Russian Majesty, that I this day released the ship. Indeed I feel myself bound by honor and inclination to promote the interests of your Country to the extent of my power; and it is scarcely necessary to assure you that my Government will accord with pleasure the high sence with which they receive such noble proofs of disinterested friendship.

P. S. I am not as yet informed of the effect of my remonstrance thro' the F & E Ambassadors. * * *

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

[6 June 1804]

Certificate concerning Pilot Louis Jouvas or Jourvass

I certify that Louis Jouvas Served on board the U. S. Ship *Constitution* under my command as Pilot from October 19th 1804 [1803] to this day

Signed EDWARD PREBLE

MALTA HARBOR *June 6th 1804*

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

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Wednesday, 6 June 1804

moderate Breezes from the N W and pleasant a strong current setting to the Eastward, Standing in for the Island of Malta on a wind on the starboard tack all sail sett, — at about 20 minutes past 2 P M as I was at dinner, a Midshipman came into the Cabbin & informed me we were near the shore, I ordered him to go on deck and tell the Officer to tack ship, the helm was immediately put down, & as the ship came to, I observed from the Cabbin Ports that she was nearly on shore, I sprang on deck and found her in stays not a cables length from the shore, and the Rocks to be seen under her Bottom, I met the Officer of the Watch Lieutenant Tarbel, at the head of the Cabbin Gang way and took the Trumpet from him, ordered him below, and took charge of the deck, and got the ship on the larboard tack, had she missed stays or shot half her length further a head in stays she would inevitably have struck the Rocks and probably would have been lost, as she was under a press of canvas with a fresh Breeze, for this want of Judgment, or neglect of duty in Lieut Tarbell in endangering the ship, I suspended him from duty, and suspecting a design on the Part of the coasting Pilot to lose the ship I ordered him confined in irons, — at 5 P M working to windward to gain Valette Har-

bour, at 6 Anchored in 13 fathoms water in the outer Harbour, — Ordered the Pilot out of Irons and to be discharged from the United States Service, — Punished two seamen with 12 lashes each for neglect of duty, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

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

Moderate breezes from N W — We are standing in for the Island of Malta under all plain sail — contin^{d} standing in till ½ past 2 when we tacked off shore — When the ship came head to wind she was not more than a cables length from a low Point which is 4 or 5 Miles to the S E of the Harbor of Valetta — The Bottom was Visible and apparently bold home to the shore — The Commodore and all the gun room Officers were at dinner except Lieut^{t} Tarbell the Officer of the Watch The coasting or cruizing Pilot was also on deck at the time the ship was standing in — The Officer of the Watch was ordered below & suspended from duty — The Pilot was immediately Ordered in double Irons on suspicion of attempting to run the ship on shore From this time till 5 P. M Employed working to windw^{d} in order to anchor in Valetta — At 6 P. M. came to in the Outer harbor in Valetta in 13 fathoms Muddy bottom Furled sails & moored half a cable each way with the small bower & stream — Ships company employed thro' the night scrubbing hammocks — The Pilot who was confined, was this day discharged from the U. S. Service — cutter watering ship — Punished W^{m} Harrison & Jn^{o} Russell seamen with 12 lashes each for Neglect of duty — Rec'd 3 casks Molasses contain^{s} 31a Gall^{s} — Noon calm

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

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^{T} *7 June 1804* —

Commodore SAM^{L} BARRON.

Herewith you will receive a Copy of a letter which I have this day written to Cap^{t} Isaac Chauncey. —

Should the Squadron arrive at Gibraltar before Captain Chauncey, it might, should Tunis have commenced hostilities against us, be prudent to order one of the Ships of your Squadron to wait at Gibraltar the arrival of the *John Adams*, to accompany her aloft. You will exercise your soundest discretion on this point.

[NDA. LB, 1799–1807.]

To Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. S. *John Adams*, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^{T} *June 7, 1804* —

I have read in the Newspapers an extract of a Letter stated to have been written by Commodore Preble dated 19th March 1804; which furnishes ground for apprehending that at that period the Bey of Tunis meditated hostile movements towards us. It is stated that he was then equipping his whole naval force with the utmost expedition; that it was whispered that his object was the American

Commerce, and that from various circumstances Commodore Preble gave faith to the report.

Although we have no official information on this subject, yet it behoves us to be on our guard. On your arrival at Gibraltar you will therefore endeavour to possess yourself of information as to the dispositions actually entertained towards us by the Bey of Tunis, and if you find he has commenced hostilities against us, or should not be able to ascertain to your satisfaction that he has not commenced hostilities against us, you will remain at Gibraltar until the arrival of the outward bound Squadron, unless we should sooner have at Gibraltar a force adequate to your protection, in which case you will exercise your discretion, and act as Circumstances may direct. —

Should you remain at Gibraltar until the arrival of the outward bound Squadron, you will be governed in your subsequent movements by such orders as you may receive from the Commodore. —

[NDA. LB, 1799–1807.]

To Levett Harris, U. S. Consul General, St. Petersburg, Russia, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Malta Harbour 7th June 1804

SIR. About 2 months since one of our Brigs of War cruising off Tripoly captured the Polacre Ship [*Madona*] *Catapoliana* George Morfino Master under Russian Colours which had made shift to get into Tripoly at a time when our Squadron had been driven off the Coast for a few days by a gale of wind. She sailed from Smyrna with a cargo consisting of Powder, Guns, Shot, Ship Timber &c^{a} for and on account of the Bashaw of Tripoly, and sailed from thence the day on which we captured her with a cargo of Cattle for acc^{t} of the Tripoline Consul at Malta; this was certainly a most flagrant violation of the Blockade, and of the law of Nations in such cases, and obliged me to send all her papers home that the vessel might be condemned in our Court of Admiralty but so deeply was I impressed by the generous interposition of His Imperial Majesty, that I this day released the ship as a compliment to his flag, and shall be happy at all times to have it in my power to show how much it is my wish as well as that of our Government to promote on every occasion the present friendship and good understanding between His Imperial Majesty and the United States.

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To P. d'Karpow, Russian Chargé d'Affaires, The Two Sicilies, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Malta Harbour 7th June 1804

SIR. To your remonstrance respecting the capture of the Ship called the *Virgin of Catapolaghi* [*Madona Catapoliana*] commanded by George Morfino under Russian colours. I have to observe that I have not only the attestation of the Pilot that they were apprized of the Blockade of Tripoly before leaving Smyrna — but of several of the Crew likewise, and the Master himself acknowledges that he was aware of the circumstance before he went on the Coast; and that

Tripoly was not blockaded simply by manifest I would observe that at the time of the entrance of said ship, I was cruising off that Port, but an east wind which prevented my laying close in with the Town proved favorable to his Views. he entered it is true without molestation and supplied our declared Enemy with Naval and Military Stores in violation of a close Naval Blockade of nearly four months, for it is a fact of great notoriety that the port was blockaded two months before my formal declaration thereof was made; and in truth a variety of facts and circumstances evinced a disposition on the part of the Master of said Ship to enter said port of Tripoly notwithstanding his knowledge of that circumstance, I have considered it a duty incumbent on me to send the papers &c^{a} of said Ship to America for adjudication, and cannot doubt but she will be condemned.

That harmony and good understanding which has so long subsisted between our Governments (as well as my own inclination) induced me to pay the greatest deference to the reasons advanced in your remonstrance, and were the circumstances literally those that you have been pleased to state I cannot deny but objections might be advanced as to the propriety of detention, but I beg you to be assured Sir, that every circumstance seemed to be aggravated by implied deception and that want of *fair dealing* which but too frequently involves Governments as well as individuals in painful litigations and even now that I am under the fullest conviction that the Ship would be condemned in any Admiralty Court in Europe, I have been induced to restore her to the commander as a compliment to the Russian Flag, and an earnest of the high opinion I have of the magnanimity and of the disinterested friendship that His Imperial Majesty has been pleased to evince for the United States of America of the nature of which you will be informed by the enclosed letter from the Chancellor of the Russias to our Consul resident at S^{t} Petersburg which I rec^{d} two days since. —

All I can do, must be deemed but a poor compensation when compared with the admiration, and the very high sence with which my Government will receive such honorable testimonies of your Sovereign's good will towards them, and for which they will not fail to give ample proofs when opportunity offers.

His Excellency P. D'KARPOW
His Imperial Magesty the Emperor of Russia's Minister at Naples —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 7 June 1804

Cruizing on and off Tripoli at 2 P M Cap^{ts} Smith and Dent came on board Tripoli bore S E b S ½ S. dist^{t} 6 miles at 8 light airs Inclinable to Calm Sounded in 48 fathoms Water bottom fine Grey sand the Cap^{ts} Returned on board their Ships at midnight heard several heavy guns fired at ½ past 6 AM. saw the *Vixen* to the Eastw^{d} and several gun boats standing from the land at 9 light airs standing to the Eastw^{d} ¼ past the *Scourge* made the Sig^{l} N^{o} 216

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Brig *Argus*, 18 guns, kept by Sailing Master Samuel B. Brooke, U. S. Navy, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 7 June 1804

This day Commences with Mod^{e} and clear Weather at ½ past Merid^{n} Spoke the U. S. Schooner *Vixen*

At 1 saw a sail to the eastw^{d} made sail in chace at 4 spoke the U. S Schooner *Enterprize* last from Syracuse At sundown Tripoli bore S E b S dist^{t} 6 miles —

At midnight light breezes and Pleasent —

At 3 AM made sail to the Eastw^{d} at 5 hauled up the Courses and hove too Tripoli S ½ E the *Scourge* in Sight —

At 10 in top Gall^{t} sails and wore ship at 11 set T. G. sails & flying Jib fired several Shot at the Gun boats which was returned by them and the Batterys Wore Ship and stood off —

Lat^{e} Obs^{d} 33° 00′ N.

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

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

made a complimentary visit to the Governor Sir Alexander Ball who returned it on board, filled up our water, Mr Higgins reported the Cargo of Provissions & Stores delivered by ship *Betsey Walk* Captain Reddick was very much damaged, deficient, and in very bad order, — Received a letter from Mr Levett Harris our Consul at S^{t} Petersburg, enclosing a copy of one from the Chancellor of the Emperor of Russia to the Russian Minister at the Ottoman Court by order of his Imperial Majesty, directing the said Russian minister to desire the Grand Senior to send a Fireman to Tripoli, to endeavour to obtain the release and Restoration of the Americans taken in the late Frigate *Philadelphia*, in consequence of the friendly interference of the Russian Monarch. I this day as a compliment to his flag ordered the Vessel *Catapoliana* from Tripoly detained by Captain Stewart under Russian Colours for a violation of Blocade to be released, and the Brigantine *S^{t} F^{e} Crusifiso* a Maltese Vessel under English Colours, detained by the *Nautilus* for the same reason to be given up to the owner for three hundred dollars he giving a full indemnification and acquittal of all claims for damages, but the Cargo remains unsold at Syracuse, — A Spanish Vessel arrived sent in by the *Argus* with an Ambassador of the Grand Senior on Board with his suite consisting of about thirty Persons, this is the same Vessel that entered Tripoly from Tunis with a passport from Mr Davis our Charge de Affairs at that place, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 7 June 1804

[Cruising in company with *Argus*, *Vixen* and *Scourge* almost continuously since 27 May 1804.] ½ past 6 squar'd the yards & stood in for the harbour of Malta At 9 pass'd the Commodore at Anchor. At 10 came too with the starboard bower in 13 fathoms, furl'd all sail. —

(These remarks include 36 hours.)

[NDA.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. FRIGATE *Congress*
Hampton Road June 8th 1804.

SIR I have the honor to inform you the *Congress* anchor'd in this Road at 6 P. M. this day after a Passage of nine Days, from Alex[a], and without any unpleasant occurrence, further than is common with a ship of such heavey draught of Water, and a raw undisciplined Crew, — I have this Ins[t] dispatched an Officer to Norfolk to attend to the getting on board the Spars, Cordage &[c] which you ordered to be procured here, and to ship 10 or 12 Seamen, in the place of that Number of Miserable Wretches which M[r] Gardiner shipped in Balt[o], all of whom I shall be obliged to discharge being totally unfit for service —

The *Congress* can be made ready for Sea in 24 Hours —

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

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

ALGIERS *June 8th 1804*

DEAR SIR I have recieved with much satisfaction the esteemed favor which you did me the honor to write on the 3[d] May with its enclosures — I feel very happy in the just approbation which which you have received from our Government of your conduct To a mind like yours it must afford a gratification beyond any pecuniary consideration.

I agree with you that we can expect no efficient interference in our favor from the Quarter mentioned — The present State of things makes it politic for other nations that we should be at war with Tripoly—

Before this you must have heard from M[r] Davis on the Subject of the complaints of the Bey of Tunis respecting the Tunisian Sandals and the stopping the Spanish Vessel going to Tripoly with his Passport: I have written to him on this Subject, referring to you for all matters of this kind, and observing that if the Bey of Tunis wished for a war with us he would not fail to make it upon the Ground of which he complains, however unjustifiable it may be, but if that was not his wish, he would be satisfied with *proper* explanations in cases of this Nature — I shall send copies of M[r] Davis's letter to our Consuls in Europe by the first opportunity — I am still without a line from the United States since they must have heard of the loss of the *Philadelphia* and captivity of our Citizens — This Event will probably make some change in their Orders respecting Barbary Affairs: or at any rate makes the Orders recieved when we left the United States, as they relate to Tripoly, inapplicable; — I recieved a *Commission* from the Secretary of State to make Peace with Tripoly but as it was sent before the News of the *Philadelphia* had reached the United States, it was predicated on the then state of our Affairs I wait anxiously to hear farther from home —. I think it certain that a force will be sent out.

As there is a great difficulty in Transferring money from hence to Tunis I have written to M[r] Davis, that I should request you to furnish such funds as might be necessary for our unfortunate Citizens in captivity until some efficient measures are taken by the Govern-

ment respecting them — By a letter from Cap^{t} B. of the 5th of April, I was happy to learn that he had recieved sufficient for their immediate wants, and had 500 Doll^{s} in hand, and hourly expected cloathing from Malta—. If in your power, I know you will furnish the necessary for our Citizens in Tripoly — Should you not be able to do it, I have desired Cap^{t} B. to inform M^{r} Davis who is directed to obtain money by a dft on me *at any rate* for that purpose

We are in a continual state of Agitation here from the expectation of a Visit from the British. The Cruizers are all in port and we have no arrivals — No news, but reports in abundance.

As I send this by a Courier which has been dispatched to me by M^{r} Davis, I cannot be very full, as it is uncertain when it may reach you, and its route circuitous. I enclose a letter for yourself & one for Lieut^{t} Comm^{t} Decatur which came into my hands some time since: but no opportunity has Offered for forwarding them — M^{rs} Lear is in good health & sends her best regards & wishes to her [you].

Wishing you all *success*, health & happiness

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

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

ALGIERS *June 8th 1804*

DEAR SIR, I had the pleasure to receive your acceptable favor of the 5th of April, on the 2^{d} instant, and was very happy to hear that yourself and Officers were comfortably situated, and the means of support had reached you.

I have not received a Line from the U. States since they must have heared of your misfortune. I am in hourly expectation of letters from our Government; and I need not say how happy it w^{d} make me if they should expediate the deliverance of yourself and our fellow Citizens from Captivity. — I assure you my dear Bainbridge, I have a most heartfelt pleasure in knowing that I have, in any measure, been the cause of Comfort or Consolation to you & those about you. We know that among a Crew of a ship of war there will be some unthinking wretches who will sacrifice the Comforts or necessaries of tomorrow, for the beastly luxuries of to day. It is the case with people of this description of all Nations

As there is a very great difficulty in transferring money from hence to Tripoli, I have written to Commodore Preble, request^{g} that he would furnish what might be necessary untill some efficient arrangement sh^{d} be made by our Governm^{t} for your relief; but in case he cannot do it, I pray you to write to M^{r} Davis at Tunis who has my Instructions, in that event to obtain money by a Draft on me, at any sacrifice.

We are here without any arrivals or news of any kind; but there is a continual agitation on account of the Reports that the English are Coming, in force, to settle their affairs with this Regency. —

The sensibility which you express for the attentions & services which I have been able to render to yourself & our unfortunate fellow Citizens, is a higher compe[n]sation than could be bestowed by other means. I pray you to keep your Spirits, and exercise your patience for a little time. I know your Situation must be afflict^{g} to a mind like yours; but remember that your Countrymen sympathize in your

afflictions, and that the sun will by & bye dispel the clouds which now hang over you. When relived from your Captivity you will be received by your friends an[d] those most dear to you, with more joy than if you had returned home ladened with unweadley wealth

I enclose letters for you which have been some time here, hoping for an opportunity of forwarding them. They are duplicates, I presume, of what I had the pleasure to forward in my letter of the 24th of March. —

M^{r} Bille, the Danish Consul, & M^{r} Tha[i]nville & his family take a lively interest in your unfortunate situation. They always enquire after you & desire the best regards & wishes to be given to you.

M^{rs} Lear sends her best prayers & wishes for the health and speedy deliverance of yourself, your Officers and our other fellow Citizens. — Beleive me to be my Dear Bainbridge,

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

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

(Copy) N^{o} 9. ALGIERS *June 8th 1804.*

SIR,

* * * * * * *

In stead of replying to all the foregoing letters, in the order of their dates, I shall first touch upon the more important subjects of the two last; observing that after the departure of M^{r} OBrien from this place for Tunis, nothing occured to make it necessary for me to write to you even if a *good* opportunity had offered untill I should hear from you upon his arrival in Tunis. —

In my letter to M^{r} OBrien, when he left this, a copy of which is enclosed, You will see that he had no *powers* from me to make a final arrangem^{t} with the Bey of Tunis; he was only desired to ascertain, if possible, in conjunction with Yourself, the ultimate expectations or demands of the Bey on our Gov^{t} — He *knew* that I had not forwarded to you any instructions or orders of our Government, relative to giving a fixed sum to Tunis Annually or Biennially; for when he spoke to me on the subject, I told him I thought it unnecessary at this time, as he knew perfectly well what those terms were, which the Gov^{t} had limited; and that I wished to hear further from the Government after they knew of our late misfortune, before the *ultimatum* was brought forward. He should have made a *fair* statement of that matter to You. In his letter to you of the 25 of April, he has taken up the proper idea on this subject. In his letter to You, of the first of May, has given you a power with respect to 5000 dollars, which he certainly was not strictly warranted in doing. — I state these things that You may see the ground on which they Stand. — And as I am persuaded it was done for the best, according to our affairs stood with the Regency of Tunis, I do, for Your satisfaction confirm them.

I now enclose you an extract from the Instructions of the Secretary of State relating to Tunis. Nothing is said of a regalia, on the reception of a Consul; but that is a custom so fully established, that the sum of ten thousand dollars partly in cash and partly in goods (not Naval Stores) would be allowed of course. Or the whole of the Consular Present might be in goods, if more agreeable, not exceeding the ten thousand dollars. —

In Your letter to the Secretary of State (copy of which You have sent me) You quote my letter to Mr OBrien thus "to ascertain the precise expectations of the Bey of Tunis, *and close* our affairs with this Regency if it could be done on admissible terms". — My letter to him You will see is thus, "endeavour to ascertain the precise expectations of the Bey of Tunis from the United States, that our affairs with that Regency *may be settled*; if it can be done on admissible terms". It is only neecssary for me to state the true expression. — If You have had an erronious copy given You, I am sorry for the mistake.

In the same letter You mention, that, in Your conversation with the Sapatapa on the 6th of May, he, acquiesed in the proposition of a bienniel Regalia in Cash equal to what would purchase a Regalia of Naval Stores in Trieste. But neither the amou[n]t in Cash, nor the quantum of Stores are mentioned. It is certainly necessary that the sum should be limitted; or at least that the Stores should be specified and their quantity ascertained. Without this we are left afloat, at their mercy, for their own prices and quantity.

After having made these remarks I can o[n]lly say, that the expectation of the Bey's receiving a frigate, or a Regalia in stores, being done away, is obtaining two important points, which would never I think, have been yielded by our Government. As to the Cash payment a few thousand dollars could be no object, provided, by sacrificing them, we could be placed upon the ground of security with respect to Peace, so far as it can be ascertained in these Regencies

In your letter to the Secretary of State dated April 8th (an extract of which You have forwarded to me in Yours of the 24 idm) it appears, that the Bey refused, in the most pointed terms, to acknowledge me as an official character, if I should come to Tunis, and that he would have no *conversation* or *negociation* of any kind with any other person but Yourself. It seems, however, that both the Bey & Sapatapa had much conversation with Mr OBrien, on our affairs with the Regency while he was there, and that the principal points of negociation were discussed by Mr OBrien, and pretty well understood, before the Commercial Agent desired, on the evening of the 29th of April, that your visits to the Palace might be made alone when You wished to enter upon business — I mention this merely to shew the inconsistency of conduct

The return of difficulties stated in Your letter of the 18th of May, seems to have done away all the previous understanding, and placed us upon a ground, where we can look only for War; for I presume it has been an uniform line of conduct observed by our Vessels *lately* in the blockade of Tripoli, to prevent the enterance of any Vessel whatever, and that the Tunesian Sandals have been often turned back; whether they have been captured or destroyed without some outrageous violation on their part, of the usuages of blockaded Ports, is a point on which I am not able to speak; but I persume neither has been done by the orders of the Commodore. — It lay wholly with the Commodore to respect Your Passport or not; and I presume you explained the matter to him when you saw him, and are able to judge how far the the Spanish Vessel has been stop'd by his orders.

It is very certain, as you observe, that so long as our War may continue with Tripoli, we shall have difficulties, of a similar nature to those stated, to to encounter with Tunis. If the Bey of Tunis wishes

a war with the United States, he will, undoubtedly make these things the ground of it, however unjustifiable; but should that not be the case he will be satisfied with proper explainations, and where his subjects may have sustained an injury of no great magnitude, there would be no difficulty in making them a compensation, provided the case should merit it or policy demand it, to continue the peace, and the amount be not very large. In cases of magnitude a reference must be made to our Government, which the Bey will not refuse if he is not disposed for war. — I shall, however, transmit copies of your letter of the 18th of May to our Consuls in Europe by the earliest opportunity that our Vessels may have a due caution given them.

Your bills upon me of the 29th of April, favr Seigr Saul Levi Brahm for two thousand Spanish dollars has been paid; and I am very sorry that You could not negociate another in the same way without too great a sacrifice, as money cannot be sent from hence at present without great risque, and the heavy drafts I have been obliged to make on Leghorn to pay our Annuities here (wh is done up to the 5th of March last) makes me rather averse to drawing for more from that quarter until I shall hear from thence. I shall, however, enclose You a letter of credit on Messrs Degen & Purviance of that place for two thousand Dollars

I have examined your accounts and transmit herewith one copy, with the notes as you will see.

If you will refer to my letter by Mr OBrien, You will find that I did not accuse you of neglect of duty or inattention in not having written to me; but imputed the non recd of letters from you to causes which we could neither of us controul. I think from my letters as well as from my conduct towards you, you cannot infer that I wish to give you pain, or embarrass your situation; but the station in which I am placed makes it a duty incumbent upon me to be frank in my communications.

In a letter which I had the honor to write the Secy of State on the 14th Febr I observed,

> "I have said nothing on the Subject of my recognizing Dr Davis, as Charge "d'Affairs of the United States in Tunis; because I conceived the propriety "of the measure too apparent to need a comment. You have undoubtedly "been informed of every thing relating to him in the Affair of Mr Cathcart "at Tunis. I received it from both parties and could not find anything "criminal in Mr Davis' conduct. It was necessary to have some one there "on the part of the U. S. He appears to stand well with the Bey and "Regency — is said to be a Gentleman of talents and well qualified for the "place, and I trust that the President will not think I have acted amiss in "what I have done with respect to him."

I have detained the Courier which You sent from the second of this month to the present time, in hourly expectation of receiving orders from our Government respecting Tunis & Tripoli, predicated on their knowledge of the loss of the *Philads* & the Captivity of our Citizens; but I cannot feel justified in detaining him longer. And as I have not received a line from the United States since they must have heard of our misfortune at Tripoli, I can only say that we must endeavour to keep our ground at Tunis, in the best manner we can, without making too great sacrifices, un[t]ill we hear from our Governmt — The moment any thing arrives here of importance to our affairs in this Sea, I shall dispatch a Courier to You; and, in the mean time, I place great confidence in Your address and influence to keep us from running on a lee shore there.

In my letter to the Secretary of State mentioning the loss of the *Philad*ª &ᶜ I observed, that the loss of this Ship and captivity of our Citizens must either be followed immediately with a force sufficient to reduce Tripoli to terms at once, and keep others in check — or we must submit to an unconditional tribute to all the Regencies — Or, withdraw our Commerce wholly from this Sea, keeping, however, a force to guard the Straits, which would be attended with an expence fully equal to attaining the first Object. — I wait most anxiously to know the determination of the Governmᵗ upon this event, as it has materially changed the face of our Affairs in this Sea, and makes former orders inaplicable to the present State of things.

In a letter from the Secʸ of State, (recᵈ 26ᵗʰ of Apˡ) dated in Janʸ I recᵈ a Commission, in due form, to make Peace with Tripoli; but the late event has made it necessary for me to wait new orders before I proceed in the business. I have also a letter patent from the President to the Bey of Tunis, to settle Affairs with him; but on this subject it is unnecessary for me to say more than is contained in this letter.

I enclose letters for the Commodore, Mʳ OBrien, Captain Bainbridge, and from the Sweedish and Danish Consul's here to their respective Colleagues in Tunis, also two letters from a Domestic of mine, who resided some time in Tunis, to his friends there.

Reports and letters have come here informing that the English are about to pay a visit to this place very soon. This has caused considerable alarm and much agitation, particularly among the Jews, and keeps every thing in a state of suspence. The Cruizers of this Regency have not yet gone out, and I presume will not go, until the intentions of the English with respect to this Regency is known.

We have no arrivals — no news. — The information which you gave me from Marseilles, has not been recᵈ here thought [sic] any other channel. —

By a letter which I recᵈ from Captain Bainbridge of the 5ᵗʰ of Apˡ (enclosed with the duplicates & triplicates of your former dispatches) I am happy to learn that the wants of our Citizens have been supplied by the funds remitted them through Yourself and other channels, and that he had then 500 Dollars on hand. Cloathing he expected every hour from Malta. As it will be more in the power of the Commodore to furnish future funds for the support of our unfortunate Citizens, than to send them from hence, I shall write to him on the subject, and also to Captain B. whom I shall desire, in case the necessary support could not be sent by the Commodore, that he wᵈ apply to you; in which case You must get the means of *immediate* support by a draft on me. — By a Vessel which sails from hence for Leghorn in a few days, I shall advise Messrs Degen & Purviance of the letter of credit which I send You —

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

To Richard O'Brien from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

ALGIERS *June 8ᵗʰ 1804.*

DEAR SIR, I have duly recᵈ your favors of the 22ᵈ & 29ᵗʰ of april, and feel much obliged by the communication thus contained. — The fair train on which our affairs appeared to be when you left Tunis has been interrupted, as you have undoubtedly learned from Mʳ Davis, by a Complaint of the Bey that the Sandals of his Regency had been

taken by the Am. Vessels off Tripoli, and that a Spanish Vessel, with Mr Davis', Passport, had been prevented from entering that Port. — These are matters which relate to the department of the Commodore, who I know will do whatever is right in them. — As I have not recd a line from the U. States since they must have heared of the loss of the *Philadelphia* & Captivity of our Citizens, I have told Mr Davis that the understanding with Tunis respecting an annual or biennial payment in Cash was the Only thing we could do at present with that Regency. If the Bey was determined on war; he would make it at all events; if he was not, he would be satisfied with proper explainations of any thing which might occur with respect to Tripoli, and wait for further Orders from home.

We are here pretty much in the same state you left us No arrivals no news; but Continual reports of a Visit from the English, which causes much agitation & alarm at times, among the Gentlemen of the Black Robe

The hurry & bustle at your departure caused me to forget to give you the receipt for Articles recd from you on account of the U. S. I now enclose one receipt, and shall forward a duplicate, by another opportunity. —

We were very glad to hear that you had so favorable a Passage to Syracuse, and that no one suffered from sea sickness. Mrs Lear unites with me in Compliments & best wishes to Mrs OBrien Yourself & little ones. —

I enclose several letters which have come here for you since your departure. You have them in the state I received them

As I send this by the way of Tunis, and it is uncertain when it may reach you, I can only say that we are here as you left us, — We reside at the Garden, in which I have endeavoured to make some improvements, and I am afraid I am laying out more money than I ought in justice to myself; but it affords me some amusement

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

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

Siren MALTA — *June 8th 1804*

SIR Herewith I send you a copy [31 May 1804] of Mr Anderson's Communication relative to five Deserters from the Prize Ship *Madona Catapoliana* under his charge — I must however observe he neglected to make those Circumstances known to Lt Comt Smith (who was here at the time) untill after those Vessels had Sailed —

I also beg leave to inform you that I have two Deserters now on board and have deferred punishing them that you may make an example which I trust will prevent such practices in future —

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

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 8 June 1804

Cruizing off and on Tripoli This day begins with moderate breezes and fine Weather at 1 saw a sail to the Eastward made sail in chase at 4 spoke the U. S. Schooner *Enterprize* from Syracuse at Sundown Tripoli bore S E b S distance about 6 miles at 3 made sail to the Eastward set and took in Sail Occasionally TK[d] and wore Ship when Necessary in C[o] with the *Vixen* and *Enterprize*

At ½ past 11 AM fired Several shot at the gunboats which was returned by them and the Batteries wore ship At Meridian fine Weather

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Friday, 8 June 1804

Light Airs from the East^{d}, Moored in Valetta. Noah Morse & Francis Hopkins who were sent to the Hospital from this ship are dead — At 7 P, M anchored here from a cruize off Tripoly the U. S. Brig *Syren* Calms or light airs thro' the night — At 6 A. M. unmoored Ship. & hove short in order to proceed to Sea — In the Act of weighing the Wind sprang up from the Eastward which is right into the harbor — Rec'd two men belonging to Malta as cruizing or coasting Pilots for the *Constitution* —

Noon Moderate breezes from Eastw^{d} —

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

To Secretary of the Navy from Secretary of State

DEPARTMENT OF STATE *June 9th 1804.*

SIR. I have the honor to inform you that the President has determined to send to the Dey of Algiers ten brass twenty four pounders, and five brass eighteen pounders, with Carriages and the necessary apparatus complete. They are to be long guns fit for batteries. He also wishes the Cargo of the Ship *Sally*, lost off S^{t} Lucar, be repeated and another Cargo to be shipped to the Dey to consist of plank and timber of good quality, of small spars for topmasts, top gallant masts, steering sail-booms, and stuff for handles of rammers, spunges and ladles for cannon of different calibers, from 48 to 6 pounders. The Kinds of timber and planks for this last Cargo may be selected from the list out of which the last shipments, were made, and the proportions of the whole Cargo regulated by an attention to the stowage and assortment. The Cannon can be cast at Foxalls furnace out of some brass belonging to the public. It is desirable that the above should be collected and forwarded as soon as is practicable.

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

To Thomas Appleton, U. S. Consul, Leghorn, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

ALGIERS, *June 9th 1804*

SIR, I embrace the only opportunity which has offered to your Port since I have been here, to acknowledge the receipt of your acceptable favors of the 22^{d} of Nov^{r} 15 of Feb^{y} & 10th of April, as well as to thank you for the communications made by them, and for your very kind offer of services. —

The Port of Alicant affords the most direct & frequent communication with this place; but its great distance from Leghorn has prevented my profiting by that Channel, unless there was something very special to forward

There is no interdiction to my entering into Commercial business; but since I have been here, I have found so many Public duties to attend to that I sh^{d} not have been able to have profited by com-

merce if any object had offered, which however has not been the case; for the dispute between the British and this Regency has suspended every thing of a Commercial nature here for some time past, and its effects will continue untill their differences are settled. Should any object present in future worth attending to I shall not be unmindful of your friendly offer.

The loss of the *Philadelphia*, and unfortunate Captivity of our Citizens, has materially changed the face of our Affairs, from what they w^d have been had not that event happened. Since the news of this misfortune reached the United States, I have not received a line from thence, but am in daily expectation of Orders from Government, predicated on that event. —

With This Regency we appear to stand well. I was so fortunate as to effect a full payment of our Annuities in Cash, on the 5^th^ of March last. This besides being a great pecuniary advantage to the U. S. secures, in some measure, our peace for a time here, so far as it can be done by removing complaints arising from deficiency of fulfilling our stipulations by treaty

The Bey of Tunis is threatening us very hard, as you will See by the Extract of a letter from M^r^ Davis to me which I enclose for your information, and request you will give the same a Circulation to guard our commerce, as much as possible, against the event of a war with that power. I cannot help thinking however that the Bey knows too well his own exposed Situation to break with us on *light grounds* while we have a force in his Neighbourhood to annoy him, and I am persuaded that no *justifiable* cause for war will be given him by our Vessels. — A few days Previous to the late affair of the Sandals &^c^ mentioned in M^r^ Davis' Letter, our affairs with the Bay of Tunis were getting into a favorable train, he had given up the Idea of receiving a Frigate, or a regalia in Naval Stores; and the understanding between us seemed to promise a favorable termination of all complaints.

Whatever can be effected by our small force in this sea to protect our Commerce & annoy the enemy, I am persuaded will be done: And if any object of Enterprize which talants can suggest, and boldness, tempered with Prudence, can execute, I know our Commodore will avail himself of it.

The letter and small box bro^t^ by Capt^n^ Stewart of the U. S. Brig *Syren* from Mess^rs^ Bacri; were delivered to David Coën Bacri, in my presence, here.

I shall always feel obliged by letters & information from you whenever opportunities offer, and wish I could give you something interesting in return; but we are barren here, excepting in the local events, which could not amuse. — The account you give me of M^r^ Livingston's returning & General Smith succeeding him is the only information I have rec^d^ on that Subject. You know of M^r^ Livingston's meritorious exertions to interes[t] the Gov^t^ of France in the redemption of our Unfortunate fellow Citizens at Tripoli, and mediate for a peace. — I have no faith in their effects. — It is convenient for France, while at war with Great Britain, that we sh^d^ blockade the Port of Tripoli, which will deprive the English of one Source of Supplies for Malta. —

Ever since the appearance of Lord Nelson, off here in January, we have had constant reports of the English coming, in force; which

has occasioned continual Alarms & Agitation. I do not myself beleive they will come while at War with France; For when they do appear it will probably be in Great force, which they cannot well spare at present in this Sea.

P. S. The Cruizers have not been out this Season, and I presume will not go out while their differencies with G. B. continue. —

June 17th 1804

The sailing of the Ship for Leghorn, which was to have been on the 10th inst was prevented, by the arrival of the Britis[h] Ship of War, the *Superb*, Captn Keets, who brot a person (Bryan Mc Donough Esq., late from Tripoli) to treat in congunction with Capt K. on the differences between the British & this Regency. There is yet no conclusion of this Business. The *Superb* is still here, but there seems not to be a good understanding on the Subject

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

[9 June 1804]

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

Sir We venture to address you in behalf of our Mess Mate, Lieut Tarbell. A retrospect of his deportment heretofore, as an Gentleman, & correct Officer, prior to the unfortunate evening of the 5th inst, induces us powerfully to exert ourselves, that, if consistent, he may be ordered again to his duty with us as usual.

Mr Tarbell is conscious of his error, and says 'twas founded on his too great confidence in the Pilot — We believe this to be the case sincerely. — We have always considered Mr Tarbell to be one of our most correct Officers, and the circumstance above alluded to, which has incurred your displeasure, will, he says, be a lesson which he never can lose sight of.

Frigate *Constitution* Saturday Morning June 9th 1804

Nath Haraden
T, Robinson
Chas Gordon
Saml Elbert
Jno Hall
Robert Greenleaf
Jas Wells

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804.]

To Lieutenant Joseph Tarbell, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitution June 9th 1804

Sir On a retrospective view of the general tenor of your past conduct as an Officer, I am induced to believe that too much confidence alone in the Pilot might have occasioned your imprudent approach to the shore with this Ship on the 5th Inst so near as to endanger her safety while under your charge as Officer of the Watch: From this Circumstance, and a solicitation on the part of your brother Officers highly honorable to you that you may still continue among them, I am induced to direct that you return to your duty in full confidence that you will in future be more guarded in your conduct. —

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

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Lieutenant Colonel Commandant Franklin Wharton, U. S. Marine Corps

WASHINGTON *June 9th 1804*

SIR I am honor'd by your Letter of the 4th covering copy of cause of arrest served on Mr Shields. I regret that it has been my Misfortune, to be compell'd to interfere with the conduct of the Young Gentlemen of the Navy. —

It has been, & always shall be my wish rather to promote their reputation, than to offer injury to it: this unfortunately, is the second instance since I have commanded here. I have done nothing more however than my duty in reporting. I now wish to be as friendly, as apparently I have been hostile trusting to the cool reflection of the Gentlemen, who I am sure, must acquit me of any intentional Injustice. I have recieved a Letter from Mr Shields, acknowledging irritation at the moment but disavowing parts of the Charges: he has made amends sufficiently to me, by the *Politeness*, of *that Letter*, and I must now become his friend, his Advocate: You will of course confer on me, an obligation, a favour, I shall not forget, by removal of arrest, and restoring him to his Duty. I, in asking this from you Sir, withhold the Evidence you request: fully convinced that you will not differ from me in the termination of this unpleasant affair—

Wishing you Health & Happiness,

[LC. JRP, Letters & Orders, 1804–1805.]

Extracts from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 9 June 1804

Cruizing on and off Tripoli These 24 hours Commences with fine pleasant Weather and Clear Captns Smith and Decatur came onboard at 3 all the Captns went onboard the *Vixen* at 4 Tripoli bore S E b S at 6 Capt Hull returned on board

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 9 June 1804

Sailed from Malta for the Coast of Tripoly.

[LC original.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Saturday, 9 June 1804

Light airs from the E. At Single Anchor in Valetta. Ships draft abaft 22½ Inches & forward 21½ Inches — Rec'd 22 gang casks of of water by the cutter. At 6 P. M. Weighed and warped out of the Harbour — Warping out till 9 P. M. when a light breeze sprang up off shore — In boats & made sail to the Eastward of Malta — Rec'd in Malta Robert Corbett belonging to the U. S. Schooner *Nautilus* & Emanuel Peterson who also belonged to her; the latter was brought on board as a deserter. Wind light & Variable between S E & S W during the night — Tacked as necessary in Order to work round the S E part of Malta — At day light we were 4 leagues E b S from Valette — Ships company from day light till 7 A. M. scrubbing their cloathes. At 6 A. M. a dead calm which continued till 9 when a breeze sprang up from E S E — Set the larboard studs sails and steered S W

in order to pass the S E end of Malta which bore W. S. W — 4 leagues— The wind had shifted by 11 A. M. to S S E — In studd^{s} sails— Employed clearing up the Decks, clean^{g} Ship & stowing the anchors— Consul OBrien still remains on board — When in Malta this last time we opened the scuttles in the Gun room & those of the Warrant Officers store rooms forward — They are all well lined with thick cloth —

Noon Moderate breezes from S b E and pleasant weather — We are S E ½ E 4 leagues from the S E part of Malta

Left in Malta the *Syren* refitting for a cruize off Tripoly.

Latitude Obs^{d} 35° 39′ N.

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, from 9 June to 26 June 1804

9. Arrived at Norfolk; crossed by packet to Hampton — Took lodgings at Jone's tavern, kept by Cheeseman — Found the *Congress* in the roads — She arrived the day preceeding —

11. The *Constellation* left the Eastern Branch.

13. The *President* arrived in Hampton roads.

14. The *Essex* arrived —

15. The *John Adams* —

21. The *Constellation* —

26. The *John Adams* went to sea —

[H. E. Huntington L&AG, EA 206.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, Hampton, Va., from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

Constellation, EASTERN BRANCH.
June 10th 1804 —

SIR We have as yet but one Cable on board, a second is promised on Wednesday, which will Enable me to leave the Branch Immediately after as all the tradesmen will be clear of the ship by that time — Hall is up from the *Essex*, he left that ship at Maryland point the day before yesterday — I am Sir. With Much Esteem

[Mrs. James S. Barron Col.]

To James Leander Cathcart, Leghorn, from Secretary of State

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
June 10th 1804.

SIR. The latest letters I have received from you are those of the 18, 21, & 27 March. I had before received several copies of your accounts, which are now in the Treasury Department in a course of investigation and settlement.

By Commodore Barron who is proceeding to the Mediterranean, with five additional Frigates, one of which is armed *en flute*; I take occasion to mention, that if after receiving my last letter, which permitted you to return to the United States, as soon as your convenience might require, you should have continued with Commodore Preble's Squadron, your conduct is approved by the President; but if after the arrival of the new Commodore, as there will be several Gentlemen under his

Command, who have some acquaintance with Barbary Affairs, and there will be less inducement to the abandonment of your wishes; your stay in the Mediterranean will recur to the footing pointed out in my letter above referred to. Enclosed is a copy of the act of Congress for raising a revenue & making appropriation for defraying the expense of the war with Tripoli.

[NA. SDA. Despatches to Consuls, Oct. 1800–Feb. 1817.]

To Alexander, Count de Worontzow (or Worontzoff), Lord Chancellor of Russia, from Secretary of State

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
June 10th *1804.*

The COUNT WORONTZOW.
Lord Chancellor of the Empire of Russia.

SIR. The President of the United States has received from their Consul at S[t] Petersburg, the information communicated by your Excellency on the 25th of January last, that his Imperial Majesty would employ his good offices, with the Turkish Government, for the restoration of an American Frigate with her Crew, which having foundered near Tripoli fell into the hands of its Bashaw.

This friendly interposition is received, Sir, by the President with all the sensibility which it is calculated to inspire. Altho' the measures taken by the Gov[t] of the United States, in consiquence of the accident at Triopli, and which will be followed up with the requisite vigor, promise to repair the loss, and to bring the Bashaw to proper terms of peace, yet it is a circumstance as flattering in itself, as it must be favorable in its effects to find in so illustreous and powerful a sovereign, so distinguished a mark of attention to the interests of the U: States. The President sees in it a ray of that luminous benevolance which shines in the character of his Imperial Majesty, and which emanating from the best feelings of the heart gives the brightest ornament to the attributes of his high s[t]ation. The generous instruction given to his Ambassador at Constantinople, excites in this view the less surprize, but it is for the same reason stamped with the purer value. I am charged by the President to convey to you these sentiments with a request that his Imperial Majesty may accept them as an expression at once of the President's exalted esteem, and as an acknowledgment on the part of the U: States for the particular act of kindness, which his Majesty has been pleased to exercise. The assurances which your Excelle[nc]y has added of the friendly interest which his Imperial Majesty will continue to take in what concerns the United States, are Sir, fully appreciated by the President, and afford the greater satisfaction as they correspond with the disposition which his Imperial Majesty, will always witness in the United States, to cultivate good will, and the interchange of good offices with other nations, and especially with one, whose Sovereign merits them by his honorable & beneficent example. It only remains to thank your Excellency for the politeness and patronage experienced on this occasion by the Consul of the United States, and to tender to you the distinguished respect & consideration, which your celebrated merits demand, and with which I have the honor to be &[c]

[NA. SDA. Despatches to Consuls, Oct. 1800–Feb. 1817.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Sunday 10 June 1804

Moderate Breezes from the S W, standing to the westward by the wind, spoke a Greek ship from the Levant for Malta, at ½ past 7 P. M the S E point of Malta Bore N N E 7 leagues & the S W, point N ½ W 6 leagues, Wind S E, steered S W B S for Tripoly, ordered Lieu[t] Tarbell to his duty in consequence of the Solicitations of his Brother Officers of the Wardroom, at 10 A M mustered all hands at quarters and had an account taken of all the Cloathing Belonging to the ships Crew, — at noon the S E end of Malta Bore S B W, 123 miles distant, — Latitude Observed 35° 3′ N[o]

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from James Leander Cathcart, Leghorn

LEGHORN *June 11[th] 1804.*

D[r] SIR. I receiv'd your receipt for the cloathing deliver'd to you by M[r] Matthiew in due season, & your letter of the 15[th] of May was deliver'd to me by M[r] Frederick Degen of Naples on the 2[d] ins[t] I am extremely sorry that they dont seem to breath the same sentiments relative to my exertions in favor of the prisoners at Tripoli that your former letters did, & that you look upon the dictates of humanity as a mercantile speculation, but dont wonder at it in the least when I consider that you are treating with an American Consul who has been some time in the mediterranean; that honorable title has unfortunately devolved upon characters who with their Vice's, Navy Agents, & their Agents, has (with some few exceptions) furnish'd the Agents of other nations with a comparative term of reproach; I have pursued a different line of conduct & have represented many facts relative to them to government which I will substantiate on my arrival in the United States, the only visible effect that the[y] have had, is the honor of their implacable enmity which I shall endeavor to perpetuate; the papers herewith enclosed is sufficient document to prove that I have reap'd no benefit from those exertions, on the contrary much trouble & anxiety; I proposed to myself the pleasure of my fellow Citizens approbation as a sufficient indemnity for my trouble but as I am deprived of that satisfaction I am determined to sustain no loss, & have charged those articles to government, trusting to their equity for my re-imbursment; I presume the[y] are cheaper than any other person would procure them, for the[y] were mostly cut out in my house and M[rs] Cathcart inspected their making in order to economize, I therefore conclude that if the prisoners do not want them, that the Pursers of the Squadron will find it to their advantage to purchase them, the Sailors cloathing are valued in Spanish dollars the whole of the accompt is translated & a copy is herewith enclosed with the corresponding vouchers consequently they will only have to debit themselves for the amm[t] & forward the Secretary of State a bill of exchange, or order upon the Navy Department for the sum of $4331.7/100 the cost & charges of the goods in question; I am extremely sorry I have put myself to such trouble & expence to serve people who seems so insensible of it. —

The two thousand dollars I deposited in the hands of M[r] Degen at Naples, subject to your order was likewise intended for the use of the prisoners at Tripoli of which I duly inform'd you by post, & by M[r]

Robert Spence, after receiving your letter of the 18th of March & peruseing the one you wrote to Mr Mathieu of the 19th it was impossible that I should expect you at Naples before you touch'd at Malta Syracuse or Messina where I directed my letters, had I the most distant idea that you would have arrived in ten days after my departure I undoubtedly would have done myself the pleasure of waiting for you although I could have render'd you no further service than what I have done already.

Mr OBrien's being with you by Mr Lear's appointment & Mr Davis being confirm'd in the Consulate by government does not alter my opinion of them, any more than it will tend to prove them honest men; I regret you have such iniquitous associates.

Major Barnes call'd at my house the other evening & inform'd me that Fredk Degen since he has been here has made a point to publish in company that it was entirely oweing to his influence that you procured what you wanted at Naples, this induces me to forward you copys of my last note to General Acton & his answer with their translations which will prove Mr Degen's assertion to be false, for I transacted my business without his assistance; & you may depend Sir that orders were forwarded to Messina to give you whatever you wanted before I left Naples, though General Acton regreted that you had not come to Naples, with the ship, as he prefer'd your taking the Artillery and ammunition from that place, as you are already inform'd by the copy of his letter to me of the 27th of March. —

By letters from Marseilles I am inform'd that Mons Beaussier Commercial Agent of France at Tripoli has wrote under date of the 1st of April, that he has receiv'd instructions from his government to intercede with the Bashaw of Tripoli to procure a peace for the United States, & that in consequence thereof the Bashaw has lower'd his extravagant demand to the moderate sum of $500,000 & that it is hoped that he will still abate something more; this is thought by some of our fellow Citizens to be a very favorable circumstance; I am of a different opinion & dont hesitate to assert that sueing for the intercession of any nation with the States of Barbary is unwise bad policy, & degrading; but as I have deliver'd my sentiments on this subject already I shall forbear repitition. To pay 500,000 or even the third part of it to Tripoli by the mediation of France when (on the arrival of the three Frigates you daily expect) you will have so respectable a force under your command, would most undoubtedly stimulate the Chiefs of the other States to declare war against us: I hope a more honorable termination of the War; so far we have exactly co-incided in opinion, & I most sincerely hope that we may not differ in the last & most essential act. —

We have no direct conveyance to the United States from this port & my family will be increased the latter end of Sept; if I can't get a conveyance in all this month I will not be able to leave Leghorn until November I shall probably be obliged to redraw for part of the two thousd dolls which I left at Naples subject to your order, to serve my culinary purposes; if I do, you shall be duly inform'd of it, I regret very much that none of our public vessels are going home soon as it would be an amazing accomodation to me, besides the economy attending the thing is of some moment in the present state of my private affairs. —

You have not acknowledged the receipt of any of my letters since the one enclosing the plan of the Gunboat; ? have you receiv'd the plan of a mortar boat with my communications of febr 19th & March the 5th & 26th as well as those by Mr Spence. —

While I remain in Europe I should be happy in hearing of your success, & I request you to command me without reserve in every thing that my services can be of use to you or the public —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 11 June 1804

[Blockading off Tripoli.]

At Meridian fine pleasant Wr *Scourge Vixen* and *Enterprize* in Company

[NDA photostat.]

[12 June 1804]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

Sir Not understanding your Signal I have sent a Boat to know what you wish to communicate

June 12 th 1804

[Mrs. James S. Barron Col.]

To Prime Minister to the Bashaw of Tripoli, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

United States Ship *Constitution*
Off Tripoly June 12th 1804.

His Excellency Sidi Muhammed Dghies
Prime Minister to His Excellr the Bashaw of Tripoly.

Sir I beg leave to recommend to you Mr OBrien the bearer of this letter who is authorized by me to treat for the randsom of the American Prisoners at Tripoly and whatever he may do I will ratify and confirm. I wish permission to send clothing and stores on shore for Captain Bainbridge and his Officers and Crew, and if you wish me to send the prisoner taken in the *Philadelphia* on shore, it shall be done, if you promise to return me an American seaman in exchange or send the same man back again. I would freely give him to you, but my orders from my Government does not permit it.

I beg you to accept my best thanks for your friendly attention to Captain Bainbridge and have the honor to be

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

United States Ship *Constitution*
Off Tripoly. June 12th 1804

Dear Sir, I am honored with your letters of the 27th — 29th March, the first enclosing a copy of your Note to the Minister of the Bashaw and the latter a triplicate of yours of 16th of February respecting the four Men taken on board in Gibraltar Bay — also your two letters of

the 20th Ult^{o} — M^{r} Pulis' account which you mention to have enclosed, I have not received — I wish you would send it by M^{r} OBrien as I presume it was left out by Mistake —

The four Men rec^{d} on board at Gibraltar are to be clothed &c^{a} the same as the rest of the Crew — I regret that I was not permitted to send the clothing for the People and Stores for yourself and Officers on shore when I was off here last — I have on hand a large supply prepared for you, and shall send on shore as soon as permission is obtained —

I expected when I last left here to have returned to this Station sooner but my absence has been necessary — I send this by M^{r} OBrien who has letters in charge for you and your Officers The *Congress* Captain J. B[arron] *Essex* which is to be brought out for Captain C. S[tewart] of the *Syren*, and the *John Adams* Chancy, are on their way to join our Squadron — The *President* Captain S. B[arron] and two others are to compose a separate Squadron without the Mediterranean to rendezvous at Gibraltar.

If your Officers wish to be provided with clothing I will send them a suit or two each, as may be most agreeable to them and as many shirts as they choose — Write me by M^{r} OBrien and send me a memorandum of all you want that I can provide you with, and it shall be sent on shore if he obtains permission for that purpose.

The Emperor of Russia has interested himself warmly with the Ottoman Court in your favour — Bounaparte is declared Emperor of France, and King of Navarre and Italy. I have not any News Papers to send you, nor nay news from home.

I hope M^{r} OBrien will be permitted to see you, Adieu for the present and believe me with real esteem

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To Monsieur Beaussier, French Chargé d'Affaires, Tripoli, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Copy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Off Tripoly 12th June 1804.

SIR, I am hon^{d} with your letters of the 28th March and 24th of May, which were received but a few days since, otherwise, I should have replied to them sooner.

I shall immediately send copies of them to my Governm^{t} and to our Minister at Paris, in order that they may be acquainted that the intervention of the First Consul, through the Charge d'Affairs of the French Republic at Tripoly, is not likely to have the effect which (I believe) they might have expected. I cannot but suppose the First Consul will feel somewhat mortified that through his influence you have not been able even to obtain permission to land the necessary clothing & Stores which the American Prisoners are suffering for want of. It is probable the First Consul expected his mediation would have had more weight with the Bashaw of Tripoly than it appears to have had.

I have no objection to sending the Prisoner on shore who was taken in the *Philadelphia*, provided they will send me an American Seaman in exchange.

The Bashaw's pretentions to the enormous sum you mention, is, on his part, a vain one; nor will he ever obtain a tenth part of it for the randsom. The negotiation for randsom and Peace must be separate, as we will not pay one dollar for Peace.

I now again inform you, that neither Mr Schimbri nor the English pro-consul had any authority from me to make any Negotiation whatever, or any way interfere in the affairs of the United States at Tripoly, and I am astonished at their assurance.

I am authorized to randsom our Prisoners, and to make peace, when it can be done on terms consistant with the honor and dignity of the United States; and the stipulated sum for randsom will be paid in cash immediately on the release of the Prisoners.

Mr OBrien will deliver you this. That Gentleman is authorized to make an offer to the Bashaw; any assistance you can render him in any negotiation with the Bashaw, I shall consider myself under obligations to you for. The blockade must continue while the negotiation is going on, and for ever after, until a treaty of Peace is signed between the two Nations. Any treaty of Peace must be subject to the final satisfaction of the President of the United States.

I have clothing and stores on board for the Prisoners, and wish permission may be obtained to land them.

It will always afford me pleasure to see you on board.

Mr OBrien will make known the terms I have authorized him to offer for the randsom of the Prisoners, and will consult you previous to making it.

I feel extremely obliged to you, for your friendly Offices towards Captain Bainbridge his Officers and Crew, and beg you to accept my warmest thanks.

[Stephen Decatur Col.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 12 June 1804

This day begins with Moderate breezes and fine pleasant Weather Tacked and Wore Ship and Set and took in Sail frequently, as Occasion required at Sundown Tripoli bore South 6. or 7 miles at —

Midnight Tacked to the Southwd and Westward sounded in 8 fathms Bottom fine Yellow Sand at Su[n]rise Tripoli bore South the *Scourge Vixen* and *Enterprize* in Sight at 11 saw a Strange sail bearing ENE made sail in Chace At Meridian Dº Weather

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 12 June 1804

At 9 hoisted out the boats At 10 weigh'd & made sail, plying out of the harbour [of Malta]. At ½ past 11 came too in 5 fathoms, the weather calm At meridian sent out a warp & brought too, light airs & warm, Came on board Mr Jnº Pettegrew Midshipman (with an intention to join the *Argus*) & 8 men belonging to the *Argus*, which having been sent in a Ketch Prize to the *Argus*.

N. B. Those remarks include 12 hours.

[NDA.]

To John Chalmers, Navy Yard, Washington, D. C., from Charles W. Goldsborough, for Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP^{t} *13 June 1804*

I am informed that the frigate *Constellation* is now waiting for her cables — for want of them the whole Squadron will be detained as it is not intended that the other Ships shall sail until the *Constellation* Joins them —

You will hence perceive the necessity of preparing the Cables with all Practicable expedition — I know when I announce the Circumstance to the Secretary that it will give him Great Concern —

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *John Adams*
Hampton Roads 13th June 1804

SIR I have the Pleasure of informing you that about an Hour since I let go my Anchor in this Place, where I found the *President* and *Congress* the *Essex* will be in this Afternoon — I passed her this Morning at Anchor about fifteen Miles from this Place waiting for the flood Tide to make.

I shall proceed to Norfolk as soon as the Ship is moored, where I hope to compleat my Business by tomorrow, and be ready to proceed agreeable to your Orders the first fair Wind.

[NDA. MC LB, 1804–5.]

To Benjamin King, Navy Yard, Washington, D. C., from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. FRIGATE *Congress*
Hampton R. June 13th 1804

SIR I have sent you back the rings you sent for the *Congress*' conductors, and the Spires you sent with them are but little better; altho necessity has forced me to keep them. You decieved me in every promise you made, and in almost every peice of Work you did for the Ship; however be assured you have more particularly decieved yourself. —

[LC. JRP, Letters & Orders, Book A, 1804–1805.]

[13 June 1804]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy

REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS, OCCURRENCES &^{c} OF THE U. S. BRIG. *Siren*

SIR Pursuant to your order of the 22^{d} April we sailed at 8 A. M. the Ships *Woodrop Simms* and *Madona Catapoliane* in company — the Wind Setting in prevented the prize from getting out and I accordingly proceeded with the *Woodrop Simms* for Malta which place we arrived at the 23^{d} A severe gale from the N. E. prevented my leaving Malta untill the 26th following, when we sailed to join the blockade off Tripoli — On the 28th we met with the Brig *Argus* and Schooner *Vixen*, the *Enterprize* not having arrived I directed Lieu^{t} Comm^{dt} Hull to take the Western Station with that Schooner when she joined;

the *Vixen* I kept in Company with me — The next day discovering a small sail running to the Westward along shore, we stood in and compelled her to take Shelter under the two Batteries, thrown up on point Gargash, 4 miles to the Westward of Tripoli; a few shot were exchanged with the Batteries at a great range, without producing any effect — The 2^{d} May at night we were separated from the *Vixen* and driven as far as Lapadossa by a violent gale from S. E. which continued without intermission untill the 9th when it abated, and we regained our Station — the 11th, which day the Sch^{r} *Enterprize* & Brig *Scourge* joined the Blockade; The 13th Standing toward the town of Tripoli with all our force, drew from their Batteries, Gun Boats and Bashaw's Castle a heavy and incessant fire for about 15 Minutes without however doing any damage to the vessels but I have since understood that one of their heavy Cannon bursted and that they sustained some other damage —

On the 15th we boarded a Ketch under Spanish Colours from Tunis bound to Tripoli; she having Consul Davis's passport and nothing onboard but what was specified in it I permitted her after a thorough examination to go in, she had also been overhauled by the *Argus* and *Enterprize* —

On the 4th June we left the Station, having only 6 days wood water &^{c} onboard — We took Old Tripoli in our Rout, thinking it probable something was there On the 6th we chaced two Galleys; and got nearly within gunshot of them after a laborious days work at the Sweeps favored by a light breeze, which dying away at 8 P. M., they made their escape — On the 8th we [MS mutilated]

P: S: The *Vixen* left the Station on the 14th of May for Malta to replenish her Stores — returned on the 28th to the Station

The *Enterprize* left the Station for Syracuse on the 26th May —

Commodore Edw^{d} Preble

13th June 1804

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804.]

To Richard O'Brien, Tripoli, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Copy United States Ship *Constitution*
Off Tripoly June 13th 1804

Sir, It is my request that you go on shore at Tripoly, for the purpose of endeavouring to negociate for the ransom of the American Prisoners in that place.

You are hereby fully authorized, to offer the Bashaw forty thousand dollars for the ransom of Capt Bainbridge and the Officers & crew of the late frigate *Philadelphia*; and ten thousand dollars to the Prime Minister for himself & the public officers who forward our views, and assist in the negociation. The whole shall be in Cash as soon as the negociation is finished, and the Prisoners delivered; and if the Bashaw inclines to have peace, I will in behalf of the United States, enter into a treaty with him; but I cannot pay one cent for Peace. I will, however, stipulate to give him a Consular Present of ten thousand dollars, on the receipt of the first Consul appointed; but should the Consul be renewed within ten years, no present is to be given as a Consular Present until after the expiration of that time.

Endeavour to see Captain Bainbridge, and to procure permission to land clothing and provisions for him & his Officers. The Tripoline captured in the *Philadelphia*, I will send on shore, if the Bashaw will pass his word to send me off an American Prisoner in exchange for him.

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. 7, Part 1, Jan. 1804–Nov. 1805.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Monsieur Beaussier, French Chargé d'Affaires and Commissary General, Tripoli

TRIPOLY OF BARBARY
the 24 Prairial Year 12. — 13 June 1804.

The Chargé D'Affaires of the French Republic and General Commercial Agent near the Pacha to Commodore Preble Commanding the Naval forces of the United States of America in the Mediterranean.

SIR. This day and at this moment of ½ past twelve I recive the honor of your letter of yesterday in reply to mine of the 28 March & 24 May last, I have myself a considerable ago forwarded Copies of the first to my Government.

You acquaint me that the mediation of the first Consul through my Channel will not probably be attended, with the effect which Your Government looked for, that the first Consul will be somewhat mortified to observe that his influence has not been able to obtain even the permission to land the Necessaries for the American Prisoners and that the first Consul possibly expect that his interference would have greater weight with the Pacha — I have fulfilled with all the Gile and intelligence of which I was capable th[e] Commission that had been confided to me — I have not Committed the name of the first Consul, nor the Dignity of my Government as you appear to believe — It is yourself Commodore who in rigor could be accused of this by the offer truly ridiculous and offensive abruptly made after an absence of two Months and a half, which breaks off all Conference and negociation that could only be renewed with difficulty —

What must be my surprise to learn that at the moment M[r] OBrien ought to have conferred with me before making the proposal you had authorised him to do, he directly acquits himself of his Commission at the Castle without waiting that I found the means to speak with him And that upon the answer made him by the Prince and his Minister he took his leave and returned on board your frigate after having however obtained the faculty, which you had three months past, to land the Necessaries for the Prisoners in a Neutral Bottom — I confess to You Commodore that it was not decent my soliciting the good Offices of the first Consul when the intention was to propose so insignificant a Sum as 40,000 Dollars for the Ransom of 300 Prisoners and the conclusion of Peace — France in interposing in this Affair [had the] right to expect to be seconded by the two Parties, I had disposed the Regency to listen to reasonable terms of Peace and to soften the fate of the Prisoners which daily receives aleviation — This was my Mission, but the Pacha naturally felt himself offended at an offer, worse than that made by Commodore Morris at an Epoch when none of your Countrymen were deprived of their liberty. Without doubt you are not ignorant Commodore that the Ransom of a single Cabbin-boy is four to five hundred Dollars and that M[r] Cathcart proposed three Years ago at the time of the Declaration of

War the same Sum of 40,000 only to suspend hostilities for ten Months.
Accept Commodore the assurances of my high Consideration &ca

P S. the 14 June. I flattered myself to have been able to send you yesterday or this day my Answer, but it appears you have also given up the intention of landing the Cloathing for the Prisoners since you left the Road this morning without making the Signal agreed upon and to which the Pacha is always ready to reply — I therefore give Course to this letter by the way of Tunis addressed to you at Malta —

Malta the 20 July 1804
A True Copy translation W^m Higgens

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 13 June 1804

Cruizing on and off Tripoli This day begins with fresh breezes & Clear Weather still in Chace of the strange sail at 1 Tacked to the N^o^ at 2 shortened sail and hove too alongside the U. S. frigate *Constitution* Commod^e^ Preble — the Commod^e^ made the Sig^l^ N^o^ 995 Cap^t^ Hull went on board at ½ past 4 the Commod^e^ made the Sig^l^ N^o^ 571 filled away standing in for the town of Tripoli with the Squadron in Comp^y^ at 8 Cap^t^ Hull returned at 7 AM Squadron in Comp^y^ the Commod^e^ fired a Gun & hoisted a flag o Truice which the Squad^n^ also, did at ½ past 8 the Commod^e^ came too about 5 miles off Tripoli and sent his boat on Shore at 11 stand^g^ on and off under easy sail. Variously Emp^d^

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Brig *Argus*, 18 Guns, kept by Sailing Master Samuel B. Brooke, U. S. Navy, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 13 June 1804

At 6 standing in for Tripoli in C^o^ with the Squadron hoisted a flag of Truice ½ past 8 the Commodore Came too about 5 miles from the town at ½ past his boat went on Shore at 11 let a reef out of the topsails standing off and on under easy sail At meridian pleasent Tripoli bore South,
Lat^e^ Obs^d^ 33° 00′ N.

[LC. EPP, *Argus*, 1804.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 13 June 1804

Sent Mr. Obrian on shore at Tripoly under a Flag. He returned same day.

[LC original.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Wednesday, 13 June 1804

Fresh Breezes from the E S E, — at 1 the *Scourge* made the Private signal for American Vessels of War, — at 2 P M the *Argus*, *Vixen*, *Enterprize* and *Scourge* Joined company, made the Signal for all Captains, — at 3 P M Bore up for the Town of Tripoli then in sight bearing S W B W 4 leagues, made the Signal to the Squadron to follow

my motions, — at ½ past 4 P M, wore ship & stood off shore the Town then bearing S^{o} 3 miles distance, 17 fathoms water saw an armed Brig & Schooner and 17 Gun Boats at anchor inside the Reef, sent the *Argus & Enterprize* to the Westward & the *Vixen & Scourge* to the Eastward to look out, & lay too off the Town all night, — at 4 A M stood in for the Town, and at 9 A M Fired a Gun and hoisted a White flag at the Fore top Gall^{t} mast head, with our colours in their places, which was answered by the Bashaw with a White Flag at the Castle & a gun, — at 10 A M Anchored with the Small Bower in 24 Fathoms water, the Town of Tripoli bearing by compass S S W distant 4 miles, at noon I sent Mr Obrian on shore in the Barge, with Lieutenant Gordon as Officer of the Boat, — I instructed Mr Obrian to endeavour to procure permission to land some cloathing, Stores & Cash for the use of Cap^{t} Bainbridge and his Officers & Crew, — and to Offer the Bashaw & his Officers fifty thousand dollars for their Ransom, and to release all the Tripolines in our possession, and also agreed to establish Peace and give 10,000 dollars as a present with the first Consul that is appointed if the Bashaw would accept of the 50,000 dollars for the Ransom of the Prisoners We have been engaged in watering & provisioning the *Vixen & Scourge* all this morning, — at noon wind E S E, fresh Breezes and a considerably heavy sea, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy

TRIPOLY BARBARY *14th June 1804*

DEAR SIR, I was much disappointed in not receiving a line from you yesterday when the Boat came on Shore — the pleasure that your letters always affords us added to the anxiety to hear from you on general Subjects — Altho' I was disappointed, I rest assured on your friendship and on your every exertion to relieve us from our unfortunate situation —

The letters that I received yesterday were five from America, but of an old date. One from Consul Kirkpatrick, One from Consul Montgomery, with two copies of Col^{o} Lears letters of December and February — and a Copy of a letter from the Honb^{le} C. Pinckney at Madrid to Col^{o} Lear — this last copy reached me without any intimation accompanying it — I have wrote you Eight or ten letters since the 26th March; As I have not the Satisfaction to know when my letters leave this place, I cannot calculate the probable time of their reaching you — My Several letters informs you of the want of cloathing for our Seamen — They have lately been moved to a more spacious and better prison than they heretofore occupied — Indeed this [or their] change has been a very advantageous one, and that of the Officers on the first of March much for the Worse — and we feel it every day more forcibly on account of the increasing heat of the Weather —

I should have been extremely happy to have seen my friend Consul OBrien, but an unnecessary rigour prevented my having that pleasure Please to present my respects to him —

Signed W^{m} BAINBRIDGE

P. S. I have no letters from you since the 27th March

Secret Communication under same date. — [Written in lime juice.]

DEAR SIR I have wrote you several letters in lime juice and gave my opinion respecting all Consuls in this place — No dependance can be put in any of them except the Danish who is a man of honor, and I do not believe the others are — Of the F. C. you need not expect any services against the interest of this place — Whoever negotiates should remain on shore, and take them in the time when they appear in the best humour — They have a frightful idea of Bombs in this place — In my former letters I have mentioned a probability of an Escape — Since writing them, a Vessel laying in the Harbour with a Boat out induced the attempt which was found and will be found impracticable from the Vigilance of the Guards on the Top of the Castle. The Officers were fortunate in making good their retreat —

I am extremely anxious to hear the determination of Government and what is the demand of the Bashaw — Place no confidence in M^{c}Donough — It is his infamous behaviour, & the folly of Consul C. that we are indebted for this War with Tripoly —

I trust my dear Sir that you will endeavour to give us our letters from America: that, and hearing from you, is the only small consolation we can receive in our present situation —

May success crown all your undertakings prays Yours truly

(Signed) W^{m} B

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

[14 June–5 July 1804]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Off Tripoly June 14th 1804

SIR I had the Honor to write you from Syracuse the 30th Ulto. & forwarded Triplicates which I have not failed to do of all my communications since I arrived in these seas but have no doubt that many miscarry — I have not been honored with a letter from you since the news of the loss of the *Philadelphia* reached America — The *John Adams* has been long anxiously expected; Your letter of the 9th February mentioned that she would be here by the last of April —

I have been Obliged to discharge 14 of the crew of the *Enterprize* who would not consent to remain longer, the remainder have volunteered their services in the Gun boats —

Yesterday I anchored off the Harbor, and sent M^{r} O'Brian on shore under a flag of Truce to endeavour to ransom our unfortunate Countrymen, and, if the bashaw should desire it, to establish Peace — I thought Proper to make an attempt to ransom them previous to an attack, fearful that if we succeeded in destroying the Town and shipping that the Barbarians might commit some acts of inhumanity on their Prisoners — M^{r} OBrien did not succeed in his Mission He landed at Noon and returned on board at ½ past 2 P. M. — You will see by his instructions how far he was authorized to go for the ransom — I presume if the terms had been accepted that our Government would have been Satisfied, but as they were refused we have no alternative but to oblige him to accept them or Others more favorable to us. I have however written to Cap^{t} Bainbridge

and have authorized him to repeat the same Offer to the Bashaw with the addition of ten thousand dollars to the Prime minister to be secretly given him if he effects the ransom & peace; His influence at Court renders this Step necessary I do not expect that these terms, or indeed any reasonable ones will be acceptable to the Bashaw untill we make a general attack by Cannonading & Bombarding the Town — I am confident when that takes place that we shall soon have Peace on conditions that we may not blush to acknowledge —

When Mr OBrian came from Algiers he brought me a letter from Colo Lear which advised me to Offer the Bashaw 600 Dollars ransom for each of the Officers & Crew of the *Philadelphia*, provided he would make peace without any money or annual stipulation and without a Consular present, excepting with the first Consul appointed by the President — I am confident was I to make the Offer it would be accepted immediately, but it would be imprudent to offer a sum which would stimulate the avarice of the other Barbary Powers —

Mr OBrien while on shore was not allowed to see any of the Prisoners neither would the Bashaw permit him to see either of the Consuls or deliver letters except some for Capt Bainbridge which were delivered to the Bashaw himself — He Promised to permit cloathing & provisions to be sent on shore for the prisoners but whilst we were putting them in the Boat he hauled down the white flag — This breach of promise is to be lamented as the Sailors are in great want; indeed they are almost naked.

The *Syren Argus, Enterprize Vixen & Scourge* are now in Sight: The Port is constantly kept closely blockaded, and (I think) the Bashaw will soon be sick of the War

TUNIS BAY. *June 20th.*

I left Tripoly the 16th Inst: blockaded by the *Syren, Vixen & Scourge* and came here with the *Argus & Enterprize* in Company You will see by Mr Davis's letters that the Bey is not satisfied with us, and it is therefore necessary to keep a good look out in this Quarter, particularly as the Tripolines have a small Xebeck hauled up here — She is however stripped & disarmed & her crew gone home by land, in consequence of having been for some time blockaded by the *Enterprize* —

We have visited this bay several times lately, it is absolutely necessary frequently to shew a force before their Ports in order to check their Piratical disposition —

The Bey threatens, but I do not believe will make war against us if we succeed in punishing Tripoly, or if more force arrives — The Bey, among other things, complains of our cruizers having destroyed some Sandals or open boats attempting to enter Tripoly which he says were from Jerba in his Regency. It is true that boats have been driven on shore near Tripoly but as the People belonging to them immediately absconded to alarm the Troops stationed along the Coast, it is not possible for us to know where they were from, but it is evident we have a right to take or destroy them when succouring our Enemy.

The Tunisians have about 20 Cruizers at Sea: One Frigate of 36 Guns, and several smaller armed vessels are at Anchor in this Bay and ready to sail. When I was here last month I let Mr Davis have $4000. to pay a demand of the Bashaw's which the Secretary of

State authorized, but which M[r] Davis could not satisfy without borrowing that sum to make up what he was deficient. I shall call on Col[o] Lear to return me the money when Opportunity Offers —

June 22[d] Sent the *Enterprize* to Syracuse with Orders to have the Gun boats ready for sailing —

23[d] — Left Tunis Bay, & the 24th touched at Malta for intelligence and sailed the same day, & the 26th arrived at Syracuse where we found the *Enterprize* and the Six Gun boats — Whilst Off Tripoly we parted with most of our water and provisions to the *Syren Vixen & Scourge* to prevent the necessity of their leaving the Station; We are now replacing it — Recieved letters from Messina informing me that the bomb Vessels will be ready in a few days —

29th. The *Argus* having had her spars & rigging overhauled and taken on board as much provisions & water as she could conveniently carry, sailed again for Tripoly, but with orders to Touch at Malta & convoy over a small Vessel under Neutral Colors with provisions and cloathing for the Officers & Crew of the *Philadelphia* —

Having this day completed our stock of Water and taken on board 5 months provisions of all sorts, we sailed for Messina

June 30th — Arrived at Messina — The *Enterprize* in company We find here the *Nautilus* — Her repairs are completed and she will be ready for Sea in four days — One of the bomb Vessels is completed for Sea, and the other will be ready for Sea in a few days We shall take them under convoy for Tripoly, but we shall touch at Syracuse for the Gun boats to join us — The *Nautilus* has been almost wholly rebuilt and quite new coppered, her repairs will cost upwards of three thousand dollars

July 5th: We have taken on board here 700 bomb Shells and Powder in proportion and the bomb Vessels being ready we sail to-morrow Morning —

I hope my next letter will announce to you our success against Tripoly, the restoration of our unfortunate countrymen to the Sweets of Liberty, and our Country an honorable peace — Our Squadron is small but composed of young men whose anxiety to distinguish themselves gives me well founded hopes of Success — I regret that we have not another frigate or two here at this moment, but it will not do to delay time as we have only about Eight weeks more of this Year that Gun boats can remain out with safety in these Seas.

The Provisions that came out in the *Woodrop Sims* was delivered in excessive bad Order — Many of the Casks of Rice, Butter &[ca] were without heads & some not half full — the Beef & Pork badly hooped & without Pickle. the Canvass was almost every bolt damaged and the twine wet & 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 —

When I left Tripoly there was not one Vessel in Port except their cruizers — A French Vessel left it about 3 weeks since and was captured by the *Argus & Vixen* & sent to Malta, but as she was forced into Tripoly by a Tripoline Cruizer two years since, and has lately been given up in consequence of a demand from the french Government I ordered her immediate release —

The Imperial Russian Polacre *Madona Catapoliana*, captured by the *Syren* having left Smyrna for Tripoly previous to my Official declaration of the Blockade, although the Cap[t] acknowledges he

knew the place was blockaded by our ships left so much room for Litigation, and the Russian Minister at the Court of Naples having demanded her, the Vessel old and of little value and a fair opportunity offering, by giving her up, to pay a Compliment to the Russian flag, I concluded to do it as the Emperor has interested himself in our Tripolitan affairs as you will see by my dispatches —

A small brig belonging to Malta which was captured by the *Nautilus* the 16th February off Tripoly was Ordered home in charge of an Officer of that Vessel (Mr Cox who had obtained permission to return home for his health) having met with bad weather and the Vessel being old and leaky, put into Malta, where she was claimed by the former Owners — They founded their Claim on her being in an English Port and not condemned; as she had been cleared for Jerba in Tunis, and the Vessel of little value in Order to prevent litigation and expence, we concluded to restore her to the former Owners for 300 Dollars, they resigning up the Cargo as Tripoline Property, and giving a full & complete indemnification against all future claims or damages —

The Papers of all the Vessels detained have been sent home by the Captors and consigned to Judge Peters of Phildelphia in order to obtain their condemnation — The Papers of the Brig *Transfer* captured by the *Syren* have been sent by Lt Stewart to Philadelphia. I wrote you some time ago, that in consequence of the loss of the *Philadelphia*, and the necessity of repairing the *Enterprize* and *Nautilus*, I had in order more effectually to keep up the Blockade taken her into service after having her valued — No demand has or will be made of her as the Governor of Malta acknowledges her to be a good prize — I wish her Condemnation to be sent out as soon as she is condemned, and if Government do not wish to continue her in service she can be sold for more money here than she has been Valued at — I mentioned in a former letter that Lt Dent was commanding the *Scourge* & that Mr Wadsworth & Mr Izard were Acting as Lieutenants & Mr Morris as Master of her — Their conduct has been meritorious, & I hope in due time they may be confirmed —

The conduct of the Spaniards is rather hostile towards us — They have sent fourteen Ship Carpenters to Tripoly who have built, and still continue to build gun boats for the bashaw — These Carpenters, our Consular Agent at Tunis informs me went to Tripoly with the Passport of Mr Pinckney our Minister at Madrid — If so, They must have decieved him — There wear the Spanish Cockade and are regularly paid every week by the Consul of that Nation —

P. S. I have made such arrangements, that I can supply the Squadron with any Quantity of Brandy at 75 cents pr Gallon which makes it unnecessary to send out any more Spirits

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Argus*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. S. *Constitution*
Off Tripoly June 14th 1803 [1804].

Sir You will proceed off Old Tripoly and cruize four days and at the expiration of that time proceed to Malta and land such of the People captured in your prizes as wish to be landed there, the re-

mainder you will proceed to Syracuse with, after taking in, such supplies at Malta as you may stand in need of — You will wait at Syracuse my farther Orders

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

[14 June 1804]

To Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Siren*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Sir You will attend closely to the Blockade of Tripoly untill my return to this Station, the *Vixen* & *Scourge* will remain with you, the *Argus* is to go into Port to recruit her Stock of Provisions & Water & land her Prisoners but is first to proceed off Old Tripoly whither the *Vixen* is to accompany her & cruize three days, & then return to join you

The British Consul is to be allowed to land with his family & baggage when he appears off here in a ship of War

Signed Edward Preble

P. S. The *Enterprize* accompanies me to Tunis

U. S. Ship *Constitution*
Off Tripoly June 14th 1804

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

To Lieutenant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Scourge*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. Ship *Constitution*
Off Tripoly June 14th 1804.

Sir You will remain on the Station off Tripoly and attend to the Orders of the Commanding Officer and wait till farther Orders from me —

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 14 June 1804

standing on and Off Tripoli at 4 the Commodores boat returned from Shore he hauled down the flag of Truce Observed by the Squadron Commodore made the Sig^{l} N^{o} 600, sent the launch on board the Commodore set and took in Sail as Occasion required At 8 Tripoli bore S b W distance 4 leagues tacked and wore Ship as Necessary At 9 Cap^{t} Hull went on board the Commod^{e} at 10 he returned —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 14 June 1804

Sailed for Tunis. *Argus* and *Enterprize* in company.

[LC original.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Thursday, 14 June 1804

Strong Breezes from the E S E, at Anchor N N E from the Town of Tripoly, — at ½ past 2 P M the Boat returned from the Shore,

Mr Obrian Reported that he was permitted to land, and had an audience of the Bashaw and his prime Minister, — when he made the Bashaw the Offer which he was authorized to make for the Ransom of our unfortunate Countrymen, and also propositions for peace, The Tyrant refused to accept of either on the principal of his right to expect more money, He also refused to allow Mr Obrian to see or speak to either of the Consuls or any of our Prisioners or to deliver any letters to them, but promised to continue the White Flag untill night to give me an opportunity to land the Cloathing which I ordered immediately to be got ready for sending on shore, it was directly hoisted up on the gang way, but before we had time to put it into the Boat the white Flag was hauled down at the Bashaws Castle, this was about 48 minutes past 3 OClock PM, this circumstance precluded the possibility of sending a Boat on Shore and the Cloathing &c was returned to the store Rooms, — thus ended this attempt to release our countryman & restore peace, — We have now nothing to expect from the justice or humanity of the Tyrant of Tripoly but must endeavour to beat & distress his savage highness into a disposition more favourable to our views than what he at present possesses, — this Afternoon we gave the *Vixen* a hawser & rode her astern in order the more readily to compleate her supplies of water and provissions & Stores, — towards night several of the enemies gun Boats weighed & went into the inner Harbour, — We lay at Anchor all night, the *Vixen & Enterprize* was ordered to look out to the Westward and the *Argus & Scourge* to the Eastward, — in the morning they all joined company, continued to send supplies on board the Brigs and Schooners, made several signals to the different Vessels, — at ½ past 9 we weighed & brought to head to the Northward Wind W N W, — I wrote letters by Mr Obrian to the Prime minister, Captain Bainbridge the Danish & French Consuls, but they were all returned excepting the ministers & the French Consuls which were delivered to the minister at noon Tripoly bore S W B S 4 leagues distant, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Thursday, 14 June 1804

Strong breezes from E S E. At Single Anchor four miles N b E ½ E from Tripoly — Squadron in company. Employed supplying the Squadron with Water and Provisions — At ½ past 2 the Boat returned from Tripoly — At 4 P. M. the white Flag was hauled down at Tripoly which was also done by the Squadron This afternoon we rode the *Vixen* by a Hawser in order to get on board all her water — The Sea however was so great that we could not complete it In this service we were assisted by the *Argus's* launch which in the evening we hoisted in along with our boats — Our large cutter is stove badly in her upper works —

Veered to fifty fathoms.

Towards the evening Several of the Enemy's Gun Boats which were moored within the Reef as a line of Defence weighed & ran into the Harbor — .

The E S E wind continued strong till 2 A. M. when it came moderate Shortened in to 50 fath[s]

At Day light out two Boats for watering the *Vixen* and *Scourge* then in sight standing towards us

At 7 A. M. the *Vixen & Scourge* joined us — A strong current prevented them from keeping near the ship
At ½ past 9 weighed & brought to; ships head to N E.
At 2 P. M. made the *Scourge* Signal Nº 995
At 4 " *Argus's* Signal Nº 600
At 5 " *Enterprize* Signal 995
At 9 A. M. *Scourges* Signal Nº 600
At 10 A. M. *Scourges* Signal 216
Moderate breezes from W N W all forenoon —
Employed in supplying the *Vixen & Scourge* with water and Provisions.
Noon the Town of Tripoly in sight bearing S W b S 4 leagues
Squadron in company
Latitude Observed 33° 00′ N.

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Congress*, from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

Circular, U. STATES FRIGATE *President*
June 15th 1804

SIR It is requested by the Secretary of the Navy that you take in, not exceeding three months Water, including ground tier — and it is expected, if practicable, to take out Six months provisions —
It is likewise required that you report an opinion as to the Sails of your Ship, I mean as to the manner in which they have been made, whether perfectly suitable for Men of War or not —

[LC. JRP, Letters & Orders, 1804–1805.]

To Benjamin King, Navy Yard, Washington, D. C., from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. STATES FRIGATE *Congress*
June 15th 1804 —

SIR Your conduct has been so Derogatory to the principles of truth & so particularly neglectful of the Work you had to do for the *Congress*, that I am determined to make a report of the same to the Goverm[t] — A Man in your situation ought at least to be a Man of principle & truth; as by your want of Boath, I shall be forced to go to Sea, without many Articles which are of the Utmost Importance — You say you have sent the Pump Geer, which is every thing you had orders for —
In reply I ask if you have sent the Hoops for our lower mast Heads, Swifter Bolts [or Botts] for lower rigging, Train takle Bolts [or Botts] for upper & lower Deck, Bolts & Swivels for Cranes of quarter boats, Mizen Topgallant Studdingsail boom Irons, rungs for conductors and many other articles of less M[a]gnitude which you promised faithfully to do, — It is your Interest to pray that my Head may be Knock'd off before I return, for be assured if you are not punished before that period I will revenge the Injury you have done me, with my own hands. —
The Injury you have done the Goverment by your want of Veracity is beyond my calculation at present.

The Work of all the Ships might have been done in season, provided you had Employ'd proper hands, your reason for Employing such creatures as you did, was very obvious to me —

I am with no more respect than is Due to Men of your principles &c &c

J. R.

[LC. JRP, Letters & Orders, Book A, 1804–1805.]

To Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Siren*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. Ship *Constitution*
Off Tripoly, June 15th 1804

Sir Mr O'Brien informs me that the Tripolines keep their small schooner and a Galliot of four Guns constantly manned in order to sweep out with the Seventeen Gun boats and attack any one of our Brigs or schooners that may happen to be becalmed alone near the Coast: It will therefor be prudent for you to keep the *Vixen* constantly with you when you stand in near the town, that in case it should fall calm, you may be able to support each other: And you will keep the *Scourge* always at a prudent distance with out you, as I suspect the Tripolines intend to attack her the first time they discover her alone in a calm even if she should be at a considerable distance from the land, if none of the other Vessels of the Squadron should be near enough to support her — the *Scourge* being a dull sailer and not well provided with Sweeps She will require much of your attention.

You will see the propriety (now we are so near the time of Main Attack) of not hazarding too much for the Sake merely of destroying or cutting off a market or fish boat — The loss of any one of our vessels at this time would be attended with incalculable consequences to the Service — I have Ordered Capt Smith to join you immediately and not to go to old Tripoly but shall look in there myself with the *Argus & Enterprize* —

P. S. Capt OBrian had a private hint of their intentions when on shore from an old friend of his: he also informed him that the Brig has all her men, guns, Small arms & ammunition on board & can be got ready for Sea in four hours. — E. P.

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

To Master Commandant John Smith, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Schooner *Vixen*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. Ship *Constitution*
Off Tripoly June 15th 1804

Sir In consequence of information which Mr OBrien has given me that the Bashaw of Tripoly keeps his Schooner of eight guns & his Galliot of four Guns constantly manned & ready to sweep out with the 17 Gun boats, to attempt to board the first of our Brigs or Schooners that shall be becalmed alone near the coast in order to retrieve his character with respect to the loss of the *Philadelphia* I have thought proper to countermand your orders for proceeding off Old Tripoly, and to direct that you remain on this Station in company with the *Syren & Scourge*, and you will see the propriety of not approaching alone too near the Town, as should the Wind fail you, you must be

convinced that any spirited exertions on the part of the Enemy with their force would endanger the loss of Your Vessel, which would be attended with serious consequences to the Service, particularly at the present moment, when we are so near the time of a General Attack which I hope will deprive him of the Means of Annoyance —

Cap^{t} OBrien recieved a private hint from an old friend at Tripoly of the intentions of the Tripolines —

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

To George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis, from Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy

BARBARY TRIPOLI *15th June 1804* —

DEAR SIR, I wrote you on the 4th inst. to which I refer for our present situation. Enclosed you will receive the following letters: for M^{r} B. G. Harrison Esq, and Savage & Degen, which I will thank you to forward by the first safe conveyance — I have not heard from you since the 24th of April — I cannot acc^{t} for this long delay — I hope that you will not let an opportunity escape you of writing, to me, for it seems that we are almost forgot by every one — No news from America — none from Algiers since the 24th feb^{y} — None from the Commodore since the 27. of March, altho' he had a boat on shore at this place three days since, but I had not the pleasure of receiving a line from him.

I wrote to Col^{l} Lear on the 4th inst. pray in your letters to him mention that I frequently write to him —

(Signed) W^{m} BAINBRIDGE

Sympathetic ink [*Written in lime juice.*]

D^{r} SIR, On the 13th inst. Com. P. sent a boat on shore at this place, Consul OBrien came in her remained on shore about 2. hours, I received no letters from the Commodore or any message and did not see OBrien — the Commod^{e} might have written and the letter kept back — I have heard in a round about way that the Bashaw demanded one million. OBrien offered forty thous^{d} they of course very [vary] widely — the frigate left this yesterday without any further intercourse with the shore — God knows what the intention is I am entirely ignorant of the movements I am well convinced in my mind that whoever comes here to treat should obtain permission to remain on shore for several days and spend two or three of them with the Minister before he had an audience with the Bashaw.

The french has great influence here; but we never shall feel any salutary effect through their present representative in fact we have not been befriended by any Consul here except the Danish, he has the inclination but not the abilities — I heard that Emperor Bonaparte had interested himself in our situation — We most assuredly have not felt his influence for, or are kept more strict than Prisoner generally are in Barbary — Communicate this to Col. Lear & C. P. — a few shells here in this hour would have a good effect — let me hear from you soon — W. B.

[NYHS. Geo. Davis LB, Vol. 1.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 15 June 1804

Cruizing on and off Tripoli — at 1 P M the Commodore made the Sig[l] N[o] 276 made all sail in Chace she proved to be the U. S. Brig *Syren* the Commod[e] hoisted our Distinguishing flag made all sail towards him Capt[n] Hull went on board of him and returned at 8 P M —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Friday, 15 June 1804

Light breezes from the N N W, laying to off Tripoly, the *Argus*, *Vixen Enterprize & Scourge* in company, — at 2 P M a sail discovered in the N N W made the *Argus & Enterprize* signals to Chase, — at 3 P M the *Enterprize* made the Signal that the chase is a friend, — at 4 the *Siren* joined us from Malta, at ½ past 6 calm and a strong Current setting to the S W made the signal for the Fleet to anchor came to in 20 fathoms sandy Bottom covered in spots with small Coral, Tripoly Bearing W B S distant 4 leagues, — the coast to the S b E of us about 3 miles distance, — Compleated supplying the Squadron with Stores, — at 10 P M the *Argus & Vixen* weighed with a light Breeze from the Westward they are ordered to look into Old Tripoli the *Argus* then to proceed to Malta & Syracuse for Stores &c and the *Vixen* to return off Tripoly, — at 5 made the Signal to weigh weighed & stood to the W N W with the wind from the S W, — at ½ past 11 made a signal for Captains Smith & Hull gave them fresh orders the *Argus* to accompany me and the *Vixen* to remain on the station as I do not think it prudent to leave less than three Vessels off Tripoly to keep up the Blockade, — The *Enterprize* I have ordered to accompany me to Tunis, the critical situation of our affairs with that Regency requires that we shew a force in their Bay frequently to deter them from depradations on our commerce, — at noon fresh Breezes from the Northward, The *Siren, Argus, Vixen, Enterprize & Scourge* in sight, — Tripoly bearing S B E, 4 leagues distance took off the arrest from Mr Page and ordered him on board the *Vixen*

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 15 June 1804

½ past Mer[n] discov'd the afore mention'd vessels to be part of our squadron. At 1 saw the land ahead. At ½ past 2 came up with the squadron, hove too & spoke the Commodore. L[t] Stewart went on board the Comm[e] fill'd away again. At 2 hove too again, the Comm[e] astern. At 5 handed top gall[t] sails, settled down the topsails & came too with the stream anchor p[r] signal of the Comm[e] about 10 miles to the E[d] of Tripoli, the Comm[e] *Argus, Scourge* & *Vixen* all came too at the same time —

Midnight Calm. At 5 a signal from the Comm[e] to get under way. ½ past 5 weigh'd & made sail to the N E[d].

Latt: Obs: 33° 4′ N.

[NDA.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 16 June 1804

the Commod^{e} and *Enterprize* in Company at 4 the Commod^{e} made Sig^{l} N^{o} 1036 made all sail Tripoli E b S dist^{e} about 5 Leag^{s} At ½ past 4 Commod^{e} made Sig^{l} N^{o} 605 in Studding sails and made all sail by the wind at 5 Commod^{e} made Sig^{l} N^{o} 571

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Saturday, 16 June 1804

Light breezes from the North^{d} cruizing off Tripoly — Lieut^{s} Hull & Decatur waited on the Commodore p^{r} Signal At ½ past Meridian the wind shifted to E N E. At 1 P. M. we filled to the North^{d} — At 2 bore up to W N W & W S W. in order to examine the coast to the West^{d} — The *Argus & Enterprize* Signals were made to follow the Commodore, and the *Syrens, Vixen's & Scourge's* Signals to keep their stations continued steering to W N W & W S W till ½ past 5 P. M. when we hauled on a wind to the North^{d} and took our departure from Tripoly bearing E b S ¼ S. 19 Miles — the nearest part of the coast S S W, 8 Miles — *Argus & Enterprize* in company Punished William Duffy Seaman with 12 lashes for Drunkenness, and Exekiel Lombard Marine with 12 lashes for Embezzlement of Spirits —

Sun down fresh breezes & pleasant

Made the signal to steer North, through the night which course leads along the East coast of Tunis and to the passage between the Islands of Kerkini and Lampidosa —

By ½ past 8 P. M. fresh breezes — Shortened sail for the *Enterprize* to come up in Order to prevent separation — continued under easy sail through the night At Day light Made all plain Sail except Staysails *Argus & Enterprize* in company. —

From Day light till 8 A. M. Ships company washing their cloathes— Fresh breezes & pleasant all the forenoon Made & shortened sail as necessary for the *Enterprize* to keep company. At 11 A. M. the wind shifted from E to N N E, which continued till noon with fresh breezes In top gall^{t} sails & single reefed the Topsails —

Our distance corrected since our departure Yesterday is nearly 130 Miles N b W ½ W which proves Heathers Chart Very much out of the way in the Soundings and situation of the Island of Kerkini —

At Noon our soundings were 20 fath^{s} which we suppose to be to the Eastward of Kerkini —

Agreeable to Heather's chart we should be 7 Miles from it. which proves he has placed it too far to the Eastw^{d}

Surgeons report 10 sick 8 convalescent —

Latitude Observed 35° 1′ 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, probably Saturday, 16 June 1804

[Several lines of manuscript badly mutilated] delivering my Invoices and original bills of slop Purchases, accompanyed by a letter to the Secretary he examined the Bills and Wrote a letter to Capt Chauncey

informing him that my Invoice and bills appeared perfectly Satisfactory, and ordered me to Join the ship again with all possible despatch

I took Passage in the Stage at George Town for Porttobacco on Monday Morning the 11th Inst from there hired horses and proceeded on to Leddlers Ferry expecting to overtake the ship there but she had sailed from thence that morning. — I then hired Horses and proceeded on for Hampton [Manuscript mutilated]

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy

TRIPOLI BARBARY *17th June 1804*
(rec^{d} Aug^{t} 19. 1804)

DEAR SIR, I wrote you on the 4th ins^{t}, in which I informed that we were still closely confined under lock & key, and that this Government has not relaxed in its severities to us Officers; — that the crew had been moved to a much more spacious prison than they had occupied. On the 13th ins^{t} the Frigate *Constitution* came to an anchor off this port, — the same day Consul O.Brien came on shore, remained about two hours; — I am ignorant of what transpired, for I was not allowed the liberty to see him, and did not receive a line from the Commodore or himself. The Frigate left the coast the day following.

By Consul O.B. I received the copies of your letters of the 16th December & 12 Febru^{y}, with a copy of a letter from the Hon^{ble} C. Pinckney, our Minister at Madrid to yourself. Those copies were all handed me without a line from you, which makes me naturally conclude that your letters covering them must be withheld from me: — if this is the case *which I believe to be*, the depriving us of any part of the few letters that come for us *is cruel*. I presume that this Government calculates to compel the United States, by severeties on us unfortunate prisoners, to a speedy Peace; however, I have the consolation in knowing that such measures will never be attended with the intended effect; and I declare that I will be a greater advocate for my Country's treating generously with this Regency, by receiving liberal treatment from them, than I will be from the greatest regour that can be used.

I have done myself the pleasure of writing to M^{r} Pinckney, and thanking him for the friendly interest he took to supply our wants, and meliorate our situation I have informed him, by the provision which you have made, that we are amply supplied with cash; and as to the letters from Diplomatic Characters in Madrid I have had no intimation of their being received, and most certainly we have not experienced any salutary effects from such influence.

The last letter that I received from Commodore Preble was dated on the 27th March, in which he says "That the Celebrated Bonaparte has interested himself deeply in your situation". I hope that *we may* soon feel some effects of this great influence; as yet we have certainly been kept under closer restriction than what is customary even in Barbary, or what the Swedes were in this Regency.

Your last letter was of the 24th Febr^{y}; — I have a long while been anxiously expecting to hear from you, but I do not, my dear Col^{o}, entertain the most distant idea of any inattention, I know it must proceed from other causes. I shall only add that your letters afford

us much happiness, and we all rely on your friendly assistance in relieving us from our hard destiny.

Please to present my best respects to M^rs^ Lear, — I hope she finds herself pleasantly situated at Algiers.

I will thank you to present my compliments to M^r^ Thainville & family, and to all my acquaintances in Algiers, particularly to Consul Bille; — his colleague in this place is one of the worthiest of men.

Believe me to be unfeignedly

Yours truly

W^m^ BAINBRIDGE

[Stephen Decatur Col.]

To George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis, from Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy

TRIPOLI BARBARY *17^th^ June 1804.*

DEAR SIR, I have this moment received your favor of the 27^th^ ult^o^, and am sorry to observe that you do not acknowledge the receipt of my letters of the 5^th^ & 30^th^ of April, which ought to have reached you previous to the date of yours. I frequently write to you, but as I am never informed when my letters leave this place, I cannot conjecture the time that you ought to receive them, or form a probable opinion of your ever receiving them. The extreme severity of keeping us constantly under *lock & key* may originate from an idea of compelling terms sooner from the United States; but I am convinced it will have a contrary effect, for I declare that I would be a greater advocate for my Country's treating generously with this Regency in receiving liberal treatment from them than I would be in the greatest Rigour they can go to. You are equally with myself acquainted with the disposition of Americans, and know that *they may lead, but cannot be drove.* How long our close confinement will continue God only knows, or how long the War I cannot conjecture; I have consolation in knowing that my Country has great Strength, and that her political union is every day growing stronger with the first Powers in Europe; and should it be our fate to remain here longer than we expect, we have the consolation in knowing that the longer we remain the less expence it will be to our Country to relieve us; and the Marine force that she is obliged to keep up by the Peace establishment is more than adequate to any war she may be engaged in with this quarter of the world: this you know to be fact as well as myself, and I only mention to let you see, altho' deprived of liberty, I feel for the honor of my Country.

The letter you mentioned enclosed in yours I have not received; — the keeping letters after they peruse them is *truly ungenerous.*

I wrote you on the 14^th^ Inst., in which I mentioned that Consul OBrien was on Shore here on the 13^th^, but I was a stranger to what took place, and continue to be so. The report you heard respecting the Minister, Sidi Muhammed Dghies, is just, — he is very polite and attentive; which is the case with his Excellency when I see him, but his measures are certainly Severe. I enclose you a letter for Col^o^ Lear.

The picture you draw of Europe certainly paints a scene of a most interesting epoch, and ere long great revolutions must take place in Europe and this part of the world. America's rising Glory will make

her friendship Courted by the Nations which at present form an erroneous opinion of her strength & respectability.

You do not mention whether you have received your Diploma from Government, — I wish it from my friendship, and for the good of my Country.

When you write to our Consul General at Algiers, please to inform him that I frequently write to him, and hope that my letters reach him.

Sympathetic ink [*Written in lime juice.*]

Dr Sir, Your letter of the 27th May reached me on a half sheet of paper under cover of another small half sheet — the half sheet forming the sheet the letter was wrote on had been torn off — pray was this done by you after your letter was wrote — I am fearful that some discovery or suspicion has took place, perhaps the Danish Consul may have done it — I have not heard from him since the rect — Reports says OB. offered 40, thousand, the Bashaw demanded one Million — the Commodore would do well to get a bomb ketch or two, and every night heave some shells into the Town, it would drive all the Inhabitants and greatly tend towards a speedy & reasonable Peace — the interfearence of B. has not been felt by us or never will if it comes through *Beau.* [Beaussier] here. — inform the Commdr of these circumstances — Shells — Shells we want — W. B.

Written in Sympathetic ink, accompanying a Duplicate of the 17th of June 1804 —

Dr Sir, I am anxious to hear from [you] in lime juice to give me some idea of our probable fate, I am sorry to have it in my power to observe that our situation is like no Ship performing quarantine. — I receive no letters but from yourself, which I greatfully thank — I do not accuse my friends if ought, but certainly my situation will justify an expectation & desire of receiving letters from them — I hope that Com. Preble, intends getting a Bomb Vessel and heave some Shells into the Town which I conceive may be done without risque, and it certainly would make the People extremely clamorous as they would be obliged to fly to the Gardens where are no habitations to secure them. — When you write to Mr Livingston at Paris, I wish you would mention that we have received no attention from the french Consul or any advantage from the French influence in this place — if the first Consul has taken any measures to alleviate our situation they have not had the effect for want of a proper Representative in this place — France has great influence — Yours, W. B.

[NYHS. Geo. Davis LB, Vol. 1.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 17 June 1804

This day begins with fresh Breezes and Squally the Commodore and *Enterprize* astern sounded Occasionally in 13 fathoms water bottom fine sand and Small Gravel At 2 the Commodore made the Sigl No 1196 sent down T. G. yards at 5 sent them up again and reeft the T. sails at 7 all hands to Quarters and Exercis'd great guns set top Gallt sails at Midnight moderate and Cloudy Tacked at Daylight saw the land to windward Commdre & *Enterprize* in Co At meridian Cape bon bore NE ¼ E People Empd as Necessary

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Sunday, 17 June 1804

Fresh breezes from N N E. We are standing in for the Eastern Coast of Tunis near the Island of Kerkeni. *Argus* and *Enterprize* in company. The *Argus* was ordered ahead to sound & communicate her soundings to the Commodore, which she did. At 1 P. M. our depth was 16 fathoms. The water all round as far as could be seen was colored, and in many places the bottom was visible — At 2 P. M. double reefed the topsails, and down top gall^{t} Yards. — By ½ past 2 P. M. the wind had shifted by degrees to East, and continued so till the afternoon with pleasant weather. At 4 P. M. up Top gall^{t} Yards and out second reef from the Topsails At this time we had deepened our water to 24 fath^{s}

This afternoon we ran nearly 30 Miles over these banks between the Islands of Kerkeni & Lampidosa — We continued the lead all the time & found the soundings very regular, gradually deepening from 16 to 20 fath^{s}

At Sundown saw the land bearing from W b N to N W b W, which we supposed to be Cape Coria and the land to the South^{d} of it. At 2 A. M. tacked to the East^{d} At 4½ A. M. tacked to the North^{d}

At day light saw the land bearing from W b N to N N W As we drew in to the land the wind Veered to the East which enabled us to lay along parralel with the Coast — At 9 A. M. we passed with an Offing of four leagues the Town or port of Susa — It appears to be strongly built with a Castle fronting the Sea — The weather has been pleasant with light winds all the forenoon — We are under all plain sail standing to the N N E — the small town of Arraella bearing by compass W S W, 5, leagues.

Cape Salimi and Cape Gobia which is the N E extreme of the land in sight bears N E b N, 44 Miles

All this part of the coast appears in small hills sandy towards the sea — Small villages every 6 or 7 Miles

Surgeons report 7 sick, 8 conv^{sc}^{t} & 4 discharged —

Noon light airs

Argus & Enterprize in company

Latitude Observed 36° 07′ North

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

Presumably to Secretary of State from James Monroe, U. S. Minister to London, England

N^{o} 25. Duplicate LONDON *June 18. 1804.*

SIR I received lately a letter from the house of Mackenzie & Glennie of this city giving an account of a fraud which has been practised on them in the name of Commodore Preble, by which they have paid to his account in favor of the United-States £4000 Sterling. I transmit you a copy of their communication and beg to assure you that I shall not fail to make all the exertion in my power to trace the fraud and recover the money if practicable from the authors of it.

The state of affairs here continues to be fluctuating. The opposition against M^{r} Pitt seems to be nearly as strong as it was against M^{r} Addington. The King also continues indisposed, but in what degree is unknown. The advocates for a regency appear to gain

strength. It is expected that a debate and division will take place to-day in the House of Commons, that will furnish better data whereon to form a better estimate of future events.

[NA. SDA. Disp., Gt. Britain, Vol. II, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 18 June 1804

at 3 Tacked ship to the S E saw a sail on our Weather beam made Sig! N° 433 to the Commod° at 4 the Commod° made our Sig! to chace made all sail at ¼ past 5 Tacked and spoke the Chace she proved a Ragusee from Tunis bound to Suisa Commod° made the Sig! to bring her to him At 7 the land in Sight it bore N b E at 10 Squally with thunder and light° a a Strange sail passed to leward stand° S E at 9 AM Commod° made the Sig! 252 [or 232?] made all sail in Chace At meridian in Chace Emp^d as Necessary

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Monday, 18 June 1804

Moderate breezes from the Eastward. *Argus* & *Enterprize* in company. We are under all plain sail standing in for the town of Hamate which is situated on the Eastern coast of Tunis nearly 40 Miles to the Southward of Cape Bon — This part of the coast appears to be well cultivated and is lined with Villages all along — At 3. P. M. fresh breezes — Tacked to S S E 3 Miles from the shore — Soundings 60 fath° — At ½ past 3 made signal for a general chase to windward — Punished James White, Thomas Jackson and Thomas Jones Seamen with 12 lashes each for neglect of duty. At 6 P. M. the chase was brought to by the *Enterprize* — Made signal to bring the chase to the Commodore — We boarded her — A Ragusa ship from Tunis bound to Suza

At Sundown a Squall rose from N N W with rain thunder & lightning — In third reef in the topsails and handed the Main Sail — At Sundown we were 8 Miles from the coast. Cape Gobia N E nearly 8 leagues Off this Cape is shallow water which extends a long way into the Sea. At ½ past 7 P. M. filled to N E b E. which is nearly parralel to this part of the coast and came by Cape Gobia with an Offing of 4 leagues Our soundings were from 25 to 15 fathoms.

At Day light out third reef from the Topsails and set the Main Sail & top gall° Sails

At 6 A. M. saw Cape Bon bearing N W b W nearly ten leagues, and a strange sail to the S E. —

At 7 A. M. saw two strange sails N N E — they are nearly in the direction of Cape Bon, for which we are standing.

At 8 A M. made signal for a general chase. Strong breezes all the forenoon — The *Argus*, *Enterprize* & *Constitution* have been under a press of sail all the forenoon, chasing dead to windward

Noon the chase in sight from deck bearing N W ½ W —

Latitude Observed 36° 52′ North

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Congress*, from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

U. S. FRIGATE *President*
Hampton roads 19th June 1804

SIR Herewith you will recieve the Copy of a Letter, said to be written by Robert Quinn, a Seaman on board the *President*: It is so calculated to excite a general mutiny; that it is necessary to take promt & decissive measures to bring to punishment the Author. — John Kirkpatrick a Landsman also belonging to the same Ship; has been taken in the attempt to desert. I request you will summon a Court Martial, at which you will preside, to be held on board the *Congress*, for the trial of those delinquents as early as possible. — William Eaton Esqr will act as Judge advocate on the occasion —

[LC. JRP, Letters & Orders, 1804–1805.]

[Enclosure]

Literal *Copy of the Letter alluded to*

The horrid usage that has been carried on in this Ship of late by the principal officers, is enough to turn every Mans Heart to wickedness, we are Kept on Deck from 3 O'Clock in the morning till 8 at Night there is no regulations in any one thing, we have been on deck for several days without one bit of Victuals, and durst not look for it, we cannot wash a single article for fear of being cut in two, you expect every thing done at a word, there is no allowance made for our friging day & night, but the time will come, when you will drive all thoughts of fear out of our minds, tryanny is the begining of all mischief, and generally is attended with bad dooings at the latter end, any Commander or Captain that had the least feeling or thought, would not suffer this horrid usage, it is almost impossible for us to live. The *President* is arrived to such a pitch as to exceed the *Hermione*, some of our friends in America & other parts shall know of this shortly and in time we hope to get redress, Death is always superior to slavery.

We remain Your

UNHAPPY SLAVES

Address'd To Commodore BARRON
Ship *President*

[LC. JRP, Letters & Orders, 1804–1805.]

To the German Ambassador, Paris, France, from Robert R. Livingston, U. S. Minister to Paris, France

Tripte PARIS *19th June 1804.*

THE UNDERSIGNED MINISTER PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

His Excellency the Ambassador of his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Germany &c.

SIR, I have been honored by your note of the 26th of May, which should not have remained thus long unnoticed but for my absence from Paris. I am sorry to learn from it, that an insult has been offered by Captain Sturt [Sterett], commanding the American Vessel the *Enterprize* by the capture and detention of the austrian Ship *Peolina*

[*Paulina*] — I shall immediately transmit your Excellency,[s] note to my Government who I doubt not will give to his Imperial Majesty every satisfaction on the subject which the nature of the case may require. It does not appear whether the *Enterprize* was a Government Vessel or a private ship, nor is there such a detail of circumstances as will serve as the basis of an accurate investigation of the question of right or of the amount of damages — That these may be properly brought forward, I pray Your Excellency to invite Captain Radish to commence a prosecution in the Admiralty Courts of the United States where he may be assured of a full hearing and the most impartial justice — . Your Excellency will easily perceive how difficult it will be in any other way to ascertain or recover the damages he may have sustained particularly if the injury should have been done by a private Ship.

It gives me pleasure to assure Your Excellency that His Imperial Majesty only does justice to sentiments of the American Government when he supposes them animated with the desire to promote the harmony and confirm the ties of friendship that subsist between the two nations. His Imperial Majesty may be fully assured that nothing will be wanting on the part of the Government of the United States to confirm the opinion, and that while their Courts are open for the redress of private injuries they will themselves be ready to make satisfaction for any indignity offered to his Majesty thro' the misconduct of persons under their command, nor will they fail to give such orders as are best adapted to prevent a repetition of the offence.

[NA. SDA. Disp., France, Vol. 9, 1803–1805.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS, *June 19th 1804.*

SIR. I have this moment discovered your Frigate, and as the hour is too late to make application for coming on board. I dispatch you the American Drogerman with my former communications.

I am very desirous to see you in person, as I have much to say to you on our affairs here, as well as at Algiers; and my present feeble health, does not allow me to enter into a written detail, having been confined to my bed twelve days with a violent fever.

You will be pleased to send the Drogerman off at three in the morning, in order that he may arrive at Tunis time enough to go to the Palace, and I will be at the Gouletta before twelve tomorrow if possible

Trusting that your health is better than when I had the pleasure of seeing you — I beg leave to assure you of the high consideration with which I have the honor to be

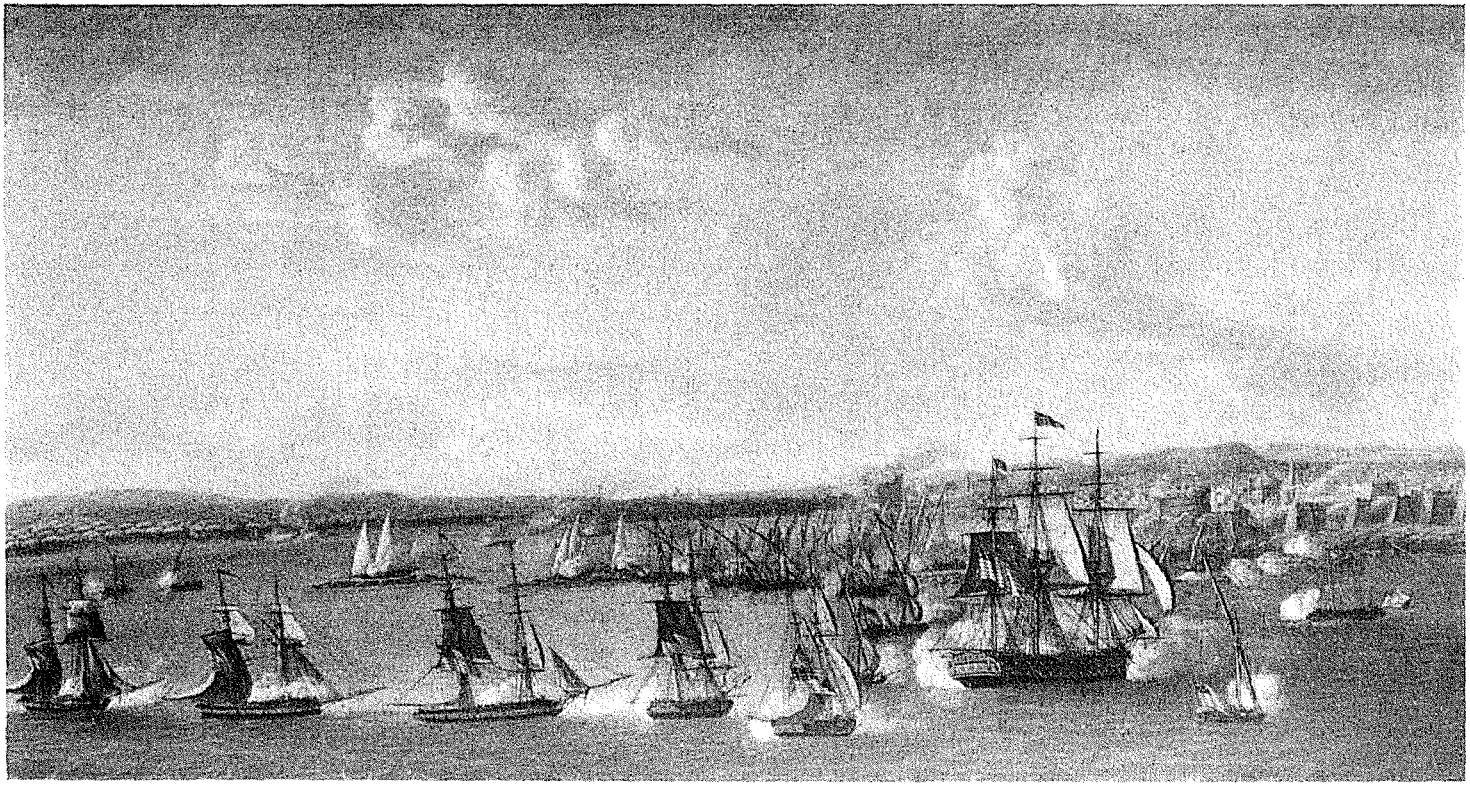
P S I have the honor to enclose you two letters from C[r] Bainbridge

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay 19th June 1804.

SIR, I am this day honored with your letters of the 18th May and 19th June. I regret extremely your indisposition, but hope it will not



ATTACK ON TRIPOLI, 3 AUGUST 1804.

deprive me of the pleasure of seeing you afloat tomorrow. Your Drogerman shall be dispatched immediately, as I wish as much to see you, as you do me.

I know nothing of the capture of the two Sandals you mention belonging to the Island of Jerba; and as to the examination of the Vessel bearing your passport with the Chouix of the Grand Seignior on board, you well know that every Vessel found on the Coast of Tripoly while blockaded by the United States Squadron is liable to examination; if not, we may as well give up the Blockade, as the Bashaw's friends by the abuse of passports, might with impunity supply him with such Articles of Military Stores &c^{a} as he is most in want of. The Vessel with the Chouix of the Grand Seignior entered Tripoly without any other molestation than a search. She was previously forced into Jerba by a contrary Gale, but on her coming out of Tripoly, was detained by one of our cruisers and sent into Malta whither she was bound. I was at Malta when she arrived, and released her immediately. I have now to observe, that passports for Tripoly while blockaded by a Squadron under my Command, cannot in future be respected, excepting such passport comes direct from the Navy Department of the U S. As to the Bey's threats we have little to fear from them — Captain Samuel Barron in the *President* Captain James Barron in the *Congress* — Cap^{n} Chauncy in the *Essex*, and Captain Shaw in the *John Adams* — and two Brigs are now I suppose in the Mediterranean — Captain S— B— with two Brigs, is to remain at Gibraltar as a check on our Enemies going into the Atlantic, and the others are to join me here immediately — of course the Bey will suffer by his temerity if he should attempt to *pay himself*, as he chuses to term Piracy.

I shall leave this tomorrow by ten o'clock — It is necessary that I see you before I go, and equally so for me to know whether the Bey intends to make War on us or not — if he is hostily inclined I shall immediately take such measures as effectually to protect our Commerce, and punish him for his want of good Faith

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay 19th June 1804

DEAR SIR I am honored with your letter of the 30th April, with all its contents. I regret extremely that your people should be in want of clothing when I have a full supply for twelve months for them on board this ship — I have also clothing for the Officers and a plentiful stock of Stores for yourself and Officers. I was in hopes the Bashaw would have permitted me to send the clothing and stores on shore the 13th instant — he promised M^{r} OBrien he would, but while we were putting them into the Boat, he hauled down the white Flag — I certainly made the Bashaw a handsome offer considering our means of annoying him, Fifty thousand dollars as ransom, and ten thousand for a Consular present, is a great deal of money, and I am convinced he will yet repent not having accepted the generous terms.

You are at liberty to offer them once more to him, through his Prime Minister, and if he chooses to accept of them let him hoist the white Flag, and fire a Gun when I appear off there again, and send a Boat off with a Letter, as soon as I agree to the truce by answering his Signal, which shall be immediately, for though I shall have it in my power to materially injure the Town and Inhabitants, a wish to avoid the effusion of Blood, induces me to make him this offer that Peace may be re-established —

I shall have a treaty prepared, and as soon as it is signed, and you are all released, the money shall be paid. The whole of the fifty thousand dollars must be for ransom as we cannot pay one dollar for Peace. the ten thousand doll^{rs} shall be paid as a Consular present in cash at the arrival of the Consul from the United States, which shall be in eight months from signing the Treaty — and the Treaty must be subject to the final ratification of the President of the United States

I would have you attend to the *juice* of this letter, and hope you will find it *sweet to the Palate* I shall send you the clothing over in a Neutral Vessel immediately.

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

(Copy) UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay 19th June 1804.
rec^{d} July 13th 1804.

DEAR SIR, I had the honor to write you the 3^{d} of May from this place, and now enclose you a duplicate. Since that time the Squadron has closely blockaded Tripoly. The 4th of May I left this Bay for Naples and applied to the King for the loan of Six Guns & two Mortar Boats completely prepared for service, with a sufficient Stock of Naval & Military Stores for a Seige. I also applied for six long Battering Cannon 26 pounders for the upper deck of this Ship, the whole was immediately granted — I took on board the Battering Cannon, Nine hundred shot, and one hundred Barrels of Powder at Naples, and sailed for Messina, where I remained three days, and sailed for Syracuse with Six Gun boats under American Colours, each carrying a long 26 pounder, and manned with 30 Americans. The Bombards will be ready in a few days; I intend them to make a dash at the Tripolitans, and I hope with success.

I enclose You copies of two letters from M^{r} Beaussier and my answers — You will readily discover he is no friend of ours; I also send you a copy of my instructions to Capt OBrien on the 13th instant when I sent him on shore at Tripoly to endeavour to negociate for the ransom of our Countrymen, and for peace *if the Bashaw should desire it*. I conceived your letter of the 23^{d} of March by the *Vixen* sufficient authority for me to say that I was empowered to ransom the prisoners, and make peace whenever it could be done consistent with the honor & dignity of the United States. The terms offered I presume would have been satisfactory to our Government, if they had been accepted, and hope I shall be able ere long to oblige the Bashaw to accept, altho he has been so imprudent as to refuse them

Captain OBrien will send you a long detail of his audience with the Bashaw. Mr Davis will detail to You the State of our Affairs with this Regency. The Bey of Tunis complains of trifles, he says two Sandals have been taken by our Cruizers. The fact is, that the *Argus* chased a Sandal or Small open Boat, (not so large as our Cutter) on shore one mile from the Batteries of Old Tripoly and took her off under a heavy fire of Musketry from the Beach. Captain Hull suspected she was carrying Ammunition to Tripoly, but it proved she had nothing but coarse Earthen ware. The Bey of Tunis alledges that she belonged to Jerba, and on this trifling affair, is, or pretends to be extremely angry, and demands restoration of the Vessel & damages. The Boat & Cargo was not worth one hundred dollars, and if she had been worth ten thousand, she would have been a good prize. Capt Hull cut her adrift after he took her. The Emperor of Russia has taken a favorable part with respect to our Countrymen in Tripoli. He has written to the Grand Signior to send a Firman thither, and demand the release of the Americans. I have written Mr Davis satisfactory answers to all the complaints of the Bey of Tunis, and directed him to forward copies to You. I wish should you be applied to for a passport for any Vessel carrying an Ambassador to go to Tripoli, you would give such passport to come to me off Tripoli, but not to enter without my permission, as I wish to respect your passports, and it is possible we may at the time of an arrival be so situated with respect to our operations against that place, as to render it improper to permit a vessel to enter under any circumstances.

I have so much writing to do, that it is impossible for me to enclose you at present copies of such correspondence with Russia, Constantinople, France, &c &c as I wish. I hope ere long to be able to, as well as a favorable account of our affairs with Tripoli.

The *Congress* Captain J. Barron, *Essex* Capt Chaunc[e]y, who brings her out to exchange with Stewart, and *John Adams* Capt [space] are momently expected to join the Squadron. I suppose they are now in the Mediterranean. I understand the *President* Capt S. Barron and two Brigs are to compose a Squadron without the Mediterranean to rendezvouse at Gilbraltar, with such a force at hand, we shall have nothing to fear from the Powers of Barbary combined.

It is truly singular that the French Consul did not see Mr OBrien when he landed at Tripoli, notwithstanding he has instructions from his Government to endeavour to procure the liberation of the officers and crew of the *Philadelphia*. I wrote him by Mr OBrien but received no answer. I wish you to send copies of his letter to me of the 28th March and my answer thereto to our Minister at Paris, together with copy of instructions to Mr OBrien, and write him the conduct of Mr Beaussieur who never has been to see, or offered to relieve in any way whatever our unfortunate Countrymen. I have thanked him for his friendly attention to Captain Bainbridge and his Officers, because from his own report, I supposed he had been kind to them, but I have been deceived; no one but Mr Nissen has ever paid them the least attention.

Give my best regards to Mrs Lear, and accept my best wishes for your health & happiness.

I have not time to say more at present as I sail this evening — the want of more Frigates keeps me constantly on the fly.

P. S. Captain Bainbridge complains of the want of clothing for his people. I have now on board this Ship a sufficient quantity ready

made for them to last more than twelve months, but have not been permitted to send them shore. I hope to in a few days as well as a quantity of Stores, and to a full supply of Cash

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. 7, Part 1, Jan. 1804–Nov. 1805; and Stephen Decatur Col.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 19 June 1804

Anchored in Tunis Bay.

[LC original.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Tuesday, 19 June 1804

Strong Gales from the N W, In chase working to windward, — at 3 P M the *Enterprize* Brought too one of the Vessels we are in chase of a Spaniard from Gergenta for Barcelona, — at 5 P M the *Argus* Brought too the other a Ragusa from the Levant for Merseilles, — at 8 Cape Bon Bore West 3 miles, moderate Breezes & pleasant weather, Sounded in 30 fathoms at 9 fresh Breezes working to windward, — at 10 A. M weathered Zembra Island and entered Tunis Bay, at noon we where 3 miles from Cape Carthage it Bearing S E B E, Saw 29 sail at anchor in the Harbour amoung which were one Frigate & five small Cruizers, Tunisines and one Tripoline Polackre ship stripped & hauled up, the same Vessel has been in her present situation for two or three months past and her Crew gone to Tripoly, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 19 June 1804

These 24 hours Commences with fresh breezes and pleasant W^{3} fired a Gun at the Chace brought her too the [chase] proved a Ragusee brig from Tunis bound to Suisa at 2 saw a strange sail to the N E made the Sig^{l} to the Commod^{e} the *Enterprize* boarded her fired a Gun at a brig to windward she bore down for us & proved a Ragusee brig 52 days from the Island of Cypress bound to Marsailles bore away and spoke the Commod^{e} At 6 Cape bon bore N W ½ W Dist^{t} 3 leagues —

At meridian standing in for the harbour of Tunis kept Employed as Necessary

[NDA photostat.]

To Daniel Bedinger, Navy Agent and Superintendent of Navy Yard, Norfolk, Va., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP^{t} *June 20th 1804*

It is intended to Repeat the Cargo of the Ship *Sally* freighted by you last year with Timber and plank for Algiers and lost in the Bay of S^{t} Lucar —

I herewith enclose you an invoice of the Cargo then shipped which you will take immediate measures for procuring and you will charter a Vessel for the Voyage to be ready to receive the Cargo as soon as you shall have procured it —

You will readily See that some latitude will be allowed you with respect to breadth &c of the Timber and Plank not supposing that a perfect attention can be given to the invoice so as to make a correspondence in inches in every respect — it is desirable however that the invoice be attended to as nearly as possible and that if there be any Variation from it, it be an increase rather than a decrease in size —

I confidently hope that every exertion will be made by you to Expedite this Shipment — you will inform me as soon as you can ascertain with tolerable percision the earliest period by which you can carry this order into Effect

Your Requisitions for monies to carry this order into effect must be made under the head of Barbary Negotiations and your accounts Settled as they have been in Similar Cases —

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS *June 20th 1804.*
10, Oclock AM —

SIR, The Oda Bashaw of the Gouletta, has not yet made his report to the Bey, which form is necessary before I can obtain permission to go on board; and as it is the hour you inform me, you should get underway, and their being no hopes of my receiving a permit to leave the Gouletta this day, I send you an express.— And in reply to your favour of last evening, have only to observe that the individuals said to be the owners of the Sandals, have been three times before the Bey to repeat their complaint: one of them states, that his Sandal, was captured in a Port of Tripoli, laden'd with salt fish, and earthen ware; that he with his people made their escape before the Vessel was captured — Whatever therefore may be said in future by the complainants, it will not be attended to by me farther than, that of demanding Justice for their false report —

You have been pleased to inform me that no Passport to enter Tripoli, will be hereafter considered as valid; I have only to say, that I must conform myself agreable to my situation here, & observe the usages of other Nations under similar circumstances, towards these States. — A safe conduct for an Ambassador of a Neutral Power, to enter the Port of an Enemy, altho' that Port be in a state of Blockade, is generally granted — It shall not however under any circumstances be granted by me, unless I am satisfied that a refusal would be attended with an immediate difficulty.

It is impossible for me to say, what are the absolute intentions of the Bey, towards us; were I to deduce from his threats, they are unquestionably hostile: it is however certain, that fear alone, will restrain him from committing depredations on our commerce — You however shall ever be advised of his movements, and no difficulty will occur without my being fully prepared to meet it —

I am much distressed at the non arrival of a Courier I dispatched to Algiers on the 17th ultimo — his delay strengthens the report of the present disordered state of that Regency; to wit, that the Dey, has been assassinated, as well as a great proportion of Jews; that the late Prime Minister, is at present on the Throne — that the other ports of the Regency are in a more convulsed state — a new Prophet has arisen,

who, is followed by an immense Army of Bedouins, who are hastening towards the Capital — this intelligence was given to the Bey by a Rais of one of his Corsairs, and is generally credited at the Palace; I shall not fail to give you the earliest intelligence on this head —

Wishing you a prosperous cruise, and a continuance of health —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804.]

To George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay June 20th 1804.

SIR. I have recv your favor of this date in which you mention the capture by our Squadron of two Sandals belonging to Jerba which His Excellency the Bey of Tunis complains of. I have heard only of the capture of an open Boat, she was chased on shore at old Tripoly, and brought off by the Boats of the *Argus* Captain Hull — under a heavy fire of Musketry — She was loaded with a quantity of coarse Earthen Ware, and bound to Tripoly in direct violation of the Blockade.

Soon after she was taken off Captain Hull finding she had not any Military Stores on board, and the Boat an old crazy thing and cargo of no Value, he cast her off, and suppose she drifted on shore on the Coast. this boat having been defended as a Tripoline by the People from the shore no compensation can be made for her. His Excellency the Bey well knows that the coast of Tripoly is blockaded and ought to forbid all communication by the Vessels of his Nation unless he means to treat us as Enemies with respect to the Ambassador of the Grand Seignior which you mention is expected from Algiers for Tripoly, you may give him a passport to come to me off Tripoly without any cargo whatever on board, and if circumstances does not render it very imprudent I will permit him to enter, but if the Vessel attempts to leave Tripoly with any other property or persons than what she carries in, I will most certainly make prize of her.

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

[20 June 1804]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Surgeon James Wells, U. S. Navy

SIR A small supply of Sheep, or Fowls, if they can conveniently be procured, will essentially contribute to the recovery of the sick.

Comd Ed PREBLE.
Commr U, S, Ship *Constitution*
June 20th 1804.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 20 June 1804

standing in for the bay of Tunis with all necessary sail set Commodore and *Enterprize* in Compy at ½ past 12 Came to with the best bower in 7 fathoms water the Commodr hoisted our distinguishing flag Captn Hull went onboard the fort of Tunis bore W b N the high land from S b W to N b W At 10 AM got under way standing

off & on at 11 fired a Gun a[nd] hoisted the American Jack at the fore sent the barge on Shore for the Consul

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Wednesday, 20 June 1804

Strong breezes from N N W — We are running in for Tunis bay At ½ past 12 came to with the small bower in Tunis Bay in 7½ fath[s] water soft bottom —

Veered to 50 fath[s] and furled sails — The *Argus* anchored in company, and the *Enterprize* was ordered to stand in to the upper roads and send a boat on shore for the American Consul for whom we had a signal flying —

Our bearings are, Cape Carthage N b W by compass 2 Miles Cape Farina N b E. Golletta Castle W b S. 4 miles and Zembra Island N E b E ½ E 24 Miles —

On our Anchoring here a signal gun was fired, which by neglect, and contrary to Orders was loaded with a round shot but however, it passed near two Vessels without accident — We were employed all the afternoon in setting up the Topmast and top gall[t] rigging — At Sundown cleared ship for Action and primed the Guns — Ships company at watch and watch through the Night. In the morning scrubbed hammocks and cloathes — Between 9 & 10 A. M. strong breezes with rain From 10 till noon fresh breezes from N N W & pleasant weather This forenoon M[r] Davis U. S. Consul at Tunis waited on the Commodore — At 11 A. M. loosed sails to dry.

Noon fresh breezes from N N W. *Argus & Enterprize* in company

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy

U. S. Frigate *John Adams*
Hampton Roads 21 June 1804

Sir I have the honor of herewith Transmitting to you Copies of my Quarter Bill and Indent Book

There are several Men, borne on the Ship's Books as Seamen, which I think must be reduced, but unwilling to do them any Injustice, I have deferred Rating them untill two Months hence when I shall have an Opportunity of knowing them better.

I have been detained here longer than I expected; the few small Articles wanted in the Different Departments M[r] Bedinger had more Difficulty in procuring than he expected; in Fact the Main Top Mast which was to have been ready last Saturday I shall have to go to sea without, unless it comes down early in the Morn[g] at which Time I propose to get under Way, and proceed agreeable to Orders — I believe we have lost Nothing by our Detention, for we have never had a Wind proper to proceed to sea with, since our Arrival in Hampton Roads —

Your Orders of the 7[th] Ins[t] I have received and shall govern myself accordingly Our Ship Continues healthy the Crew of which I am pleased with. The Officers for want of Experience have given me some Trouble the Midshipmen particularly; but hope that from exacting a Rigid Adherence to the Regulations of the Service together with their own Observations, that they will see the Necessity of paying more Attention to Orders and their Duty

I shall keep you informed by every Opportunity of my Proceedings and situation

[NDA. MC LB, 1804–5.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 21 June 1804

This day begins with fresh breezes and pleasant Weather Laying too in the harbour of Tunis waitg for the Consul at 2 Mr Davis came on board filled away and stood for the Commodg at ½ past 2 the Consul and Capt Hull went onboard the Commodg came to an Anchor at ½ past 7 Capt Hull returned onboard at 9 the U. S. Schooner *Enterprize* went to sea at 5 AM recd 160 Gallg water from the Commodg at 8 got under way standg off and on at 10 the Commodg & Consul came on board run into 3½ fmg water the Consul went on shore at 11 hoisted red Colours and fired a Salute of 15 Guns Empd Occasy

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Brig *Argus*, 18 Guns, kept by Sailing Master Samuel B. Brooke, U. S. Navy, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 21 June 1804

(At anchor in Tunis Bay.)

At 8 [AM] got under way standing off & on under easy sail at ½ past 10 the Commodore & Consul came on board run into 3½ fathoms water the Consul went on shore at 11 hoisted red Colours & fired a salute of 15 Guns

[LC. EPP, *Argus*, 1804.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Thursday, 21 June 1804

fresh Gales from the N N W, at anchor in Tunis Bay, *Argus* & *Enterprize* in company, soon After noon our Consular agent, Mr Davis, came on Board, He informed me that the Bey of Tunis is very much dissatisfied with the Government of the United States, and appears to have hostile intentions altho He does not openly avow them, — at 9 P M the *Enterprize* sailed for Syracuse, the Consul remained on board all night, and by him I wrote to Colo Lear & Captain Bainbridge and desired him to forward the letters by express,— at 9 A M I went on board the *Argus* then under way and stood up for the Goletta, sounded the Harbour within a quarter of a mile of the Goletta & found 3 fathoms, at half a mile distance 4½ fathoms & without that distance from 4½ to 6 fathoms, for two miles to the Eastward, — while sounding the Prime minister & suit came down on the beach, where a Marque was prepared for him, — I directed Captain Hull to salute him, — landed our Consul, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Thursday, 21 June 1804

Fresh breezes from N N W —

At Single Anchor in Tunis Bay — *Argus* & *Enterprize* in company —

At 3 P. M. furled sails — At Sundown cleared ship for Action At 9 P. M. the *Enterprize* sailed — Moderate breezes and cloudy through the night —

At 9 A. M. Commodore Preble and the Consul went on board the *Argus*: She weighed and stood in towards the Golletta Castle —

Secured the Guns & made the necessary arrangements for weighing & going to Sea.

Noon moderate breezes from N b E with a swell setting into the bay.

Supplied the *Argus* with 220 Gall^{s} Water

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

To Marien Lamar, U. S. Consul, Madeira, from Secretary of State

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
June 22^{d} 1804.

SIR. I have received your letter of the 15th January. The National duty, as it is called, levied by the Consuls on Vessels trading to Madeira, being unauthorized by law, you ought to cease demanding it. It was equally beyound the authority of your Predecessors to engage a Physician to attend upon distressed Mariners, for a permanent yearly salary, * * * it ought not therefore to be continued by you. As to the balance now due him, no more can be paid than his actual services may be proved to be worth, and upon your being satisfied by proper vouchers in this respect, you may pay him, reimbursing yourself by a draft on this Department. For the future you will provide for the Seamen as economically as possible, as they are thrown upon your care, and not by adopting permanent arrangements requiring expenses whether there may be objects demanding relief or not.

The Executive cannot empower you to lay a duty upon American Vessels for the expenses of the Buoy imported by the British Factory: nor is it probable that the Legislature would be induced to sanction it, since the principle it embraces in admitting a foreign Company to levy a discretionary tax within the jurisdiction of Portugal is not to be reconciled with its rights and might lead to abuses by which the Citizens of the U: States might suffer.

[NA. SDA. Despatches to Consuls, Oct. 1800-Feb. 1817.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy

TRIPOLY BARBARY *June 22^{d} 1804*

DEAR SIR I wrote to you on the 14th Ins^{t} in which I mentioned that I had not the pleasure of receiving a line from you since the 27th March, and was much disappointed in not having that satisfaction on the 13th Ins^{t} by my friend M^{r} OBrien — The Happiness which your letters always affords us all makes us extremely anxious to hear from you by every opportunity. Though disappointed in that pleasing expectation we rest assured on your exertions to releive us from our disagreeable situation —

Within these last three months I have wrote you many letters — In all of them I have mentioned the great want of cloathing for our Seamen — As I am never advised when my letters leave this place, I cannot form an opinion when they will probably reach you —

I am extremely anxious to receive letters from America in answer to mine announcing the loss of the Frigate *Philadelphia* and rely on your sending them to me if they come to your hands —

The Seamen have been removed to a spacious good prison, but the Officers are still penned-up in close confinement, and in this hot weather feel much the want of a few windows and doors to let in some air — Of the former there is none: of the latter only one which is kept bolted and locked, except when opened to hand in our provisions — However beleive us Americans, possessed with fortitude and every sense of honor for Our Country — I know nothing of the interview that Consul OBrien had the other day — I should have been much gratified to have been permitted to see him — I should suppose in Negotiating it would be best to obtain permission for him to remain on shore a few days —

Pray in your next advise me if you received my letter in answer to yours conveying the thanks of the President for the capture of the *Mirboka* — . Believe me to be with Sincere wishes to attend your movements, and that I am with Esteem & great respect

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

[*Written in lime juice — invisible writing.*]

Dr Sir I hope that you will pardon me in offering the following opinion as being the most ready expedient to make Tripoli and perticularly the Bashaw feel the greatest effect of the American War. A Bomb Ketch of a proper size for keeping the Sea — To come an anchor every night or every other night and heave some bomb shells in the Town would occasion all the Inhabitants to leave it (as they have dreadful Ideas of bombs and their houses slightly built) and fly to the Gardens which have not buildings to receive them this would put them to a very great inconveniency and make them extremely clamorous and the Bashaw would feel uneasy to be kept out of the Town

They are such bad marksmen that I presume a Ketch might anchor a half mile distant from the batteries without danger of receiving much or any damage — I candidly believe that heaving a few shells even if was but once a week to keep them out of the Town for 3 months that the Bashaw would be induced to come to moderate terms

Do not place confidence in any Consul or expect any service to be rendered by any here except the Danish — you mentioned that Bona-p[ar]te had interested himself in our situation if this was the case we have felt no effects from it, and it must be owing to their Consul — For France has great influence here — If you give Mr Livingston a hint of this it may have some effect —

Believe me to be with Sincere regard
Yours

W B

E. Preble Esq

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804.]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

Tunis *June 22d 1804*

Sir, I am this moment favoured, by the return Courier, with Your communication of the 8th Inst. and avail myself of an express (which

leaves this in two hours) to acknowledge its receipt. The short time allowed me, does not permit that I should enter in full reply to your last, *now before me*

The letters enclosed from Commodore Preble, who sailed from this port last evening, will be in answer to the late complaints of the Bey; *which give me no uneasiness — No difficulty shall arise which I will not be perfectly prepared to meet;* and believe shall be correct in saying, that his threats are the result *of fear*, more than of a determination to take *immediate* hostile measures against us — The Commodore has shewn himself too frequently in this Bay not to have convinced His Excellency, that his movements are closely watched; and I have strongly impressed the opinion that we have the full means in those Seas, of checking, and punishing, any hostile measures which his avarice might hurry him into — it only rests to observe, that we have no security for a continuance of the Peace, excepting that which arises from our Naval force in those seas; and it is more than probable, that menaces will be daily repeated, untill our affairs are finally closed with this Regency; but when I have solid reasons to believe, he will capture our Vessels, you shall be apprized by a Sea conveyance, before his plans can possibly be executed. —

The charges in my acc^{t} with the United States, which you have been pleased to make exceptions to, are not only founded on those exhibited by M^{r} Eaton, (which however, is no rule for me) but from the necessity of the thing — The Hon^{t}^{le} the Secretary of State, has been advised by letters bearing date October 29th and December 28th — that I was attending in my professional capacity, and at the particular request of the Bey, the Chief of the Aga's, and that I visited him daily at the Palace, which is three miles from Tunis, — the Sapatapa — Bey's Cousin, and other chief officers have also made application for my medical aid; and as you must be sensible, that my acquiescence is solely, in order to gain the means of being servicable to my Country. — It cannot be supposed, that I should in consequence, be charged with additional expences; from this statement I have no doubt but you will readily accord the propriety of the charge — if not, I shall be compelled to curtail my visits to the Palace.

We have been given to understand, that Algiers is at this moment in a state of revolution, and that the Dey has been assasinated, as well, as most of the Jews — This report has greatly exited my fears, as well as the Commodore's for the safety of your family; Your letter therefore relieves me from the painful suspence, under which I have laboured for eight days. — My health is extremely delicate, having been confined to my bed for fifteen days with a violent fever; should I continue to suffer during these warm months what I did last year, I shall be compelled to solicit for an immediate removal from this Regency.

I shall dispatch a Courier this evening for Tripoli, (at the Commodore's request) by which occasion your letter to Captain Bainbridge, will be forwarded. — I have also the honor to enclose you two from him & one from M^{r} O'Brien.

From the extravagant price of Grain in this Regency, and consequent distress of the people, my Drogerman has solicited some trifling increase of pay, which indeed is at present insufficient for the support of one man — from the circumstance of his having a large family, whoom I know are in distress; and in consideration of his long services to the

United States, I have promised him the additional sum of thirty dollars per Annum; and which I trust will meet your approbation, as he is at *this moment*, particularly serviceable to me.

I beg leave to assure You of the high consideration, and profound respect, with which I have the honor to be

P. S. The Courier, is to receive three Dollars from You, on his delivering this dispatch; and the like sum from me when he brings Your answer — I presume he will not stay more than one day in Algiers. —

The Courier, who has this moment come for his pay, acknowledges the receipt of ten dollars, but which he says was for his support in Algiers, and in consideration of his detention —

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. 7, Part 1, Jan. 1804–Nov. 1805.]

To George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis, from Don Joseph Noguera, Spanish Consul General, Tunis

TUNIS *June 22d 1804*

The Undersigned Consul & Charge d'Affairs of his Catholic Majesty has the honor to participate to the Charge d'Affairs of the United States the Surprize with which he has heard the report spread in this City of the Capture by the American Vessels of War blockading Tripoly of the Spanish Vessel of Capt Torres sailing from hence to Tripoly, and conducting an envoy of the Grand Signior & furnished with a passport of the Charge d'Affaires of the United States

The Consul of Spain does not presume to think without a very serious infraction of the passport on the Part of the Captain that such an unexpected calamity could have befallen him but his astonishment increases also in understanding by the same report that the said Captain was actually in this place on board one of the American Men of War not many days ago Not having recieved from said Capt Torres letter nor light of any kind on the business which without an unpardonable negligence he ought to have imparted, and it would be extremely extraordinary indeed if the participation of this event to his Consul was denied him —

The Spanish Consul does neither presume to think that, that would have been the case without well founded reasons; but as Mr Charge d'Affaires ought to be better instructed than any person of what has passed, and besides that his politeness is well known, the Undersigned thinks it his duty to ask from Mr Davis all the insight that it will be permitted him to give — In the meanwhile he has the honor to sign himself with the highest consideration

JOSEPH NOGUERA
Spanish Consul General

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

[22 June 1804]

To Don Joseph Noguera, Spanish Consul General, Tunis, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

GEORGE DAVIS Esq. *Charged with the Affairs of the United States of America at Tunis*

TO DON JOSEPH NOGUERA *His Catholic Majesty's Consul General at Tunis*

SIR, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Official communication of this date requesting to learn, whether the Spanish

Bombard *La Vergine del Rosario* Capt. Francesco Della Torre, bearing my Passport to enter and return from the Port of Tripoli in Barbary, had been captured by any of the U. States Vessels of War, and the reasons for this conduct. — I have only to state that the said Bombard on her passage to Tripoli, was visited by several of the U States' Vessels of war, and permitted to enter that Port without any molestation. That on sailing from said Port of Tripoli, bound for the Island of Malta, she was again examined, and in direct violation of my Passport, was found to have on board, fourteen individuals more than when she entered; and was accordingly sent into the Island of Malta, for adjudication, her commander remaining on board the U. States Brig, which had visited her: — but in consequence of the distinguished respect the Government of the U. States, its Officers & Agents wishes to shew to His Catholic Majesty's flag, the Commodore & Commander in chief of the Squadron, caused her to be released immediately, and presume that her Commander, has, ere, this arrived at Malta.

I have also the honor to make known to You, that Passports heretofore given for Vessels to enter the Ports of Tripoli, will not be considered as valid; and, as the Vessel, carrying His Catholic Majesty's Dispatches for that Port, is now at anchor in the road of the Gouletta, my duty combines with my desire to endeavour to prevent any interruption in her safe arrival — I would therefore advise the Courier's going in search of the Commander in chief of the Squadron, to whom, I will address a letter; it being necessary, in order, to enter the Port of Tripoli, to receive a Safe Conduct from under his hand; and should not circumstances render the measure very imprudent, I trust my request will be acquiesced to —

TUNIS *June 22d 1804* —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804 and Mrs. James S. Barron Col.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 22 June 1804

at ½ past 12 the Commodr ret^{d} onboard the *Consti[tu]tion* filled away the main topsail and stood out of the bay of Tunis in Company with the Commodr at ½ past 2 the fort of Tunis bore S W b W distt about 6 miles at 5 the Commodr mad[e] Sigl Nº 275 at ¼ past he made Sigl 1074 Took in and Set sail as Necessary spoke a Spanish brig from Trieste bound to Barcelona at 12 Cape Bon bore E S E a Sail in Sight on our lee bow at 1 Came up with her she provd a Ship the Commodrs boat boarded her At 8 AM Pantalaria bore S E ¾ E Cape Bon N W ¼ Nº At Meridian light breezes the Commodr in Compy Empd Occasy

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 22 June 1804

Sailed for Syracuse

[LC original.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Friday, 22 June 1804

moderate Breezes from the N N E and pleasant weather at anchor in Tunis Bay, at ½ past noon I returned on board, weighed & sailed out of the Bay, at ½ past 3 P M weighed & sailed out of the Bay spoke a Neapolitan Brig Prize to a Tunisian Corsair then in sight which soon after passed us, — at 5 P M made the *Argus* a signal to chase N E B N, — which she spoke & reported a spaniard from the Levant for Tunis, — at 10 passed Zembra Sett Studing sails & steered to the E B S, — at 10 gave chase to a sail a head, which at 1 A M we Boarded 1 league N E from Cape Bon she was a spaniard from Merseills bound for Susa & Monastere in the Kingdom of Tunis, the Captain gave me a Packet of French News Papers, and I purchased two Cases of Cordial and two Cases of Sirop from him for which I paid him 50 Spanish dollars, — at 3 A M made sail & pursued our course S E B E to pass near the Island of Pantalaria, — at ½ past 4 A M Cape Bon bore W B S 9 miles distant, light winds & pleasant weather, — at 7 A M saw Pantalaria S E, steered for it untill noon, when the north point bore S E distance 4 leagues, Surgeons Report 9 Sick, & 7 convalescent, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 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, 22 June 1804

[Several lines of Manuscript mutilated] Roll and acct. of Allotm^{t} of Pay and forward them on to the Accountant of the Navy. — We are now waiting for a Wind, having recev^{d} our Sailing orders — this day there was a Court Martial held on board of the *Congress* Frigate on Two Seamen. one for Mutiny & the other for desertion the former sentanced to have 320 Lashes, & the other 150 —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

[23 June 1804]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, U. S. Frigate *President*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

Sir I herein Enclose you the procedings of the Court Martial in the Trial of Robert Quin & John Kirkpatrick and wait your orders for adjourning the Court Sine Die

Jn^{o} Rodgers

June 23^{d} 1804
Commodore Sam^{l} Barron
U S, Frigate *President*

[Mrs. James S. Barron original.]

Sentences of Courts Martial

Frigate *President* June 23. 1804

At a Court Martial—held this Day on the tryal of Robert Gwin on a charge of mutiny and John Kirkpatrick for desertion, the following sentences were decreed and approved —

Robert Gwinn, on a charge of Mutiny to have his Head & Eye brows shaved, branded in the forehead with the Word MUTINUS — to receive Three hundred & twenty lashes, equally apportion'd along side of the different ships of the Squadron with the Label MUTINEY in large capital Letters inserted on its front, & to be Drum'd on shore under a Gallows in a Boat tow'd stern foremast by a boat from each ship in the Squadron, as unworthy of serving under the Flag of the United States —

John Kirkpatrick on a charge of Desertion, to recieve One hundred & fifty Lashes, to be apportion'd along side the Different Ships in the Squadron, during the execution of which sentence, he shall wear a white Cap with a Label in Front, in Capital Letters — THE REWARD OF DESERTION, and afterwards to be return'd to Duty.

[LC. JRP, Letters & Orders, 1804–1805.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Congress*, from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

GENERAL ORDERS

U. S. SHIP *President*
Hampton roads June 23rd 1804

The Commander in Chief of the Squadron cannot but express his concern, and regrets that an incident should have occur'd which compels him to order the infliction of a punishment on individuals serving under his command, both painful & degrading to the character of a Seaman & Soldier— but viewing the crimes of mutiny and desertion of a most henious nature, and justly meriting the most exemplary punishment, & being determin'd never to pardon crimes, fraught with such fatal consequences to the service, nor to mitigate in any degree the Punishment, annex'd, by Law to such Crimes — approves the sentence of the Court Martial of this Day, decreed against Robert Quinn and John Kirkpatrick, and orders it to be executed on Monday next, at 8 O'Clock —

Sign'd SAMl BARRON

[LC. JRP, Letters & Orders, 1804–1805.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires at Tunis

TUNIS *June 23d 1804.*

SIR I have the honor to enclose for your information a copy of a letter* from his catholic Majestys Consul here, and answer — The Occurrence is fortunate as it will enable me to refuse on a solid foundation any passports that may be asked for hereafter by this regency — The Courier has been dispatched for Tripoly: but may be delayed as he is Obliged to pass from Zoara to the Coast of Tripoli in a boat, from this circumstance it may be adviseable, should you think proper to let the Courier pass, to send a duplicate of your letter to Capt B. by her —

I wish the Passport given by Mr Pinckeny Counter-signed by Mr Eaton & my-self was destroyed & that he may not receive any thing in writing from you, as all such papers would be used to my injury here — There was a Subject of Tripoly on board said Courier — I presume he is left at Tunis: but it will be well to ascertain the fact

The Sapatapa was much gratified with your Salute, and would have sent a regalia of Fresh Stock &ᶜ on board, had you made any delay — I am again threatened with a return of fever

P. S. My Courier has returned from Algiers: I enclose under cover to Mᴿ Higgins a letter for Yourself & Mᴿ O'Brien from Colᵒ Lear

*The letters enclosed were the two preceding
[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To Sir Alexander John Ball, Governor of Malta, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
June 23ᵈ 1804

SIR You will Oblige me extremely by allowing me to send to Tripoly in the Vessel that the British Consul goes over in, a few Bales of Cloathing for the American Prisoners who are almost naked — I wish also to send some provisions and stores to be delivered to Capᵗⁿ Bainbridge (if permitted) but if not to be retained in possession of the Consul untill Capᵗⁿ Bainbridge is allowed to recieve them, Your Influence with Mᴿ Langford will ensure his attention to my unfortunate Countrymen — I have written to him on the Subject —

I enclose your Excellency a file of Paris papers down to the 9th Inst. & presume they will be interesting, as they must be much later than any you can have recieved at Malta —

The Pilot I discharged when last at Malta, although a Frenchman has been three years in the American Service — You will therefore oblige me by releasing him from Confinement and sending him out of the Island — I believe him to be a Villain but too dull an one to do any injury to your Commerce — It is possible some blame may be attached to me for discharging him at Malta, which induces me to ask this favor —

The American Consul at Tunis informed me that a revolution had taken place in Algiers in favor of the English, they Dey has been assassinated, the whole of the Jews been put to death and all the Frenchmen in the Regency been put in chains — This Intelligence was brought to the Bashaw of Tunis from Algiers by one of his corsairs and believed to be true

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To William Wass Langford, British Consul General, Tripoli, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*
23ʳᵈ June 1804

SIR, I take the liberty to request that you will do me the favour, to take under your charge, a few Bales of clothing and some provisions and stores, for the unfortunate American Prisioners, in Tripoli — I should not trouble you with this business, if they were not almost Naked.

I wish the clothing and stores to be delivered to Captain Bainbridge, if he is allowed to receive them, but if not, you will please to retain the whole under your protection, until he is: I also wish to send over some money to Mᴿ Nissen the Danish Consul, to repay the sums he has already advanced for them —

Your Freindly attention to our affairs, and any service you can render our Countrymen in Barbary, will ever be gratifully acknowledged —

[The Admiralty, London. NDA photostat.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Sir Alexander John Ball, Governor of Malta

MALTA *June 23d 1804*

SIR I am honored with your excellency's letter of this day's date expressing your desire to send some cloathing by the British Consul to the American Prisoners at Tripoly —

I have to regret that the British Consul sailed yesterday evening for Tripoly — He would have felt highly gratified in rendering this service to your unfortunate Countrymen —

If you can suggest any mode by which it can be conveyed I beg you to command me, and that you will be assured of the satisfaction I shall at all times feel in executing your wishes

I shall immediately comply with your wish, and release the Frenchman who was your Pilot and whom I intended to confine a short time to prevent his conveying Intelligence of the Trade carried on here —

P. S. I beg to thank you for the French Papers — I am surprized at the report from Tunis & unless it were well authenticated I should doubt it — Be assured we do not interfere with the internal affairs of the Government, & I do not know of any English Party —

A, J, B

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To Nicholas C. Nissen, Danish Consul, Tripoli, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS *June 23d 1804*

SIR, I avail myself of a Courier, which leaves this for Tripoli, to trouble you with a letter for Capt. Bainbridge. We learn through various channels, that the Emperor of Russia, has found his new created Government, to wit, the Republic of the Seven Islands; an impolitic establishment, and has taken possession of them. — He has also, placed an Arsenal at, and fortified Corfu: the fleet at Sea consists of forty three Sail, with ten thousand troops on board, intended for the Protection of Sicily, against all Powers. — It has been reported and correctly believed, that Algiers was in a state of revolution; the Dey assassinated, and most of the influential Jews. — I received last evening an express from Algiers, in twelve days; by which I learn there is no truth in the report. — The Jews, are much Alarmed, at the approaching visit of the English; whom it is said, are resolved to make a severe & decisive attack — none of their Cruizers, have yet been out. — There is also a new Prophet arisen, who has an immense Army of Bedouins; has actually made himself Master of Bona, and is marching towards the Capital. — I thus give you in detail, the only news we have at this Regency,

Begging you, to accept my best wishes for your health & happiness,

NB. Your Drafts on me for the use of the American Officers & Seamen at Tripoly, will ever be honoured.

Sympathetic ink [*Written in lime juice.*]

All your letters have been received, with their enclosures. — I send you this by a Courier express, whom you may expedite at your pleasure — he is to receive no pay untill he brings your answer. — The letter for Capt. B. under the Commodore's cover is of great importance. — Should not the offer Capt. B. is empowered to make be accepted, you may daily expect a warm attack — God bless you, and believe me,

Yours with the highest regard and esteem,

G. D.

[NYHS. Geo. Davis LB, Vol. 1.]

To Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS *June 23d 1804.*

MY DEAR SIR, Since I had this pleasure, I have been confined to my bed, almost constantly, with a violent fever; my health, Suffered much during the last warm Season, and have much more to dread from the approaching one. — I should sollicit for an immediate removal from this Regency; did I not still cherish the hope of rendering myself serviceable to yourself and officers — rest assured, that those who have been kind to you in your distress, will ever have a Sincere and grateful friend in me — it is however, certain, that Political and interested motives, seems to have blocked up every avenue, to the humane, and Sympathising feelings of most of those Christians, who surround you.

* * * * * * *

Sympathetic ink [*written in lime juice.*]

Your letters to the Commodore, who, left this Bay, on the 20th, have been recd and forward you by a Courier express his answer, together with letters from Mr O'Brien, and Consul Lear. — In case the offer, you are authorized to make, should not be accepted, keep a good look out; and prepare yourself to profit of any advantages, that may present themselves — for you may expect every hour after the receipt of this letter, a warm attack, and in Such a way as may induce the Bashaw, & Court to look for a little country air — Should you have any thing to communicate, the Courier will not make a detention of more than three days. — I have no recent news from the U. States; but shall hear something from the New Squadron, which we have reason to Suppose has arrived at Gibraltar. —

God prosper you in all your projects, and believe me Your affectionate friend G. D.

[NYHS. Geo. Davis LB, Vol. 1.]

[23 June 1804]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from the Wardroom Officers of the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*

The Gentlemen of the Wardroom present their most respectfull compliments to Commodore Preble, and request the pleasure of his Company to dine with them tomorrow.

SATURDAY EVENING *23rd June 1804*

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 23 June 1804

at midnight moderate breezes Pantalaria bore W ½ N at ½ past 3 saw Cape Ruxo bearing N E b N Pantalaria W N ½ N At ½ past 9 the Commod[e] Spoke us and ordered us to proceed to Malta

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Saturday, 23 June 1804

A description of the Tunisian Frigate which we left at anchor in Tunis Bay the 21[st] ins[t], Viz[t] darke coloured yellow sides with two White mouldings above, stern almost perpendicular with an upright Lion head painted yellow, Quarter galleries shaped like a poop Lanthern with green Venetian blinds and white mouldings, upright stern with Crescent Tafferel, two large plain white mouldings, green Venetian blinds to all the Cabbin Windows, — 26 Ports but only 24 guns on the main deck, the 2 Cabbin guns are Brass & Painted Green, 8 Guns on the quarter deck, and two on the Fore castle, — no quarte[r]s on the Spar deck except a Strip of Canvas painted Black, Mizen mast shorter than common, very short Royal masts, Spritsail & Spritsail topsail yards, — Inside work of the ship painted red the Boat over the Stern has a White Bottom green wales and Red Gunwale strait, moderate Breezes & pleasant weather steering to the E S E, 2 leagues to the N W of Pantalaria, — at 2 P M Calm, — we were then 2 miles from the Town which is situated in a small Bay on the N W side of the Island, it is defended by a Castle in the Center and a Battery of five guns at each extreme of the Town the Bay is sheltered from S E & S W, winds, — at 3 P M a light breeze sailing along side the North of the Island, — at 8 P M the East point bore W N W 9 miles, — at 8 A M it Bore W N W, 11 or 12 leagues saw the Island of Sicily bearing from N to N E, *Argus* in company at noon, Latitude Observed 36° 29′ N, Gozo bears S E B E 15 leagues

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 23 June 1804

At ½ past Meridian, saw the afore mention'd sail Standing in for Tripoli, made all sail in chace of her again. At 2 in stay sails & royals up courses & down flying jib. the *Vixen* bro[t] the chace too with a shot. fill'd away. At 3 L[t] Smith came on board. At 4 set courses & Tk[d] to the E[d]. ½ past 4 haul'd up courses & brail'd after main sail. At 6 Tripoli bore S. by E. 2 leagues. ½ past 6 wore to the NW[d] At 7 back'd the main topsail. At ½ past 7 L[t] Dent came on board fill'd away. —

[NDA.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Don Joseph Noguera, Spanish Consul General, Tunis

TUNIS *24th June 1804.*

SIR Instructed by the Charge d'Affaires of your Nation to this Bey, that in future the passports given by the Agents of Your Government to Enter Tripoly will not be considered of any force without

your Special permission, and the Spanish Brig or Courier called S[t] *Ferdinando* Joseph Carera Master being here with the Ministerial Correspondance abord of the Regencies of Tunis and Tripoly: I think that my duty is to address you that he may ask your permission to go into the Port of Tripoly to fulfil his mission, which is to deliver the dispatches of Government to my Colleague in Tripoly, and to return immediately with the Answers —

I dare flatter my-self Sir that this permission which I take the liberty to solicit with such earnestness will be accorded and will be in no shape prejudicial to your Undertaking as the captain assures me that he has nothing on board but the dispatches and some trifles which are of Very little consequence & which he brings from Spain by Order of the Consul my Colleague and of some Spanish Individuals residing in Tripoly which you can Verify; and farther I make bold to hope that your goodness will not refuse what M[r] Davis has almost assured me will be Granted, and that he would Support my pretensions by his good Offices —

I profit also by this Occasion to thank you for the liberty which M[r] Davis tells me you had Granted to Cap[t] Torres taken by one of your Squadron in coming out of Tripoly in consequence of transgressing the Passports given him.

Be pleased Sir to recieve my expressions of the most profound respect & highest consideration with which,

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 24 June 1804

at 1 let go the small bower Carried out a Kedge Anchor ahead hove up the Anchor and Warped into the harbour of Malta at ½ past 2 came too with the Small bower in 13 f[ms] Water soft muddy bottom

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Sunday, 24 June 1804

Wind N W steering to the S E B E, at 3 P M saw Gozo, by 9 P M we were abreast of Gozo, bearing W S W 4 miles, steering for Malta, at midnight abreast of Valetta Harbour the light House bearing West half a mile distant, the *Argus* entered the Habour, — at 8 A. M. hoisted a signal [a yellow flag] for quarantine having been at Tunis & Tripoly, — at 10 had a muster of the ships company by divisions and an examination of their cloathing &c, — at a 11 went on shore and gave orders for a supply of Provisions & Stores for the *Argus*, wrote to Governor Ball for the release of the Pilot we discharged when last here which he granted at noon I returned to the ship to get under way, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

To Anthony Merry, British Minister to the United States, from Secretary of State

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, *June 25th 1804.*

SIR, I have had the honor to receive and have laid before the President your letter dated on yesterday, complaining of the steps taken at New York for detaining certain British Ships of War, until

24 hours should have succeeded the departure of certain French Ships; notwithstanding the desire of the British Commander to proceed to Sea, before the time notified by the French Commander for the Departure of the French Ships.

The rule established by the United States, in conformity to general usage, is that no armed Vessel of a belligerent power, shall proceed to Sea within less than 24 hours after the departure from the same Port of Vessels armed or unarmed belonging to an adversary power. We readily concur therefore in the general positions, that Vessels hostile to each other in the same Port at the same time, are equally free to proceed to Sea in the order of time they may deem proper; the restraint of the rule falling on the armed vessels which may happen to be the followers. You are equally well founded, Sir, in the justice you do to the disposition of the U States to maintain the rule with a sincere impartiality. They will be equally impartial in protecting within their jurisdiction, the hostile Vessels, each against the other; and in maintaining the rights of their own jurisdiction against either. And the communications which will be made to the proper Officers at New York will not lose sight of these just principles.

Having premised these observations, I am to subjoin that the real cause of the proceedings of which you complain, does not warrant the inferences into which you have been led.

It appears that on the 17th instant prior to the outrage committed by the British Commander in the American jurisdiction, the Mayor of the City of New York on the application of the French Consul there, requested of the British Consul, that the British Ships of War might not sail until the expiration of 24 hours after the departure of the French Vessels; which according to the notification given was to take place with the first fair wind. It does not appear, or rather the contrary may be inferred, that the Mayor had either notice or knowledge of any intention in the British Commander to proceed immediately to Sea.

On the morning of the 18th the Mayor became officially acquainted with the violent proceedings of the British Commander, within the Port of New York, and suspecting that he would be as ready to insult the authority of the laws in one case, as he had been in another and that he actually meditated a violation of the rule of 24 hours, addressed on the same day a request to the Wardens of the Port, that the Pilots might be prohibited from conducting the British Ships out of the Port, until the French Ships should have had the benefit of the rule. This request is founded expressly on his suspicion that the British Ships would follow the French Ships within less than 24 hours after the departure of the latter. And it cannot be d[o]ubted, that after what had passed, he was fully justified in such a suspicion.

It cannot be improper to add, Sir, that whether the measure taken to prevent the departure of the British Ships had or had not any other object, than that of enforcing the rule of 24 hours, it is certain that whose who had so flagrantly violated our laws, might well be suspected of an intention to elude the punishment to which they had subjected themselves; and that in that point of view also, every regular step which might contribute to secure the execution of the laws against the Offenders was strictly justifiable.

[NA. SDA. "Notes to Foreign Legations in U. S", Vol. 1.]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from Secretary of State

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, *June 25th 1804.*

SIR. I have the honor to enclose a list of the articles which it is intended to send to Algiers with the brass Cannon requested by the Dey. They will follow after the timber &c which is immediately to be shipped to replace the loss of the *Sally's* cargo. It would be convenient to us in collecting the Maritime stores for Algiers to have a table of the dimensions most in use for the Navy of that Regency, as well as the tariff according to which the price exclusive of freight at which they are received is regulated, and I request you to endeavour to obtain and forward them to this Office.

Eastwardly winds having prevailed for many days, the Squadron which has proceeded towards the Capes of the Chesapeake has probably been detained in the Bay. Their orders were forwarded this day week.

[NA. SDA. Despatches to Consuls, Oct. 1800–Feb. 1817.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 25 June 1804

[At anchor in Malta Harbor.] These 24 hours Commences with Pleasant breezes and Clear Weather the health Officer Came off and informed us we could not obtain Pratique hoisted the Yellow flag Observed the brigs draught of Water to be 13 feet Aft and 9½ feet forward Crew Employed Watering Rowed Guard during the night — At meridian fine Weather Variously Employed

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Monday, 25 June 1804

Fresh Breezes from the Westward, at ½ past 12 weighed & sailed steered N E for Cape Passaro, the S E point of Sicily, — at ½ past 7 we passed the Cape within half a mile & steered on to the N E for Cape Porcha, wind variable, — at midnight boarded an English Privateer from malta & her Prize, — at 11 A M anchored in Syracuse Harbour in 7 fathᵒˢ Water all over this Harbour is soft Bottom and good holding ground light house bears E B S ¼ mile, met here the six gun Boats and the *Enterprize*, — commenced filling water and taking off provisions & Stores, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 25 June 1804

Begins with light Airs from the Southward and Westward with Clear Weather. At 5 A. M hove short, and at seven weighed with a light Wind, from the S. W:

[LC. EPP, Journal, June to 6 August 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, 25 June 1804

[Several lines of manuscript mutilated] equal number of stripes along side of each Ship. being five in the Squadron now laying in

Hampton Road. they both receid their proportion along side of the *President.* and were towed by a boat from each ship along side the *Congress.* where the Mutineer [Robert Quinn] after receiving 12 Stripes. fainted. he was then put into a boat, and caried onboard of the *President* to receive the balance of his punishment as soon as he was able to bare it. the Desertor [John Kirkpatrick] being a strong Irishman, he was able to stand the whole of his punishment and was taken from ship to ship untill he recev^{d} the whole. Our ship was the last that he came to. and I think a more Distressful sight I never experianced: but I must confess that I was more distressed [several lines of manuscript mutilated] The Procession was as follows: —

They ware both striped with a sheet thrown over their backs, each of them had a White Cap on, the Words MUTINY wrote on one & the Words, the REWARD OF DESSERTION wrote on the other. they ware both tied in a boat caled a Launch, under a Gallows which was Erected for the Purpose, and towed from ship to ship with five armed boats. the desserter after receving his punishment was returned to the ship again. but the Mutiner was to be set on shore after receiving his full punishment. With the Words MUTINY branded in his forehead — but I have no Idea that he could survive the whole of it. but must die under the opperation. It is to be sure most cruel punishment. but the very existance of the Navy require it —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *John Adams* 26th JUNE 1804
The Light-House on Cape Henry bearing South, Distant 2 Leagues. —

SIR I had the Honor of writing you on the 21st Inst^{t} since which Time I have been lying at a single Anchor, Wind-bound, which has continued blowing with but little Variation from N. E to E. S. E untill this Morning, when we weigh'd with a light Air from the Westward, that however soon left us, and we drifted down some Distance with the Ebb-Tide untill we got a Breeze from about S. E by which we are standing to sea and hope it will not Eastern upon us before we clear the Land, the Pilot will leave us in about half an hour by whom I forward this Letter.

It was extremely mortifying to me to have been detained so long in Hampton Roads; but I assure you that it was unavoidable, which I believe the Commodore, and the other Captains of the Squadron can testify.

[NDA. MC LB, 1804–5.]

To Monsieur Beaussier, French Chargé d'Affaires and Commissary General, Tripoli, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Malta June 26th 1804

SIR I had the honor to write you by M^{r} OBrien on the 13th Inst: but as you did not please either to see him or write me an answer, I have reason to expect that you would not give yourself any concern in our Affairs at Tripoly — I have recieved your letter by the master of the Ligurian Prize, and although I find her under Spanish Colors

with 1650 Spanish dollars belonging to residents in Tripoly; yet such attention have I paid to your declaration that I have released the Vessel and Property, and have put the Frenchman M[r] [space] in quiet possession of both — I have sent the Cloathing & some Stores for the American Prisoners over in a Neutral Vessel, and have consigned it to his Excellency Sidi Mahomet D'Ghies requesting him to permit them to be delivered to the Danish Consul presuming that it would not be agreeable to you to recieve them — If I am wrong in my conjecture, you cannot convince me of it more fully than by prevailing on his Excellency to allow the Cloathing & Stores to be delivered to Cap[t] Bainbridge Himself —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 26 June 1804

At Anchor in Malta Harbour at ½ past 10 Weighed Anchor Carried a Kedge ahead and Warped some distance out of the harbour of Malta at 12 let go the Anchor Crew Emp[d] Watering

At 7 P M. Weighed anchor and stood out of the harbour of Malta

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Tuesday, 26 June 1804

Wind from the Eastward, ordered a Boat to row Guard to prevent surprize, sent six boats to bring off Water & provisions, — Ordered fresh Beef & Vegitables for the ships Crew, — Surgeons report 9 sick & 10 convalescent, — I this day released a Ketch sent in by the *Argus* & *Vixen*, from Tripoly bound to this place, it appeared by her Papers, among which was a Certificate from all the Consuls that she was a French Vessel carried into Tripoly by a corsair & detained two years, — and lately released in consequence of a demand of her by the French Government, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Tuesday, 26 June 1804

Light airs from the Eastward — At single anchor in Saragosa — *Enterprize* & six Gun boats in company. Employed making the necessary arrangements for watering ship & recieving provisions —

Unbent the Mainsail to repair

At 8 P. M. armed a boat which continued outside of the Harbor during the Night as a Guard boat

At day light six shore boats came and took away ten Gang Casks each to be employed in watering ship Rec'd fresh beef and a Quantity of Vegetables for the ships company. employed recieving in water & provisions

Surgeons report 9 sick, 10 convalescent.

Noon moderate breezes from the Eastward

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 26 June 1804

First Part frequent and heavy Squalls of Rain — At 6 P M passed Cape Henry — At 8 the Light House bore S W ½ W dist 6 Miles from which I take my Departure — detained the Pilot untill Midnight, my Reason for doing this was that the Wind was falling light and scant — At 11 the Wind hauling to about S. W. and a fine Breeze I discharged him Ends with moderate Gales and hazy. — Wind South.

[LC. EPP, Journal, June to 6 August 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, 26 June 1804

[Several lines of Manuscript mutilated.] *Congress Essex & Constellation* to sail in a few days. — at 7. P. M. Cape Henry bore S. W. b S. Dist. 4½ miles Cape Charles N ½ E Dis^{t} 13 miles — at 8. Cape Henry bore S. W. ½ W. Dis^{t} 2½ Leagues. — at 11 P. M. the Pilot left the ship. and we all delivered our letters for our friends. I set up untill about 12 OClock at night. the Wind continuing light. at the Southw^{d} & Westw^{d} —

[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, Tuesday, 26 June 1804

The *Scourge* in Co. Midnight moderate breezes & clear. ½ past 9 the land in sight, heard the report of Cannon call'd all hands, made all sail & stood for Tripoli. At 10 discover'd the *Vixen* off our weather bow & a large ship at anchor of[f] Tripoli. At ½ past 10 the *Vixen* made the signal that the strange ship was a friend — ¾ past 10 saw the ship had English colours flying. At 11 TK^{d} to the N N E. —

Latt: Obs: 33° 13′ N.

[NDA.]

To Prime Minister to the Bashaw of Tripoli, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. Ship *Constitution*
June 27th 1804

His Excellency Sidi Mahomed Dghies
Prime Minister to His Excellency the Bashaw of Tripoly —

Sir — When I was off Tripoly on the 13th Inst — You consented that some cloathing & other necessaries might be sent on shore for the use of the American prisoners in your regency, But the white flag on the castle was hauled down before we could get them out of the Ship — and I am now induced to send them in a Neutral Vessel as before suggested by yourself — I have taken the liberty to consign them directly to you, to be delivered into the charge of M^{r} Nissen the Danish Consul, unless your Excellency could find it consistant to permit them to be delivered directly into the charge of Capt Bainbridge — Your Honorable & humane treatment of my countrymen, heretofore, Justifies the confidence I now place in you, and rest as-

sured Sir, that my Government as well as all Europe must admire & applaud the finer feelings of humanity, more especially when exerted to alleviate the sufferings of those which were thrown into your power by the Chances of War.

The Vessel which carries these over is an English Vessel and has my passport. If you wish to send Dispatches to any of the European Powers or Elsewhere, I promise you, that they shall be considered as Sacred —

The enclosed letters to Cap^{t} Bainbridge & Consul Nissen I beg you will permit to be delivered to these Gentlemen.

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
June 27th 1804

Dear Sir

* * * * * * *

[First four paragraphs are the same as the letter to Captain Bainbridge dated 19 June 1804.]

I have forwarded to you in an English Vessel from Malta 14 Bales of cloathing & provisions & stores as p^{r} Invoice and have consigned the whole to Sidi Mohammed Dghies and requested him to permit M^{r} Nissen the Danish Consul to take charge of them for you as it will relieve his Excellency from any trouble respecting them and I hope M^{r} Nissen will excuse my troubling him with this commission & he may rest assured that it will afford me the highest Satisfaction to have it in my power to make him grateful returns — I feel sensible I am under great Obligations to his Excellency the Bashaw for his goodness in permitting me to send you, these necessary articles in a Neutral Vessel —

Attend Particularly to this letter & all its contents as it may be interesting to you — I have sent the Winter as well as the Summer Cloathing —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse June 27th 1804

DEAR SIR I enclose you a copy of an Invoice of 14 Bales of Cloathing & Sundry Stores to be sent to Tripoly for the use of the Officers & Crew of the *Philadelphia* — I have consigned them to the Prime Minister His Excellency Sidi Mahammed DGhies and have requested him to permit them to be delivered to the Danish Consul or to Cap^{t} Bainbridge — Such of the Stores as I have put on board the *Argus* I have marked with a A in the Margin — the remainder I wish you to procure so as to conform exactly with the Invoice, & mark them "Cap^{t} Bainbridge" — You will please to hire a Felucca or large Sparonaro with English Colors and send them over immediately — Cap^{t} Hull is to convoy her to Tripoly — I wish you to prevail on Sir A Ball to send two thousand Doll^{s} to the British Consul with orders to supply Cap^{t} B. with that amount, but let the money go over from

the Governor in his own name, and you replace it in Malta, & I will give you bills for the amount when I arrive —

I enclose you a letter for Gov^{r} Ball which you will seal & then deliver —

Please to have all the cloathing marked "Cap^{t} Bainbridge" You must not regard the Price of freight but procure it as cheap as you can —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy commanding, Wednesday, 27 June 1804

at ½ past 8 hove too and hoisted in the boats at 9 filled away and made all sail by the wind the harbour of Malta bore S S W dist^{t} 2 miles

At midnight fine W^{r} ½ past Commited the body of W^{m} Adams (Sea^{n}) to the deep several Strange sail in Sight

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Wednesday, 27 June 1804

Light airs from the Westward —

At Anchor in Saragosa — *Enterprize* & 6 Gun boats in company. At 9 P. M. the Guard boat reported the arrival at this Port of the Brig *Argus* which we left at Malta on Monday last.

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

To Captain Daniel Carmick, U. S. Marine Corps, New Orleans, La., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM^{t} *28 June 1804.* —

SIR, Previous to the receipt of your's dated at New Orleans 13th May, the requisite arrangements had been made relative to the rank of the respective Officers, and the necessary orders from Gen^{l} Wilkinson had been forwarded.

It is directed that the Officers of the Marine Corps and those of the Army shall take rank of each other agreeably to grade and the dates of their commissions without reference to the particular services to which they may have been originally designed, bearing in recollection that the first consideration is concord and a desire to further by every laudable and honorable means the good and prosperity of the Country. —

I am sorry to learn so many of the troops are in bad health. The utmost attention from the officers as well as from the Surgeons is absolutely necessary on this subject.

The letter which you make mention of from D^{r} Rogers has not come to hand.

[NDA. USMC, LB, 1804–1820.]

To Daniel Bedinger, Navy Agent and Superintendent of Navy Yard, Norfolk, Va., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP^{t} *June 28th 1804*

I enclose you a list of Timber Plank Spars &^{c} which with 10 brass 24 pounders and 5. Brass Eighteen pound Cannon with carriages &^{c}

complete will compose a second cargo to be sent to the Dey of Algiers —

You will immediately take measures for procuring the timber &c agreeably to the list enclosed and will use every exertion to have it completed in the shortest period possible —

The cannon will be procured at this place as soon as it is ready and you shall have provided the Timber plank &c a Vessel must be chartered for the Voyage suitable for the Cargo but you will not enter into contract for one until you have received directions from me

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

To Joshua Wingate, Hallowell, District of Maine, from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEPt *June 28th 1804*

It is intended to send to the Dey of Algiers a cargo of Timber plank &c of the quantity and Kind specified in the enclosed list —

As it can be advantageously procured on the Kennebeck River and it having been intimated to me that it might probably be convenient for you to attend to the Shipment during your stay in that Quarter, I take the liberty to Request that you will procure it on the best terms in your power and with all practicable dispatch it being desirable that the shipment be made as early as possible —

You may not be able to procure the Timber of the exact dimensions stated in the list without losing much time — some latitude must therefore be allowed you not supposing that a perfect attention can be given to the list so as to make a correspondence in inches in every respect It is desirable however that the list be attended to as nearly as possible and that if there be any Variation from it it be an increase rather than a decrease in size —

You will also charter a Vessel for the cargo as soon as you shall have procured it on the best terms in your power —

The necessary monies for the purchase of the Timber &c and payment of freight will be supplied on your Requisition and instructions to the Captain of the Vessel will be given as soon as she is ready to sail —

Should you not be able to attend to this Business during your stay you will please offer it to your Father who I am informed is in that line — the usual Commission will be allowed — Please to let me hear from you as soon as convenient —

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

To Lieutenant Peter S. Ogilvie, U. S. Navy, Washington, D. C., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP. *28th June 1804.* —

You will immediately repair to Baltimore and open Rendezvous, and use every exertion to procure 10 able, and 16 ordinary Seamen to man the Gun-boat No 1, building at this place: they must be entered to serve two years. Allow to able seamen 12 dollars, and to ordinary seamen 8 dollars Pr month, and make them 4 months advance, on receiving responsible security that they will be delivered to your Officer, who will be charged to conduct them to this place.

Colonel Stricker, Navy Agent at Baltimore, will supply the necessary monies, and will direct you how far to go, should you find it impracticable, to enter the men on the Terms here stated. —

Blank shipping papers are enclosed. One of the able seamen you may enter as a Boatswain, and one as a Gunner. —

[NDA. Off. Comg. Gunboats, 1803–1808.]

To Josiah Fox, Washington, D. C., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP^{t} *28. June 1804*

It has been determined to build 2 other Gun Boats at the navy yard at this place agreeably to the draft which you have furnished with such improvements as we may from time to time suggest —

You will take immediate measures for procuring the materials that may be necessary in the construction of these Boats by contract on the best terms in your power, and build them under your Own Superintendance and with your Own men

Ascertain in the first instance what materials not applied to other Purposes the yard can afford you and then make your contracts for the remainder — The Kind of materials to be used is Submitted to your own Judgment let them however be so prepared as to ensure the duration of the Boats — much loss has been heretofore experienced by inattention to this Subject

In the present instance I expect that Every injury from that Source will be cautiously guarded against by your Knowledge of the Business —

Your Acquaintance with the Timber Business will, I hope, enable you to make contracts to advantage both with respect to quality of the materials and the men who may offer to contract for them — Be careful that the persons to whom you give the preference be fully able to perform all they undertake for

The whole Business may else be Submitted to delay and loss — Money will be deposited with Cap^{n} Tingey subject to your Orders on account of the Contracts you may make and you will draw on him in favor of the contractors agreeably to your Contract.

Small advances may be made should you be of Opinion it would serve to Expedite the fulfilment of the contracts on their part

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

Extracts from a letter from Midshipman Henry Wadsworth, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES BRIG *Scourge* 16,
June 28th, 1804, off Tripoli.

DEAR JACK, Let me now continue for your information the history of the War — for to my friends everything which concerns the honor of the Nation is interesting.

It is two months since the *Scourge* left Syracuse; I have not since leaving America been so lengthy a cruise.

10 days ago the Commodore arrived here and supplyed the *Siren Vixen* and *Scourge* with water and provisions: We came to anchor within gunshot of Tripoli and rec'd on board our Stores.

* * * * * * *

While we were fitting out the *Scourge* at Syracuse a Tuniseen cruiser of 4 guns, came in the harbor in the afternoon. Tacked & stood out again & the same evening landed about 4 miles above the Town and took off some of the Inhabitants. —

The Tuniseens, Tripolines and Algerines with whom they are at war, come into their harbors in neutral Bottoms & walk publicly about their streets. — The Commodore asked the governor why he did not seize a number which were at Syracuse he answered that he was afraid of offending the Minister, Sig. Acting.

* * * * * * *

Scourge July 16, 1804. The Squadron which has been cruizing off the Port of Tripoli during the Summer has consisted of the *Siren, Argus, Vixen, Enterprise, & Scourge.* The Com^re^ has supplied them all with Water & Provisions to prevent their going into Port. The *Vixen* and *Enterprize* are now in Port The *Argus* has lately been in to Malta and convoyed a Ketch chartered for the purpose to Tripoli with stores for the officers: the cargo amounted to 7000$, which I fear has been siezed by the Bashaw, as the officers do not mention their arrival in their prison: the Ketch returned yesterday & I rec'd a letter from M^r^ Jones Mid^n^ who was with me in the *Chesapeak.* The inhabitants of Tripoli, the skipper of the Ketch says are all moving out of the City: Famine rages & no supplies can be obtained.

The other morning we discovered a large Sparonao to whom we gave chase & she ran on shore a few miles West of the Town. The *Vixen* anchored close in and made a riddling sieve of her in a short time: she was laden with wheat which they got on shore, the Musketry from shore fired thro the *Vixen's* sails & 4 men were killed in the *Siren's* boat: being the only men in uniform they were picked out for officers by the Tripolines: The shore being rocky they had good hiding places to ply their musquetry from: by the Ketch we learn that there were 150 killed & wounded on shore.

The Boats of the squadron frequently go on shore at a distance from the Town for Sand to scrub our decks: & for amusement, to chase & be chased by the Natives, but they always retire before the people begin to collect. The Gun Boats in number 18 often get under way & work about the Harbor & the Bank to the Eastward, where the *Philadelphia* ran on shore & once or twice we have been at it with long shot, — but this the commodore has now forbid as it practices them in firing.

* * * * * * *

[H. W. L. Dana Col.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 28 June 1804

Came too in the harbour of Syracuse found here the U. S. Ship *Constitution* Schooner *Enterprize* and Six Gunboats — Our boats emp^d^ Watering and Shore boats bringing Off Provisions —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Thursday, 28 June 1804

Wind, S E, *Argus, Enterprize* & Gun Boats in company, — at A M the *Enterprize* sailed for Massina, sent the 14 Bales of Cloathing received at Naples, on board the *Argus* to be carried to Malta, and wrote orders to Mr Higgins to charter a small Vessel send them together with a quantity of Stores as pr order Book, to Tripoly for

the use of the Prisioners, — I wrote to the Bashaws Prime minister & consignd the whole to him, I also wrote Captain Bainbridge & sent him Two Thousand dollars in Cash & wrote the Danish & French Consuls, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 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, 28 June 1804

The Weather [s]till continues moderate and very pleasent Wind still fare at the south^{d} & West^{d}. in Latitude 36. 34, Long. 72. 11. found the Temperature of the air at Noon 78. Water 77 — the sea has a very pleasent appearance to me, and have no symtoms of sea sickness — this day about half past Six in the eavning M^{r} John D. Sears a Midshipman. fell over board every exertion was made to save him but to no effect. He was seen swiming some distance a stearn of the ship. the boat was immediately sent in search of him and picked up his hat and an oar which was thrown to him. but could see nothing [Manuscript mutilated] His death is much [Manuscript mutilated] officers on board. It is said that he is the only child of a Widow Lady who lives at Hever De Grace in the State of Maryland — Her fealings no doubt must meet with a severe shock on hearing this unfortunate news — and can better be amagined than discribed — saw several strange Sail to day but did not speak any of them —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 28 June 1804

First part Strong Gales and Pleasant — At ½ past 6 P. M M^{r} John D. Sears Midshipman, unfortunately fell overboard, and altho' every exertion was made Use of to save him it proved ineffectual — Ends with pleasant Weather Wind N. W

[Left Cape Henry 26 June 1804.]

[LC. EPP, Journal, June to 6 August 1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 28 June 1804

½ past Mer^{n} came too with the Stream in 60 fathoms, Tripoli bearing S. by W 4 leagues dist^{t} — At 6 Cap^{t} Smith came on board ½ past 7 Tripoli bore S ½ W 3 leagues. ½ past 7 parted the cable in heaving up. At ¼ past 8 set courses & main top mast stay sail & stood to the N E

Latt: Obs: 33° 17′ N.

[NDA.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. Ship *Constitution*
Messina June 29th 1804

Sir, Some few days ago I recieved a letter from Mess^{rs} J. Mackenzie & A. Glennie in London in answer to mine advising them of the bills

for £4000 under date of the 27th September last being a Forgery — as also a letter I some time since recieved from John Gavino Esquire — and am sorry I cannot throw some light on this Villainous transaction I have but little doubt however but that the matter will be so far traced as to leave it out of the Power of Caprice to attach any censure or suspicion on any officer of this Ship or Squadron — I could not but feel a little hurt at the insinuation of Messrs M & G. knowing as I do the impractibility of any of my Officers having it in their power to be accessary to a fraud which must have required time and the deepest artifice —

The letter of Credit I delivered into Mr Gavino's hands on board this Ship about the 15th or 16th September advising him of its contents, and requesting that it might be sent by the first safe conveyance — In doing this I think I was correct, as there was a better chance of it's meeting a safe conveyance from Gibraltar than from any other Port in the mediterranean — And Surely I am justified in giving it in charge of the *American Consul* at that place for the Purpose of transmitting, more especially as the business with Morrocco at that time scarcely admitted of my being on shore and entirely precluded me from an opportunity of finding a conveyance for it —. When we consider all the circumstances of the letters & Bills arriving at the same time in London, and the letter endorsed by Mr Gavino we have strong grounds to suspect that the fraud originated in Mr Gavino's office, but by whom time alone can develope — Certain it is that no person in my Squadron could have negotiated bills for £4000 in Gibraltar had I absolutely drawn them without my having been consulted, being as it were on the spot — Indep[end]ant of which my Officers had no communication with the Office of Mr Gavino or, scarcely, with the Shore —

Messrs M & G. are pleased to observe that "had I enclosed the letter of Credit informing them that I had Specie on board" &ca the fraud had not happened — How was I to foresee the necessity of informing them that I had cash on board? In truth it would seem that these Gentlemen would justify their having accepted those bills at an *unusual Sight*, at the Expence of my prudence and the honor of My Officers — But I hope & trust we shall all stand justified in your Opinion: for Certain it is that every man who has a Credit abroad is every day liable to the same Misfortune — If a Villain is disposed to make use of anothers name, he can never want an opportunity —

I regret sincerely that this Fraud has taken place — The Duties of my Office fall sufficiently heavy on me without the anxiety which must necessarily attend even a possibility of being censured for an act of Villainy which human wisdom could not foresee — I have the honor to be with the highest consideration

N. B. In Messrs Mackenzies and Glennie's letter you'll observe that they have substituted Laurent Brown for Laurent Roberts I conclude this is merely a clerical mistake —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To James Mackenzie and A. Glennie, London, England, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. Frigate *Constitution*
Messina June 29th 1804

Gentlemen I am honored with your favor of 8th May 1804 acknowledging the Reciept of mine of 7th March last —

You are pleased to suggest that had I enclosed the letter of Credit in one of my own, and advised you of the Circumstance of my having brought Specie with me, the Fraud had not happened — I would ask you Gentlemen, was it for human wisdon to see the necessity of such a communication? And if we freely indulge and express our suspicions, where may they not rest? We may as soon suspect the Clerks in your Office as the Officers on board my ship: and when I inform you that I delivered this letter of Credit into Mr Gavino's hands about the 15th or 16 Septemr last, and that my Officers had no communication with his Office or the Shore (being at that time before Tangier) you will acknowledge the propriety of the remark.

As I have no clew whereby I can investigate this affair and as you have honored these bills at an *unusual Sight*, I trust you will spare no pains in tracing this Villainous transaction to its Origin that the baneful breath of Suspicion may not fall upon the innocent —

It is a great Source of regret to me that this Fraud has happened, but I cannot but believe however that you will be able to bring its author to light —

In your letter advising me of your having honored my bills, you mentioned their having been drawn in favor of Laurent Roberts — In your letter of the 8th May you call him Laurent Brown — I wish that in your next you will advise me whether his name is Laurent Roberts or Brown, as it is of importance to know in any enquiry I may have it in my power to make — I should like to be informed also of the firm of the house which these Bills went through at Lisbon, and by whom presented in London — Of this however I may expect to be informed when you have made the necessary investigation —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To Robert R. Livingston, U. S. Minister to Paris, France, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

United States Ship *Constitution*
Messina 29th June 1804

Sir — I had the honor to write you the 15th May last — After having delivered the letter of Mr Talleyrand to the French Commissary General [Beaussier] at Tripoly — It was then my opinion that he was too much in the Interest of the Bashaw to render us any service, and I think the enclosed letter from him will convince you I was right; he wrote me a letter in which he Observed that he had been very attentive to our unfortunate Countrymen, for which I returned him thanks in a letter, a copy of which accompanies this — But Mr Beaussier decieved me He has not, I believe ever seen Capt Bainbridge, or his Officers, or rendered them any assistance — Indeed I believe he is our Enemy, and urges the Bashaw to keep up the War — that he and his Brother who is a Speculating Merchant at Tripoly may be benefited by it —. I am told by our Consular Agent at Tunis that Mr Beausier has lately contracted with the Bashaw of

Tripoly to furnish him with 500 Barrels of Gun Powder, besides other military stores to come from Marseilles — this I think looks rather hostile than friendly; I understand he intends to land it in that part of the Regency of Tunis nearest Tripoly to be transported by Land to avoid our Cruizers —

If France inclines to act as Mediator — The Emperor must send a Man from France for that Purpose. I did not suppose that when France was to act as Mediator, that we were to pay half a million of Dollars for the Ransom of Prisoners and a Peace, for if we should incline to acceed to the Bashaw's demands, we may have Peace whenever we choose without the assistance of any other agent than our Dollars —

I have borrowed Eight Gun & two Mortar Boats from the Neapolitan Government — The Gun boats are in the Port of Syracuse, and I came here yesterday to take the Bomb Vessels to join them, and shall proceed with the whole for Tripoly, which town I intend to bombard & cannonade untill I can bring the Bashaw to reasonable terms — We continue to keep his Ports, closely blockaded —

When I wrote you last from Naples, I expected to have been off Tripoly with the Gun boats immediately, but they have required more repairs than I expected —

Tunis threatens, but I do not believe will make war against us while we have a respectable naval force in these seas —

Spain is hostile in her conduct towards us — There are now, in Tripoly 14 Spanish Ship Carpenters sent from the King's Yards to build Gun Boats for the Bashaw — they wear the Spanish Cockade, and I am well informed are regularly paid once a week by the Spanish Consul — I am told that they went to Tripoly with the Passport of M^{r} Pinckney our Minister at Madrid — If so, I fancy he has been decieved —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To Thomas Appleton, U. S. Consul, Leghorn, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. Ship *Constitution*
Messina June 29th 1804

Sir I am honored with your much esteemed favor of the 21st Ulto — be asured I value your correspondance too highly to have neglected writing you from Naples, as I am sorry you suppose. Many of my friends, no doubt, think the same, and are justified in the supposition from an unaccountable fatality attending letters either to, or from me. I have not recieved a letter from the Navy department but what bears date early than Intelligence of the loss of the *Philadelphia* was recieved in the United States, although it is eight months since that event — . At Naples I applied to the Neapolitan Government for the loan of Six Gun, and two Mortar boats, and for 6 long battering cannon with Powder Shot & shells and all the necessary Military and Naval Stores for an attack on Tripoly with them — this request was immediately, and in a handsome manner complied with, and I am now in possession of the whole, and sail immediately for Tripoly to commence an attack which I hope will bring the Bashaw to such terms of Peace as we shall not blush to accept of. His Harbour & Coast is at present closely block-

aded — I left Sight of it the 14th: Inst: since which I have visited Tunis —

His Tunisian Majesty threatens but I do not believe he will declare war against us while we have a respectable force in these Seas —

Please to forward the letter for Mr Livingston as soon as possible — The Mediation of France through their Consul at Tripoly will be of no use, but rather a disadvantage to us, as he is altogether in the Bashaw's interest

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Friday, 29 June 1804

Wind S W at anchor in Syracuse Harbour, since our arrival here we have taken on board five months provisions & stores & filled up all our water Casks, — at 9 weighed & sailed for Messina, left the Gun Boats at Anchor and the *Argus* ready for sea with orders to proceed to Malta & Convoy over to Tripoly the Vessels with the cloathing & Stores for the American Prisioners, and to remain at the Blocade of that Port, —

[LC. EPP, Dairy, 1803–1804.]

Presumably to Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. Frigate *Congress*
Hampton roads June 30, 1804

Dear Sir At last I have the pleasure to inform you the Squadron is ready for Sea, and that we shall sail tomorrow. — The Ships all look extremely well, and I am in hopes the manner in which they will be employ'd, will retract no merit from their appearance; either in the Eyes of our own Counterymen, or nations less interested. It is impossible for me to express the concern, which I feel for the Fate of the Expedition; feeling as an *American*, that if we act like such, in deserving the confidence our Goverment has deposed in us; that we will not only receive the thanks of our Country (and command the respect of our Enemys) but deserve its protection —

In fine I feel sensible that if our opperations are compleatly successful and decisive, we shall command the respect and admiration of all the Civilized part of the World, but if not successful (which I flatter myself there is but little fear of) we shall stamp a character derogatory to the honor of our Country (and ourselves) which ages of success will not completely remove. —

I feel a confidence that I shall always do my duty, so far as my abilities will admit, in every situation my country may think proper to honor me with, and I should think it unjust if nature had deprived me of that susceptibility of Heart and Intellectual decernment which alone makes Man superior to the commonality of other Animals; In tendering you my most sincere thanks, for the Interest you have always appear'd to take in my Welfare, my ambition will never Know any full period on this side the Grave, yet believe me it will never soar higher than *deservingly* to merit the *compleat* approbation of such Men as yourself; and so long as Honor, Virtue, Gratitude and aspiration to glorious actions, shall be deem'd Laudible companions for the Souls of Men, be assured that the recollection of yourself will ever prevent my doing wrong —

I beg you to present my most dutiful respects to your amiable Lady, for whose happiness as well as yours, I hope the alwise ruler of the Universe will continue to be bountiful —

If it should be my fate never to see you again, and the cause such as to make my Picture worthy of a Corner in your House, I beg of you to accept it as the greatest proof of the high respect, friendship and Esteem of your,

[LC. JRP, Letters & Orders, Book A, 1804–1805.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco

TANGIER *30th June 1804.* —

DEAR SIR I had the pleasure of writing you 22d Feby &28th May both in duplicate to guard against miscarriage — but I have not yet had the satisfaction of hearing from you. —

The Emperours three Ships have been fitted out & are in readyness to put to Sea —

Maimona 30 Guns & 70 Men Commanded by Arraez Sebrah
Maimona 32 Guns 80 Men ..... Arraez Auwed
Mirboha 14 Guns 50 Men ..... Arraez Lubarez
this is the same Ship he commanded last Cruize —

You will observe the compliment of Men of all these Vessels are considerably reduced, which makes it be imagined they may be destined on some special Service, and not to Cruize. —

Reports have gone abroad that Muley Soliman wishes to yield one of these Ships to the Tripolines in lieu of the *Meshouda* — if that plan be pursued I think it very probable she may be left for them at Algiers or Tunis. —

Alcayde Hashash has nothing to do with the Armament of this year — on the contrary in other respects he has lately felt the Emperours displeasure. —

JAMES SIMPSON

Affairs are so far arranged between the Emperour of Germany and Muley Soliman that these three Ships are provided with Imperial Passports issued by the Spanish Consul, who has been the Mediator on this occasion.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June-August 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 30 June 1804

at 5 Capt Hull with Consul OBrien came onboard with a Sicilian Gentleman and 2 Servants Passengers At 6 weighed Anchor for Malta At ½ past 6 the main topsail Tye parted by which accident Thos Merry Wm Clark & James Wilson fell the latter overboard and the 2 former on deck badly Wounded made all Sail at 9 thos merry died of his wounds at 4 AM Committed the body to the deep At 7 boarded an English privateer from Malta on a cruise At 10 Cape Passora bore N ½ E Empd Occy

[NDA photostat.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Congress*, from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

CIRCULAR

U. S. FRIGATE *President*
Hampton roads July 1. 1804

SIR In case of Seperation you will proceed to Gibraltar, and there wait the arrival of the Squadron — If circumstances make it absolutely necessary to proceed a loft, you will exercise your judgement in this case, leaving for me all the information in your power —

[LC. JRP, Letters & Orders, 1804–1805.]

[1 July 1804?]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. FRIGATE *Congress*
Hampton roads July

SIR, I have the honor to Enclose you a Muster Roll of this Ships Crew, including every Person, which left Washington in her, with those shipp'd since, & a seperate roll of those turn'd over to other ships & sent to the Hospital at Washington, with such remarks as have occur'd — Many of the Men (ship'd in Balt[o]) that stand charged in the shipping articles with four Months advance, complain of not receiving a single dollar, & no officer that recruited at that place, Except Lieu[t] Evans, has produc'd a single Voucher to prove the contrary —

M[r] Nicholson inform'd me that he took receipts for all the Moneys he advanc'd, but the *John Adams* has sail'd without his producing any —

M[r] Gardiner acknowledges, that he never took any receipts, and has nothing to prove the complaints of a number of men *False*, or without Foundation, further than his own Word; M[r] Gardiners conduct as well as the Surgeons Mate, who attended the rendezvous, I think highly reprehensible, having Shipp'd a Number of Miserable, useless unsound wretches, perfectly unqualified for any Service —

[LC. JRP, Letters & Orders, Book A, 1804–1805.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. FRIGATE *Congress*
H. Roads July 1, 1804

SIR, The Spare Deck of this ship is so extremely lumberd with Spars & Plank, that it is impossible to Stow the Launch without great inconvenience; and as she is an unweildy, unservicible Boat that will not carry a bower Anchor; I have thought proper to leave her at Norfolk —

[LC. JRP, Letters & Orders, Book A, 1804–1805.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Captain Thomas Briggs, R. N., of H. B. M. S. *Agincourt*

Agincourt, MALTA, *July 1[st] 1804*

SIR I take the liberty of sending you a line by M[r] Lewis who will acquaint you how far we have been able to assist him in forwarding your Dispatches. Still I cannot help expressing to you our regret at parting with him as he is an Active Excellent young man, and I most sincerely hope his passage being delayed will not interfere with

any preferment he might otherwise have met with: as every exertion on his part was used to facilitate the Service you were pleased to send him on and he expressed the greatest anxiety to rejoin your Squadron.

Wishing you health & Success against your Enemies the Barbarians,

Signed THO^{S} BRIGGS

N B — M^{R} Thompson Midshipman belonging to your Squadron availed himself of this Opportunity for Malta in the *Agincourt* T B

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Midshipman William Lewis, U. S. Navy

MALTA *July 1st 1804*

SIR I arrived here yesterday in the *Agincourt* after a passage of 5 weeks from Gibraltar — She Sailed two days after the *Constitution* left this place (the 18th March) with Stores on board for the Fleet off Toulon — Owing to this circumstance we did not arrive at Gibraltar untill the 5th May. On the 7th May, a brig arrived there 22 days from Boston — She brought Intelligence of 5 Frigates fitting out for the Mediterranean Viz, the *United States*[*], the *President*, *Constellation*, *Congress* and *John Adams* — I could only learn that Cap^{t} Ja^{s} Barron Commanded the *United States*[*]

On the 9th I sent N^{o} 3 of your dispatches to Cadiz by an American Gentleman going there, with a letter to M^{R} Iznardi, and on the 17th I recieved his answer stating that he had forwarded it by an American Ship bound to Alexandria in Virginia. The 13th May the *True American* (ship) of New York & Brig *Harriot* of Beverly sailed for these places — I sent N^{os} 1 & 2 with the private letters by those conveyances — The 22^{d} I recieved several packets by the way of Lisbon. One is directed to yourself; the others to Cap^{t} Bainbridge & Lieut^{t} Comm^{t} Stewart & Decatur — I believe they are from the Naval Department I have no other letters except one from M^{R} Gavino to yourself but I collected all the Newspapers which fell in my way according to your Orders — M^{R} Gadsden who was charged with your dispatches for Government had a passage of 76 days — The Intelligence of the loss of the *Philadelphia* arrived before him and I understood had caused Universal Concern throughout the United States — On the 24th May the *Agincourt* sailed for Gibraltar with a convoy for this place — We had Easterly winds untill we made the S W End of Sardinia —

The *Argus* came in here this morning — Cap^{t} Hull advises me to remain here with your letters untill your arrival from Messina —

I have thus Sir as briefly as possible given an account of my conduct since leaving the Ship; and I hope you will be pleased to think I have executed your commands as strictly & speedily as was in my power —

[*The *United States* was not one of Commodore Barron's squadron.]

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 1 July 1804

At 3 made the Island of Malta bearing S W b W dist^{t} 5 or 6 Leagues

At 8 the harbour of Malta bore W S W dist^{t} 4 miles set and took in Sail as Necessary

At midnight came to in the harbour of Malta in 13 fms Water —

[NDA photostat]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Sunday, 1 July 1804

at 1 P M anchored in 24 fathoms hard sandy Bottom in Massina Roads abreast of the quarantine ground or Lazaretto and moored with a Stream Cable on shore made fast to a tree, established a guard Boat to prevent surprize or desertion, the *Nautilius* & *Enterprize* here, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, from 1 July to 5 July 1804

July 1. [On board U. S. Frigate *President*.] The Commodore embarked for sea [from Cape Henry] —

2d Becalmed.

3d 5. a. m. weighed — Becalmed came to at 8. a. m.

4. 4. a. m. got under way — Becalmed at 12. Came to within Cape Henry —

5. Put to sea. Fair wind —

Nothing remarkable on this passage except the multitudes of black skins and black coats, negroes and methodist preachers, which infest this state; and which will revolutionize it —

[H. E. Huntington L&AG. EA 206.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 1 July 1804

I find that the Ship steers extremely bad owing I presume to her being so very deep in the Water. — Ends with strong Gales and hazy Weather. — Wind S. W.

[LC. EPP, Journal, June to 6 August 1804.]

To James Maury, U. S. Consul, Liverpool, England, from Secretary of State

DEPARTMENT OF STATE *July 2d 1804.*

SIR. I have received your letter of the 4th May last. By a law passed during the last session of Congress, which will be transmitted to you as soon as the volume is printed, a naturalised Citizen returning to the Country from which he originated, and residing there a year is disqualified to hold a registered Vessel. But this as well as the position stated in my circular of the 1st of October do not affect the case you put for solution respecting itinerant or temporarily resident Citizens, holding as American property Vessels not registered. In fact as the laws now stand it is a mere question of National character; and whenever you can satisfy yourself of an individual being bona fide a Citizen, it follows that you ought to attest his property as such; leaving it to those, who are so disposed, to contest in any particular case the relation existing between the asserted owner and the Vessel as affected by his residence in a belligerent Country.

[NA. SDA. Despatches to Consuls, Oct. 1800–Feb. 1817.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 2 July 1804

These 24 hours Commence with moderate breezes Obtained Pratique —

At 8 Consul OBrien with the Sicilian Gentleman went on Shore at 10 Weighed Anchor and Warped up the harbour [of Malta] at 12 brought too and moored ship —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Monday, 2 July 1804

Wind East, received a complimentary visit from the General of Marines and from the Governor through his aid de Camp, I find one of the Bomb Vessels loaned us by the King of Naples nearly ready for sea, the other is not yet launched, but will be in a few days 9 sick & 7 convalescent is Reported, —

[LC. EPP, Dairy, 1803–1804.]

To William Wass Langford, British Consul General, Tripoli, from Sir Alexander John Ball, Governor of Malta

MALTA, 3^{d} *July 1804*

SIR, I have the honor to inclose a Bill of Lading for One hundred and twenty five (125) Doublooms shipped on board the English Bombard called the *Eliza*, Captain Francis Gilio to your address, by order of Commodore Preble, Commander of the United States Squadron for the use of Captain Bainbridge, and the unfortunate American Prisoners in Tripoly.

Inclosed is a letter from the Commodore to you which I suppose expresses his wish upon this subject, and I likewise forward a letter to your address which having been brought with a number of others directed to me was inadvertently opened but not read —

The Admiralty, London, NDA photostat.]

Concerning American Ship *Eliza*

SHIPPED, by the Grace of God, in good Order and well Conditioned, by Messrs John Ross & Co for His Excellency Sir alexander Ball Baronet &c^{a} *in and upon the good Ship called the* ELIZA *whereof is Master, under God, for this present Voyage,* franco Gilio — *and now riding at anchor in the* harbour of Malta *and by God's Grace, bound for* Tripoly *to say,*

W. W. LANGFORD Esqr English Consul Tripoly } a Sealed Bag Containing One hundred & twenty five Spanish Dubboons in Gold —

being marked and numbered as in the margin, and are to be delivered in the like good Order and well Conditioned, at the aforesaid Port of Tripoly — *(the Act of God, the King's Enemies, Fire and all and every other Dangers and Accidents of the Seas, Rivers, and Navigation, of whatever Nature and Kind soever excepted) unto* Wm W. Langford Esqr English Consul — *or to* his *Assigns, he or they paying Freight for the said Goods* gratus — *with Primage and Average accustomed. In Witness whereof the Master or Purser of the said Ship hath affirmed to* three *Bills of Lading, all of this Tenor and Date; the one of which* three *Bills being accomplished, the other* two *to stand void. And so God send the good Ship to her desired Port in Safety. Amen. Dated in* Malta 3. July 1804

Per Pad:

Francesco Gilio Io Ignazio Cammilleri suo Scriuano

[Translation: For the Master Francesco Gilio, I Ignazio Cammilleri his Mate]

[Maine HS. NDA photostat.]

[3 July 1804]

Stores and Provisions Shipped on board the *Eliza*

Shipped by the Grace of God in good Order and well conditioned by W^m Higgins American Naval Agent, in & upon the good ship called the *Eliza* whereof is master under God for this present Voyage Franc^o Gilio, & now riding at Anchor in the Harbour of Malta, & by God's grace bound for the Squadron of the United States under the Command of Commodore Preble off Tripoly. The goods or Stores as particularized on the back hereof being American Property & shipped for the use of said Squadron, being marked & numbered as in the Margin; and are to be delivered in the like good Order & well conditioned to commodore Preble (the Acts of God, the Kings enemies, Fire and all and Every other Dangers & Accidents of the Seas, Rivers & Navigation of whatever nature & Kind soever excepted unto [space] or his Assigns, he, or they paying freight for the said Goods nothing, (the Vessel being the property of the U. S. of America), with primage & average accustomed — In Witness Whereof the Master or Purser of the Said Ship hath affirmed to three bills of lading, One of which bills being accomplished, the other two to stand Void; And so God Send the good Ship to her desired Port in Safety. Amen —

(Signed) Cross of X Cap^t Giglio

Endorsed on the back as follows

15 Baskets fruit & Vegetables
2 Sacks Melons
8 barrels cont^s 24 doz^n Porters
Forty Sheep
20 Cantars Onions
100 bundles Hay
half a Salm of barley
20 pesati of Wood or about 103 English Cw^t &
133 Iron bound Puncheons full of Water.

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 3 July 1804

[At Hampton Roads, 1 and 2 July 1804.] A. M. at ½ past 4 the commodore made The Signal N^o 1205, at ½ past 5 weighed And made sail the *President Essex* and *Constellation* in company.

At 6 light airs inclining to calm came too with our Larb^d bower in ¼ less 6 fath^ms water P^r Signal old point comfort bearing N E ½ N Distance 4 miles

[USNA.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Tuesday, 3 July 1804

Wind N E *Nautilus & Enterprize* in company, at 8 A M a strong breeze from N B E, waiting for the Bomb Vessels, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from John Gavino, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar

GIBRALTAR *4th July 1804*

DEAR SIR. I have none of your favors since my last p^r^ duplicate under 4th Ult^o^ One Via Leghorn, the other p^r^ Palermo covering dispatches from Consul Simpson —

Yesterday the [American] Schooner *John Adams* Cap^t^ Ramsdel from Philadelphia touched into this bay and delivered the Health Office boat a packet for me from the Navy dep^t^ & went immediately without; Sailing for Leghorn — The Honb^le^ Sec^y^ of the Navy inclosed me triplicate letters to be forwarded you; One by Cap^t^ Hull, the other two by different conveyances. Wherefore, I now enclose you One, by Post Via Leghorn, having no Sea conveyance for any Port in Italy, or the Islands — It informs you of four frigates coming to reinforce you, besides the *John Adams* armed en flute with Provisions — We have nothing new, nor have I heard any thing as yet from Mackenzie & Glennie regarding the Bill affairs —

P. S. Two Portuguese Vessels of the line are gone to cruize in the Mediterranean — Herewith a dispatch from Consul Simpson — A convoy of Victuallers & Store Ships have just arrived from England for this place and Malta —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 4 July 1804

[Malta] At 5 P, M, Dan^l^ Williams Seam^n^ deserted from the launch When on Duty at 6 Warped out from our moorings Weighed Anchor and stood out under easy Sail at 8 Calm got out the Sweeps and sent the Jolly boat and barge to Assist the Spanish Ketch which we had taken under Convoy with Cloathing &c for the Prisoners in Tripoli At 2 AM the boats returned hoisted them At 6 AM saw 3 Strange sail took the Ketch in tow At Meridian fine W^r^ Variously Emp^d^

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 4 July 1804

A. M. commences with hazey weather

At ¼ past 3 the commodore made The Signal N^o^ 1205 at ¾ past 3 Weighed and made sail the *President Essex* and *Constellation* in company.

at ¾ past 7 old point comfort light bore west Distance 8 Miles cape Henry Light E. b S. Distance 4 leagues and cape Charles N E b N Distance 7 Leagues at 10 calm Let go our larb^d^ bower anchor in 7¼ Fathoms water cape Henry bearing S S E 5 Miles Wind E S. E.

[USNA]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Wednesday, 4 July 1804

Wind N E, at Anchor in Messina, *Enterprize & Nautilus* in company, sent [a boat] and an Officer with a party of men to the arsenal to bring off Shells for the Bomb Vessels, one of those Vessels got under way and exercised by throughing three undischarged shells their first range appeared to be about 1½ mile with Neapolitan Powder which is not so strong by one third as ours, each of the bomb Vessels carries a 14 In Brass mortar cast in a solid brass Bed, — elevation of 45° from a Horizontal plan on which the Bed slides & recoils, — the Gun Boats carry each a 26 pounder forward sliding on a horizontal plan when used in action, but when wanted to be secured in Bad weather, it slides into the Hold on an inclined plan & the Hatches are secured over it, This day being the anniversary of American Independence, I ordered a salute of 13 Guns to be fired in honor of that great event, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

To Sailing Master John P. Lovell, U. S. Navy, Washington, D. C., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^{T} *5 July 1804* —

You will take the command of Gun Boat N^{o} 1, and give every requisite attention to her equipment.

You will in due season receive from me such further instructions as may be deemed expedient. —

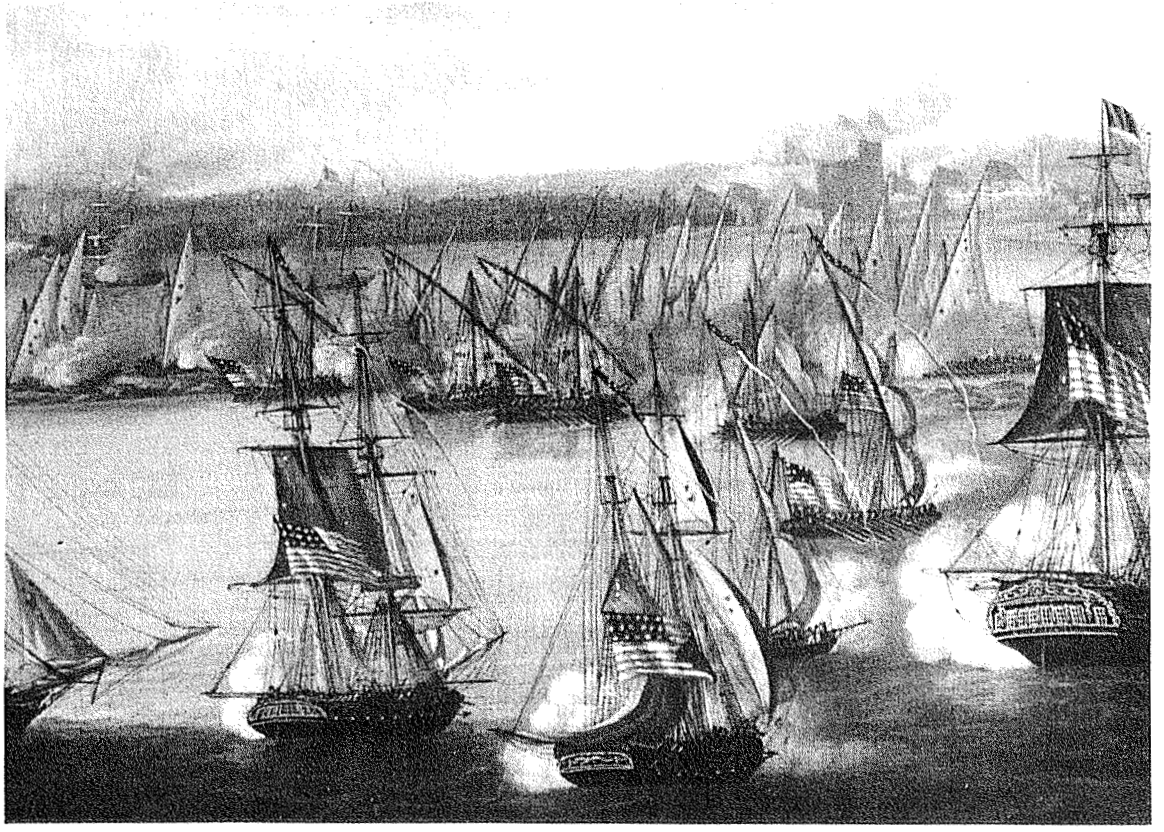
[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

To James Leander Cathcart, Leghorn, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*
Harbor of Messina 5th July 1804

DEAR SIR, I arrived here the 1st instant, and received your letter of the 11th Ult^{o} with its several enclosures. I know not what reason you have to suppose that my sentiments of your exertions in favor of the Prisioners at Tripoli have altered. I was somewhat cautious in writing the Receipt I gave for the clothing: and you well know that an invoice must be necessary to enable the Pursers to make their charges against the people — But my sentiments of your humane exertions are still the same. I enclose you a Copy of my letter to General Acton, and his answer respecting the Gun Boats &c^{a} &c^{a}. I am sensible however that your exertions were well intended, and that they had a good effect —

M^{r} Beaussier is a Friend of the Bashaw of Tripoly's, but no friend of ours —. I sent M^{r} Obrien on shore at Tripoli the 14th Ult^{o} to procure permission to land clothing and stores for the Prisioners but could not obtain it: He was not permitted to see the prisioners or, either of the Consuls — I authorised him to offer the Bashaw two hundred Dollars for each of the prisioners, and to say that I would not give a Cent for peace or, Tribute — these terms he refused and I am now determined to beat him into better humour: The Mortar boats were completed yesterday, and I sail with them tomorrow morning — the Gun boats join me off Syracuse — I have 700 Bomb Shells and plenty of shot to amuse the Bashaw with —



GUNBOAT ACTION OFF TRIPOLI, 3 AUGUST 1804.

No re-inforcement has yet arrived from America as expected, I however think with you that we shall succeed, and the less force we have the more honor —

I have rec^{d} your plans of the Gun & Mortar Boats and thank you for them, It is probable I can accomodate you with a passage home in some public Vessel in the Autumn if your business detain you till then.

I have sent a small Vessel from Malta with all the clothing you provided, and a quantity of Stores &c^{a} consigned to Sidi Mahomed D'Ghies, as he wrote me that I might send them in a Neutral Vessel

[Boston PL. NDA photostat.]

To Frederick Degen & Co., Leghorn*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Messina July 5th 1804

GENTLEMEN, I arrived here a few days since from the Blockade to take away the Bomb Vessels which are now ready; tomorrow I sail again for Tripoly to commence an attack on the Town and Harbor, and I hope in my next communication to acquaint you of Our Success — I beg you to do me the favor to forward the Packet which accompanies this by the first Vessel that sails direct for America, excepting however the vessel of M^{r} Gorham's which is now here, and goes to Naples in a few days, as he has a duplicate of the same —

I beg you to accept my best wishes for your health & happiness and am respectfully Gentlemen

[*Degen, Purviance & Co., were U. S. Agents in Leghorn, and Frederick Degen was U. S. Agent in Naples.]
[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Brig *Argus*, 18 Guns, presumably kept by Sailing Master Samuel B. Brooke, U. S. Navy, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 5 July 1804

Commences with mod^{e} Breezes & Pleasent W^{r} a Sail in sight on the lee bow, cast off the Ketch bore away made sail in chace, at ½ past 2 came up with her, she proved a Ragusan Brig from Smyrna to Leghorn with a Cargo of 180,000 Dollars filled away for the Ketch, at 10 saw a sail to windward, tacked and made sail in chace, fired a Gun at her backed the main topsail & lowered down the Jolly boat, she proved a Regusan, from Smyrna bound to Marsailles, permitted her to pass, at ½ past 7 AM filled away to the S W, saw the Ketch to Leward, bore away and took her in tow, set the Staysails, at ½ past 9 in Royals, and Top Gall^{t} Staysail

At Meridian fine W^{r} Emp^{d} as Necessary —

Lat^{e}. Obs^{d} 33° 39′ N.

[LC. EPP, *Argus*, 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 5 July 1804

P M pleasant breezes and clear weather A. M. D^{o} W^{r} at 4 the commodore Made the Signal N^{o} 1205 at ½ past 4 weighd and made sail the *President Essex* and *Constellation* in comp^{y} Made and shortened sail occasionally

At ½ past 6 discharged the pilot cape Henry Light house. bearing S W ½ W Distance 3 miles

At 7 Cape Henry bore West 3 Leagues Distance From which I take my departure it being In latitude 36° 57′ N Longitude 75° 56′ W

[En route to the Mediterranean, in company with the above ships, Maderia was sighted 28 July 1804.]

[USNA.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, from 5 July to 12 August 1804

[On board the U. S. Frigate *President.*] From July 5, the day of leaving cape Henry, to the 21. day we made Pico the winds were constantly strong and fair from the Southwest; & from this date till making cape Spartel on the 12. August they were as constantly strong and contrary; from the East, varying a little northerly and southerly — The first 15. days we considered our passage more than two thirds made; the other third was gained with difficulty in 21 days. During the whole passage the weather was extremely fine; not a day but a ship's barge might have lived at sea without danger —

[H. E. Huntington L&AG, EA 206.]

To Josiah Fox from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP^{T} *July 6th 1804*

M^{R} JOSIAH FOX

Naval Constructor,

I intend to build at this Place under your Superintendance a Brig of the following Dimensions Viz —

64 feet Keel for Tonnage
30 feet Beam Moulded Breadth
13½ feet Hold

Agreeably to the Model furnished by yourself with such improvements as we may from time to time Suggest —

It is only necessary to say to you that we wish to have this Brig built of the best materials and in the shortest Practicable period —

You will therefore take immediate measures for procuring the Timber and geting the different artificers and Workman together

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

[6 July 1804]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Lieutenant Samuel Elbert, U. S. Navy

SIR In consequence of some of my friends dineing at our Table on the fourth of July I drank more Wine than I otherwise should have done, and their being an alteration in the Watches that night did not recolect of promissing to stand the first Watch —

This is the first time sir that you have had reason to be displeased withe me on this head therefore I beg you will look over it, promissing you it shall be the last

Constitution JULY 6th 1804

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June-August 1804.]

To Lieutenant Samuel Elbert, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitution JULY 6th 1804

SIR The Charge of the ship & responsibility for whatever may take place resting with you when in Command of a Watch, and the General printed instructions absolutely forbidding the deck ever to be left without a Lieut[t] &[ca] Should impress your mind strongly with the imp[r]opriety of being absent when it is your tour of duty — The Apology you have made for your neglect the 4th is however satisfactory — You will therefore return to your duty

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

Presumably to Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Monsieur Beaussier, French Chargé d'Affaires, Tripoli

TRIPOLY of BARBARY *17 Messidor Year 12.*
6 July 1804 —

SIR By the arrival this morning of the English Bombard Bearer of the Necessaries for the Prisoners I received the letter which you have done me the honor to write under date the 27 last Month.

I do not know to what nor to whom to attribute the prejudices which have been given to you against me they appear so deeply rooted that it would be in vain to attempt doing them away. — Your harsh and disobliging language towards the Agent of a respectable Nation have filled me with wonder, not having neglected any thing within my power to induce the Reagency to listen to reasonable proposals —

The Offer which has been made by M[r] OBrien and which has been renewed thro' Capt[n] Bainbridge is too extravagant to be listened to unless you put yourself in a situation to distress very sensibly this town and its Inhabitants and in this case I ought to advert to you that in all probability the Prisoners will, for greater precaution, be sent into the Interior

You will have perceived by my letter of the 3 June, via Tunis, that I had not either time to see M[r] OBrien or to reply to you in consequence of his p[r]ecipitate return on board — I wrote you immediately after the receipt of yours, but the landing of the Necessaries not having taken place I could not forward my reply.

Whatever may be your Error Commodore I shall nevertheless continue my endeavours to find out, and to create oppertunities of being of service directly or indirectly to your unfortunate Countrymen, I have engaged the Pacha to permit that the Necessaries be deposited in the American Consular house of which the key has been given to M[r] Spence who will dispose of the same according as Capt[n] Bainbridge may direct him

I owe you many thanks for liberating without loss of time in Malta the Legurien Prize, french Property — I did not think it necessary to make mention neither in my letter nor in my Certificate of the 1650 Spanish Dollars which was the Amount of the Cargo restored, that in reality never existed, had been sold and belonged to the same Proprietors, but never to Tripoleene Subjects, nor persons resident in Tripoly I cannot think that these last would have incurred Confiscation under such circumstance — It would have been more agreeable that the Officer Commanding the Blockade had not carried the Vessel to an Enemies Port when the Simulation might have discovered.

The Pacha has sent from his Service Sixty Turkish Soldiers, he has received the balance of the 80,000 Dollars agreed to be paid him by Admiral De Minter as likewise the two Annuities of 5,000 Dollars each — he expects daily from Algiers Capidge Bachi, Officer of Consideration sent by the Grand Signor to confirm him in his title of Pacha, which is renewed every five Years, it is likely he will come by Sea —

I beg you will accept the homage of my high Consideration &ca —

(Signed) BEAUSSIER
Chargé d'Affaires di His Majesty
the Emperor of the french

A true translation Malta 20 July 1804
W^m Higgins

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June-August 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 6 July 1804

the Ketch in tow saw a sail on our lee bow cast off the Ketch made Sail in Chace at 7 backed the main topsail Spoke the U. S. Brig *Scourge* Cap^t Dent Came on board he ret^d at 9 P. M.

At 7 AM Cap^ts Smith & Dent came on board at 8 Cap^ts Hull Smith and Dent went on board the *Syren* Tripoli bore SbE dist^t 10 or 11 miles At Meridian fine W^r Emp^d as Necessary

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Friday, 6 July 1804

Wind N & E and pleasant weather, took on board two 9 inch howitzers 100 shells & 100 Rounds of grape shott for the same, borrowed from the Neapolitan Government, took off several spare yards, Anchors &c for the Boats the *Enterprize* sailed for Syracuse, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 6 July 1804

Throughout those 24 hours light airs, the *Vixen* in co: At 4 L^t Stewart went in the Launch & exercis'd the men. At 6 the launch return'd hoisted in the boats. At 4 hoisted out the boats.

Midnight light airs & pleas^t ½ past 4 discover'd 3 sail to leward call'd all hands & made sail in chace, hove out a signal for the *Vixen* to Chace a Ketch in the S E. At 6 made the signal of the day which was answer'd by 1 of the strange sails. ½ past 6 spoke the chace, prov'd to be the *Argus & Scourge.* —

Meridian lying bye the *Scourge & Argus* to windward; the *Vixen* in chase of the Ketch

Lying Off & on Shore abrea[s]t Tripoli. —

Latt: Obs: 33° 15′ N.

[NDA.]

To Archibald S. Bullock, Savannah, Georgia, from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP^{t} *July 7th 1804*

The practice of other nations in adapting the use of Gun Boats as a means of Defence to Sea ports together with the opinion of their efficacy held by professional men has induced the Government of the United States to make the Experiment in our own Country. Directions have accordingly been issued to agents at different places for this purpose and copies of the enclosed draft forwarded with such directions.

You will take immediate measures for Building at Savannah a Gun Boat agreeably to the draft which you will herewith receive, of the most durable materials that can be procured and of materials so prepared as to ensure this object — Different Kinds of Timber may be required for different parts of the Boat: on this point you will consult with persons qualified to ~~Judge~~ advise —

You will Build by contract — Be careful that the person to whom you give the preference be qualified to execute his contract perfectly both with respect to Workmanship and Materials In deciding your Choice you will not be so much governed by a regard to the lowest terms that may be offered as by the capability of the Contractor to fulfil his engagements — At the same time you will bear in mind that throughout this Business every attention must be paid that no unnecessary expence whatever be incurred.

It is presumed that you will meet with no difficulty in contracting with a person to undertake the Business altogether — But Should you meet with difficulties, you must then procure the materials yourself and appoint a person to Superintend the Work — In Case you are compelled to adopt this method, let your Superintendant be qualified for the Duty — as the faithful execution of the Work will in a great measure depend upon him. I request that you will be particularly careful to select a man upon whom in this respect an entire reliance may be had —

The Draft now sent must be closely adhered to and as the instructions by M^{r} Fox which accompany the draft are very plain and particular no misconception I presume can take place and no alteration must be made

Instructions for Rigging and Equipment will be forwarded to you in time —

Make your requisitions upon me for monies as you may want it and let an estimate of the cost as near as you can ascertain it accompany your first requisition —

Let me hear from you immediately upon this subject and let me know from time to time the progress you may be making in the execution of these instructions —

I have already informed you that Orders have been given at other Seaports for Gun Boats to be built upon the draft enclosed to you.

I indulge a hope that the one committed to your direction will not be inferior in any Respect to those which may be built under the direction of other agents —

The same to W^{m} Smith Sen^{r} Charleston SC
John Beekman New York
20 July 1804 George Harrison Phil^{a}
24 " " John Stricker Baltimore

20 July 1804 Sam[l] Brown, Boston
27[th] " " Woodbury Langdon Portsmouth [N. H.]
* * *

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

[7 July 1804]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy

Syren Off TRIPOLY *8th July 1804*

SIR Yesterday morning at day break a large Galliot was discovered standing in for Tripoly: Chace was immediately given by the *Argus, Vixen, Scourge* & *Syren* with a fine breeze from North: they put immediately before the wind and stood for the shore At 5 [hr] 30 [m] I made the Signal for the *Scourge* to haul her wind — At 6 the wind left us, then about gun shot from the chase which we Observed them hauling on shore: Several shot were fired, but without producing any effect, and they continued unlading her I then made the Signal for Armed boats, and immediately dispatched the *Syrens* launch with a 12[lb] Carronade, and barge with a heavy swivel under the command of L[t] Caldwell & M[r] Dorsey Midshipman who advanced with the Greatest Expedition & Spirit to the reef where they both grounded and were momentarily exposed to a severe fire from the Enemy (who were posted in great numbers behind the rocks and ridges of Sand hills) however, they soon extricated themselves & took a position from whence they kept up a brisk fire with the Caronade & Swivel untill the schooner *Vixen* by the Assistance of some boats towing & her Sweeps gained a position to cover them.

The Rocks formed too Strong a breast work to admit of the Enemy's being Dislodged, but from the fire of the *Vixen* & boats the Vessel was cut to pieces — Seeing nothing farther could be effected I made the Signal of recall that the boats might return to tow off their respective Ships —

I feel a particular degree of satisfaction in announcing to you, Sir, the Great bravery and Exertions displayed by the Officers and men employed in the boats & entertain no doubt but they would have brought off the Vessel had they not been prevented by the reef on which the Enemy had hauled her and on which our boats grounded, notwithstanding the superior numbers of the Enemy (at least 1000 Men) and the Strong positions they had taken — Enclosed you have a return of the killed & wounded on our side, but the Enemy must have suffered severely from their great Numbers

(Signed) CHA[s] STEWART

P. S. They ran the Vessel on shore about 9 Miles to the Westward of Tripoly abreast of the Second Tower

RETURN OF KILLED & WOUNDED EMPLOYED IN THE BOATS 7TH JULY 1804

William Williams, Marine,	killed —	*Sirens*	launch
Thomas Riveness — D[o]	Wounded —	D[o]	barge
Samuel Henzie — D[o]	D[o]	— D[o]	launch
William Cooper — D[o]	D[o]	— do	do

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from William Wass Langford, British Consul General, Tripoli

TRIPOLI in the West *July 7th 1804*

SIR On the receipt of your letter of the 3d inst I dispatched my Drogerman to the Castle to inform the Bashaw that the Cargo of the Vessel Just arrived consisted of Clothing &c &c for the use of the American Prisoners; and further to say that I should be much obliged to His Highness for His permission that the same should be immediately delivered to Captn Bainbridge. — I was much surprised, soon after this step had been taken, to learn that Mr Higgins had consigned the Cargo to Sidi Mahomet Dghize, a circumstance that, had the Bashaw denied my request, would have prevented me the pleasure of complying with your wishes in taking the same under my protection —

Enclosed I beg to transmit You a receipt of Consul Nissen's for the Cash I delivered to Him, (& which I received from the Master of the *Eliza* Bombard), as also Captn Bainbridge's note relative to the Articles I brought with me, whose directions expressed therein were immediately observed. — It is with concern that I inform You that Captn Bainbridge & His Officers are kept close Prisoners, & that it is probable I may not be allowed to visit Him or to have the pleasure of seening Him at my House. —

The Men whom I daily meet in the streets complain heavily of bad living & hard work. —

Beleive me, Sir, I am ever ready at the call of humanity; & on that account alone I was induced to assure You at Malta that it would at all times afford me pleasure to alleviate the unfortunate situation of your Brother Officers & Countrymen in this place by shewing them every attention in my power; & I again beg to repeat that assurance, & have the honor to be Sir,

Your most Obedient Humble Servant
WILLIAM WASS LANGFORD

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy

TRIPOLY — BARBARY *7th July 1804*

DEAR SIR Your favors, duplicates of the 12th Ulto: and your last letter without date this moment reached me, the reception of which gave me much pleasure as I had not heard from you since the 27th March — The Cloathing &cs I presume will be delivered as requested in your letter, to Sidi Mohammed DGhies minister of foreign affairs to his Excellency the Bashaw of Tripoly, to whose politeness Myself and Officers feel much indebted. Please to send the Invoice of all the Articles, that the Purser may be enabled to make the respective charges: We have not yet recieved the Invoice of the first Articles sent by Mr Higgins The want of those prices greatly deranges the Pursers accounts, particularly in cases of loss of Accts which may take place, and by having the charges he would be enabled to close each Officers Acct Monthly, and place them in a Depot — Excuse this much on Invoices — It is to request your reminding Mr Higgins of what I have in Several letters done without effect —

Mr Pulis's Account was sent you in the letter advising the same, but, as our letters recieve an Overhauling before they can clear out from the Custom house here, I expect it was mislaid — I will make it out again, and forward it by this Conveyance —

I left a Uniform Coat with Mr Pulis to have the Button holes Worked: I wish you would recieve it from him: It is a handsome Cut Coat & I believe it will fit you: If so, please use it as your own: for God only knows when I shall have an Occasion to appear in full Uniform.

There has been no changes in Our Situation since my letters of the 4th, 14th, & 22d Ulto.

Secret Communication under same date — [Written in lime juice.]

Dr Sir — In my letter of the 4th Inst I informed you that an attempt had been made to escape by Seizing a Merchant Vessel's boat in the Harbour, but it was found to be impracticable to get from our Prison undiscovered: We are so closely watched that the most daring attempt cannot avail any thing, you need not therefore send a boat for us —

I have recieved no letters from Tunis or any since the 29th March before this day; the letters which Mr OBrien brought were delivered me but none from you or Colo Lear — there was none for any of my Officers — We have recieved no news from America since our unfortunate Captivity — I cannot account for the Silence of my friends — You do not mention in your letters, whether you have recieved dispatches from Government: I presume you have —

I hope you will make Tripoly feel the Effects of your preparations. Until she does I believe that the Bashaw will not accept of the terms offered — I shall wait on the Minister, but I expect without effect — The bribe should come through a negotiator sent here and not from me: As I cannot let the Minister into the secret of the *Juice* I cannot shew him any authority, and I am convinced he will not treat in any manner with me being a prisoner He feels his Consequence — I wish you had mentioned in Lime Juice whether the force mentioned in your public writing is really coming or not. In my letter of the 14th Inst. I gave you my opinion that firing Shells into this town, if it was only done in the night would drive all the inhabitants out into the Country where there are not habitations to receive them, and by continuing to heave them from time to time for a month or two, the distress that the People would be in by being kept out of the town would make them clamorous, and would have a tendancy to incline the Bashaw to come to moderate terms — He must certainly feel the Effects of the War before he will accept any thing like the Sum mentioned

I hope to God that you will have it in your Power to bring him to moderate terms — You say that "I think you ought not to suffer my "passion to injure the friendship between us, by prematurely censuring "my friend" — I have never Entertained a thought that you was not doing every thing in your power for us; but must certainly say that I have been: and shall continue to be always anxious to hear from you, but whenever I do not, I shall attribute it to other causes than neglect — I hope that Mr. Higgins will not send us anything from Malta with out we demand it: We wish to live cheap. as in fact we have lost all relish for dainties except books which we are supplied with — Our prison represents a College of Students — Your triangles would fly a long time before we would see them — I have seen the Sea four times in 5 Months — Close kept under lock & key.

All honor attend you, prays

signed W B

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June-August 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 7 July 1804

Syren and *Scourge* in Company at 4 Tk^{d} Ship to the Northw^{d} and Westward Tripoli bore S ½ W at ½ past 9 Sounded in 50 fathoms water the *Scourge* made Sig^{l} N^{o} 440 made Sail in Chace at 8 saw a Latteen boat standing in for the land at 8 she ran on Shore but found it impossible to get her off it being Calm the boats took the *Vixen* in tow and towed her within gun shot of her fired Several shot at her and Stood off Employd as Necessary

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Saturday, 7 July 1804

Moderate breezes from N N E. We are necessarily detained at Messina in fitting out the two bomb Ketches *Nautilus* in company — Recieved this Afternoon from the Ordnance, ten small brass carriage guns with all the Apparatus belonging to them — Also some cannisters of shot — This afternoon a party of Officers & men were sent from the *Constitution* to the Bombards to assist in warping them off and to navigate them to Saragosa where they are to join our Squadron of Gun boats.

Deserted from the cutter while on duty John Fitzgerald & Ja^{s} Eaton Seamen — A. M. Employed in supplying the Bombards with provisions & in working up Junk Rec'd ten bbls Powder — Surgeons report 5 sick and seven convalescent —

Noon moderate breezes from N N E.

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 7 July 1804

Gentle breezes & pleasant standing off & on shore under easy sail, the *Argus*, *Scourge* & *Vixen* in Company. Tripoli bearing South 6 miles dist^{t}. At 5 back'd the main topsail & sent the launch to exercise. At 7 fill'd away to the N^{d} hoisted in the boats. At ½ past 5 saw a small sail close in shore, call'd all hands & made sail in chace. At 6 arm'd the boats & sent them after her, (under the command of L^{t} Caldwell & Jn^{o} Dorsey) ½ past 6 saw the *Argus's* boats standing in for the shore. At 10 the Launch commenc'd a brisk fire on the Inhabitants ashore, which was return'd by them, they being very numerous & conceal'd behind the rocks, & a number in the sail keeping (with the rest of turks) a constant fire. ½ past 10 sent the cutter with amunition for our boats. At 11 seeing the Inhabitants increasing very fast, made signil for our boats to return on board, finding it was impossible to destroy the vessel. At ½ past 11 the boats return'd with 4 marines wounded. At Meridian 1 of the wounded marines by the name of W^{m} Williams died of his wound which was in his shoulder. —

Marines Wounded
Thom^{s} Rivenness
W^{m} Cooper
Sam^{l} Henry
W^{m} Williams

[NDA.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy

BARBARIE TRIPOLI 8th *July 1804.*

D[r] SIR I wrote you yesterday acknowledging the *contents* of your letter received with the cloathing and stores from Malta — I now take further *notice* of it — I this morning sent our Chief Guard to Sidi Muhammed Dhgies to inform him that I wished an Audience he returned with an answer that the Minister was disposed. I shall therefore not have an oppertunity of seeing him to day and fearful that the Vessel may Sail — I write these lines and enclose M[r] Pulis's Acco[t] — he had blended a private charge with a public one which I have seperated and hope that you will be so good, as to discharge and place it to my private Acco[t] — I have not received any letters from you before this arrival, since the 27th of March — I mention this to let you know if any of your letters have miscarried —

We find close confinement more disagreable every day on acco[t] of hot weather —

Secret Communication under same date. [*Written in lime juice.*]

DEAR SIR — I wrote you fully yesterday in lime juice examine all my letters for secret writing — Since the 30th of April, except the letter acknowledging the receipt of yours, conveying the Presidents thanks, I believe I have wrote all with juice, and shall continue to do so —

From the message that the Minister sent me I think it probable that he will have nothing to say to me on the business of Peace, or Ransom, situated as I am, *a Prisoner* —

Business of bribes should be conducted by a Negotiator sent for the express purpose of treating, who ought to remain some days, on shore and would be able to have private audience with the Minister which I never can have: For I am only permitted to leave our Prison when business requires it, and then under a very vigilant Guard, who always remains with me in the presence of the Minister — And if Sidi Mahommed was to send him away, it would immediately create suspicion against him in the mind of the Bashaw, on whose good opinion his existence, as well as all other Tripolitans depends — I am certain that I shall not be able to effect any thing with the Minister, and I firmly believe that the Bashaw must receive a severe blow before he will negotiate for the Sum offered and the sooner he receives it, the better for us unfortunate Prisoners —

I believe he expects an attack for he has moved his family to the Gardens, and comes in every Evening to remain the night in Town — In two former letters I have mentioned that we find it from experiment impracticable to get from our Prison undiscovered: therefore you need not send a Boat — A few days since our Boats[wain] and Sail Maker were taken from our Prison to other Appartments, and made to work — I have not forbid the crews working, as I have strong reasons to beleive, it would only be attended with unpleasant consequences without the desired effect.

The Men are comfortably lodged, and we are very badly: We feel it extremely this hot weather — I impute their riguor to us is in expectation of making our Country come to terms — However you may be assured that we shall [conduct] ourselves [like] Americans by bearing with fortitude every riguor of our captivity —

I hope to God that you will be enabled to reduce this place; but don't you think that ships boats would answer better than Gun boats? they would be more wieldy for attack in the Harbour which must be sudden & furious — I build my hopes on the effects of Bomb Vessells — I wish to God our Country would send troops to take the place — Pray inform me what effect the loss of the Frigate *P[hiladelphia]* had in America.

May prayers attend you for Success, on account of our liberation & from yourself, & squadron — Cursed fate! which deprives me from sharing the danger & glory —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 8 July 1804

The *Nautilus* sails for Syracuse with two bomb vessels under convoy.

[LC original.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Sunday, 8 July 1804

at anchor in Messina, *Nautilus* in company, sent four Midshipmen and sixteen men on board the two Bomb Vessels, we have besides our own men sixteen Bombardiers or Gunners and seamen on board each of the Bomb Vessels & Gun Boats shipped by permission of their government, — at 8 A M the Bombs being ready ordered them to weigh with the *Nautilus* & sail for Syracuse to join the Gun Boats, — The settlement of accounts & passing receits for military stores detains me here, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Sunday, 8 July 1804

Moderate breezes from N E. At Anchor in Messina The *Nautilus* & two bombards in company. We this afternoon recieved 120 bbls powder — Sent two Marines to each Bombard

A. M. at 8 we made the Signal for the *Nautilus* & the two Bombards to weigh & at 9 they sailed from hence for Saragosa.

Rec'd a boat load of wood supposed to be nearly 4 cords of wood —

At Day light made the necessary arrangements for sailing — Farther communication with the shore detained us — Surgeons report 5 sick 4 conv^{a} Noon moderate breezes from N N E.

In the morning we supplied the Bombards with twenty bbls Powder

[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, 8 July 1804

Standing off & on shore in sight of Tripoli

Midnight moderate breezes & pleasant wore to the N. E^{d} At 10 unbent the Old fore topsail & bro^{t} a new one to the yard At 11 saw a large latine rigg'd boat at anchor in shore made all sail & stood for her the *Vixen* in Co: the *Argus* & *Scourge* a great distance to

leeward. ½ past 11 shorten'd sail saw the boat to be the same that we engag'd Yesterday. —

Meridian gentle breezes & pleas[t] call'd all hands to quarters, cast loose the guns & prepar'd to fire at the boat. —

[NDA.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 9 July 1804

Standing in for old Tripoli fired 2 Shot at the fort hauled our wind and stood off in Company with the *Scourge* heared a number of heavy guns to the Southw[d] Tk[d] to the S[d] & E[d] set and took in Sail Occas[y] At midnight fine W[r] The *Syren* and *Vixen* in Sight to the Westw[d] at 7 AM, Tk[d] to the SE and backed the M.T. Sail at 9 filled away standing in for Tripoli —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Monday, 9 July 1804

wind N E Fresh, at 3 P M weighed & sailed for Syracuse, at 5 spoke the *Bittern* Sloop of War steered to the S S W all night under easey sail, — at day light Syracuse Light house Bore S W distan[ce] 2 leagues, the *Nautilus* & two Bombs to the Southward made them a signal to haul on a wind to the northward, — at 8 A M anchored in Syracuse Harbour with the *Nautilus* & Bombs in company in found here in safety the *Enterprize*, six gun Boats with the Ketch *Intriped* which I have converted into an hospital ship for the sick, ordered off five shore Boats to Water us, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 9 July 1804

[Standing off and on Tripoli.] Light winds & pleas[t] all hands at quarters Standing for the small sail at anchor. ½ past Mer: back'd the main top sail, the *Vixen* came too & commenc'd a heavy fire on the vessel & the Inhabitants, which had collected to the amount of 1 or 2 thousand ½ past 1 the *Vixen* made signal for one of our boats, arm'd the barge in readiness. At 2 commenc'd a brisk fire on the vessel & castle ¼ past 2 haul'd off shore & was follow'd by the *Vixen* having damaged the boat considerably & wounded several of the turks, (seeing them led off across horses) at 3 saw the turks assemble in great bodies wore round & stood in shore — At 4 wore to the NW[d] & single reef'd the topsails, Tripoli bearing E S E 3 leagues. ½ past 4 set main sail. At ¼ past 7 Sam[l] Macey, a marine fell over board & was drown'd. —

Midnight light airs & pleas[t] handed top gall[t] sails. ½ past 6 bore down on the *Vixen* & *Argus*, hoisted out the boats & set top gall[t] sails. ½ past 9 back'd the main topsail & spoke the *Argus* at 10 fill'd away. At 11 fill'd away — Meridian light winds & pleasant all sail set the *Argus* & *Vixen* in Co: —

Latt: Obs: 33° 14′ N.

[NDA.]

To Secretary of State from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco

Nº 79 — Triplicate TANGIER 10th *July 1804.* —

SIR I avail of the opportunity of a Schooner for Boston has put in here to take Water, to acquaint you that the Emperours three Ships have been fitted out,

Maimona of 30 Guns & 70 Men at Sallé —
Maimona 32 Guns & 80 Men } at Larach —
Mirboha 14 Guns & 50 Men }

you will observe the number of Men has been considerably reduced from what they usualy carry, which marks their being more probably intended for a special Service than for a Cruize. — Some time since an Embassy arrived at Mequinez from Algiers bringing various articles of considerable value from the Dey for the Emperour. — Permission has been granted to the Chief of that mission to load four hundred Quintals of Copper and the like quantity of Saltpetre at Mogadore duty free. — The *Maimona* sailed last week from Sallé for that Port, its said to load those Articles and to take on board the Ambassador and his Suite, with such return of Present as the Emperour may have to send. —

It is very generaly supposed here that the Larach Ships are intended to accompany the *Maimona* to Algiers. — I have acquainted Commodore Preble of all this and of my suspicion that the Emperour may have a design of leaving at Tunis or Algiers one of these Ships for the Tripolines in lieu of the *Meshouda.* — My perfect knowledge of these people makes me sensible that what they cannot do openly in aid of each other against every Christian Nation, they will endeavour to accomplish by Stratagem. —

The Spanish Consul General here by orders from his Court has mediated with Muley Soliman on behalf of the Emperour of Germany and obtained an assurance that he will ratify the Peace made between his Father & that Power so soon as an Ambassador shall be sent to him for that effect, in consequence of which that Gentleman has granted Austrian Passports for the Salle and Larach Ships.

Two Brigs of War under that Flag have been in this neighborhood during the negotiation. —

The Batavian Consul General having been referred by His Majesty to Alcayde Hashash for the final arrangement of his Nation's concerns with this Country, went yesterday to Tetuan on that busyness. —

My next will advise the result, which I still apprehend will not be very pleasant for the Republic, altho' the consideration of their having no Commerce whatever to this part of the World at this time, may prevent an immediate open rupture. —

[NA. SDA. CL, Tangier, Vol. 2, Jan. 1803–Oct. 1810.]

To Secretary of State from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

Copy TUNIS *July the 10th 1804* —

SIR, The affair of the Tunisien Sandal captured by the U. States Brig *Syren*, as stated in the last I had the honor to address You, has not since been made the subject of further discussion; but am well convinced, that this trifling occurrence will be hereafter the basis of an extravagant demand: a similar circumstance happen'd to the Swedes, who took a Sandal of the Island of Jerba, entering

the Port of Tripoli, when blockaded by that Power: — no mention was made of the circumstance here, untill the Swedes had concluded their peace, and withdrew their forces from Tripoli; when restitution was demanded by the Tunisien Government; and who also, insisted that the Cargo on board said boat, was valued at 30,000, Piastres, which Sum & for said demand has actually been paid. I state this circumstance merely to shew, how far so trifling a pretext is made the subject of serious difficulties; but am far removed from supposing that one cent should ever be paid by us — On the contrary it is of the first importance, particularly at this moment, not only to assume, but support that decision, which is necessary to convince this Regency of Our determination, not to permit any farther abuses or violation of the Laws of Nations, even by His Excellency's Subjects, in order that the measures in prosecution for the perfect humiliation of our Enemy may not be thwarted. — this shall be advanced by me when necessary, and supported with as much energy, as discretion, and the position of Affairs will permit.

A new Prophet, whom it is said is revolutionizing Algiers, and is at this moment Master of Costantine, has given much uneasiness to this Government: — he is accompanied by an immense Army of Bedouins, & declares himself the enemy alone of the Turks & Jews.

But there is a more serious evil, which calls for the full attention of His Excellency, and Council. The almost total loss of the last year's Crop, has so far increased the price of Grain & consequent misery of the People, as to threaten not only a famine, but a civil comotion; which has evinced itself lately, by numbers being robbed, and assassinated near the City. — (Grain is at this moment 150, Piastres the Caffice — the general price, 50,) As yet no measures have been taken by the Gov^{t} to calm the clamours of the People. We are still left in the field of conjecture as to the real intentions of Russia & the Grand Signior, with respect to Barbary; but most combine in the opinion, that an unpleasant visit will be made to the different Regencies, should not the comotions of Europe draw their attention from the first object.

At length Naples has felt a Spasm of energy; and its Squadron for the first time made a visit to this Port; but we cannot imagine the reasons which prevented the Admiral's making himself Master of the whole Naval force of this Regency. — On the 26th ultimo, one Ship of the line and three frigates, entered the road of the Gouletta, shewing English Colours; (most of the Corsairs were ready for Sea, and anchored at a considerable distance from the Batteries) a frigate laid along aside of the Tunisien frigate, and commenced the attack by a general discharge of Musketry, shewing at the same time the Neapolitan flag; some of the Tunisiens on board the frigate instantly cut her Cables, while others endeavoured to make their escape by Swimming to the Shore; the Tunisien frigate, drifted under the forts, receiving, without any resistance, the full force of the Enemy's great Guns — She was completly equipped and ready for sea; nine of her Crew were killed, about twenty wounded; and an equal number of Prisoners made, which were taken up by the boats of the Neapolitans: She is considerably damaged in her hull, has two shot between wind & water, and her foremast, somewhat injured. There were no Soldiers in the forts, except a few moors, who were not Sufficient to man half a Dozen Guns — they notwithstanding kept up a tolerable

brisk fire for nearly two hours after the Neapolitans had ceased, & untill they stood out of the Roadsted. — No damage was done to any of the other Corsairs, and not one Captured, except a small Galiotte off Porto farine.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy

TRIPOLI BARBARY *10th July 1804*

DEAR SIR, I wrote you on the 7th & 8th Instances, which will go by this conveyance. The Articles you sent to the care of Sidi Muhammed Dghies, Minister of Foreign affairs to His Excellency the Bashaw, are landed, and the Minister has had them put very carefully in a house and politely subjects them to my direction: this peice of politeness is conformable to the tenor of his conduct towards myself and officers, & his general character.

We are now largely supplied with every thing, and I hope that you will not trouble yourself to send any thing more until I solicit the same from you.

Please to send the Invoice by the first conveyance: I hope you will find opportunities to forward us our letters from America.

Secret communication under same date. [*Written in lime juice.*]

Dr SIR — I this day saw the Minister of Foreign affairs for this Regency — I wrote to you on the 7 & 8 instt giving my opinion fully on the effect of your offer and my suspicion that the Minister would not treat, and to day's interview has confirmed them fully: he told me that I was a Prisoner and that Tripoli would not treat with none but a person sent expressly by the Government of the U S and that the Bashaw was determined not to have any more communication with you: that you may threaten, but will never convince, and says from your threats he believes that you have no force: for if you but finally offer 50 thousand dollars, and if you knock every house in Tripoly down, this Government will not accede to your present offer — Holland he says gave 80 thousand dollars, & Denmark 40 thousand to keep the friendship of Tripoli neither of them having a Prisoner, and America only to give 50 for 300 Citizens & nothing for Amity! and much more too tedious & trifling to mention — What I have related is verbatim of what he gave me — I hope you will have it in your power to give the town a severe blow; but I am doubtful if any attack but by land can force terms on the Bashaw — Whenever a person comes here to negotiate, he should previous to his coming, obtain permission from this Government to remain on shore several days for the purpose of negotiating —

When you do commence bombarding the Town, I hope that you will continue the operation throughout the Autumn & Winter, by getting a good Bomb Vessell, large enough to keep the Coast throughout the year; and frequently to heave shells on the Town at night, must inevitably greatly distress the Inhabitants.

Tripoli is much more vulnerable on the land side than it is to Seaward: Would you not think it policy to let Lord Nelson claim the English Subjects among our Crew? — ¾ of them are of that Nation —

I have informed you that you need not send a boat — It is impracticable for us to leave our prison —

God bless you, and Success attend your undertaking prays your friend

W B

P. S. Your letter from Tunis this moment came to hand.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers from Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy

TRIPOLI BARBARY *10 July 1804*
rec^d^ Aug^t^ 19 1804.

DEAR SIR, I have not had the pleasure of hearing from you since the 24^th^ of February. — I have wrote you many letters since that date, and hope they have reached you.

In my last of the 17^th^ ult^o^, I mentioned that we were much in want of cloathing for our seamen; on the 7 inst. a vessel arrived from Malta with a large quantity shipped by M^r^ Higgins to the care of Sidi Muhammed Dghies, minister of Foreign affairs to His Excellency the Bashaw, who has politely had them landed and delivered to my charge. We are under many obligations to the above Minister.

I have nothing new since my last letter, but what I presume you are informed of thro' Commodore Preble. I hope it will not be long before I shall hear from you

The Copy of the Hon'ble C. Pinkney's letter to you I have received; I have written and thanked him for his attention, and informed him that through you we are fully supplied: I have written to my friend Consul Kirkpatrick to the same effect.

Please to present my respectful compliments to M^rs^ Lear, and believe me to be with esteem

[*The following was written in lime juice and copied from photographs or photostats of the original.*]

D^r^ SIR I have long been expecting the pleasure to [hear] from you and must impute my not having that pleasure to miscarriage of your letters

No doubt before this comes to your hands but that you will be informed of Com Preble's sending Mr OBrien on here to offer 50/m[?] dollars this offer as you might conclude was rejected with disdain Mr OB came on shore very unexpectedly and with[out?] requesting Permission to land and he made the offer directly on his landing — I do not mean to censure him But it appears to me an irregular proceeding — The Signal established between the Bashaw & Com. was merely for sending the Boat on shore and M^r^ OBrien might have done better to have waited until the Boat returned with permission for him to land, but his coming in the first boat subject him to a disgraceful detention on the beach [or "in the boat"] and kept him [?] for upwards an hour and instead of going immediately to the Bashaw's Palace it would have been better for him to have gone to the Ministers house and had some private talks with him — I have receivd letters from the Com [?] authorizing me to renew the offer he makes very severe threats *which I hope he will be able to execute* in case the Regency does not comply. I have this day waited on the Minister

of foreign affairs for this Regency on the subject of the Com. letter and received the answer that I expected which was I was a prisoner therefore must have nothing to say [word illegible] on the bussiness and that the Bashaw had signified [?] his determination of not having any more communication with the Com. or any Person that he might send and that this Regency never would treat, only with a Person sent direct from the Government of the U States for that purpose, and then to receive a proper sum something [?] like 150/m [?] dollars — I endeavoured to find out the demands of the Bashaw but could not — The Com appears sanguine on his arrangements [2 words illegible] I hope it may prove successful But I am of an opinion that the Bashaw of Tripoli cannot be forced into terms except by landing troops he is much more vulnerable by land than by sea Nevertheless a harrassing bombardment will no doubt tend to make the terms more moderate there is not a Consul of humanity or Principle or principle in the place except the Danish who desires me to request that you will not send [one line illegible] [un]fortunate Citizens. Believe me my dear Colonel that threats will never do — I greatly respect Com Preble but I imagine that he is not [word illegible, familiar?] with national Character of Barbary I love my Country sincerely feel for its honor and independence yet may view this Regency in a different light and my opticks are not influenced by my situation. I trust that I have fortitude to bear my lot be it what it may. Do not [word illegible] impression. It was necessary to say this much _____ that I am not _____ by self [motives]

[About two lines ending this letter were illegible. In fact the entire portion of the letter written in *lime juice* was read with great difficulty, some of it being written over the writing in *visible ink*.]

[Stephen Decatur Col.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 10 July 1804

[Off Tripoli] *Syren* and *Vixen* in Company fired a Gun at the fort and stood off the Shore —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Tuesday, 10 July 1804

Wind E S E, at anchor in Syracuse Harbour, *Enterprize Nautilus*, six gun & two Bomb Vessels in company, this day compleated our water & five months full allowance of Provisions Anchored here the *Jalouuse* British Brig of War Cap^{t} Strachey from a Cruize, we are now loading a Neapolitan ship (which I ordered our agent to charter) with water & provisions for our Squadron off Tripoly, two Midshipmen & 10 men have been put on Board to Navigate her, ships draft of water abaft 23 feet, forward 21 feet 8 Inches, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Tuesday, 10 July 1804

Moderate breezes from the Eastward At Anchor in Saragosa — *Enterprize, Nautilus* Six Gun boats & two bombards in company The Old Ketch now the *Intrepid* which was employed in the Service

of burning the *Philadelphia* remains here under charge of a midshipman & 2 seamen

Recieved this afternoon from the Navy Agent at Saragosa 1373 Gall[s] of Rum, 772 Gall[s] Wine in nine of the ships water casks, and 3 loads of Wood supposed to be 5 Coards We also recieved by three shore boats 82 Gang Casks of water

Anchored here H B M. Brig *Jalouse* from a cruize At Sun down hove up & down in order to keep a clear anchor —

Calm through the night

At day light the three shore boats came along side & took away Empty water casks

By 10 A. M. we recieved 40 Gang casks which complete our water

Ships draft abaft 23 feet
forward 21 feet 8 Inches } difference 16 Inches

Sailed H B M Brig *Jalouse* — An imperial ship [*St. Guisseppe*] of nearly two hundred tons is employed in the U. S. Service to carry water to our Squadron stationed off Tripoly

This forenoon sent Officers with empty water casks to assist in watering her

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Agent for the Barbary Regencies, 10 and 12 July 1804

[On board U. S. Frigate *President*.] July 10. Lat. 36° 46′. lon. 53 —

[12 July] The *Congress*, taking a reef in her main top sail, lost five men overboard — The ship had eleven knots way upon her — Every exertion was made to save the poor fellows; but in vain: they all perished — A painful sight

[H. E. Huntington L&AG, EA 206.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 10 July 1804

First and Middle Part of these 24 Hours strong Gales and hazy Weather, attended with frequent heavy Squalls — found for these last 24 Hours that the Ship had made much Water, and on Examination find that the Oakum is out of a Number of her Seams in the Counter and that whenever she sends aft' that the Water Rushes in in great Quantities in the Wooden End of the Whales on the Larboard Side aft, and under the Stool of the Gallery on the same Side, therefore judge that the Oakum is out there also or that the Ends of her Whales are rotten Wind S. W. b S.

[LC. EPP, Journal, June to 6 August 1804.]

To Samuel Brown, Navy Agent, Boston, Mass., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV DEP[t]
July 12. 1804

You will be pleased to charter a Vessel on the best terms in your power of a size sufficient to carry to the mediterranean the articles mentioned in the following list —

450 Barrels of beef
360 Dº_____ pork
125 Dº_____ flour
1626 Dº_____ bread abt 125,000 lbs
150 Dº_____ rum
15 Dº butter about_____ 3000 lbs
30 barrels of melasses abt 1500 Galls
50 Barrels of Cheese abt__ 10000 lbs
600 Bolts of Rusia Duck & Canvass
40 Boxes of Spermacite Candles
10 Tons of assorted Cordage
2 Anchors Weighing from 4 to 5000
about 100 Barrels of powder
a Bowsprit for the Frigate *Constitution*
in four pieces and a few Spare Spars
300 Bushels Peas or Beans —

and you will also purchase all the above articles on the best terms in your power excepting the following which we have on hand and shall have at Norfolk ready for the Vessel to Receive when she shall arrive there Viz

3166 lb Cheese
125 Bs flour
600 bolts of Rusia Duck & Canvas.
40 boxes of Spermacite Candles —
10 Tons of assorted Cordage
30 Barrels of Melasses
1626 Dº — of Bread
100 Dº — of Powder
a Bowsprit & Spare Spars
2 Anchors wt from 4 to 5000 lbs

If you should not be able to procure a Vessel of a size exactly suitable to the Cargo it is not Very material so you can get one layer in which case you will increase proportionally the quantity of articles to be purchased and give me timely advice that we may make our arrangements here accordingly —

The Vessel so soon as she shall take in all that part of her cargo which she is to receive at Boston must be sent to Norfolk directed to Daniel Bedinger Esq navy agent who will deliver to her Commander the Residue of her cargo — Let me know what Insurance is at Boston — the Vessel must be engaged to go to Gibraltar, thence if required by the Consul there to proceed aloft as far as Syracuse or malta. Let me hear from you as to your Prospect of engaging a Vessel without delay

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

To Commanders of any U. S. Ships of War arriving at Syracuse, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. Ship *Constitution*
July 12th 1804

Sir I sail tomorrow morning for Tripoly with the *Enterprize Nautilus,* 6 Gun & two bomb Vessels, the *Syren Argus Vixen & Scourge* are now blockading that Port — I shall attack the Town & Harbor immediately after my arrival and hope to succeed in bringing the Bashaw to an honorable peace — I have long been expecting a re-inforcement to the Squadron and have been extremely anxious for an arrival from the U. S. to know if my expectations have been well founded — Having no vessel in the Squadron excepting this ship

whose cannon can make any Impression on the Bashaw's Walls I expect we may suffer much. Of course you will see the necessity of sailing immediately to our assistance after your arrival here without waiting to land any thing you may have brought out for the Squadron

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 12 July 1804

[In company with the *President*, *Essex* and *Constellation*, en route to the Mediterranean.] P M fresh breezes and pleasant weather at ¼ past 12 the commodore made the signal N° 48. call'd all hands to make sail set stay sails and starb^d studding sails at ½ past 1 Down stay Sails & in top G^t Studding Sails at ½ past 6 P. M. the Commodore made the signal N° 571 calld all Hands to reef top sails 6 of the main top men in Laying out on the main top sail yard to reef the Top sail caught hold of the points the sail being Slack, the sail filld they broke their hold and fell 3 of Them over board and 3 on deck rounded the ship too and cleard away the stern cutter but seeing nothing of them from the mast head filld & made sail. the 3 that fell on deck 2 expired Immediately the other is in a fair way to recover

At Midnight fresh breezes and hazy weather From 12 till 4 made and shortened sail Occasionally to Keep our station with the Commodore

At ½ past 7 set top G. sails at 9 set top mast & top G. studding sails

At Meredian frish breezes and clear weather Temperature of air 75° Water 72° Sick 28.

Longitude Observed 50° 03′ W.

Latitude Observed 36° 44′ N.

[USNA.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Thursday, 12 July 1804

Moderate breezes from S W. At Anchor in Saragosa *Nautilus*, *Enterprize*, Six Gun boats and two Bombards in company. Employed in watering the Store Ship & clearing the Squadron for Sea M^r Haswell Midshipman was this day sent on board the Imperial Store Ship [polacre *St. Guisseppe*] which is to be navigated under Imperial colors Completed her water this afternoon within 1500 Gall^s

Recieved from the Arsenal a kedge anchor with a stock W^t 920 lb

Sent Six seamen to the Imperial Storeship exclusive of the two Officers

At day light made Signal to the Squadron to Weigh.

At 6 A. M we weighed & stood out to Sea with the *Enterprize* *Nautilus*, Gun boats & bombards in company in order to proceed to Malta

By 9 A M we had strong breezes from W S W. Made Signal to the Squadron to return to Port Bore up for Saragosa, & made the *Enterprize* and *Nautilus* signal to examine three strange sail to the S. E —

At ½ past 10 A. M. when nearly in the Act of coming to in Saragosa the wind shifted from W N W to N E. Made Signal to the Squadron

to follow the Commodore and stood out in order to lead the Gun boats & Bombards —

In working round the outer extreme (Cape Pork) the store ship carried away her Main top gall^{t} Mast. At this time the N N E wind had increased to a strong breeze & the gun boats being unable to weather Cape Pork, we made the signal for Anchoring in Saragosa At Noon came to in Saragosa — All the Squadron except the *Nautilus & Enterprize* in company Winds strong from E N E —

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

To Captain Daniel Carmick, U. S. Marine Corps, New Orleans, La., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPMT. *13 July 1804* —

SIR, I have rec^{d} your letter dated 27th May 1804.

I am sorry that any difficulties should have arisen between you and other gentlemen on the subject of your relative rank. It has been determined that the Officers shall rank agreeably to date of Commission. You therefore rank all Captains whose Commissions are dated subsequently to yours and you are ranked by all Captains having senior Commissions to you.

[NDA. USMC, LB, 1804–1820.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Friday, 13 July 1804

Strong breezes from N E. At anchor in Saragosa Gun boats bombards & store ship in company At 1 P. M. made signal for all commanding Officers of the Gun boats —

On anchoring we immediately employed three shore boats & supplyed them with 29 casks to complete the water of the store ship — We also sent an Officer & a party of Men to assist in repairing her damages —

At 3 P. M. the *Nautilus & Enterprize* reanchored they report the chases to be three Tunisians on a cruize at Sun down Moderate, hove up and down — Towards day light a breeze sprang up from N W — At 5 A. M. made Signal for the Squadron to weigh & proceed to Sea. At 6 weighed & stood to Sea in order to proceed to Malta —

In passing Cape Pork which is nearly 4 miles from Saragosa we observed a small Xebeck under French colors — We brought her to with a shot in consequence of the report of a Pirate cruizing about here — She was commissioned by the French Consul at Tunis

At 9 A. M. took the store ship in tow

All this forenoon we have had light breezes and Variable between N N W & S E.

Transported for the purpose of Trimming ship 10 Tons of cannister shot from between Decks into the Gun Room, and about 12 Tons of Shells from the forehold to between decks abreast of the Main Mast —

Noon light breezes from S S W

Cape Pork N E b N 3 leagues — Cape Passari S W b S five Leagues

Nautilus Enterprize, Six Gun boats & two bombards in shore of us to the Westward

Surgeons report 3 sick & 7 convalescent

Latitude Observed 37° 1′ 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, Friday, 13 July 1804

[Three lines of manuscript mutilated.]

P M At 1. Pleasant Weather With moderate Breezes from the S^{d} & W^{d} at 4 Air 74½ Water 72½ at half past 5 Discovered Land bearing S. E b E. It being the Island of Sai^{t} Maria. or Sai^{t} Marys. one of Western Islands at 8 the S. E. part of S^{t} Marys bore S. dist. 2½ Leagues. The Center of the Isl'd S W. 4 miles the N W P^{t} W ½ S. dist. 3. leagues. the Air 73½ Water 72. at 12 Midnight air 73½ Water 72. —

The Island of S^{t} Maria or S^{t} Marys is one of the Azories or Western Islands situated in the Atlantic Ocean between 25 and 32 degrees of W. Lon and between 37 & 40 N Lat 900 miles W. of Portugal and as many E: of Newfoundland — [Several lines of manuscript mutilated.] There are nine of the Western Islands in Number Viz^{t} S^{t} Maria, S^{t} Michael, Terceira, St. George Graciosa Fayal, Pico — Flores. and Corvo. the two Westernmost were named Flores and Corvo from the abundance of Flowers on the one, and of Crows on the other —

This being the 17th day since we took our departure from the Capes of Virginia nothing to me cou'd have been more pleasing than the sight of land once more. this being the first time I ever left my native Country. as we pased it several of the Gentlemen took the different Views of the Island as presented to us —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 14 July 1804

Saild for the seige of Tripoly with 2 bomb vessels 6 gun boats and the *Nautilus* and *Enterprise* in company.

[LC original.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Saturday, 14 July 1804

Wind S S W working to windward along shore with the *Nautilus Enterprize*, Store Ship, 2 Bomb & 6 Gun Boats in company, — at ½ past 6 P M made the Signal for the fleet to Prepare to Anchor And the *Enterprize* a signal to tow the rear Boat of the 2nd division, at ½ past 7 P M anchored in 10 fathoms water hard Bottom 2 miles off shore, Cape Passaro bearing by compass South 9 miles made the Signal for the Squadron to close & anchor to prevent separation, at day light weighed with the Squadron wind N E, at 7 A M passed Cape Passaro, at noon 20 miles from the Cape, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 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, 14 July 1804

[Several lines of manuscript mutilated.] Course S. E b E ½ E. [mutilated] morning the Temperature of Air was 73½ Water 73. at 8 Air 73½ Water 72¼. at Meridian Air 74¼ Water 73½ — Wind W. b N.

Wind W. N. W.
Course E S. E.
Distance p^{r} Log. 174

Latitude in ---------- 36. 49
Long in by acct. ----------
Long in by observ ----------
Variation ----------

P M

at. 1. Oclock this day Weather pleasant and light breezes at. 4. air 74¾ Water 73. at 6. Air 74 Water 73. at 8 Air 73½ Water 74. at 12. Midnight Air 71. Water 74¾ I was very much astonishd at finding the Temperature of the Air so much colder than the Water we have had cooler pleasant weather — and by no means as hot as I expected —

[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*, Sunday, 15 July 1804

Light airs from S E. We take our departure for Malta from Cape Passari bearing N E b N 20 Miles The Wind was Very light and variable all the afternoon — Towards evening signal was made for the Squadron to close. In order to prevent Separation we took four of the gun boats and the two bombards in tow — The *Enterprize* was ordered by signal to take the other two gun boats, and the *Nautilus* the store ship.

Departed this life by falling from the Booms into the hold, David Darling, boy. In the first watch committed his body to the deep.

At Sundown Malta was in sight through the Haze bearing from S W to S W b W 30 Miles Dist Light airs or calms through the night till 4 A M when we had a breeze from S E.

At ½ past 4 A. M. Saw Malta S W nearly 24 Miles

Kept the 4 gun boats & two bombards in tow all the forenoon standing in for Malta with light breezes Veering between S E & S S W — As we drew in with the land we saw several strange sail in shore — Among them two English Frigates

At Noon 10 Miles from the Harbor of Malta Squadron in company
Winds light from S W b S
Surgeons report 4 sick & 7 convalescent.
Latitude Observed 36° 08′ N.

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

To Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS *July 16th 1804.*

SIR, I had this pleasure on the 23^{d} ult^{o}, enclosing you letters from Consul Lear, OBrien, &c. &c. all of which I trust have come to hand, as I find you have really a sincere friend in the Prime Minister Sidi Deghies — *his attentions will not go unrewarded.*

I regret not being able to give you any news from America, but wait with anxiety equal to your own, to hear something from that quarter; the last papers, that fell into my hands, were forwarded you without a perusal here; since when, all is silent as the Grave. You desired to know whether the President, had confirmed me at Tunis: the Hon^{ble} the Sec^{y} of State, writes, that he has not yet decided on my appointment, or of any other Person; in fact, I wish

to be differently placed, and where I may be more immediately useful to yourself and officers — I shall know ere long — and if my wishes are confirmed, you will be made sensible, that the U. S. does not possess an individual, who will so cheerfully Sacrifice private views, ease and comfort, for the benefit of our enslaved Countrymen, as myself. — I cherish the hope of giving you in Person, convincing proofs of the honesty of my heart, in these declarations, and can only add my prayers for your health &c. &c. —

Believe me Y^r^ faithful friend

GEORGE DAVIS

Capt. W^m^ BAINBRIDGE, *Tripoli* —

N. B. I enclose a line for my friends Porter & Hunt —

Sympathetic ink [*Written in lime juice.*]

D^r^ SIR, Your ransom might be effected here on admissible terms, if our affairs were brought to a decision; but the pretentions of this Regency, are beyond any thing the Gov^t^ will acquiesce to — I however have reduced them much, but have no authority to proceed in such a manner, as would bring them to a final conclusion. — I made application to Consul Lear, & OBrien, by letters bearing date Feb^y^ 18^th^ to let me come, and reside at Tripoli, under the protection of some Powerful Nation — I have the means of ensuring a favorable reception; prudent and discreet deportment would prevent difficulties, and my head shall be sacrificed; if I would not open your Prison doors, in three months; and with your assistance, place our affairs in such a train as to ensure a Speedy peace — a dispatch to the Sec^y^ of State, (of same date) states the absolute necessity of a similar measure — and for such powerful political reasons as induces me to hope something of the kind will be done — the only motive which can induce me to remain in Barbary, is the hope of unfettering your chains; and to accomplish which, I know no danger — scorch all my letters — And place full confidence on the eternal tho' feeble exertions, of your friend. GEO. DAVIS —

[NYHS. Geo. Davis LB, Vol. 1.]

[16 July 1804]

[NOTE: Attention is invited to the diaries kept by Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, 1 January 1804 to 16 July 1804, to be found in the National Archives, State Department Records, Consular Letters, Algiers, Vol. 7, Part I, January 1804 to November 1805.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 16 July 1804

Anchd with the squadron at Malta.

[LC original.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Monday, 16 July 1804

Wind Southerly; — at 4 P M entered the harbour of Valetta in the Island of Malta, and Anchored with the Squadron, — at 7 A M the *Vixen* arrived to repair damages sustained in an action with Tripoline Troops, Captain Smith brought me a letter from Captain Stewart of the *Siren* wherein he observes that on the 7^th^ ins^t^ the

Siren & Vixen chased a Tripoline Galliot on shore about 9 miles to the Westward of Tripoly, that the Boats of the *Siren* was manned, armed & dispatched with orders to take her off, that they accordingly approached the shore under a heavy fire of musketry from 1000 or more Tripolines, that the *Vixen* was ordered in shore to support the boats which had grounded on a Reef and with difficulty was got off after having lost 1 marine killed & 4 wounded, the *Vixen* opened a Galling fire of Cannister shott on the Troops which did great execution among them, but owing to the Reef over which the Barbarians had hauled the Galliot after having taken every thing out of her, they could not bring her off, he says the Officers & men behaved well, — ordered the Boats to be employed to fill up our water, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

Extract from logbook kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Monday, 16 July 1804

Moderate breezes from S S W.

Standing in for the Harbour of Viletta which bears S W b W 9 Miles — As we drew in to the land the wind became favorable. One Mile without the harbour we cast off the Gun & bomb vessels —

At 4 P. M. we came to in the Harbor of Villette with the Squadron in company in 14 fath^{s} Water The Gun boats are moored within us with a fast on shore —

Towards evening ran the stream anchor out to the Eastward in order to keep clear of the Bower In this situation we are one & a half cables length from shore —

Moderate through the night.

Armed a boat as a guard boat through the night

At 7 A. M. anchored here the U. S. Schooner *Vixen* from a cruize off Tripoly — She reports some damages sustained in a small action with one of the boats off Tripoly —

At 10 A. M. recieved the *Madrass'*, & *Alexander's* launches to complete our water —

Ships company watering & cleaning ship —

Surgeons report 4 sick 7 conv^{sct}

Noon fresh breezes from S W.

[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, Monday, 16 July 1804

[Lying off and on Tripoli since 9 July.] Midnight fresh gales & clear. At 1 wore to the S. W^{d} ½ past 9 saw a Ketch Standing out of Tripoli ¾ past 9 spoke the afore said Ketch. hoisted out the barge & sent her on board. ½ past 10 she return'd dismiss'd the Ketch & fill'd away rec^{d} from her a quantity of letters from our prisoners. —

[NDA.]

To James Bazen, Newark, N. J., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEPAR^{t} *July 17, 1804*

I have received your letter of the 10. ins^{t} — Captain Bainbridge has not forwarded to us a muster roll of the *Phil^{a}* after her capture

by the Tripolitans, and as you state your son to have joined her at Malta it is not in my power to inform you whether he was on board at the time of the capture or not —

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Tuesday, 17 July 1804

Wind S W at anchor in Malta, ordered some Provisions shipped on board the Store Ship for the Squadron off Tripoly, — M^{r} Lewis Midshipman joined this ship, I dispatched him on the 17th of March last for Gibraltar with letters for the Navy department to be forwarded From thence & return, and to Return to the Squadron, Governor Ball called on board, as did Cap^{t} Somberg & Cap^{t} Strac[h]ey of the Royal Navy, and some Officers of the army, among which was General Ramsay

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Tuesday, 17 July 1804

Fresh breezes from S W. At Anchor in Valette *Nautilus Vixen, Enterprize*, 6 Gun boats & two Bombards in company.

Recieved this afternoon the 6 Guns 24 P^{drs} which we landed here some time ago, also their carriages Recieved also from the Navy agent for the use of the Squadron off Tripoly 92 bbls bread, 6 bbls flour 7 bbls Pork, 3 bbls suet, 20 kegs of cheese, 11 casks of Peas, 1 Puncheon of Molasses or 122 Gall^{s} & one pipe of Vinegar of 130 gallons — We rec'd also 57 gang casks of water which completes our quantity Towards evening Moderate breezes from the South continued the guard boat thro' the night.

M^{r} Lewis Midshipman who was sent to Gibraltar four months ago rejoined the ship — Our carpenters & armorers fitting gun carriages to our boats.

Yesterday Morning Sir A. J. Ball governor of Malta waited on the Commodore.

Our Warrant Officers are Ordered on shore to select such articles as are wanted in their several departments

Surgeons report 5 sick, 7 conv^{sçt}

Noon fresh breezes from S. W.

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 17 July 1804

Throughout these 24 Hours moderate Gales and Cloudy Weather — At 4 A. M. saw a Sail to the Southward of us standing to the Southward. — At 4 saw a Fleet bearing East standing to the S. W. — At 9 saw a Frigate to the N W. standing after the Fleet, supposed it to be one of the Convoy — At 10 saw another Ship of War lying to, to the Windward of us soon after observed her speak a Merchantman and make sail after us — At 11 we made the Private Signal of the Day established between the British Ships of War and our own, kept it abroad 30 Minutes, but it not being answered hauled it down — soon after the Ship to Windward made a Signal, but not being under-

stood by us, she hauled it down — she then shewed English Colours, which we answered by shewing ours — At Meridian spoke his Majesty's Sloop of War *King Fisher* Capt. Crippen from Cork to the West Indies with the Convoy to Leeward, who also inform'd me that the Man of War a stern was his Britanic Majesty's Frigate the *Diana*, also one of the Convoy he sent his Boat on Board to ask for News &c the Officer of which informed me that they had been 15 Days from Cork but no News — Ends with Pleasant Weather.— Wind N. N. E

[LC. EPP, Journal, June to 6 August 1804.]

To Don Joseph Noguera, Spanish Consul General, Tunis, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Malta July 18th. 1804

SIR I am honored with your letter of the 24th Ulto: and have to inform you that the Critical Situation of our affairs with Tripoly at the present moment renders it impossible for me consistent with prudence to permit the Courier *S^t Fernando* to proceed to Tripoly; I have therefore warned the Master of that Vessel not to attempt it, particularly as he has Articles in charge for our Enemies *the Spanish subjects who are building Gun boats for the Bashaw of Tripoly*

The Spanish Vessel, Cap^t Torres has been liberated agreeable to the information given you by M^r Davis, notwithstanding the Violation of her Passport, but no indulgence of the same Nature will again take place —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS *July 18^th 1804*
rec^d 19^th Aug^t 1804

SIR I had this pleasure on the 22^nd^ ultimo of which a duplicate is enclosed; since that period no direct conveyance has offer'd for your place. — Your favor of the 2^nd^ inst was received on the 15^th^ — I most sincerely regret the recent visit of the *Superb* to your Regency; or that any similar occurrence should tend to confirm my opinion, on the probable result of the difficulties in question it strikes me as an opening plague, the baneful effects of which will not be confined, to the local situation, that gave it birth; but will infect the Neighbouring Regencies; *where those, who have the least political health must expect a serious and menacing attack.* — While the great Powers continue to suffer with impunity such indignities; what are the Secondary Nations to expect?

Our affairs here are in *Statu quo*: no farther mention has been made of the Captured Sandals &^ca^ for your information on that point & others, I have the honor to enclose you a Copy of my last to the Hon^ble^ the Secretary of State, His Excellency's silence on this Subject, augurs more than his threats; of which we shall soon discover the motive. — *Every thing depends on the result of our summer campaign against Tripoli.* — it is from thence we are either to assume and support a National Character with these States; — or bow the neck and

answer to the eternal cry of give. — The season for operation is all ready far advanced; that passed; and its effects known; we may prepare ourselves for a decisive arangement here — Whatever lays within the exertions of one possessing so little influence; *and with such partial authority,* shall be done by me. — my health, is still delicate, which adds much to the irksomeness of a Post; at no period agreeable. —

I am this moment favored with Letters from Tripoli, and have the pleasure to enclose you two from Captⁿ Bainbridge. — Mʳ Nissen's last communication, has renewed a Subject which I presumed, was finally closed; to wit; the non payment of a bill of Exchange for one thousand dollars forwarded 24ᵗʰ March 1804. particularly so, as his former letters gives me to understand, that all difficulties were done away; and that from Captⁿ Bainbridge, acknowledge the receipt of the money. — I enclose you Nº 2, a Copy of the correspondence on this subject — It is unnecessary to say, that no decisive measures can be taken by me for the recovery of the money, untill a protest is forwarded, and even then it should be done by His Danish Majesty's Consul here, who appears on the face of the Bill as the purchaser. — this precaution was taken from the advice that all letters to the American prisoners as well as to Mʳ Nissen, were opened by the Bashaw, as also from a knowledge of his Character; confidant that he would not hesitate to seize on the Bill, and enforce the payment *thus in voiding Sylla, we are nearly on Charibdis.* —

I am informed here, that the Bill has been paid to the Bashaw, who, has credited the Danish Consul with the amount, to be deducted from their Biennial Cash payment due in January next; and which information has some credit with me, as Mʳ Holck the Danish Consul for this Regency, assures me officially that the Bill will be paid: I however, shall apply to the Commercial Agent, for his interference; and endeavour to close the business amicably. This circumstance will shew how far I was correct in my letter to the Secʸ of State of the 17ᵗʰ Nov. 1803. — when assigning my reasons for addressing Mʳ Beaussier in behalf of our unfortunate Countrymen. —

"I am not ignorant that Mʳ Nissen, His Danish Majestys Consul "was charged with our affairs by Mʳ Cathcart; but as his Government "was fearful that their affairs might be embroiled in consequence of "the information, he might give of the Bashaw's movements; the only "communication I have ever received from that quarter, was his "regrets at not being able to fulfill the charge — *It is also of impor-"tance that our officers, should be placed under the protection of such a "Representative as is respected & feard &ᶜᵃ &ᶜᵃ* — As an Individual this Gentleman's, honourable, humane & friendly exertions, can never be sufficiently recompensed by our Government, and for which reason I have not yet insisted on his sending me the Bill regularly protested; but as a Public Agent in all such instances, he wants, that *Political Health,* which is necessary to give energy, to his actions. — *the error is not with the man.* —

Be pleased to give your orders on this point, and accept the assurances of the high consideration & profound respect, with which I have the honor to be, Sir

(Copy)

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. 7, Part 1, Jan. 1804–Nov. 1805.]

To George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitution MALTA *July 18 [1804]*

DEAR SIR I am hon^{d} with your favor of the 23^{d} Ult^{o} the present situation of our affairs renders it impossible for me to suffer any Vessel to proceed to Tripoly particularly as I sail this day with Bomb & Gun Vessels &c to attack that place, I have therefore advised the Master of the Spanish Vessel to return to Tunis, particularly as I understand she has articles on board for our worst of enemies *the Spanish carpenters* who are *building Gun Boats for the Bashaw*

I will endeavour to obtain and destroy the pasport you mention. —

* * * * * * *

I have not time to write Col^{o} Lear at this moment but shall as soon as I return and send a Vessel down to carry the letters and shall order her to touch at Tunis for yours. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

To Archibald S. Bullock, Savannah, Ga., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP. *18th July 1804.*

The President of the United States has deemed it expedient to send to the coast of South Carolina & Georgia — Gun-boat N^{o} 1, under the command of Lieu^{t} Command^{t} John P. Lovell. —

You will be pleased to furnish upon M^{r} Lovells requisitions supplies of provisions &^{c} and render him every other necessary assistance in your power.

[Similar letter to Mr. William Smith, Sr., Charleston, S. C.]
[NDA. Off. Comg. Gunboats, 1803–1808.]

To Sailing Master (acting as Lieutenant Commandant) John P. Lovell, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAV: DEP. *18 July 1804.*

L^{t} Comm^{d} JN^{o} P. LOVELL.

Command^{t} Gun-boat N^{o} 1.

You will forthwith proceed with Gun-boat N^{o} 1 to the Port of Charleston in the State of South Carolina, and after reporting yourself to the Governor of the State, and to the Collector of the Customs, you will thence proceed to Savannah in the State of Georgia, where you will also report yourself to the Governor of that State, and to the Collector of the Customs. These two Ports you will consider as the principal places of Rendezvous, and the Coast between Savannah and George Town as your Cruizing station. You will however repair to any other part of the coast of South Carolina & Georgia, where your services may be necessary. —

Within the territorial jurisdiction of the United States, i. e. within a marine league of the margin of our coast, you will by all the means in your power protect all vessels whatever as well neutrals as American, against the aggressions of the armed ships of any nation whatever, and you will repress all infractions of Law which may be attempted by any such armed vessel; but in all such cases, when ever the opinion of the Governor of the State, wherein you may be, can be previously obtained, you will not act but upon his requisition. —

Any pirate that may be found cruizing on our coast to the annoyance of our commerce, either within or beyond our Jurisdictional limits, you will take into some [port] of the United States for trial.

You will afford all practical aid to the enforcing of the revenue Laws of the United States, and of the Health Laws of the States or of the United States on such requisitions as from time to time shall be made by a Collector of the Customs of either of the aforementioned States. —

You will without delay communicate to this Department a copy of every requisition that may be made as aforesaid by a Governor of a State, or by a Collector of the Customs.

[NDA. Off. Comg. Gunboats, 1803–1808.]

To Lieutenant Colonel Commandant Franklin Wharton, U. S. Marine Corps, from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP. *July 18th 1804*

The Gun-boat N^{o} 1 under the command of Lieu^{t} Command^{t} Jn^{o} P. Lovell, requires a Guard of Marines to concist of a Serjeant a Corporal and 12 privates.

You will be pleased to supply this Guard without delay. —

[NDA. Off. Comg. Gunboats, 1803–1808.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 18 July 1804

First and Middle Part of these 24 Hours fresh Breezes & flying Clouds — At 2 Saw a sail to the Eastward standing to the S. W. At ½ past 2 saw another Sail standing to the Eastward at 3 the Ship we first saw standing to the S. W. passed to Windward of us with a heavy press of Sail, she appeared to be a ship of war but shewed no Colours or any Disposition to speak us At 4 passed to Windward of a Brig standing to the Eastward — Ends with pleasant Weather — Wind N. N. E.

[LC. EPP, Journal, June to 6 August 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, 18 July 1804

[Several lines of manuscript mutilated.] a Frigate to the N. W. standing after the fleet. supposed to be one of the convoy at 10 saw another ship of War lying too to, Windward. of us. soon after observed her. speak. a Merchantman, and make sail after us. at 11. we made the private Signal of the day. established between the. British ships of War. and our own. Kept it abroad 30 minutes, but it not being answered, hauled it down soon after the ship to Windward made a Signal. but it not being answered by us. she hauled it down she then shewed English colours. which we answered by. shewing ours. — Took in Top gall^{t} Sails and hauled the courses up — at Meridian Spoke his Britanic Majestys Sloop of War. *King Fishers* Capt. Crippen, from Cork bound to the West indies with the convoy to Leward, Who also informed us that the Man of War a stern was his Britanic Majestys [manuscript mutilated.]

at half past 12 the boat returned to her own ship — from this during the whole day we discovered several sail one of which appeared to be a frigate or Sloop of War but she discovered no inclination to speak us as she might easily have done it she being to Windward of us. and we close hall at Midnight fresh breezes & cloudy Weather Air 72 Water 73 —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

[18 July 1804]

Resumé, presumably prepared in Navy Department about 1806 or 1807, concerning the U. S. Gun Boat No. 1

GUN BOAT Nº 1. —

Ordered to be built at Washington 21 Decr 1803.

Launched . . . . . & ordered to sail to Southwd for the purpose of protecting the rights of the United States within their Jurisdictional Limits 18 July 1804. Sailed 26th — Arrived at Charleston S. C 14 August. At Savanna 3: Septr While waiting to hear from the Governor of Georgia were driven from moorings by a dreadful Storm & at length left dry in a Corn-Field on Whitemarsh Island 8 Septr Got off 1 November. Lieut Lovell gave up command to Lieut Magrath 22 Novr From this Time Lieut Magrath acted under orders of Lieut Murdoch Commanding Nº 2 until Nº 1 was ordered to Charleston to undergo repair's for a voyage to the Mediterranean if she was capable of performing it. Nº 1 continued to cruise in Company with Nº 2 between Savanna & Gº Town S. C until 22 March 1805 then arrived at Charleston. Reported as not fit to cross the Ocean 28 March. Lieut Magrath relieved by Lieut Fanning May 6, 1805. — Repaired & the Fixture of the Gun altered and the Boat pronounced by Lieut Fanning to be a safe Boat without the Bars of our Harbours 8 July. Continued off Fort Johnston enforcing the Quarantine Laws of the State, & making short cruises till Septr 30 — 1805 when L Fanning died at Charleston. — Octº 11 — L Jas Biddle was ordered to Charleston to take command. —

COMMISSION AND WARRANT OFFICERS. —

Station	Names
Commander	Jnº Pittman Lovell
"	Humphrey Magrath
"	Nathaniel Fanning. —
2d Officer.	Peter S. Ogilvie.
"	John Mott. —
Purser	John Carr
"	Abraham Cordrey
Surgeon	Alexr McWilliams.
Gunner	William Taylor.
	James A. Miller.

[NDA. Ships' Service, 1801–1809.]

To Sailing Master John P. Lovell, U. S. Navy, Eastern Branch, Potomac, from Secretary of the Navy

NAV: DEP. *19th July 1804.*

It has been found impracticable to procure in time a Surgeon to join Gun-boat N° 1 at this place. Dr J Schoolfield of Portsmouth Virginia, has been ordered to join you off Norfolk, where you will stop for the purpose of receiving him on board. —

[NDA. Off. Comg. Gunboats, 1803–1808.]

To William Kirkpatrick, U. S. Consul, Malaga, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

ALGIERS *July 19th 1804.*

DEAR SIR I had the pleasure of writing a few line to you on the 27th of April, a Copy of which is enclosed. Since that time I am without any of your esteemed favors.

I enclose also extracts from letters of Commodore Preble & Mr Davis to me, dated 19th & 22d of June, which will shew you the situation of our affairs with Tunis & Tripoli, so far as they have come to my knowledge. — Also the copy of a letter from our unfortunate & worthy friend Captn Bainbridge of the 20th of May which will inform you of his situation at that time.

The Cruizers of this Regency have not been out this Season, owing to the situation of their affairs with the British

On the 10th of June arrived here the British ship of war *Superb*, the Honble Capt Keets, with a tender Brig. In her came Mr Bryan McDonough, late from Tripoli. — They remained here till the 18th of June; had several conferences with the Dey; but departed without doing any thing effectual. On the 5th Inst came a British Sloop of War, with Mr McDonough again; from Lord Nelson, of Toulon, She remained till the evenf of 7th and then sailed, it is said, for Gibraltar. It is now *thought* that matters are in a train of accomodation between G. B. and this Regency; and that a new Consul will be sent here.

A Moor, who calls himself a Marabout, has lately made his appearance in the neighbourhood of Constantine, drawn together many Carbiles, and Captured 54 frenchmen, who were fishing for Coral on the Coast, and Carried them into Captivity. Report says he has attacked the City of Constantine with 30,000, Carbiles, and been repulsed with considerable loss Other reports say he is still very strong. On the 27th of June the Dey sent out two Schooners of 14 & 16 Guns to get this Marabout; or at least to prevent him from Capturing Vessels on the coast, They have not yet returned; but their Commander has come back and brot with him two prisoners, who are said to be officers of the Marabout. Report now says the Marabout is attached to the Interest of France; and that those Frenchmen, said to be Captured, were sent over to assist him as Engineers &c

Two Portuguise ships of war have been cruizing off this place for some time past; but they have not prevented the enterance of Vessels. Very few, however, arrive.

I have not recd a line from the U. S. since the Govt must have heared of the Captivity of our Citizens. I have recd a special Commission to negociate with Tripoli; but it was sent before they had heared of that event I shall hold myself in readiness to go to Tripoli by the first Am. Vessel which comes here.

We have had, of late few arrivals, and still fewer opportunities which could be relied upon, going to Europe, which will account for your not having heared from me lately.

The attention of our mutual friend Montgomery in sending me the Gazetts to the 28th of May, has given me information of the important Change in the Govt of France & of the Change of the Ministry in G. B. what events these changes will produce between the two Countries, we are anxious to learn.

We continue to enjoy good health here and the weather has been, as yet, very temperate. Our Garden is pleasantly situated on the Side of the Bay, about two miles Nort[h] of the City, which gives us a fine view of the sea & a pleasant air.

Mrs Lear unites with me in respects & best wishes for the re-establishment of Mrs Kirkpatrick's health, and for all felicity to yourself and family. —

[Stephen Decatur Col. NDA photostat, Book A.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco

(Copy) TANGIER *19th July 1804*

DEAR SIR As I have heard you may probably be soon at Gibralter, I think well to hand you Copy of my last Letter to Commodore Preble for your Information

The Ship from Sally arrived at Mogador on the 30th June to take on board an Ambassador, come from Algiers to Mully Suleman and his Suit on their return to that Port with 20 Tons of Salt Petre and the like Quantity of Copper which he had obtained permission to load Duty free

By the last Advices the Larach Ships had not sailed. Two Gallies at Tituan are fitting and will be ready for Sea about the End of this Month,

[NDA. MC LB, 1804–5.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Thursday, 19 July 1804

Fresh breezes from E N E. At Anchor in Vallette Squadron in company

By 2 P. M. frequent Squalls & rain. Down royal & top gallt Yards. We brought home the stream anchor — By 3 P. M. it became Moderate — Ran out a kedge to the Southward in shore, and sighted the small bower which we found foul cleared it, and let it go.

Towards Evening the wind shifted in a squall from E N E to N b W. — Let go the best bower and veered to one third of a cable on the small bower

At Sundown sent two boats with Hawsers to assist the *Enterprize* in proceeding to Sea. The wind being strong from N b W, her signal was made to re-anchor By 9 P. M. it became moderate & continued so during the night —

A. M. Sailed the U. S. Schooner *Enterprize*

At 10 weighed the kedge & the best bower

Ships company Employed as necessary

Rec'd Boatswains, Gunners & Carpenters Stores which will be hereafter mentioned

Discharged to sick Quarters Mr P Leonard Chaplain & Doctor Simm Surgeons Mate
Surgeons report 3 sick, 5 convalescent.
Loosed the staysails & studding sails to dry

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

To Captain Thomas Briggs, R.N, commanding H.B.M.S *Agincourt*, from Captain Edward Preble, U.S. Navy

Constitution July 20th 1804

Dear Sir I am honored with your much esteemed favor of the 1st Inst, and beg you to accept my warmest thanks for your very polite attention to Mr Lewis and Mr Thompson. I shall recollect with satisfaction the favor you have conferred on me by the ready accomodation you afforded them, and be assured it will afford me sincere pleasure to have it in my power to reciprocate your good Offices — I am much gratified that Mr Lewis' good conduct while in the *Agincourt* has impressed you with an opinion of him correspondant to my own — With wishes for your health & prosperity

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

Report of Survey of U.S. Provisions in care of William Higgins, U.S. Navy Agent, Malta

Malta *July 20th 1804*

We the undersigned as pr order of Commodore Preble to survey the Provisions belonging to the United States in the Stores of Mr William Higgins Agent for the United States at Malta have carefully surveyed & examined the following provisions & find them not fit for use Viz

fifty Seven casks Butter
Three casks cheese
Three Barrells Beef
Six casks Bread
Four Barrells flour

Signed, Richd Somers
Signed, James B Decatur
Signed, Chas L Ridgely

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U.S. Navy, Commodore of U.S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Friday, 20 July 1804

Wind N W fresh Breezes, the Bombard which carried over to Tripoly the cloathing & Stores for the Officers & Crew of the *Philadelphia* arrived the whole was landed & left at the disposal of Capt Bainbridge, I received a receit from the Danish Consul Mr Nissen for 125 spanish doubloons sent by me through the good Offices of Governor Ball to the British Consul to be delivered to the Danish Consul at Tripoly for Captain Bainbridge, receiving in Stores, at noon a strong head wind from S S W, prevents our sailing, received letters from Capt Bainbridge & the French Consul, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 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, 20 July 1804

[Manuscript mutiliated.] this morning discovered a Brig on our Larboard bow standing to the W^{q} at half past 4 she passed us at half past 7. discovered another sail on the lar bow standing to the N^{q}. at 8 Air 78¼ Water 71½ at Meridian Air 69. Water 71 Latitude in 35. 16.

At. 4. this evening Air 69½ Water 70½. at 6 Air 68 Water 71 at 12 Midnight the Temperature of the Air Was 65½ & Water 69. Wind N. N. E. & Variable —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

To Robert Montgomery, U. S. Consul, Alicante, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

ALGIERS *July 21st 1804.*

DEAR SIR I had the pleasure of receiving your acceptable favor of the 19th Ult^{o}, by the Courier, on the 28th Your letters of the 3^{d} of June & 24th of April Via Oran did not get to my hands 'till the 19th ins^{t}

In the first place let me beg you to accept my most cordial thanks for the Gazetts, which you was so good as to forward me They were the latest we had rec^{d} here, and the inportant information contained in them was very interesting. So few arrivals as we have had of late from Europe, has made all here interested in the events of that quarter, very anxious for news; and the still fewer opportunities which we have had of late of transmitting letters, safely, to that quarter, will account for your not having heared from me for some time.

M^{r} Foley's letter from Oran, enclosing yours was dated the 4th of July. I shall write to him in a few days, by a Courier which will go for that place, and shall feel very happy if it should be in my power to be of Service to him, from your recommendation. Should an agent be necessary for our affairs there, I shall not be inattentive to your request. At present it will not be in my power to furnish cash to M^{r} Foley, as the supplies which I have been obliged to send to our unfortunate Citizens in Captivity at Tripoli, & a cash Payment on Account of Annuities, which I effected here in March have drained me very much; but I shall inform him that I will accept his bills here & draw upon you for a reinboursement, which I presume will answer every purpose

To give you all the information which has come to me of late, respecting our affairs in Tunis & Tripoli; I enclose Extracts from the letters of Commodore Preble & M^{r} Davis to me under date of the 19th & 22^{d} of June, also a Copy of a letter from Capt^{n} Bainbridge of the 20th of May. [See letter to William Kirkpatrick of 19 July 1804.]

* * * * * * *

P. S. I trouble you as usual with packages to forward Viz^{t} one for the Secretary of State, by the earliest safe conveyance, one for Consul Kirkpatrick, and One for Consul Gavino, I will not add to your trouble by any apology I shall only say, that any expence incurred by my letters is a very fair charge against the Governm^{t} and will be paid. —

[Stephen Decatur Col. NDA photostat, Book A.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco

TANGIER *21st July 1804.* —

DEAR SIR My last respects to you was the 30th June. —

I have now to advise that the Emperours Ship *Maimona* of 30 Guns sailed from Salle for Mogadore where she takes in an Algerine who came by land to the Emperour on busyness, and now returns to that Port with twenty Ton of Copper and the like quantity of Salt petre purchased at Mogadore with funds provided by the Dey of Algiers. — The other *Maimona* of 32 Guns sailed some days ago from Larach to the Southward, some say for Salle & others pretend destined to join Arraez Sebrah & that they are to proceed together to Algiers. —

The *Mirboha* Arraez Lubarez three days ago was outside of Larach Bar waiting to receive one thousand Fanegnes Wheat destined for the poor of Tripoly from the Emperour, — whether it be meant to attempt to introduce this Wheat at that Port, or if it is to be left at one in the Neighborhood I have not been able to discover. —

In my Passports for these three Ships, entrance into Ports blockaded by the Ships of War is expressly excepted & all the three Captains have been personaly told by my Agents at Larach & Salle that by the latest advices Tripoly continued to be blockaded by a Squadron of Vessels of War of the United States.

The two Tetuan Galleys will be ready for Sea by the end of this Month. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Saturday, 21 July 1804

Wind S S W, still at anchor waiting a change of wind, William Curtis Able Seaman deserted, He went on board the *Enterprize* on Liberty from Lieutenant Robinson and left her in a shore Boat, — I have thought it prudent to procure here 4 or 5 Hawsers and two additional Kedge Anchors for warping as they will probably be necessary in case of an attack on Tripoly, — at 8 wind E N E made the signal for sailing, weighed & warped out of the Harbour, ordered a common spy glass for each Bomb & gun Vessel, to enable them to distinguish signals at Noon made sail & Brought to, to wait for the Boats, ships draught 23 feet 3 inches abaft, 22 feet Forward, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Saturday, 21 July 1804

Moderate breezes from S S W. At Anchor in Valetta. At 3 P. M. weighed the stream — Towards evening fresh breezes from S W. Wm Curtis Seaman deserted from the *Constitution* Recieved from the Dock Yard 2 small kedges — One has a wooden stock marked 631 lb, the other is iron stocked & is marked 557 lb — Continued the guard boat during the night.

At day light hove short; Weighed and warped out of the Harbor at 8 A. M. — Made signal for the Squadron to sail Viz 6 Gun boats, 2 bombards, the store ship, *Vixen & Nautilus* — In warping out we were obliged to slip a Hawser & kedge: The cutter & Barge were sent to weigh it.

At noon we brought to, One Mile without the Harbor in order to take up our boats. Winds S S E with a swell from E N E.

Additional Signals were sent to the Gun boats & bombards, and they each recieved from the *Constitution* One small Spy Glass

Ships draft Ft In
Abaft 23 — 3
Forward 22 — —

1 — 3 Difference

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, 21 July 1804

[On board U. S. Frigate *President*.] 21. Saturday. At Meridian, made Pico — One of the Azores, or western Island — The winds had been constantly fair —

[H. E. Huntington L&AG, EA 206.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 21 July 1804

First Part of these 24 Hours fresh Breezes and fine clear Weather— At 8 saw a Latteen rigged Vessel to leeward of us bore up to speak her — call'd all hands to Quarters and got the Guns clear, she proved to be a Portuguese Fishing Boat, at 9 made Sail — At 4 A. M. saw the Land bearing from S. E to N. E. — At ½ past 4 saw Cape Spartel bearing E b. S. about 6 Leagues Distant, Cape Trafalgar bearing N E ½ N saw a Brig in Shore of us standing in — At 11 Mustered the People and read the Articles of War. Wind N. N. W.

[LC. EPP, Journal, June to 6 August 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, 21 July 1804

[Manuscript mutilated.] Discovered a sail on our la bow [manuscript mutilated] At 5 the sail passed to the Windw^d of us [manuscript mutilated] colours. she hoisted Danish at 7 Discovered a sail ahead at ½ past 7 discovd another ½ p[o]int on the lar^d bow at 8 saw another at Maridian Air 67 Water 71½ at ¼ past Eight this Evening saw a sail on our Star^d bow at ½ past 8. calld all hands to quarters. bore up and gave chace to the sail to the Leward at ½ past 8 fired a musket to bring her too spoke her and found her to be a Portugea Latteen boat from the Straits. at 9. filed away the Topsails and gave the ship her course —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 22 July 1804

P M First part fresh breezes and Cloudy weather. — at 1 saw the Island of pico bearing N E¾ E. Made and shortened Sail occasionally —

At ¾ past 5 the commodore made the Signal N^o 572 soon after made the signal N^o 1139 — at ½ past 6 tack^d ship — at ¾ past 6

P. M. the west end of the Island of Fayal bore N ½ W. Distance 6 leagues — the East end N E b N 5 Leagues the Senter of Pico bore E b N ½ N. Distance 3 Leagues

At midnight fresh breezes and cloudy —

A. M. made and shortened sail occasionally To keep our station with the squadron —

From 8 to 12 Squally with rain at intervals

at 7 P M — Finding my reckoning to be 50 miles ahead of The ship I take a fresh departure from Pico It being in lat 38. 29 N Long 28. 20 W it bearing from me E b N ½ N Distance 9 miles —

Longitude Observed 27° 57′ W. Latitude Observed 37° 14′ N.

[USNA.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Sunday, 22 July 1804

Moderate breezes from S E b E — We are laying to without the harbor waiting the Squadron to Join company and the barge & cutter to return —

We took in tow the 2 bombards & 3 of the Gun boats The *Nautilus* & *Vixen* were ordered p[r] Signal to take the other three boats in tow —

At 3 P. M. bore up to the N W in order to pass to the Westward of Gozo & proceed off Tripoly

By Sun down the wind had shifted by degrees to N E b N. Tacked with the Squadron off shore to the Eastward — The N E extreme of Gozo N W. 7 miles The land to the South[d] of Valetta S S E 4 leagues —

At 12 Midnight we had strong breezes from N E. Double reefed the Topsails in order to ease the Gun boats

At 2 A. M. the East part of Malta bore S W two leagues Bore up S. & S S W. in order to pass to the Eastward of Malta —

This is our last bearing from which we take our departure.

At Day light All the Squadron in Sight

At 8 A. M we suppose the East part of Malta bears (Variation corrected) N N E. 19 Miles — We had a leading breeze till 10 A. M. at which time it fell calm From this time till noon light airs & Variable

Punished cha[s] Staples Seaman with 36 lashes for drunkenness breach of Trust & theft

Surgeons report 2 sick & 5 convalescent.

Noon calm.

East part of Malta supposed to bear N E b N ¼ N. 32 Miles —

Latitude Observed 35° 23′ N.

[LC. EPP, Log *Consitution*, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, 22 July 1804

[On board U. S. Frigate *President*.] 22[d] Winds shifted ahead — Stood in near the Islands [Azores] —

[H. E. Huntington L&AG, EA 206.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 22 July 1804

First Part of these 24 Hours light Airs from the Northward and fine Pleasant Weather — At 1 P M. bent the Cables — At 4 Tangiers bore S. W. Ape's Hill E b S. Gibralter N E b E — At 9 Light Airs and variable standing into Gibralter Bay At 11 took in Sail and anchored with the Starboard Bower in 9 Fathoms Water — At 9 went ashore with Letters and to make Arrangements to fill up our Water. found laying at Gibralter H B. M. Frigates *Meduza, Fish Guard — La Provoyant* and *Termagant* Sloop also 7 sail of American Merchantmen but not one of them bound to the United States

[LC. EPP, Journal, June to 6 August 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, 22 July 1804

At four Oclock this morning we discovered [manuscript mutilated] bearing E. S. E. & Cape Trafalgar bearing [manuscript mutilated] we stood along up the Mediterranean near the Barbary shore at 12 Meridian Cape Spartel bore E. by S — Cape Trafalgar E. by N. Air 71½ Water 72¼. we still continued to stand along the Barbary shore. had a fine View of the Town of Tangiers and several small Towns on the Spanish side. at 4. in the evening Tangers bearing S. W. Aps Hill E. b S. Gibraltar N. by E. Distance 5 Leagues. as we approached Europea Point we had a fine View of Aps Hill which is said to be one of the Pillars of Hercules. We also had a handsom View of Ceuta on the Barbary shore to the S. E. of Gibraltar, and a view of Algesirus and St. Rooke, on the Spanish Shore. at. half past 11. we came to an Anchor in Gibraltar Bay. Europea Point bore South Mo: Castle S. E. ½ E. Town of S^{t} Rooke N. by E. Town of Algesirus W. by N — found here Majestys Ships *Madusa & Fishgard, & Termion* Sloop of War.

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy

U. S. Ship *John Adams*
Gibralter Bay 23^{d} July 1804

Sir I have the honor of informing you that I arrived here in the *John Adams* last Evening after a passage of 26 Days I shall fill my Water tomorrow and proceed for Algiers and from thence to Malta agreeable to Orders from Commodore Preble. It appears by the last Accounts that we have nothing to apprehend from Tunis, tho' in Commodore Preble's Letter of the 19th March to M^{r} Gavino he was very apprehensive of a Rupture with that Regency, but in another Letter to the same Gentleman on the 22^{d} April he is silent on that head, and desires M^{r} Gavino to direct me to proceed to Malta, where I wou'd meet his Orders for the Government of my future Conduct, therefore I presume if Commodore Preble had an Idea that there was any thing to be apprehended from the Tunissians he wou'd not have ordered me to Malta without a sufficient Protection more over some Officers who have gone home in the *Woodrough Sims* informed M^{r} Gavino that Commodore Preble had settled every thing amicably

with the Bey of Tunis, therefore combining all these Circumstances, I presume that you will approve of my proceeding aloft without waiting for the Squadron, I however shall guard against Accident as much as possible, in Consequence of which I am taking down those Temporary Births that were put up for the Officers on the Gun Deck, and shall mount those Guns that I have now in the Waist on the Spar Deck in their proper places on the Gun Deck where they can be managed with more Advantage. I have wrote Commodore Preble by a British Man of War bound to Malta, advising him of my Arrival, also Commodore Barron, Copies of both Letters I have the honor of inclosing you.

The Moors appear well disposed towards the Americans as yet, they are however equipping all their Force their Object is not known — I also inclose you Copies of two Letters from Mr Simpson the one to Commodore Barron the other to Commodore Preble, but which he requested the first American Commander that arrived to peruse and take Copies. Mr Gavino shewed me two Letters that he has just received one from Malaga the other from Cadiz mentioning that it was confidently reported that Spain was on the Eve of a Rupture with the United States but what Foundation they have for the Report he does not know nor does he place any Confidence in the Report, as Mr Pinckney has not wrote him on the Subject. Capt. Gore of the *Madusa* who is stationed off Cadiz told me today that within the last two Months he had boarded a great Number of Spanish Transports full of all kinds of warlike Stores, bound to the spanish Settlements in America, combining these Circumstances with the Reports, to Use Mr O'Bryan's Expression it looks a little *Squally*

The *John Adams* behaved very well on the Passage except in her steering which was owing I presume to her being so deep in the Water, she also leaked more than I cou'd have wished her, she made when it blew hard from 6 to 8 Inches Per Hour; but I am in Hopes that she has not damaged any Part of the Stores, the Crew has continued remarkably healthy; I am sorry however to be obliged to announce to you the Loss of Midshipman Sears who unfortunately fell overboard the 29th June, and notwithstanding every Exertion was made Use of to save him it proved uneffectual, the Ship was going nearly ten Knotts at the Time, and a considerable Sea on — I feel particularly for the Loss of Mr Sears, as he bid fair to have made a valuable Officer, and I understand that he was an only Son to a fond Mother.

The other Officers have conducted themselves with as much propriety as cou'd be expected considering their Ignorance of the Duties of their Present situation

[NDA. MC LB, 1804–5.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy

U. S. Ship *John Adams* Gibralter Bay
23d July 1804

Sir I have the honor of informing you that I arrived here last Night in 26 Days from Hampton Roads in the United States Ship *John Adams* under my Command with Stores for the Squadron a list of which I have the honor of inclosing you — I shall fill my water (which is nearly out) and proceed to Algiers agreeable to Orders from the Secretary of the Navy, where it is probable that I shall not be

detained but a few Hours, and then I shall proceed to Malta — agreeable to your Orders to Mr Gavino I shall not be detained here to exceed 48 Hours and shall use every Exertion to get to Malta as early as possible.

The other Parts of the Squadron [of Commodore Barron] consisting of the *President, Congress, Constellation* and *Essex*, wou'd leave Hampton Roads in all probability on or before the 1st Inst therefore may be hourly expected I have the honor to be

[NDA. MC LB, 1804–5; and LC. EPP, Vol. 12.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Master Commandant John Smith, U. S. Navy

U. S. SCHOONER *Vixen* JULY 23d 1804

SIR Conformable to a requisition of Lieut Wm Crane, I have arrested Lewis Warrington, Midshipman, for having treated him in an insulting and disrespectful manner when in the execution of his duty.

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Monday, 23 July 1804

Wind variable from East to N W, *Nautilus, Vixen,* Store ship, Bombs and Gun Vessels in company, — at 7 P M Observed the north limbs of the moon to be eclipsed, but a thick cloud covering soon after, we could not see the ending of it, — at 10 P M the wind shifted to the N E carried a light at the mizen Peak during the night, — The larboard Bower Cable was reported to be much worn and injured by severice examined & found it not trustworthy, ordered 20 fathoms cut off, and turned into the Boatswains Stores as Junk, — our Carpenters are fitting small Brass carriage guns for our Boats, — I have ordered one Iron 4 pound Carronade, and a 4 pound Brass gun for the Cutter, a Brass 4 pounder for the Barge, a Brass 1½ pounder for the Pinnace, a Brass 1½ pounder for the small Cutter and an Iron 4 pound Carronade for the Jolly Boat, — at Noon Observed in Latitude 34° 30′ N° Tripoly Bearing S S W 94 miles distance, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Monday, 23 July 1804

Light airs & variable —

Nautilus, Vixen, 6 Gun boats, 2 bombards & the store ship in company.

Wind light & Variable all the afternoon

Employed in making & shortening sail in order to keep clear of the Gun boats & bombards which we have in tow:

Towards Sun down it became cloudy and Overcast weather with light airs & hazy weather This Evening there was an Eclipse of the moon part Visible here —

At 10 P. M. the wind shifted to N N E — carried a light during the night in order to prevent separation

At day light saw all the Squadron.

The Clew of the Main Topsail gave way this morning — Unbent the sail, and bent another cut 20 fath[s] from the small bower, that quantity being unserviceable, for which the boatswain is charged a Ton of Junk.

Carpenters are employed in fitting bow chasers to the cutter, Barge, Pinnace, and to the boat recieved in Messina.

Sail Makers repairing the main topsail

Ships company cleaning ship, making wads, & bending the small bower cable —

All these 24 hours a rough Sea, & light wind

Our observation & dead reckoning agree

Noon Tripoly supposed to bear S W b S ¼ S. 100 Miles

Surgeons report 4 sick, 4 convalescent.

Latitude Observed 34° 30′ N.

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 23 July 1804

Throughout these 24 Hours strong Gales from the West and fine Weather — At 6 A. M. Two Lighters came alongside for Water Casks; filled them with empty Casks and sent them on Shore with Officers and Men to fill Water — H. B M Frigate *Fish Guard* went to sea bound to the Eastward. —

[LC. EPP, Journal, June to 6 August 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, 23 July 1804

[Manuscript mutilated.] early this morning had a ful View of the Town and Harbour — and the Spanish shore. Algesirus and St: Rooke laying on the oposite side of the bay. being garrisoned Towns. there are a number of shiping laying in here. some British men of War. and a Portugal seventy four. gun ship laying at Algesirus — at 8. Oclock this morning we saluted the Town of Gibralter and the Salute was returned from the British fort. at. about 10 Oclock Doct[r] Griffin and my self went on shore. at the Rock. took a View of the town and fortifications. It is certainly the strongest garrison'd place in the world. and is made so much so by Nature and art that it may bid defiance to all the World. it is said that there are. about. 5,000 Regular British troops here and the best disciplined of any Troops in the World. It is astonishing to behold the work done here by the British. it is impossible [manuscript mutilated] of assending the top of the Rock [manuscript mutilated] ashore so late prevented my Visiting the [manuscript mutilated] as I was informed. that it would take at least a day to assend it and take a View of all the Gallerys & chambers excavated out of the Rock. —

Here. I met with several Americans. We learned here that Bonaparte had declared himself Emperor of the Gauls and that one of his brothers is to be King of the Scicilys: there is also a report here that there is a prospect of Rupture between Spain and the United States. If this be true there can be no doubt but what Bonaparte is at the bottom of it. We are informed here that Tunis is at peace with us. none of our Mediterranean Squadron is here all of them being up a

LIEUTENANT STEPHEN DECATUR AND MIDSHIPMAN THOMAS MACDONOUGH BOARDING A TRIPOLITAN GUNBOAT.

Loft. as the Phrase is. — the Doct^{r} and myself Returned on board of the ship about 9. Oclock. that being the hour which the gates closes. after which no person can get in or out of the Garrison —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *John Adams*
Gibralter Bay 24th July 1804

SIR I have the pleasure of informing you that I arrived here late in the Evening of the 22^{d} Inst after a Passage of 26 days. Yesterday was so boisterous that we cou'd not Water, but will compleat watering to Day, and tomorrow Morning proceed for Algiers. From the Tenor of Commodore Preble's last Letter, and from Information received from some Officers bound home, I presume there is nothing to apprehend from the Tunissians; with that Impression and agreeable to his Orders to M^{r} Gavino I shall proceed from Algiers to Malta. H. B. M. Frigate *Fish Guard* sailed Yesterday for that Place, by which Opportunity I wrote Com^{e} Preble advising him of my Arrival here, a Copy of which Letter I have the honor of inclosing you. —

The *John Adams* behaved as well during the Passage as I had any reason to expect, tho' from her being so very deep, she steered very bad when it blew hard, and made from 6 to 8 Inches of Water P^{r} Hour. I met with no Accident during the Passage, nor have I lost any Men except M^{r} John D. Sears Midshipman who fell overboard on the 29th June and was lost, altho' every Exertion was made to save him. Our Crew continues very healthy, and are generally very good Men, my Respects to your Brother

Com^{e} SAMUEL BARRON.

[NDA. MC LB, 1804–5.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from John Gavino, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar

GIBRALTAR — *July 24th 1804*

DEAR SIR, Since my last to you p^{r} the Schooner *Commodore Barry*, 20th Inst, I received p^{r} Malaga post your duplicate of 22^{d} April last — Yesterday arrived the U. S. Ship *John Adams* when gave Cap^{t} Chauncey the perusal of your above letter & will be the bearer of this.

The Schooner *Eleonora*, Cap^{t} Grayson arrived from Alexandria with a cargo of Stores p^{r} note at foot — the directions from the Sec^{y} of the Navy regarding the same was that the Squadron should take on board the cargo, but if they were not here, to unload her, which am doing, as the *J. Adams* is so lumbered that she cannot take any thing in — I look every moment for the Reinforcement & refferring to Cap^{t} Chauncey, I am with respect

THE *Eleonora's* CARGO —

260	Barrells beef
83	D^{o} Pork
190	Barrels Bread 16.505 lb
46	Boxes Spermaceti Candles 1, 4, 20¾ lb
50	Boxes Mould d^{o} 1993 lb
3	Bales Russia duck of 20 p^{s} each &
200	bolts Russia duck. —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

Extract from journal kept on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Tuesday, 24 July 1804

Light Airs from the Westward, Squadron in compy At 10 pm fresh Breezes from S E which soon chang'd to the S W, AM ordered all the water casks on board the Gun Boats and Bomb-Vessels to be filled from this ship, it is a necessary precaution in case of separation as they carry only six days allowance of that article. at Noon Tripoly bore S W b S 60 miles. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 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, 24 July 1804

I set up late last night. I got up about Nine Oclock. and after attending to the business of the ship. Doctr Griffin and myself went on shore again to day we landed about 1 Oclock and amused our selves. by looking at the town again and purchasing some few things. We waited on Mr Gavino. the American. Consol. I had some business with him to get. some Spanish gold changed for Dollars. which he. cou'd not conveniantly do — and got it done. by. a Capt Leigh. an American by giving him rather better than one and a half per cent. We dined on shore, and when the Signal Gun at sunset fired we repaired to the place appointed for our boat to meet us. but on geting down to the shore we discovered our boat. going off to the ship and out of hail. We returned into the town again left our servants to watch for the boat and let us know if they shoud discover her returning [manuscript mutilated] on board of an American Brig [manuscript mutilated] and that they supposed we had gone, [manuscript mutilated] as he was on shore and had dined with [manuscript mutilated] We were not satisfied with this as we were very much aversed to staying on shore particularly as we had not obtained permission from the Capt. We went again down to the shore and remained there untill a few minutes before nine, finding our servants there and no appearance of the boat. we. immediately. returned with our servants with in the Gates. otherwise we should have been compeled to have remained on the beach all night. the gates shut a few moments after we got with in them. We then went to Bonards Tavern and staied all night.

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy

U. S. Ship *John Adams*
Gibralter Bay 25th July 1804

Sir I had the honor of writing you on the 23d Inst the Day after my Arrival, wherein I stated to you my Intention of proceeding to Algiers and Malta, I am now getting under way with the Wind from the Eastward for that Purpose.

[NDA. MC LB, 1804–5.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 25 July 1804

[Off Tripoli] A, M, at 4 saw the Commodore with a Squadron of Gunboats and the rest of the American Squad^{n} made sail for him at 5 Spoke him Cap^{t} Hull went on board and returned at 11 took 2 of the Gunboats in tow fresh breezes and Clear Emp^{d} as Necessary

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal kept on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Wednesday, 25 July 1804

Wind E N E, we compleated watering the Bombs, & Gun Boats, at 2 AM fell in with the *Syren* at 4 saw the *Argus* & *Enterprize* at 6 AM wore ship off shore with the wind S E. — a heavy sea heaving on the coast. Tripoly in sight bearing by compass S W dis^{t} 15 Miles. at 8 the *Argus* & *Enterprize* join'd comp^{y}, made the following disposition for towing Gun Boats, & Bombs. — Viz. *Constitution* the 2 Bombs, *Argus* N^{o} 2 & 3 Gun Boats *Syren* N^{o} 5. *Vixen* N^{o} 6. *Nautilus* N^{o} 1 *Enterprize* N^{o} 4. with this arrangment I presume we shall be able to tow them off shore in case of a Norther. —

Made signal for all Captains and delivered them the Orders of Sailing.

Lat^{d} Obs^{d} 33° 10′ N. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June-August 1804.]

[25 July to 10 September 1804]

Naval Operations against Tripoli

8th Congress. *2d. Session.*

COMMUNICATED TO CONGRESS, FEBRUARY 20, 1805.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States:

I communicate, for the information of Congress, a letter of September 18, from Commodore Preble, giving a detailed account of the transactions of the vessels under his command, from July the 9th, to the 10th of September, last past.

The energy and judgment displayed by this excellent officer, through the whole course of the service lately confided to him, and the zeal and bravery of his officers and men in the several enterprises executed by them, cannot fail to give high satisfaction to Congress and their country, of whom they have deserved well.

TH: JEFFERSON.

February 20, 1805.

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

SIR: I had the honor to write you from Messina under date of the 5th of July. I then, expected to have sailed the day following, but was detained by bad weather until the 9th, when I left it with two small Bomb Vessels under Convoy, and arrived at Syracuse; where we were necessarily detained four days. On the 14th I sailed, the Schooners *Nautilus* and *Enterprize* in company, with six Gun Boats and two Bomb Vessels, generously loaned us by His Sicilian Majesty. The Bomb Vessels are about thirty Tons, carry a 13 Inch Brass Sea-Mortar and 40 men; the Gun Boats 25 Tons carry a long Iron 24

pounder in the bow, with a complement of 35 Men; They are officered and manned from the squadron, excepting twelve Neapolitans bombadiers, gunners, and sailors, attached to each boat, who were shipped by permission of their Government. This step I found necessary, as every vessel in the squadron was considerably short of complement. The gunboats are constructed for the defence of harbors; they are flat bottomed and heavy, and do not sail or row even tolerably well. They were never intended to go to sea, and, I find, cannot be navigated with safety, unless assisted by tow ropes from larger and better sailing vessels, nor even then, in very bad weather; however, as they were the best I could obtain, I have thought it for the good of our service to employ them, particularly as the weather in July and August is generally pleasant, and, without them, my force too small to make any impression on Tripoli.

On the 16th of July we arrived at Malta, where we were detained, by contrary gales, until the 21st, when we left it, and arrived in sight of Tripoli the 25th, and were joined by the *Syren*, *Argus*, *Vixen*, and *Scourge*. Our squadron now consisted of the *Constitution*, three brigs, three schooners, two bombs, and six gunboats, our whole number of men one thousand and sixty. I proceeded to make the necessary arrangements for an attack on Tripoli, a city well walled, protected by batteries judiciously constructed, mounting one hundred and fifteen pieces of heavy cannon, and defended by twenty-five thousand Arabs and Turks; the harbor protected by nineteen gunboats, two galleys, two schooners of eight guns each, and a brig mounting ten guns, ranged in order of battle, forming a strong line of defence, at secure moorings, inside a long range of rocks and shoals, extending more than two miles to the eastward of the town, which form the harbor, protects them from the northern gales, and renders it impossible for a vessel of the *Constitution's* draught of water to approach near enough to destroy them, as they are sheltered by the rocks, and can retire under that shelter to the shore, unless they choose to expose themselves in the different channels and openings of the reefs, for the purpose of annoying their enemies. Each of their gunboats mounts a heavy eighteen or twenty-six pounder in the bow, and two brass howitzers on their quarters, and carry from thirty-six to fifty men. The galleys have each one hundred men, schooners and brigs about the same number. The weather was not favorable for anchoring until the 28th, when, with the wind E.S.E. the squadron stood in for the coast, and, at 3 P.M. anchored, per signal, Tripoli bearing S. two and a half miles distant. At this moment the wind shifted suddenly from E.S.E. to N.N.W. and from thence to N.N.E. At 5 o'clock it blew strong, with a heavy sea, setting directly on shore. I made the signal to prepare to weigh. At 6, the wind and sea having considerably increased, the signal was made for the squadron to weigh and gain an offing: the wind continued veering to the eastward, which favored our gaining sea-room, without being obliged to carry so great a press of sail as to lose any of our gunboats, although they were in great danger. The gale continued varying from N.E. to E.S.E. without increasing much, until the 31st, when it blew away our reefed foresail, and close reefed main-topsail; fortunately the sea did not rise in proportion to the strength of the gale, or we must have lost all our boats. AUGUST 1ST, the gale subsided, and we stood

towards the coast; every preparation was made for an attack on the town and harbor.

AUGUST 3D, pleasant weather, wind East; stood in with the squadron towards Tripoli. At noon we were between two and three miles from the batteries, which were all manned, and observing several of their gun-boats and galleys had advanced, in two divisions, without the rocks, I determined to take advantage of their temerity. At half past 12, I wore off shore, and made the signal to come within hail, when I communicated to each of the commanders my intention of attacking the enemy's shipping and batteries. The gun and mortar boats were immediately manned, and prepared to cast off, the gunboats in two divisions of three each; the first division commanded by Captain Somers, in No. 1, Lieutenant [James] Decatur in No. 2, and Lieutenant Blake, in No. 3: the second division commanded by Captain [Stephen] Decatur [Jr.], in No. 4, Lieutenant [Joseph] Bainbridge, in No. 5, and Lieutenant Trippe, in No. 6. The two bombards were commanded by Lieutenant Commandant Dent, and Mr. Robinson, First Lieutenant of this ship. At half past 1 o'clock, having made the necessary arrangements for the attack, wore ship and stood towards the batteries. At 2, signal made to cast off the boats; at a quarter past 2, signal for bombs and gunboats to advance and attack the enemy. At half past 2, general signal for battle. At three-quarters past 2, the bombs commenced the action, by throwing shells into the town. In an instant the enemy's shipping and batteries opened a tremendous fire, which was promptly returned by the whole squadron within grape-shot distance; at the same time the second division, of three gunboats, led by the gallant Captain Decatur, was advancing, with sails and oars, to board the eastern division of the enemy, consisting of nine boats. Our boats gave the enemy showers of grape and musket balls as they advanced; they, however, soon closed, when the pistol, sabre, pike, and tomahawk, were made good use of by our brave tars. Captain Somers being in a dull sailer, made the best use of his sweeps, but was not able to fetch far enough to windward to engage the same division of the enemy's boats which Captain Decatur fell in with; he, however, gallantly bore down with his single boat on five of the enemy's western division, and engaged within pistol shot, defeated, and drove them within the rocks, in a shattered condition, and with the loss of a great number of men. Lieutenant Decatur, in No. 2, was closely engaged with one of the enemy's largest boats of the eastern division, which struck to him, after having lost a large proportion of men, and, at the instant that brave officer was boarding her to take possession, he was treacherously shot through the head by the captain of the boat that had surrendered, which base conduct enabled the poltroon (with the assistance he received from other boats) to escape. The third boat of Captain Somers' division, kept to windward, firing at the boats and shipping in the harbor; had she gone down to his assistance, it is probable several of the enemy's boats would have been captured in that quarter. Captain Decatur, in No. 4, after having, with distinguished bravery, boarded and carried one of the enemy of superior force, took his prize in tow, and gallantly bore down to engage a second, which, after a severe and bloody conflict, he

also took possession of.[1] These two prizes had thirty-three officers and men killed, and twenty-seven made prisoners, nineteen of which were badly wounded. Lieutenant Trippe, of the *Vixen*, in No. 6, ran along side of one of the enemy's large boats, which he boarded with only Midshipman John Henley and nine men, his boat falling off before any more could get on board; thus was he left, compelled to conquer or perish, with the odds of *thirty-six* to *eleven*. The Turks could not withstand the ardor of this brave officer and his assistants; in a few minutes the decks were cleared, and her colors hauled down. On board of this boat fourteen of the enemy were killed, and twenty-two made prisoners, seven of which were badly wounded.[2] The rest of their boats retreated within the rocks. Lieutenant Trippe received eleven sabre wounds, some of which are very severe: he speaks in the highest terms of Mr. Henley, and those who followed him. Lieutenant Bainbridge, in No. 5, had his latteen yard shot away early in the action, which prevented his getting alongside the enemy's boats, but he galled them by a steady and well directed fire, within musket shot; indeed he pursued the enemy until his boat grounded under the batteries: she was, fortunately, soon got off. The bomb vessels kept their stations, although covered with the spray of the sea occasioned by the enemy's shot. They were well conducted by Lieutenants Dent and Robinson, who kept up a constant fire from the mortars, and threw a great number of shells into the town. Five of the enemy's gunboats, and two galleys, composing the centre division, and stationed within the rocks, as a reserve, joined by the boats that had been driven in, and supplied by fresh men from the shore to replace those they had lost, twice attempted to row out, to endeavor to surround our gunboats and their prizes: I as often made the signal to cover them, which was promptly attended to by the brigs and schooners, all of which were gallantly conducted, and annoyed the enemy exceedingly, but the fire from this ship kept their flotilla completely in check. Our grape shot made great havoc among their men, not only on board their shipping, but on shore. We were several times within two cables length of the rocks, and within three of their batteries, every one of which, in succession, were silenced, so long as we could bring our broadside to bear upon them; but the moment we passed a battery, it was re-animated, and a constant, heavy fire kept up from all that we could not point our guns at. We suffered most when wearing or tacking; it was then I most sensibly felt the want of another frigate.

[1] * * * one of the enemy having a fair chance at captain Decatur's head, made a blow at him with all his force. His object was discovered by a young man of the name of Daniel Frazier, who nobly rushed between Decatur and his foe, and received on his own head the blow destined for Decatur. [Naval Chronicle, Vol. 1.]

[2] A more extraordinary action was probably never recorded. The commander of the enemy's gun boat, was a remarkably athletic, gallant man, about twenty-four years of age: his height considerably exceeded six feet. Before he engaged in battle, he swore upon the Koran that he would conquer or die. Trippe was under size, though well set, and extremely active. He and Henley, perceived the gigantic stature of their foe, yet unappalled, made at him. The gallant Turk sustained the conflict, with a firmness worthy of a better fate. — Trippe and Henley admiring his extraordinary courage, were anxious to spare his life, and gave him repeated intimations of their wishes; he, however rejected, indignantly, every overture of the kind, and fought with increased fury. He, it was, who gave lieutenant Trippe eleven wounds. Trippe's life was only saved by his great activ-

At half past 4, the wind inclining to the northward, I made the signal for the bombs and gunboats to retire from action, and, immediately after, the signal to tow off the gunboats and prizes, which was handsomely executed by the brigs, schooners, and boats of the squadron, covered by a heavy fire from the *Constitution*. At three-quarters past 4, P. M. the light vessels, gunboats, and prizes, being out of reach of the enemy's shot, I hauled off to take the bomb vessels in tow. We were two hours under the fire of the enemy's batteries, and the only damage received in the ship is, a twenty-four pound shot nearly through the centre of the mainmast, thirty feet from the deck; main royal yard and sail shot away; one of our quarter-deck guns damaged by a thirty-two pound shot, which, at the same time, shattered a marine's arm; two lower shrouds and two backstays were shot away, and our sails and running rigging considerably cut. We must impute our getting off thus well to our keeping so near that they over-shot us, and to the annoyance our grape shot gave them: they are, however, but wretched gunners. Gunboat No. 5 had her main yard shot away, and the rigging and sails of the brigs and schooners were considerably cut.

Lieutenant [James] Decatur was the only officer killed, but in him the service has lost a valuable officer. He was a young man who gave strong promise of being an ornament to his profession. His conduct in the action was highly honorable, and he *died nobly.*

The enemy must have suffered very much in killed and wounded, both among their shipping and on shore. Three of their gunboats were sunk in the harbor, several of them had their decks nearly cleared of men by our shot, and a number of shells burst in the town and batteries, which must have done great execution. The officers, seamen, and marines, of the squadron behaved in the most gallant manner. The Neapolitans, in emulating the ardor of our seamen, answered my highest expectations.

I cannot but notice the active exertions and officer-like conduct of Lieutenant Gordon, and the other Lieutenants of the *Constitution.* Mr. Harriden, the master, gave me full satisfaction, as did all the officers and ship's company. I was much gratified with the conduct of Captain Hall and Lieutenant Greenleaf, and the marines belonging to his company, in the management of six long twenty-six pounders, on the spar deck, which I placed under his direction.

Captain Decatur speaks in the highest terms of the conduct of Lieutenant Thorn, and Midshipman McDonough, of No. 4, as does Captain Somers of Midshipmen Ridgely and Miller, attached to No. 1.

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ity, and perfect self-possession: Finding that the Turk would not yield, although he had received many wounds and bled freely, lieutenant Trippe and midshipman Henley were at length compelled, in self-defence, though with great reluctance, to inflict the mortal wound. The Turk reeled and fell: just before he expired midshipman Henley, supposing him to be dead, stepped over his body. In the agonies of death, he was sensible of this indignity, seized midshipman Henley by the ancle, gave it a violent twist, and expired!

Lieutenant Trippe during his whole life, regretted the necessity he was under of putting this Turk to death. Years after the event had occurred, so great was his sensibility on the occasion, that he shed tears in reciting to us the circumstances. Noble, generous spirit — conspicuous alike for his humanity and his chivalry. [Naval Chronicle, Vol. 1.]

Annexed is a list of killed and wounded; and, enclosed, a copy of my general orders on this occasion.

Killed. Gun-boat No. 2 — Lieutenant James Decatur.

Wounded. *Constitution* — One marine.

Do. Gun-boat No. 4 — Captain Decatur, (slight) one sergeant of marines, and two seamen.

Do. Gun-boat No. 6 — Lieutenant Trippe, severely, one boatswain's mate, and two marines.

Do. Gun-boat No. 1 — Two seamen.

Do. Gun-boat No. 2 — Two seamen.

Total — one killed, thirteen wounded.

AUGUST 5TH. We were at anchor with the squadron about two leagues north from the city of Tripoli; the *Argus* in chase of a small vessel to the westward, which she soon came up with, and brought within hail; she proved to be a French privateer, of four guns, which put into Tripoli a few days since, for water, and left it this morning. I prevailed on the Captain, for a consideration, to return to Tripoli, for the purpose of landing fourteen very badly wounded Tripolitans, which I put on board his vessel, with a letter to the prime minister, leaving it at the option of the Bashaw to reciprocate this generous mode of conducting the war. The sending these unfortunate men on shore, to be taken care of by their friends, was an act of humanity, on our part, which I hope will make a proper impression on the minds of the Barbarians, but I doubt it.

All hands where busily employed in altering the rig of the three prizes, from latteen vessels to sloops, and preparing for a second attack. Observed one of the enemy's schooners and the brig, (two corsairs in the harbor) to be dismasted. Was informed by the French captain, that the damage these vessels received in the action of the third had occasioned their masts being taken out.

AUGUST 7TH. The French privateer came out, and brought me a letter from the French Consul, in which he observes, that our attack of the third instant has disposed the Bashaw to accept of reasonable terms, and invited me to send a boat to the rocks with a flag of truce, which was declined, as the white flag was not hoisted at the Bashaw's castle. At nine A.M. with a very light breeze from the eastward, and a strong current which obliged the *Constitution* to remain at anchor, I made the signal for the light vessels to weigh, and the gun and bomb boats to cast off, and stand in shore towards the western batteries; the prize boats having been completely fitted for service, and the command of them given to Lieutenants Crane, of the *Vixen*, Thorn, of the *Enterprise*, and Caldwell, of the *Syren*, the whole advanced with sails and oars. The orders were for the bombs to take a position in a small bay to the westward of the city, where but few of the enemy's guns could be brought to bear on them, but from whence they could annoy the town with shells; the gun-boats to silence a battery of seven heavy guns which guarded the approach to that position, and the brigs and schooners to support them, in case the enemy's flotilla should venture out. At half past one P.M. a breeze from N.N.E. I weighed with the *Constitution* and stood in for the town, but the wind being on shore, made it imprudent to engage the batteries with the ship, as, in case of a mast being shot away, the loss of the vessel would probably ensue, unless a change of wind should favor our getting off. At half past two P.M. the bomb and gunboats

having gained their station, the signal was made for them to attack the town and batteries. Our bombs immediately commenced throwing shells, and the gunboats opened a sharp and well directed fire on the town and batteries, within point blank shot, which was warmly returned by the enemy. The seven gun battery, in less than two hours, was silenced, except one gun; I presume the others were dismounted by our shot, as the walls were almost totally destroyed. At a quarter past three P.M. a ship hove in sight to the northward, standing for the town; made the *Argus* signal to chase. At half past three one of our prize gunboats was blown up by a hot shot from the enemy, which passed through her magazine: she had on board twenty-eight officers, seamen, and marines, ten of whom were killed, and six wounded; among the killed were James R. Caldwell, First Lieutenant of the *Syren*, and Midshipman John S. Dorsey, both excellent officers; Midshipman Spence, and eleven men, were taken up unhurt. Captain Decatur, whose division this boat belonged to, and who was near her at the time she blew up, reports to me, that Mr. Spence was superintending the loading of the gun at that moment, and, notwithstanding the boat was sinking, he, and the brave fellows surviving, finished charging, gave three cheers as the boat went from under them, and swam to the nearest boats, where they assisted during the remainder of the action.[1] The enemy's gun-boats and galleys (fifteen in num-

[1] There is a circumstance with regard to midshipman Spence, not known, it is presumed, to commodore Preble, at the time he wrote his despatch. — The commodore states that Mr. Spence was superintending the loading of the gun, at the time the boat was blown up by a hot shot from the enemy — that "notwithstanding the boat was sinking, he, and the brave fellows surviving, finished charging, gave three cheers as the boat went from under them, and *swam* to the nearest boats." Midshipman Spence did *not know how to swim* — fortunately he got hold of an oar, by which he kept himself from sinking. — Another circumstance — the gun was actually *fired*, and then the three cheers were given. These facts appear to us to increase essentially the merit of Mr. Spence's conduct on the occasion.

Captain Decatur, in his official communication to commodore Preble, written on the day of the action stated: "It is with regret I have to inform you of the loss of No. 8[9], which was blown up by a hot shot from the enemy. After the smoke cleared off, I found all abaft the mast was under water; the gun and bow being the only part out. Mr. Robert T. Spence, midshipman, was the officer superintending the gun, who, at the time of the explosion, was in the act of loading her: after which accident, he, and the brave fellows left, completed the loading of the gun before she sunk, and then swam to the nearest boat, where they assisted during the engagement." From this letter it would seem that the fact of the gun having been actually fired, and that of midshipman Spence being ignorant of the art of swimming, was unknown to captain Decatur also, on the day of action. He soon after, however, became apprized of these circumstances; and so highly did he think of Mr. Spence's conduct, that he warmly urged his promotion; and commodore Preble accordingly conferred upon him the appointment of an acting lieutenant, which was sanctioned and confirmed by the government.

The father of this young officer, Keith Spence, esq. a gentleman justly held in high estimation for his probity, intelligence and nice sense of honor, was then a prisoner in Tripoli. He was the bosom friend, the mentor, of Decatur. Drawing invaluable lessons of wisdom from the precepts of the father, Decatur, by his example, produced a spirit of emulation in the son, to which may, in a great degree, be attributed that utter disregard of self, that heroic devotion to the honor of the service, manifested by him on this occasion.

Mr. Edmund P. Kennedy (now a master commandant in the navy,) then gunner's mate of the brig *Siren*, was captain of the gun on this occasion. His gallant conduct attracted the attention of commodore Preble, who made him an acting midshipman; and Mr. Secretary Smith, upon being informed of the circumstances, sent him a warrant as midshipman. [Naval Chronicle, Vol. 1, p. 228.]

ber) were all in motion close under the batteries, and appeared to meditate an attack on our boats; the *Constitution*, *Nautilus*, and *Enterprise*, were to windward, ready, at every hazard, to cut them off from the harbor, if they should venture down; while the *Syren* and *Vixen* were near our boats, to support and cover any of them that might be disabled. The enemy thought it most prudent, however, to retire to their snug retreat behind the rocks, after firing a few shot. Our boats, in two divisions, under Captains Somers and Decatur, were well conducted, as were our bomb vessels, by Lieutenants Dent and Robinson. The town must have suffered much from this attack, and their batteries, particularly the seven gun battery, must have lost many men. At half past five P.M. the wind began to freshen from the N.N.E.; I made the signal for the gun and bomb boats to retire from action, and for the vessels to which they were attached to take them in tow. The *Argus* made signal that the strange sail was a friend.

In this day's action No. 4 had a twenty-four pound shot through her hull; No. 6, her latteen yard shot away; No. 8, a twenty-four pound shot through her hull, which killed two men; some of the other boats had their rigging and sails considerably cut. We threw forty-eight shells, and about five hundred twenty-four pound shot into the town and batteries. All the officers and men engaged in the action behaved with the utmost intrepidity. At half past six all the boats were in tow, and the squadron standing to the northwest. At eight the *John Adams*, Captain Chauncey, from the United States, joined company. At nine the squadron anchored, Tripoli bearing southeast, five miles distant. Gunboat No. 3 was this day commanded by Mr. Brooks, master of the *Argus*, and No. 6 by Lieutenant Wadsworth, of the *Constitution*.

Annexed is a return of our loss in this attack.

Killed Gunboat No. 9 — One Lieutenant, one midshipman, one boatswain's mate, one quarter gunner, one sergeant of marines, and five seamen.

Do. Gunboat No. 8 — Two seamen.

Wounded. Gunboat No. 9 — Six seamen, two of whom mortally.

Total — twelve killed, six wounded.

Captain Chauncey brought me the first positive information that any reinforcement was to be expected. By him I was honored with your letters of the 7th, 22d, and 31st of May, informing me that four frigates were coming out, under Commodore Barron, who is to supersede me in the command of our naval forces in these seas, at the same time approbating my conduct, and conveying to me the thanks of the President for my services. I beg you, sir, to accept my warmest thanks for the very obliging language in which you have made these communications, and to assure the President that to merit the applause of my country is my only aim, and, to receive it, the highest gratification it can bestow.

Captain Chauncey informed me that the frigates might be expected every moment, as they were to sail from Hampton Roads four days after him. In consequence of this information, (and as I could not bring the *John Adams* into action, she having left all her gun carriages for her gun deck, except eight, on board the *Congress* and *Constellation*, a day or two previous to her sailing) I determined to wait a few days for the arrival of Commodore Barron, before another attack, when,

if he should arrive, the fate of Tripoli must be decided in a few hours, and the Bashaw completely humbled. Had the *John Adams* brought out her gun carriages, I should not have waited a moment, and can have no doubt but the next attack would make the arrival of more ships unnecessary for the termination of the Tripoline war. I gave Captain Chauncey orders to remain on the station, that we might be benefited by the assistance of his boats and men, as nearly half the crews of the *Constitution*, brigs, and schooners, were taken out to man the bombs, gun boats and ship's boats, when prepared for an attack.

AUGUST 9TH. We were engaged supplying the bomb and gun-boats with ammunition and stores, and getting every thing in readiness for an attack, the moment Commodore Barron should arrive and make the signal. I cannot but regret that our naval establishment is so limited as to deprive me of the means and glory of completely subduing the haughty tyrant of Tripoli, while in the chief command; it will, however, afford me satisfaction to give my successor all the assistance in my power. At three P. M. I went on board the *Argus*, for the purpose of reconnoitering the harbor of Tripoli; we stood in towards the town, and were near being sunk by the enemy's fire; one of their heaviest shot, which struck about three feet short of the water line, raked the copper off her bottom under water, and cut the plank half through. In the evening the wind blew strong from the N. N. E.; the squadron weighed, and kept under sail all night. The day following we anchored, Tripoli bearing S. S. W. six miles distant. At ten A. M. the French consul hoisted a white flag at his flag staff, under the national colors, which was a signal that the Bashaw was ready to treat. I sent a boat into the harbor, and took this opportunity to forward Captain Bainbridge, and his officers, letters from their friends. The boat was not allowed to land, but returned in the afternoon and brought me a letter, advising that the Bashaw was ready to receive five hundred dollars for the ransom of each of the prisoners, and terminate the war, without any consideration for peace or tribute. This is three hundred and fifty thousand dollars less than was demanded previous to the action of the third instant. These terms I did not hesitate to reject, as I was informed by Captain Chauncey that it was the expectation of our Government, on the arrival of four frigates, to obtain the release of the officers and crew of the *Philadelphia* without ransom, and dictate the terms of peace. I enclose you copies of our correspondence, which will convince you that our attacks have not been made without effect.

AUGUST 16TH. No news of the frigates, and but short allowance of water in the squadron. I sent the *Enterprise* to Malta, with orders to the agent there to hire transports, and send off immediately a supply of fresh water, provision, and other stores which have become necessary, as some of the squadron have now been upwards of five months in sight of this dismal coast, without once visiting a friendly port. Those vessels, as well as the gun-boats, received their supply of water and provisions from the *Constitution*.

AUGUST 18TH. As the season is fast approaching when we may expect bad weather, and no news of the frigates, I have determined to make an attack as soon as the wind proves favorable. At eight P. M. I sent Captains Decatur and Chauncey, in two small boats, to reconnoitre the harbor, and observe the disposition of the enemy's flotilla at night. They returned at midnight, and reported that they

were anchored in a line abreast, from the mole to the Bashaw's castle, with their heads to the eastward, for the defence of the inner harbor. At daylight the wind shifted suddenly from northeast to north northwest, and brought a heavy sea on shore, which obliged us, for greater safety, to weigh, and stand to sea.

[AUGUST] 20TH. We had gained an offing of nine or ten leagues; still blowing hard. We met with the ketch *Intrepid*, from Syracuse, with a cargo of fresh water, stock, and vegetables, for the squadron.

[AUGUST] 22D. Fell in with a ship from Malta, with water and live stock for the squadron. These cargoes arrived very opportunely, as we have for some time past been on short allowance of water. The wind having moderated, we stood in and anchored with the squadron, six miles northeast by north from Tripoli. All the boats were engaged in discharging the transports. The *Enterprise* arrived from Malta, but brought no intelligence of the long expected frigates.

[AUGUST] 24TH. With a light breeze from the northeast, we stood in with the squadron, prepared for action, intending to attack the town and shipping in the night. At eight in the evening, anchored about two and a half miles from the batteries. At midnight it fell calm; I sent the bomb vessels, under the protection of the gunboats, to bombard the town; the boats of the squadron were employed in towing them in. At two, A.M., the bombardment commenced, and continued until day-light,[1] but with what effect is uncertain. At six, all the boats joined us, and were taken in tow by the squadron, which was under weigh and standing off. At seven, anchored four miles north of the town. The weather, for several days, proved unfavorable for approaching the shore.

[AUGUST] 28TH, we were favored with a pleasant breeze from the eastward; at three, P.M., we weighed, and stood in for Tripoli; at five, anchored the *Constitution*, two miles north by east from Fort English, and two miles and a half from the Bashaw's castle; the light vessels ordered to keep under way; we were employed until eight, P.M., in making arrangements for attacking the town; a number of the officers, and many of the seamen, of the *Constitution* being attached to the bomb, gun, and ship's boats; Captain Chauncey, with several of his officers, and about seventy seamen and marines, volunteered their services on board the *Constitution*. All the boats in the squadron were officered and manned, and attached to the several gunboats. The two bomb vessels could not be brought into action, as one was leaky, and the mortar-bed of the other had given way. The *John Adams*, *Scourge*, transports, and bombs, were anchored seven miles to the northward of the town. Lieutenant Commandant Dent, of the *Scourge*, came on board the *Constitution*, and took charge on the gun-deck. Lieutenant Izard, of the *Scourge*, also joined me. Lieutenant Gordon commands gunboat No. 2, and Lieutenant Lawrence, of the *Enterprise*, No. 5; these are the only changes. At half past one,

[1] During this attack an accident occurred which was very near proving fatal to captain Bainbridge. A thirty-six pound ball, from commodore Preble's squadron passed through the wall in the apartment of the prison where captain Bainbridge was sleeping, struck against the opposite wall, rebounded, and in its fall, took part of the bed clothes from him and passed within a few inches of his body. In its passage through the first wall, it knocked out a cart load of stones and mortar, under which captain Bainbridge was buried until the officers relieved him. He was considerably bruised by the rubbish, and received a cut, in the right ancle, which occasioned a lameness for months. [Naval Chronicle, Vol. 1.]

A.M., the gunboats, in two divisions, led by Captains Decatur and Somers, were ordered to advance and take their stations close to the rocks at the entrance of the harbor, within grape-shot distance of the Bashaw's castle. The *Syren*, *Argus*, *Vixen*, *Nautilus*, *Enterprise*, and boats of the squadron, accompanied them. At three, A.M., the boats anchored with springs on, within pistol shot of the rocks, and commenced a brisk firing on the shipping, town, batteries, and Bashaw's castle, which was warmly returned, but not as well directed. The ship's boats remained with the gunboats, to assist in boarding the enemy's flotilla, if it should venture out, while the brigs and schooners kept under weigh, ready for the same service, or for annoying the enemy as occasion might present.

At day-light, presuming that the gunboats had nearly expended their ammunition, we weighed with the *Constitution*, and stood in for the harbor. Fort English, the Bashaw's castle, crown and mole batteries, kept up a heavy fire upon us as we advanced. At half past five, I made the signal for the gunboats to retire from action, and for the brigs and schooners to take them in tow. We were then within two cables' length of the rocks, and commenced a heavy fire of round and grape on thirteen of the enemy's gunboats and galleys, which were in pretty close action with our boats. We sunk one of the enemy's boats; at the same time two more, disabled, ran on shore to avoid sinking; the remainder immediately retreated. We continued running in until we were within musket shot of the crown and mole batteries, when we brought to and fired upwards of three hundred round shot, beside grape and canister, into the town, Bashaw's castle, and [Mole head] batteries. We silenced the castle and two of the batteries for some time. At a quarter past six, the gunboats being all out of shot and in tow, I hauled off, after having been three-quarters of an hour in close action. The gunboats fired upwards of four hundred round shot, besides grape and canister, with good effect. A large Tunisian galliot was sunk in the mole. A Spanish ship, which had entered with an ambassador from the Grand Seignior, received considerable damage. The Tripoline galleys and gunboats lost many men, and were much cut. The Bashaw's castle and town have suffered very much; as have their Crown and Mole [Head] batteries.

Captains Decatur and Somers conducted their divisions of gunboats with their usual firmness and address, and were well supported by the officers and men attached to them. The brigs and schooners were also well conducted during the action, and fired a number of shot at the enemy, but their guns are too light to do much execution. They suffered considerably in their sails and rigging. The officers and crew of the *Constitution* behaved well. I cannot, in justice to Captain Chauncey, omit noticing the very able assistance I received from him on the quarter-deck of the *Constitution* during the whole of the action. The damage which we have received is principally above the hull. Three lower shrouds, two spring stays, two top-mast backs stays, trusses, chains, and lifts of the main yard, shot away. Our sails had several cannon shot through them, and were besides considerably cut by grape; much of our running rigging cut to pieces. One of our anchor stocks, and our larboard cable, shot away, and a number of grape shot were sticking in different parts of the hull, but not a man hurt! A boat belonging to the *John Adams*, with a master's mate,

(Mr. Creighton) and eight men, was sunk by a double headed shot from the batteries, while in tow of the *Nautilus*, which killed three men, and badly wounded one, who, with Mr. Creighton and the other four, were picked up by one of our boats. The only damage our gunboats sustained was in their rigging and sails, which were considerably cut by the enemy's round and grape shot. At eleven, A. M., we anchored with the squadron, five miles northeast by north from Tripoli, and repaired the damage received in the action.

[AUGUST] 29TH AND 30TH, preparing the bomb vessels for service; supplying the gunboats with ammunition, &c.

[AUGUST] 31ST, a vessel arrived from Malta with provisions and stores; brought no news of Commodore Barron or the frigates. We discharged this vessel's cargo and ordered her to return.

SEPTEMBER 2. The bomb vessels having been repaired and ready for service, Lieutenants Dent and Robinson resumed the command of them. Lieutenant Morris, of the *Argus*, took command of No. 3, and Lieutenant Trippe, having nearly recovered from his wounds, resumed the command of No. 6, which he so gallantly conducted the third ultimo. Captain Chauncey, with several young gentlemen, and sixty men, from the *John Adams*, volunteered on board the *Constitution*. At four, P. M., made the signal to weigh; kept under sail all night. At eleven, A. M., a general signal to prepare for battle. A Spanish polacre in ballast came out of Tripoli, with an ambassador of the Grand Seignior on board, who had been sent from Constantinople to Tripoli to confirm the Bashaw in his title; this ceremony takes place in all the Barbary regencies every five years. The captain of this vessel informed us that our shot and shells had made great havoc and destruction in the city, and among the shipping, and that a vast number of people have been killed: also informs us that three of the boats which were sunk by our shot in the actions of the third and twenty-eighth ultimo, had been got up, repaired, and fitted for service [action].

[SEPTEMBER] 3D. At 2, P.M., Tripoli bore south southwest, two miles and a half distant; wind east by north. At half past two, the signals were made for the gunboats to cast off, advance, and attack the enemy's galleys and gunboats, which were all under weigh in the eastern part of the harbor, whither they had for some time been working up against the wind. This was certainly a judicious movement of theirs, as it precluded the possibility of our boats going down to attack the town, without leaving the enemy's flotilla in their rear, and directly to windward. I accordingly ordered the bomb vessels to run down within proper distance of the town and bombard it, while our gunboats were to engage the enemy's galleys and [gun] boats to windward. At half three, P.M., our bombs having gained the stations to which they were directed, anchored, and commenced throwing shells into the city; at the same time, our gunboats opened a brisk fire on the galleys, &c. within point blank shot, which was warmly returned by them and Fort English, and by a new battery a little to the westward; but, as soon as our boats arrived within good musket shot of their galleys and boats, they gave way, and retreated to the shore within the rocks, and under cover of musketry from Fort English. They were followed by our boats, and by the *Syren*, *Argus*, *Vixen*, *Nautilus*, and *Enterprise*, as far as the reefs would permit them to go with prudence. The action was then divided. One division of our boats, with the brigs

and schooners, attacked Fort English, whilst the other was engaged with the enemy's galleys and boats. The Bashaw's castle, the Mole, Crown, and several other Batteries, kept up a constant fire on our bomb vessels, which were well conducted, and threw shells briskly into the town; but, from their situation, they were very much exposed, and in great danger of being sunk; I accordingly ran within them with the *Constitution*, to draw off the enemy's attention, and amuse them whilst the bombardment was kept up. We brought to within reach of grape, and fired eleven broadsides into the Bashaw's Castle, Town, and Batteries, in a situation where more than seventy guns could bear upon us. One of their Batteries was silenced. The Town, Castle, and other Batteries, considerably damaged. By this time, it was half past four o'clock; the wind was increasing, and inclining rapidly on the northward. I made the signal for the Boats to retire from action, and for the brigs and schooners to take them in tow, and soon after hauled off with the *Constitution* to repair damages. Our main-top-sail was totally disabled by a shell from the Batteries, which cut away the leech rope, and several cloths of the sail; another shell went through the fore-top-sail, and one through the jib; all our sails considerably cut; two top-mast backstays shot away; main sheets, fore tacks, lifts, braces, bowlines, and the running rigging, generally, very much cut, but no shot in our hull, excepting a few grape. Our Gun Boats were an hour fifteen minutes in action. They disabled several of the enemy's galleys and boats, and considerably damaged Fort English. Most of our boats received damage in their rigging and sails. The bomb vessel No. 1, commanded by Lieutenant Robinson, was disabled, every shroud being shot away; the bed of the mortar rendered useless, and the vessel near sinking; she was, however, towed off. About fifty shells were thrown into the town, and our boats fired four hundred round shot, besides grape and canister. They were led into action by Captains Decatur and Somers, with their usual gallantry. The brigs and schooners were handsomely conducted, and fired many shot with effect at Fort English, which they were [some time] near enough to reach with their carronades; they suffered considerably in their rigging, and the *Argus* received a thirty-two pound shot in the hull forward, which cut off a bower cable as it entered. We kept under weigh until eleven, P.M., when we anchored, Tripoli bearing south southwest three leagues. I again with pleasure, acknowledge the services of an able and active officer in Captain Chauncey, serving on the quarter-deck of the *Constitution*. At sun-rise, I made the signal for the squadron to prepare for action. The carpenters were sent on board the bombs to repair damages, and our boats employed in supplying the bombs and gunboats with ammunition, to replace the expenditures.

Desirous of annoying the enemy by all the means in my power, I directed to be put into execution a long contemplated plan of sending a fire ship, or *infernal*, into the harbor of Tripoli, in the night, for the purpose of endeavoring to destroy the enemy's shipping, and shatter the Bashaw's Castle and Town. Captain Somers, of the *Nautilus*, having volunteered his services, had, for several days before this period, been directing the preparation of the ketch *Intrepid*, assisted by Lieutenants Wadsworth and Israel. About one hundred barrels of powder, and one hundred and fifty fixed shells, were apparently judiciously disposed of on board her. The fusees leading to the magazine,

where all the powder was deposited, were calculated to burn for a quarter of an hour.

SEPTEMBER 4TH. The *Intrepid* being prepared for the intended service, Captain Somers and Lieutenant Wadsworth made choice of two of the fastest rowing boats in the squadron, for bringing them out, after reaching their destination, and firing the combustible materials which were to communicate with the fusees. Captain Somers' boat was manned with four seamen from the *Nautilus*, and Lieutenant Wadsworth's with six from the *Constitution*: Lieutenant Israel accompanied them. At eight in the evening, the *Intrepid* was under sail, and standing for the port, with a leading breeze from the eastward. The *Argus*, *Vixen*, and *Nautilus*, convoyed her as far as the rocks. On entering the harbor, several shot were fired at her from the batteries. In a few minutes after, when she had apparently nearly gained the intended place of destination, she suddenly exploded, without their having previously fired a room filled with splinters and other combustibles, which were intended to create a blaze, in order to deter the enemy from boarding while the fire was communicating to the fusees which led to the magazine. The effect of the explosion awed their batteries into profound silence with astonishment; not a gun was afterwards fired for the night. The shrieks of the inhabitants informed us that the town was thrown into the greatest terror and consternation by the explosion of the magazine, and the bursting and falling of shells in all directions. The whole squadron waited, with the utmost anxiety, to learn the fate of the adventurers, from a signal previously agreed on, in case of success; but waited in vain. No signs of their safety were to be observed. The *Argus*, *Vixen*, and *Nautilus*, hovered round the entrance of the port until sunrise, when they had a fair view of the whole harbor. Not a vestige of the ketch [*Intrepid*] or her boats was to be seen. One of the enemy's largest gunboats was missing, and three others were seen very much shattered and damaged, which the enemy were hauling on shore. From these circumstances, I am led to believe that these boats were detached from the enemy's flotilla to intercept the ketch, and, without suspecting her to be a fire ship, the missing boat had suddenly boarded her, when the gallant Somers and heroes of his party, observing the other three boats surrounding them, and no prospect of escape, determined, at once, to prefer *death* and the *destruction of the enemy* to *captivity* and *torturing slavery*, put a match to the train leading directly to the magazine, which at once blew the whole into the air, and terminated their existence. My conjectures respecting this affair are founded on a resolution which Captain Somers, Lieutenants Wadsworth and Israel had formed—neither to be taken by the enemy, nor suffer him to get possession of the powder on board the *Intrepid*. They expected to enter the harbor without discovery, but had declared that, should they be disappointed, and the enemy should board them, before they reached their point of destination, in such force as to leave them no hopes of a safe retreat, that they would put a match to the magazine, and blow themselves and their enemies up together; determined, as there was no exchange of prisoners, that their country should never pay ransom for them, nor the enemy receive a supply of powder through their means.[1] The disappearance of one of the enemy's boats, and

[1] [Attention is invited to a note concerning the bravery and sense of honor of Lieutenant Somers, which appears on pages 237 and 238 of "The United States' Naval Chronicle" by Charles W. Goldsborough, Vol. 1.]

the shattered condition of three others, confirm me in my opinion they they were an advanced guard, detached from the main body of the flotilla on discovering the approach of the *Intrepid*, and that they attempted to board her before she had reached her point of destination; otherwise, the whole of their shipping must have suffered, and perhaps would have been totally destroyed. That she was blown up before she had gained her station is certain, by which the service has lost three very gallant officers. Captain Somers and Lieutenants Wadsworth and Israel were officers of conspicuous bravery, talents, and merit. They had uniformly distinguished themselves in the several actions; were beloved and lamented by the whole squadron.

SEPTEMBER 5TH. We were employed in supplying the gunboats with ammunition, &c. and repairing the bomb vessels for another attack, but, the wind shifting to the N. N. E., a heavy swell setting on shore, and other indications of bad weather, determined me, for greater safety, to take the guns, mortars, shot, and shells, out of the boats, into the *Constitution* and *John Adams*, which was accordingly done. The weather continuing to wear a threatening aspect until the 7th, and our ammunition being reduced to a quantity not more than sufficient for three vessels to keep up the blockade, no intelligence of the expected reinforcement, and the season so far advanced as to render it imprudent to hazard the gunboats any longer on the station, I gave orders for the *John Adams*, *Syren*, *Nautilus*, *Enterprise*, and *Scourge*, to take the bombs and gunboats in tow, and proceed to Syracuse with them. The *Argus*, and *Vixen* to remain with the *Constitution*, to keep up the blockade.

SEPTEMBER 10TH. The United States' ship *President*, Commodore Barron, and *Constellation*, Captain Campbell, hove in sight, and soon joined company, when the command of the squadron was surrendered to Commodore Barron, with the usual ceremony. I continued in company with the squadron until the 12th, when three strange ships came in sight, standing direct for Tripoli. Chase was given, and two of them boarded and taken possession of by the *Constitution*, the *President* in company, about four leagues from Tripoli, but not more than five miles from the land, while the *Constellation* and *Argus* were in chase of the third. The two boarded by the *Constitution* were loaded with about sixteen thousand bushels of wheat. Tripoli is in a state of starvation, and there can be no doubt but these cargoes were meant as a supply and relief to our enemies.

Considering the season too far advanced, and weather too uncertain, to hazard any further operations against Tripoli, at present, Commodore Barron determined that the prizes should be sent to Malta, under convoy of the *Constitution*, it being necessary she should go into port to be re-caulked and refitted. I notified Commodore Barron that it was my wish to return to the United States, in the frigate *John Adams*, Captain Chauncey; this, readily, and in the handsomest manner, met his acquiescence. I shall accordingly return in that ship.

The service in this quarter cannot suffer from this arrangement, as Captain Decatur is at present without a ship, and my return will place him immediately in the exercise of the duties attached to that Commission which he has so gallantly earned, and his Country generously bestowed. I shall feel a pleasure in leaving the *Constitution* under the command of that officer, whose enterprising and manly conduct I have often witnessed, and whose merits eminently entitle him to so handsome a command.

The other commanders merit the highest commendations for their prompt obedience to orders, on all occasions, and for the zeal, spirit, and judgment, which they displayed in the several attacks on the enemy's shipping and batteries, as well as for the general good order and discipline at all times observed on board their respective vessels.

The officers of the squadron have conducted themselves in the most gallant and handsome manner; and the conduct of the different ships' companies has merited my warmest approbation since I have had the honor to command them.

It affords me much satisfaction to observe that we have neither had a duel nor a court martial in the squadron since we left the United States.

I most sincerely regret the loss of our gallant Country Men, who have sacrificed their lives to the honor of the Service, and that it has not been in my power, consistent with the interest and expectation of our Country, to liberate Captain Bainbridge and the unfortunate officers and crew of the *Philadelphia*. Be assured, sir, I have incessantly endeavored to effect this desirable object. I have no doubt but my successor will be able to effect their release, and establish peace, on such terms as will reflect the highest honor on himself and his Country.

SEPTEMBER 17TH. Arrived at Malta, with the two detained Greek vessels. We experienced very bad weather, but had the satisfaction to learn that the bombs and gunboats had arrived safe at Syracuse the 15th instant, without accident. Each of the Tripoline gunboats which we have captured has two brass howitzers abaft, and a handsome copper gun in the bow, which carries a twenty-nine pound shot, is eleven and a half feet long, and weighs six thousand six hundred pounds.

I send you a plan of the Town and Harbor of Tripoli, with the disposition of our squadron and the enemy's flotilla, at the time of the several attacks, with sundry other papers.

EDWARD PREBLE,

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*, MALTA HARBOR,
18th. September, 1804.

[LC. EPP, LB, 1804-1805.]

[Enclosure]

Names of the Officers, Seamen & Marines, Killed & Wounded on board the Squadron of the United States under command of Commodore Edward Preble in several attacks made on the City & Harbour of Tripoli in Barbary in July, August, & September 1804 with the names of the Vessels they belonged to.

KILLED.

July 7th.	*Syren.*	William Williams	Seaman
August 3rd.	*Nautilus*	James Decatur.	Lieut[t]
August 7[th]	*Syren*	James R. Caldwell	Lieu[t]
		John S Dorsey.	Midship[n]
		W[m] Davis	Boats[s] Mate
		James Farrell	Q[r] Gunner
		John Spear	Q[r] Master
		John Robinson.	Seaman
		John Holmes	Seaman

August 7th	*Syren*	George Irving	Seaman
		Jonan Meridith	Serg[t] Marines
		Nath[l] Holmes	Private D[o]
August 7.	*Vixen*	John Brown	Seaman
		John Jones	Seaman
August 28.	*John Adams*	Thomas Macdonough.	Seaman
		W[m] Fountain	Seaman
		John Bartlett	Seaman
Sept[r] 4.	*Nautilus*	Richard Somers	Capt.
		James Simms	Seaman
		Th[s] Tompline	Seaman
		James Harris	Seaman
		W[m] Keith	Seaman
Sept. 4.	*Constitution*	Henry Wadsworth.	Lieu[t]
		Jos: Israel	Lieu[t]
		W[m] Harrison	Seaman
		Rob[t] Clark	Seaman
		Hugh MacCormick.	Seaman
		Jacob Williams	Seaman
		Peter Penner	Seaman
		Isaac W. Downs	Seaman

Total 30 Killed.

WOUNDED.

July 7th	*Syren*	W[m] Cooper	
		Tho[s] Riveness	
		Sam[l] Henry (Mortally, since dead)	
August 3rd	*Enterprize*	Stephen Decatur.	Captain
		Thomas James	Seaman
		Dan[l] Frazer	Seaman
		Solomon Wren	Seaman
August 3rd.	*Vixen*	John Trippe	Lieut.
		C. Allen.	Boat[n] Mate
		M: Carmon. [or Cannon]	Priv[e] Marine
		J. Ryan.	Ditto.
August 3rd.	*Constitution*	Charles Young.	Ditto
August. 3.	*Nautilus*	Sam: Rodner	Ditto
		A Neapolitan.	Seaman
		Two Seamen	
		Francis Rodgers (Mortally — Since dead)	Seaman
August 7.	*Syren.*	James Desney	Seaman
		Anth[y] Currin	Seaman
		Thomas Deven	Seaman
		W[m] Mitchell	Seaman
		John Lamott	Seaman
		Antonio Morrell	Seaman
August 28th	*John Adams.*	Isaac Happs	Seaman

Total Wounded, 24. — Total Killed & Wounded 54 —

[LC. EPP, LB, Nov. 1804–Mar. 1805.]

[Enclosure]

Force of the Tripoline batteries —

Fort English	7 Guns
Fort American, so called from its having been built by the American Prisoners	7 "
Palace	10 "
Between the Palace & Mole Head	14 "
Mole Head & Crown Battery	19 Guns
Foot-Way	11 "
Two small Batteries between Foot Way & Malta Battery	9 "
Malta Battery	9 "
Half Moon	10 "
West Diamond Battery	9 "
Battery with Arched Embrazures	3 "
Western Battery without the City walls called the VIXEN Battery from having fired the first shot at that Vessel	7 "
	115

[LC. EPP, LB, Nov. 1804–Mar. 1805.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Wednesday, 25 July 1804

Light airs from E N E. Squadron in company This afternoon supplied the Gun & bomb vessels with 900 Gall[s] water — At 2 P. M. Made the Gun & bomb boats signal to set their lateen sails — This afternoon for the first time the Marines were exercised at the great Guns — Towards evening Moderate breezes from S E — We reduced our Sailing to 4 knots which will run us in with the land by Morning —

At 2 A. M. brought to. At 2½ saw two strange sail to the S S W. Filled & spoke the U. S. Brig *Syren* in company with the *Enterprize* — The *Syren* informs us that Tripoly bears S S W — 18 Miles — Wore & brought to off shore. — At day light wore in shore — Saw the high land or Mountains of Garfan situated inland of Tripoly bearing by compass S S W.

At ½ past 6 A. M. wore off shore — Tripoly in sight from the mast head bearing by compass S W —

The *Argus, Syren & Enterprize* joined company. The *Scourge* not in sight.

Made the signal for all Captains — Lieut[ts] Stewart Hull & Decatur waited on the Commodore Continued with the main topsail to the mast all the forenoon — Ships head N W b N.

Sent to the *Argus* two brass 12 p[drs] with their shot & all the other articles belonging to them which were recieved in Malta on Friday last.

M[r] Brooks master of the *Argus* who was recieved from sick quarters at Syracuse some time ago rejoined the *Argus*, & M[r] Robertson Purser of the *Enterprize* who was recieved at Malta rejoined the *Enterprize*.

Fresh breezes from N E & cloudy all forenoon. Employed making the necessary arrangements for a general attack on Tripoly.

In the course of the forenoon made the Store Ship, *Enterprize* & *Argus* signals to come within hail

At Noon we are 5 leagues N E b N from Tripoly — The Mountains of Garfan in sight from the Mast head bearing by compass S W b S ½ S. At 10 A. M. we cast of[f] the three Gun boats which we have towed from Malta — The *Syren, Argus & Enterprize* were ordered to take them in Tow — We continued to tow the two Bombards —

Surgeons report 3 sick & 3 convalescent.

Latitude Observed 33° 10′ N.

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 25 July 1804

Commences with light Airs from the Eastward and pleasant Weather — At 4 P. M. hove short — At 9 weigh'd and got the Boat a head (it still being Calm) and towed out of the Bay At 11 a light Air sprung up from the Northward — made Sail — At 9 A. M. Malaga bore North — Saw a Number of Sail boating to the Westward — Ends with fresh Gales & Pleasant. — Wind W b N

[LC. EPP, Journal, June to 6 August 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, 25 July 1804

Doct[r] Griffin and myself having been left on shore last night we got up early this morning and sent our boys. down to the two landing places. to see if our ships boat had come on shore they returned and informd us that. it had not. we then met with the boat belonging to the American Brig Capt. Leigh. went off in her and went on board of him. apologised for our not coming off the evening before to tea: stayed to breakfast with him, then went on board of our own ship, and inquired of Lieu[t] Higenbothom why we had been left on shore last evening. he said he had understood from the Gentlemen who come of[f] in the boat that we had gone on board of the American Brig. and that he concluded that the Cap[t] wou'd send us on board —

We then went into the Cabin and reported ourselves to the Cap[t], and informed him of the circumstance of our having been left on shore he informed us that as it was a mistake he cou'd not attach any blame to either us or the officer of the boat — [Manuscript mutilated] under way that evening. to sail for [Manuscript mutilated] from thence to Malta where we should [manuscript mutilated]

We immediately commenced writing to [manuscript mutilated] informed them of what News we had which coud be contained in the space of a letter and our destination. — We put our letters and dispatches in the hands of Cap[t] Grayson of the Schooner *Eleanor* — who was bound for Washington City and who. brought out. Stores for our Mediterranean Squadron Capt. Leigh came on board and dined with us to day and brought onboard the Silver which he had changed. for gold — At about 4. Oclock. a Very heavy fireing commenced from. the. Portugueas ship laying at Algesirus & the Spanish fort. there. it being some saints day. and I am told it is their custom to salute on every saints day —. at. 9 Oclock at night we got the ship under way and stood out of the Bay with a light air of wind. having been very much fatigued and slep but little the two nights before this, I went to bead about 10. Oclock —

[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, Wednesday, 25 July 1804

Light winds & pleas[t] the *Enterprize* in sight ½ past 2 K[d] to the N[d] L[t] Carrol went in the barge a small distance to the E[d] of Tripoli to sound. ½ past 3 K[d] to the S. E handed top gall[t] sails. At 5 K[d] to the N E & spoke the *Enterprize*. ½ past 5 back'd the main top

sail & sent the launch along side the *Enterprize* for water. At 6 Single reefd the topsails the barge return'd, At 9 the launch return'd with 6 casks of water, hoisted them in & stow'd them. ½ past 9 fill'd away N E. —

Midnight fresh breezes & clear At 1 saw a sail to leeward bore away for her ½ past 1 spoke her prov'd to be the *Constitution*, with the *Vixen Nautilus*, six gun boats & two bumbards At 2 made sail & stood to the S. W.

(Lying bye astern of the Commodore.)

Latt 33° 11′ N.

[NDA.]

To Lieutenant John B. Cordis, U. S. Navy, Washington, D. C., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^{T}. *26 July 1804*

The President has appointed you a Lieutenant in the Navy of the United States, and a Commission will in due season be forwarded to you. You will take the enclosed Oath and return it to this office with a letter accepting this Appointment, and you will without delay proceed to Hampton and take command of the Gunboat recently built by M^{r} Hope at that place. Her hull is to be completed at Hampton and she is to be brought here to be rigged and equipped for service. You will engage a sufficient number of men, to enable you to bring her to this place and you will call on Daniel Bedinger esquire for any other necessary assistance.

Let me hear from you on your arrival at Hampton and state to me the situation in which you may find the Gun Boat, and when you will probably be here with her.

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

Extract from journal kept on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Thursday, 26 July 1804

Wind N N E to N E and a heavy sea setting on shore which makes it imprudent to approach near the coast. Tripoly bears S S W about 5 Leagues, at 5 p m saw the *Scourge* in the SW. We stood to the Eastward by the wind all night at 9 AM wore & bore up to the W S W. The *Syren* Joind comp^{y} our Squadron now consists of one Frigate three Brigs & three Schooners, Men of War, two Bombs, and Six Gun Boats, in all 15 Sail, besides the store ship, the whole are now in company. — At noon the Squadron becalm'd 8 miles from the land and about 5 Leagues to the Eastw^{d} of Tripoly. a heavy Sea setting on shore.

Lat^{d} Ob^{d} 33° 07′ N.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 26 July 1804

First Part strong Gales from the Westward and Pleasant — At 2 P M. took down the Births of the Officers on the Gun Deck and struck down the Six 12 Pounders that were mounted in the Waist of the Spar Deck, and mounted them on the Gun Deck where they can be managed

to much greater Advantage — At Sunset the Extremities of the Land bore from E. N. E. to N W. ½ W. Distᵉ off shore about 10 or 12 Leagues — Wind West

[LC. EPP, Journal, June to 6 August 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, 26 July 1804

[Manuscript mutilated] of Gibraltar bore. W. by N. distance about 35 Miles. Cape Mariano. in Spain N. E. about 20 Miles. at. 9. discovered several. Sail we continued to stand along the Spanish shore. at about 10 was abrest of Granada a considerable Province in Spain with a Title of a Kingdom. bounded on the North by Andalusia. on the East. by the Kingdom of Murcia and on the South by the Mediterranean Sea. it is about 175 Miles in Length and 75 in Bredth: the City of Granada large handsom & delightful being the Capital of the Kingdom. in Which. are the Tombs of Ferdinand & Isabella. who took this place from the Moores in 1492. on the Top of the Granada mountain we discovered large quantities of Snow. Thermomerter now stands at 75½. I am told that the Snow remains on these mountains all the Year. We this day passed the town of Malaga about 60 miles from Gibraltar it is a large town in the Kingdom of. Granada —

[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, 26 July 1804

At 11 sent the launch on board the *Vixen* she return'd with 100 round 18 lb. shot. —

Latt Obs 33° 19′ N.

[NDA.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitution off TRIPOLY JULY 27 1804

SIR, I have the honor to transmit to you a copy of a letter [7 July 1804] from Captain Stewart of the U. S. Brig. *Syren*.

I have received information by a Spanish Vessel detained by the Squadron, which left Tripoly a few days after the affair mentioned by Captain Stewart, that the fire from the *Vixen* and boats of the *Syren*, did the Enemy great damage; and that they lost upwards of one hundred men killed and wounded.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

[27 July 1804]

Orders of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

ORDER OF ANCHORING BEFORE TRIPOLY.

Store Ship to the North	*Nautilus* —	*Argus* to the West
	— *Enterprize* —	*Constitution*
	Scourge —	*Vixen*
		Syren to the East.

The *Constitution* will stand in and anchor first: The other Vessels will then take their Stations conformable to the above arrangement — *Argus* to the Eastward, *Syren* to the Westward — The line paralel to the Shore: two cables length distance asunder

Constitution July 27th 1804.

Signed EDWARD PREBLE

To Cap^{t} STEWART
Syren

N. B. One of the above was sent to each of the Cap^{ts} of the Squadron

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

COMMON ORDER OF SAILING

	Argus	
Enterprize	*Constitution*	*Nautilus*
	Vixen	
	Scourge	
	Syren	

The *Argus* is to keep well ahead but within Signal distance The Other ships are to consider two cables length to be sufficiently open, and One Sufficiently close — Unless Signal be made to close more

ORDER OF SAILING ABREAST.

Argus *Scourge* *Enterprize* *Constitution* *Nautilus* *Vixen* *Syren*

The *Enterprize* & *Nautilus* are to keep within hail in fine weather.

Signed EDWARD PREBLE

Constitution July 27th 1804 — [Copy also dated 25 July 1804, to Lieutenant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy.]

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

To Midshipman John M. Haswell, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

SIR You are hereby advised to take command of the Pink S^{t} *Guisseppe* laden with water and Provisions the Property of the United States, and proceed in company with the *Constitution* off Tripoly for the purpose of Supplying ships of the United States blockading that Port — You are not to supply any Ship without my written Orders for so doing. — Attend to the Signals this day delivered you

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

Extract from journal kept on board of the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Friday, 27 July 1804

Wind N E Light Breezes Squadron in compy hoisted out the large cutter Rigged and Armed her, Beat to quarters, to scrape & black-lead the axle trees and trucks of the Gun-Carriages. continued to steer for Tripoly, 'till 7 oClock when we shortened sail & brought to 4 miles from the land. — Tripoly bearing by compass W b S. about 5 Leagues. Sounded 55 faths sandy bottom, Wind E N E to S E all night lay with Main Topsails aback head off shore. at ½ past 4 AM wore & stood to the S W for Tripoly, Land in sight to the Eastward of the Town 7 or 8 Leagues, we have had a strong Easterly current all night, At noon wind E N E Tripoly bearing S W ½ W 4 Leagues dist a heavy swell heaving towards the land. Surgeons Report 1 Sick 3 Convalescent, 1 discharg'd from sick list. Delivered to each Commander the orders for Anchoring before Tripoly on our arrival off the Town. Viz. the fleet to anchor in two Columns, in lines parallel with the shore which trends about east & west. — the inshore column to consist of the *Argus*, *Constitution*, *Vixen* & *Syren*, at two cables length asunder the *Argus* to the East. & *Syren* to the West of the line. the outer column, two cables to the South, & to consist of the *Nautilus* to the West *Enterprize*, center, and *Scourge* to the Eastwd — store ship 4 cables length to the Southward of the outer line, the *Constitution* to lead in and anchor first. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 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, 27 July 1804

I got up this morning about 8 Oclock. after a good nights rest. the sea having very smoth and a fine fresh breeze we still continue to stand up the Mediterranean along the Spanish coast. the Barbary shore not being in sight. we have seen a number of strange Sails but have not spoke any. of them we passed Cape De gat. last night about [space] Oclock. — Nothing particular having occured to day — We had all our staterooms taken down to day and our guns mounted on our Gun deck. — at. 6. Oclock all hands were ordered to quarters and exercised the guns. about 10 Oclock I went to bead. and had a tollerable nights rest. —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 28 July 1804

At ½ past 2 PM came to in 20 fms water the town of Tripoli bore S ½ E * * * the Commodre made Sigl Nº 1205 weighed anchor and made sail the Commodre still at Anchor the rest of the Squadron under way At midnight light winds and a heavy swell from the Northwd set and took in Sail Occasy At 10 AM the Commodre made a Sigl Nº 605 Capt Hull went on board of him —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 28 July 1804

At 7 AM. discovered the Island of Madeira * * * distance 10 leagues.

At Meridian the East end of the Island of Madeira bore E b N½ N — Distance 8 leagues

Latitude Observed 32° 20′ N Longitude Observed 17° 44′ W.

[USNA.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 28 July 1804

Anchored the squadron near the batteries when a N. E. gale soon obliged us to go to sea again.

[LC original.]

Extract from journal kept on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Saturday, 28 July 1804

Moderate Breezes from the S E & pleasant Standing in for Tripoly at 1 pm observed the Batteries manned an Encampment of Troops along the South side of the Bay and 19 Gun Boats in motion all pulling out of the Harbour towards us ¾ past 1 the wind shifted suddenly from the S E to North at 3 pm we came to with the small Bower in 20 fath^{s} Water 2½ miles from the shore the round Water Battery in Range with the Bashaws Castle. the Boats all under way but the wind blowing directly on shore and increasing they returned into port, the squadron all came in and Anchored in order, with the Gun Boats made fast to their sterns, at 5 the wind & sea increasing so much as to make it dangerous riding. made signal for Captains, they all came on board. at 6 the Cap^{ns} all return'd to their respective ships as it was thought prudent to get under way, made the signal to prepare. — at 7 pm sign^{l} to weigh by ½ past 7 they were all under way. at 8 we weighd and stood to the N N W Wind N E and more moderate but an increasing sea, at 10 pm several of the fleet in sight Stood off to the N N W all Night at day light wore & stood for Tripoly Wind E N E. at 11 hauld off to the Northward & brought to, to discharge the Store Ship of Water & provisions, and to supply the Squadron with Powder shot & other Military, and Naval stores.

Lat^{d} Obs^{d} 33° 3′ N^{o}

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Saturday, 28 July 1804

Moderate breezes from S E — We are 4 or 5 leagues N E of Tripoly running in for it with the Squadron in company —

At 1¾ P. M. the wind shifted in a light squall from S E to N N W At 3 P. M. we came to (as did the Squadron) in 21 fath^{s} nearly 2½ Miles North from Tripoly by compass. We now displayed before the walls of Tripoly all our Squadron consisting of one Frigate 3 Brigs, 3 Schooners, 6 Gun boats & 2 bombards, exclusive of the Store ship — The Enemy's batteries appear all manned, & shew 67 cannon pointing Sea-Ward. We can see at Anchor one Brig, one schooner, 13 Gun boats & 12 Row boats under their Batteries.

By 4 P. M. we had strong breezes from N b E which heaves in a rough sea, direct on shore — The Gun boats & Bombards are all riding by the Squadron — By 5 the *Syren & Vixen* let go their second anchor — We disarmed the large cutter & hoisted her in — Down Royal Yards & pointed all the yards to the wind. Towards Evening it moderated —

Lent the *Syren* a 7½ Inch Hawser of 108 fath^{s} & a wooden stocked kedge of 638 lb. At sun set the weather became cloudy, and a little overcast — Made signal for the Squadron to weigh & work off shore— By 7 P. M. the Squadron Was all under way At 8 we weighed & filled to the N W, Tripoly bearing S. 3 or 4 Miles By 9 P. M. the weather was moderate. Wind N E.

Made & shortened sail as necessary to keep an Offing and have the Squadron in sight during the Night.

Our soundings round Tripoly 4 Miles from the shore are tolerably regular between 20 & 25 fathoms — Five leagues from the shore (Tripoly bearing S b W, South, S b E or S S E) the soundings are Very irregular, sometimes 30 & sometimes 65 fath^{s} — On the different parts of the coast, particularly round Tripoly we have found gravelly or sandy bottom.

At Day light we wore to E S E with fresh breezes from N E. Squadron in Sight. Tripoly bearing South, 4 leagues.

By 8 A. M. the weather was Moderate & pleasant. Winds from E N E —. Bore up to the West^{d} and steered along paralel to the coast. —

At 11½ brought to with the main topsail to the mast, as did the Squadron — Out large Cutter & sent her with an Officer & a party of Men to assist in discharging the store ship. — Employed this forenoon sending powder to the Bombards &c Noon — Laying to: Squadron in company 4 leagues N E b N ½ N from Tripoly.

Winds moderate from N E b E. Ships head to N N W.

Depth of water 34 fath^{s} hard bottom.

Made this forenoon the *Enterprize* Signal N^{o} 600 & the general Signal N^{o} 605.

Latitude Observed 33° 3′ N.

[LC. EPP Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, 28 July 1804

[On board U. S. Frigate *President.*] 28 — Saturday. Constant head winds.

At 12 oclock, signal from the *Congress*, discovered Madeira

[H. E. Huntington L&AG, EA 206.]

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, 28 July 1804

[Manuscript mutilated] this morning about 8 Oclock found the Ship to be. close in with the Barbary shore. off Cape Tennis [?] in Lat. 36. 35 N Long. 1. 12. E. distance from Algiers [space] Miles at Meridian Cape Coxine bore E S E 8 or 9. leagues Cape [word illegible] S W. Distance about 5 or 6. Leagus. at Six Oclock in the Evening all hands was ordered to quarters. this is done to give the men practice & to let them know their stations —

[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, 28 July 1804

Light breezes & pleas[t] in Co: with the fleet At 2 came too with the larboard bower in 24 fathoms, same time all the squadron came too Tripoli bore S S E 2 leagues. At 7 the Commodore made signal to get under way, hove up made sail & stood to the N W[d] at 9 made sail. —

Latt: Obs: 33°7′ N.

[NDA.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 29 July 1804

the Commodore and Squadron in Comp[y] hoisted out the launch and Sent her on board the Store Ship for Provisions At ½ past 4 Tripoli bore South Dist[t] 4 leagues Received Sundry provisions from the Store Ship set and took in Sail as Necessary at 5 AM the Commod[e] made Sig[l] N[o] 1260 Wore to the Southw[d] and Westward

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal kept on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Sunday, 29 July 1804

Wind N E, lying to with the squadron, discharging the Store ship, Tripoly bearing S S W dis[t] 4 Leagues, the sea too rough to approach the Town with our Bombs, or Gun Boats, at 7 pm closed the Squadron. Tripoly in sight bearing S½ W 6 Leagues Hoisted our Boats in, lay to all night wind strong from E b S. and a very rough sea. the Weather we have experienced for several days past has been uncommonly tempestuous for the season, at 5 am made the signal to wear ship & bring to the wind on the Larbord tack, we wore and 3[d] Reef'd the Topsails, Wind S E b E. at 10 AM land about Tripoly in sight S b E 5 or 6 Leagues dis[t] at 11 the wind abated took the store ship in tow to facil[i]tate the discharging her cargo, Brought to with the Squadron, sent Boats with Officers & men to assist furnishing the necessary supplies for the men of war. at noon wind E b S strong breezes Observed in Lat[d] 33° 9′ N[o] suppose Tripoly to bear S[e] 5 Leagues, but the Atmosphere so close & thick that we cannot see the land. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Sunday, 29 July 1804

At Sun set bore up & ran a mile to the N W. in Order to close the Squadron & take up our boat At this time Tripoli was in sight from the Tops bearing by compass. S¼ W. nearly 8 leagues — At 8 p. m. in large cutter which has been employed carrying shot & powder to the Gun boats & bombards — The two bombards are towed by the *Constitution* — Two Gun boats by the *Argus*, *Syren* one, *Nautilus* one, *Vixen* one, & *Enterprize* one —

Lay to (with strong breezes from E b S. & a rough Sea) during the night for the ease of the Gun boats — At 5 A. M. Made signal for the Squadron to wear, & come to the wind on the larboard tack —

Latitude Observed 33° 9′ N.

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, 29 July 1804

[On board U. S. Frigate *President*.] 29. Beat within 3 miles of Funchal, the capital of the Island —

[H. E. Huntington L&AG, EA 206.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 29 July 1804

First Part of these 24 Hours fresh Breezes and Pleasant — At 4 P. M. the City of Algiers in Sight Hoisted our Colours with the Union Jack at the Fore, and fired a Gun as a Signal for the Consul in 15 Minutes fired a Second Gun — soon after saw the American Colours hoisted at a House in the Country, therefore fired Signal Guns every half Hour to signify to the Consul that I wished Dispatch — half past 5 saw a Boat leave the Mole with the American Colours hoisted — At 6 Col[l] Lear the American Consul General resident at Algiers came alongside; but before I permitted him to come on board, I asked him if he cou'd not do his Business with me without putting the Ship in Quarantine as I thought it a Matter of some Consequence to keep the Ship from Quarantine if Possible as I had Stores for the Squadron, and the Commodore might want immediate Communication — he however answered me that his Coming on board was indispensible for he shou'd take Passage with me to Malta — I therefore permitted him to come on board and saluted him with seven Guns — it was then too late for him to return to the Shore, he therefore sent in his Boat and Drogarman on Shore, and stayed with me all Night — Col Lear then desired me to anchor as he cou'd not get ready in less than 48 Hours — At ½ past 10 anchored with Starboard Bower in 21 Fathom Water the light on the Marine bearing N W. Dist 3 Miles Cape Metaphor E b S. — furl'd sails and set the Watch — At sun rise the Castle fired a Salute of 21 Guns which we answered with the same Number — At 6 got the Barge out and Col. Lear and myself went on Shore; on our Landing they saluted me with 5 Guns which was answered from the Ship with the same Number — Waited on the Minister of Marine, who received us very graciously and treated us with Coffee, and offered any Assistance that we stood in Need of — took our leave and went to the Councellor House where the Prime Minister soon sent his Comp[ts] with permission to take off any Thing we stood in need of — The Dey was at his Garden in the Country therefore did not see him — Ends with fresh Breezes from the N E. and fine Weather. Wind West.

[LC. EPP, Journal, June to 6 August 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, 29 July 1804

This day commenced with pleasant [manuscript mutilated] light breezes. I got up about 8 Oclock [manuscript mutilated] and dressing. all hands was mustered found at Meridian by observation that we were about 30 miles from the Town of Algiers. about half past four we discovered the town and the breeze increasing we came up with it very fast. about five we fired a gun and discovered the American

Flag flying on. the Top of our Consuls Country house which is about three Miles from the Town house. and about a mile and a half from the sea shore Near the top of the Mountain. Capt. Chauncey being very desirous for the Consul to come off immediately, having a fine fresh breeze and fare, and wishing to proceed on to Malta as fast as possible, provided it was not necessary for him to detain us — he. continued to fire [manuscript mutilated] we got in oposite the Mole where [manuscript mutilated] and nearly abrest of the Deys pallace we hove the ship in stays fired a gun and Stood of[f] and on. a short time afterwards we discovered a gally rowing of[f] with 16 oars & the American flag. flying in the bow of it. which was a signal to us that our Consul was onboard. When the boat had got about half way off we recognized the Consul with our Glasses. there being several of us who were pursonally acquainted with him. — He was attended with three of the Deys Officers. Cap[t] Chauncey spoke to the Consul before he came on board and requested that. he would not come on board unless he thought it absolutely necessary as he wou'd compel us to perform qurentine. when we arrived at Malta. by having any communication with the Barbary Shore. he informed the Captain that it was absolutely necessary for him to come on board he [manuscript mutilated] came on board and [manuscript mutilated] We came to [manuscript mutilated] bay at half [past] 10 Oclock. in 21 fathoms of Water [manuscript mutilated] Algiers bearing N W by N ½ N

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

ALGIERS, *July 30th 1804.*

SIR, In a letter which I had the honor to receive from the Secretary of State, by Capt Chauncy, of the U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, I was informed of Your appointment to command our Squadron in this sea, and that you would, at a proper time, send for me if a negociation should be opened at Tripoli. I assure you, Sir, it will give me great satisfaction to co-operate with you in this business so interesting to our Country, and will be ready to go up whenever you may send. I would suggest the good effect it might have to send more than one Vessel here, if it can be done without injury to the service.

At present we *appear* to stand well here. As I cannot detain Capt Chauncy one moment more than is necessary, I hope you will pardon the brevity of this letter, and be assured of the high respect & esteem with which * * *

[Mrs. James S. Barron original; and Stephen Decatur Col., Book A.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *John Adams*
Algiers Bay 30th July 1804

SIR I have the honor of informing you that I arrived here Yesterday in a passage of 3 Days from Gibralter, on my approaching the Bay, I made the signal for the Consul which was answered, and Col[l] Lear came on board about 6 °Clock in the Evening, but previous to

my admitting him on board I asked him if his Bussiness was such, that it was requisite to put me in Quarantine as I thought it might be of Importance for me to have immediate Communication on my Arrival at Malta, he told me that he shou'd proceed to Malta with me, therefore desired me to anchor, and he wou'd be ready to depart in 48 Hours, I accordingly anchored; but when Colonel Lear perused his Dispatches from Government, he told me that he found that it was unnecessary for him to go to Malta at that Time, but wou'd dispatch me as soon as he cou'd go on Shore and write to Commodore Preble, and enclose him Copies of some Communications that he wished to make, I therefore waited untill 5 P. M. when I received his Dispatches and got under Way for Malta,

[NDA. MC LB, 1804–5.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

ALGIERS *July 30th 1804.*

DEAR SIR I have but barely time, by this opportunity to acknowledge the receipt of your acceptable favor of the 19th of June with its enclosures, and to assure you its contents shall be attended to. — As I have nothing special to communicate from this place, and Captn Chaun[ce]y can inform you of every thing from hence, I shd not have occasion for a long letter. — I must sincerely pray that you may have effected your Object at Tripoli before *this* time. — I know to a mind of sensibility like your's how it must feel, in not having it in your power to accomplice so glorious an undertaking as you have commencd, while you may be in the Chief Command; if it shd not be done before the arrival of Commodore Barron: But I know also, my dear Sir, that your Patriotism will conquer your personal feelings when you consider that the force sent out could *not* have been equip'd without employing the Old Commanders.

I have recd orders from home to repair to Tripoli whenever the Comma[n]der shall inform me that there is a prospect of Negociation, and shall hold myself in readiness accordingly

Captn Chauncy will inform you of the state of things here, which so far as relates to us, is still favorable and will therefore only add, that I hope shortly to have the happiness of a personal interview.

Mrs Lear send her best regards & wishes for your health, happiness & prosperity, in which she is most cordially joined by me

P. S. I take the liberty to enclose a Letter for Mr OBrien, wh you will be so good as to deliver if he is with you; if not please to direct it to him wherever he may be. —

[Stephen Decatur Col. NDA photostat, Book A.]

To Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

ALGIERS *July 30th 1804*

MY DEAR SIR I have but a moment to acknowledge the recd of your welcome favors of the 3d 5th & 30th of April & 20th of May; and to tell you how glad I was to learn that you were in health. — I hope, ere this something has been done to releive your situation; or if not that it will be shortly done

I can only add, in the moment of hurry that I pray God to keep & bless you, and to assure you that *you & our unfortunate fellow Citize[n]s shall not be forgotten by me*

Mr Lear sends her best regards & wishes united with those of, my dear Bainbridge,

Your Sincere friend,

TOBIAS LEAR. —

[Stephen Decatur Col. NDA photostat, Book A.]

To Richard O'Brien, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

ALGIERS, *July 30th 1804*

DEAR SIR I have but one moment to acknowledge the rec[t] of your acceptable letter of the 19th of June, and the interesting detail of your audience with the Bashaw of Tripoli. — Things remain here as when I wrote you last, as relates to our affairs. It is *thought* that the British affaires are in a train of settlement. M[r] M[c]Donough has been here twice, and is said to have gone to London. I think it probable I may have the pleasure to See you before you leave this part of the World

The French Lady & Children have gone to France. The Dutch Consul is very sick. Every thing else in the Consular line as when you left us.

I enclose a duplicate rec[t] for the Articles you left in my hands.

We were very glad to hear of the health of Mr OBrien, and your fine Children, which we pray God to preserve. Mr Lear unites with me in best wishes for you & them, as do all our family.

RICHARD OBRIEN Esq[r]

P. S. I wrote you on the 8th of June, via Tunis.

[Stephen Decatur Col. NDA photostat, Book A.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 30 July 1804

[Off Tripoli] at 4 Cap[t] Hull went on board the Commod[e] rec[d] Water from the Victualler at ½ past 6 Cap[t] Hull returned on board hoisted in the launch at ½ past 7 filled Away and wore Ship to the Northw[d] & Eastward set & took in Sail Occasionally at 11 backed the the main Yard for the Commodore to Come up at ½ past wore Ship to the Southward —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal kept on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Monday, 30 July 1804

Wind E S E. Moderate but a heavy swell, the Boats of the Squadron Employd in discharging the store ship, but the sea so rough as to render our progress rather slow, sent fuses Clay putty qu[i]ck match for the shells on board the Bombs, and shott on board the different Vessels to which the Gun Boats are attach'd, at 7 pm it blew a fresh gale cast off the store ship & in Boats, filled away to the Southward at 8 pm wore with the squadron & stood to the N N E wind East, under double reef'd Sails, stood off all night at 5 AM wore to the Northward & stood for the land wind from East to S E Variable. at Noon obs[d] in Lat[d] 33° 10′ N[o] — Tripoly bearing S b E, 6 Leagues dis[t]

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 30 July 1804

Fresh Breezes from the N. E and pleasant Weather At 6 P. M. embarked from the Marine, Col. Lear having informed me that he had received such Information from America that superceded the Necessity of his going to Malta, therefore I was at Liberty to depart when I thought proper — he delivered me his Dispatches for Commodore Preble, and I embarked for the Ship — On my stepping into the Boat I was again saluted with five Guns which was returned by the Ship; this Practise of Saluting Captains of Men of War appears to be invariable and they conceive it as a Marked Insult if it is not instantly answered At ½ past 7 weigh'd and made Sail with the Wind at E. N. E which is Dead in the Bay — At 11 A. M. a light Breeze from the Northward & Westward — Received from Col. Lear Yesterday a Quantity of Stock and Vegetables — Kill'd a Beef for People's Use. Wind Variable

[LC. EPP, Journal, June to 6 August 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, 30 July 1804

[Manuscript mutilated] about sunrise this morning. the ship passed nearly oposite the Deys palace which is a few miles to the eastward of the Town [Algiers]. at sunrise we were saluted with 21 rounds from the Deys Grand battery. We immediately returned the salute after which. Capt. Chauncey invited Doct[r] Griffin and myself to go on shore with him & the Consul. We went on shore and on our landing we were conducted to the General of Marines place of residence which is a large Castle situated immediately on the Mole. We walked up under a la[r]ge covered way with our hats off. when we arrived at the outer court or large Saloon. we were seated on. benches covered with rich carpets. immediately afterward the General of Marine made his appearance and after seating himself on a rich sofia in the Turkis fashon. with his feet drawn up under him, we were introduced to him [manuscript mutilated] Captain Chauncey shook hands [manuscript mutilated] myself only made our bow. [manuscript mutilated] General of Marine asked a few questions such as [manuscript mutilated] any News and what Vessels we had seen on our passage. and how many days passage &C. after this Coffee was served up to us in fine china Cups. set in gold baskets and a fine Napkin spread in our laps. — after Coffee the Napkins were taken from us and a few minutes afterwards they ha[n]ded each of us a Goblet of Sherbet & presented us with another fine Napkin. the Consul being engaged in conversation with the General and not Noticing the Servant holding the Goblet of sherbet to him. we were at a loss to know what to do with it. Capt. Chauncey supposed from their handing a napkin with it, that it was intended for us to wash our hands in, and diped his fingers in it. but the servant made signs that we were to drink it. he then drank some of it [manuscript mutilated] We drank but very little. which the General of Marine observed and mentioned it. we observed to him that we had drank. a sufficiency of it —

We set about 20 Minutes longer, when we all rose, except the General of Marine who kept his seat. the Consul bid the General of

M[ar]line good morning we followed his example by bowing we then walked out of the covered way with our hats off untill we had cleared the enterence we then put our hats on and walked up through the City to the Consular Town house. which is situated nearly in the Middle of the Town. We were preceeded by the Consuls Drogerman. who went before us to announce our approach and to make every person give way to us. We arrived at the Consuls house about 9 Oclock We entered a covered way which lead to the street about 30 feet [manuscript mutilated] M[r] Mumford & M[r] Hendley [manuscript mutilated] and a Midshipman in the United States [manuscript mutilated] a Turkish officer who was the Consuls [manuscript mutilated] we were introduced to them. and after seting a little while we were invited into the dining room — to breakfast where we had breakfast served up in the American stile with the addition of Red wine & fruit, Orrenges, Water mellons Musk mellons & dates —

After breakfast. the Consul took us through the different parts of the house to shew us the stile which it was built in — after viewing the house and some of the curiosities of the country which he had collected we were invited to go to the Consuls Summer house, that being about three Miles from the town house we were to ride — and each of us was provided with a mule, there being but one horse which belonged to the Consul which he insisted on Capt. Chaunceys riding, the Mules were saddled and caparisoned after the Turkish stile — [manuscript mutilated] we proceeded in this manner to the Consuls Country house in what is called with us, Indian file the streets being so narrow as not to permit two persons to ride abreast so as to leave room for one person to pass who was going the reverse way and many places not wide enough for that. after we left the town the road by which we assended the mountain was only a single trace and we were very often on the very Margin of the mountain not more than Twelve Inches space for the Mules to pass and below us was a precipice of at least Two hundred feet deep — as we passed along the streets the walls was lined with the natives viewing of us. We no doubt. attraced as much curiosity in them as they no doubt would have done had they have been in our Country and indeed had we have been in our own country and in one of our populus cities mounted in the manner which we were we shou'd have attracted the attention and curiosity [manuscript mutilated] the officer and our approch announced and they were compeled to give us the way and if the passage was not broad enough so as to admit of our passing they were compeled to turn back at the risk of their lives to a place sufficiently wide for our passing —

When we arrived at. the consuls country house two Mooreish servants. (who had run all the way on foot after us.) attended us one to hold the Mule and the other to take our feet out of the sturrup, we were then conducted in to the Consuls house. which was a very elegant building situated on the side of the Mountain over looking the whole town and harbour the House has four Wings which strike of[f] at right angles. from the Main Wall which forms a large spacious court. in the center, open from top to bottom [manuscript mutilated] the Doctor & myself were introduced [manuscript mutilated] Capt. Chauncey being well acquainted with her before she and the Consul took us by the hand and expressed their Joy at seeing us there desired us to consider ourselves as at home. We were then conducted into a siting room which frunted the sea, and seated our selves on sofa's

there being one on each side of the room & end, the floors are all laid with tile or marble. soon after we were seated. spirit and different kinds of wine was placed on a side Table and we were requested by Col^{o} Lear to help our selves to what ever we prefered. when ever we choose and not to wait for a second invitation. We thanked him and assured him that we shou'd do so. & helped ourselves to some red wine & Water — M^{rs} Lear is a fine handsome sweet little woman. possessing a fine lively disposition, and an easy ellegant soft manners & person. she was borned near Williamsburg in Virginia a Daughter of M^{r} Hendley [manuscript mutilated] beautiful orring grove leading to [manuscript mutilated] were not fully ripe, the orrenges & Lemons were half grown. from there we went to his stable where he shewed us a fine Barb Horse. crossed with the Arabian blood. which was presented to him by the Dey of Algiers. and said to be the finest that ever was given to any of the Consuls: he was between three & four years old and upwards of fifteen hands high, from this we retired to the house went through every appartment of it and on the Terrace which over looks the town and into the Sea. — we then returned into the siting room. and loll'd on the Sofas and entertained ourselves in conversation. on various subjects. soon after the Sweedish Consul came in we were introduced to him. he asked some questions and soon entered into familiar conversation with us as he Spoke the English Language very well [manuscript mutilated] Dinner was anounced [manuscript mutilated] conducted into the dining room [manuscript mutilated] excellent Dinner served up. [manuscript mutilated] Most choice meats fish and Vegetables which the country affords & the most choice wine after the cloth was removed we had all the delicious fruits of the season. Mellons. Pears apples. Dates grapes. raisins plums, figs. &C. —

I had like to have forgot to mention a Portugease officer who we found at Col^{o} Lears. he was a prisoner and what is caled a christian slave to the Dey — he was permited to reside in Col^{o} Lears family and the other officers who was taken with him were distributed amongs^{t} the other Christian Consuls. but. they are all some times ordered out to Work. when ever the Dey takes a freek in his head to do so. he was a very modist Genteel Man. and was treated with the utmost respect and attention. by Col^{o} Lear & his Lady. We also saw two Neapolitan Women who was [manuscript mutilated] we rose from Table. took [manuscript mutilated] Col^{o} Lear and the Sweedish Consul & Portugeas officer. [manuscript mutilated] Col^{o} Lear accompanyed us into Town. we went through all the same seremony in returning which we did in going. we stoped at the Consuls Town house. where we purchased a few Curiosities of the country which we had requested the Drogerman to have collected for us. It is necessary to observe here that the. Drogerman. never leaves the Town house except when he accompanys the Consul on foot and is his chief man in all official matters. after purchasing what curiosities we wanted. and geting our Bill of the Stock &c sent off for us. we left the Town House and walked down to the Marine. accompanyed by the Consul & M^{r} Mumford, his Secretary. preceeded by the Drogerman. when we arrived on [manuscript mutilated] he returned in a minute & informed us [manuscript mutilated] embark as soon as we pleased — [manuscript mutilated] the Consul M^{r} Mumford & the Drogerman farewell and the moment we steped into the boat. they fired a salute of five

guns from the Battery which was answered gun for gun. from our ship we got on board the ship about 6 Oclock and immediately go[t] the ship under way for Malta. —

I have now to say something of the Town of Algiers. the appearance of the Sallirs [?] their dress habit customs &C. so fare as I cou'd form an opinion from small oppertunity which I had — the first part of which. that is to say the Geographical part I must borrow from Books. Gazetteer. Algiers is a Kingdom of Affrica. bounded on the E. by the Kingdom of Tunis on the N. by the Mediterranean Sea on the South by. Mount Atlas and on the W. by the Kingdom of Morocco [manuscript mutilated] The Kingdom is divided into three provinces. Namely Flemsan on the W. Titterie on the S. and Constantia on the E. of the City of Algiers

The Turks. who have the Government. in their hands are not above 7000 in Number as yet the Moores or natives of Affrica have no share in it. It is only a kind of Republic under the Protection of the Grand Signior who keeps a Bashaw or Viceroy there but he can do nothing of himself without the council of the Imissaries. the Arabs. who live in tents are a distinct people. governed by their own laws and Magistrates. though the Turks interpose as often as they please. the Dey of Algiers is an absolute Monarch but elected by the Turkish Soldiers and frequently deposed and put to death by them. they have Murdered four of their Deys. and deposed Two with in the space of Twenty years. the Revenues of [manuscript mutilated] the Dey has several [manuscript mutilated] Moores in his service both horse and foot. and the Deys or Viceroys of the provinces have each an army under his command, their Religion is Mehometanism and their Language a dialect of the Arabic. they have likewise a Jargon composed of Italian French and Spanish called Lingua Franca that is understood by the common people and merch^{ts} the complexion of the Natives is tawny and they are strong and well made — The Town of Algiers is the Capital of the Kingdom. large and well built and now strongly fortified. It is built on the Declivity of a mountain and is in the form of an amphitheatre next the harbour, in so much that the houses appearing one above another make a very fine appearance from the Sea. the Roofs of the houses are all flat. for which reason they walk upon them in the evening to take the air. besides they are covered with earth and serve for a sort of garden [manuscript mutilated] extremely narrow and serve to keep off [manuscript mutilated] heat of the sun the houses project [manuscript mutilated] forms a kind of arch. & there is only [manuscript mutilated] for one Mule to pass another. The Mole of the harbour is 500 paces in length extending from the continent to a small Island. where there is a castle and a large Battery of guns. the Island is now united to the main land by an emence labour having filed the passage up with stone. the Number of inhabitants are said to consist of 100.000 Mahometans. 1500 Jews. and 2000 Christian Slaves. chieefly Neapolitans. & Portugeas, their chief subsistance is derived from their Piracies for they make Prizes of all Christian ships who are not at Peace with them — The country about the Town of Algiers is adorned with gardens and fine Villas Watered With fountains and rivulets and thither the inhabitants who can afford it resort in the hot season. On the West of the Town stands an ellegant country Seat and garden where the late Dey resided. on the east of The Town stands the Pallace & Gardens

of the Present Dey where he resides in the hot season [manuscript mutilated] Grand Battery stand to the Eastw^{d} [manuscript mutilated] there was four frigates laying one of them was the *Creasent* which was given to them by the United States. another was a Portugees frigate which they had taken. they had also laying there several Xebecks. & gallys. they had a very large 44 Gun frigate on the stocks. which. about. half finished they compeled the Portugees & other Christian Slaves to work on her. It was Capt. Chaunceys opinion that she would be a very fine ship, — the. Moores & Turks all wear Turburns. linen shirts with open sleaves the arms naked. a kind Petty coat. Trowsers reaching to the Knee, the legs & feet bare with a slipper down at the heel and under Jacket buttoned & belted round them. the Mooreish women which we saw were of the meaner kind. they had Linen drawers on reaching to their ancles. slip shod a piece of white cotton Cloth thrown over their head & shoulders reaching down nearly to their knees They [manuscript mutilated] like a caul over their face only shewing their eyes and the upper part of their nose which to us was a frightful appearance the Jews & Jeweses are all drest in Black the Jeweses shew their faces & I saw one that was a handsom woman. The Turkish women are never seen. when they ride out. they have a kind of a Box built up on a Mule which they sit in which prevents their being seen — The Mooreish women are considered even by their Husbands nothing more than slaves, and the Jewish maried women do all the Menial services in their own familys as they are none of them admited to have servants let their fortune be what it will and their daughters are brought up in the same way —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

Extract from journal kept on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Tuesday, 31 July 1804

Wind E S E to N E very Variable and a rough sea Standing to the Southward by the Wind, under double Reef'd Topsails, Squadron all in sight, at 1 p m saw the City of Tripoly bearing S b E ½ E dis^{t} 5 Leagues. — Stood in S^{o} with the Wind E S E until 4 pm. then wore ship to the Northward, Tripoly S S E 3 Leagues at ½ past 6 pm the Wind shifted to the N E b N & blew a gale, split our Fore Sail & Main Topsail, send down Top Gall^{t} Yards and made the signal for the Squadron to do the same Unbent the split Sails, and brought others to the Yards, by 8 pm we were under a Reef'd Fore Sail & close Reef'd M^{n} Top Sail the Wind blowing very heavy, and a rough sea. from 8 pm to 2 AM the Wind veer'd round gradually to the S E until it got to E b S. then shifted suddenly in a squall to the N N E, stood to the N W until day light then wore to the S E. and made more sail the Squadron all in sight but much scattered at noon wind N E b E. steering S E b E. —

Lat^{d} Obs^{d} 33° 18′ N^{o} Tripoly bearing by calculation S S E ¼ E 28 Miles, I ordered the Fore Sail & M^{n} Top Sail which were split last night to [be] ripped out of the Bolt-rope, and turnd into the Sail maker as old Canvas, considering them not trustworthy. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Tuesday, 31 July 1804

Fresh Breezes from the Eastward with a rough Sea Standing in for Tripoly (Squadron in company) under double reefed Topsails & Courses — The Gun boats and Bombards are invariably continued in Tow by the Squadron — We condemned by survey 804 pounds of cheese Rotton, stinking & unfit for men to eat: the same was hove Overboard — At 1 P. M. we saw Tripoly bearing by compass S S E. We stood in for it till 4 P. M. when we wore to the North^{d} — The Bashaws Castle S E b S four Leagues — At this time strong breezes & cloudy weather. At ½ past 5 P. M. Tripoly S E b S ½ S. 5 Leagues At ½ past 6 P. M. the wind shifted in a squall from East to N E b N — We sp[l]it the foresail from clew to Earing — In a few minutes after we split the Main Top sail — Unbent both & bent others — From this time till till 8 P. M. we were under a reef'd mainsail and close reefed fore topsail — At 7 down top gall^{t} Yards; As the Gale is nearly dead on shore, it became necessary to press the ship which makes it hazardous in Towing the Gun boats & Bombards — At ½ past 9 handed the foretopsail; and set a reefed foresail At 10 Rove preventer tacks & sheets — by this time the gale had shifted by degrees to E B N —

At Midnight strong gales from the Eastward.

At ½ past 2 A. M. the wind shifted in a squall from E b S to N N E, which heaves us direct aback.

The two Bombards in Tow were very much exposed, but fortunately no damage was done — We immediately wore & came to the same tacks as before — From this time till day light strong Gales from the N E.

At ½ past 5 A. M. wore to the S E. The Squadron all in sight, many of them hull down — The Gale continued Strong till 8 in the morning when it became more Moderate

At 7 A. M. set close reefed Main & Mizen Topsails —

Sixteen hours out of the twenty four we have been necessarily under low sail with a rough sharp sea — Winds veering between N E & East. Surgeons report 1 sick 3 convalescent At Noon we are under low sail. Squadron in Sight. — Standing in for the coast.

Tripoly supposed to bear (Var: Cor:) S E b S ½ 30 Miles

Latitude Observed 33° 17′ N.

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

To Lieutenant John Cassin, U. S. Navy, Navy Yard, Washington, D. C., from Charles W. Goldsborough for Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM^{t} *1 Aug^{t} 1804.*

M^{r} Buller Cocke has been appointed Storekeeper to the Yard at this place, under the Act supplementary to the Act entitled "An Act providing for a Naval Peace Establishment and for other purposes". You will be pleased to deliver to him by Inventory all the Articles of Stores now under your charge; excepting the Timber, taking his receipt therefor as your voucher in the Settlement of your Store Account with this Department. As it is an object of considerable importance that the Accounts should be arranged and methodized with all practicable dispatch, you will be pleased to lose no time in carrying the object of these Instruction into effect.

A System will presently be devised and communicated to you which it is hoped will ensure methodical operations in all the Departments contemplated by the supplementary Act above alluded to. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco

TANGIER *1st August 1804.* —

DEAR SIR My last of 21st July advised the Emperour had directed one thousand Fanegins Wheat being laden on His Ship *Mirboha* destined for the poor of Tripoly, — after Arraez Lubarez had actualy begun to receive that wheat he represented to His Majesty the notification I had made to him of Tripoly continuing to be blockaded. — By order of the Emperour, (I am assurd) the Wheat has been relanded and the Ship proceeded to Salle to join the two others at their return from Magadore. —

Alcayde Hashash has however written me, complaining of the opposition I had made to Lubarez going to Tripoly and requiring a Passport for the Ship for that special Voyage; adding that by that means Peace will continue to subsist between us. —

I answered his Letter yesterday and told him that as Tripoly continues to be blockaded no such Passport as he asks can be granted — we shall see what reply he will make. —

Under these circumstances I persuade myself you will see it proper to leave a couple of Frigates in the Straits untill these matters be satisfactorily cleared up. —

At return of an Express I fortunately dispatched on Saturday last with a Letter for His Majesty and another for the Minister I shall be able to speak with precision on the subject. —

3d AUGt Since writing the foregoing I have received another Letter from Alcayde Hashash copy of which I enclose for your perusal — he has changed his stile and now requests as a favour what he in a manner demanded before. —

I have answered him that neither myself or any other Consul is competent to grant Passports to insure Vessels entrance into blockaded Ports. — I have besides represented to him the imposibility there is for any of His Majestys Ships to go to Tripoly now the Neapolitan Squadron is in those Seas. —

I have told him that I should lodge copy of his Letter for your perusal at Gibraltar, and that you would give your answer to His Majestys request. — I am highly sensible of the very great impropriety there is in Muley Soliman making such a request, but as Commodore Morris authorised me to grant a Passport for a Cargo of Wheat to be sent to Tripoly after my return to this Country in the year 1802, I have thought you may perhaps have latitude to yield to His Majestys solicitations, especialy as such a favour might conduce to the better treatment of the unfortunate Americans now in Tripoly, and I am persuaded the Emperour would receive it as a mark of particular attention to him. — The Wheat I am assured is to be distributed to the poor gratis. —

As the Emperours Ship certainly cannot go on the intended Voyage because of the Neapolitan Squadron I should presume he would now

propose to send a neutral Merchant Vessel, — which would certainly be preferrable with us too, for I should not recommend an Armed Ship being permitted to enter Tripoly. — This morning it is said Lubarez is still at Larach, the certainty I shall know in a day or two and advise you —

I repeat what I mentioned in the former part of this Letter, that I trust you will leave two Frigates at Gibralter untill this matter be settled, to which I am instigated by the recollection that it was on a refusal of a similar request I was sent from this Country in June 1802

[Mrs. James S. Barron Col. NDA photostat.]

To Secretary of State from Richard O'Brien

On board The UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*
The 1st of august 1804 — 14 miles North of tripoli

ESTEEMED SIR After aiding Col Lear to make a good Settlem[t] on the annuities and cash payment to the regency of Alg[rs] on the same day of The 26th of March I left that city of Algiers. to render every service in my power on our affairs with tunis and tripoli —

The Purport of the audiences I. and M[r] Davis had with the Pascha of tunis and his Minister on the latter End of April will give you. with other communications — from M[r] Davis a detail from which you can judge what course. That The united States. should steer relative to Tunis —

Permit me to Observe, That it is more the interest of Tunis to Keep The peace with The U States. Than it is for us to offer anything extra to induce her to a permanent and pacafic conduct towards us — if our conduct. should convince her (*which it has*) that we are affraid of her, Then 8 fathoms will not Annually content or feed Their Avarice —

Comodore Preble & Col Lear, has given you full details, on this Subject and allso, you can Judge by The Purport of my conferances, and audiences with The Pascha of tripoli and his Minister on the 13th of June what is his Views. They are very great — agreeable to The intreauqing reports. and letters of The french Consul at tripoli — which if They were complied with, would bring on us — more extravigant in proportion from tunis and Algiers —

We sailed from Malta the 21st ul[t] and on the 25th made the land to The East of tripoli on the 27th we anchored with our whole fleet. to The N[q] of tripoli 3 miles. and intended to commence Bombarding The City, but The wind Commenced, to blow. Very fresh from the N E. and we were again Obliged to put to sea — the weather has remained, untill This. evening Very Boisterous — but if it remains fine to Commence — opperations — against the City of tripoli — The Pascha aided by the advice of his Ministry, and The insinuations of The Christian Consuls — is very confident of his own. strength. and of Course does not apprehend. we can do him much injury — he has 19 Gunboats and several. rowboats. A Brig 2 Schooners. a Xebec and 2 other Small Corsairs — with Sundry very strong and important. Castles. to oppose This and make a requisite impression — we have The *Constitution Argus Siren Vixen Nautulas Enterprize & Scourge* 2 bombards. &[q] 6 Gunboats. — The Vessels in general. not well manned — and much deficient. as to Their Compliment of men — perhaps this force. applied and with The — offer of 60 — fathoms. we

might. thereby — extricate the officers. and crew of The Ex-*Philadelphia* — this would be doing a great deal — but I have my fears. That we must have more force. Then we have at present before we shall convince tripoli That it is his interist. to be at peace with The U States. he is biased. up that. we must finally get tired and give him the Extint of his demands. if we do we are gone in this Sea —

it must therefore be evident. to The U States. that it is necessary. that we should have built. The 6 — 74 Gun Ships a few heavy Corvettas — and 9 or 10 Schooners of 200 — or 250 tons to carry each 4 — long 24 pounders & 6 — 24 pounders Caronades — and a 13 inch mortar to be coppered to have 90 Mariners. and 10 — Bombardiers. these Vessels. would by throwing Bomb shells into tripoli at all times render them a City of torment. and if they intended to keep up the war they must all along The coast abandon their Villiages — this would Bring them to Their Bearings, and would be a terror of a new system — of Warfare — and blockade to. deter Algiers and tunis from irritating us by new — or extra demands. —

My services I shall not be wanting to contribute to The honor and interests. of my Country. The same time I recommend to your friendly aid — and Services My wife and 4 Children at present at Malta —

RICH^{d} OBRIEN

P S — We shall at last be obliged to Send an adequate force. — a dribling war ought not to be our System I have my fears the Expected frigates will not arrive in time to aid Us — in the attack on tripoli Modern troy —

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. 7, Part 1, Jan. 1804–Nov. 1805.]

Extract from journal kept on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Wednesday, 1 August 1804

Wind N E. steering by the wind on the Larb^{d} Tack. all the Squadron in sight. At ½ past 3 pm Tripoly in sight bearing S b E, the weather very unsettled and a rough sea, wore ship to the N N W, at 5 pm made the signal for the squadron to close to prevent separation. in the Night the wind moderated, at 5 AM wore to the S E, at 8 Sent up Top Gall^{t} Yards, out large Boats and compleated discharging the store ship, at noon we obs^{d} in Lat^{d} 33° 13′ N^{o} Tripoly bearing S S E 7 Leagues dis^{t} — Wind E N E very light.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Wednesday, 1 August 1804

Sent to the *Syren* two 12 pounders belonging to the *Constitution* with the carriages &^{ca} belonging to them. Towards Noon brought to, & took the store ship in tow in Order to complete discharging her.

The Captains of the Squadron waited on the Commodore (per Signal) —

Noon, Moderate breezes from N E. Squadron in Company Sent Carpenters to one of the Bombards to repair some damage done her Masts, during the Blow —

Latitude Observed 33° 13′ North.

[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, Wednesday, 1 August 1804

Midnight fresh gales & cloudy At 6 wore to the S. E. At 10 made all sail. At 11 shorten'd sail, the Commodore made signal for all Commander to repair on board of his ship. ½ past 11 Lieu^{t} Stewart went on board the Comm^{e} — Meridian rec^{d} 2 long 12 pounders complete from the Commodore. —

Latt: Obs: 33° 20′ N.

[NDA.]

To William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. Ship *Constitution*
At Sea. August 2^{d} 1804

Dear Sir I arrived off Tripoly with the Squadron in Company the 27th Ult^{o} and Anchored near the Town in hopes of immediately commencing an Attack, but a Gale of wind came on from the N E and obliged us to weigh and get to Sea as fast as possible The Gale continued three days, and was so severe as to bring us under reefed courses — The Gun boats stood towing very well — We are now about 6 Leagues from Tripoly & endeavouring with a light breeze to gain anchorage near the Town.

If you can hire a Vessel under English colours on reasonable terms by the month to come immediately off here with 10 or 15,000 Gallons of Fresh Water I wish you to do it: and send me Ten doz^{n} Fowls & twenty or thirty Sheep with plenty of Grass or Hay for them, 200 bushels of Potatoes & 200 bushels of Onions, a parcel of Cabbages & good melons. I wish you to hire or borrow water casks — I think Cap^{t} Schomberg will lend you as many as you want for a few days

I have written to Cap^{t} Schomberg to lend us casks, which, I have no doubt he will do on your application —

I send this by the Store ship — She has a number of Casks which you can have taken out; but, I believe, some of them will want coopering Hire a careful man to see the Water filled & the casks well rinsed. The Vessel you hire must be at the Risk of the People you hire her of: and must be protected by an English Passport & papers — She can clear out for Tripoly.

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To Captain Schomberg, R. N., commanding H. B. M. S. *Madrass*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitution Off Tripoly *August 2^{d} 1804*

Dear Sir, I have had a fair trial of Our flotilla as Sea boats Our Squadron anchored before Tripoly the 27th Ult^{o} at Noon, the Wind light from S E, a smooth Sea and pleasant weather: but in less than an hour the sea began to rise, and by 4 O'Clock it blew a gale from N E which Obliged us to Weigh & gain an Offing as fast as possible: The Gale continued three days, most of which time, we have been under reefed courses — I have lost a foresail & Main topsail in the Gale, and mention it to give you some Idea of the Weather — The Gun boats towed well & made much better Weather than I expected — We are now about 6 Leagues from Tripoly with a light breeze from the South^{d} endeavouring to gain our Anchorage —

I have desired Mr Higgins our Agent at Malta to send me a Vessel with fresh Water — Can you Oblige me by lending him some Water Casks for a few days, to be returned in good Order? —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

[2 August 1804]

To Midshipman Henry Wadsworth, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Sir You are forthwith to repair on board this Ship, and consider yourself attached to her as one of her Lieutenants — Until farther Orders —

Given &ca August 2d 1804

Signed Edward Preble

Lieut Henry Wadsworth
On board the *Scourge*

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

[2 August 1804]

To Midshipman Charles Morris, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Sir You are to repair on board this Ship until farther Orders —

Given &ca August 2d 1804

Signed Edward Preble

Mr Chs Morris
Master of the *Scourge*

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

[2 August 1804]

To Midshipman John M. Haswell, U. S. Navy, commanding the Transport *St. Guisseppe*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Sir, Having discharged your Cargo into the Squadron here, you are to fill up all your Empty water casks with Salt Water for Ballast, and proceed to Malta, and there deliver up the Polacre *St Guisseppe* to Mr Higgins American Agent.

You are not to part company with the *Scourge* if you can possibly avoid it.

Given &ca the 2d of August

Signed Edward Preble

Mr John M Haswell
Midshipman U. S Navy commanding
the Transport *St Guisseppe* in the Service of U. S

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

[2 August 1804]

Certificate of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, regarding the Polacre *St. Guisseppe*

I hereby Certify that the Polacre *St Guisseppe* is employed in the Service of the United States under command of Mr John M Haswell Midshipman as a Transport to supply the American Squadron under my command with provisions from Malta and that she leaves the Squadron at sea this day on her way to that Island, she having

nothing on board excepting Casks filled with Salt water as ballast — The Commanders of Vessels of All nations in peace and friendship with the U. S. are desired to let her pass free and unmolested —

Given &ca the 2d day of August 1804

Signed EDWARD PREBLE

To all Whom it may Concern.

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

[2 August 1804]

Statement of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, regarding the Polacre *St. Guisseppe*

I Certify that the Polacre *St Guisseppe* Transport for Supplying the American Squadron off Tripoly Leaves the Squadron at Sea without any of her crew having had any communication whatever with the Shore, or with any Vessel of the Squadron, or any other Vessel Whatever that has had any such communication for forty days past —

Given on board the U. S. Ship *Constitution* 2d August 1804

(Signed) EDWARD PREBLE

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

[2 August 1804]

To Midshipman (acting as Lieutenant) Ralph Izard, Jr., U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

SIR, You are hereby Ordered to take under your convoy the Transport *St Guisseppe* commanded by Mr John M Haswell Midshipman in the Service of the United States; and see her safe into some Port or Harbour in the Island of Malta and return directly to join the Squadron off this Station — You are not to go into any port in Malta — You are to defend your Vessel against the Attack of any of the Barbary cruizers and to capture Tripoline Vessels should you meet with any —

Given &ca the 2d day of August 1804

Signed EDWARD PREBLE

P. S. Mr Haswell & the two Seamen belonging to this ship you are to bring back from the Transport as soon as she is in safety.

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

Extract from journal kept on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Thursday, 2 August 1804

Wind E N E supplied the Vessels of the Squadron with a large quantity of Provisions & stores. in the Evening the Wind came from the S E stood to the E N E all night, in the morning calm ordered Lt Dent Commander of the *Scourge* with 30 of his crew to join the two Bombs which with the Neapolitans on board of them compleats their crews, ordered Lt Wadsworth & Mr Morris (Master) of the *Scourge* to join this ship, Wadsworth to do duty as a Lt on board and Morris to serve in the Boats. — sent off the store ship to Malta, under convoy of the *Scourge*, in charge of Lt Izard who is to see her safe into some port in Malta & return to this Station the *Scourge* has 36 men

on board including Officers. At noon Lat^{d} 33°11′ N^{o} discharg'd from the service Lewis Bashaw a seaman & sent him to Malta in the store ship, on account of Indisposition and his pleading that he was a frenchman. Tripoly Bears S b E dis^{t} 6 Leagues. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 2 August 1804

First Part of these 24 Hours fresh Gales and Cloudy with frequent Squalls of Rain At 1 P M. saw a Brig to the Northward standing to the Southward on a wind; she appeared to be a Brig of War — made the Private Signal of the Day to her, she did not answer it, hauled it down, and hoisted our own Colours, which she answered by hoisting American, judged then it was the United States Brig *Scourge*, but that the Commander did not understand the Private Signal made to him. I then made the Signal for him to shew his distinguishing Flag, this Signal also he did not answer, I then judged that she was some armed Merchantman, or that she shewed false Colours, she was at so great a Distance to Windward that I thought it wou'd be only losing much Time and a fair Wind to Chase her — At 6 call'd all Hands to Quarters and exercised the great Guns and small Arms — At 7 Cape Farino S. E ½ S. and Cape Bon S. E b. E — At ½ past 2 A. M saw the Island of Cimaro bearing S. S. E. — At 4 the Island of Cimaro bore W b S. distant 2 Leagues, Cape Bon, South Dist. 5 Leagues — At 5 Cape Bon bore S, S W. Dist 3 Leagues — Latter part frequent and heavy Squalls, attended I think with the heaviest Rain I ever Saw — At 6 saw a Sail a Head standing the same way that we were — At 9 saw the Island of Pantalaria bearing S. S. E — At the same Time spoke the Brigg we saw at 6 this Morning she proved to be a Ragasa from Algiers bound to Smyrna 7 Days out full of Algerine Pilgrims on their Way to Mecca — People scrubbing Hammocks and washing Cloths — Wind N W b W

[LC. EPP, Journal, June to 6 August 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, 2 August 1804

At. half past three this morning we made Cape Rosso fine breeze & pleasant Weather at 8 came on Squally with considerable rain at ½ past 10. we discovered the Island of Galetie bearing S E ½ E. at Meridian the middle Point of the Island bore S E ½ S. distance 4 leagues. Note. in all the books & charts onboard the ship the Island Galatie is in Latt^{d} 37. 50 but by Observation we find the Island in 37. 33. the Island of Galatie is [space]

at 1 Oclock. we discovered a brig on our [manuscript mutilated] at 2 the Brig passed to Windw^{d} made the signal of the Day. it not being answered hauled it down and hoisted our colours, she likewise hoisted American soon after made the Signal to shew her distinguishing flag which was not done from which we concluded she was American Merchantman — At 6 the Islands of Solcanos bore W. S. W at 7 Cape Ferino bore S. E ½ S. Calld all hands to quarters to exercise the great guns & Marines the Small arms.

[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, 2 August 1804

Light winds & pleas[t] Lying bye with the fleet At 4 fill'd away to the N W. made sail. At 9 wore to the Eastw[d] —

Latt: Obs: 33°16′ N.

[NDA.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 3 August 1804

Attacked the town and harbour and captured 3 gun boats. Lt. [James] Decatur was killed.

[LC original.]

Extract from journal kept on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Friday, 3 August 1804

Wind E S E to E b N. Exercised the Bomb Vessels & threw some shells, fresh Breezes & pleasant, during the night we had fresh Gales lay to with the ships head to the N E. in the morning wore & stood for the Land, Tripoly about 4 Leagues dis[t] Bearing S S W. at 8 A M wind E b N at noon we were within two miles of the City of Tripoly which is defended by Batteries mounted with 67 Heavy cannon pointing sea ward, and 22 Gun Boats each carrying a piece of heavy Brass Ordnance [*], besides small cannon, muskets Pistols Pikes &c — and man'd with 30 to 50 Men each they have als[o] an Armed Brig two armed schooners in the Port full of men. I made the signal to wear and haul off and immediately after the signal to come within hale, clear'd ship for Action & beat to quarters. — made signal to prepare for Battle intending to attack their Gun Boats & the City as I observed their Boats without the Rocks,

[*Commodore Preble's Diary indicates "Batteries mounted with 115 heavy Cannon pointed sea ward, and Nineteen Gun Boats each carrying a peice of heavy Brass Ordinance".]

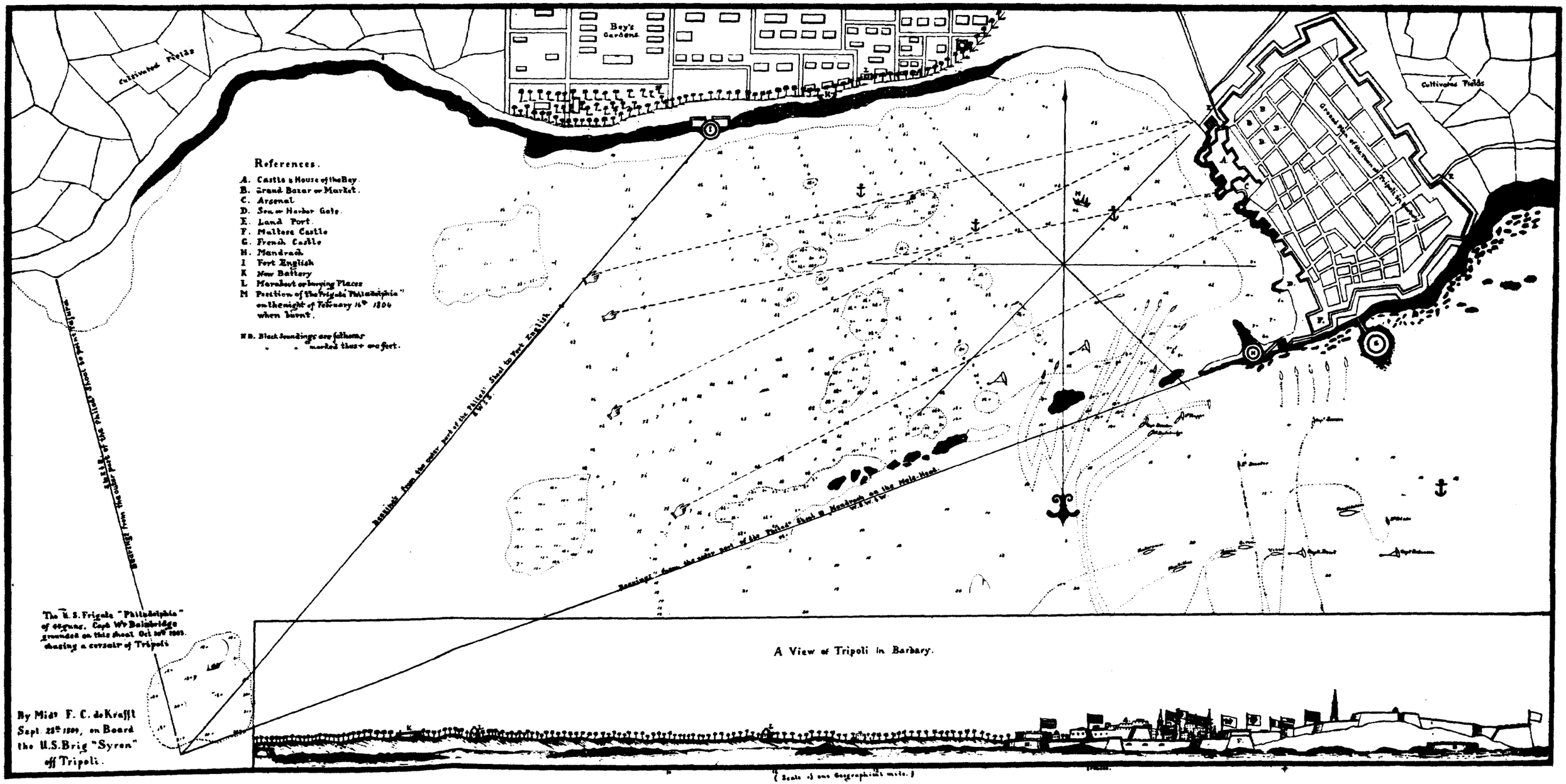
[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

[3 August 1804]

Extract from journal kept on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Saturday, 4 August 1804

Wind E b S. Standing off shore on the Starbord Tack the signal out to come within hail spoke the different Vessels and acquainted their Commanders that it was my Intention to attack the shipping & Batteries, — directed the Gun Boats & Bombs to be prepared for immediate service. —

at 12½ pm Tack'd & stood for the Batteries. Back'd the Main Topsail, at ½ 1 pm made the general signal to follow the motions of the Commodore. filled the Maintopsail & stood in towards the Batteries, at ¼ past 2 made the signal for the Bombs & Gun Boats to advance & attack the ships & Batteries. ½ past 2 general signal for Battle. the whole squadron advanc'd within point Blank shot of the Enemies Batteries & shipping, our Gun Boats in two divisions the 1[st] consisting of 3 Boats Commanded by Cap[t] Somers the 2[d] of three Boats by Cap[t] Decatur, at ¾ past 2 the Action commenced on our side by throwing a shell into the Town, and in an Instant the whole Squadron were engaged. — the Enemies Gun Boats were Anchord with springs on, in three divisions the Eastern or van division



MAP OF THE ATTACK ON TRIPOLI, 3 AUGUST 1804.

consisted of 9 Boats the center of 7 Boats, and the Western or Rear of 5 Boats. As the wind was from the Eastward our Boats were ordered to lead in to Windward and attack the Enemy. the Rear & center division of the Enemies Boats are close under their Batteries, & the Van division consisting of their largest Boats are within Grape distance of the Bashaws Castle & fort English at 3 observed our Gun Boats engaged in close action with the Enemies Boats, while a tremendous fire was kept up by this ship and the rest of the Squadron. Cap^{t} Decatur with N^{o} 4 L^{t} Trippe of N^{o} 6 & L^{t} Bainbridge of N^{o} 5 & L^{t} James Decatur of N^{o} 2 attacked the enemys Boats within Pistol shot. N^{o} 1 Cap^{t} Somers fell to Leward but fetched up with the Enenys Rear of 5 Boats which he gallantly attacked disabled & drove in altho within pistol shot of the Batteries. N^{o} 3 L^{t} Blake did not go into close Action, had he gone down to the assistance of Cap^{t} Somers it is probable they would have captured the Rear Boats. Cap^{t} Decatur Boarded and after a stout and obstinate resistance took possession of two of the Enemies Gun Boats, L^{t} Trip Boarded and carried a third. L^{t} James Decatur in the Act of Boarding to take possession of a fourth Boat was shot through the Head & Mortally wounded the officer next in command (M^{r} Brown) hauld off. L^{t} Bainbridge had his Latten Yard shot away early in the Action which prevented him from taking a Boat but he Galled the Enemy by a steady fire within Musket shot, indeed he pursued the Enemy until his Boat touch'd the ground under the Batteries. the Bombs kept their stations which were well chosen, by L^{t} Dent & L^{t} Robinson, who commanded them, and threw a number of shells into the town altho the spray of the sea occasioned by the enemies shot almost covered them, three different times the Enemies Gun Boats rallied and attempted to surround ours. I as often made the signal to cover them, which was properly attended to by the Brigs & Schooners, and the fire from this ship not only had the desired effect on the enemies flotilla by keeping them in check and disabling them, but silenced one of their principal Batteries for some time, at ½ past 4 pm made the signal for the Bombs to retire from action out of Gun shot, and a few minutes after the general signal to Cease fireing and Tow out the Prizes & disabled Boats. sent our Barge and Jolly Boat to assist in that duty. Tack'd ship & fired two Broadsides in stays which drove the Tripolines out of the Castle & brought down the Steeple of a Mosque, by this time the wind began to freshen from N E at 4¾ PM hauld off to take the Bombs in tow, at 5 pm Brought to, two miles from their Batteries, Rec^{d} L^{t} James Decatur on board from Gun Boat N^{o} 2, he was shot through the Head (in Boarding a Tripoline Boat which had struck to him) he expired in a few moments after he was brought into the ship. — We lay to until 10 P M to receive the Prisoners on board captured in the Prizes, then made sail & stood off to the N E the wind Veering to the E S E. — we have all the surgeons of the squadron on board dressing the wounded. —

During the Action we fired 262 Rounds shot besides Grape double head & Canister from this ship and were several times within 3 cables lengths of the Rocks & Batteries where our soundings were from 10 to 16 fath^{s} the Officers Seamen & Marines of the Squadron behaved Gallantly throughout the Action. Cap^{t} Decatur in Gun Boat N^{o} 4 particularly distinguished himself as did L^{t} Trip of N^{o} 6. Our loss in Killed & Wounded has been considerable the damage we rec^{d} in this ship is a 24 pound shot nearly through the center of the Mainmast

20 feet from the Deck, Main Top Gallant R Yard & sail shot away, one of the Fore shrouds and the sails & running rigging considerably cut one of the 24 pounders on the Quarter deck was struck by a 24 pound shot which damaged the Gun and carriage and shattered the Arm of a Marine to pieces, Gun Boat N° 2 had her latteen yard shot away, & the Rigging & sails of the Brigs & Schooners were considerably cut. We captured 3 Gun Boats two of which carried each a long Brass 24 pounder & two Brass Howitzers and 36 men with a plenty of muskets pistols pikes sabres &c, the other mounted a long Brass 18 pounded & two Howitzers & 24 men 44 Tripolines were killed on board of the 3 Boats and 52 made prisoners, 26 of which were wounded, 17 of them very badly 3 of which died soon after they were brought on board, the Enemy must have suffered very much in Killed & wounded among their Shipping and on shore, one of their Boats was sunk in the Harbour several of them had their decks nearly cleared of men by our shot, and several shells burst in the Town, which must have done great execution. —

We have lost in Killed & Wounded Viz^{t}

Killed	Wounded
L^{t} James Decatur	Cap^{t} Decatur slight
	L^{t} Tripp[e] severely
	10 Seamen & Marines wounded

Total 1 Officer Killed
2 Officers Wounded
10 Seamen & Marines Wounded
13

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

[3 August 1804]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Saturday, 4 August 1804

Fresh breezes from E b N. We are standing off shore 2 or 3 Miles from Tripoly with a signal out, for the Squadron to come within hail — We spoke them, & directed the Gun boats & Bombards to be ready for immediate service —

We made a short board off till 12½ Noon when we tacked in for the Batteries, and made signal for the Gun boats & Bombards to cast off — Our Gun boats are in two divisions — The first is commanded by Cap^{t} Somers of the *Nautilus*, L^{t} Decatur & L^{t} Blake; The 2^{d} division by Cap^{t} Decatur of the *Enterprize*, L^{t} Tripp[e] & L^{t} Bainbridge The Bombards are commanded by Cap^{t} Dent of the *Scourge* [*] & L^{t} Robinson of the *Constitution* —

The Enemy's gun boats are the same in number as on Saturday last, and are stationed in three divisions as a line of defence — The two Western divisions are close under the Batteries, and the 3^{d} consisting of their largest boats carrying either long 24 or 32 p^{drs} is to the Eastward, and under cover of Grape from the Batteries — A few minutes after we tacked in towards the batteries we backed the main topsail to make some arrangements in the Squadron —

At 1¼ P. M. made the *Nautilus* Signal to make more sail, & a few minutes after made signal for the Bombards to take their stations, and for the Gun boats to advance Cap^{t} Decatur and Lieut^{t} J. Decatur, Tripp & Bainbridge led in for the Eastern division of the Enemy's Gun

boats — At 2 P. M. made signal to advance — We were now within gun shot of all the Enemys batteries and stood in within a mile of them before a shot was exchanged — At 2¾ Bombard N° 1 hove a shell — The Enemy's batteries & Gun boats immediately immediately commenced firing which we returned with our Larboard Guns —

Cap^{t} Decatur boarded and after a stout resistance took possession of two of the Enemy's Gun boats; Lieu^{t} Trip boarded & carried a third — L^{t} J. Decatur in the Act of boarding a third was mortally wounded and the Officer next in Command hauled off —

L^{t} Bainbridges boat was partly disabled in proceeding to the Attack — however she was in, and in close action Cap^{t} Somers was some way astern when the signal to advance was made — He came up with every possible expedition, received the fire of four boats, and pursued them within musket shot of the Bashaws castle The Bombards kept their stations and continued to throw shells, altho nearly covered with the spray of the Enemys shot. —

Gun boat N° 3 was not in close action

Three different times we made the general signal to cover the Boats —

At 4 P. M. the Enemy's boats attempted to surround Cap^{t} Somers — The *Vixen* bore down to his support, and we immediately hove about & gave them our starboard Guns, on which they all retreated under the Batteries. At 4½ P. M. made the Bombards signal to haul off, and a few minutes after, the general signal to cease firing, and tow out the prizes, and disabled boats.

Sent two boats from the *Constitution* to assist in Towing out the Prizes Tacked within half a Gun shot of the Bashaws Castle & round Battery, and gave them a full broadside in stays, which drove them out of the Castle & brought down a steeple in the direction of the Castle.

By this time the wind freshened and began to Veer to N E.

At 4¾ P. M. we hauled off & made Signal to take the Bombards & gun boats in Tow. At 5 P. M. brought to, two miles from the Batteries —

Rec'd L^{t} J. Decatur from Gun boat N° 2 — He was Wounded in the head and Expired in a few Minutes after being brought on board.

Cap^{t} Decatur reports that ten on our side were wounded & Sixty of the Enemy killed in the three Gun boats which we have captured — We recieved on board fifty two Prisoners, twenty of whom are wounded — Four of the wounded prisoners died soon after they were brought on board — All the Surgeons in the Squadron assisted (p^{r} Signal) in dressing the Wounded —

Although the *Constitution* was exposed to the fire of all the Enemys batteries & Gun boats for upwards of two hours, Nine shot only struck her — The Commodore had a very narrow escape — He was close to a Gun disabled by one of the Enemy's shot; — The shot broke & severely wounded one man — The Commodores cloathes were cut in several places by pieces of the shot —

We had one of the fore shrouds, and the main Royal Yard cut away. Our main mast is wounded about 28 feet above deck with a 24 lb ball which came from the Bashaws Castle — It is wooded about 15 Inches. —

During the action we were several times within three cables length of the reefs and the Western rocks. Our soundings were from 21 to 16 fath^{s}, hard bottom — There were upwards of 200 shot that fell within 10 fath^{s} of the ship, and a number which hove the spray upon our deck.

At Sun set Tripoly bore South 3 Miles — We were necessarily employed till 10 P. M. when we filled under Easy sail to the N E —
At 7 A. M. wore in shore — Tripoly in sight bearing by compass S W b S ½ S. 5 leagues Light breezes from E b S, till 10 A. M. when we had fresh when we had fresh breezes from E N E
At 9 A. M. the *Argus* was Ordered to chace to the W N W.
At Noon came to 7 or 8 Miles to the Northward of Tripoly in 32 fath[s] hard bottom
As our bower is light; we were under the necessity of Veering to 140 fath[s] before the ship brought up — We had taken the *Argus's* two Gun boats in Tow when she was Ordered to chase.
Latitude Observed 33° 4′ N.

[* See journal of 2 August 1804.]

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

[3 August 1804]

To George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Copy

Constitution at ANCHOR
off Tripoli 7th of Aug[t] 1804

DEAR SIR, I have the pleasure to inform You that on the 3[d] Instant we made an attack on the Town and Harbour of Tripoli; the Action commenced at ½ past 2. P. M. and lasted till ½ past 4, during which time a most tremenduous fire was kept up by our Squadron, and the Enemies Batteries — Six of Our Gun Boats, led by the Gallant Captain Decatur, advanced into the Harbor to engage 19 Gun Boats, a Brig, two Schooners and a Galley of the Enemies, they were completely beaten, and three of thir best Gun Boats, were taken and brought out, one was Sunk, and all of them suffered very considerably — Decatur within musket shot of their Batteries, boarded and brought out two of the Enemies Gun Boats, each of Superior force.
L[t] Trippe of the *Vixen*, boarded and brought out another; the boats captured are all new, and each carried a long brass 24, and two brass 3, pounders, and were manned with 108, Men, 52, of which were killed, and 18, wounded — we made 56, prisoners, 14 of which were so badly wounded that I sent them on Shore at Tripoli to be taken care of, and soothed by their friends.
The Town of Tripoli, as well as the Shipping in the Harbor has suffered very considerably — We lost one brave Officer, L[t] [James] Decatur, (brother to the Gallant Captain [Stephen Decatur Jr.]) who was shot through the head, at the moment he had obliged an Enemies Gun Boat to strike to him, on board of which all the Men were killed in the Conflict excepting three.
We had a few Men wounded, and the Squadron suffered some trifling Damage in Masts, Spars, rigging &c. but nothing what we had reason to expect, from being two hours in action, within 500, Yards of the Enemies Batteries — Our Bombs threw several Shells into the Town, with good effect.
I intend to attack the City again this day — enclosed is a Copy of a letter from the French Consul,
Please to write Colonel Lear, and enclose him a Copy of this, and the French Consul's letter.

[NA. SDA. CL, Tunis, Vol. 2, Part 2, 1803–1806.]

[3 August 1804]

Narrative of Attacks on Tripoli by Richard O'Brien

No. 1

Narrative of The attacks on tripoli. The 3^{d} and 7th of august 1804. with remarks and observations Thereon. by OBrien —

After our hopes. had been exhausted. relative to The expected frigates. from The United States. arriving to Join our division in order to attack tripoli. and by that means extricate our brethern from bondage. We. sailed from Malta. destined for tripoli on The *21st of July* — our force as Viz — *Constitution Vixon* and *Nautulas*. 6 gunboats &^{c} 2 bombards. — on the morning of *The 25th* we fell in with. The *Siren Argus* and *Enterprize* in the Evening The *Scourge* Joined us — we were about This time 22 miles to The N E. of tripoli —

On the 26th the wind fresh at East. we stood to The N^{d} and at midnight tacked to The South^{d} —

On the morning of *The 27th of July* — the whole fleet steering down for tripoli. at 2 P M The fleet anchored in an East and west line to The N^{d} of tripoli 3½ miles — we were getting our bombards ready, in order to Throw Shells into The town when the wind freshened up to The N N E. that it threw up a great Sea. it was no longer safe to remain to an anchor — The signal was made to get underway — and at 8 P M The whole fleet was standing to The N^{d} The weather remained severe with fresh winds at N N E. and East untill The night of *The 2^{d} of August* when we tacked for tripoli, and on *The morning of The 3^{d}* at Midday was as near as 5 miles — to The N N E. of tripoli. Variation allowed

(It will Observed. That we had not made or agreed on any Plan of attack. The gunboats was to lead in and commence fireing at The Gun boats of tripoli. and we were to be guided by The result or Event.)

our gun boats were in 2 divisions.
The 1st Commanded by
Captain Somers
Lieu^{t} Blake
Lieu^{t} James Decator

2^{d} Division Captain Decator
Lieu^{t} Tripp.
Lieu^{t} Bainbridge
Division of Bombards —
Lieu^{t} Comd^{t} Dent.
and Lieu^{t} Robinson —

our force was Thus —

The *Constitution*	46 Guns
Argus	18
Siren	18
Vixon	16
Nautulus	16
Enterprize	14
6 Gun boats	
2 bombards	

NB. each of The gun boats and bombards had 15 Neopolitans and 25 Americans. This took away. The ⅔^{ds} of The crew of The *Nautulas* and *Enterprize* and ⅓^{d} of The crew of The *Vixen* and ¼th of The crew of The *Argus* and ⅔^{ds} of The crew of The *Scourge*.

Tripoli had its Castles Batteries A Brig in The harbour a schooner & Galliotta. with 19 Gunboats. Mounting 24 pounders & 18 pounders The first Division of Gunboats of tripoli was 6 sail without masts. was moored in a line ahead extending from The double battery East ⅓^{d} of a mile, to The South. of This division was 2 gunboats under sail and to an anchor a schooner of 8 guns and a Galliotta of 4 Guns.

Under The double battery moored in a half moon line from N, to South was 11 Gun boats. The wind at S b N a fresh breese The Paschas Pallace and castles were filled with men the flags of tripoli were displayed on the castles — corsairs and Gun boats, it being Mahometan Sunday —

The *Constitution* was to The N E b N of The double or Pierhead battery, distance about 4½ miles. The *Nautulas* a stern rather on The weather Quarter. The *Siren Argus Vixon* and *Enterprize* to The East of The *Constitution* with our heads to The Southard; when the Signal was made for The gunboats to cast loose from the Vessels towing Them. The Signal was next made for The gunboats and bombards to advance in a line abreast extending from The S E. to The Nw^{d} but as The *Constitution* was with The *Nautulas* to The west of The fleet. The. 2 bombards — towed by The *Constitution* and Gunboat towed by The *Nautulas* did not get sufficient East. to Join. The rest of The Gunboats. — Which kept leading in for the Van division of The tripoli Gunboats as ours approached The Van The Enemie. a fireing commenced — from the tripoline Gunboats. at ours which kept approaching fireing round shot.

The 2 bombards commanded by Lieu^{t} Comidant Dent. and 1st Lieu^{t} Robinson of The *Constitution*. commenced fireing Their Shells — one of which burst. adjacent to The double Battery and another Pashed said Battery into The town. — The *Constitution*. Then had her top G^{lt} Sails handed a reefe in the topsails, fore sail & M^{n} sail in The Brails — main and mizen top sail^{s} aback heading in about S b W — The Batteries and gun boats of tripoli commenced a very severe fireing at The 2 bombards, — and *Constitution* — it seemed then as if it was impossible but The shot of tripoli would sink The two bombards, all round Them and under The starboard, bow of The *Constitution* the Water was kept. entirely in a foam from The Enemies shot. —

(with Cap^{t} Somers, was M^{r} Ridgely as 2^{d} officer.) Captain Somers falling to Lewards he led in to The West of The Bombards, and kept fireing at The double battery and at the 11 Gun boats. he soon drew a part of their attention one of our Gunboats. kept to The East of. The Enemie fireing at a Gun boat and Galliotta. which was under sail, whilst Cap^{t} Comid^{t} Decator. with Lieu^{t} Tripp and Lieu^{t} James Decator stood in Through the 12 feet channel exposed to a heavy fire from The Paschas Castle &^{c} when all but along side of The Van division of tripoli — gunboats fired their large canister shot. of Muskett balls. laid The Enemie on board and with the 1st fire of their Musketts and pistols. each a boarding pike and cutlash. boarded The tripoline Gunboats, — Lieu^{t} Bainbridge in approaching This Van division. had his lattene yard shot off ⅓^{d} from the upper End, he nevertheless used his Oars and sail with his usual exertion, and kept a continual fireing on the tripoline. 6 boats engaged with The 3 Americans — but The wind & sea and loss of his lattene did not Permit. him to get sufficient to windward to board The Enemies Gunboats. —

As our boats fired advanced and boarded. The Van of The Enemie — exposed to The fire of The batteries corsairs and Gunboats. We Perceived a movement. from The 11 Gunboats. under The double battery. and a Galliotta & Gunboat to The South of The Enemies Van line of Gunboats. These made an attempt to succour. The

Van of their boats. Engaged with Capt Decator Lieu^{ts} Tripp & Decator. but before this time. The *Constitution* had filled away The main and mizen topsails and stood within ½ Cables Length of The double battery, fired 3. of her starboard. bow Guns — and bow chaces — at The boats. under The double battery. Wore with our head to. The West^{d} and The after division of our larboard Guns was fired at The Galliotta & Gun boat. leading to our boats Engaged — boarding our Centre division — was fired at The Paschas. Castle and The forward division at The double battery and Gun boats under it.

We again loaded our larboard broadside with 2 round shot and grape and in. divisions fired at The round or double Battery and at The 11 Gun boats. by this time we perceived we Threw The 11 Gunboats. into confusion. our Grape and 2 Shells burst over them. They were annoyed in a cross fire by the Gunboat commanded by Cap^{t} Somers.

We finding we should get to Leward. of our station we hawled off to The N^{d} made sail covering our retreat with our two stern chases — in ½ an hour we tacked stood in under a press of sail. and fired our starboard broadside at The double Battery and Gun boats 3 of Them was rowing up

[H. E. Huntington L&AG, EA 480.]

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, 3 August 1804

Light winds & pleas^{t} the *Scourge* left the fleet with the store ship to convoy her into port — ½ past 2 shorten'd sail. At 4 back'd the main top sail. At 7 wore to the N E reef'd the topsails. Tripoli bore S ½ W 3 leagues. —

Midnight fresh breezes & a heavy sea — ½ past 3 wore the S. W. day light made all sail. At 10 took in sail. dismounted the aftermost carronade on each side & plac'd the long 12 pounders in their births. —

Meridian handed top gall^{t} sails. All hands employ'd, in preparing for the attack against the Town of Tripoli, gun boats &c. —

[NDA.]

[3 August 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, Saturday, 4 August 1804

FIRST ENGAGEMENT OFF TRIPOLI

Fresh breezes & pleasant all the fleet close in with the harbour. At 2 the Commodore made signal to cast off the gun boats & bombards, At 3 commenc'd a heavy fire on the enemy's gun boats which were moor'd under the enemies batteries, the enemy keeping up an incessant fire on Our boats from all quarters ½ past 3 the Commodore made signal to cover the gun boats when all the squadron stood close in with the rocks & commenc'd a heavy fire on the Town ¼ past 3 the signal was made for the gun boats to join the Squadron as soon as possible. At 4 the boats return'd from Action with 3 Tripolian gun boats in tow, 2 of which had been boarded & captur'd by Cap^{t} Decatur & 1 by L^{t} Trip ¼ past 4 took N^{o} 5 gun boat in tow. ½

past 6 took 1 prize gun boat in tow from the *Vixen*. Tripoli bearing S ½ E 3 leagues. Midnight hove too ½ past 6 wore to the S W. ½ past 9 Cap^{t} Decatur came on board fill'd away & made sail. —

Meridian handed top gall^{t} sails & over haul'd a range of the larboard cable —

Latt: Obs: 33° 4′ N.

[NDA.]

[3 August 1804]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 4 August 1804

These 24 hours Commences with fresh Breezes and Clear W^{r} standing in for the town of Tripoli at ½ past 2 the Commodore made Sig^{l} 175 with a Preparative flag at 3 PM, he made Sig^{l} N^{o} 341 the Preparative flag display'd immediately after Cast off the Gun boats they stood in for the Batteries and an Engagement took place between the Squadron Batteries and Gun boats at 5 the Commod^{e} made Sig^{l} N^{o} 1201 stood off and took the Gunboats in tow they having as prizes brought off 3 Tripolitan Gunboats well manned and Armed at 6 Tripoli bore S b E Cap^{t} Hull went on board the Commodore and returned at 9 PM, At 6 AM wore to the N^{d} & W^{d} at 9 saw a sail on our lee bow — the Commodore hoisted our Distinguish^{g} flag and made Sig^{l} 259 made all Sail in Chace at 12 came up with her she proved to be a french privateer the Cap^{t} of her came on board

[NDA photostat.]

[3 August 1804]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Lieutenant Richard Somers, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SCHOONER *Nautilus*
At Anchor Off Tripoli Aug^{t} 4th 1804

SIR, Agreeable to your orders I send you herewith a statement of the proceedings of the Gun Boats of the 1st Division under my Command on the 3rd Ins^{t} —

At 2 P. M. when the signal was made to cast off the Gun Boats, I then beeing far to leward, made sail with the *Nautilus* to Join the rest of the Division which were to windward and advancing with the 2nd Division under Cap^{t} Decatur; When the Signal for battle was made, I immediately Cast off and advanced with all sail upon a wind with my sweeps out, I found it was impossible to Join the division to Windward which had Commenced firing on the weather line of the Enemy, who lay at Anchor close under the rocks, by this time there was five of the Enemy's Gun Boats of the lee line under way advancing and firing; when within point blank shot I commenced firing on the Enemy with round & grape, they still advanced until within pistol shot when they wore round & stood in for the Batteries I pursued them untill within musket shot of the Batteries which kept up a Continual fire of round & grape, three of their boats had got in behind the rocks, I then wore and stood off — The boats has received no damage and but two of the men slightly wounded. — Gun Boat N^{o} 2, under the Command of Lieu^{t} James Decatur & M^{r} Thomas Brown Midshipman

Second in Command, engaged one of the Enemy's Gun Boats which after a short conflict haul'd down their Colours to him; the treacherous enemy in the act of Lieu[t] Decatur's geting on board to take possession, discharged a Volley of Muskettry in which that brave and gallant officer was killed; the enemy then sheered off from a long side and by superior sailing escaped being Captured; Gun Boat N[o] 2 received no damage and except Lieu[t] Decatur but one man slightly wounded in the breast by a muskett ball; Gun Boat N[o] 3 was to windward. —

Permit me Sir to say that the Officers on board N[o] 1. M[r] Ridgley & M[r] Miller and the Men behaved with the greatest magnanimity. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy

GUN BOAT N[o] 4 off TRIPOLI
August 3[rd] *1804*

Commodore EDWARD PREBLE

SIR In obedience to your directions to state the proceedings of the 2[nd] division of boats that you did me the honor to place under my command, — I beg leave to acquaint you, that after the Signal was displayed to advance and engage the enemy I led in with my boats; finding it impossible to bring their weather division to close action, I bore down on their line of boats consisting of seventeen, which were moored within two cables length of their Batteries, — I boarded and carried two of them, and was successfull in bringing them off, — I was supported in the handsomest manner by Lieutenants Tripp and Bainbridge, Lieutenant Jonathan [John] Tripp who commanded N[o] 6, Boarded, carried, and got off one of the enemies Boats, I regret that Lieutenant Bainbridge's boat N[o] 5 being disabled prevented him being equally Successful, I now feel it my duty to Assure you that nothing could surpass the zeal, courage, and readiness of Lieutenant John [Jonathan] Thorn & Mr Thomas Macdonough and every discription of Officers & Men under my command, and I am sorry that my words fall short of their merits, — The Prizes taken by N[o] 4 are new boats and well fitted, the first captured mounted a long Brass peice carrying a Ball of 27 lb & 2 brass swivels, her crew consisted of 36 men & Officers, 16 of whom were killed, 15 wounded & 5 well Prisioners, the second Boat mounted a long brass 18 Pounder & 2 brass howets her crew consisted of 24 men & Officers, 17 of whom were killed, 4 wounded & 3 well Prisoners, — The Boat captured by N[o] 6 was of the same dimentions, mounted the same metal, and had the same number of men as the largest Boat captured by N[o] 4, she had 14 men killed, and 22 made Prisones, 7 of whom were wounded, —

I am happy to mention the damage sustained on our part was trifling, N[o] 4 has 4 wounded Including myself slightly, N[o] 6 Lieutenant Tripp and 2 men wounded, —

I have the honor to be
Sir
with great Respect
Your Obed[t] humble Serv[t]

STEPHEN DECATUR J[r]

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

[3 August 1804]

To Purser Keith Spence, U. S. Navy, from Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy

(Copy) UNITED STATES SHIP *Congress*
Tunis Bay Jany 9th 1804 [1805]

DEAR FRIEND I had the satisfaction of receiving yours of 2nd of November, with a letter for Captain Stewart and one for Robert, which I shall keep until their return, which is expected shortly. Your son [Midshipman Robert T. Spence] has displayed a Manliness of Conduct, that will make every American proud of him as a Countryman. After the accidents which befel his boat, he served in the boat with me, his Conduct with me was such, as you would have wished; as to his being confirmed there can be no doubt as Comodore P. has given me his word that he will have it done

I have requested Captain Bainbridge to shew you some papers I have enclosed to him, You will see in my report to Comodore P. on 7th August, your son is mentioned in a way, that will not be displeasing to you. I shall be happy to have him with me, and I know he wishes it, but Capt [James] Barron wishes him to sail with him in the *Essex*, R has more than my friendship if possible, and by Sailing with Captain Barron he will insure his, for he is already attached to him, therefore by sailing with B. [two words illegible] when I see R, I will speak to him upon the Subject, Pray let me Know your opinion respecting it. You see he is in great demand —

You will observe I am in the return of the wounded on the 3d of August. My wounds were slight and as follows, in the arm by a sword and in the breast by a pike. I find hand to hand is not childs play, 'tis kill or be killed

You no doubt recollect a conversation we had when in the City of Washington, I then informd you 'twas my intention to board, if ever I had an opportunity and that 'twas my opinion that there could be no doubt as to the issue. You will not doubt me I hope, when I say, I am glad the event has proved my ideas to be correct. I always thought we could lick them their own way and give them two to one. The first boat they were 36 to 20 we carryed her without much fuss, the second was 24 to 10, they also went to the leeward —

I had eighteen Italians in the boat with me, who claimed the honor of the day, While we fought they prayed. They are convinced we could not have been so fortunate, unless their prayers had been heard. This might have been the case, therefore we could not contradict it Some of the Turks died like men, but much the greater number like women —

I leave this tomorrow for Tripoly, if you are suffered to walk out, you will know my Ship by her having stump top Gl Masts

Believe me to be yours
Sincerely STEPHEN DECATUR jr

P S. If I do not write often do not attribute it to neglect. I need not tell you I dislike writing, you know it, and my reason, for fear you should have forgotten, I will tell you, I have always thought, that they who write badly should write little or by the way of practice a great deal. Now as I know I can never become an adept, I know you will think me prudent for not writing much.

(Note The person spoken of as R — was Robert T. Spence afterwards a Captain in the Navy)

[NDA, A–4.]

[3 August 1804]

Extract from "Life of Stephen Decatur," by Alexander Slidell MacKenzie, U. S. Navy

"* * * The Tripolitan colors were hauled down, and Decatur, taking his prize in tow, was proceeding out of the harbor, when the boat, which had been commanded by his brother, came under his stern, and informed him that they had engaged and captured one of the largest of the enemy's boats, but that, after she had struck, Lieutenant James Decatur, in the act of stepping on board of her to take possession, had been shot through the head by her treacherous commander.

Decatur's noble indignation at such base treachery needed not the stimulant of fraternal agony, at the sight of an expiring brother, to impel him to the immediate pursuit of the assassin. Lieutenant Thorn, with the greater part of his crew, had been left in possession of the prize. Still heedless of every prudential suggestion, he laid the head of his boat towards that of his brother's murderer, and, following him within the enemy's line, where he had taken refuge, ran on board, and leaped upon his deck, followed by the gallant young Macdonough, and the nine remaining Americans of his crew. This was a desperate undertaking, suggested by a courage which stopped to consider no inequality. For twenty minutes, the result of the contest seemed uncertain. Three of Decatur's followers were already disabled by wounds.

At length Decatur was able to single out the treacherous commander, conspicuous no less by gigantic size, than by the ferocity with which he fought, and to meet him face to face. Decatur was armed with a cutlass, the Turk with a heavily ironed boarding-pike. As the latter made a thrust at Decatur, he struck it violently with his cutlass, in the hope of severing the head; but his cutlass, coming in contact with the iron, broke at the hilt, and left him without a weapon. Many a brave man thus disarmed might have turned to seek another weapon. But Decatur stood his ground, and, attempting with his right arm to parry the next thrust of his antagonist, received the point of it in his arm and breast. Tearing the weapon from the wound, he succeeded likewise, by a sudden jerk, in wresting it from the hands of his adversary, who immediately grappled him; and, after a fierce and prolonged struggle, both fell with violence on the deck, Decatur being uppermost. During this time, the crews, rushing to the aid of their respective commanders, joined in furious conflict round their persons. A Tripolitan officer, who had got behind Decatur, aimed an unseen blow at his head, which must have decided his fate, had not a young man, by the name of Reuben James, who had lost the use of both arms by wounds, rushed in, and intercepted the descending cimeter with his own head, thus rescuing his beloved commander by an act of heroic self-sacrifice which has never been surpassed.*

Just then the Tripolitan, exerting to the uttermost his superior strength, succeeded in turning Decatur, and, getting upon him, held him to the deck with an iron clutch of his left hand, whilst, thrusting his right beside him, he drew from his sash the shorter of two yataghans, which, for the very purpose of such close work, he carried in the same sheath. The moments of Decatur's existence seemed numbered; scarce an interval remained to breathe a prayer for mercy

in another world; a second brother was about to perish beneath the rage of the fierce Tripolitan. But the cool courage and fertile resources of Decatur came to his rescue in this extremity. Disengaging his left hand, he caught the right of the Tripolitan, stayed the yataghan as it was about to drink his blood, and, thrusting his own right hand into his pantaloons' pocket, succeeded in cocking a pistol, which he had there, and, giving it the proper direction, fired. The Tripolitan relaxed his hold, and Decatur, disengaging himself from the heap of wounded and slain, which the struggle had gathered around him, stood again that day a victor on the enemy's deck.†

*Some have said this noble act of self-devotion was performed by Daniel Frazer, which left the name of the individual somewhat uncertain. See a notice of Reuben James, in the Appendix.

†The above version of this celebrated struggle, which has in other places been narrated somewhat differently, is derived from Messrs. J. K. Hamilton and Francis Gurney Smith, early companions of Decatur, who, feeling a natural curiosity to learn the true history of the adventure, drew from Decatur himself the statement imbodied in the text. On the body of the Tripolitan, or rather Turk, (for the officers, like the Bashaw, were from Constantinople,) a devotional work was found, containing Arabic prayers and passages from the Koran. This work has, since the death of Decatur, been presented by Mrs. Decatur to the library of the Catholic College in Georgetown, where it may now be seen by the curious.

[NR&L. No. 9516, Bn[1] D 291 M.]

Surgeons Report of wounded on board the Gunboat N[o] 4, Lt: Decatur, junr: Esqr: Commander. Aug[t] 3[d] 1804.

Capt: Decatur, wounded slightly in the arm.
Sj[t] Sal: Wren burnt & slightly wounded in the hand.
Tho[s] James, superficial puncture in the face.
D[n]l Frashier, two incised wounds on the head, one of them severe; one bad wound across the wrist & seven slightly about his hands.

LEWIS HEERMANN.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

[Gun Boat] N[o] 4 expended on Aug[t] 3. 1804

19 — 24 [lb] Cartreges
11 — D[o] Round Shott
5 — D[o] Grape
3 — Bags Musquts Balls
19 — Wadds —
19 — Tubes
½ [lb] Priming Powder
25 — Doz. Musquet & Pistol cartriges
8 — Blunder bus cartriges
2 — Men wounded

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7 [lb] — 108 [lb] Powder
12 Round Shot
24 Wads
12 Tubes —

Rec[d] a shot in the Hull. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

Expended on board Gun Boat N^{o} 6 3rd August 1804

15 — 24 ^{lb} Cartredges
15 — 24 ^{lb} Round Shot
10 — 24 ^{lb} Grape
60 — Musket Cartredges
3 — Fathom Match Rope
25 — Wads
1½ — ^{lb}Priming Powder

JN^{o} TRIPPE

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

[3 August 1804]

List of wounded on board gun boat N^{o} 6 — in the attack of the 3^{d} Ins't:

Lieut: J. Trippe
C. Allan — B. Mate
M. Connor Marine
J. Ryan D^{o}

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

[3 August 1804]

Statement of Jacob Boston concerning his service and movements of U. S. Ships in the Mediterranean

In the year 1803 in March, I entered the United States Service in Philadelphia and some time in May, I was ordered to Baltimore under the command of Capt. Hall and Lieut Johnson of the marine corps, the detachment was divided, and I left with Lieut Johnson at baltimore, Where I was appointed as sargent of the marines and was Stationed at the navy yard with a guard of marines. Whilst the brig *Vixen* was fitting for sea, then I was ordered aboard of her with a detachment of marines under the command of Capt Smith. In August 1803, we sailed for hampton roads, then to Gibraltar where we fell in with Our american Squadron. Capt Smith replenished the ship with water and provisions, then sailed for Malta, where we fell in with the *Philadelphia* frigate, then sailed for tripoli in order to blockade harbour, we arrived at tripoli in october 1803, here we soon received information that a tripolitan cruiser had escaped from the port, Capt. Bainbridge dispatched us to cruis off cape bon in quest of her, after cruising several days we were forced to put in to harbour on account of a violent storm where we unship'd our ruder and injured the bottom of our ship, we repaired our damages, then sailed to Malta, where we got information that the *Philadelphia* frigate were taken by the tripolitans then we immediately [sailed] for tripoli, where we found her moored in the harbour to our surprise, we continued Cruising off there for Several weeks, then returned to Syracuse where we found our comadore with the rest of the Squadron, in a couple of weeks afterwards we sailed for tripoli in company with the *Syren* where we drove a tripolitan ship on shore west of the town which we distroyed, after a cruis of six weeks we returned for Syracuse, where we replenished our ship with water and provisions and then was ordered to take another cruise for tripoli, where we took two tripolitan ships that were bound

for Constantinople which were loded with slaves, animals, and four boxes of gold dust, which we carried into Malta. In the Spring it being determined to make an attacht upon tripoli; Comodore Preble uptained from the king of naples the loan of Six gunboats and two bombards which he formed into divisions, and give the command of one of them to Capt. Decatur, the other to Lieut Sommers, the Squadron Saild from Syracuse consisting the frigate *Constitution*, the brig *Syren*, the Schooner, *Nautilus* and the *Vixen* and gunboats and bombards, having arrived on the coast of barbary, they were for some days prevented from making the attack'd by adverse winds and weather, at length the morning of the Second of August the weather being favorable, the signal was made from the Commanders ship, to prepare for action Sargent Migs and me were ordered aboard the gunboat with ten marines under the command of Lieut. Trip, the *Vixon* towing us to the windward, at nine O'clock the Signal was made for bombarding the town and to engage the enemies vessels, the gunboats was cast off, and advanced in a line ahead, lead on by Capt. Decatur, and covered by the other Vessels, the enemies gunboats were moored along the mouth of the harbour under the battery and within musket Shott, and was ordered to sink rather than abandon their positions they were aided and covered by a brig and schooner and the battery, as soon as we came in range of the battery, a heavy fire was opened upon us we returned their fires and continued advancing until we came in musket shot of the gunboats, where we fired on them five rounds of musketry Which were so well directed by the marines, which caused them to haul down their colours, by this time we came along side, and boarded her on her Starboard bow, Lieut. Trip gave orders to M[r] Henly to run to the (lewrd) and take another that were there, we not expecting any further resistance there being only ten marines that boarded and Lieut Trip and one Sea men of all Which were americans, the enemies Seeing our boat put off a heavy combat ensued with the turks and us, in fifteen minutes we cleared the deck of them, Eight Sought refuge in the holds And the[y] fell and Jumped over board the number Supposed to be thirty, Lieut Trip and the Turkish Capt. were the two last in combat Lieut. Trip fell, I sprang to his assistance, where I contended with the turk for several minutes Where I broke my sword and had but eighteen inches of blade. I sought shelter round the mast and was warmly persued by the turk. I cried out my sword was broke to Lieut Trip that he could give me his, by this time the Lieut. had come too, and made a pass at the turk he fended it off, which gave me a chance to cut him down with my broken sword. Our hands were engaged in killing them that had Jumped over board, we then prevented them immediately and saved the lives of seven, our boat had got so far to the lewrd, that She could not come to our assistance. The comadore made signal for retreat. The boats all retreated and we were left in a helpless State and became an entire mark for the enemy. With what few hands we had, we got out our Sweeps, and rode her out as fast as possible, at this time there was a cannon ball passed my shoulders within six inches or less, that blackened the skin, which ball passed through the mast, the comadore came down, and we had got nearly out of gun shot by that time, he asked us if we would wish to be taken into tow, Lieut. Trip, Answered no, we should make our way out, the comadore poured several brode sides into the town which drawed their attention on him, and we made safe our re-

treat, the next day the Comadore ordered a day of rest and sent all the turkish prisoners that were dangerously wounded, Likewise touled the Bashaw that he should prepare himself for the next day, we also engaged the town the next day, where we lost two of our gunboats that were blowed up by the enemies fire, we also continued besiegeing the town for nearly a month untill Col. Lear appeared off the harbour to negotiate a peace with the Bashaw, a treaty was at last concluded between the two nations, and the Americans and Tripolitans prisoners were Exchanged and the Sum of Sixty thousand dollars were given to the Bashaw which I always felt sorrow for. From thence we sailed for tunis and blockaded the harbour there. We got our consul out and took off the tribute After affairs being settled there, we Sailed to Algiers and then to gibraltar where the *Vixen* was Stationed to convoy merchant ships up and down the straits, as it was a very difaculty time there then, for England France and Spain being at war with one another at that time, after a long and tedious cruise the *Vixen* returned to America which was upwards of three years or more. We arrived at Charlestown South Carolina Being about a week there then we sailed for Hampton roads and from thence to the City of Washington where I was discharged in the year 1806. — then I retired to a private life untill the late war with great Brittian. I volunteerd my service again in defence of my Country, Where I rendered my utmost service, till I was discharged.

JACOB BOSTON.

[VA. OW Inv. 146.]

[3 and 7 August 1804]

To Mrs. Keith Spence, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, from Midshipman Robert T. Spence, U. S. Navy

GIBRALTAR, *November 12, 1804*

DEAR HONOURED AND RESPECTED MOTHER: I wrote you from Malta, on the 6th ultimo, mentioning the late change thats taken place in my situation; and advis'd you of our intention to leave that place for a few days. On our arrival we found the *Essex* Frigate which ship I intend joining. Capt Stephen Decatur is to succeed Capt Barron, in the Command of her. This Capt Decatur is a friend of my Father's no doubt you have heard of him by fame; he Commanded the expedition in burning the *Philadelphia* & for which he was promoted to a post Captain although greatly out of his turn — He since has done an action, which by far exceeds the brilliancy of that; it perhaps for intrepidity & Courage equalls any thing ever done; In the Action of the 3 of August he entered with his division of Gun Boats (which was only 3) the Harbour of Tripoli under the fire of 60 pieces of heavy Cannon from the Batteries & 20 pieces from their Gun Boats — boarded, himself, & brought out 2, Mounting each superior forces & carrying a greater number of men. A Circumstance were you present to see it done you could hardly conceive it credible. In this affair he lost his brother Lieut James Decatur, who Commanded a boat of his brothers division he was shot through the head with a Dundebuss in the Act of boarding a boat — One boat more was brought out by a Lieut Tripp who received 11 dangerous wounds in boarding (he's recovered of them). The Capt of this boat died in the most Heroic Manner. Although cut all to pieces by the Assailants swords he

continued to fight; Lieut Tripp, who encounter'd him, was almost falling with weakness from the loss of Blood; when one of his sailors run him through with a Boarding Pike. He died brandishing his Sword & exhorting his men to revenge the death of their Commander. The Contest was long, 20 Turks lay weltering in their Gore, before they surrendered to the Americans. Out of 170 men, which man'd the Boats, 50 only were captured alive. The day following we brought too a French privateer & sent her in with 25 woonded Turks; they were past recovery. The next Action, the Boat I was in, Commanded by Lieut Caldwell, was Blown up. The Lieut, with a midshipman and 14 men, out 24, were kill'd. I, astonishing to relate, & 6 men escaped. 4 of the men in so wounded a condition that their lives, at first, were despair'd of. It was my Conduct on this occasion that got me my Promotion. I, at the time the shot struck, was forward, taking sight at the Gun; though not a minute before I had been aft, assisting in binding up the woonded. It being a red hot shot, she instantly exploded; I went up some distance in the air, & lighted by the Gun again; the only part remaining was that on which the Gun stood. I found by my side, one man only. Around me lay arms, legs, & trunks of Bodies, in the most mutilated state; though a little confused & bewilder'd by things tumbling on my head, & by the prospect of death before me; for I cannot swim, I had presence of mind sufficient to know my duty, & not to quitt while there was a part remaining. I fired the Gun, & loaded her again. When she went down from under me I gave a cheer and went down — came up again; when I was taken up by one of the other Gun Boats — I cannot describe my sensations, on this melancholy Occasion — I felt as though I wish'd to die, because I should die Nobly — This accident will distress my Father much, as Mr. Caldwell he look'd on as a Son, & loved him equally as well as he does me; in fact I never knew so pure, and so strong a friendship to subsist between any two men. He certainly was the most honourable little fellow I ever knew, & the most respected of any young man in the Navy — My Father in a letter from Washington to me says thus, "Remember me to my oldest of all Modern Friends Mr. Caldwell." You may judge from this language how fond he was of him. Young Dorsey was a man of great Merit & highly esteem'd by me. I saw Mr. C. after he came down, without arms, or legs; his face so mutilated that I could not discriminate a feature — by his dress only, I recognized him; he was not dead although he sank instantly — I made another escape as astonishing as this. I made application, as well as Capt Stew't for me, to go in to the Harbour of Tripoli, in an Infernal, containing 150 Barrels of Powder & 300 shells, for the purpose of blowing the Bashaws Castle up; this expedition was Commanded by Capt Sumers — I received no direct answer, from the Commodore, & of course, expected to go; but a favorite of the Commodores, persuaded him, to allow *him* to go. Capt Decatur then made Application for me; But the Commodore reply'd he had already selected the officer, that was to go with Capt Sumers; the Night came — She went in, all were anxious with expectation when Cannon announced her near approach to the Castle. Cannon were fired from all parts of the town. In a few moments she went up — How awfully Grand! Every thing wrapp'd in Dead silence, made the explosion loud, and terrible, the fuses of the shells, burning in the air, shone like so many planets, a vast stream of fire, which appear'd ascending to heaven portrayed the

Walls to our view — 20 minutes elapsed, without seeing the signal agreed on, between Capt S & the Commodore. Guns were fir'd from the Commodores ship; signals repeated by the different vessels — our small schooners sent to reconnoiter the Harbour — but no Boat appear'd. Poor Sumers a Lieut & a midshipman were gone, no more to return! We conjectured the explosion to have been premature; it has since been confirm'd by information from Tripoli. He was within the Rocks, & only ½ mile distant from the Bashaws Castle, when he was boarded by two Gun Boats, 50 men each, — He might have escap'd; but he started with a determination never to let so seasonable a supply fall into their Hands; & never to return alive unless he had, satisfactorily, executed his mission. He touched fire himself to match & she went up, sending 100 Turks and 15 Christians souls to eternity. What a Noble Death, & truly characteristic of that Noble Sumers. He certainly was an extraordinary man. He united every thing that made the man, or the officer — possessing more firmness & determination than any man I ever saw — sought danger in every shape — dangerous undertakings were the most pleasing ones to him. In loosing him we were deprived of one of the Navys most valuable officers. The Lieut with him was a schoolmate of William'shis name was Wadsworth, of Portland.

Much will be done the ensuing Summer. Our force will be formidable. I shall expect the command of a Gun Boat. I hope an oportunity may offer that I may do something conspicuous. It's impossible to conceive that spirit of emulation which prevails among officers & men; danger is sought for, & the most daring intrepidity has been discover'd, in officers. Commodore P. has been succeeded by Commodore Barron, a senior officer; But in the most delicate manner. The letters from the President, to him, are of the most flattering kind, pointing out the necessity of this Act. He returns to America soon, to receive the grateful applause of his Countrymen. He certainly deserves *all* the Honours they can pay him, & more too. His conduct in Bombarding Tripoli with so *pitiful* force has astonished all Europe.

Your affec son,

R. T. SPENCE.

[U. S. Naval Institute Proceedings, April 1923, p 627.]

[3 August 1804]

To whom not indicated from Purser Noadiah Morris, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*,
off Tripoli, *7th September, 1804*

DEAR SIR, I improve the opportunity of the prize Brig *Scourge's* going to the United States, to give you an abstract of the proceedings of the American squadron before Tripoli, since the *25th of July*, at which time the *Constitution, Vixen* and *Nautilus* arrived from Malta towing six gun, and two mortar boats, and was joined on this station, by the *Syren, Argus, Scourge* and *Enterprize*.

— *27th* [*July*] all the squadron came to anchor near the town of Tripoli, and all hands employed in preparing for a general attack, but was obliged a few hours afterwards to get under way, the wind having veered to the N. E. and blowing a heavy gale on shore, we stood off, and could not again approach the coast till the *3d of August*, when being within three miles of the town, wind S. E., the signal was made

for action, and you can hardly conceive with what promptitude the several preparative signals were answered and executed. At half past two the action was general, the *Constitution* within musket shot of the Batteries, which could bring eighty pieces of heavy cannon to bear on her, the bombards in a position to send all their shells into the town, and the six gun boats covered by our brigs and schooners bravely engaging nineteen gunboats, two gallies, a schooner and a brig within the harbour, and in pistol shot of the Bashaw's castle; in the heat of this doubtful conflict, the intrepid Captain Decatur with his division of three boats, bore down on a division of the enemies boats seven in number, and fought them hand to hand under the walls of their castles, and in view of twenty-four thousand Arab and Turkish soldiers, and hauled down four of their flags, three of which boats were brought out, the other boat got into the Mole, after treacherously killing Lt. James Decatur after their flag was struck.

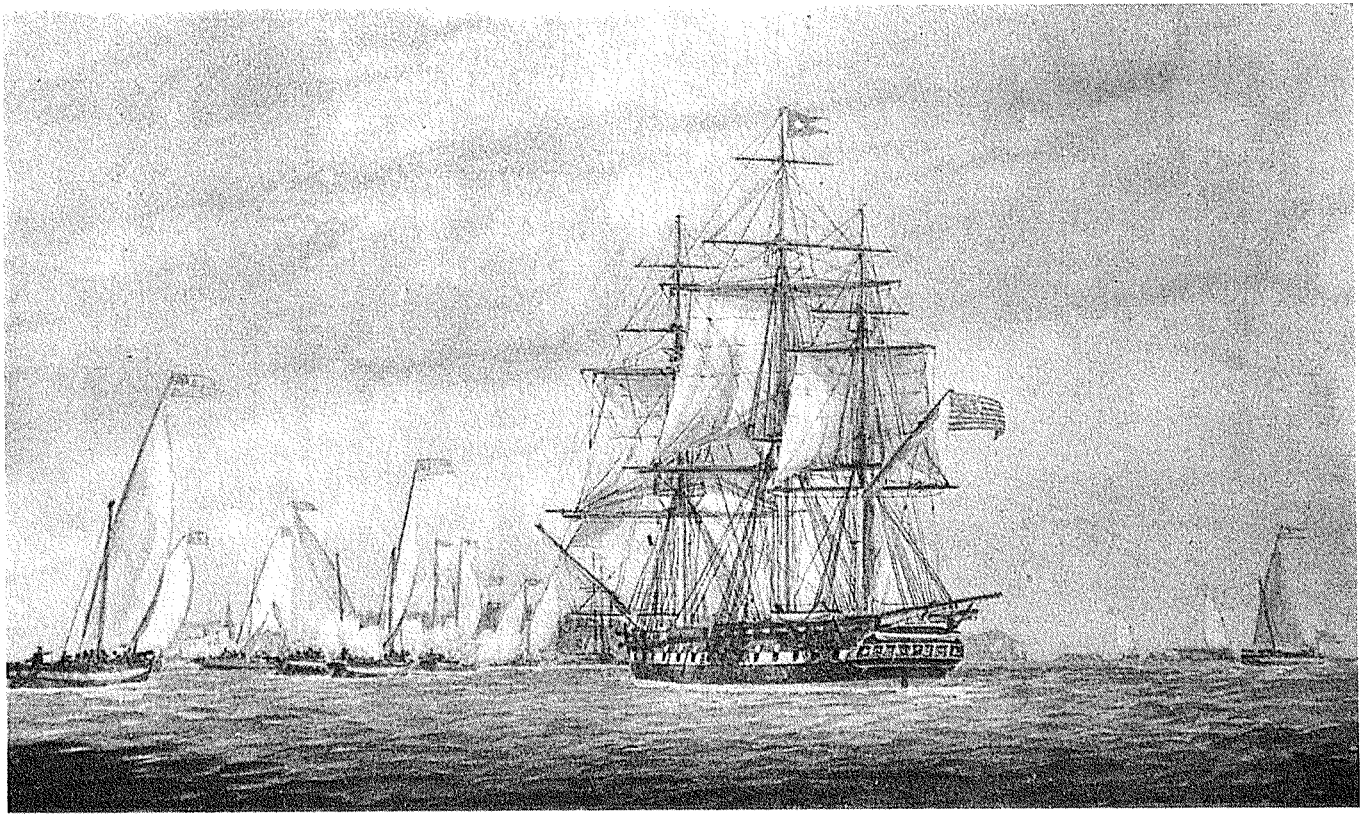
Capt. Somers who commanded the leeward division of three boats was equally intrepid, but not so successful. One of his boats was disabled early in the action, and another from some almost unaccountable reason, did not come into close action; but this brave officer alone attacked five of the enemies' boats, and obliged them to haul off, and run into the Mole, where all their boats had taken shelter in a shattered condition, and we have since learned, with a great proportion of men killed or wounded — we must account for this great slaughter from their boats being full of men, and our boats reserving their fire 'till close along side, and their guns loaded with forty pounds of musket balls each — the three boats captured were mounted with new brass Spanish pieces 13 feet long, and carrying a ball of 28 pounds — the carnage on board them was very great, out of 52 prisoners one half were covered with sabre and pike wounds. Capt. Decatur boarded and carried two of them and received but one slight wound, though his life was twice saved by his gallant tars. Lt. Trippe boarded and carried the others, but received eleven sabre wounds, none of which however proved mortal; he is again at his duty.

Never was there a more complete victory — to recount every instance of personal bravery would be to name almost every officer in the squadron. — The Turks were driven from their batteries in the greatest terrour and confusion; and I think I may say with propriety, that since Charles the 5th of Austria never have any of the Barbary States met with so severe a check.

The *Constitution* suffered some in her spars, sails and rigging, a shot in the center of her mainmast I fear has done it considerable injury; it has been strongly fished.

Fourth, 5th and 6th in continual preparation for battle, but weather unfavourable. The wind to the Northward of East, heaves such a swell on shore as to make it improper to attack.

7th wind favourable but the Tripoline gun boats &c. not inclined to give us battle, our gun boats now nine in number and two bombards, ran in and attacked the town to the Westward, in order to entice the enemies' boats out, but without effect — they however sustained a heavy fire for four hours from the town forts, and a severe gun battery on the beach, which they succeeded in silencing — the two bombards commanded by Capt. Dent and Lt. Robinson, did great execution in the town — one of our prize boats unfortunately blew up; and Lieutenant Caldwell who commanded her, Mr. Dorsey, midshipman



ATTACK ON TRIPOLI, 3 AUGUST 1804.

and seventeen men lost their lives — a Mr. Sprague [Spence] midshipman and ten men who were stationed forward, to load and fire the gun, were not injured, and while all the stern of the boat was blown off, and actually sinking, they finished loading their gun, and just in the act of touching the match, the boat sunk under their feet, while this brave young officer, and his gallant comrades, gave three cheers, and plunged into the sea, but they were fortunately all saved by the small boats. Independent of those which were blown up, we had but two men killed and several wounded during this action, at the close of which the *John Adams* hove in sight.

On the *8th* there were overtures made by the Bashaw through the French Consul for an accommodation — but before I give you these proposals, it will be well to take a retrospect of circumstances which precede this event. — Several months past at the intercession of our Minister at Paris, Bonaparte was induced to interfere for the liberation of our prisoners in Tripoli, and about the same time, the Court of St. Petersburg, interceded thro' the medium of the Ottoman Porte for the same purpose; but with the intercession of these two most powerful Governments in Europe, a ransom could only be obtained, but by the payment of 500,000 dollars down at the liberation of the prisoners. These were the only terms this haughty Bashaw could accede to, and induced there was a great deal of acrimony, between the French Consul at Tripoli (who was the mediator) and Commodore Preble because the latter would not honour these terms with his immediate coincidence, which he contended would be thought honourable by the greatest maritime powers in Europe. But our intrepid Commander determined to oppose to this unwarrantable demand, the emulative bravery of his Officers and Seamen: and the event proved the fallacy of the idea, that these Barbarians were invincible, for in the short space of seven days our little squadron fought off 350,000 dollars of this insolvent demand — Yes Sir, peace and ransom were offered for 150,000 dollars — by which you will discover the contest ceased to be a point of honour; nothing was asked for peace or tribute, of course it became a point of humanity — the 150,000 dollars ought to have been given, without hesitation, and so it would, had not the *JohnAdams* at this moment arrived, and announced the coming of four more Frigates, for the declared purpose of dictating terms to these barbarians. Our Commander not knowing the expectations of Government on this head, could not accede to these terms at the moment such force was expected. The consequences that would have attended such a measure were but too obvious; the conclusion would be, that if our frigate could command these terms, five would certainly force a peace and ransom for little or nothing — But for my part I cannot but think, that the only alternative left our Gallant Commander, was an unfortunate one, and I firmly believe that altogether they will not command much better terms — under these peculiar and disagreeable circumstances, Commodore Preble could not accede to the terms with honour to himself. But he offered twenty thousand dollars as a present in addition to eight thousand which he had previously offered (and was rejected with disdain both by the Bashaw, and French Consul) but this offer was not acceeded to, and we have since the *7th* of August been constantly prepared for action, and as often as the weather would permit been under the batteries of Tripoli. You can form no idea of the

rigour of this service, officers and men are worn out for want of necessary rest — never was there a greater emulation in any service, no altercation but what has arisen from who should have the most chances of meeting danger and death. We have repeatedly driven the Turks from their batteries, have attacked their boats &c. at their moorings, and sunk many of them, and in fact no means by which they could be distressed have been neglected. We have in all, between 40 and 50 Seamen and Marines killed and six officers, as follows — Capt. Somers of the *Nautilus*, Lieut. James Decatur of the *Nautilus*, Caldwell of the *Siren*, Wadsworth of the *Constitution*, Israel of the prize Ketch *Intrepid*, and Midshipman Dorsey of the *Siren*. This loss is severe from the uncommon merits of the officers; but it cannot be considered as a large number when we reflect that we have been exposed to the fire of 115 pieces of heavy cannon from the different Castles and Forts of Tripoli; a brig, a schooner, two gallies and nineteen gun-boats — The squadron generally have suffered in their rigging, and sails and spars; the *Constitution* has received upwards of 40 heavy shots, besides a great number of Grape.

It is peculiarly unfortunate that the *John Adams* left her gun carriages on board the squadron at Hampton Roads, to be brought out by them; had she brought them out herself there is not a shadow of doubt but we should have effected a ransom and peace within 48 hours after her arrival, and for the last mentioned sum of 100,000 dollars. One frigate besides the *Constitution* at that moment would have been fully competent to the accomplishment of so desirable an object, but the *J. A.* was of no service: the Commodore however received great support from the Commander Capt. Chauncy, who volunteered with a number of his officers and men on board the *Constitution* and gun-boats — The squadron have been daily and hourly expected since her arrival but have not yet made their appearance; and the Commodore has found himself under the necessity this day of returning the gun and bomb vessels to the King of Naples, as the weather has become boisterous, and too uncertain for boats of their small draft of water on a lee shore, that have no other shelter than the stern of our vessels, which would be found insufficient to save them in a Northerly gale, which we have great reason to expect on the seas, approaching the Equinox, independent of which, we have expended nearly all our ammunition.

It is impossible to ascertain how many of the enemy have been killed during these several engagements, but I think I may safely say thousands — and the Bashaw has only been deterred from acceding to the last mentioned terms, from a belief that our gun and bomb boats could not keep the coast much longer — that Tripoli has been reduced to the last extremity there is no doubt, and I am sanguine in my opinion that if the Frigates arrive soon, we may yet have a peace this fall.

We are informed that government is fully apprized of the merits of our commander and that they have given frequent and unquestionable proofs of their approbation. Yet the officers of this squadron cannot but regret the necessity of superceding him in a command which has reflected so much honour on his country by the intrepidity which has marked all his measures, and for the field which he has opened for his young officers, to assert and support the innate principles of Americans, and which cannot fail of impressing all Europe

with sentiments of the highest respect for our growing naval characters.

I have entered so fully into the operations of our Commodore, for these six weeks past, that I hope to be excused for adverting to ma[n]y circumstances, previous to this sanguinary warfare, in my opinion equally honourable to his country and himself. You have been fully apprized of the honourable peace he made with Morocco— our government generously approbated his conduct, and I can only observe, that this event has been brought about by his ready conception of the Turkish characters, which has been but too long mistaken, however the Commodore's object accomplished he lost no time in sailing to join the *Philadelphia* and *Vixen* in the blockade of Tripoli; between Algiers and Malta, he met the unwelcome news of the loss of that frigate, which wrested from him almost a certainty of making the same honourable peace with Tripoli, that he had a few days before made with Morocco — This unfortunate event placed our affairs with that regency in quite a different point of view; and the Commodore shifted his course for Syracuse which was previously fixed upon as a place of rendezvous for the Squadrons and deposit of provisions. We arrived there the last of November, and after procuring the necessary stores and arsenals sailed for the coast of Tripoli, where we encountered heavy gales of wind, and a tremendous swell setting on shore, but on the 23d of December, we captured a vessel with a number of Tripolines on board, among which were some officers of distinction, after this we returned to Syracuse, and the Commodore embarked on board the *Vixen* for Malta, for the purpose of getting some Turkish letters translated and to fix on some plan of supplying our unfortunate countrymen in Tripoli with money and other necessaries; from which however they were long witheld either thro' the . . . . or . . . . of the American Consul at that place — It was during the time the Commodore was at Malta that indirect proposals were made him for the ransom of our prisoners for 400 dollars each, and the restoration of the *Philadelphia* for a schooner. Of this circumstance I see (by the newspapers) the publick are apprized, and I presume ere this that they are informed of what followed — It was by mere chance while at Malta, that the Commodore learned that this pretended desire for an accommodation, was nothing less than a deep laid scheme to prevent any plan he might have formed for the destruction of that Frigate, until they had carried into effect, a contract then existing between the Bashaw of Tripoli, and Bey of Tunis, the nature of which was, that the Bey of Tunis was to give two Xebecks of 24 guns each for the frigate *Philadelphia* at her moorings in the harbour of Tripoli, where he was to send officers and seamen from his regency and bring her out under Tunisian Colours; of the truth of this, I believe Doctor Davis (then charge of affairs at that regency) will readily subscribe to — The Commodore convinced of this pernicious design sailed immediately for Syracuse, when he formed the plan for the destruction of that frigate which was so nobly executed by the gallant Decatur. — This event is attended with greater and better consequences than will naturally occur to those who are not acquainted with the particular relative situation of the Barbary states — The main force of Tunis (which is but too large already) would have been augmented by a valuable frigate while that of Tripoli would have had an addition of two large Xebecks,

completely armed and while the squadron were blockading Tripoli they would have sailed from Tunis unsuspected, and ere we had been apprised of the circumstance, the commerce of the United States would have suffered incalculable injury, as they would have been permitted to carry their prizes into either Algiers or Tunis — The existence of these States depend in a very great degree on each other — that their manners and customs are the same, there is no question, and that their strength and arrogance has rather proceeded from the duplicity of the Maritime powers of Europe, than from any superiority in bravery or enterprize is equally certain.

The truth of this has been fully demonstrated by our small squadron. The Americans have conquered them, hand to hand, one to five; and they have reduced the insolent demand of the redoubtable Bashaw to the standard of reason.

Soon after the destruction of the *Philadelphia*, the movements of the Tunisians, wore the appearance of hostility towards our commerce. Commodore Preble in the course of the spring, was three times in Tunis Bay — to the impression of this vigilance and the efficient operations against Tripoli, are we at this moment indebted for his Beyship's forbearance — it is a fact that the Bey of Tunis has it in his power to injure our commerce more fatally than any other State, they have sixty four crusiers and ten gun boats, as follows.

1 Frigate of 36 guns ready for launching.
1 do. of 36 do. ready for sea.
2 Xebec's of 36 do. do. do.
1 do. of 32 do. do. do.
9 do. from 30 to 24 guns each ready for sea.
10 do. from 16 to 12 do. do. do. do.
10 do. from 10 to 6 do. do. do. do.
30 gallies from 1 to 2 guns each, carrying from 30 to 40 men.
10 gun boats carrying 50 men each.

Independent of which, their position is infinitely more favourable to success than Algiers or Tripoli — I would refer you to the Mediterranean Chart, where you will discover that its continuity to the principal maritime ports in the sea, fully justifies the idea.

Commodore Preble's exertions have not been confined simply to the prosecution of war against these barbarians; for while at Naples, negotiating for the gun and mortar boats, he found that our Commerce at that place, was shackled with the most injurious requisitions — American vessels without distinction of place, or time they left the United States, were obliged to perform a rigorous quarantine of 40 days, after which they are obliged to manifest their cargoes under the most unprecedented restrictions — the commodore presented a memorial to the Neapolitan Government placing this grievance in its true light, contrasting it with commercial privileges other nations had with them, from which we were unjustly excluded — the consequence of this statement was that he had the firmest assurances, that America should have equal privileges with the most favoured nations — whether these honourable intentions are carried into effect, I cannot say, but I am persuaded that from the influence the Commodore has acquired by his correspondence and exertions, will ensure many important advantages to the commercial interests of his country, as it respects the Barbary affairs — a ransom of our prisoners once effected, there is not the most distant idea of their provoking another contest, for in this the Regency of Tripoli is impoverished to the last

degree and experience has taught them that they are not invulnerable to American intrepidity.

N. MORRIS

[NHF.]

[3 August 1804]

Presumably Neapolitans serving with U. S. Squadron

GUN BOAT Nº 1

Padrone Guardiano	Tommaso Procida	
3d Capo	Guiseppe San Filippe	Casato
Appuntatore	Antonio Migliore	Casato
2d Classe	Guiseppe Parzieri	
3 dº	Giacomo Candela	
Marº di 3dº	Raffaile Criscuolo	Casato
	Catiello Battimiello	Casato
	Guiseppe Pace	
	Pasquale Artiuno [?]	
	Guiseppe Percuece [?]	
	Vincenso Sposito d'Giov	Casato
	Raffaile Sposito	
	Bartolomeo Favaruolo	
	Pasquale Sposito Di Giov.	
4th Classe	Giovanni Isace	
	Guiseppe Caravello	

GUN BOAT Nº 2

Padrone Guardiano	Ancello Santa lamaechia	Casato
3d Capo	Givacchino Raja	Casato
Appuntatore	Vincenzo Mirabilo	
2nd Clº	Giovanni Stajano	
3rd Clº	Francesco Angelene	
Marº di 3dº	Biaggio Messina	Casato
	Scipione Morgera	
	Fedele Donnarumena [?]	Casato
	Antonio Apuzza	
	Nicola Raffone	
	Domenico Tasulo	
	Tommaso Torte	Casato
	Luigi Raspacele	
	Domenico Ricciardo	
	Antonio Cutulillo	Casato
	Antonio Tricoli	Casato

GUN BOAT Nº 3

Padrone Guardiano	Salvatore Scuada	
Appuntatore	Givacchino Zaraffa	
	Pasquale Nobilione	Casato
2º Clº	Gaetano Luongo	
3 dº	Francesco Sacco	
Marº di 3dº	Antonio Fariello	
	Antonio Sposito	Casato
	Guiseppe Cingolla	
	Domenico De Simone	
	Tommaso Arrito	Casato
	Domenico Candelo	Casato
	Salvatore Donnarumena [?]	
	Guiseppe Aveta	
	Felice Bongiorno	
	Guiseppe La Cava	
	Vincenzo Persico	

GUN BOAT Nº 4

Captured the Tripoline Boat

Padrone Guardiano	Ottavio Talanga	Casato
Appuntatore	Giovanni Pizzarello	Casato
2 Clº	Antonio Salpietro	
	Agostino Tortora	Casato
	Guiseppe Raja	
Marº di 3d Clº	Giovanni Regina	Casato
	Gaetano Terrigno	
	Girolamo Castellaccio	
	Francesco Antº Migliaccio	
	Pasquale Mirro	Casato
	Mariano di Martino	
	Raffaele di Paola	
	Guiseppe di Alessandro	
	Tommaso Sposito	
	Francesco Sposito	
	Pasquale Magliano	Casato

GUN BOAT Nº 5

Padrone Guardiano	Giovanni Romitiello	Casato
2nd Capo	Francesco di Elia	Casato
3d Clº	Pasquale di Leva	
	Antonio Muollo	Casato
	Domenico Molica	
Marº di 3d Clº	Antonio Rotunno	Casato
	Gennaro di Palma	
	Arcangelo Casteliaccio	
	Pasquale Nobilione	Casato
	Giovanni Curcio	Casato
	Antonio di Lorenzo	
	Antonio di Fino	Casato
	Antonio Santoro	Casato
	Rajine Jacono	Casato
	Geremia Palle	
4th Clº	Tommasco Geri	

GUN BOAT Nº 6

Captured a Tripoline Boat

Padrone Guardiano	Genaro Salemo	Casato
Appuntatore	Filippe Cafarello	Casato
3d Clº	Diego Sciarrone	
	Guiseppe Sinagra	
	Andrea Burrello	
Marº di 3d Clº	Caleguo Cristino	Casato
	Antonio Portelli	
	Guiseppe Cesario	
	Giacomo Cesario	
	Domenico Basile	
	Francesco di Martino	Casato
	Michele Pinelli	
	Vincenzo Fiorentino	
	Carmine Apreo	Casato
4th Clº	Carto Castellano	
	Michelangelo Cristino	

[Maine HS. NDA photostat.]

Recognition of Gallant Conduct of Personnel in Action of 3 August 1804 by Commodore Preble

GENERAL ORDERS

The Gallant behaviour of the Officers Seamen & Marines of the Squadron in the Action of Yesterday, with the Enemies Batteries, Gun Boats and Corsairs, claim from the Commodore the warmest approbation and praise he can bestow —

Captain Stewart of the *Siren*, Captain Hull of the *Argus*, Captain Smith of the *Vixen*, will please to accept the Commodores thanks for the Gallant Manner in which they brought their Vessels into action, and for their prompt obedience to Signals, particularly that to cover Gun Boats and prizes —

Captain Somers will please to accept the Commodores thanks for the Gallant Conduct, display'd by him, in attacking five of the enemies Gun Boats, within musket Shot of the Batteries, and obliging them to retreat after a warm conflict —

The very distinguished judgment and intrepidity of CaptainDecatur in leading his Division of Gun boats into Action, in boarding, capturing & bringing out from under the Enemies Batteries, two of their Gun Boats each of superior force, is particularly gratifying to the Commodore, and Captain Decatur will be pleased to accept his thanks —

Lieut. Command[t] Dent, and Lieut[t] Robinson, commanding the Two Bomb Vessels, are entitled to the thanks of the Commodore for the judgment & Bravery display'd by them, in placing their Vessels, and for the annoyance they gave the enemy —

Lieut[t] Lawrence of the *Enterprize* and Lieutenant Read of the *Nautilus* (commanding those Vessels in the absence of their Captains) merit the Commodores thanks for their active exertions in towing out and protecting prizes —

The Commodore deeply regrets the Death of Lieut[t] James Decatur, who nobly fell at the moment he had obliged an enemy of superior force to strike to him —

Lieut[t] Bainbridge's Conduct in pressing into the Harbour, and engaging the enemy, and his conduct through the action, merits and receives the Commodores thanks. —

Lieut[t] Trippe will be pleased to accept thanks for the Gallant conduct which distinguished him, in boarding, capturing, and bringing off, one of the enemies Gun Boats of Superior Force —

I have now to tender my warmest thanks to the Lieutenants, Sailing Master, Marine Officers & other Officers of the *Constitution*, for the prompt support I received from them —

The Conduct of the Officers Seamen and Marines of the Squadron, have not only in the Action of the 3[rd] Instant, but on every other Occasion, merited the highest encomiums —

Given on board the UNITED STATES
Ship *Constitution* at Anchor off
Tripoli the 4[th] day of Aug[t] 1804.

Signed EDW[d] PREBLE

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

Expended of[f] tr'epli august 3 1804

Fired 109 — 24 Prs ..... Powder 848 lb
D° Round Shot 24 Prs — 130
Grape unknown
Canister unknown
Double hd unknown

12 Prs Fired 61 ..... Powder 240 lb
Round Shot 61
Grape unknown
Canister unknown
Double hed unknown

25 Prs 20 — Powder ..... 120 lb
Round Shot ..... 20 N°
Grape unknown

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

[3 August 1804]

[NOTE: Concerning Daniel Frazier, seaman, in Gunboat No. 4 during the attack of Commodore Preble's squadron, in the U. S. pension records is a certificate granting a pension of $9.00 per month to begin 7 December, 1805, to be issued to Daniel Frazier. Another certificate dated 21 February, 1838, sworn to by *Edward North*, indicates that his brother *James North* on entering the service of the U. S. Navy in 1802 changed his name to *Daniel Frazier*. He died in New York about April 22, 1833. Although he suffered from his wounds until his death, there are several affidavits in the pension records indicating that he did not at any time claim his pension.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 3 August 1804

Throughout these 24 Hours moderate Gales and fine Weather — At 1 P. M. saw two Sails to the Southward standing to the Northward — At 4 Pantalaria bore W. b. S. at 6 it bore W ½ N. — At Day light saw several Sail in Different Directions — At 9 A M saw the Island of Gozo bearing S. S E distant about 8 or 9 Leagues — At Meredian the End of Gozo bore S. b. E. distant about 3 or 4 Leagues. — Ends with fine Weather. — Wind W b N

[LC. EPP, Journal, June to 6 August 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, 3 August 1804

At half past 2 this morning discovered the Island of Simeria bearing S S. E. at. half past 3 Squally with sharp lightning heavy rain at 4 Island Simaro bore S W. b S. distance 2 Leagues at 5 Cape Bon bore S S W. distance 3 Leagues. at 6 saw a sail on our Lard and another close in with the Land at 9 the Island of Pantalaria bore S S. E. Dist. 7 or 8 leagues.

At Meridian spoke a Rigusian Brig from Algiers bound to Smyrna out 7 days. the West End of Pantalaria bore S. S W ½ W. distant 5 leagues the E part S ¼ E. distant 4 leagues. at ½ past 1. discovered two sails on our Lard bow standing to Nd & Ed at. 4 the Island of Pantalaria bore W S W at 6 the center of Pantalaria bore W ¼ N. distant 7 Leagues

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

[4 August 1804]

To Prime Minister to the Bashaw of Tripoli, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

To His Excellency Sidi Mahommed D'Ghies Prime Minister to his Excellency the Bashaw of Tripoly.

SIR The Fortune of War has placed a number of your People in my Power, and while I regret the Effusion of Blood, humanity dictates that those who are wounded may be soothed by the presence of their friends, and by them furnished with fresh provisions, and other necessaries which we have not on board — Under these impressions I am induced to improve a good opportunity of sending them on shore, and shall leave it altogether to the known Magnanimity of his highness the Bashaw whether or not these good Offices are to be reciprocal —

The letters I received from Cap^{t} Bainbridge respecting the cloathing consigned to your care, have been highly satisfactory, and mark in the strongest light to nobleness of your nature & sentiments —

I enclose an Invoice of the Prices of the cloathing before mentioned which you will have the goodness to deliver Cap^{t} Bainbridge —

Signed EDWARD PREBLE

Constitution —Off TRIPOLY
August 4th 1804

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

[4 August 1804]

To the French Chargé d'Affaires and Commissary General, Tripoli, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

SIR, I am honored with your letters of the 13th June, 6th July, & 3^{d} Ins^{t} The first & second I have long since replied to. The latter I am happy in the present opportunity of answering — I do not consider the terms I have offered as humiliating to the Bashaw: and as I am determined not to deviate much from the terms already offered, I think the Bashaw will act wisely to accept of them However, if you think he is disposed for peace, you will do us a favor by assuring him that the offer for ransom with the addition of ten thousand dollars is still open to him untill the arrival of our additional force of four Frigates momently expected, after which we never shall consent to give him a cent.

The Cap^{t} of the french Corsair *Rusé*, M^{r} P^{re} Blaise Mercellise actuated by the Noble and honorable sentiments of humanity has consented to convey some unfortunate Tripoline prisoners to their friends I regret that the Effusion of blood has been necessary and humanity dictates the sending the unfortunate wounded prisoners on shore as we have no fresh provisions on board proper for their nourishment —

I shall be glad to hear from you by the return of this Vessel —

Constitution — Off Tripoly.
August 4th 1804

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 4 August 1804

Throughout these 24 Hours moderate Gales from the Westward and fine clear Weather — At 4 P. M. saw the Town of Valette bearing

S. S. E Dist about 6 or 7 Leagues at Sun down it bore S. b E. Dist 2 Leagues — At half Past 8 took in studding Sails and hauled down the Staysails at 9 anchored in the Harbour of Malta with the Starboard Bower in 13 Fathoms Water — At 10 the Proteque Boat came off, and after informing were I was from &c he desired that I wou'd hoist the Yellow Flag at the Fore, and consider myself in Quarantine which was done accordingly — At 7 A. M M^{r} Higgins the Navy Agent came alongside and delivered me a Letter from Commodore Preble, directing me to proceed off Tripoli without Loss of Time — At 8 weighed and warped over on the Weather Shore, got the Topsails and Top G^{t} Sails on the Ship, the Wind however soon hauling more in took in top G^{t} Sails and topsails and run Warps out to the Mouth of the Harbour and warped down to the Point where the light house stands — hoisted the Top Sails and top Gall^{t} Yards to the Mast Heads with the Sails stoped with Yarns, got the Ship in a Position that I wished and a favourable flaw, cast off the Hawzers made sail and run out of the Harbour — Fresh Gales & fine Weather

[LC. EPP, Journal, June to 6 August 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, 4 August 1804

At. 8 Oclock this morning discovered several sail in sight. At ¼ past 9 Discovered the Island of Goza on our Starboard bow & Sicily on our Starb^{d} Bean at Meridian the S W. Point of Gozo bore S b E. at 4 the West Point of Gozo bore W b S. ½ S. distant 3½ leagues. at ½ past 4 Discovered the Island of Malta. We have a light breeze & standing in for the town of Velette at Sunset the town bore S by E distant 4 miles. at 9 Oclock we got in to the town of Malta & came to anchor several boats immediately came of[f] to us. One from the Pratique master — who informed us that we must perform quarentine for 18 days. and that we coud have no communication with the shore

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy

U. S. Ship *John Adams*,
Malta 5th *August 1804*

Sir I have the honor of informing you that I arrived here at 10 ^{o}Clock last Night after a pleasant passage of 5 Days from Algiers — I have this Moment received Commodore Preble's Orders from the Hands of M^{r} Higgins directing me to proceed off Tripoli without Loss of Time in Consequence of which I am now getting under way for that purpose

Commodore Preble left this Place for the Coast of Tripoli about 15 Days ago with 6 Gun and two Mortar Boats in Addition to the other parts of his Squadron, since which Time There has been no News from him,

[NDA. MC LB, 1804–5.]

Extract from journal kept on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Sunday, 5 August 1804

Fresh Breezes E b N at Anchor 7 or 8 miles from the City of Tripoly bearing South. Squadron and prizes in company. Every

one busily Employ'd in preparing for another attack on Tripoly, the *Argus* in chase of a small vessel to the Westward. At 1 P M the *Argus* brought the chase within hail and anchored, she is a french privateer of 4 guns saild from Tripoly this morning & brought me letters from the french Consul, the Cap^{t} informed me that he put into Tripoly for water being in distress for that Article. I prevail'd on him for a consideration in provisions to convey 14 badly wounded Tripoline prisoners to Tripoly, which I put on board him with a letter to the French Consul & one to the Prime Minister. at ½ past 1 P M. made signal for all Captains at 2 P M the Body of L^{t} James Decatur was committed to the Deep with the Usual Military honors His funeral was attended by the Officers of the Squadron at 6 A M the French privateer weigh'd & stood into the Harbour, Ordered our three spare Top Gall^{t} masts for masts for the Prize Gun Boats, all hands employ'd in Rigging & fitting them for service, they each carry a Brass cannon of 27 ^{lb} Ball and 2 Brass Howitzers, Caused General Orders of Thanks to be read on board each Vessel of the Squadron

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 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, 5 August 1804

Light winds & pleasant, ½ past Meridian furld all sail At 1 came too with the stream anchor in 35 fathoms to the N^{d} of Tripoli, the Bashaws castle bore S ½ E 6 miles, At 2 the Commodore made signal for all Commanders to repair on board his ship. At 4 moor'd ship with the larboard bower. —

Midnight light airs & warm. At 7 weigh'd the larboard bower. At 9 sent Carpenter & sail maker on board the Commodore P^{r} signal. ½ past 10 the Commodore came on board of us At 11 he return'd on board his ship. —

Meridian light airs & pleas^{t}

[NDA.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Sunday, 5 August 1804

Brought along side two of the captured Gun boats in Order to rigg & commission them in the U. S. Service — They appear to be strong boats — Length on deck 51 feet — Beam 14½ feet Depth in the hold 3 feet 8 Inches — They each carry a brass gun 13 feet long which takes a 28 pound shot We stepped the main top gall^{t} Mast in One, and the fore top gall^{t} Mast in the other — They are to be Sloop rigged —

The *Syren* riggs and Manns the other boat which is rather smaller than these two, and carries a long brass 18 pounder — We supplied her with one mizen top gall^{t} mast —

The Commodore this forenoon Visited all the Squadron Supplied the Bombards with 240 Gall^{s} water each The carpenters & sail makers of the Squadron are employed (p^{r} Signal) in fitting out the three Gun boats Towards noon made the *Vixen* signal to weigh, and reconnoitre the Enemy's batteries —

Surgeons report 3 sick, 4 convalescent. Of the 21 wounded prisoners taken out of the captured Gun boats 4 only remain, three having died & 14 sent to Tripoly —

We have now on board in all 35 Prisoners.
Noon Moderate breezes from E N E & pleasant Weather

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 5 August 1804

all the Squadron at Anchor off Tripoli at 2 PM came to an Anchor a head of the Commodore at ½ past Cap^{t} Hull went on board of him At Sundown the town of Tripoli bore SbW ½ W at 7 took N^{o} 2 & 3 Gunboats in tow again at 8 Cap^{t} Hull returned hoisted in the launch and Barge At 6 AM, hove in the Slack Cable At 9 the Commod^{e} made Sig^{l} N^{o} 1000 and 1007 Cap^{t} Hull went on board the Commod^{e}

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 5 August 1804

At ¼ past 3 departed this life John Rodgers Carpenters Mate. at ½ past 8 Sam^{l} Shrote fell over board rounded Too Lowered down the boat & pickd Him up. hoisted the boat up & made sail at ¾ past 10 saw the land bearing S E., Sick list 34.
Latitude Observed 32° 11′ N. Longitude Observed 10° 04′ W.

[USNA.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, 5 August 1804

[On board U. S. Frigate *President*.] August 5. Sunday — [At ½ Past 11] Made Magadore — on the coast of Africa, bearing S b. E.

[H. E. Huntington L&AG, EA 206.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 5 August 1804

Commences with strong Gales and fine Weather — at 1 P M made sail and stood to the Southward to clear the Island
At 4 the Extremes of Malta bore from N ½ E to N E b N. Distant about 8 Leagues — At 5 A M. set all the Starboard Studding Sails, Put all Hands on an Allowance of 3 Quarts of Water p^{r} Man, my reason for so doing was, that not knowing how long the Commodore might require my Services on the Coast of Tripoli and that the Service might Suffer by my being obliged to return to Port to Water, I therefore judged such a Step expedient — Ends with Moderate Breezes and fine Weather — Wind W. N. W.

[LC. EPP, Journal, June to 6 August 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, 5 August 1804

It being in the night when we came in here [Malta] I was disappointed in having a view of the town when we came in and our not being admited to go on shore prevents my saying anything more of this place than mearly the appearance from the ship, when you get into the harbour it is large and spacious, sufficient for 500 ships to lay

with saifty. and place if possible is stronger fortifyed than Gibraltar. the town of Villet has the appearance of an amphitheatre being built upon the declivity of hill one house riseing above another. As we came in the harbour last night it appeared to be covered with boats — full of boys & girls singing particular tunes. it being as we supposed some particular Sai^{ts} day a number of the boats came around us singing and playing on musical instruments. some of them wanted to come on board but were prevented by our not being allowed Pratique, this morning a boat came of[f] with a band of musick and played all round the ship which is always their custom when any ship of War comes in. they played hail Columbia & Yanke dudle. & several other American Patrioctic tunes — M^{r} Higens our Agent came along side of us. & we delivered him our dispatches. & he gave us others for Commodore Preble of[f] Tripoli. We found none of our Squadron here they having sailed from this about a fortnight before this, as we were not admited to have any communication with the shore and Capt Chauncey being Very desirous to apprise Commodore Preble. of the sailing of Commodore Barron and his squadron as they had been expecting our ship so long that they had concluded that we were lost as they supposed that we had sailed long before we did. for those reasons Capt. Chauncey determined to sail immediately and we commenced geting under way and warping the ship out. as the Wind blew into the harbour and at one oclock we made sail on the ship & cleared the harbour. the Wind W. by N. we bore away S W ½ W. and went. to the E^{d} of the Town — at half past 1. the Town of Velette bore W ½ S. Dist. 2 Miles. We have now a fresh breeze & fair Standing our course for Tripoli —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS *Aug^{t} 6th 1804.*

SIR, Agreable to Your request, (by letter bearing date Tunis Bay June 20th 1804.) I have given a Passport to a Copigi Bashaw of the Grand Signior to enter Tripoly, subject to Your final approbation.

His Excellency the Bey, directs me to inform You, that he has written the Bashaw of Tripoly, not to embark on board said Vessel, Passengers other than those mentioned in the Passport on any pretext; and requires me to add, that as it is his indispensable duty, to send said Copigi Bashaw to Tripoly, he feels satisfied, that no interruption will be given to his safe arrival —

TUNIS *August 10th*

There has been much difficulty, concerning the form of the passport — with which the Spanish Consul is by no means contented— I have informed the Cap^{t} If he takes one passenger on board more than is mentioned that you will certainly capture him — altho we have not a friend in either of the French Commissaries — I have made a merit of permitting the articles mentioned in the passport to be embarked — I had the honor to write you fully on the 8th Ins^{t} via Malta

GEORGE DAVIS

Should you not permit the Vessel to enter Tripoli — The packages Marked C D, you will be pleased to take in your possession — and forward to Tunis by the first occasion — they contain letters &c for Cap^{t} B

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

To Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS *Aug^{t} 6th 1804* —

SIR, By the Spanish Polacre *Mariana*, Capt. Andrea Rossello, carrying a Copigi Bashaw from the Grand Segnior to His Excellency the Bashaw of Tripoli, with my Passport, I do myself the pleasure to offer you a line, enclosing a Duplicate of my last.

I am favoured with your letter of the 10th ult^{o} and duplicate of the 17th June, both under cover from the French Consul, by a Courier lately from Tripoli; and cannot omit expressing my Surprize, at your not acknowledging the receipt of mine of the 23^{d} June; particularly as I delivered in person to this same Courier a Package for you, and a line for M^{r} Nissen, whose answer has come to hand — it is presumable you have received them before this — they however offer you no news; and are of no farther value, than tokens of my sincere regard, respect, & esteem.

No news from the U. States — no letters for you from any quarter. — We learn that the Coronation of Bonaparte, is differed untill the 19th Nov^{r}; and that the Pope has refused to officiate; (as was intended) in consequence the French Ambassador, has left the papal dominions.— The Russian Ambassador, has again left Paris; and the Fleet of His Imperial Majesty of both the Russias, is daily expected at Malta and Syracuse — their intentions will not be immediately put in execution; but the delay will not vary the object.

Gen^{l} Moreau, has left France for the U. States. — how, and in what manner, We are not informed. — I have no news papers of any kind to forward you, which might dissipate a tedious hour. — And can only repeat my prayers for the full completion of your desires —

Sympathetic ink [*Written in lime juice.*]

The Commodore, has doubtless made an attack on Tripoli; before this — I hope your situation is not rendered more disagreable in consequence of it — nor that it will prevent your receiving as heretofore, communications from your friends —

To avoid any suspicion of your having been apprized of his intentions, I have not written you so frequently for the last two months, as I should have done. — I learn from L^{t} Porter, that a consul is appointed for Tunis — if it hastens your liberation, or my projected visit to Tripoli, as stated in my last — I shall rejoice most sincerely at the event; should my proposed embassy, accord with your ideas, let the application to Gov^{t} be strengthened by yourself and friends. I shall dispatch you a courier express on M^{r} Russel's arrival, and charge myself with the delivery of all your letters for America, as I shall not make any stay in the Mediterranean; unless it be by the absolute orders of the Sec^{y} of State. Rely on a just and energetic representation of y^{r} situation, and believe me under all circumstances Y^{r} Sincere friend. G. D.

[NYHS. Geo. Davis LB, Vol. 1.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Monsieur Beaussier, French Chargé d'Affaires and Commissary General, Tripoli

TRIPOLY. BARBARY. *August 6th 1804*

COMMODORE I received your letter by the French privateer on board of which you forwarded the wounded prisoners notwithstanding the just representations of the Captain The Commendable and humane motive in sending them was misunderstood, and we had difficulty in persuading the Bashaw to retain them —

I should have been happy to have received an answer to my letters of the 13th of June & 6th July —

I repeat to you again Commodore that notwithstanding the Pacha's aversion to conclude a treaty of Peace with the United States, I prevailed upon him to accept reasonable proposals — The Efficacious means that you have adopted in order to force them to accept your proposals will certainly hasten a cessation of hostilities, as well as liberate your unfortunate countrymen who, notwithstanding the Attachment to their country and their wishes for the glory & success of it's Arms must shudder at every discharge of your cannon.

The Fanaticism & fury of these Africans would be difficult to curb in case of a total destruction — I think that I ought to lay before you these considerations, not that I wish to Serve this government, but in Order that you may be ignorant of nothing that would enlighten your operations and direct your conduct — Since the reception of your letter which was yesterday, I have been constantly with the Pacha, who has assembled his divan several times to which Sidi Mohammed DGhies has not been able to attend, being very much indisposed — I have caused him to reflect upon what he had experienced in the first Attack, and what he had to fear from what must follow — He declared to me that he ardently desired to be at peace with the Americans: but that he would not conclude a peace with such dishonorable conditions. That if you desired it as much as he did you would not certainly hesitate at augmenting the sum a little which you had already offered: but if your instructions would not permit you to go farther he would be obliged to make use of Every method to oppose your attacks, the result of which would be ordained by providence — These are his own expressions —

As for my part, I conjure you to propose a ransom more consistent with the number and quanity of the Prisoners, which would not be inconsistant with the honor and dignity of your nation, and to listen to the fine sentiments which should actuate you to avoid the Effusion of blood — If you should wish to communicate to me your last resolution, you can send your boat as a cartel as far as the rocks which form the Entrance of the Harbour, and I will engage that they shall be in Perfect Safety — I propose you this expedient as the privateer cannot be delayed longer & I beg of you to let her proceed a[f]ter the reception & perusal of this letter —

The two papers shall be given immediately to Capn Bainbridge — Sidi Mohammed DGhies regrets that his indisposition should prevent him from answering your Obliging letter — Accept the Assurances of my high Esteem and Consideration —

(Signed) BEAUSSIER

P. S. Would it be imprudent to beg of you to display the French flag at the Mizen when you intend to bombard the Town.

[Mrs. James S. Barron Col.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 6 August 1804

at½ past 3 the *Vixen* got under way and stood in for Tripoli a number of gunboats came out At ½ past 6 Consul OBrien Cap^{t} Hull Somers & Decatur came on board At ½ past 11 they returned on board their respective Vessels —

At 8 AM the Commod^{e} made Sig^{l} N^{o} 995 Cap^{t} Hull went on board at ½ past 11 Cap^{t} Hull returned —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal kept on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Monday, 6 August 1804

At Anchor 2 Leagues North of Tripoly with the Squadron, Employ'd this Ships Company in Fitting the Prize Boats, & supplying the Squadron with Provisions Water & Military Stores, all the Sailmakers in the Squadron are employ'd in making sails for the Prizes, the *Vixen* was kept under way all night making false signals to alarm the Enemy, At noon wind N N W.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 6 August 1804

First Part of these 24 Hours moderate Breezes and Pleasant Weather — At 5 P. M. saw the Land bearing from S W b W to S. S. E. Distance off Shore about 10 Leagues — At Day light made Sail and stood in for the Land, but it soon fell Calm or the Wind so very light that we made no Progress Sounded with an Hundred Fathoms of Line No Bottom — Ends with light Airs from the Westward and Weather extremely Hot. —

[LC. EPP, Journal, June to 6 August 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, 6 August 1804

We have light breezes and pleasant weather this morning being favored with a fair Wind we are in ourly expectation of faling in with some of our Mediterranean Squadron, at ½ past 5 this evening we discovered land ahead which knew to be coast of Tripoli. at 6. called all hands to quarters and exercised the guns. at Midnight we hope [hove] to with the main topsail to the mast. and at ½ past one we hove a cast of the lead with a hundred fathom of line no bottom

[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, Monday, 6 August 1804

Light airs & pleasant, hands employ'd rigging the prize gun boat (N^{o} 9) supplied the gun boat astern with water.

Midnight light airs & pleas^{t} the launch employ'd in supplying us with water from the Commodore 11 Cap^{t} Stewart went on board the Comm; Meridian rec^{d} spars from the Comm: for the prize gun boat. —

[NDA.]

To Daniel Bedinger, Navy Agent and Superintendent of Navy Yard, Norfolk, Va., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP^{t} *Aug^{t} 7th 1804*

A Provision Ship has been ordered from Boston to Norfolk to receive the Residue of a cargo intended for the Mediterranean. We shall send certain articles from this place to be put on board the Provision Ship and we wish you to send out in her the powder left by the Vessels of War — 6 or 7 tons of assorted Cordage if you should have as much in Store — the Bowsprit intended for the *Constitution* and as many spare spars as the Provision Ship may Conveniently receive —

We are advised by M^{r} Brown agent at Boston, that the Provisions will probably leave Boston on the 8th ins^{t} — the articles from this place will be sent on immediately so that in all probability the Provision Ship from Boston and the Vessels carrying part of her cargo from this place, will arrive in the Roads nearly at the same time — it is therefore submitted to you to determine whether, in the event of the Vessels from this place arriving first it would not be expedient to detain them with their cargoes on board until the arrival of the Provision Ship and then have the Cargoes of the Vessels from this place put immediately on board the Provision Ship — But we rather Presume that the Vessel from Boston will be first in the Roads —

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

To William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta, from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP^{t} *Aug. 7. 1804*

We have chartered the Provision Ship the *Alfred* to carry Provisions to the Mediterranean for the use of our Squadron in that Sea —

We have agreed with the Owner that she shall proceed first to Gibraltar and thence if required by the Consul at that place to land her cargo, but if M^{r} Gavino the Consul from his understanding with the Commodore of the Squadron in relation to Supplies, should not deem it adviseable to receive the cargo at Gibraltar, he will direct the Commander of the *Alfred* to proceed either to malta or Syracuse. — If directed to malta you will on her arrival there, receive her cargo and should it be delivered to you in good condition you will pay the freight, Viz^{t} 9000$. agreeably to Bill of lading and invoice which will be transmitted to you by Daniel Bedinger Esq. norfolk Virginia and you will give advice in due season to Commodore Barron

You will pay the freight by Bills on Mess^{rs} Degen Purviance & C^{o} at Leghorn or on Frederick Degen Esq^{r} at Naples or otherwise as may be found the most adviseable. We are to pay the freight at the place where the Cargo shall be delivered —

[Similar letter sent to George Dyson, Syracuse.]
[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

To John Gavino, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar, from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP^{t} *Aug 7th 1804*

Daniel Bedinger Esq^{r} navy agent at Norfolk will transmit to you Invoice and Bill of lading of the Cargo of the ship *Alfred* freighted by Government with provisions &^{c} for the Squadron in the mediterranean —

The Captain of the *Alfred* is directed to Call on you for your directions respecting the cargo. — If you deem it Expedient to land the Cargo at Gibraltar you will do so, but if you deem it most adviseable that it should proceed to Malta or Syracuse you will direct the Captain to proceed on accordingly — The understanding you have with the Commodore upon this subject will enable you to decide in the present case with propriety —

Should you direct the Cargo to be landed at Gibraltar and it should be delivered to you in good condition you will pay the amount of Freight Viz Seven thousand five hundred dollars to Such person as may be properly authorized to receive it, by Bills either on Messrs M^{c}Kenzie & Glennie, London Messrs Degen Purviance & C^{o} Leghorn or otherwise as you may deem most adviseable, letting me know particularly how it is paid — Should you pay the freight at Gibraltar you will receive from the Captain of the *Alfred* all the letters in his possession from this Department, But in case you direct the *Alfred* to proceed on to Malta or to Syracuse, the freight being payable at the place where the cargo shall be delivered, the agent at such place will pay it and has my instructions on the Subject —

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805]

To Daniel Bedinger, Navy Agent and Superintendent of Navy Yard, Norfolk, Va., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV DEP^{t} 7th *Aug^{t} 1804*

Samuel Brown Esq^{r} navy agent at Boston, agreeably to my instructions has chartered the Ship *Alfred* and ordered her to Proceed with part of a cargo — (of which he will particularly inform you and Transmit you invoice and bill of lading) to Norfolk where she is to take in the Residue of her Cargo and thence proceed to Gibraltar and if directed by M^{r} Gavino the Consul there, thence to Syracuse or Malta to Deposit her Cargo for the use of our Squadron of Ships in the mediterranean Sea —

Captain Cassin is ordered to Send to you to be shipped on board the *Alfred*

130,000	lbs Bread in Barrels or Hogsheads
125	Barrels of Flour
400	Bolts Russia Duck & Canvas
40	Boxes Spermaceti Candles
20	Hh^{ds} Melasses — a Quantity of Cheese
2	Anchors from 4 to 500 lbs W^{t}
3	Tons assorted Cordage &^{c}
8.32	Pound Carronades with Carriages, Rammers

Captain Cassin will send you invoice and bill of lading agreeably to which you will pay the freight — To this Cargo you will add 7 Tons of assorted Cordage should you have as much in Store —

All the Powder landed from the Squadron while lying in Hampton Roads, and the Bowsprit intended for the *Constitution*, with as many Spare Spars as the *Alfred* can conveniently receive —

The Freight of the *Alfred* is to be paid either at Gibraltar, Syracuse or malta, wherever the cargo may be ultimately landed — you will therefore transmit to each of the following Gentlemen an invoice and

Bill of lading of the Cargo of the *Alfred*,
John Gavino Esq — Gibraltar
Geo. Dyson Esq[r] Syracuse
W[m] Higgins Esq. Malta

For the freight we are to pay, if the cargo should be landed at Gibraltar the Sum of $7,500 — if landed at Syracuse or malta the Sum of 9000$ of which the agents at these places are fully advised and instructed by me

You will also transmit an Invoice and Bill of lading of the Cargo to Commodore Sam[l] Barron —

You will direct the enclosed letter to the Commander of the *Alfred*, left Blank because we do not know his name, and advise me of his name — and you will deliver, to him the letter to himself and also the enclosed letters directed to Commodore Samuel Barron — John Gavino Esq Geo. Dyson Esq and William Higgins Esq[r] and you will despatch the *Alfred* as early as may be practicable — & so soon as she shall have sailed you will transmit me an invoice and bill of lading of her Cargo —

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

To Captain Joseph Patch, of the American Provision Ship *Alfred*, from Secretary of the Navy

NAV DEP[t] *Aug 7, 1804*

So soon as you are Ready for sea you will weigh anchor and proceed with all practicable despatch for Gibraltar

You will there call on John Gavino Esq the American Consul to whom you will deliver the letter which you will herewith receive addressed to him. Should M[r] Gavino determine to land the cargo of the *Alfred* at Gibraltar you will deliver it to him (with all the letters in your possession from this Department) he will pay the freight agreeably to Bill of lading — Should M[r] Gavino determine to send the *Alfred* to Malta or Syracuse with the public Property you will then take his directions and proceed on accordingly to either of these ports where you will deliver to the agent the enclosed letters to Com[re] Barron Geo. Dyson Esq & William Higgins &[c]

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

To Secretary of State, from George Davis, U. S. Chargè d'Affaires, Tunis

N[o] 17 TUNIS *August 7[th] 1804.*

SIR, In consequence of the recent visit of the Neapolitan force, (as stated in the last I had the honor to write you) His Excellency, has ordered all his Corsairs mann'd: — they will sail in two divisions; and it is said, are to attack the enemy's Squadron, under any, and all circumstances — there are on board two half Gallies five hundred & fifty men; and the rest of the Squadron is manned in proportion — the first division is now at Sea.

The new Prophet, has occasioned much disorder in different parts of Algiers: he made but a short stay at Constantine; but perfectly stripped that place; taking with him, arms, ammunitions, cloathing, horses, and a vast number of Cattle; retiring again to the mountains. — I learn (indirectly from this Gov[t]) that his Army at this moment,

consists of one hundred & eighty thousand men, and is daily increasing — all communication between this and Algiers by land is stopp'd in such a manner, that I could not procure a Courier to go Col[o] Lear, for any consideration — as yet we can form no opinion as to his probable fate. — *much; perhaps all;* depends on G. B. should that Power ultimately resolve to avenge their innumerable outrages and indignities (*which I have never suspected*) by an attack on Algiers, it it is probable that the consequent disorders of the Regency, will so so far aid the Marabout's intentions, as to make him a formidable pretender to the Throne.

My last advices from Tripoli, are of the 14[th] of July, nothing however of any moment could have transpired at that period — the Officers and Crew, enjoy good health; and have Suffered no change in their Situation — Capt. Bainbridge, writes me, that the Bashaw, has made known to him, that no person will be received to treat for peace, or ransom, who, does not come with full powers immediately from the U. States for that purpose: — his pretentions appear to be more extravagant than ever.

On the 4[th] & 5[th] Inst. I was called to Bardo, relative to a Passport for a Copigi Bashaw to enter Tripoli — I have the honor to enclose you a copy of that I have accorded. — His Excellency, took occasion to mention the affair of the Sandal; (as stated in my Dispatch of June 23[d]) I endeavoured to convince the Bey, that on no principle of Justice, (*the sacred rule by which we were governed*) any restitution could be expected; he left me in doubt whether he was satisfied, or if it should be the subject of a future demand —

With Profound Respect and Consideration,

GEORGE DAVIS

[NYHS. Geo. Davis LB, Vol. 1.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM[t] *7 Aug[t] 1804* —

Commodore ED[d] PREBLE —

Mediterranean.

Your communication dated Malta Harbour, 11 March 1804 has been received. —

Before this reaches you, you will have perceived that we have not been inattentive to our Affairs in the Mediterranean. We knew that the force under your Command was not adequate to carry on vigorous and effectual measures against Tripoli, and watch the Coast of Morocco and Tunis. With a view to accomplish these important objects, and to excite among the Barbary Regencies a just idea of our National character and Resources, we fitted out the Armament of which you have been already advised.

We have already & repeatedly assured you, Sir, of our high and unqualified approbation of your measures and your conduct. Your Successor will have conveyed to you before this can reach you our Sentiments on these Subjects.

You suggest the propriety of sending eight 32 pound Carronades for the upper Deck of the *Constitution,* and six 12 pound Carronades for our Boats. We cannot by this opportunity send the 12 pound Carronades as we have not got them at hand, but I have ordered the

32 pounders with Carriages, Worms, Sponges, Rammers, Shot &ᶜ. These will be delivered to you, unless circumstances should arise which in the opinion of Commodore Barron will render a different distribution of them more advisable. Continue to let me hear from you — It will afford me pleasure to receive your Communications.

(Per the *Alfred* Provision Ship, from Norfolk Vᵃ Augᵗ 1804.)
[NDA. LB, 1799–1807.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPᵗ *7 Augᵗ 1804* —

Commodore SAMᴸ BARRON —
Commanding The American Squadron
Mediterranean.

This letter will be delivered to you by the Commander of the Ship *Alfred*, having on board for the use of the Squadron under your command, Beef, Pork, Flour, Bread, Rum, Butter, Melasses, Cheese Canvas, Cordage, Candles, Powder, Shot, Anchors, a Bowsprit for the *Constitution*, some spare Spars, and 8, 32 pound Carronades for the upper deck of the *Constitution* (if they cannot be otherwise & more advantageously disposed of among the other Vessels of the Squadron, which is left to your judgment) with Carriages, Worms, Rammers, Sponges &ᶜ agreeably to Invoice which I have directed Daniel Bedinger Esqʳ to transmit to you.

The 32 pound Carronades have been requested by the Commander of the *Constitution* who has suggested that they will be very useful in the event of a war with Tunis. It will be agreeable to me that they be delivered to the *Constitution*, but as circumstances may arise to render a different distribution of them more advisable, I do not deem it proper to bind you by any particular Instructions on the subject.

Should the *Alfred* arrive safe and deliver her Cargo in good order, you will have an abundant supply of provisions for eight months. Be pleased to make me a return of the quantity on hand. —

(Per the *Alfred.*)
[NDA. LB, 1799–1807.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 7 August 1804

Attacked the batteries. Lost Lt. [James R.] Caldwell, one Midshipman Mr. [John] Dorsey and several men.

[LC original.]

Extract from journal kept on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Tuesday, 7 August 1804

Wind N b W Cloudy, at Anchor off Tripoly. — Making arrangments for a second attack at ½ past 1 made signal to prepare to weigh. — but falling calm, annulled the Signal. — in the Evening the French Privateer came out, at 11 the French Capᵗ came on board with a letter from the Consul of His Nation in which he says our attack of the 3ᵈ has disposed the Bashaw to accept of reasonable terms and invites me to send a Boat to the Harbour as a flag, but as no specific sum is mentioned and no security for the Boat, can be depended on I declined the invitation, at 9 AM the Squadron weighd pʳ Signal & stood in shore towards the Western Batteries. — the Gun

Boats 9 in number with the addition of the Prizes now compleatly fitted & manned and Commanded by L^{t} Crane of the *Vixen*, Thorn of the *Enterprize* and Caldwell of the *Syren*, the whole advanc'd with sails & oars. With orders to attack the Western Batteries & throw shells into the City. at this time we were at anchor 6 miles from the city, calm and a current so strong to the Eastward that we remain at anchor, our Top Sails & Top Gall^{t} Sails are sett ready for the first Breeze The *Argus Syren Vixen Nautilus* & *Enterprize* becalm'd three miles within us. — Gun Boats & Bombs advanceing to the attack

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

[7 August 1804]

Extract from journal kept on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Wednesday, 8 August 1804

At Anchor 6 miles N N E from Tripoly becalmed, the Gun Boats & Bombs advancing with all their sweeps, at ½ past 1 a light Breeze from the N N E, We Immediately weighd & stood in for the Town, but the wind being on shore could not with prudence attack or allow any of the squadron to attack the Batteries, as in case of a mast being shot away the loss of the Vessel would probably ensue. at ½ past 2 P M Made the Signal for the Gun Boats & Bombs to attack the Batteries & Town from the West, when they immediately opened a tremendous fire within half cannon shot of the Town & less than that distance of a a Battery of 7 heavy 24 pounders this Battery in less than two hours was silenc'd excepting one Gun I presume the others were dismounted as the Walls were almost totally destroyed, the Bombs were well and effectually employd by L^{t} Com^{dt} Dent & L^{t} Robinson of the *Constitution*, L^{t} Robinson from a dangerous position he took, threw 28 shells into the Town, but the well directed fire of heavy artillery from the Enemy obliged him to shift his station not however until the cloths of every man in the Boat was wet through with the spray of sea which the Enemies shot threw over them, L^{t} Dent threw 20 shells from a positition not so favorable as L^{t} Robinsons but which a strong Westerly current in shore would not allow him to change, at ¼ past 3 P M a Frigate in sight in the Offing standing for the Town, made the *Argus's* Signal to speak, ordered her to chase the strange sail at ½ past 3 PM the magazine of one of our Gun Boats N^{o} 9 Blew up & she immediately sunk — She had on board thirty Officers seamen & Marines 10 of which were killed & six badly wounded, among the Killed were L^{t} R. Caldwell 1st of the *Syren* M^{r} Dorsey Midshipman two good Officers. — M^{r} Spence Midshipman & 13 Men were picked up unhurt —

The Enemies Gun Boats and Galleys 17 in number are all in motion under their Batteries, and appear to meditate an attack on our Bombs & Gun Boats, ordered the *Argus Nautilus Vixen & Enterprize* to Windward in reserve to cut them off from the Harbour if they should attack, & the *Syren & Vixen* to leward to support and cover any of our Boats that might be disabled, kept to windward with the *Constitution* — ready to bear down & support the Whole, at ½ past 5 PM the Wind began to blow fresh from the N N E Made the signal for Bombs & Gun Boats to retire out of Gun shot of the Enemy and be taken in tow by their respective Vessels. at 6 PM *Argus* made the

signal that the strange sail was a friend. in the Action of this day N° 6 Commanded by L^t^ Wadsworth had her Latteen Yard shot away. N° 4 Cap^t^ Decatur a shot in the Hull, N° 8 lost 2 Men killed by a cannon shot, some of the other Boats received trifling damage. the Gun Boats fired about 50 Rounds each. the Enemy must have lost many men & the buildings in the City must have received considerable damage from our shot & shells. All the Officers & men engaged in Action behaved gallantly, at ¾ past 6 all the Boats were in tow & the Squadron standing off to the N W, at 8 the *John Adams* store ship Cap^t^ Chauncey Joined Company, at 9 being N W. about 5 miles from Tripoly Made signal to Anchor & Came to with the Squadron in 35 fath^s^ Water hard Bottom. — Cap^t^ Chauncey came on Board & brought me dispatches from the Navy Office, announcing that 4 frigates the *President* Commodore Barron who is to supercede me in the Command of the Mediterranean, Squadron, the *Congress* Cap^t^ Rodgers, *Constellation* Cap^t^ Campbell and *Essex* Cap^t^ [James] Barron, were ready and would sail in a day or two after the *John Adams* Cap^t^ Chauncey brought me a letter from the Navy Office approving my conduct, and stating that the superceedure has been necessary to enable them to send the frigates out as only two junior Captains to myself were in the US. He also brought me the thanks of the President for my services which have been conveyed to me by letter from the Sec^ty^ of the Navy, how much my feelings are lacerated by this supercedure at the moment of Vicotry cannot be described and can be felt only by an Officer placed in my mortifying situation Gave Cap^t^ Chauncey orders to remain with the Squadron for the present. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Tuesday, 7 August 1804

Moderate breezes from N b W, with rising clouds to the North^d^ At Single anchor off Tripoly — Squadron in company Every necessary arrangement has been made for bombarding Tripoly this afternoon, but the northerly wind, and the appearance of the weather have prevented it — At 1½ Made the Signal for the Squadron to prepare to weigh. We have a stay Peak — Towards evening the Northerly wind died away by degrees to a dead calm —

The french Privateer which carried the Wounded Prisoners to Tripoly came out this Evening, and rowed off for the *Constitution* — The Commodore Ordered Gun boat N° 9 and our cutter to examine her. At 11 P. M. she anchored in company with the Squadron — Her Captain waited on the Commodore —

Moderate weather through the Night — Light airs from S E or Calms from day light till noon —

At 9 A. M. the Squadron weighed, p^r^ Signal, and stood in shore. We exchanged three cheers at parting — Our three captured gun boats are Numbered by the Commodore N° 7, N° 8 & N° 9.

Gun boat N° 6 is now commanded by L^t^ Wadsworth N° 2 by Lieut^t^ Gordon, N° 3 by M^r^ Brooks Master, N° 7 by L^t^ Thorn — N° 8 by L^t^ Crane, & N° 9 by L^t^ Caldwell. The other boats are under the same Officers as on the 4th Inst: When the Gun boats & Bombards parted company, we were nearly 6 miles N b E from Tripoly —

Their Orders were to row in shore, and take a station to the Westward of the Town in order to bombard & batter the Western batteries —

On their leaving the ship they had a strong Easterly current As they proceeded in shore we observed they had a strong current to the Westward.

At 10 A. M. the French Privateer parted company to the N N W.

At Noon calm — The Gun boats are in shore to the Westward of the Town rowing to the Eastward — The two Bombards are rowing in for the Town, and are almost near enough for firing shells — The *Syren, Argus, Enterprize, Nautilus & Vixen* are becalmed between the shore, and the *Constitution* As it is Calm, and a Current going to the Eastward, we are obliged to continue at Anchor — We have top gallt Sails set ready for the first breeze —

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

[7 August 1804]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Monday, 8 August 1804

Calm — At Single Anchor 7 Miles N E from Tripoly with topsails & top gallt Sails hoisted in readiness for the first breeze — Our Bombards & Gun boats are all pulling in for the town — At 1 P. M. Bombard Nº 1 commenced heaving shells — After throwing two or three shells, she landed them & let go her Anchor — In the course of the afternoon she landed in the town 24 shells — Bombard Nº 2 was swept by the current more to the westward — Her situation was not so favorable — She threw 18 shells, several of which went into the town —

At 1½ P. M. a light breeze sprang up from N N E. We immediately weighed & stood in for the town — There is a small shallow anchorage nearly a mile to the Westward of the Town of Tripoly and as their Batteries cannot bring their Guns to bear on it the Town is much exposed from it — On the gun boats leaving the ship it was the Orders of the Commodore that they should pull in to the Westward of the Town and proceed to this Anchorage — An Eight & a five gun battery have within two or three days past been built near this place unknown to the Commodore — At 2½ P. M. they opened a heavy fire on our Nine Gun boats which soon silenced the 5 Gun battery, and in the course of the Afternoon silenced the 8 Gun battery three times — The Enemy's Gun boats 17 sail, are all in motion under their batteries — At 3½ P. M. one of our Gun boats Nº 9 blew up — She was then in close action with the 8 Gun battery — She was one of the prize boats commissioned by the Commodore, and (except Mr Spence Midshipman from the *Constitution*) officer'd and Manned from the *Syren* — Lt Caldwel, Mr Dorsey Midshipman and 8 seamen & [space] Marines were lost in her and six wounded This Unfortunate circumstance was Occasioned by the fire of one of our Own Gun boats — The Grand Battery kept up a constant fire all the afternoon on the Brigs and Schooners which were wisely stationed to receive the Enemy's fire on the greatest elevation, but were however sometimes necessarily exposed to closer shot. Our gun boats fired on an average 50 rounds each, and must have done great execution on the Western point of the Town.

At 4 P. M. Bombard Nº 1 was driven by the Enemy's batteries from her station she took another more to the Westward.

At 4½ P. M. Made the *Argus* Signal to chase to N E — At 5½ the wind began to breeze from N N E — Made signal for the Gun & bomb Vessels to cease firing and join company — At 6 P. M. answered the *Argus* signal that the chase was a friend — At 6¾ made the general signal to tow the Gun boats & Bombards.

At 7 made signal for the Squadron to fill off shore — At this time the wind was N N E direct in shore.

In the action of this day Gun boat N° 6 had her yard shot away, and N° 8 had two men killed by a shot from the Enemy.

In the close of the Evening Tripoly bore S E, 4 Miles. At 9 P. M. came to, in 32 fath° N W from Tripoly 4 or 5 Miles dis¹ The Squadron also came to Anchor

At this time we had a strong current setting to S S E, with moderate breezes from N b E.

Joined company the U. S. Ship *John Adams*, Cap¹ Chauncey who waited on the Commodore —

This Afternoon the following Signals have been made Viz¹ — At 2½ for the *Argus* & *Syren* to assist the *Nautilus* & *Enterprize* — At 2½ Bombards attack the Batteries At 3 come within hail — the *Argus*— At 5. Bombards haul out of Gun shot of the batteries —

At 8½ the Night Signal prepare to anchor.

During the night moderate weather with a swell setting in from N N E.

From day light till 9 A. M. cloudy hazy weather.

At Anchor all forenoon. Winds Moderate from N W —

Surgeons report 3 sick & 4 convalescent.

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

[7 August 1804]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 8 August 1804

[Tripoli] This day begins with light airs and pleasant W¹ standing in for the batteries in C° with the Squadron at 12 rec^d orders from the Commod^e to keep out of Gunshot of the Batteries if the wind Continued light but a Breeze Springing up stood in and fired Several Shot at the batteries at ½ past Merid^n the Commod^e made Sig¹ N° 3 to the Gunboats at 2 the Gunboats and bombards Commenced firing on the Batteries at 3 observed one of the Gunboats to blow up by which Accident Lieu¹ Caldwell and M¹ Dorsey Midship^n belonging to the *Syren* were lost at ¼ past 3 the Commod^e hoisted our Distinguishing flag made Sail for him he ordered us to give Chace to a Strange Sail to the Eastw^d she proved to be the U. S. frigate *John Adams* bore away for the Commod^e at ½ past 4 the Commod^e made Sig¹ N° 1201 at 5 took Gunboat N° 3 in tow stood off the land in C° with the Squadron at 10 the Commod^e made Night Sig¹ N° 10 came to with the larb^d bower in 35 fathoms water Cap¹ Hull went on board the Commod^e at ½ past 1 AM he returned —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 7 August 1804

At ½ past 2 the Commodore made Sig¹ N° 879 * * * at 8 * * * made Sig¹ N° 1005

at ½ past got under way at 9 the Commod[e] made Sig[l] N[o] 356 Cast the Gunboats off at ¼ past made Sig[l] N[o] 30 and at 10 Sig[l] N[o] 7 to the Gunboats at ½ past 10 the Gunboats stood in for Tripoli at 11 got out Sweeps & towed the Brig towards the town —

[NDA photostat.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy

GUN BOAT N[o] 4 *Off Tripoli August 7th 1804*

SIR On the signal being made on board the *Constitution* I cast off the Boats of the 2[nd] division, formed and Joined the 1[st] division, and proceeded to put your orders into execution, we advanced a head of the Bombards, and commenced the attack on the Western Batteries, within half point blank shott, where we continued untill the signal was made to retire from action, —

Tis with regret I have to inform you of the loss of N[o] 8[9] which was blown up by a hot shott from the enemy, after the smoke cleared off, I found all abaft the mast was under water, the gun and bows being the only part out, Mr Robert T Spence Midshipman was the Officer superintending the gun. who at the time of the explosion was in the act of loading her, after which accident he and the Brave fellows left, compleated the loading of the gun before she sunk, and then swam to the nearest Boat where they assisted during the engagement, N[o] 8 was the second boat captured on the 3[rd] by N[o] 4, —

List of Killed & wounded in the 2 division

	Names	
N[o] 8 [9]	James R Caldwell	Lieutenant
	[John S.] Dorsey	Midshipman
	eight Seamen Killed	
	six — ditto wounded	
N[o] 9 [8]	two Seamen Killed	by a Cannon shot which damaged the Hull of the Boatconsiderably.—

STEPHEN DECATUR J[r]

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

Concerning Gunboat No. 8

List of Men Killed on board GUN BOAT N[o] 8 *August 7th 1804*

John Brown, O Seaman
Alexander Jones Do

WILLIAM CRANE

Expended on board Gun Boat N[o] 8 August 7[th] 1804

46 ____ 24 [lb] Cartridges
46 ____ 24 [lb] Shot
92 ____ Wads
12 ____ Tubes
2[lb] __ Priming Powder
4 ____ fathoms Match Rope
2 ____ Sweeps
2 ____ Cutlasses
1 ____ Boarding Pike

WILLIAM CRANE

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

[7 August 1804]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy

Syren off TRIPOLI *August 8th 1804*

SIR, Enclosed I transmit you a return of the Officers and Men belonging to the United-States Brig *Syren* under my command, who were killed and wounded in Gun-Boat N° 9, when she blew up on the 7th of August at the attack of the Enemy's Batteries.

I have the honor to be
Sir, Your obt Servt

(Signed) CHARLES STEWART

Commodore PREBLE —

Return of the Officers & Men composing the Crew of the Gun Boat N° 9, blown up at the attack of the Tripolitan Batteries — 7th August 1804 —

James R. Caldwell	Lieut	Killed
Robt T. Spence	Midshipman	
John S Dorsey	Ditto	Killed
Jonathan Meridith	Sergt Marines	Ditto
James Farrell	Qr Gunner	Ditto
Edmd P. Kennedy	Gunner's Mate	
John Brown	Qr Master	
William Davis	Boats Mate	Killed
James Morgan	Seaman	Saved by the Boats
William Rodgers	Ditto	
William Mitchell	Ditto	Slightly Wounded
Thomas Devers	Ditto	Badly — Do
Stephen Gallagher, Robt Dunn	Ditto	Saved by the Boats
John la Mott	Ditto	Slightly Wounded
John Spears	ditto	Killed
Walter Mitchell	ditto	
Francisco Rodgers	ditto	badly wounded
James Wilmer	ditto	Saved by the Boats
James Alexander	ditto	
Geo. Irving	ditto	Killed
James Derney [or Desney]	Ordy Seamn	badly wounded
John Holmes	ditto	Killed
Antonio Currin	ditto	badly wounded
John Smith	ditto	saved by the Boats
Antonio Morrell	ditto	Ditto —
John Robinson	ditto	Killed
Nathan Holmes	Marine	ditto.

(Signed) CHARLES STEWART

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

[7 August 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, Wednesday, 8 August 1804

Light winds & pleasant. At ½ past 1 the Comm: made signal to attack'd the enemy's batteries &c. &. which was immediately done by an incessant fire from our boats &c also a very heavy cannonading from every quarter of the enemys batteries & gun boats. At ½ past 2 the gun boat commanded by Lt Caldwell, mr Dorsey & Spence blew up, by fire communicated to the magazine by a hot shot from the enemies batteries Lt Caldwell, Mr Dorsey & 8 men were blown up with her, the remainder were pick'd up by our boats, 7 of which we[re]

desperately wounded, our boats were immediately sent for the wounded. At ½ past 3 the Comm: made signal for the gun boats & bumbards to retire from action. ½ past 4 the *Argus* under a croud of sail in chace of a large ship to windw^d^ At 5 took our gun boat in tow. At 6 saw the above ship bearing down with the American flagg hoisted. At 8 shorten'd sail & came too with the stream. Also the above ship which prov'd to be the U. S. Frigate *John Adams*.

Meridian light airs & pleas^t^ Tripoli bearing S E ½ S 8 lea:

(SECOND ENGAGEMENT ON TRIPOLI)

[NDA.]

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, Tuesday, 7 August 1804

Light airs & pleas^t^ At 1 the Cap^t^ return'd Tripoli bore E N E hands employ'd arming & sending provisions on board the gun boat. At ½ past 1 the signal prepare to weigh. At 3 call'd all hands & got a crew for the gun boat — Midnight calm ½ past the signal to weigh — ½ past 8 hove up, made sail in shore. At 9 the Comm: made signal to prepare for battle. ½ past 9 cast off the gun boats p^r^ signal. At 11 set royals —

Meridian light airs & fine weather —

[NDA.]

[2 to 7 August 1804]

Expenditure of Ammunition

Expended on board BOMBARD N^o^ 2 *August 2^nd^ 1804*

	2. ____	Shells with Cartridges fuzees &c.
August 3^rd^	7. ____	Shells with Cartridges fuzees &c.
August 7^th^	19 ____	Shells with Cartridges fuzees &c.

Expenditure on board BOMBARD N^o^ 1. *Aug^t^ 3^d^ 1804*

7.___ Shells, with thier loading
7.___ Cartidges
7.___ Fusees
½ ^lb^__ Priming powder
2.___ fathoms Match Rope
1____ Shell to try the force of the powder & 2 Swivels on August 2^nd^ 1804.

Expenditure of Powder & Ball on Board GUN BOAT N^o^ 1 *August 3^rd^ 1804*

204 lb of Powder
200 Musket Cartriges
25 Twenty four lb Shot
14 Stand of Grape

Expend'd on
7^th^ Aug^t^
390 lb of Powder
48 Twenty four pound Shot

RICH^d^ SOMERS

Expended on Board Gun Boat Nº 2, *Augt 3d 1804*

72 lbs of Powder — 9 twenty four pound Shot
600 Pistol & Musket Cartridges
32 Blunderbuss ------ Dº

Thos: Brown

Augt 7th 56 lb of Powder & 7 — 24 lb Shot
174 lb of Dº & 29 24 lb Dº

Expended on board Gun Boat Nº 3 *August 3d 1804*

8. ---------- 24 lb Cartridges — 4 of 12lb
2. ---------- 24 lb Round Shot
6. ---------- 24lb Grape.
8. ---------- Tubes
12. ---------- Musquet Cartridges
2. ---------- fathom Match Rope
8. ---------- Wads

Jos Blake

Expended *August 3d 1804* on board Gun Boat Nº 5

17. ---------- 24 lb Cartridges
11. ---------- 24 lb Round Shot
5. ---------- 24 lb Grape
1. ---------- 24 lb Cannister.
17. ---------- Wads
17. ---------- Tubes
1lb ---------- Priming Powder.
100. ---------- Musquet Cartridges
2. ---------- fathoms M[atch Rope]

Expended *August 7th 1804* on board Gun Boat Nº 5.

33. ---------- 24 lb Cartridges
33. ---------- 24 lb Round Shot
33. ---------- Wads
33. ---------- Tubes
2 lb ---------- Priming Powder
2 ---------- fathoms Match Rope

Joseph Bainbridge

Expended on board Bombard Nº 1. *August 7th 1804*

27---------Shells with their loading, fusees &c.

Expended on board Gun Boat Nº 3. *August 7th 1804*

44. ----------24 lb Cartridges
44. ----------24 lb Round Shot
44 ----------Wads
44. ----------Tubes
2lb ----------Priming Powder
3 ----------fathoms Match Rope.
1 ----------Sweep.

Samuel B Brooke

Expended on board of GUN BOAT N^{o} 7 — *August 7th 1804* —

58 ---------- 24 ^{lb} Cartridges
58 ---------- " Shot
100 ---------- Wads
100 ---------- Tubes —
1^{lb} ---------- Priming powder

J THORN

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 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, 7 August 1804

We this morning made the coast of Tripoli, and discovered from the appearance of the Land. that we were to the Eastward of the Town of Tripoli. We stood off from the land some distance hove about and Stood to the Southward & West^{d} and about ½ past 12 Oclock. we discovered a smoke riseing in several places. Soon after we heared the sound of cannon. and about. half past. 1. we discovered a Sale. which proved to be the *Constitution* Commo^{re} Preble off the Town of Tripoli, a bout 3. Oclock we saw with our Glasses, the Town of Tripoli, and several gun boats Schooners & Brigs. and could plainly discover the the fireing from the gun boats and the Town. which appeared to be a very warm and incessent fireing which was kept up. untill 4. Oclock. when it ceased and we could see the Schooners and brigs towing the Gun boats out. the Commodore about this time discovered us and dispatched one of Schooners to see what we were. She proceeded but a little way when she took us to be the Brig *Scourge*. and stood back. It seems that the Brig *Scourge* had been sent as fare as Malta as a convoy to some of our Vessels, and they were in hourly expectation of her., Soon after this. the Comodore made a Signal. which we answered he then supposed us to be the *John Adams*, We soon after that shewed him our distinguishing flag which he answered. We stood up for him and about half past 9 Oclock we gained a part of the Squadron. the wind being very light all day — about half past 10 we run up under the Commodores Stern and gave him three cheers — which was returned. — after hailing us his boat came along side & requested Capt Chauncey to come onboard of him as soon as possible — the Capt went onb[o]ard, in a little time we anchored, the ship to the West^{d} of the Town, in 35 fathom Water, before we anchor^{d} several boats came along side with a number of the Officers belonging to the Squadron out here. we deliv'd them the letters which we had for them. And the News from America. and they informed us that they had this day had a very severe engagement with Tripolian Gun boats under the Bashaws fort. but was not successfull enough to take any of them to day as they kept in shoal water nearly under the fort. But that a few days before this they had taken three of their Gun boats and a number of prisoners. & a number Kiled and Wounded. in this first engagement. Lieut. Ja^{s} Decator was Kiled after one of the Tripolian Boats had struck to him. in the last engagement. one of our Gun boats was blown up. by the magazine taking fire. in which perish^{d} several of our Officers & men. all that were in the stern of the boat & amidships were lost. Lieutenant Ja^{s} Caldwell & Midshipman Tho^{s} Dawrsey [Dorsey] were amongst the u[n]fortu-

nate. It is said. the Tripolians fought very desperately in the first engagement. and never Did the American officers & men act with more bravery and enterprise than on this occation every one being anxious to distinguish themselves in the glory of theire Countrys cause, with one exception only. which is a Lieutenant Blake who it is said. did not. conduct himself in the manner which he aught to have done, and is now publickly caled a cowerd. by the officers of the Squadron — I shall not pretend here and at this time to give a particular description of the engagement as no doubt. Commodore Preble will give to the Public a very particular. & correct statement which is not in my power to do. — Our squadron under Com^{re} Barron has not yet. arrived but. is now. hourly expected. —

This brave and dareing attack will hardly be credited by the Europeans who know the greate Advantage of a fort and strong fortifyed Battery with their greate superiority of gun boats, nor do I beleive any other nation except the Americans woud have attempted it with the same force, not even the British nation with all their boasted skill in Naval Tacticks, but here I may be said to be partial, and I will only say that no nation cou'd have done more than Commodore Preble with the same force

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy

U. S. Ship *John Adams*
Off the Coast of Tripoli 7th Aug^{t} 1804 —

Sir I have the Honor of enclosing you a Duplicate of my Letter to you of the 23^{d} Ult. N^{o} 1 also Copies of my Letters to the Secretary of the Navy N^{o} 2. 3. 4 & 5 a Copy of my letter to Commodore Barron N^{o} 6 and Copy's of 2 Letters from M^{r} Simpson the one to yourself and the other to Commo^{e} Barron N^{o} 7 & 8 with a List of Stores that I have on board for the Squadron under your Command; Also a List of the Officers, Seamen, Ordinary Seamen, Boys and Marines on board of the *John Adams*.

I arrived at Gibralter on the 22^{d} Ult^{o} where I watered the Ship agreeable to Orders from the Secretary of the Navy — left Gibralter on the 25th and arrived at Algiers on the 29th where I waited 24 Hours for Col. Lear's Dispatches to you; left Algiers on the 30th and arrived at Malta late in the Evening of the 4th Ins^{t} at 7 oClock in the Morning of the 5th M^{r} Higgins delivered me your Orders of the 23^{d} of April last and at 8 I got underway in Order to join you off Tripoli, the Wind hauling more to the Northward I was obliged to warp out, therefore did not clear the Harbour before 1 oClock.

The Reason I did not wait for to Water was that I was Quarrantined, I had no Boat of the Ships that was Sufficient to Water by, and there wou'd be considerable Difficulty and Detention to procure a Shore Boat, moreover I was only 1300 Gall^{ns} short and I naturally supposed that the Dispatches that I had on board for you that it was of importance that you shou'd receive as early as Possible, and likewise that the Ship and Crew might be wanted in your present Situation combining these Circumstances, I hope that my not waiting to fill up the small Quantity of Water that was out will meet with your Approbation, and in Order to reduce the Expenditure of Water

I have put the Officers and Men upon an Allowance of three Quarts p[r] Day, which also I hope you will approve of.

The Crew of the *John Adams* are generally healthy, and the Ship cou'd be got ready for Service in 24 Hours, after her Birth Deck was cleaned of Stores — I have 8 Six Pounders mounted on the Quarter Deck and 8 twelve Pounders on the Gun Deck — The Remainder of the Guns are in the Hold, and the Carriages belonging to them are distributed in different Ships of the Squadron coming out —

The Provissions indented for this Ship Previous to our leaving the United States are, some Articles expended, others nearly so therefore with your Permission I will Permit the Purser to Use from the Stores intended for the Squadron such Articles as he is in immediate Want of

ISAAC CHAUNCEY

NB. I also have the Honor of enclosing to you an Abstract of my journal to this Day — inclusive —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Lieutenant Joshua Blake, U. S. Navy

Aug[t] 7th 1804

SIR, I have yet had no opportunity of conversing with Cap[t] Somers, and am therefore obliged to decline being considered attached to a Gun Boat, — distressing as this resignation is to my feelings, I have chosen it, as less so, than to continue under a Suspicious Eye, when I feel conscious that every thing has been done by me, as my best judgement dictated. — I am able Sir, to convince every one, that the Boat N[o] 3, was placed, & continued, in *close* Action, as Soon, & as long, as Signals, & a prospect of being of Service could justify. With this consciousness of rectitude on my part, I feel it my duty to give place to Some Officer that may be more congenial to the feelings of Cap[t] Somers. — I am placed Under an Additional obligation to You Sir, for the continuance in Command, but am convinced you will think I do right to resign it.

JOS BLAKE

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS *August 8[th] 1804*

SIR I should have did myself the honor, to acknowledge, long before this, the receipt of your favour, of the 17[th] ult: in reply to mine forwarded by the Spanish Courier; but have been daily expecting, some vessel; as you were pleased to inform me, that one, should touch at Tunis for my dispatches; presuming that contrary winds, or some other object, has prevented her arrival; I close my package, and forward it, by this conveyance, for Malta; where I trust it will find you —

I had the pleasure to offer you a line, on the 6[th] Ins[t], accompanying a passport, (subject to your final approbation) for a Copigi Bashaw, of the Grande Signior, to enter Tripoli — *our affairs are in Statu quo* — and for your full information, on the general position, of this Regency, I do myself the honor, to enclose you, a copy of my last to the Hon[le] the Sec[ty] of State; and an extract from my present not yet forwarded

This moment a Mamlouke, is sent by his Excellency the Bey, accompanying some Jerheens, with a new complaint — I am directed by His Excellency, to inform you of the circumstance; and learn if any restitution, can be expected —

The Complainants state, that they left the Island of Jerba, in a Sandal, laden,d with Oil Jars; bound to Bougia, on the Coast of Algiers — that between Sphax and Jerba, they observed a Brig and Schooner; the former gave them no molestation; but the latter fired, a quantity of Guns, which made, dreadful havoc, among *their Crockery Ware* — leaving only nine whole, out of the Cargo; which consisted of one hundred and thirty — after being boarded, they were permitted to pass — but in consequence of the injury, done to their Boat, were compell,d to desist from the farther prosecution of their voyage; and put into Sphax, where the Sandal now lies —

You will be pleased to direct what reply, shall be given to the Bey —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

To Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. S. *John Adams*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Copy N^{o} 1 *Constitution* AUGUST 8th 1804

SIR The Service requires that the United States Ship *John Adams* under your Command, remains with the Squadron for the present: You will therefore immediately put her in the best State for Action that your Situation will admit of.

[NDA. MC LB, 1804–5.]

[8 August 1804]

To Midshipman Charles Morris, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

SIR, You are hereby appointed Lieutenant of the United States Brig *Argus*, You will therefore repair on board said Brig, and take upon yourself the charge, and duty of Lieut^{t}, agreeable to the regulations of the Service, for which this shall be your sufficient Authority

Given under my hand on board
the United States Ship *Constitution*
this 8th day of Augt. 1804
Signed EDW^{d} PREBLE

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 8 August 1804

[A. M.] at ¼ past 4 discoverd A sail on our Larb^{d} Quarter.

A 5 discoverd a sail on our weather bow.

At ½ past 6 the commodore Made the Signal N^{o} 276 at 7 tackd ship made sail and gave chace — at ½ past 7 the chace shewed Red colours the commod made the Signal N^{o} 871 — hoisted English colours — the strange sail proved To be a Moorish ship of 32 guns

Latitude Observed 33° 16′ N Longitude Observed 11° 11′ W

[USNA.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 8 August 1804

John Adams Capt. Chauncey arrived from the U. S. A.

[LC original.]

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, 8 August 1804

We were this morning at Anchor to the West^{d} of the town and fortification of the Town of Tripoli all of us in suspence not knowing what will be the next manuvers of the Com^{dre} a peace is talked off. as it is said Commodore Preble is now very anxious to make one before the arrival of Commodore Barron. about 12 Oclock Meridian. a sale was discovered making towards the Town of Tripoli. one of our Brigs & Schooner gave chace to her. she was supposed at first to be the Brig *Schurg*. but was afterwards found to be a strang sail. and having got in to the E^{d} of a long reef. which made out and which our ships coud not cross. she made her escape into Tripoli before. our Vessels coud weather the Point. about 2. Oclock we discovered another sale. and all the squadron got under way and sailed along past the town and harbour of the Town. stood some distance to the easted. and discovered, by signals, the sail to be the *Schurg* — We manuvered about. untill night. when the Squadron came too. except. a brig and a schooner which kept underway all night —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

To Lieutenant James W. Murdoch, U. S. Navy, Philadelphia, Pa., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP. *9th Aug: 1804.*

The President has appointed you a Lieutenant in the Navy of the United States — and a commission will be forwarded to you in due season —

You will take the enclosed Oath and return it to this Office with a letter accepting this appointment, from the date of which your pay & emoluments will commence. — Geo: Harrison Esq^{r} Navy Agent at Philadelphia has been directed to make the necessary contracts for building a Gun-boat, agreeably to a draft which has been transmitted to him. — Your services as a professional Gentleman, may it is conceived be usefully directed to this object — you will therefore attend in person and superintend the execution of the work, and see that it is faithfully performed. You will communicate with G^{e} Harrison Esq^{e} when ever it may be necessary —. He will put you in possession of the particular directions, which have been transmitted to him by me on the subject of dimensions and materials — by which you will be enabled to form a correct judgment of the work as the Contractor progresses in its execution.

[NDA. Off. Comg. Gunboats, 1803–1808.]

To Monsieur Beaussier, French Chargé d'Affaires and Commissary General, Tripoli, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitution. Off TRIPOLY
August 9th 1804

SIR I was honored with your letters by the French Corsair, and note their contents — I did not constrain the Captain to convey the wounded to Tripoly: It was his voluntary act for which I made him a handsome compensation —

One Frigate in addition to our Squadron has already arrived, and three others sailed from America in company with her which were to stop at Algiers and Tunis. I expect them every moment. Such a force you must be sensible will enable us to destroy all the Sea Port Towns in Tripoly — After their arrival it will not be in my power to offer a single dollar either as ransom or peace: As yet it is; and I now propose my last offer which I most solemnly assure you I will never transcend — I will give his highness the Bashaw Eighty thousand dollars for the ransom of the prisoners and restore him all the Prisoners in our possession & re-establish a treaty of Peace, and will give ten thousand dollars as a Consular present on the arrival of a Consul from the United States.

If these terms are agreeable to the Bashaw, I must be made acquainted with it by 10 OClock tomorrow morning If they are accepted, you will please to hoist the white flag under the french flag, and his highness the Bashaw will be pleased to hoist the white flag at his Castle to denote that we are at peace, which I shall answer by the white flag at the fore — M[r] OBrien will deliver you this & consult with you if you wish it.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 9 August 1804

This day Commences with mod[e] breezes At ½ past 1 P, M, got under way cast of[f] the Gunboat at 2 Commodore Preble and Consul OBrien came on board made sail and stood in for Tripoli at ½ past 2 fired a Gun and hoisted a Sig[l] for the french Consul at 3 observed a Sail off our lee bow bore away for her found her Close in with the Shore T, K[d] and Stood off at ½ past 5 Commod[e] Preble & Consul OBrien Went on board the *Constitution* saw a Strange sail to the Eastw[d] made all sail in Chace at 6 Exchange Sig[ls] with the U. S. Brig *Scourge* at ¾ past 4 AM the Commod[e] made Sig[l] N[o] 571 at 5 wore Ship to the Southw[d] at 6 the Commod[e] hoisted our Distinguishing flag at 7 Cap[t] Hull Went on board the Commodore and returned at 9 at ½ past Commod[e] Preble & Consul OBrien Came on board made sail and Stood in for the town at ½ past 10 fired a Gun and made a Sig[l] for the french Consul At 12 hoisted the white flag under the french Consular Sig[l] which was answered by him on Shore.

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 9 August 1804

Joined the U. S. Brig *Argus*.
1. M[r] OBrien went into Tripoli with a flag of truce
2 M[r] OBrien returned made sail and stood for the *Constitution*

3 Hove to: The Commodore. Mr OBrien Capt. Hull & Capt Smith went on board the *Constitution*

A. M. Moderate. Wore occasionally to keep sight of the Commodores light

6½ the Commodore Hoisted our distinguishing flag — Capt Hull went on board

Sent the launch on board the *Jn*º *Adams* —

[Mrs. C. E. Fox original. NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal kept on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Thursday, 9 August 1804

Wind N W at anchor with the Squadron N W from Tripoly 5 or 6 Miles, supplying the Gun Boats & Bomb Vessells with Ammunition & stores. — At 3 PM went on Board the *Argus* to reconnoitre the Harbour of Tripoly, stood in for the eastern Batteries, the Enemy fired several shot one of which was near sinking us as it struck below the Water line & raked the Copper down the Bottom. at 3½ P M made the signal for the Squadron to weigh and haul off the Wind blowing fresh from N N E — at 6 P M Joined the *Constitution*, a small Ketch stole into the Harbour under the Eastern shore while we were reconnoitering, the shoals prevented our cutting her off, fresh Breezes all night in the morning Calm. at 9 AM Anchd with the Squadron 36 faths 5 miles N N E from the Town at 10 AM. the French Consul hoisted a french Flag & White flag under it, at his Flag staff on shore, in consequence of which I hoisted similar colours on Board the *Argus* & stood in near the Town & sent a Boat into the Harbour with a flag of truce, and a letter for the Prime Minister one for Capt Bainbridge enclosing an Invoice of clothing Provided by Mr Cathcart, and a letter to the French Consul. — The *Scourge* Joind compey Lt Izard reported that he convoyed the Store ship safe into Malta. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Thursday, 9 August 1804

Moderate breezes from N W. At Single Anchor 5 or 6 Miles N W from Tripoly — Squadron in company — We are Employ'd in supplying the Gun boats & Bombards with military stores. The Commodores General Orders were read this Afternoon thro' the Squadron, in the form of public thanks to the Officers Seamen & Marines — He mentions with regret those brave unfortunate Officers, Seamen & Marines who fell in the actions against Tripoly on the 5th & 8th [3 & 7] Inst:. His thanks were cheered from Van to rear of the Squadron At 3 P. M. the Commodore left the *Constitution* and went on board the *Argus* — He left Orders for the Squadron to weigh & stand to the E N E.

The *Argus* bore up for Tripoly in Order to reconoitre the Harbour — The Batteries fired several shot at the *Argus* one of which hull'd her within two or three feet of the Place where the Commodore was standing.

At 3½ P. M. the Squadron weighed & filled to the E N E. At Sun set the Commodore rejoined the *Constitution* Tripoly S W b S ½ S.

The Weather at this time had the appearance of fresh breezes from N N E — A sail to the E b S which answered our private Signal — At 9 P. M. the weather cleared up and became More Moderate.

Pleasant weather through the night. We stood off & on with the Squadron in company till day light when we wore & stood in for Tripoly then bearing S W 9 or 10 Miles — From day light till 7 A. M. Light breezes from E S E. From this time till 8½ A. M. calm or light airs from S S W. At 8¼ A. M. made signal to the Squadron to prepare to anchor.

At 9 came to, with the small bower in 36 f^{ms} hard bottom, 5 Miles N N E of Tripoly — At 10 A. M. a light [breeze] sprang up from E b N — The Commodore left the *Constitution* and went on board the *Argus* which made sail in for Tripoly — The *Vixen* followed the *Argus* — As they drew in towards the batteries they shewed American colours & the french flag at the fore —

Joined company the *Scourge* which left the Squadron a few days ago as a convoy to the store ship —

Employed all forenoon supplying the Squadron with different articles — Supplied the Bombards with 256 Gal^{s} Water Each —

Noon light airs from E N E.

Surgeons report 3 Sick, 4 conv$^{sc't}$

Latitude Observed 33° 4′ 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, Thursday, 9 August 1804

We this day continued at Anchor making preparation to discharge part of our cargo on board the different ships laying here. as it seems we are to be equiped and to engage in the next atact provided there is not a peace. —

The Commodore sent in a flag of Truce to know whether the Bashaw woud treat on the Terms which had been offered by him before our arrival. and as I have no correct account of the terms offered. I shall not pretend to mention them here. the schooner and brig returned after having had some communication through the French Consul who came off. by permission of the Bashaw. and the white flag was haled down. which was a signal that no peace had been made. and. preparations are now making for anoth[er] attacck. we continue to have every day a number of the officers on board of us to dine and a repatition of the different engagm$^{t's}$ which they have had with the Tripolians. — they seem to talk of butchering and cuting up a Turk with as much indifference as one is acustomed to carve a Turkey or chicken. the officers here are all very anxious that a peace shoud be made before the arrival of Commodore Barrion. that Commodore Preble may have the credit of it. most of the officers of our ship are opposed to it and we are praying for his arrival before a peace

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

Extracts 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, 9 August 1804

(Standing along the land with the Commodore ½ past 3 hove up)

Light winds & pleasant. At 1 the *Argus* hove too. At 2 L^t^ Elbert from the *Constitution*, came on board with the Commodore's thanks to the Officers & men of the squadron for their spirited conduct & Exertions on the 3^d^ & 7^th^ Instants in attacking & vanquishing the enemy, which was publickly read on the quarter deck. At ½ past 2 the *Argus* hove about & stood in for the Town At 3 a signal to get under way. ½ past 3 weigh'd & made sail. ½ past 4 back'd the main topsail, saw a ketch enter the harbour of Tripoli. At 5 calm At 6 discov'd the *Scourge* to windward. At 8 a signal to anchor. At 9 the *Argus* stood in & hoisted the french flag & fir'd a gun to leeward At ½ past 9 the *Vixen* stood in with a french flagg at the fore At 11 the french flag was hoisted ashore. —

Meridian light airs & pleasant, the *Argus* hoisted the White flag under the french. —

[NDA.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron relieving Commodore Preble, from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco

TANGIER *10^th^ August 1804.* —

DEAR SIR In continuation of the advices already lodged at Gibraltar for your information on the movements of the Vessels of War of this Country, I have now to acquaint you that on the 29^th^ Ult^o^ the Frigate of 32 Guns remained at Anchor in Sallé Roads, waiting the return of that of 30 Guns from Mogadore, ordered back there. — The Copper & Salt petre laden on this Ship at that Port, it is said will be put on board a Schooner and a Sactia. — The other Ship *Mirboha* commanded by Arraez Lubarez sailed from Larach on Sunday last to join those two. — The three are to receive a farther supply of provisions and Ammunition, with an addition of thirty Seamen each and their ultimate Instructions, then to proceed in Company on a Cruise to be established, according to the best information, between Cape Finisterre and Cape S^t^ Vincent, but against whom it is impossible for me to say.

The two Galleys arrived here from Tetuan on Wednesday, the *Gilallia* Commanded by Arraez Mohamet Ben Mishod & the *Bercia* — Arraez Mohamet Ben Ottoman, of four Carriage Guns and sixty five Men each. — This morning the Captains have called on the Consuls for the usual Passports and have got them; — they will probably put to Sea tomorrow. — Some say they are to Cruise between Gibraltar and Malaga, but that is not certain, their station being commonly in the Straits, makeing this Port their Rendezvous. — The discontent I have been assured the Emperour shewed on finding Arraez Lubarez could not carry the Wheat he had ordered for Tripoly, and the destination of all the three Ships which certainly was for the Mediterranean Ports, being at that time changed for a Cruize in the Ocean, made me very anxious to have some direct communication from His Majesty and the Minister, subsequent thereto. — This day I have received a Letter from one of the Emperours confidential Friends dated at Mequinez the 6^th^ Ins^t^ written by His Majestys order, acknowledging

that I lately wrote His Majesty, it is in very Friendly terms, but I have not any answer to that written Sidy Muhammed Selawy at same time, owing no doubt to the Express having come direct in place of takeing Sallé in his way, where that Minister at present is. —

The tenor of this Letter however makes me hope reports had gone abroad unfavourable to our future Peace here, are perfectly unfounded; still I consider it a prudent measure to watch the opperations of these Cruizers both large and small, at least for such time as it shall be seen they suffer our Flag to pass free; — the conduct of the one will shew clearly the intentions of the other. —

[Mrs. James S. Barron Col.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Monsieur Beaussier, French Chargé d'Affaires and Commissary General, Tripoli

TRIPOLY BARBARY *August 10th 1804*

COMMODORE I did not receive your letter before yesterday at ½ past 12. Though in my opinion the offer you make as a ransom is still inconsiderable, before it was communicated to the Bashaw, I wished to have a conference with Mohammet DGhies concerning it, and called on him for this purpose — He assured me that since the Effusion of blood had already commenced, his country was bent upon continuing the war — that the Bashaw, electrified more than ever by the decision of his council, and by the patriotic transport of his People, is determined to wait the event, unless the sum is considerably augmented — that the government speaks of nothing less than two or three hundred thousand dollars — He has promised to second me before the Bashaw, in these new considerations which I am about to lay before him —

He told me, (and I am sensible of it) that it would be prejudicial to the interests of both parties to propose Eighty thousand dollars, and desired me to inform you that he flattered himself with the hopes of being able to succeed in reducing these pretensions to the sum of one hundred & fifty thousand — This ransom Commodore is not exorbitant, and will not fail to meet with the approbation of your Government, if you wish to penetrate the disposition of the Bashaw, who persists in hazarding every thing rather than expose his dignity in this point. Besides you will set at liberty your unfortunate Countrymen by means of this reasonable sum which will be so deemed by all governments.

If you wish to pursue the negotiation, & communicate to me your Sentiments, you can make use of the same method as before — In concert with Sidi Mohammed DGhies & Mr OBrien whose debarkation I shall obtain, I shall exert myself in persuading the B. to content himself with the already mentioned sum Your first attack had intimidated him a little, but the second encouraged him against the Efforts of your forces, the importance of which I have disclosed to him.

Accept the homage of my high consideration

(Signed) BEAUSSIER

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 10 August 1804

This day begins with light breezes and Pleasant Weather At ½ past 1 PM, Consul OBrien went to Tripoli with a flag of truce at 2 wore and stood for the town at ½ past 2 Consul OBrien returned wore and made Sail off the land at 4 backed the main topsail Commodᵉ Preble Consul OBrien Capᵗ Hull and Capᵗ Smith went on board the *Constitution* Mʳ Chaˢ Morris Came on board as 3ʳᵈ Lieuᵗ At midnight wore to the Nᵈ & Eastwᵈ At 3 AM wore to the Southwᵈ and Westwᵈ at 6 the Commodᵉ hoisted our Distinguishing flag made Sail for him at 7 he hoisted the White flag which followed by the Squadron At ½ past 7 Capᵗ Hull went on board the Commodᵉ and retᵈ at ½ past 9 hoisted out the launch and sent her on board the *John Adams* At Meridⁿ Modᵉ & pleasant Wʳ

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal kept on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Friday, 10 August 1804

Wind N N E to E N E at Anchor 2 Leagues N N E from Tripoly. — all the squadron at Anchor excepting the *Argus & Vixen* as Guard ships. — at ½ past 12 Noon observ'd the French Flag with a white flag under it hoisted at the staff on Top of the French Consuls House in Tripoly, I ordered the *Argus & Vixen* to answer the signal by hoisting similar flags, I then sent a Boat into the Harbour with flag of truce. Mʳ Obrian went in as Officer of the Boat, at 3 P M the Boat return'd and Brought me a letter from the french Consul, advising me to offer the Bashaw 150 thousand dollars for randsome of the Prisoners & make Peace, this I did not think proper to do presuming that our Government might not be sattisfied with the terms, altho it is my opinion that we shall not be able to obtain them for a less sum, moderate all night, all the squadron Employd in preparing for a third attack at 11 ½ AM. the French Consul hoisted the french & white flags, sent a Boat into the Harbour with a flag of truce, and a letter, authorising the F. Consul to offer the Bashaw 100,000 Dollˢ for Randsome of the Prisoners, 10,000 as a Consular Present, nothing for Peace and no tribute, these terms were rejected. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Friday, 10 August 1804

Moderate breezes from E N E.

At Single Anchor 5 or 6 Miles N N E from Tripoly — The Squadron excep the *Argus* & *Vixen* which are standing off & on in company.

At 12½ Noon we observed on the walls of Tripoly the French National flag with a white Flag under it.

The *Argus & Vixen* shewed the same flags — Soon after the *Argus* sent a boat into Tripoly with Consul OBrien — She went & returned under flag of truce At 4 P. M. the Commodore rejoined the *Constitution* and Visited some of the Squadron —

Towards evening fresh breezes from E S E — Veered to 90 fathˢ — From 8 P. M. till day light moderate breezes from E S E. A little after Sunrise we observed several Flags displayed round the walls of Tripoly, and two on the Bashaw's castle — We have never before

this morning seen more than one flag on the Bashaws castle, and it was the General opinion of the Officers of the *Constitution* that one of these two was a white flag — The Squadron hoisted immediately a white flag at the fore.

The *Vixen* was ordered to stand in, and examine the flag: At 8 A. M. she returned & reported the Flag to be yellow & white — The Squadron immediately hauled down the white Flag.

Employed all forenoon in sending powder & shot to the Gun boats & shells to the Bombards —

The Squadron employed making the necessary arrangements for a third attack upon Tripoly —

At 11½ A. M. we observed the French National Flag with a white one under it flying on the Walls of Tripoly Made the *Argus* & *Vixen* signals to come within hail Noon Moderate breezes from ESE with pleasant Weather

[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, 10 August 1804

This morning Commodore Prible. sent the Schooner and brig in again under the White flag. to know whether the Bashaw woud. acceed to the terms which he had offered before and it is said that the Commodore has offered a larger sum for peace and the ransom of our Prisoners, as he is still more ancxious. to conclude the peace before the arrival of Com[e] Barron. the Brig & Schooner has just returned and haled down the White flag again. which is a signal to us that there is nothing done. and it was expected that another attack would be made this evening on the Town, but it seems nothing in that way is to be done to night. We are still discharging our ship and preparing for to Join in the action. our Captain has frequent communications with the com[r] but we know not what is going on or what is to be the final result. —

[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, 10 August 1804

Lying at Anchor

Light breezes & pleasant, the *Argus* & *Vixen* Lying too of[f] the harbour, At 1 the Comm: sent a boat from the *Argus* on shore At 3 the boat return'd, the *Argus* join'd the fleet with the *Vixen* Tripoli bore S W by S. 6 miles. —

Midnight light breezes & pleasant At 7 the Comm: hoisted the white flag & made the signal to speak the *Argus*. the *Vixen* stood in for the Town with a flag of truice. At ½ past 7 she fir'd a gun to leeward & stood close in under the batteries ½ past 7 the flag not being answer'd the *Vixen* wore round & stood for the fleet. At 9 the flag on board the Comm: was haul'd down. At ½ past 11 the *Scourge* hove up —

Meridian light breezes & pleas[t]

[NDA.]

To Mrs. William Bainbridge, Perth Amboy, N. J., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP *Aug^{t} 11. 1804*

As a small supply of money may probably be acceptable to you in the absence of your Husband Cap^{n} Bainbridge, I have directed George Harrison Esq^{r} to honor your Drafts on him for 150 or 200 Dollars — If you please you may draw on him at Sight for this Sum

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

[11 August 1804]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from P. d'Karpow, Russian Chargé d'Affaires, The Two Sicilies

[Translation]

COMMODORE A Sickness which has confined me to my bed during more than two months has prevented me from acknowledging (before now) the reception of the obliging letter which you have done me the honor to write under date of 7th June last, announcing to me your wise determination to release the Russian Ship [*Madona Catapoliana*] which one of your armed Vessels had taken some miles distant from the Port of Tripoly.

I, assuredly, will not fail to inform my court of your equitable proceedure, and it will learn, certainly with much pleasure the care which you have [taken], to avoid all that, which can bring the least injury upon the good harmony which exists between my august Sovereign and your Government.

I likewise beg you Sir to accept the assurance of the distinguished consideration with which I have the honor to be, Sir

Naples. 30th Juillet 11th August

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta

MALTA the *11 August 1804*

DEAR SIR. I dispatch this boat to inform you that Count Galligni has loaded a Speronara with powder, Muskets, Gun flints &c^{a} for the Bey of Tripoly she is cleared out for Jerba, and the powder I learn, for better deception, is packed into Rum Puncheons; the patron of the Boat which carries this is well acquainted with the rout, the Count's Vessel means to take and will conduct any of your Squadron into a situation so as to be sure to meet with her, and cut her off; he may also be otherways useful in bringing you live stock from the Shore —

The Vessel with the water &c^{a} will sail to morrow morning Compleatly loaded with about two hundred Puncheons of Water, Onions, Sheep, fowls &c^{a} as p^{r} bill of Lading that will go with her; I have taken her by the Month, and for three Months certain; and she is to be entirely under your Orders —

I have not been able to get the quantity of Potatoes you want, all that I could procure will go in company with this letter with a parcel of Melons —

I sincerely hope you will be able to lay hold of the Counts Ammunition, which it is important should not reach the Bey, as he, it is reputed, is much in want; at any rate I thought it my duty to give

you this information without thinking of the additional Expence it will occasion — I give the Speronara 240. Dollars certain, and a present of 100 Dollars more if the powder is met with; endeed I should tell you that the first information I got of this business was from the Bearer to whom the freight was offered, but they could not agree about the price.

I wrote you by the *John Adam's* fregate which I hope long ere this has Joined you, and a fregate is now passing the Island at a distance sterring with a Crowd of sail your way that I hope will prove to be the *Essex* —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

To Monsieur Beaussier, French Chargé d'Affaires and Commissary General, Tripoli, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitution — Off TRIPOLY
August 11th 1804

SIR I am honored with your letter of yesterday: in answer to which I have to observe that the expectations of the Bashaw cannot be complied with. Perhaps after the next attack he may be willing to acceed to mine. The last attack would have been a very serious one for Tripoly, had not a frigate appeared in the offing the moment there was sufficient wind to enable me to approach the town — The appearance of that Frigate and supposing that the other four were near her, induced me to make a signal to withdraw from the attack in order to make a more effectual one, which will take place the moment they arrive. In the mean time the Bombardment and cannonading of the town will be carried on, and no more time can be lost in attempting to negotiate —

My Government expected to ransom our Prisoners for forty thousand dollars: I had however discretionary power to go as far as Eighty thousand, besides a present in cash; this present I will give the Bashaw amounting to twenty thousand dollars to make up the sum of one hundred thousand for the Ransom of the prisoners, which shall be paid in forty days. I hope the Bashaw will accept of these Generous terms, beyond which my Government will not approve of my going as it is my utmost limits. Be assured Sir, when the whole Squadron arrives, no such offer will ever again be made — It will be a glorious affair for you Sir to negotiate the liberation of these Prisoners and prevent the farther effusion of blood — I am convinced by what I have already seen, that we can reduce Tripoly to a heap of Ruins: the destruction of Derna & Bengaza will follow, and the blockade be constantly cont[in]ued, unless the present terms are accepted — For this sum now offered all the Prisoners are to be immediately released & the former treaty of Peace renewed & ratified: A Consular present of ten thousand dollars in cash shall be given on the arrival of a Consul, but no annuities or other presents — All the Tripoline Prisoners which I have on board shall be landed here on the restoration of our's; and all those at Syracuse shall be immediately sent for and brought to the Bashaw — I presume you will have no hesitation in becoming the Guarantee for the payment of the money, and be assured if the terms are accepted, it shall be brought from Malta as much sooner than the forty days as possible —

If the terms now offered are accepted of, I wish you to hoist the white flag under the french flag at your Staff by 5 O'Clock this Evening & come off, and I will send a boat to the Rocks to receive you. & Mr OBrien will go on shore with you to make the necessary arrangements —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

To Monsieur Beaussier, French Chargé d'Affaires and Commissary General, Tripoli, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitution Off Tripoly
August 11th. 1804

Sir As I know it is customary to distribute presents among the officers of the Bashaw on the renewal of a treaty of Peace; You are at Liberty in addition to the one hundred thousand dollars offered this day to the Bashaw for the Ransom of the Americans in Tripoly, to distribute ten thousand dollars to the Prime minister and other officers for their interest in influencing the Bashaw to accept of the only terms I have it in my power to propose, which sum shall be delivered to you for that purpose in forty days. The presents are to be privately given —

If on the arrival of our whole force, peace is not established, one of our Frigates is ordered by the president of the United States to proceed to Alexandria to assist the Bashaw's brother. Mr Eaton our late Consul at Tunis comes out in the Frigate for that purpose, and brings out arms and ammunition, artillery and cash to enable him to regain the Throne of Tripoly — I can assure you, this is a fact, and I have no objection to your acquainting the minister —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

Daily Report of Prisoners of War

Constitutions daily report of Prisoners of War August 11th 1804

Well	Thirty Seven
Wounded	Five
Total	Forty two

John Bushard *M. A.* [John Burchard, *Master at Arms*]

[Maine HS. NDA photostat.]

Cargo of U. S. Ketch *Intrepid*

Manifest of the Cargo Shipped on board the American Ketch *Intrepid* for the U. S. of America's Squadron Off Tripoly by George Dyson — Syracuse August 11th 1804

4 Bullocks
1 Calf
20 cants Wood
4 Baskets Eggs — 900
100 Melons
2 Baskets Peas
230 Melincani
13 Pigs
62 Sheep
30 butts Water
3 casks old Hock
42 Fowls
500 Wt Onions & 50 Pumpions
40 Galls Oil
3 Cwt Hay, Corn &ce
5 Cwt Onions
1 Cask Marine cloathing for U. S. Brig *Syren*

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

Course of U. S. Frigate *Congress*, one of Commodore Samuel Barron's Squadron, from Cape Henry, 5 July, to Gibraltar, 11 August 1804

Date	Latitude N.	Longitude W.	Distance per Log
July 5	36. 58	74. 53	43 Miles
" 6	36. 50	71. 43	154 "
" 7	36. 30	68. 47	144 "
" 8	36. 08	65. 02	184 "
" 9	35. 36	60. 28	224 "
" 10	35. 46	57. 43	137 "
" 11	36. 54	54. 43	182 "
" 12	36. 44	50. 03	227 "
" 13	36. 49	45. 47	194 "
" 14	36. 24	42. 10	175 "
" 15	36. 33	39. 14	142 "
" 16	36. 31	36. 38	128 "
" 17	36. 44	34. 39	96 "
" 18	36. 44	33. 08	97 "
" 19	36. 27	31. 11	96 "
" 20	35. 27	28. 54	144 "
" 21	37. 17	27. 46	132 "
" 22	37. 14	27. 57	136 "
" 23	35. 45	26. 16	123 "
" 24	34. 43	24. 22	114 "
" 25	34. 44	22. 51	87 "
" 26	33. 44	21. 10	87 "
" 27	32. 46	19. 13	114 "
" 28	32. 20	17. 44	91 "
" 29	32. 25	17. 05	23 "
" 30	31. 59	16. 02	96 "
" 31	31. 55	14. 51	89 "
Aug. 1	31. 39	13. 07	91 "
" 2	32. 05	12. 45	104 "
" 3	32. 09	10. 55	101 "
" 4	31. 51	10. 57	58 "
" 5	32. 11	10. 04	98 "
" 6	32. 39	11. 00	83 "
" 7	33. 02	10. 13	51 "
" 8	33. 16	11. 11	59 "
" 9	34. 02	9. 20	104 "
" 10	34. 43	8. 06	76 "
" 11	----------	----------	123 "

[USNA. Log of *Congress & Constitution*, Nov. 1804–Sept. 1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 11 August 1804

This day begins with mod^{e} and pleas^{t} Weather at Merid^{n} the Commod^{e} hoisted our Distinguishing flag bore away for him at ½ past Commod^{e} Preble and Consul OBrien came on board made Sail & stood in for the town at ½ past 1 fired a Gun and hoisted the White flag at the Fore T.G. mast head and a french Ensign at the main which was followed by the Squadron Consul OBrien went on Shore with a flag of Truce in the barge Commod^{e} Preble Cap^{ts} Hull and Smith went on board the *Vixen* at ½ past 2 Consul OBrien returned on board the *Vixen* made Sail for the *Constitution* at ½ past 8 hoisted in the launch at 9 Cap^{t} Hull returned at 2 AM wore Ship to the S^{d} & Westw^{d} at 9 AM Cap^{t} Hull went on board the Commod^{e} at ¼ past he ret^{d} with Consul

OBrien made Sail and Stood for the town at 10 fired a Gun and hoisted the french flag at the M.T.G. mast head and a White at the fore at ½ past Consul OBrien went in the barge for Tripoli with a flag of Truce at Merid[n] he returned made Sail & Stood for the Commodore

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 11 August 1804

P. M. Pleasant, the Commodore hoisted our distinguishing flag bore up for him

1. The Commodore and M[r] OBrien came on board. made sail for the Town in Company with the *Vixen*

1½ fired a Gun and hoisted the White flag forward and the French Ensign at the Main. The rest of the Squadron hoisting a White flag at the fore. M[r] OBrien went on shore with a flag of Truce the Commodore, Capt Hull, and Capt Smith went on board the *Vixen*

2½ M[r] OBrien returned to the *Vixen* made sail off shore

6 Took the Gun Boats in tow. 9 Capt Hull returned

A. M. 9½ M[r] OBrien came on board Stood in shore and hoisted the signal as above. 10½ M[r] OBrien went on shore with a flag of Truce

Noon M[r] OBrien returned stood off shore —

[Mrs. C. E. Fox original. NDA photostat.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 11 August 1804

Sent a flag on shore to endeavor to exchange prisoners.

[LC original.]

Extract from journal kept on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Saturday, 11 August 1804

Wind E b N light Breezes, held communication with the french Consul in Tripoly by means of flag of truce, but without any effect, the Bashaw's demands are too extravagant to be complied with. Rec[d] on board sundry stores from the *John Adams*. —

[LC. EPP. Vol. 12. June–August 1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Saturday, 11 August 1804

Moderate breezes from E b N — At 12¾ the Commodore went on board the *Argus* & made sail in for Tripoly Consul OBrien went on Shore in the *Argus'* Boat with a White Flag under the French Flag. We hoisted a white Flag during the time the Boat was on shore — We had strong breezes from E S E. the greater part of the Afternoon, & are employed in sending different stores to the Gun boats & Bombards —

Towards evening the Commodore came on board.

The *Argus & Vixen* joined the Squadron — They were Ordered p[r] Signal to continue under way during the Night—

All the Captains of the Squadron waited on the Commodore —

The E S E wind continued strong till day light, when we had moderate breezes — At 6 A. M. calm

At 8 A. M. supplied the *Enterprize* with 16 gang casks of water — 1024 Gallons —

At 9 A M. the White under the French Flag was hoisted in Tripoly — The *Argus* & *Vixen* p[r] Signal came within hail — Consul OBrien went on board the *Argus* with the Commodores dispatches —.

The *Argus* ran in with the town and sent a boat on on shore.

At 10½ made Signal for all the Squadron except the *John Adams* & *Scourge* to weigh.

We weighed & ran down for Tripoly — At Noon brought to, with the Main topsail to the Mast 4 Miles North of Tripoly in order to join company with the *Argus* & *Vixen* then in with the town waiting the return of Consul OBrien in the Boat.

Rec'd from the *John Adams* the following stores Viz

One Coil	4½	Inch rope	120	fath[s]
Two	4		440	d[o]
One	5		120	d[o]
Eleven	1½		1320	d[o]
Ten	3		1200	d[o]
Fourteen	12	thread Ratline	1680	d[o]
Eight	9	thread d[o]	1200.	d[o]

Rec'd also from the *John Adams* three boxes Marine Cloathing

[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, 11 August 1804

We still continue at Anchor of[f] the Town of Tripoli distance about 3 or 4 Leagues. The Comm[o] Prible renewed again to day his ovetures for Peace and went in near the Town and hoisted the White Flag under the French Flag. had some communications with the Bashaw. but all to no effect. as it seems. that he has encreased his demand i[n]stead of reducing of them. the cause of which is attributed to various circumstance: one the arrival of this ship and and offers of peace being made by him the day after our arrival the Bashaw supposing that we have come out with Possitive orders for a peace from our Government. and that. the other Squadron which has been so long talked of is not coming. another. the gun boats. having been ordered off in the last attack without destroying or taking any of the Bashaws. Boats, we now understand that Commodore is determined to make no further offers to the Bashaw for Peace but to attack the Town to night. — the Squadron got under way with an intention to attack the town but the Wind & Weather not being favourable it was given over after the Squadron had stood in near the town —

[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, 11 August 1804

Lying at anchor until 10 P. M.

Gentle breezes & pleas[t] ½ past meridian the *Argus* & *Vixen* stood in for the town. the *Argus* fir'd a gun to leeward & hoisted the white flag at the fore & a french jack at the main, same time the white flag was hoisted at the fore by all the Squadron. At 3 the squadron haul'd down their flags the *Argus* & *Vixen* stood off shore —

Midnight light winds & pleas[t] At daylight perceiv'd the galley's & gun boats &c. hauling out of the Mole At 9 hoisted out the barge & in cutter to repair. At ½ past 9 the *Argus* & *Vixen* made sail & stood in for the town. At ¼ past the *Argus* fir'd a gun & hoisted a white flag at the fore & the french jack at the main. ½ past 10 a signal from the Comm[r] to get under way. At 11 made sail & stood for the town. —

Meridian light winds & pleas[t] weather. —

[NDA.]

[12 August 1804]

Stores and Provisions shipped on board the Ship *Conception*

Shipped by the Grace of God in good Order & well conditioned by William Higgins Naval Agent to the United States in and upon the good ship called the *Conception* whereof is Master under God for this present Voyage — Antonio Grima, and no[w] riding at anchor in the Harbour of Malta and by God's Grace bound for the American Squadron Off Tripoly under the command of Commodore Preble being supplies for the Use thereof, and the Property of the United States as particularized on the other side being marked & numbered as in the Margin, and are to be delivered in like good Order & well conditioned to the Aforesaid Squadron — (the Act of God, the Kings Enemies Fire, & all & every other dangers & Accidents of the Seas Rivers & Navigation, of whatever nature & kind soever excepted) Unto Commodore Preble or to his Assigns, he or they paying freight for the said Goods, as per charter Party — with Primage & Average Accustomed — In Witness whereof the Master or Purser of the said ship hath affirmed to three Bills of lading, all of this tenor & date: the one of which bills being accomplished the other two to Stand Void — And So God send the good Ship to her desired Port in Safety — Amen — Dated in Malta the 12th August 1804

Signed ANTONIO GRIMA

Endoresed on the Back as follows

195 Iron bound Water casks full of Fresh Water
Thirty sheep
10 Doz[n] Fowls
50 Cantars Onions
8 Sacks Barley
50 Pesati Wood or about 258 English Cw[t]
1 cantar Melons
112 Bundles Hay
350 cabbages —

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

N[o] 1 — (Duplicate forwarded) U. STATES FRIGATE *Congress*
Gibralta Bay Aug[t] 12[th] 1804

SIR, I have the honor to acquaint you that the *Congress* has arrived after a tedious passage of 38 days — The *Constellation* is in Sight & I expect to see the *President* & *Essex* every minute, as we only parted company five days ago. —

The last 25 days of our passage the Winds were directly ahead, and to facilitate our arrival the Commodore thought proper on the 7th Inst to seperate the Squadron and direct each Ship to make the best of her way to this place. —

The arrival of the Squadron *at this moment* has again rendered an unexpected Service to the U'States, as the Emperor of Morocco has began to be unreasonable; He wishes to send one of his Ships of War to Tripoli, with a Cargo of Wheat, and has Importuned our Consul much on the Subject —

The Day the Squadron parted company, it boarded (about 70 Leagues to the S. W. of Larache) the Emperors Frigate *Maimona*, from Mogadore bound to Larache, at which place he is collecting all his force and it is thought very probable to cruize against the U'States, in case of Consul Simpsons refusing a passport to the before mentioned Ship: however the arrival of this Squadron will no doubt change the Emperors plans —

Tunis is refractory and has made many threats, but I expect Prebles Vigilence has caused the Bey to be cautious; Indeed from what I learn here, nothing dangerous is to be expected from that quarter, his Commerce is considerable and he will not risque it for an uncertainty — I am afraid the business of Tripoli will be finished before we arrive, as it appears by Letters from Capt Preble to Consul Gavino, dated Saragosa June 19th that he was then nearly ready to Sail for Tripoli with Six Gun Boats & two Bombards in addition to the Squadron —

It is believed here, by the most knowing, that Spain intends to quarrel with us, and I think from a letter I saw from Mr Pinckney to Consul Gavino, that it is not Improble, as that Goverment has refused to ratify the Louisiana Treaty —

[LC. JRP, Letters & Orders, Book A, 1804–1805.]

[12 August 1804]

Passport issued to the Spanish vessel *La Marianna*

To the Commodore or Commanding Officer of the Ships of War of the United States of America before Tripoly —

GREETING

WHEREAS His Excellency Hamouda Bashaw Bey of Tunis, has caused application to be made to me as the Consular Agent of the United States of America for this Regency, that a Safe Conduct should be granted to Sidi Mohamed Meten Aga Ambassador of the Grand Signior, and his Suite consisting of twelve Persons, charged with Dispatches from the Ottoman Porte to His Excellency the Bashaw of Tripoly, and now embarked on board the Spanish Pinck *La Marianna* Captain Joseph Bianchi, and navigated by nine Seamen the said Captain included — I have therefore granted a Passport to said Vessel, to proceed off Tripoly, and there to receive the approbation of the Commodore, or Commanding Officer of the American forces, to enter said Port. — It is therefore requested of the Commanders of the Vessels of war of the United States, to permit said Vessel to pass on her destined Voyage without hindrance or molestation; — provided she embarks no kind of Merchandize or takes on board no Passengers, other than those above mentioned. — It is further required on the

part of His Excellency the Bey, that said Vessel be permitted to leave the Port of Tripoly, without any molestation; provided she comes out with the same number of Passengers &c. &c. — There is shipped on board (with my consent,) one Trunk, containing wearing apparel, and one small box of Sugar and Coffee the property of M[r] Beaussier Commissary General of the French Republic at Tripoly. — I have delivered to the Captain four Packages of letters, and one for the Commodore or Commanding Officer of the American forces off Tripoly —

(SEAL) In witness whereof I have hereunto Set my name and affixed the Public Seal of Office in the Chancery — Office of the United States of America at Tunis this twelvth day of August one thousand eight hundred and four —

GEORGE DAVIS

A Tunisien Pilot is embarked on board, by order of the Bey — and will return to Tunis by land GEORGE DAVIS

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta

MALTA the *12 August 1804*

MY DEAR SIR The enclosed is Copy of what I did myself the honor to address you yesterday and I sincerely hope it will enable you to get hold of the Count's Ammunition-boat She is not yet sailed but I understand departs to morrow — The Patron of the speronara is well acquainted with the Coast and if you want him is willing to remain in the Service as long as you choose to keep him —

I have now the pleasure to hand You bill of lading for sundry Supplies of Water &ca shipped in conformity with your orders for the use of the Squadron under your Command — I trust you will be satisfied at the expedition I have used in fulfilling Your Commands. indeed I should have got the Vessel away a day sooner, had it not been for an intervening holiday on which the Maltese could not be persuaded to work. I feel myself under considerable obligation to Capt[n] Schomberg, and M[r] Wilkie in so promptly furnishing me with the Casks which had been Just coopered for the use of the fleet, without this assistance it would have been impossible for me to have found others I enclose you a letter from Capt[n] Schomberg — I could not get the quantity of Potatoes you wanted, all to be procured have gone to you by the speronara with a basket of Apples, some Onions & Melons —

The terms of the Charter are as follows — The Vessel is taken for three Months *certain* or longer at *your* Option at 750 sendi p[r] Month but she is not to be considered as discharged until the expiration of her Quarantine — She is of course to be absolutely under your direction to send wherever you may think proper at the *Vessels* risk tho' I have partly promised to the Captain that if he went to Sicily you would put him under American Colours to avoid the great danger of Privateers — this is no obligation however

I got the Store Ship *San Guiseppe* Prattic the day after her arrival —

I am happy to tell you M[r] Lenard is quite recovered and to compleat his reestablishment I have insisted on his taking up his Quarters at my house to which he will remove to morrow or next day —

If it should be your intention for the *John Adams* to unload here, I will be obliged your letting me know that I may be prepared to meet her —

We have no News, a great talk of 9000 Russians being expected at Naples. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy

Siren off TRIPOLI 12th Aug^{t} 1804

SIR A Negligence on the part of Lieu^{t} Maxwell this morning, has made it necessary I should suspend his functions, untill your pleasure is known — He unfortunately forgot himself and his responsibility in his morning watch and fell asleep he is very sorry for it, and duely sensible of his error, however it being an Offence of so high a nature that I feel the obligation of referring the decision to you; but Sir, as a public investigation, would very much injure the young man in his profession, I hope from your Compassionate disposition, you will be pleased to adopt some method that will spare him, and prevent the like in future

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

To Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Siren*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitution — Off TRIPOLY
August 12th 1804.

SIR I am honored with your letter of this date containing a charge against Lieut^{t} Maxwell for neglect of duty in Sleeping on his Watch — It is a charge of a serious nature at any time, or in any situation, but in our present one, cruizing on an Enemy's Coast, the Navigation of which is even with the best lookout attended with danger, such neglect is almost unpardonable; — I would have M^{r} Maxwell reflect if any accident should happen in consequence of his neglect he would involve many besides himself in the consequences attendant on such neglect, and his character as an Officer might be ruined — However, this being the first complaint of the same nature against M^{r} Maxwell, I will, in consequence of your friendly solicitation spare him from a public investigation of his conduct, and consent and direct that you permit him to return to his duty — I hope a second complaint of the same nature against M^{r} Maxwell will never be exhibited — You will have this letter read on the Quarter deck —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 12 August 1804

This day Commences with mod^{e} breezes and pleasent at ½ past 12 Consul OBrien and Cap^{t} Hull went on board the Commod^{e} at ½ past 2 the Commod^{e} made Sig^{l} N^{o} 1260 at 4 he hoisted our Distinguishing flag made Sail and stood for him backed the main topsail Cap^{t} Hull came on board filled away wore Ship and Stood for Tripoli at 5 T, K^{d} to the N^{d} & E^{d} at ½ past T, K^{d} to the S^{d} & W^{d} at 6 the Commod^{e}

hoisted our Distinguish^{g} flag T, K^{d} and Stood for him at ½ past 6 he made Sig^{l} N^{o} 995 Cap^{t} Hull went on board of him at 8 T, K^{d} to N^{d} & W^{d} at 10 Cap^{t} Hull came on board took 2 Gunboats in tow wore Ship to the Eastw^{d} and backed the main topsail — Emp^{d} as Necessary —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday 12 August 1804

P. M. Moderate

1. Capt. Hull and M^{r} OBrien went on board the Commodore The Commodore made signal 1260

4. Capt. Hull came on board Made sail towards Tripoli

6. The Commodore hoisted the *Argus* flag stood for him

A. M. 6½ he made N^{o} 995 Capt. Hull went on board

10. Capt Hull came on board took our gun boats in tow.

11 Wore —

[Mrs. C. E. Fox original. NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal kept on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Sunday, 12 August 1804

Moderate Breezes E b N Lying to 3 or 4 miles to the N N E of Tripoly, the *John Adams* at Anchor 2 Leagues out to prevent the Tripolines from discovering that she has but a few guns, Every thing is in order throughout the Squadron for an attack on Tripoly this night, The Enemy has two Galleys a schooner of 10 guns and 16 Gun Boats moored in the Harbour in a line abreast from East to West Heads to the Northward to defend it. a swell heaving on shore prevents our attempting any thing at present. anchor'd in 26 fath^{s} Water Tripoly bearing South 3 miles from day light to 7 A M Calm, at 8 a Breeze from N b E the swell increasing, ordered all the Squadron under way to stand off from the land. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Sunday, 12 August 1804

Moderate breezes from E b N. Lying to, 3 or 4 Miles N N E from Tripoly. Squadron in sight.

The *John Adams* & *Scourge* continue at anchor 4 or 5 Miles to the Eastward. At 1½ P. M. the *Argus's* boat with Consul Consul O'Brien returned —

We stood off & on Tripoly all the Afternoon

Towards evening the *John Adams* & *Scourge* joined company — In the close of the evening we tacked to the Northward and came to, in 26 fath^{s} hard bottom Tripoly South by compass 3 Miles — The Squadron in company continues under Way — The captains of the Squadron p^{r} Signal waited on the Commodore Every preparation has been made for attacking Tripoly this night — The Enemy display 16 Sail of Gun boats, One Schooner, and a three masted Galley They are under cover of Grape from the Batteries & within the reef of rocks —

By 9 P. M. the wind Veered to N E b E, which heaves in a swell & prevents the execution of the Commodores plans this night — By 12 Midnight we had fresh breezes from N E b N — By 2 A. M. it became more moderate.

From day light till 7 A. M. calm with a current setting to E S E — At 7½ A. M. sent two boats to assist in towing the *John Adams* clear of the *Constitution* — Veered 20 fath[s] in order to keep clear of her.

At 8 A. M. a light breeze sprang up from N b E which continued all forenoon with a swell setting in shore —

Last Sunday & this day saw the English, french, Russian, Dutch, Spanish, Swedish, Danish, and Imperial Consular flags flying in Tripoly.

The Squadron all under way. We continue at Anchor with the two Bombards a'stern —

Noon light breezes from N b E with a swell from N E. Surgeons report 5 sick & 3 convalescent.

Friday last M[r] J. Davis Midshipman rejoined the *Constitution* from the *Scourge*

Noon made Signal for the Squadron to approach no nearer the land —

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803-1804.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, 12 August 1804

[On board U. S. Frigate *President*] 12. Monday. Made cape Spartel — Entered Gibraltar bay — The *Congress* and *Constellation* had entered the same morning

[H. E. Huntington L&AG, EA 206.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, Sunday, 12 August 1804

[On board U. S. Frigate *President*] At 9, A. M. Made cape Spartel, bearing S. E. six leagues. It is remarkable that from leaving cape Henry, July 5th, till making the Western Islands, on the 21st, the winds were constantly strong and fair from the south west; and from this date till making Cape Spartel on the 12th August, they were as constantly strong and contrary, from the East, varying a few points northerly and southerly. That the first 15 days we considered our passage more than two thirds made; but that the other third was gained with difficulty in 22 days. During the whole passage the weather was extremely fine: not a day but a ship's barge would have lived at sea without danger.

[NR&L. No. 9217, Bm[1] E 14.]

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, 12 August 1804

We are now under way tacking on and of[f] the Town of Tripoli quite uncertain what the Commodore intends to do. at Meridian the town bore S. by W., the Commodore made Several Signals in the

course of the day and about 11 Oclock at night Capt Chauncey went on board of the Commodore and returned about 12. Midnight. we came to Anchor the Town bore [space] nothing particular Occured this day —

[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, 12 August 1804

Lying at anchor [Tripoli].

Commences with light airs & pleasant. the squadron haul'd down the white flag ¾ past 2 the Commodore made signal to wear wore to the S. E^{q} back'd the main top sail & spoke the *Vixen* At 8 wore to the N. W^{q} the *Argus* tack'd & stood for the Town, the Comm: made signal for all Commander's to repair on board his ship — ½ past 8 L^{t} Stewart went on board the Comm: 'IK^{q} in succession with the fleet. ½ past 10 L^{t} Stewart return'd on board, hoisted out the cutter & hoisted in the barge. At 11 came too with the Stream & furl'd all sail —

Midnight Calm. At 4 Franciso Rogers (one of the [men], that was wounded on the 7th instant in the gun boat that blew up) died. At 9 committed his body to the deep with the usual ceremony. At 11 the signal was made for that part of the squadron which were under way to approach no nearer the land. —

Meridian light airs & pleasant

[NDA.]

To A. Vail, United States Commercial Agent, L'Orient, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^{t} *13 August 1804* —

I have rec^{d} your letter of the 23rd Feb^{y} 1804.

The owners of the Schooner *Citizen* have exhibited a claim against the Department for 55 day's demurrage, grounded upon a Certificate from you stating that she had been detained at L'Orient "firstly by quarantine and nextly by the sailing of a Squadron of Ships of War", from L'Orient. M^{r} Thom who went out in the Schooner stated to us on his return to this place, certain objections to this claim which are mentioned in a letter from him to me dated 5th Aug^{t} 1804, a copy of which follows,

> "We arrived on the evening of the 17th Dec^{r} 1803, at the Port of L'Orient and were visited by the Health Officer who informed us that we must perform a quarantine of 10 days. I wrote immediately to M^{r} Vail and informed him of the Dispatches that were on board and enclosed him the Charter Party to let him see the necessity of immediately dispatching the Schooner to her place of destination; and in answer thereto received a letter informing us we had permission to depart, and that an order for that purpose was likewise lodged on board the Guard Ship *la Reina*. I shewed this letter immediately on its reception to Cap^{t} Lawson and pressed him to embrace the opportunity to depart, as the Consul had hinted that there was a probability of our being detained by the French Admiral which was accordingly done the next day. I therefore do declare that Cap^{t} Lawson made no attempt to get under weigh when he had permission, and consequently is only entitled to $40 demurrage, and cannot possibly clear his conscience and demand any more." —

With this information before us we have not felt ourselves justifiable in admitting the claim for demurrage exhibited by the owners of the Schooner *Citizen*. We have deemed it advisable, however, to

write to you on the subject. I therefore request that you will be pleased to state to me all the Circumstances in your possession tending either to corroborate or invalidate this claim.

[NDA. Barbary Powers, LB, 1803–1808.]

To Joseph Yznardi, U. S. Consul, Cadiz, Spain, from William Jarvis, U. S. Consul, Lisbon, Portugal

LISBON 13th *Augt 1804*

SIR I was hond with your favor of the 27th Ultº concerning the forgery for £4000 Sterling in the name of Commodore Preble on Messrs Glennie & Mackenzie — The Bills in question, were made payable to, and endorsed by Laurent Roberts, who forwarded them the 4th of last October from Cadiz to Messrs Mayne & Brown of this place to be negotiated. In the course of November & December, Roberts drew for the amount of the Bills in favor of Charles Borney,

* * * * *

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To Secretary of State from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco

Nº 80. — TANGIER *13th August 1804.* —

SIR Original of Nº 79 was forwarded by the Schooner *Jane* sailed from this Bay the 10th last Month for Boston. —

I have now the honour to acknowledge receipt of the Letter you addressed me on the 6th June, accompanying the Act for not only establishing the Mediterranean Fund but makeing an immediate appropriation for its purposes of a Million of dollars. — Nothing can more strongly than this measure testify to the Barbary Powers the determination of the Government of the United States to compell them to a strict observance of the existing Treaties. — Yesterday Commodore Barron entered the Straits and passed on the Gibraltar. The respectable reinforcement he brings to the Squadron already in these Seas I hope will be found to every purpose it is intended for. —

I will beg leave to add that I trust after Peace with Tripoly shall have been happily established, part of this force will continue to be stationed in this part of the World. —

I have to entreat you will pardon my very great neglect in not having earlier noticed in my reports to you the subject of the change of Mediterranean Passes. —

Mr Lear did deliver to me the New Pass with thirty Cuts and I ought to have acquainted you thereof. — The period when the change was to take place was however too distant to make any representation to the Emperour on the subject at that time, without runing a great hazard of its being forgot before the time came round for his Cruizers puting to Sea. — It has not however been omitted and in my last I should have told you the Commanders of the Emperours three Ships then mentioned had been duely made acquainted with the intended change, and that each had been furnished with an old and a new Cut, tacked together under the lesser Seal of this Office, that they might not be seperated. —

The Captains were directed to allow American Vessels to pass freely with either of the Passes during their present Cruize.

This I considered the safest method, as their Passports are renewed every time they are fitted out. — The period fixed for the old Passes to be no longer of avail being the first of July 1805 it is highly probable I shall have to issue the new Cuts only to the Emperours Cruizers at their next outfit, for they seldom go to Sea at an earlier day than that. —

It is true the Captain and Crew of the *Meshouda* whilst in Gibraltar made the declarations Captain Rodgers states, but when they got their liberty they told a different story.

I have never heard any thing more from this Government on the subject — as I see Captain Rodgers comes out in the reinforcement, we shall now have a fair opportunity of investigating the busyness. — I have felt myself restrained from making the report I had intended to Government on this subject, not considering the allegations of these people so lamely supported sufficient authority for me to particularize names of Officers on such an occasion. — As no injury has been done to the Public Service by the delay, I trust my caution will not be disaproved of. — The two Galleys of Tetuan arrived here on Wednesday last and for the first time have made a Cruize of a few hours in the Straits this morning. —Their Commanders have been provided with the two Cuts and instructed on the use of them. —

When I issued my Passports for the Emperours three Frigates, finding by every information that they were intended for some Service in the Mediterranean, I put an exception to their entering Ports blockaded by Ships of War of the United States. —

His Majesty had ordered one thousand Fanegues (1600 Bushels) Wheat being laden on the *Mirboha* as a gift to the poor of Tripoly, part of which was actualy shipt but relanded and orders at same time issued for all the three to rendezvous at Salle and from thence proceed on a Cruize on the Coast of Portugal. —

The Emperour I am well informed expressed great concern at not being able to send this Wheat to Tripoly. — Alcayde Hashash on the first Inst wrote me a Letter requesting in His Majestys name a Passport for it, which I told him it was impossible for me to grant. — A correspondence has been maintained on the subject, but not of such moment as to merit troubling you with copy of. — Some reports had reached me tending to insinuate that the change of destination of the three Ships from a Voyage to the Mediterranean to a Cruise in the Ocean had nothing favourable to His Majestys late engagements to maintain Peace with the United States. — When the Galleys arrived here I saw they were geting them ready for immediate Service — knowing these vessels were under the orders of Alcayde Hashash I wrote him Friday last on subject of the reports I had heard & desired an explicit answer, this morning I have received it, in which amongst other arguments against those rumours he says

> "if you find any person who shall say any thing against your Nation re-
> "garding our Peace, my Lieut Governour will cut off their head, for we will
> "always maintain the confirmation of the Peace with your Republic." —

I have besides received a Letter dated 6th this Month at Mequinez from one of His Majestys confidential Servants written in very Friendly terms. — From these circumstances I persuade myself the reports were unfounded, on all which I have given ample information to Commodore Barron. —

By latest advices the Frigate went to Mogadore had not yet got back to Salle. — I have the honour to be with sentiments of high respect

[NA. SDA. CL, Tangier, Vol. 2, Jan. 1803–Oct. 1810.]

To James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco, from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

U. STATES SHIP *President*
Gibralta Bay Aug^t 13. 1804

SIR Last evening I read your several letters of the 30^th^ June, 19 & 21 Ulto, & 1^st^, 7^th^ & 10^th^ Ins^t^ together with Copies of those address'd to you on the 1^st^ and 5^th^ by Hadge Abderham Hashas. The assurences that minister gives of the friendly dispositions of His Majesty the Emperor of Morocco towards the U States are extremely agreeable, and it is with great pleasure I reciprocate those assurances on the part and in behalf of our Goverment.

It would indeed add to the pleasure I feel on this occasion (were it in my power consistently with the Interests of the U' States) and the nature of my command, to gratify the wish the Minister express'd to you of permitting a Ship laden with provisions to enter the port of Tripoli — But I have too exalted and I believe too just an opinion of his Majestys correct understanding, not to be persuaded that on impartially considering the tendancy of such a concession, he will see the impossibility of my agreeing to it: for it would in effect be furnishing provisions to an Enemy, wherein it is incumbent on me to endeavour, by all the prohibitions of War, to reduce to seasonable terms of pacification — If these prohibitions do in any degree, effect the Interest of his Imperial Majesty, or of his subjects, it is a matter of regret to our Goverment, but in which they have no violation (these prohibitions being the result of necessity) and not of choice, unavoidable consequences of a War into which they have been very reluctantly compell'd, and which we hope may be speedily brought to an honorable termination; But until such an event arrives the ports of Tripoli will be closely blockaded by the Squadron of the United States, according to the strict and impartial usages of War —

I spoke the Emperors Ship of War *Maimona* on the 8^th^ Ins^t^ eight days from Mogadore having your passport which was duly respected — The Frigates *President*, *Congress* and *Constellation* arrived here yesterday, the *Essex* is expected in momentarily — I shall make such dispositions to meet the aspect of affairs with Morocco as circumstances shall suggest; of which you will be duly informed & shall proceed aloft in a few days —

[LC. JRP, Letters & Orders, 1804–1805.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 13 August 1804

Moderate breezes and pleasant Weather made & shortened sail Tacked and Wore occasionally to keep Company with the Squadron
6. P M The Commodore made Signal N^o^ 304. general.

[Mrs. C. E. Fox original. NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 13 August 1804

P M light breezes and pleasant weather. Standing into the bay Gibralter the *Constellation* In company

At ½ past 3 shortened sail & came too With the Starb^d bower anchor in the Bay of Gibralter, in 13 fathoms Water European point bearing S ½ E, the town of S^t Rogue N b E ½ E, Cabretta point N W b W. Algesires W B N. at 7 the commod^e Enterd the bay & came to anchor —

At Midnight D^o Wind & Weather.

At ½ past 11 the *Essex* enterd the bay & came to anchor

	F.	I.
Ships draught water aft.	20	8
Forward	19	
By the stern	1	8

[USNA.]

Extract from journal kept on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Monday, 13 August 1804

Wind N E a heavy swell setting on shore, hauld of[f] to the N N W with the squadron, at 6 PM signal to close to prevent separation, at 10 the wind veered to the E S E hauld up to the N E and stood off all night under easy sail, at 4 AM, wore ship & stood for the land at day light Tripoly in sight bearing S b W 5 Leagues dis^t we are now waiting for a favorable night to attack Tripoly the Wind must be to the Southward of East & sea perfectly smooth to enable us to attack with any prospect of success, — at Noon Tripoly bears S b W 5 Miles, Wind E N E and a considerable swell setting on shore —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Monday, 13 August 1804

Moderate breezes from N b E — At Single Anchor 3 Miles north from Tripoly, Squadron in company.

At 1 P. M. the *Syren & Scourge* came to: the rest of the Squadron continued under way.

At 4 P. M. the wind Veered to N E. with a swell setting from that Quarter. Made the *Syren & Scourge* Signal to Weigh — At 4 P. M. We weighed & made Sail to the N N W in order to obtain an Offing — At Sun Set made Signal for the Squadron to close.

Tripoly at this time S b E ¼ E 7 or 8 Miles.

By 10 P. M. the wind had shifted by degrees to E S E. From this time till day light Moderate & pleasant. Continued standing to the N E under easy sail until 12 Midnight when we brought to with the Main topsail to the Mast, & remained in this situation till 4 A. M. when we wore to the South^d At day light saw Tripoly bearing S b W nearly 5 or 6 leagues

Morning, Moderate & pleasant — ships company washing & scrubbing their cloathes.

Stood in for Tripoly all forenoon with moderate breezes from the Eastward.

At 9 A. M. made the *John Adams* Signal to come within hail —

It is now two days since we have been in complete readiness for a third attack upon Tripoly, which is intended to be made in the night — Either a Northerly wind or a swell setting in shore has prevented the Commodores plan being put into Execution —

We have now remaining on board 61 Leagurs and 19 Butts containing 21.800 Gall[s] Water

Noon Tripoly bears S b W ½ W 5 Miles —

Surgeons report 7 sick & 2 convalescent —

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, 13 to 15 August 1804

Aug. 13. 14. 15. At Gibraltar — received intelligence of hostile intentions against the U States on the part of the Emperor of Morocco — His Imperial Majesty had required our Consuls passports for certain of his ships of war to carry wheat to Tripoli: refusal was assigned as his reason for breaking with us —

[H. E. Huntington L&AG, EA 206.]

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, 13 August, 1804

We are this morning under way the fleet in sight the Commodore made a signal to speak us. We bore up to speak him. & Capt Chauncey went on board about 10 Oclock. and returned ab[t] 11 at 12 we came to anchor the town of Tripoli bore S. S. W. at ¾ past Meridian signal made for all Capts. to repair onboard the Com[re] At 1. Capt. C went onboard the Com[re] Capt Chauncey returned in the Evening and [at] 6. called all hands to muster & Capt Chauncey made Choice of such Officers & men as he might think proper & who chose to Volenteer. to go on board the *Constitution* & gun boats. in the attack on the Town of Tripoli at ¼ past 6. the Commo[re] made the signals for the gun boats to prepare for action at ½ past 6 the Commodore made the signal for the squadron to prepare for Battle the *Constitutions* cutter came along side for some of our men & soon went of[f] with them at 8 the Barge & Black Cutter left the ship soone after Capt Chauncey left the ship in the Gig and went on board the *Constitution* we gave them all three Cheers & drank a Glass Wine with the Capt in the Cabin before he started — at ½ past 9 the *Constitution* came to anchor at 10 the boats returned to the ship with the men, at Midnight fresh Breezes. Nothing was done in this attempt. on acct of the wind blowing too fresh —

[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, Monday, 13 August 1804

(Standing off & on shore with the squadron.)

Light airs & pleasant all the squadron in sight At ¼ past 2 the *Scourge* got under way. ¼ past 4 the Comm: made the signal to weigh. ½ past 4 weigh'd & stood to the Eastw[d] under all sail. At 6 Tripoli bore S. by E. 4 leagues ½ past 7 shorten'd sail. —

Latt: Obs: 33°10′ N.

[NDA.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Congress*, from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

Duplicate forwarded

U. STATES SHIP *President*
Gibralta Bay Aug^t 14^th 1804.

SIR, You will perceive by the several letters written by M^r Simpson, our Consul at Tangier (& which for your information accompany's this) that our affairs in Morrocco, have assumed (at least a doubtfull) I think rather a Serious Aspect. The circumstances of his preparing for Sea Cruizing his largest Ships not long since, evidently destined for some port in the Mediteranean & his drawing to Tangier his Gallies from other ports, certainly indicate hostility against some commercial nation, as there seems to exist but little apprehension by other nations having Consuls at Tangiers, it is possible that the Commerce of the U'States is his object — To check any such intention, it is necessary to leave in his neighbourhood a force sufficient for this purpose. The *Congress* & *Essex* are (it is judged) adequate to this service, you will be pleased therefore with those two Ships to remain in this neighbourhood, untill it is ascertained whether his measures are hostile, or Friendly towards the U'States; In the event of Hostility it is left entirely to your discretion, as to the disposition of the Ships under your command & your Operations generally, if after remaining some time on this station, you should concieve that he is amicably disposed & there no longer exists a necessity for a Ship here, you will proceed aloft to join the Squadron there either at Tripoli or Malta —

You will be pleased to Keep the Secretary of the Navy informed by all oppertunitys, of the Measures you mean to pursue, with your opinion on the affairs of MOROCCO &^c —

[LC. JRP, Letters & Orders, 1804–1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 14 August 1804

[Standing off and on Tripoli]

This day Commences with fresh breezes and Clear W^r at ½ past Meridian the Commodore Made Sig^l N^o 1260 wore and stood off the land backed the main topsail at 1 PM the Commod^e made Sig^l N^o 995 Cap^t Hull went on board of him at ½ past 1 wore & stood for the *John Adams* received Boatswains Stores from her at ½ past 5 Commod^e made Sig^l N^o 1134 and a few Minutes after 1139 Tacked in Comp^y with the Squadron At 6 the Commod^e made Sig^l N^o 69 to the Gunboats at 10 the Commod^e made Night Sig^l N^o 10 to the Gunboats at 11 Came too in 40 f^ms Water At 9 AM hoisted in the launch and barge Emp^d Occas^y

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 14 August 1804

P. M Pleasant. The Commodore made a general signal N^o 1260 Wore

1. The Commodore made signal N^o 995. General. Capt Hull went on board

5½ The Com[e] made signal 1134 and a few minutes after 1139. Tacked
6 The Commodore made signal N[o] 69 to the Gun Boats. and at 10. made night Signal N[o] 10.
Came to in 40 fathoms water
A. M. 9. Hoisted in the Boats
Noon rough sea

[Mrs. C. E. Fox original. NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 14 August 1804

[Gibraltar Bay] At 3 rec[d] 172 Gang casks water. 3 Men attempted To swim from the ship one of them was Caught. the other two made their escape

[USNA.]

Extract from journal kept on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Tuesday, 14 August 1804

Wind E b S. standing off and on 4 or 5 miles from Tripoly, at 6 P M all the squadron were in close order ready to push in after dark the *John Adams* manouvered several deceptions p[r] Signal, for weighing and standing in with the Squadron but as soon as dark she was ordered to hand sails & remain at anchor, Cap[t] Chauncey, with several of his Officers & 50 Seamen & Marines came on board as Volunteers for the attack, at 9 P M the Wind freshened from E b N and increased the sea so much as to make an attempt imprudent. I accordingly stood off shore and anchored in 37 fath[s] Water, Cap[t] Chauncey with his Officers & men returned to the *John Adams* two of our Gun Boats carried away their latteen Yards supplied them with new ones, we had strong Breezes, all night and until Noon. —
Lat[d] Obs[d] 33° 2′ N. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Tuesday, 14 August 1804

Moderate breezes from E b S — Standing off & on Tripoly — Squadron in company. At 1 P. M. the *John Adams* came to 4 or 5 miles to the North of the Town. Towards evening the Captains of the Squadron waited on the Commodore — At Sunset all the Squadron was assembled three or 4 miles from the Harbour ready to push in after dark — In the close of the Evening the *John Adams* manœuvered several deceptions (P[r] Signal) for weighing, & standing in with the Squadron. After dark we received on board the *Constitution* Cap[t] Chauncey & 50 Seamen from the *John Adams* — By this time it was 8 P. M. when we had strong breezes from E b N. We answered the Signal of distress from Gun boat N[o] 6 which had carried away her latteen yard — From 7 till 9 P. M. every effort was used to collect the Squadron in order to stand in & attack the batteries; but the wind continuing to increase, it was utterly impossible —
At 9 P. M. another Gun boat carried away her lateen yard. We Wore off shore and came to in 37 fath[s] hard bottom. Veered to 110 fath[s] before the ship brought up — The two Bombards were very

much exposed by being nearly athwart our hawse. All the Squadron (*Vixen* excepted) anchored. The *Siren* parted from her anchor — At 11 P. M. after we came to, Cap^{t} Chauncey with his men & two boats assisted by our large cutter rejoined the *John Adams* — The Wind continued strong during the night veering between E b S & S E b E. with a rough sharp sea. At day light the Squadron all in sight and (except the *Vixen* under way in shore) at Anchor. Tripoly S b W ½ W. 4 or 5 Miles — On our leaving Messina we had 4 spare lateen yards for the Gun boats — Two lateen yards lost in action, and two carried away last night expend the whole — As they are 74 feet long, we have no spar that will make one. The East Wind continued strong all the forenoon with a rough sea which has prevented any communication in the Squadron by boats — These 24 hours the following signals were made Viz^{t}

At 12¼ Noon. for Squadron to wear & haul on a wind to the N N E.
At 12½ Noon. All Captains to repair on board the Commodore.
At 3 P. M. Squadron to wear & haul on a wind, inshore.
At 5¾ Squadron to tack to N N E.
At 6 P. M. *Vixen & Scourge* to come within hail
At 6¾ P. M. Squadron (*John Adams & Scourge* excepted) to clear for Action
At 9 P. M. the night Signal. Prepare to anchor.
Noon strong breezes from E b S —
Surgeons report 6 sick & 3 convalescent
Latitude Observed 33° 2′ North

[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, 14 August 1804

Commenced With fresh breezes We are laying at Anchor off the Town engaged in clearing out our hole. that we may make room on our gun deck. to work what guns we can, and discharging part of our cargo. in distributing it on board of the different Vessels of the squadron. We took gun boats N^{o} 8. & 6 in tow.

[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, Tuesday, 14 August 1804

(Following the Commodores motions)

Light breezes & pleasant, all the squadron lying too; the *Adams* at anchor. ½ past Mer: a signal from the Comm: for all Commanders to repair on board his ship. At 11 Cap^{t} Stewart went on board the Comm. At 3 wore to the E N E p^{r} signal. at ½ past 5 a signal to stand off the land. At 6 Tripoli bore S by W 8 miles, a signal from the Comm: to prepare for battle. ½ past 6 Cap^{t} Stewart return'd, back'd the main top sail, hoisted out the barge & fill'd away. At 8 tack'd & stood in for the land, set top gall^{t} sails. ½ past 8 back'd the M^{n} topsail, took in top gall^{t} sails. At ½ past 9 came too with the stream in 35 fathoms p^{r} signal.

Midnight fresh gales & clear parted the stream Cable, lost the Anchor with 80 fathoms. ¼ past Mid: let go the larboard bower. —

Meridian fresh gales & clear supplied gun boat N° 5 with provisions & water. —
[NDA.]

To William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitition — AUGUST 15th 1804

DEAR SIR I have received your favor of the 1st Inst and am gratified, that my recommendation succeeded in obtaining your appointment — All my nominations to the Government have met with the same success — You will have Observed that Commre Barron superseedes me in the Command in the Mediterranean — I hope to finish the War with Tripoly first, and then the sooner he arrives the better as I am anxious to return home — My conduct has received the Approbation of my country, and the President has transmitted me his thanks through the Secretary of the Navy —

The 3d Inst I made a general Attack on Tripoly — Our six Gun boats opposed to their twenty one, and this ship with the Brigs & Schooners to their Batteries — The Action lasted two hours: That with the gun boats was in the Harbour of Tripoly and within pistol shot of their Batteries — The Enemy were handsomely beaten Many shells were thrown into the town, and we drove them several times from their Batteries with this ship — A steeple of one of their Mosques was shot away and much damage done in Town — Our Gun boats boarded and brought out three of their largest new Gun boats, each mounting a brass cannon 11½ feet long carrying a ball of 26 lb, and two brass howitzers — they had on board 96 Men, 47 of which were killed and 49 made prisoners, 26 of which were badly wounded — One of their boats was sunk in the Action, & many of them lost nearly all their men, and were much Shattered —

We had another action with the Batteries the 7th in which the Enemy has suffered considerably — I have to regret the loss of some brave men — We have lost killed — Two Lieutenants
1 Midshipman
1 Quarter Gunner
1 Quarter Master
1 Boatswains Mate
1 Searjeant of Marines
6 Seamen —
—
Total killed..... 13 —

Wounded 1 Lieutenant with 11 Saber & Pike Wounds
15 Seamen & Marines —
—
16 Total Wounded —

The Officers killed are

Lt Js DECATUR
Lt CALDWELL
Mr DORSEY Midshipman —

Lieutenant Tripp[e] Wounded Very badly.

We have been waiting several days for favorable Weather for another attack — Our Water is nearly exhausted I conjure you to charter two or three Vessels for fear of a miscarriage of one, and load them with water immediately, & send me 300 puncheons at least, as, soon as possible — If one is not here in 8 days we shall be ruined, as I have only 14 days water for the Squadron — Let no price stop you from chartering — Send us some fresh stock, Vegetables, Apples, Melons &c — I am looking out for a vessel from you which I expect every moment to heave in sight — As I wrote you by the Neapolitan Store Ship to send us Water some time since — If you cannot hire you must borrow or purchase casks —

With Esteem Yours in haste

(Signed) EDWARD PREBLE

P. S. Hire as many boats & men as can work to load the Vessels & for God's Sake dispatch a Vessel in 24 hours, & let the rest follow Send me letters if you have any for me — a case of good cyder will be acceptable — Our Main Mast is shot nearly through by a 24 lb shot. One of our guns on the Quarter deck disabled — Top Gall[t] Royal yard shot away & our rigging considerably cut — They are bad Gunners, or they must have cut us up — We engaged within 3 cables length of the Batteries —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 15 August 1804

Fresh breezes. 12½ the Commodore made signal N[o] 1196 with praparatory pendant.

1. he made signal 1196 — Sent down Royal and Top Gall[t] Yards
7 A M. sent up Top Gall[t] Yards by signal from Commodore
Noon at Anchor the Town of Tripoli S ½ W. 5 Miles distant

[Mrs. C. E. Fox original. NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Congress* Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 15 August 1804

[Gibraltar Bay] At Meridian light breezes from the Eastw[d] Hove up & made sail the *Essex* in comp[y]

[USNA.]

Extract from journal kept on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Wednesday, 15 August 1804

Strong Breezes from E S E, At Anchor 6 miles to the North of Tripoly ordered the *Vixen* to cast off her Gun Boats & Look out to the Eastward & the *Jn[o] Adams* to take her Boats in tow at 4 PM down Royal & Top Gall[t] Yards, fresh Breezes through the night. at 10 AM wind E b N & a rough sea.

Lat[d] Obs[d] 33° 2′ N.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Wednesday, 15 August 1804

Strong breezes from E S E.

At Single Anchor 5 or 6 miles N b E ½ E from Tripoly. Squadron in company —

The two gun boats towed by the *Vixen* were this afternoon rode by the *John Adams*.

The *Vixen* was ordered p[r] Signal to look out in shore — At 4 P. M. down royal and top gall[t] Yards Towards evening the weather became more moderate Cap[t] Chauncey waited on the Commodore.

Strong breezes from E b S during the Night.

Morning Moderate.

From 6 till 10 A. M. employed supplying the Squadron as follows — Viz — The *Syren* with 9 Gang cask of water =576 Gallons. The two bombards with 256 Gall[s] each *Scourge* with 100 Gall[s] rum, 182 lb Suet, 54 Gall[s] of Molasses, 30 Gall[s] Vinegar, 131 lb cheese & 182 lb of Butter — The Gun boats N[os] 1 & 6 with a lateen Yard Each — These are the two boats that carried away their yards on Tuesday Night —

At 8 A. M. made Signal "Up top gall[t] Yards.

At 9¼ The *John Adams* Signal for a boat — also the *Scourge* Signal for a purser —

At 10 A. M. the wind began to freshen from E b N & by noon we had strong breezes —

Noon the *Vixen* came within hail —

Surgeons report 7 sick & 2 convalescent.

Latitude Observed at anchor 33° 2′ North

[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, 15 August 1804

We are laying at Anchor discharging Provisions. nothing particular occuring quite uncertain what the Commodore intends to do. Some think that he will make a peace others that he will not. but attack the town again the first oppertunity or in other words the first Wind that suits — Our squadron has not yet arrived and hav[e] not heard any thing of them.

[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, Wednesday, 15 August 1804

Lying at Anchor [Tripoli].

Fresh breezes & pleas[t] ½ past 1 sent down top gall[t] yards p[r] signal At 2 sea & wind increasing, wore away more cable. ½ past 3 the cutter went to drag for the stream cable, At 5 return'd without success. At 7 Tripoli bore South 3 leagues. At 10 freshen'd Hawse.

Midnight fresh gales & pleas[t] At 4 sent the boats to drag for the stream anchor. At 8 return'd without success, sent up top gall[t] yards p[r] signal. At 9 sent on board the Comm: for water. —

Meridian light winds & pleas[t]. sent provisions on board gun boat N[o] 5.

Latt: Obs: 33° 3′ N.

[NDA.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy

Siren off TRIPOLI *16th August, 1804*

SIR I have been honor'd with yours of 29th May, and the accompanying Master Commandant's Commission —

Please return my thanks to the President of the United States; for the manner it has pleased him to evince a continuation of his confidence

[NDA. MC LB, 1804–5.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 16 August 1804

Off Tripoli
P. M. Fresh breezes.
2. Capt Hull went on board the Commodore
5 The Capt Returned
5 A M. sent the launch to the *Jn° Adams* for Stores

[Mrs. C. E. Fox original. NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 16 August 1804

[Standing off and on Tripoli.]

These 24 hours Commence with fresh breezes from the Eastward at ½ past 2 P, M, hoisted out the barge Capt Hull went on board the Commodore at 5 he returned on board hoisted in the Barge —

Moderate and Clear through the night AM at 5 hoisted out the barge and launch sent the Launch on board the *John Adams* for Stores

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal kept on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Thursday, 16 August 1804

fresh Breezes from E b N at anchor N b E ½ E from Tripoly all the Squadron at Anchor except the *Vixen*, on the Lookout to the Eastward — at 8½ P M the *Enterprize* saild for Malta under command of Lt Lawrence, with letters for Mr Higgins directing him to send transports with Water & Vegetables, the Scurvy has made its appearance among the men on board of some of the Vessels of the Squadron, and our fresh Water is getting short. Surgeons report. 6 sick 4 Convalescent —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Thursday, 16 August 1804

Fresh breezes from E b N.

At Single Anchor 5 or 6 Miles N b E ½ E, from Tripoly The Squadron all at anchor except the *Vixen* which looks out to the Westward —

Supplied the *Syren* this afternoon with 9 Gang Casks of water=576 Gallons —

At 2 P. M. made the *Vixen* signal to come within hail, & supplied her with five Sweeps & a number of Musket cartridges —

At 8½ P. M. the *Enterprize* parted company, being ordered to Malta under the command of Lieut Lawrence — Capt Decatur remains in the Squadron with his Gun boat.

From Noon till 7 P. M. fresh breezes from E b N. & from 7 P. M. till Midnight from E S E — From 12 Midnight till 10 A. M. moderate breezes from S E b E with a small swell from E N E.

Supplied the *Syren* this forenoon with 6 Gang Casks of Water= 384 —

From 10 A. M. till noon moderate breezes from E b N.

Bombard N^{o} 2 was this day employed in Exercising her Oars & Sails

The 160 shells which were stowed between decks were this forenoon stowed in the Hold —

These four days past we have had strong breezes which have prevented the Squadron from coming to action The Captains of the Squadron this forenoon waited on the Commodore.

Noon Moderate breezes from E b N.

Surgeons report 6 sick & four convalescent —

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, 16 August 1804

August 16. The *President* & *Constellation* got under way for Tripoli — Captains Rodgers & Barron with the *Congress* and *Essex* ordered to the Morocco coast to watch the motions of the emperor of Morocco —

[H. E. Huntington L&AG, EA 206.]

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 August 1804

We are laying at Anchor employed striking out Provisions and sending them on board the different Vessels. clear and pleasent Breezes. the climate is excessively hot. when there is little or no wind and dews are very heavy at night. — and it is astonishing to me the squadron are not more onhealthy than they are as I am told there are but a few sick — Our ship is very healthy — at ½ past 12 a signal was made from the Commodore to prepare to weigh at ¾ past 12. all the squadron got underway except the *John Adams* & *Scourge*. at 5 a signal for Battle the *Constitutions* Launch came along side for all our Volunteers, Capt Chauncey went on board the *Constitution* at midnight light air from the Eastward —

[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, 16 August 1804

(Lying at Anchor off Tripoli)

Fresh breezes & pleasant. At 2 supplied with provisions gun boat N^{o} 4 — At 3 hoisted in the barge rec^{d} a supply of water from the Comm: Cap^{t} Chancey of the *John Adams* came on board. At 7 Capt^{t} Chancy went on board his ship

Midnight light airs & pleas^{t} —

Meridian gentle breezes & a smooth sea, sent on board gun boat N^{o} 4 a supply of Provisions — rec^{d} from the Commodore water & a quantity of arms. —

Latt: Obs: 33° 5′ N.

[NDA.]

To Samuel Brown, Navy Agent and Superintendent of Navy Yard, Boston, Mass. from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP. *17th Aug: 1804*

I have received your letter of the 8th instant. — Although the terms demanded of you for building a Gun-boat are not quite so reasonable as we could wish yet they are not so high as the terms asked at either Charleston, Baltimore, Philadelphia or New York. — You will therefore, if you should not be able to get the work done on better terms, close with the offer m[a]de to you of building at 30$ Pr ton. —

[NDA. Off. Comg. Gunboats, 1803–1808.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

Duplicate forwarded No 2. U. STATES FRIGATE *Congress*
Tangier Bay Augt 17. 1804

SIR In consequence of the accounts, rec'd from Mr Simpson our Consul, Commodore Barron was Induced to send the *Congress* & *Essex* on this coast for Purposes such as you will discover in his orders to me which I enclose you—I saild from Gibraltar with the two above mention'd Ships on the 15 Inst and arrived here yesterday altho too late to have communication with the Shore, until this morning, when Mr Simpson came on Board — Mr Simpson is not without suspicions that the Intentions of the Emperor are unfriendly towards the U. States, in consequence of the late movements of his Cruizers, after being denied a passport for one of his Ships of War to proceed to Tripoli; and the Language of his Governor at Tangier, a Statement of which Commo. Barron has forwarded you; However I must confess that, *to me*, the Emperors Conduct does not bear such a construction. — His Cruizers are in motion, as is the case every Summer, but neither (that I can learn) their procedings or his Language Indicates hostility towards our Commerce; altho I am now bound to Salle, to inform myself of the movements of the three Frigates, supposed to be at that place, whether any danger to our Commerce is to be apprehended from them, and to protect it in case of any—While the *Congress* is on this Service, I shall leave the *Essex* at the Entrance of the Straights to watch the movements of Two Gallys now in Tangier Bay & to protect our Trade in case of necessity — A small force is I conceive always necessary to secure a Protection to our Commerce on this Coast. — I therefore shall leave the *Essex* for that purpose, and on my return proceed Immediately to Tripoli, provided their is nothing more than present appearances indicate to detain me; —

I shall loose no time in getting to Salle, as I consider the services of so large a Ship as the *Congress* (in the Intended opperations against Tripoli) of Importance, neither would Commodore Barron (I am satisfied) have left so considerable a part of his Force as Two Ships, had it not been for the Earnest request of Mr Simpson — A desire to take an advantage of the present fair Wind, prevents my writing you more fully, however as Capt Barrons Station will afford him opportunities of Communicating; I have desired him to do so by every opportunity. —

Enclosed I forward you Copy of my orders to Capt [James] Barron

[LC. JRP, Letters & Orders, Book A, 1804–1805.]

Circular letter to certain U. S. Consuls

(Circular) B

U. STATES F. *Congress*
Tangier Bay Aug^t 17. 1804

SIR In consequence of the late movements of the Emperor of Morrocco's Cruizers, the United States Frigates *Congress & Essex* are cruizing on the Moorish Coast; However I now begin to concieve that our suspicions are without that foundation which was first concieved — I shall be in Gibraltar in a few Days & would be glad to be inform'd by you, whether any of the American Vessels lately arrived in your Port, have been Boarded by Moorish Cruizers and what has been their conduct in order that I may know how to direct the proceedings of the U'States Ships now on this coast.

To William Kirkpatrick Consul at Malaga
" *William Irwin* — " *at*
" *Joseph Yznardi* — " *at [Cadiz]*

[A note by Christopher Columbus Baldwin, first Librarian of the American Antiquarian Society reads, "This and the following were written by Com. Samuel Barron, and has never been published."]

[Am. Antiquarian Soc. NDA photostat.]

To James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. STATES FRIGATE *Congress*
Tangier Bay Aug^t 17^th 1804

SIR, Enclosed you will receive Commodore Barrons Letter in answer to Several Letters on the subject of (his Imperial Majestys) the Emperor of Morocco's Ship of War, carrying a Cargo of Wheat to Tripoli, which prevents the necessity of my saying any thing on the subject — The Two Frigates you now see in this Bay are the *Congress & Essex*, which are ready for service — I wish to see you and will send a Boat on Shore for that purpose —

[Am. Antiquarian Soc. NDA photostat.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Congress*, from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco

TANGIER *Aug^t 17. 1804*

DEAR SIR M^r Johnston has delivered me three Letters, which shall be carefully forwarded. —

In my communications to Commo. Barron you will have seen I told him a certain quantity of Copper & salt Petre to be shipt at Mogadore on the Emperors ship *Maimona*, was destined for Algiers & purchased for account of that regency. — Since I saw you I have rec'd a Letter from my Agent at Mogadore dated 6^th Ins^t, in which is the following Paragraph correcting his former advices. —

> "It was from misinformation that I wrote you, that the Emperors Ship here was to load the Copper & Salt Petre for the Algerines, as she came here to load them for his Majestys account, and is to go when the Wind will permit to Salle.
>
> The Algerine is yet here, waiting for a Vessel of his Nation, to load his, who is to bring Cash to pay for it, as I understand he is short of that necessary article." —

By this it appears there was two parcels of the mentioned articles, provided at Mogadore — The one by the Algerine Messenger & the other by order of the Emperor, to be taken on his Ship; I have not a doubt the latter had the same destination as the Wheat, but I expect it will be equally retarded, so that the intended assistance will have been perfectly defeated. —

What farther I may be able to learn on the subject shall be imparted to you — Whilst we must regret that there should be such apparent grounds for suspecting that Muley Soliman had intended to give aid to our Enemy; it is satisfactory to know he has been made sensible, he could not carry it into effect, & I trust that this will be an additional stimula with him, to avoid cautiously giving cause for a rupture with the U'States; and it is equally our Duty not to provoke him to it.

The English Brig left Cadiz last night, the Cap^{t} writes his Consul, that a Letter from Paris states, that Russia, Denmark & Sweeden had entered into an offensive & Defensive alliance with England. —

[Am. Antiquarian Soc. NDA photostat.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Congress*, from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco

TANGIER *August 17. 1804*

DEAR SIR, When you made the Signal Yesterday, a Boat could not be got to send to you — now the Cap^{t} of one of the Galleys has done me the favour to allow his to go. —

I know no reason why you should not anchor and communicate with the Shore as before. —

[Am. Antiquarian Soc. NDA photostat.]

To Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Essex*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. STATES FRIGATE *Congress*
Tangier Bay Aug^{t} 17. 1804

SIR, In consequence of the orders of Commodore Barron joined with the opinion of M^{r} Simpson our Consul, I have thought it advisable & Intend proceding to Salle, to make myself acquainted with the movements of three Moorish Ships of War, as also to, Endeavour to inform myself whether their Intentions are hostile towards the U'States — You will remain in the Neighbourhood of Tangiers, to Watch the movements of the two Gally's now in that Bay, and to protect our Commerce in case of Hostility on the part of Morocco, until I join you again.

[Am. Antiquarian Soc. NDA photostat.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta

Duplicate MALTA the *17th August 1804*

DEAR SIR You have enclosed the Copy of my last respects under the 12th August and likewise a Second bill of lading for Sundry Water and other Stores sent you by the English Pollacca called the *Conception* Capt^{n} Antonio Gruna which I hope will have reached you ere now —

I wrote you on the 11th Inst by a Speronara dispatched to inform you that Count Galligni had loaded a Speronara with Ammunition for the Basha of Tripoly, and that you might by this timely intelligence find means to cut her off — Whether however he got scent of my having taken this measure, or whether he has, as too hazardous, relinquished the Expedition, I dont know, but he has landed the powder, tho' I am told the Muskets &c^{a} are still on board; Perhaps his intention is to blind us and in a week or two hence to expedite it, if you therefore can spare a Vessel you would still do well, I think to be upon the look out; but I must request you will not advance a sixpence to the Patron of the Speronara I dispatched to you, he has already got from me One hundred Dollars on advance, and has not behaved in the way he ought to have done, for instead of going direct to you as I expected, he carried his boat into one of the lower Ports of the Island, where he loitered away a couple of days, and came over to Vallette upon some business of his own —

No appearance of the Fregates, nor have I any news to impart to you; I send you the American Papers brought by the *Commodore Barry* which were inadvertentely left out of the Packet of the English Ones sent you, they will however, I conclude, contain no news, that you have not already learnt from the *John Adams* —

I wait anxiously to hear from you, the Weather latterly has been favorable, and I trust Mons^{r} the Bashaw will by this time have got a *Quartum sufficit* of shot & shell —

I forward you some letters from Tunis and also others addressed to the Prisoners at Tripoly you may have an opportunity of putting them on shore, there is no sort of Probability that I shall have any other means of expediting them.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 17 August 1804

This day Commences with moderate Breezes and Clear Weather at ½ past meridian Cap^{t} Hull went on board the *John Adams* at 1 P M the Commod^{e} made Sig^{l} N^{o} 879 at ½ past Sig^{l} N^{o} 1206 at 2 Sig^{l} N^{o} 1205 at ½ past 3 got under way at ½ past 4 Cap^{t} Hull returned on board at 5 the Commod^{e} made Sig^{l} N^{o} 179 with the preparative flag at ½ past 8 the Commod^{e} made Sig^{l} N^{o} 1 at 9 made Sig^{l} to the Gunboats 1 Rocket & 3 lanterns being near in Shore the Batteries fired Several Shot at us at ½ past 12 the Commod^{e} made Sig^{l} N^{o} 10 at 1 AM came to with the Squadron * * * Tripoli bearing S ½ W Dist 4 miles At meridian the Commodore made Sig^{l} N^{o} 995 Cap^{t} Hull went on board of him —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 17 August 1804

P. M. Moderate breezes and pleasant —
1 The Commodore made Signal N^{o} 879.
1½ N^{o} 1206 at 2 N^{o} 1205.
3½ got under way.

5 The Commodore made signal Nº 179 with preparatory pendent
8½ Nº 1. night signal 9 to the Gun boats 1 rocket and three lights near in to the shore the Batteries fired several shot at us
12½ the Commodore made signal Nº 10
1 Came to in Company with the squadron in 25 fathoms water Tripoli S ½ W. 4 miles. distant
Noon Commodore made signal Nº 995. Capt Hull went on board —

[Mrs. C. E. Fox original NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 17 August 1804

[Standing off & on in the Bay of Tangier] P M commences light breezes & pleasant weather At ¼ past 5 beating into the bay Of Tangier hoisted an american Jack at The fore & fired a gun —
At Sunset shortened Sail & cleard ship for action
Light airs & variable. tackd ship as occasion Required during the night at 4 tackd ship & stood in for tangier bay. at 7 a boat came along Side, at ½ past 8 sent the gig on shore at ¾ past 9 the gig returned with the Consul Mr Simpson
Meredian the town of Tangier bore W S W. Cape spartel W B N ½ N.

[USNA.]

Extract from journal kept on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Friday, 17 August 1804

Moderate Breezes from E N E & pleasant Weather — At Anchor 5 miles to the N b W of Tripoly — At 3 P M out all Boats and armed them for an attack. at 5 P M all the Squadron excepting the *John Adams* and *Scourge* were under way standing for Tripoly, by this time the wind had Veered to N E b E and the current setting strong to the Westward. in the Evening Capt Chauncey with several Officers & 50 Seamen from the *John Adams* came on board Volunteers for the intended attack at 7 P M we were 4 miles from the Town; Tacking and manœvering the squadron waiting for the Wind to come from the E S E from 8 to 9 PM we stood in for the Batteries with a light Breeze from E b N. at 9¾ almost Calm, the Town bearing S b W. the Batteries fired 11 shot at us which fell short, the current setting to the S W pressing us down on the Western Batteries & the Wind very light I thought prudent to haul off. at 11 P M Wore ship and stood in again for the Town in hopes the wind might increase, the Enemy fired 14 shot at us from their Batteries which fell short, it being by this time past midnight and almost calm hauld off and at 1 Made the signal to anchor & came to in 25 faths Tripoly S b W 3 Miles dist

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Friday, 17 August 1804

Moderate breezes from E b N, with pleasant weather.
At Single anchor 5 or 6 Miles from Tripoly. Squadron in company. At 3 P. M. out all boats, and armed them. They are to accompany the Gun boats & Bombards — Between 4 & 5 P. M. all the Squadron except the *John Adams* & *Scourge* were under way standing in for Tripoly.

By this time the wind had Veered to N E b E — We had a strong current setting to S. W. This is the only one we have observed since the 8th Inst: Towards evening Cap[t] Chauncey of the *John Adams* with several Officers and fifty Seamen, (all Volunteers) joined the *Constitution* — Cap[t] Chauncey & part of his Seamen remain with the Commodore The others were sent to different Gun boats — At the close of the Evening we were four Miles N N E from Tripoly, tacking occasionally manœuvering & exercising the Squadron till the Wind should veere to E S E — The *John Adams* altho armed *en flute* appears at some distance to be a complete frigate — She manœuvred (p[r] Signal) several deceptions in imitation of Weighing & standing in with the Squadron —

From the close of the Evening till 9½ P. M. we stood in for the Batteries with light breezes veering between E N E & E b S — At 9¾ nearly calm. The Town was now in sight bearing S b W ¼ W — The Batteries gave us Eleven shot which fell short of us —

Situated as the Squadron [is] a S W & W S W current presses home to the Batteries & affords but a hazardous retreat in a calm —

Between 10 & 11 P. M. we made a short board to N N E: Between 11 and 12 we made a short board in for the batteries which immediately gave us 14 Guns More — In the close of the Evening the Enemy's gun boats a Galley & a Schooner, in all seventeen were moored in a line of defence within the reefs and under cover of Grape shot from the Batteries — from the Boats we saw no fire — The 25 Guns fired at the Squadron were from the Grand Battery & from Fort English —

Between 12 Midnight & 1 A M. light Airs from S E b E — Made the signal for the Squadron to anchor — Came to in 25 fath[s] hard bottom. From this time till morning light airs from S E. or calms —

Departed this life John Pyles Seaman. At 1 A. M. his body was committed to the deep —

From daylight till noon light breezes & Variable between N E b E & East. Continue all clear at Quarters — Supplied the *Syren* with 9 Gang Casks of Water = 576 Gall.[s]

Noon light airs from E b N — Tripoly distant nearly 3 Miles S bW by compass

These 24 hours the following Signals were made Viz.

At 1 P. M. Squadron to prepare to Weigh with the *J. Adams*' annulling Signal

1¼ P. M. *Syren* to Weigh.
3½ P. M. Weigh, the *Argus* & *Nautilus*
4½ P. M. *Vixen*, to take in tow the Gun boats which had been riding by the *J. Adams*
6 P. M. Squadron prepare for action
6¼ P. M. Come within Hail, the *Syren*
9¼ P. M. Tack, the Squadron.
9½ P. M. Come within Hail, the Squadron
10½ P. M. Tack the Squadron
11½ P. M. Tack d[o]
1 A. M. Anchor the Squadron

[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, 17 August 1804

At half past Midnight the Commodore made signal for to Anchor the Whole Fleet Anchored. at 12 Meridian the Commr^e made signal for all Capt to repair on board the *Constitution* — the Weather excessively warm with light breezes. at ½ past one the Captain returned onboard in the Gigg & M^d S^n Booke [Midshipman Brooke] in the Black Cutter at ½ past 2 the Capt. went on board the *Constitution*. at ½ past 3 P M M^r Brook left the ship in the Black Cutter with the Armour. at 5 the Commodore made the Signal for the fleet to get under way at ½ past 5 they got under way and the Captain returnd on board.—

[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, 17 August 1804

(Following the Commodores Motion)

Light winds & pleas^t At 1 a signal from the Comm: to weigh. ½ past 2 hove up & made sail. At 3 the Comm: *Argus* & *Nautilus* got under way & stood for the land. At 5 back'd the M^n top sail. ½ past 5 wore & stood off shore. At 6 wore in shore. At 7 wore & stood off. At ½ past 8 stood in shore.—

Midnight moderate breezes & pleas^t standing off & on shore. At 1 the signal for the squadron to come too. ½ past 1 came too with the larb^d bower in 25 fathoms furl'd all sail. —

Meridian light airs & pleas^t the Comm: made signal for all Commanders to repair on board his ship, rec^d a supply of water from the Commr^e sent provisions & water on board gun boat N^o 4. —

Latt: Obs: 33° 2′ N.

[NDA.]

To Midshipman James T. Leonard, U. S. Navy, New York, N. Y., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP. *18th Aug: 1804.*

M^r Beekman Navy Agent at New York has been directed to make the necessary Contracts for building 2 Gun-boats agreeably to a draft which has been transmitted to him.— Your services as a professional Gentleman, may, it is conceived, be usefully directed to this object. You will therefore attend in person and superintend the execution of the work, and see that it is faithfully performed.

You will communicate with M^r Beekman when ever it may be necessary. He will put you in possession of the particular directions which have been transmitted to him, by me, on the subject of dimensions and materials, by which you will be enabled to form a correct judgment of the work, as the contractor progresses in its execution.

[NDA. Off. Comg. Gunboats, 1803–1808.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 18 August 1804

at Anchor off Tripoli at 7 P M. Cap^t Hull returned on board —

Light breezes through the night at 5 AM the Commodore made Sig^l N^o 1205 weighed with the whole Squadron and stood to the NE

at 8 AM Tripoli bore SWbS — At meridian fresh breezes and Cloudy shortened sail and hove to under the Commodores lee Variously Emp^{d}

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 18 August 1804

Off Tripoli
Moderate
5. A M. The Commodore made Signal N^{o} 1205 Weighed in Company with the Squadron.
Fresh Breezes.

[Mrs. C. E. Fox original. NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 18 August 1804

[Tangier Bay] At 1 [P M.] the Consul went on Shore at ¾ past 3 spoke the British brig of war *Haggard.*

At 4 Cape Spartel bore W B N ½ N distance 4 miles Tangier S W distance ¾ mile At 7 rec^{d} on board stock & fruits for the Use of the ships company. at ¾ past 9 The current having drifted the *Essex* Close in shore she made the signal N^{o} 24 Sent the boats to assist in towing her of[f]. at ½ past 11 a light breeze sprung up from the Eastw^{d} the boats returnd Hoisted them in —

At midnight light breezes & clear bore up & made sail standing out of the gut. ¼ past 1 Cape Spartel bore East distance 4 miles A M made and took in sail as occasion req^{d} Meredian the town of Arzella bore E B N ½ N. distance 4 leagues —

[USNA.]

Extract from journal kept on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Saturday, 18 August 1804

Wind N E we are at Anchor 3 miles N b E from the Town of Tripoly, we have our guns all clear Boats all out and armed, and every thing prepared for an attack the moment the wind & sea are favorable. At 8 P M, I sent Cap^{t} Decatur & Cap^{t} Chauncey, in two small Boats to reconnoitre the Harbour and examine the situation of their Gun Boats. at Midnight they returnd and reported that they rowed to the Western rock within musket shot of the Enemies centinels and that all the Gun-Boats were in the Mole, moored in a line abreast with Heads to the Eastward. by 1 A M the wind had shifted to the S E (which blows out of the Harbour) the sea was smooth but the current strong to the Westward, which concludes us to defer an attack until some better opportunity as the Boats would not be able to reach their stations before day light. — At day light the Wind suddenly shifted to the N N W which immediately brought a heavy swell on shore the sky was clouded and appearances of a gale, made the signal for the fleet to weigh & gain an offing. — at 7 A M Weigh'd and made sail to work off shore. At 11½ AM double Reef'd the Topsails fresh Breezes and a rough sea, at noon Tripoly S b E 3 Leagues dis^{t} —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June-August 1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Saturday, 18 August 1804

Light breezes from N E. with a Swell beginning to set in from E N E. We are 3 Miles N b E ½ E from Tripoly — All the Squadron in company except the *Scourge* and *John Adams* which are at anchor two or three miles without us —

Supplied the *Syren* this Afternoon with 9 casks of Water or 576 Gall[s] which added to what the *Syren* has had within these two days makes 2668 Gallons.

There are now remaining on board the *Constitution* 33 leagurs & 16 Butts=14,000 Gallons —

We expend daily (adding the Water supplied the two Bombards) 600 gall[s]

All, this afternoon we have had moderate breezes Veering between N E & E N E. with a swell setting from the Eastward.

At 8 P. M. the Commodore sent two small boats to reconnoitre the Enemy's gun boats — At 12 Midnight they returned and reported that the Gun boats were transported from their Moorings close under the Bashaws castle — Our boats were so near that they could see the Centinels on the Walls of the castle.

By this time the wind had shifted by degrees to E S E. and continued so with light airs till day light when it shifted to N N W — At 6 A. M. We had light airs from N W b N with a swell setting in shore with cloudy overcast Weather — The Squadron weighed p[r] Signal & stood off shore —

At 7 A. M. Weighed & made all plain Sail in Order to Work off Shore — At 9 A. M. stowed the light sails & tacked to WSW. — At 11½ A. M. double reefed the Topsails and brought to for the Squadron to join company The *John Adams* continues at anchor. When we got under way this morning, the weather had the appearance of strong breezes from the Northward All forenoon from 8 A. M we had moderate breezes from N W with overcast weather.

Noon — Laying by, 3 Leagues North from Tripoly. The Squadron in 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, Saturday, 18 August 1804

At half past 12 the Commodore made a signal for us to get under way but a number of our hands being on board the *Constitution* we made the signal of Inability to comply at 2 Oclock hove up and got under way at 6 Oclock this evening the town of Tripoli bore S W by W. distance 7 Leagues. —

[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, 18 August 1804

(Standing of[f] shore with the squadron & part of the time at anchor.)

Light winds & pleas[t] ½ past 4 rec[d] a supply of Water from the Comm:

Midnight gentle breezes & pleas[t] the Comm[e] made signal to get under way, hove up made sail & stood to the N. E. At 5 set stay sails At 7 set royals & flying jib. At 10 tack'd to the S W took in royals. — ½ past 11 tack'd to the NE[d] with the squadron. —
Latt: Obs: 33° 9′ N.

[NDA.]

[19 August 1804]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Surgeon James Wells, U. S. Navy

Sir. Lieu[t] Charles Gordon from an Affection of his breast, suffered serious inconveniences from the frequent changes of weather to which an Officer is exposed, in the Mediterranean Sea during the winter months.

From a particular attention to his health the winter past, I attribute the preservation of his life; if attached to a Ship the ensuing season, am apprehensive our efforts to save him will be ineffectual.

Would recommend his return to the United States, or some Port, congenial to his health.

US. Ship *Constitution* August 19[th] 1804.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta

Malta the *19 August 1804*

Dear Sir I have the honor to reply to your valued letter of the 15 Ins[t] — I sincerely congratulate you upon the favorable result of your first attack upon the Barbarians and I trust that your exertions will be finally Crowned with every Success, at the same time I participate in the regret you must naturally feel for the loss of so many valuable lives, tho' we must confess they are but few in number when we come to consider the unequal and desperate Contest they were engaged in — I felicitate you My Dear Sir on *your* escape (a very narrow one I am told) and I have no doubt when you return to America but the thanks of the President will be followed by the universal and heartfelt approbation of Your Countrymen —

Your pressing wants for water will have been relieved I hope ere this by the safe arrival of the Cargo I sent to you and which left this on the 12 Ins[t] another supply went to you by the Store Ship *Intripid* on the 17 — The *Enterprise* will sail this morning as full as she can load, and to morrow I shall dispatch you the Bombard *Eliza*, with about 120 Puncheons more — I do not mean to stop here; to avoid the possibility of disappointment I intend taking up another Vessel and if I can get Casks from my good friend M[r] Wilkie she shall also go to you in the course of the Week — We have however run pretty hard upon the Public Stores and I cannot answer for the Success of a fresh application — The *Enterprise* carries 40 puncheons from the Dock Yard —

I have no letters for you, those that lay with me went by the *Intrepid* I send you some fruit and Vegetables & if I can get you a case of Cyder you shall have that also

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

[19 August 1804]

To Midshipman Charles Goodwin Ridgely, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

SIR You are hereby appointed Lieutenant of the U. S. Schooner the *Nautilus* you will therefore repair on board the Said Schooner, and take upon yourself the charge and duty of Lieutenant agreeable to the regulations of the Service for which this shall be your Authority

Given under my hand on board the U. S. Ship *Constitution* this 19th day of august 1804

Signed EDWARD PREBLE

Mr CHARLES L RIDGELY
Hereby appointed Lieut. &ca

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 19 August 1804

At Meridn the Commodore made Sigl No 1018 at 1 P M Tacked ship to the Nd & Ed hoisted in the boats at ½ past 2 the Commodore made Sigl 1036 at 5 took in T. G. sails at half past 5 the Commodore made Sigl No 314 took a reef in the top sails at ½ past 6 up Courses down main T. M. Staysail and backed the main Topsail sent water to Gunboat No 3 ¾ past hoisted in the boat and filled away — At midnight moderate breczes with a heavy Swell from the Northwd wore Ship —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 19 August 1804

Fresh breezes and pleasant
1 the Commodore made signal No 1018. Tacked.
2 Signal No 1036.
5½ No 314
A. M. Moderate & pleasant.
Lat. Obsd 33° 14′ N.

[Mrs. C. E. Fox original. NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 19 August 1804

At 1 [P. M.] the town of Larash bore S ½ W. At ½ past 1 Discoverd a strange [sail] on the Starbd beam. Departed this Life Lawrence Vallance O. S. At ¾ past 1 the town of Larash bore S E B E. Distance 5 miles discoverd in the harbour. The ship *Masuda* — with lower Yards & top masts struck — at 2 sounded in 25 fathoms water. Committed the body of the disceased to the deep —

Latitude Observed 34° 23′ N.

[USNA.]

Extract from journal kept on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Sunday, 19 August 1804

Wind N W. at 1 P M wore to the N E & brought to for the squadron. Capt Chauncey with his officers & crew rejoined the

John Adams, Hoisted in all our Boats, and made signal for all Boats to Join their respective ships. at 5 P M the wind North stood to the E N E with the fleet — at Midnight Wore to the W N W, signal was made for the Squadron to do the same — fresh Breezes & a rough sea, at 6 AM sounded 75 fath[s] Water sandy bottom, we have now an Offing of 8 or 10 Leagues from Tripoly. — Moderate Breezes all the fore noon with an Ugly swell setting towards the coast, Tripoly at Noon bore S b W ½ W 9 Leagues dis[t] — The Clouds are dispersing and the Weather appears favorable for a change of wind.

Lat[d] Obs[d] 33° 19′ N[o]

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Sunday, 19 August 1804

Moderate breezes from N W. Waiting for the Squadron to close — At 1 P. M wore to N E & brought to —

Cap[t] Chauncey with his Officers and Seamen rejoined the *John Adams* —

At 1½ P. M. In all boats which we have had out two days in readiness to assist the Bombards & Gun boats At 2 P. M. filled to the E N E. Squadron in company By this time the wind had Veered to North — Out second reef from the Topsails —

At 3½ P. M. Tripoly bore S W b S ¼ S. 14 Miles.

Towards evening the N wind began to freshen — double reefed the Topsails & down Royal Yards —

At Sunset the land was not in Sight. Squadron all in sight, but considerably scattered —

Continued standing to E N E till 12 Midnight when we wore and came to the wind to W N W, with the night signal for the Squadron to follow.

Pleasant weather during the night with a rough sea.

At 6 A. M. sounded — 75 f[ms] Hard bottom —

The Garfan Mountains bore S W.

We have now an Offing of 9 or 10 leagues from the coast —

At 1 A. M. out second reef from the Topsails — Moderate breezes from N. all the forenoon with a swell setting from N N W —

Noon. Squadron in company. Standing to W N W The Hills a little inland of Tripoly in sight bearing by compass S W b S — The town of Tripoly (var: cor:) bears S W b W ½ W. 27 Miles —

The clouds to the N. are in some measure dispersed and have the appearance of a change to the Eastward

Surgeons report 7 sick, 4 conv[ets] & 3 wounded prisoners — Water now remaining 36 Leagurs & 16 butts = 13,440 Gall[s]

The foll[ow]ing signals have been Made the 24 hours past —

At 1 P. M. *John Adams* to Weigh — Answered her signal N[o] 634.

1½ P. M. All boats to return to their own ships —

1¾ P. M. General Signal — Make more sail

2 P. M. Answered the *Nautilus* signal to speak the Commodore

5¾ P. M. Squadron to close

12 Midnight. Squadron to wear —

Latitude Observed 33° 19′ N.

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, 19 August 1804

19. Monday. 8. a. m. within a league and ½ of the Island of Alboran

[H. E. Huntington L&AG, EA 206.]

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, 19 August 1804

We continued underway all last night & are now cruising of[f] the coast of Tripoli land not in sight. at Meridian the squadron in sight. to Leward light breezes. at half past 12. discovered a sail on our Weather beam and made a signal signifying the same to the Commodore he made the signal for the squadron to wear & at 1 Oclock he made the signal for the *Argus* to chace the strange sail. We continued under sail all night in company with the Squadron —

[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, 19 August 1804

(Standing off the land with all the squadron)

Fresh breezes & pleas[t] weather ½ past Mer: tack'd to the W[d] took in stay sails & flying jib At 1 back'd the M[n] topsail & sent the launch on board the *John Adams* for provisions & rum At 2 hoisted in the barge. At 3 the launch return'd with provisions & rum the *John Adams* weigh'd & stood for the fleet. At 5 Tripoli bore S W by S 5 leagues. — Midnight clear & pleas[t] inclining to calm, with a heavy sea. ½ past 12 wore to the N W[d] p[r] signal. —

Latt: Obs: 33° 14′ N.

[NDA.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from R. W. Meade, Cadiz, Spain

CADIZ *August 20th 1804*

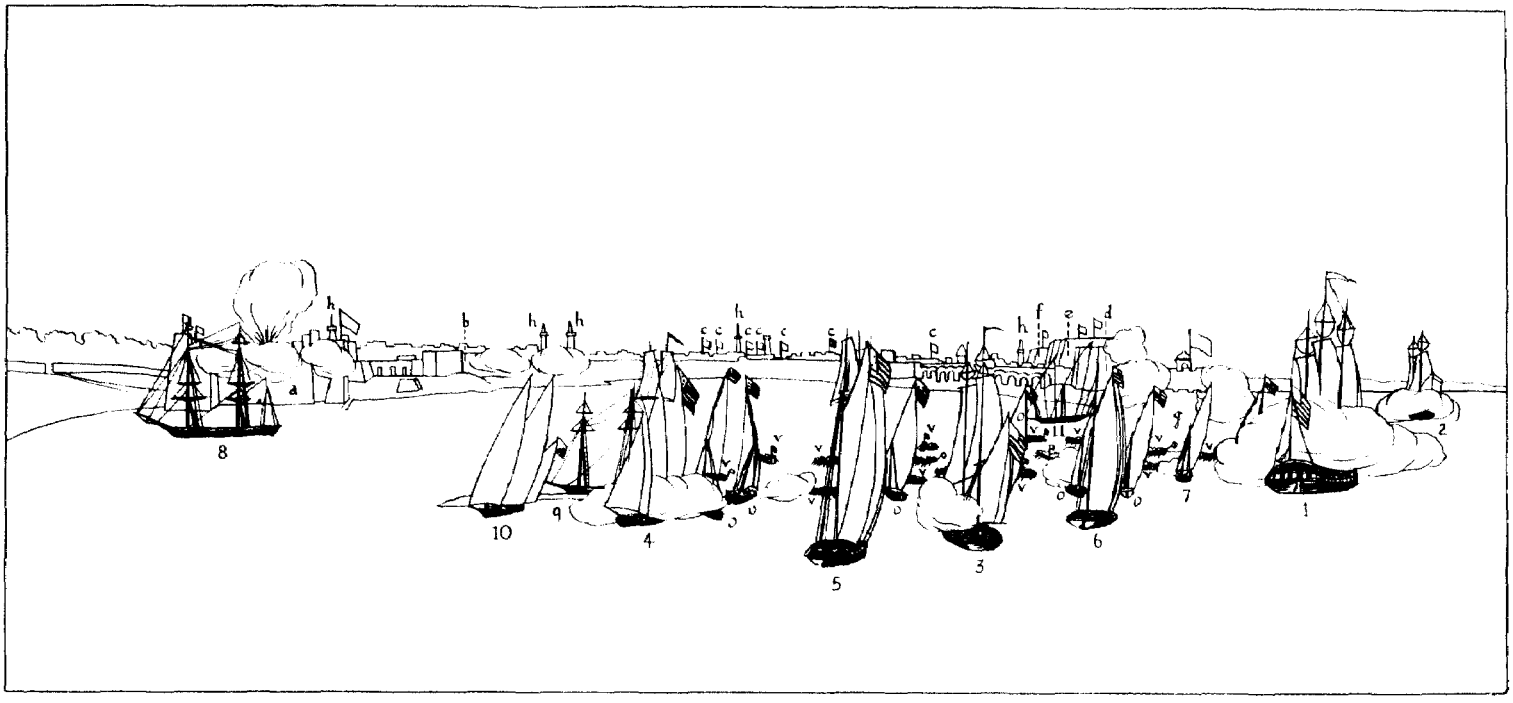
DEAR SIR, Enclosed you will find sundry papers relative to the forgery practised by one Charles Borny in your name on Mackenzie & Glennie the Navy Agents of the United States at London.

The papers explain so very fully the whole business, that it is only necessary for me to refer you to them. I send you also two of the original letters, one from Charles Borny to Mess[rs] Gonne Harrison & Lupton of Lisbon, & one from Laurent Roberts to Mayne & Brown of same place.

No doubt remains in my mind but that Borny & Roberts are one and the same person, and that he has assumed one or both the names, and varied the writing merely to accomplish his purposes. No such person as Laurent Roberts being to be traced here, whereas Charles Borny, or the person by that name is well known here.

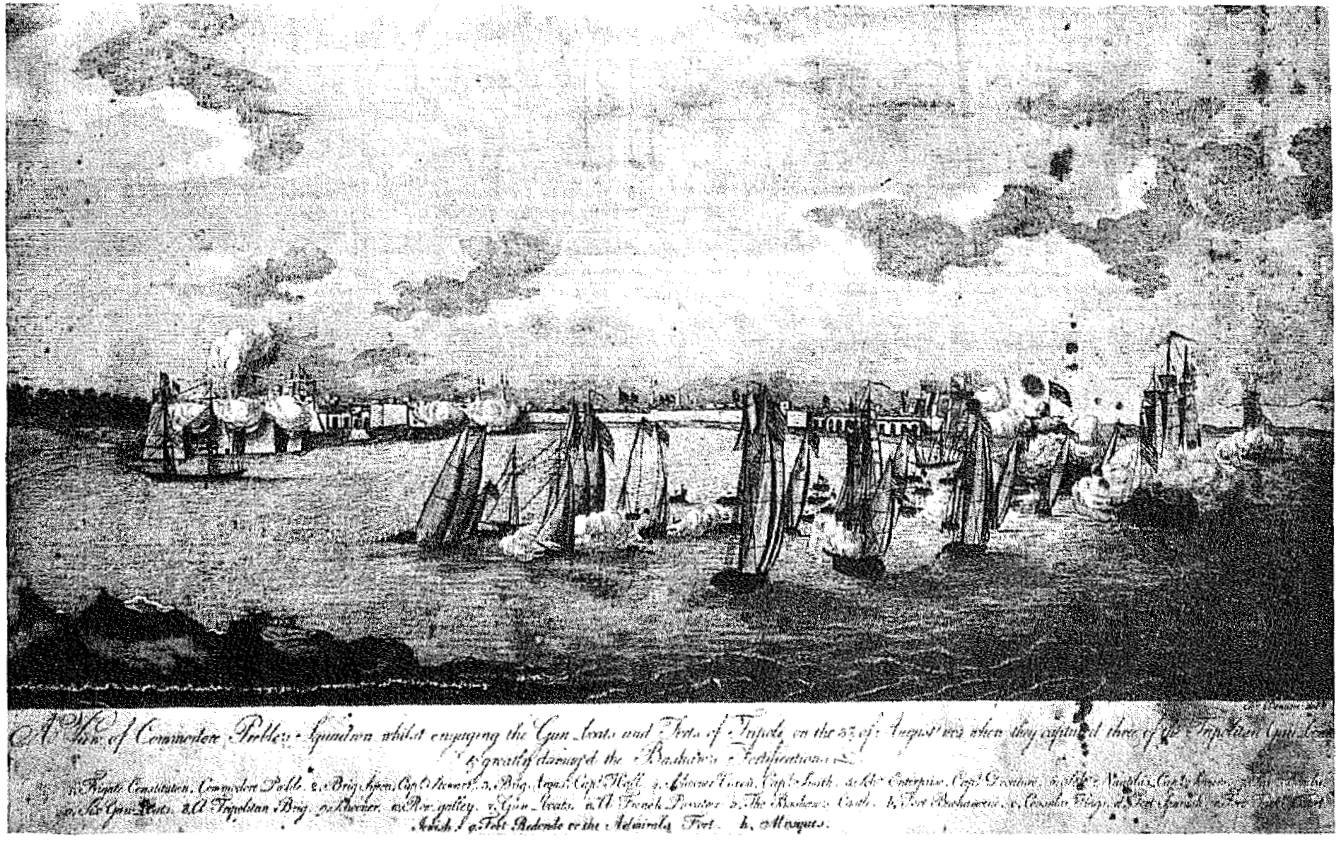
It is probable you may be able from the information now sent you, and from seeing the handwriting, to trace who M[r] Borny is, & where he may now be.

He is certainly a most perfect adept in the line he has selected for the exertion of his talents; & has through the whole of his operations



1. FRIGATE "CONSTITUTION," COMMODORE PREBLE
2. BRIG "SYREN," CAPTAIN STEWART
3. BRIG "ARGUS," CAPTAIN HULL
4. SCHOONER "VIXEN," CAPTAIN SMITH
5. SCHOONER "ENTERPRISE," CAPTAIN DECATUR
6. SCHOONER "NAUTILUS," CAPTAIN SOMERS
7. TWO BOMBS
8. A TRIPOLITAN BRIG
9. SCHOONER
10. ROW-GALLEY
11. A FRENCH PRIVATEER

a. THE BASHAW'S CASTLE
b. FORT BUCHAMEINE
c. CONSULAR FLAGS
d. FORT SPANISH
e. FORT TURK
f. FORT JEWISH
g. FORT REDONDO, OR THE ADMIRAL'S FORT
h MOSQUES
o. SIX GUN-BOATS
v. GUN-BOATS



ATTACK ON TRIPOLI. 3 AUGUST 1804.

which were even extended far more than necessary, made use of the most respectable & cautious houses both here, and at Lisbon; and by that means prevented the least possibility of suspicion in Messrs Mackenzie & Glennie I think it would be well to write Messrs [space] at Milan. you may possibly hear something concerning him from them which may lead to a discovery of his present place of abode.

I shall be happy to hear from you, and if I can be of any service in this, or any other business in this city, I pray you to command me, believing me to be

(Signed) R. W MEADE

[LC. EPP, LB, April-Nov. 1804.]

To John Gavino, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar, from R. W. Meade, Cadiz, Spain

(Copy) CADIZ *August 20th 1804*

DEAR SIR — I enclose several papers a list of which is annexed, relative to the forgery committed on Messrs Mackenzie & Glennie of London, by a young man under the name of Charles Borny. This business was put under my charge by C Pinckney Esqr our Minister at Madrid with instructions to trace the same if possible, and discover the residence of Mr Borny.

I have not however been able to discover any thing further than that, Mr Borny was here about the period of the bills being drawn & paid; and that he introduced himself to Messrs Grippi & Caleagui, a very respectable house of this city, thro' whom he transacted his operations. By the information recd from this house, I find that this young man presented himself at their Counting House on the 27th December last, with a request that they would undertake the collection of several bills for him on Lisbon Seville, Madrid, &c. Upon being questioned to know by whom he had been recommended, he informed them, that he had been captured on his passage from Italy by the English, carried into Gibraltar, and had been unfortunate enough to lose nearly all his papers & effects. He however produced a long letter of instructions from [space] of Milan, containing among others the following paragraph. "All business that you "may have to transact, either on your own, or our a/c at Cadiz, you "will place in the hands of Messrs Grippi & Caleagui our particular "friends there, & on mentioning our name, they will do every thing "in their power to serve you". This letter Mr Borny left for several days at the office of Grippi & Caleagui, who were well acquainted and formerly in correspondence with the House; and on comparing the signature with another in their possession, and finding them to agree exactly They undertook and managed the business for him. Messrs Grippi & Caleagui appear however to have retained some suspicions about the young man, and acted with great caution, giving him no money but as they collected the bills deposited with them. The Bills being all very regularly paid, on the 25th January, they paid him $6811 Dollars, being the balance of his account; and about the same period Borny called on Don Cayetano Farrugia a Maltese Shop Keeper in this City, who procured Gold for him for about 15,000 Dollars. Since that period he has not been seen here. The person with whom he lodged being absent at present from the city, I have not been able to obtain the date he left this. I will however see the person on his return, and let you know of any thing

new that may occur. Charles Borny is a young man of about 26 or 27 years old, of a midling stature regular features, good address, and a great deal to say for himself, He speaks fluently and correctly the French, English, Spanish and Italian languages. He told the Maltese that he was a Neapolitan Navy Officer, but the Maltese rather took him for a Spaniard or Portuguese.

I have not been able to trace which rout he has taken I rather think however, he has gone to Italy, and I would advise your immediately writing to the house in Milan with a statement of facts, and it may possibly happen that they may discover him.

No doubt whatsoever exists but that Borny & Roberts are one and the same person, as no such person as Laurent Roberts ever made his appearance here; whereas Borny, or the person by that name is well known.

He must have been some person either in your confidence or that of Commodore Preble, or he could not have been so well acquainted with the particulars of the Letter of credit, and the time it was forwarded. You'll observe that the Bills he drew, and which were sent forward by Mayne & Brown of Lisbon, reached London by the same post as the letter of Credit. I think it would be well if the letter of credit was put into the Post Office by you at Gibraltar, to enquire whether a person of that description may not have been employed in the Post Office I send you part only of Borny & Roberts' letters, and will retain the others in case any thing should turn up here One of the original Bills on MacKenzie & Glennie is in my possession, but as it is the only one in Europe, I shall retain it until required.

I send enclosed a letter for Commodore Preble, which please forward. It contains a copy of the letters, and two letters of Borny & Roberts, that he may know the writing.

I shall be glad to hear from you, and to be informed should anything occur.

Having fixed my residence here for some time, I take the liberty of offering you my services & remain D^{r} Sir,

Your Very D^{r} Serv^{t}

(Signed) R W MEADE

N. B Mess^{rs} Grippi & Caleagui having mislaid the letter from the House in Milan, I am unable by this post to send you the firm of the House, as they do not remember it. I shall send it however, as soon as I can obtain it.

22nd August 1804 You will please give notice to the commanding officer of the American Ships, that there has this day entered this port two Moorish cruisers of 4 Guns each and 55 Men —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To Secretary of State from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

Copy TUNIS *August the 20th 1804* —

SIR, I have the honor to inform You, that a Courier has this moment arrived from Sphax, which gives me the pleasing intelligence of our Squadron's having made a Powerful and Successful attack on the Town and Harbour of Tripoli; and profit of this early occasion for Malta to forward You a Copy of the Dispatch received from Commodore Preble. The affair has not yet been made known to the Bey; but shall avail myself of the first occasion to apprize His Excel-

lency of our effective operations against the enemy; and doubt not but his own deductions will be more favourable to the conservation of our Peace, and have more weight in a happy and honourable arrangement of our Affairs here, than any comments which proudence would authorize me to make.

Every avenue between this and Algiers, is perfectly blocked up by the Sherif, before mentioned; and the fears of that Regency seem not yet to have been awakened as much as this Government. — The Marabout's Army daily increases; his continued inactivity augurs rather an unfavourable issue: there is, however, so much reason for disaffection, in the different Regencies, and such real misery throughout all this, that we are menaced with a scene of Famine, desolation, and civil comotion — the price of grain increases: but as this is the Season of fruit, the People still find the means of subsistence: it is the winter that we are to dread.

Naples, inspired by our daring acts, continues to annoy this Coast — I learn, (and the intelligence may be relied on, tho' we cannot give the detail) that the Tunisien Squadron, has been separated and attacked in different Situations by their Enemy — three T. Gallies, on board of which were nearly Seven hundred Men, made an attack, on a Neapolitan Frigate — one it is said was sunk, and the other two Captured: part of the Action was seen from Mount Ras Jebel, (near Porto farino) and a number of dead bodies have since floated on shore — We have also accounts of four other Corsairs being Captured by the Neapolitans: a frigate, is Cruising between Porto-farino, and Cape Bona — Everything, however, is kept in profound Secrecy, and even enquiries are dangerous. —

His Catholic Majesty's regalia, arrived on the 18th Instant, (to wit) two Xebecs, mounting thirty pieces of Cannon each — Seventy thousand Dollars in Cash, a regalia for the Sapatapa, with the usual Consular Present. I have received no letters from Tripoli, since the 14th ult.; but daily expect a Courier —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

To Captain Schomberg, R. N., commanding H. B. M. S. *Madrass*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitution At Anchor Off TRIPOLY
August 20th 1804

DEAR SIR I am honored with your letter by the *John Adams* and beg you to accept my thanks for your prompt & obliging attention to our Wants in the cask way —

The *John Adams* would have been a pleasing sight, if she had not have left her Gun Carriages on board the Squadron in Hampton Roads — More of this hereafter —

I am to be superseded in the command of the American Squadron in these seas — Believe me, my dear sir I have too high a re[s]pect for those gentlemen who have honored me with their attention in Malta, to conceal from them the Reasons assigned by my Government for this Measure — I have therefore enclosed to Sir Alexander Ball, a copy of a letter from the Secretary of the Navy to me on the subject —

I beg leave to refer you to M^{r} OBrien for information respecting our Operations in this Quarter — Our Gun boats want much nursing, & create a vast deal of uneasiness for their Safety in rough Weather —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

[20 August 1804]

To Midshipman Joseph Israel, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

SIR You are hereby appointed Lieutenant of the U. S. Ship *Constitution* — You will therefore repair on board Said Ship, and take upon yourself the charge and duty of Lieutenant agreeable to the regulations of the Service for which this shall be your authority

Given under my hand on board the U. S. Ship *Constitution* this 20th day of August 1804
Signed EDWARD PREBLE

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

[About 20 August 1804]

To the Commanding Officer of each U. S. Ship of War in the Mediterranean Squadron from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

SIR, The Good of the Service requires that you put the whole of your ship's company on allowance of two Quarts & a pint of water for 24 hours including Peas, Rice, & Grog Water. You will therefore give Orders to commence the issuing such allowance & continue untill farther Orders —

Signed E: PREBLE

Note — One of the above was sent to each Capt of the Squadron

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 20 August 1804

at ½ past Meridian saw a Strange Sail off our Weather bow the Commodore hoisted our Distinguish[t] flag at 1 PM he made Sig[l] N[o] 274 and N[o] 356 Cast off the Gunboats at ½ past 4 brought the Chace too she proved to be the American Ketch *Intripid* 8 days from Syracuse with Water and fresh provisions for the Squadron took her in tow and made Sail for the Commodore at 6 hove too Capt Hull went on board of him —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 20 August 1804

At ½ past 6 [AM] discovered 2 strange Sail on the Weather bow — anchord with the Kedge anchor In 67 fathoms water — At 8 fired a gun & Run up our colours Tryd the current & found It setting S W B W 1 mile p[r] hour — at 10 weighd & made sail the town of Sallee bearing S E distance 3 miles. Saw three Moorish ships of war & a gally laying in the harbour

[USNA.]

Extract from journal kept on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Monday, 20 August 1804

Moderate Breezes from the N E with a heavy swell setting to the N N W, standing to the N N W with the fleet. Tripoly bearing S S E 9 or 10 Leagues at 1 PM a strange sail was discovered from the

John Adams in the E N E. Made the *Argus's* signal to cast off her Gun Boats & chase. made the *John Adams's* signal to Tow the *Argus's* Boats at 4 PM the *Argus* brought the chase to. made the signal to bring her down to me. at 6 the *Argus* & chase joined company she proved to be the U S Ketch *Intrepid* from Syracuse with Water & fresh stock for the Squadron, she Brought me letters from M^{r} Dyson & M^{r} Higgins the latter informs me that an English Vessel left Malta the 12th Ins^{t} with 190 Butts of Water, & some live stock for the Squadron. We are in great want of the Water but I fear some accident has happened to her to prevent her arrival as the Wind has been constantly fair for several days past. at 12 Midnight the Wind E b S. Steered to the S b E at 2½ AM the Wind SSE wore Ship to the East at 5½ AM Wind S E wore to the S S W at 8 AM all sail sett for the Land, at 9 AM ordered the *Argus* to the Eastward to look out for the store ship Expected from Malta, sent the *Vixen* to the Westward on the same errand Ordered all the fleet on allowance of Water 2 Quarts p^{r} Day cooking & grog Water included. — The prisoners at 1 Quart p^{r} day which is more than an equal proportion as they are not exposed to the Sun and have no work to do. At noon we were about 5 Leagues from the coast. Tripoly bearing S E b S

Lat^{d} 33^{o} 4′ N. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Monday, 20 August 1804

Moderate breezes from N E with a swell setting in to the N W^{t} Standing to N W — 9 or 10 Leagues to the N N E of Tripoly — Squadron in company. At 1 P. M. answered the *J. Adam's* Signal for a strange sail to the E — The *Argus* was ordered p. Signal in chase, leaving the two gun boats towed by her, in charge of the *John Adams* — Made sail as necessary to lead the Squadron & keep the *Argus* in sight. At 4 P. M. the *Argus* brought to the chase — Made signal to bring the chase to the Commodore —

At 6 P. M. joined company the U. S. Ketch *Intrepid* from Saragosa with supplies for the Squadron — Her supplies consist of 30 Butts of Water, some Bullocks, sheep & Vegetables —

By 8 P. M. the wind had Veered to E b S — We continued with the main topsail to the mast till 12 midnight when we wore & filled to the Southward —

By 2½ A. M. the wind had veered to S S E. Wore ship to the Eastward — At 5½ A. M. Wore to S S W — Moderate breezes from E S E & S E all the forenoon with pleasant weather & a smooth sea. At 8 A. M. made all plain sail in for the land — At 9 A. M. the *Argus* was ordered to look out to the Eastward in order to fall in with a store ship which had sailed from Malta 5 or 6 days ago with supplies for the Squadron — The *Vixen* was ordered to look out for her to the Westward.

Punished Daniel Veddenburgh & Samuel Greaves seamen with 12 lashes each for neglect of duty —

This forenoon the ships company was ordered on allowance of Water, two quarts per day, exclusive of the water for Peas Rice & Grog. The prisoners are allowed One Quart p^{r} day each — Noon Moderate breezes from S E — We are 4 or 5 leagues from the coast

which which bears from S E to S W b W — Tripoly we suppose to bear S S E, 14 Miles — The Squadron all in company except the *Argus & Vixen* which are in sight on the look out — Water now remaining 33 Leagurs & 14 Butts.

The following Signals have been made these 24 hours —

At 1 P. M. — Squadron to wear — The *Argus* to cast off boats — & the *John Adams* to take them in tow

At 2 — Squadron to wear

At 5 — *Argus* — bring down the chase

At 12 Midnight — Squadron to wear

At 2 A. M. — Squadron to wear

At 5¾ A M. *John Adams* come within hail.

At 6 A. M — *Vixen* dº dº

At 8¼ A. M. Squadron make more Sail.

Latitude Observed 33° 4′ North

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, Monday, 20 August 1804

Off Cape De Gat, becalmed. Sunk a queen's ware plate over the strern, suspended to a bog line, which was seen at the depth of one hundred and forty eight feet.

[NR&L. No. 9217, Bmˡ E 14.]

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, 20 August 1804

At half past 5 this morning the Commodore made the signal that he wanted to speak us. We bore up for him and soon after spoke him he Ordered us to take 2 Gun boats in tow —

Capt Chauncey went on board the Commodore at half past Meridian discovered land ahead & at 1. the Town of Tripoli bore S E by E ½ E. at half past 5 discovered a sail on our starbᵈ bow. standing to the Eastᵈ — which proved to be a bark with water &c for the fleet —

[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, Monday, 20 August 1804

Plying to windward with the fleet in sight of the town [Tripoli]

Light breezes & pleasant weather with a heavy sea from the N E At ½ past a signal for the fleet to wear, turn'd the reefs out of the topsails & wore ship. At ½ past 2 discover'd a strange sail to windward. signal from the Commodore for the *Argus* to give chace. At ½ past 2 wore pʳ signal of the Commodore, & made sail. ½ past 4 shortened sail, the *Argus* spoke the chase, Proved to be the Ketch *Intrepid*, with Provisions &c. for the fleet. ½ past 5 back'd the main top sail. ½ past 6 reefd the topsails.

Midnight light breezes & pleasant wore to the S W pʳ signal. At 3 wore to the Eᵈ pʳ signal, made sail, ½ past 5 wore to the S W pʳ signal. ½ past 7 back'd the main top sail, sent the launch on board the *J. Adams* for Provisions. At 8 fill'd away —

Meridian light airs & clear, rec^{d} from the *John Adams* a quantity of Provisions. Supplied gun boat N^{o} 4 with water & provisions. —

[NDA.]

To Sir Alexander John Ball, Governor of Malta, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitution — Off TRIPOLY, at Anchor
August 21st 1804

SIR You will e're this probably have heard that I am to be superseded in the command of the American Squadron in these Seas — I value too highly the Friendly sentiments with which you have honored me, to neglect making you acquainted with the reasons assigned by my Government, for this (to me) unexpected measure — I therefore take the liberty to enclose you a copy of a letter from the Secretary of the Navy on the Subject —

I beg leave to refer you to M^{r} OBrien for information respecting our Operations in this Quarter —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To Secretary of State from John Gavino, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar

N^{o} 158 GIBRALTAR *21st August 1804*

SIR

* * * * * * *

On the Evening of the 12th Instant arrived Commodor Barron and his Squadron, when I gave him all the Occurrencys of the times, they imediately Waterd and took in such Provisions &c^{a} as they stood in need of & could stow. On the 15th the Commodor in Company with the *Constellation* proceeded for off Tripoly; the *Congress & Essex* went said day for Tanger and to shew themselves on the Western Coast of Barbary as the Emperours Cruisers were at Sea; I herewith inclose you one from Consul Simpson, who lately wrote me had received from the Emperour assurances of friendship towards the U. S. —

I now anex you abstract of a Letter from Madrid from which it seems our Situation with Spain is Critical, I wrote M^{r} Pinckney on the arrival of the *John Adams* advising him of the approach of our Squadron, and also informed him since of its arrival, but have no answer to either which makes me apprehend the Letters are stopd, yet I last Post wrote him a new under cover to a friend. — The *Congress & Essex* I expect in every moment, when it is most probable will proceed to join the Squadron above. — After Comodor Barron saild I was informed M^{r} Randolf had come out in the *President* and proceeded with her, which surprized me much that neither Commodor Barron, any of the Captains or Consul Eaton who all Dined with me & frequented the house should have mentiond it, if they had I most undoubtedly would (busy as I was dispatching the Squadron) have found him out and shewn him that attention & Civilitys he is so justly intitled to; it was from General Trigg I heard of his having been here, after he left the Garrison, as he had been with him to deliver some Letters he brought of Recommendation, indeed the short stay of the Ships, & the hurry they were in might have Occasiond the Gent^{n} of the Squadron not mentioning it which mortified me much, & I understood was one day on shore —

At Malaga they have a Malignant fever which has carried off 15 out of 20 that were taken with it, but they say the Number of Deaths are now reduced to 5 out of 20, a strict Quaranteen of forty days is laid here in Consequence on all Vessels from thence. —

I have no late Accounts from Comodor Prible. —

[NA. SDA. CL, Gibraltar, Vol. 2, 1796–1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS *August* the *21st 1804.*

SIR, The letter You did me the honor to write on the 7th Inst. giving the pleasing intelligence of our daring and Successful attack on the Town and Harbour of Tripoli; was not received untill yesterday.— It renovated those flattering hopes I once so fondly cherished — that it should ultimately be the honourable task of America to check the insupportable Insolence of these States, and revenge the Cruel outrages so long committed on every Christian Power. — You have laid the foundation for a National Character; and on so solid a Basis, that Tripoli at least, will learn to respect, even its ruins; and in doing which, You have in a great degree removed the degrading opinion, they had entertained of Our Nation — Your example, will stimulate all the Secondary Nations; and I trust, finally destroy the false Policy of Europe — May equal Success crown all Your future operations; and a Generous Government, appreciate the real worth of Your Gallant Officers. — Everything is in confusion with this Regency; tho' all is silent as the grave — for Your full information, I have the honor to enclose you a Copy of my present to the Secretary of State.

I wish Mr Russel, Consul for this Regency, to announce to me Officially, his appointment, and arrival in these Seas, before he sails for Tunis, in order, that the same may be communicated to the Bey, and all difficulties removed for his happy reception.

I most sincerely rejoice, at being relieved from so unpleasant a Post; it is not, however, a favourable moment for making a removal — My Sentiments of honor and discipline, are too refined, ever to question the propriety of any change on the part of Government; or permit personal views to damp my Zeal for the Service of my Country.

I beg You to accept the assurances of the high Consideration and distinguished Respect, with which,

P:S: I enclose you a line for Capt OBrien — if you have any news papers will you favour me, with a few, by the first occasion

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Master Commandant John Smith, U. S. Navy

U. S. S. *Vixen* Off TRIPOLI *Augt 21st 1804*

SIR, It having become requisite that thir shortly should be furnished for the U. S. Schooner *Vixen* under my command; a complete suite of running Riggin & Sails, together with some alteration in the possition of her Masts, for the purpose of facilitating he[r] working, those circumstances together, with the particular construction of the Vessel, has induced me to inform you, that was she altered from her

present rigg into that of a Brig, the change would materially deminish the expence under which she is employed, & will considerably add to her properties as a Vessel of War.

The standing riggin & spars, she has at present are sufficient to effect the change, the quantity of Riggin & Canvass will I conceive be less than that which is requisite in her present state.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

To William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitution — At Anchor Off TRIPOLY
August 21st 1804

DEAR SIR Your favors by the *Conception & Intrepid*, I have received. — The Water, Live Stock & Vegetables arrived very opportunely as the whole Squadron were nearly destitute — The *Enterprize* has this moment arrived & brings me yours of the 19th Inst — The *Eliza* with the 120 puncheons will be sufficient water until some part of the Squadron returns to Port which will be in ten or twelve days, as the Weather is so precarious, and our Gun boats require so much Nursing that it will not be prudent to let them remain out longer — We have not been able to make an attack since the 7th on account of unfavorable Winds & Weather; but are now waiting with great anxiety for an opportunity — I enclose you a copy of the letter which announces that I am to be superseded by Commodore Barron presuming that it may afford you satisfaction to be acquainted with the reasons which are assigned by Government —

I refer you to Mr OBrien for our present situation here — I wish you to get clear of the *Conception* as soon as possible, & on the best terms in your power —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

[21 August 1804]

Statement of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, regarding Ship *Conception*

I certify that the Ship *Conception*, Antonio Grima Master, came along side this ship this day, and discharged a cargo of Water & Provisions & was dismissed at 6 O'Clock in the Evening, not having had communication with the Shore, or with any other Vessel: And that we are all in good health.

Given on board the U. S. Ship
Constitution At Anchor off
Tripoly — August 21st: 1804
Signed EDWARD PREBLE

To all whom it may concern —

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

To Richard O'Brien from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitution — At Anchor
Off *Tripoly August 21st 1804*

SIR You will proceed to Malta in the Polacca Ship *Conception* prize to the U. S. Squadron Off Tripoly — the *Conception* has been

detained in consequence of attempting to enter Tripoly in Violation of a strict Naval Blockade by the U. S. Squadron under my command —

EDWARD PREBLE

RICHARD OBRIEN Esq[r]
An Officer of the U. S. of America

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 21 August 1804

Standing off and on the Town of Tripoli

[Mrs. C. E. Fox original. NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal kept on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Tuesday, 21 August 1804

Moderate Breezes from E S E & pleasant weather. — Standing in for the coast of Tripoly, all the squadron in comp[y] excepting the *Argus* on the look out to the Eastward, at 1 P M the Town of Tripoly in sight bearing by compass S E b S 4 Leagues, an unexpected Westerly Current has carried the squadron 4 or 5 Leagues farther to leward than we expected carrying a press of sail all night to gain our station off the Town, Wind Variable in the night by 7 A M the Wind had shifted from E S E to South Tripoly bearing S W b S 5 Leagues. at 9 AM saw a strange sail in the S E quarter, gave chase mad[e] signal for the *Argus* & *Vixen* to chase — the other Vessels of the squadron repeating. At 11½ A M they bore up to comply with the signal —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June–August 1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Tuesday, 21 August 1804

Moderate breezes from E S E with pleasant Weather — Standing on for the coast of Tripoly — Squadron all in company except the *Argus* & *Vixen* which are on the look out within communication p[r] Signal.

At 1 P. M. saw the Town of Tripoly bearing by compass S E b S nearly 4 Leagues — We unexpectedly made the town on these bearings owing to a strong Westerly current. We stood in shore till 3 P. M. when we tacked to the N E At 4½ P. M. tacked to the Southward — At 5 P. M. tacked to the N E & at 6 P. M. tacked to the S —

On the close of the Evening Tripoly bore by compass S S E nearly 4 leagues — At 8 P. M. tacked to N E — Continued standing to the E. during the Night under Easy sail — Winds Veering between E S E. & S S E.

At day light tacked to the S W — Squadron in sight & within signal distance, Except the *Vixen*, in sight to W S W — By 7 A. M. the wind had veered to S b E — Tacked to the East[d] Tripoly bearing by compass S W b S, nearly 6 Leagues — Light breezes Veering between S S W & W S W, with pleasant weather all forenoon — At 9 A. M. saw a strange sail bearing S E b S — continued nearing her till 11 A. M. when she altered her course — At this time the *Argus* was

about 5 Miles N E of us — The *J. Adams* between the *Argus* & *Constitution* — *Vixen* in sight to the S W nearly 6 Miles — At 11½ A. M. hoisted the Signal to chase with the *Argus's* distinguishing flag at the Mizen & the *Vixen's* at the Main — On their not answering the signal, we fired 4 guns — The *J. Adams* repeated the *Argus* signal with three guns, On which she bore up in chase.

At 11¾ we also bore up in chase in order to prevent the *Argus's* chase getting in shore —

Noon moderate breezes from W S W —

Tripoly in sight bearing S W b W, 4 leagues. Squadron all in sight.

The following Signals have been Made,

At 5½ P. M. answered the *Argus* Signal for a strange sail E S E. & made her signal to chase.

8 P. M —Night signal for Squadron to tack to N E.

5½ A. M —Answered the *J. Adams's* signal for a strange sail to W S W —

7 A. M —Shewed the *Argus'* distinguishing flag to speak her —

10¾ A. M —Answered the *J. Adam's* signal for a strange sail South—

11½ A. M —*Argus'* signal to chase E S E & *Vixen*, come within hail, & *Argus* to cast off her gun boats & the *Scourge* tow the *Argus'* boats

Latitude Observed 33° 5′ N.

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, Tuesday, 21 August 1804

Delivered my opinion to Commodore Barran concerning the apparent advantages of cooperating with Hamet Bashaw against Tripoli: and the probable disadvantages of acting without his cooperation.

If this plan succeeds (which will certainly have the full coincidence of the Commodore) and a treaty should follow, insert some clause favorable to the Danes and Swedes; because the Consul of the former nation has befriended our captives in Tripoli; and because the latter have been disappointed in the reliance they placed in our alliance with them in this war; and because neither the one nor the other is our rival in the commerce of the Mediterranean.

[NR&L. No. 9217, Bm[1] E 14.]

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, 21 August 1804

We still continue under way cruising off the co[a]st of Tripoli at 11 Oclock A M discover[d] a sail two points on the lee bow made a signal to the commodore signifying the same at half past 11 the Commodore made the signal to the *Argus & Scourge* to Chase. We repeated one to the *Argus* and fired three guns & at 12 repeated and fired at Meridian pleasant Weather & light breezes at half past 12 the Commodore made the signal for the *Vixon* to chase E S E. at 1 the Town of Tripoli bore S W. distance 6 or 7 miles. at ½ past 4 the Capt went on board the *Vixon*. at 8 Oclock we came to anchor in 31 fathom Water.

[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, Tuesday, 21 August 1804

Standing off & on shore with the Squadron [Tripoli]. —

Light winds & pleasant weather ½ past 3 tack'd ship. At 5 the *Argus* made signal discovering a strange sail to the E S E, the Commodore made signal for the *Argus* to give chace. ½ past 5 back'd the Main topsail. At 6 fill'd away, Tk^d^ to the S. W. ¼ past 7 furl'd top gall^t^ sails. ½ past 8 wore to N. E. —

Midnight fine breezes & clear weather wore ship. At 6 saw a sail off the lee bow Prov'd to be the *Vixen*. At 7 wore ship. At 8 turn'd the reefs out of the topsails & made all sail.

Meridian light winds & pleasant the Commodore made signal for the *Vixen* to chase to the S S E. — Supplied gun boat N^o^ 5 with provisions. —

Latt: Obs: 33° 12′ N —

[NDA.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Richard O'Brien

AUGUST The 22^d^ 1804 —

SIR As I. am informed. That with The expected reinforcement of frigates, That Co^l^ Lear and M^r^ Eaton is Expected to Join the fleet at present. before tripoli as negotiators &^c^—

Under this Consideration with others relative to The Present. Sickly Situation of my family at Malta. I sollicit your permission to return to Malta — Particularly as at present. my Services Can be dispensed with.

I am Sir much obliged to you. for your Kind attention and Confidence. dureing The time I have been in The *Constitution* — Under your Orders —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August–December 1804.]

[22 August 1804]

To Midshipman Joseph Israel, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

SIR You are hereby appointed to command the Ketch *Intrepid* of [space] Guns & swivels in the service of the U. S. of America. You will therefore obey and follow such Instructions as you may from time to time receive from me, or any other your Superior Officer, agreeable to the Regulations of the Naval Service, as established by the President of the U. States —

Given on board the U. S. Ship *Constitution* at Sea the 22^d^ day of August 1804

Signed E: PREBLE

[A duplicate copy of this letter is dated 24 August 1804.]

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta

MALTA the *22 August 1804*

MY DEAR SIR The purchase of the Bombard *Eliza* mentioned in my public letter is merely nominal — I will tell you why I have

adopted this measure — Sir A Ball sent for me yesterday and told me that he would prefer the supplies I sent you from hence should go by Neutrals or Vessels sailing under American colours, as he was afraid in the event of your making peace with the Bashaw that he would take umbrage at *English Vessels* being allowed to carry you water and other Necessaries whereby, he would perhaps alledge, and with some degree of truth, you were enabled to maintain your Station before his Town — I readily consented to his wishes and therefore think our Transports should be all put under Our Colours, this may be easily done by a Document from you declaring the Vessel to be American property and putting a Sailing Master on board each I do not now intend to affreight any other Vessel as the first I sent you is I presume by this time on her return with Empty Casks, the *Intrepid* also must have reached you quickly and this Joined to the *Enterprise* and my present supply will be nearly a Months provision I do not find Schembri has embarked his powder again, I have mentioned the business to the Governor who has promised me to prevent his making any such expedition, I would Council you however to be upon the look out for you know the Count is a cunning hand & a d- - - d rascal —

I had difficulty in finding a flag for the Bombard and was obliged to apply to Pulis for an old ragged one I heard he had in his possession, which I got *upon a promise to pay for it*, I dare say it came cheap enough to him out of some of the M of W — this Gentleman has chosen to take in high dudgeon my appointment to the Agency which he says is a manifest injustice done him by the Government, brought about by *your* representations — I on the other hand hope you will not stop here, but that your good Offices will soon free me from a Coleague useless to Government and vexatious to me —

Enclosed a letter from the Governor —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August–December 1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta

MALTA the *22 August 1804*

DEAR SIR I had the pleasure of paying You my respects on the 19 Ins[t] by the Schooner *Enterprise* — This will be presented you by Captain Fran[o] Giglio whom I have engaged to command the Storeship *Eliza* a Bombard bought by me for the service of the United States for the sum of 4000 Maltese sendi — I have done this as the cheapest mode of furnishing you with supplies and to avoid the inconvenience of their being subject to detention which they would be perhaps if shipped on English bottoms —

At foot you will find a Note of my present Shipment as also in the bill of lading enclosed —

You will of course furnish Capt[n] Giglio with a Declaration; under your Seal and Signature of the *Eliza* being American property and purchased for the service of the Squadron under Your Command and I have the honor to subscribe myself with great respect

* * * * * * *

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August–December 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 22 August 1804

at Merid^{n} saw a strange sail to the N^{d} & E^{d} made sail in chace with the Commod^{r} and *Vixen* at 3 came up with the Chace she proved to be a Polacre Ship 8 days from Malta with water and fresh stock for the Squadron at ½ past 3 the Commodore made Sig^{l} N^{o} 1188 took her in tow hauled our wind and stood off the land at 5 Tacked to the N^{d} & W^{d} set & took in sail as Necessary received water from the Ketch *Intripid* and store ship

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 22 August 1804

Off Tripoli

3 P M. boarded a Poleacre ship 8 Days from Malta with fresh stock and water for the Squadron took her in tow —

Received from the Vessels. 1700 Gallons Water

11 Came to in 35 fathoms Water

8 A M Cast off the Store ship

[Mrs. C. E. Fox original. NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal kept on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Wednesday, 22 August 1804

Wind W N W Light Breezes, in chase to the S E — Made the Signal for the *Jn^{o} Adams* to act discretionary at 3 P M brought to the chase, a Maltese ship from Malta with a supply of Water Live stock & Vegetables, at 5 P M Wind shifted to the S E, the *Argus* was ordered to tow the store ship. — at 7 PM we were 4 Leagues from Tripoly; standing for the *Jn^{o} Adams, Syren, Scourge & Nautilus*, at Anchor

[LC. EPP, Vol. 12, June-August 1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Wednesday, 22 August 1804

Moderate breezes from W N W — We are in chase to the E S E — *Argus & Vixen* in company. The rest of the Squadron are to the Westward — Standing in for Tripoly — At 2 P. M. fired a shot at the chase — At 3 P. M. brought to, & boarded her — She is a Maltese ship under English colours from Malta with supplies for the Squadron consisting of Water, Wood, Sheep & some Vegetables — Variable winds from the N & E.ward, from 5 P. M till 8 P. M. at which time it shifted to the S E —

At Sun Set we were three leagues from the coast & nearly four leagues to the Eastward of Tripoly —

The Squadron was all in sight off Tripoly, bearing from N W b W, to W N W — We were at this time under all plain Sail in Order to join the Squadron —

Between 10 & 11 P. M we fired several guns as signals to the Squadron, which were answered to the W N W —

At 11 P. M. we came to in 33 fath^{s} hard bottom — Tripoly bearing S b W ½ W, nearly 2 leagues — Squadron in company — From 10 P. M. till day light Moderate breezes from S E. At 7 A. M. out large

cutter & Barge & ran out a Warp of 840 fath[s] by which we warped the store ship along side, She had been riding with the *Argus* —

We have been employed all the forenoon in discharging the store ship — The Boats of the Squadron are all employed in watering from the store ship —

Pleasant weather with moderate breezes veering between N W & N N E, all the forenoon —

At 8 A. M. saw a strange sail to the Eastward — The *Scourge* was ordered p[r] signal to chase — At 11 A. M. observed the strange sail to be the *Enterprize* which parted company on Thursday Evening last.

Noon Moderate breezes from N N E. —

These 24 Hours the following Signals have been made

P. M. At 1¼ — *John Adams* — Act in this case at your own discretion.
Noon — 12½ — *Vixen*, chase E S E — Not answered
P. M — 3¼ — *Argus* — tow the store ship.
P. M — 9¾ — Prepare to Anchor
A. M — 6 — General Signal for all boats.
A. M — 9¼ — Answered the *Argus's* Signal for a Strange Sail E N E.
A. M — 9¾ — Answered the *J. Adams* d[o] for d[o] E S E.
A. M — 11¾ — *Scourge* made a signal not distinct —
Noon — Made *Scourge's* Signal that her signal is not understood, & shewed her distinguishing flag to speak her —

[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, 22 August 1804

We were employed this morning in discharging provisions and distributing them to the dif[t] Ships of the Squadron. at Meridian light breezes and pleasant weather. at 7 P M. the commodore made the signal for to prepare for Battle the *Constitutions* launch came for the Volenteers. sent the barge & Black cutter maned and armed. —

Nothing was done this evening on acct of the Night not proving favorable. —

[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, Wednesday, 22 August 1804

Lying at anchor [Tripoli].

Light breezes & fine weather. took in sail & back'd the main topsail. ½ past Meridian the Commodore gave chase to leeward. At 1 fill'd away. At 6 overhaul'd a range of the Larboard cable. At 7 sounded in 35 fathoms. At 8 furl'd all sail & came too in 30 fathoms with the larboard bower. ½ past 11 the Commodore came too astern of us with the *Argus*, *Vixen* & strange sail, Which prov'd to be a store ship for the Squadron —

Meridian fresh gales & fine weather ½ past 4 sent the launch on board the *John Adams* for Provisions. — At 6 sent the cutter on board the Comm: (p[r] signal) —

Midnight moderate breezes & warm, rec'd a quantity of rum & provisions from the *J. Adams*

[NDA.]

To Robert R. Livingston, U. S. Minister to Paris, France, from Thomas Appleton, U. S. Consul, Leghorn

Copy. LEGHORN *23d august 1804.*

SIR, I have duly recd the letter you did me the honor to write in date of the 28th of July, but as you have not mentioned the receipt of my several respects of the 6th of July — 26 May 10th of May & 13th of April, I am apprehensive they may not have reached your hands.

I have been favored this day with an extract of a letter from Mr Beaussier Commercial Agent for the french Republic near the Bashaw of Tripoli dated the 16 July and addressed to Mr Lorckner formerly consul from Denmark during thirty years near that regency, but now established in this city, you have here inclosed Sir, this extract which will at once shew you the little advantage likely to be drawn from what was so well cal[c]ulated by you to facilitate our negociations, and to bring [to] an honorable issue a war so injurious to the commerce and interests of the United States — In a letter which I recd from Comr Prebble dated Messina June the 29th says — "the mediation of France thro' their consul at Tripoli will be of no service but rather a disadvantage to us as he is altogether in the Bashaws interest for my own part, I am far from thinking this to be the case, for from all hands I am informed he is a person of much discernment and solid understanding, it ought not to be infered if Mr Beaussier has judiciously concealed his predilection for us, that of course he was unfavorable to our pretensions for it is impossible to conceive that a man of his superior Judgment can sincerely prefer the interests of the Bashaw of Tripoli to those of a country united by every tie of amity with the Government he represents.

It may be necessary to mention that Mr Beaussier is the same person who on a former occasion was given up by the Bey of Tripoli to a British Admiral, & it is for this reason that the Bey now shews him particular marks of attention, in order to do away the remembrance of the injuries he has thereby sustained — But it requires a singular confusion of ideas to imagine that Mr Beaussier should from this circumstance prefer the interests of the Bey to the possitive instructions of his Sovereign — however the case may be, one thing is evident that the correspondence which has been carried on between Comr Preble & Mr Beaussier has totally destroyd the hopes you and every one had so Justly entertained of the friendly mediation of the Emperor. There is a peculiar fatality which seems attendant on all our affairs with Tripoli, for this very Mr O.Brien who made the offer of 50,000 dollars is a person for whom the Bey has an uncommon dislike, as many years since when our Treaty was negociating with that Regency he led the Bey (I am credibly informed) to believe he would receive a much larger present than was afterwards realized — I have no direct intelligence whatsoever from Comr Preble since my last respects to you and reports which are not official I never write — With regard to the Squadron under the Comr Barron we have no advice of its arrival in the Mediterranian, but we learn that it remained in Hampton roads on the latter end of June We may therefore reasonably presume that it cannot arrive in these seas & put together the timber they have for the gun boats much before the begining of October, a season when these boats can scarcely be hazarded on the coast of Tripoli, I have much trespassed on your time, but I hope the importance of the

subject will justify the length my letter is drawn out to — Accept Sir, the assurances of the respect and esteem of

[NA. SDA. Disp., France, Vol. 9, 1803–1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 23 August 1804

This day Commences with mod^{e} breezes and Clear W^{r} at 3 P M. the Commodore made Sig^{l} N^{o} 225 sent the barge on board of him At 4 P M, the town of Tripoli bore SSW at ½ past 6 the Commodore made Sig^{l} N^{o} 995 Capt^{n} Hull went on board of him at 8 he returned on board At 9 the Squadron got under way and stood into 18 f^{ms} Water—

At midnight the Commodore came too set and took in Sail as Necessary

At Meridian light winds and Pleasant Weather the town of Tripoli bore SW ½ S Emp^{d} as Necessary

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 23 August 1804

Off Tripoli
3 The Com^{e} made Signal N^{o} 225
6½ P M. 995
9 the Squadron got under way and Stood into 18 fath^{s} Water

[Mrs. C. E. Fox original. NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Thursday, 23 August 1804

Moderate breezes from N N W, with pleasant weather. At Single Anchor 5 or 6 miles N b E ½ from Tripoly. Squadron in company. Employed clearing the store ship & ballasting her with Salt Water — At 8 P. M. the *Enterprize* joined company — At Sunset had cleared the store ship — By this store ship the Squadron was supplied with 168 puncheons of water — nearly equal to 14000 gall^{s} — We also received 30 sheep, a large Quantity of Onions & nearly 12 coard of Wood — We received by the *Intrepid* 60 sheep, 30 Butts of Water, equal nearly to 3,600 gall^{s} & some Onions — Out of both Vessels we received on board the *Constitution* 135 puncheons of water, 2 Bullocks 30 Sheep, 40 Bushels of Onions, & 9 or ten coard of Wood —

At 7 in the Evening the store ship parted company for Malta. Consul O'Brien took passage in her —

We have now on board the following casks of water Viz^{t} 51 Leagurs, 45 Butts & Twenty seven gang casks — or 23,198 Gallons.

At 7 in the Evening every necessary arrangement was made p^{r} Signal for an attack upon Tripoly — The Boats of the Squadron were hoisted out, armed & sent to the gun boats & Bombards — At 8 P. M. we weighed with the squadron & ran in for the Harbour — Between 8 & 9 in the Evening we had fresh breezes from E S E. with cloudy Overcast weather. We are standing in for the Town which bears S S W, 4 or 5 Miles. Between 10 & 11 P. M. Light breezes Veering between E b S & E b N —

Continued standing in with the Squadron till ½ past 11 P. M. when it fell nearly calm — At this time we were within gun shot of

Fort English & nearly two miles from the Town — The Squadron all clear for Action — . We were now in 19 fath^{s} water & entering on the Western Bank — We had a strong current setting to the Eastward At ¼ before 12 Midnight we let go the Small bower under foot — We were in the Act of casting off the Bombards & gun boats, when a breeze sprung up from the N E, which is nearly direct on shore — The Town now bore S W b S nearly two miles — We continued in this situation with our Topsails a'trip till 2 A. M. waiting a change of Wind more favorable for weighing & standing in to attack the Batteries — From 12 Midnight till 2 A. M. the weather was overcast with an uncommon scud from E N E —

At ½ past 2 A. M. we weighed & stood off till ½ past 3 A. M. when we came to, in 30 fath^{s} The Town bearing S W b S, 4 or 5 Miles — Part of the Squadron anchored p^{r} Signal & part continued under way. —

At 9 in the morning the Bashaw Saluted 44 Guns —

From the time of Our Anchoring till noon, Variable Winds from the Eastward with sultry, Overcast Weather —

Noon light airs from E N E with a strong current running to E S E.

The Following Signals have been made these 24 hours

At 3 P. M. — All boats repair to the *Constitution*

6¾ P. M — All captains repair on board the Commodore

7 P. M — Gun boats & bombards Prepare for battle —

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, Thursday, 23 August 1804

Half past 3, P. M. latitude N. 36 degrees 30 minutes longitude W. 2 degrees 41 minutes 15 seconds, 17 miles W. off cape De Gat, felt a violent shock of an earthquake, which lasted about 30 seconds. It had the exact resemblance of the ship's keel grazing hard upon a rock. We were at dinner in the cabin. The shock was general through the ship: it was supposed she was aground — Consternation seized the board — all ran on deck — the ship kept her way and no appearance of rocks or shoals could be discovered. The *Constellation*, whose Captain dined aboard of us, we being becalmed, soon made signal to speak the Commodore: and coming up, reported she had struck a rock. On enquiry, we found she felt the shock at the same instant it was felt in the *President*. A Spanish merchantman being at that time about one league on the Commodore's landboard bow, a breeze sprung up: we bore down and spoke her: she had felt the shock, and said it was very violent. About 5 o'clock we experienced another emotion in the ship, less violent, but more tremulous, than the first.

[NR&L. No. 9217, Bm^{l} E 14.]

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, 23 August 1804

At ½ past 4 this morning our men returned on board. at Meridian light breezes and pleasant weather. at 5 P. M. the Commodore made the signal to prepare for Battle. soon after the *Constitutions* launch came for the Volenteers sent them and our Barge & Black Cutter

maned and Armed: at Midnight light breezes from the S E by E. no attack was made to night on account of the wind not proving favorable —

[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, 23 August 1804

Lying at Anchor Standing off & on shore [Tripoli]

Light breezes & pleasant. ½ past Mer: the *Argus* got under way At 2 sent the launch on board the *J. Adams* for water &c: At 10 hove up made sail & stood in for the land. All the Squadron under way ½ past 11 back'd the main topsail. —

Midnight spoke the Commodore, cast of[f] the boats, ½ past 2 back'd the main topsail & took our gun boats in tow fill'd away At 4 came too with the larboard bower, furl'd all sail. At 9 sent the launch on board the *Enterprize* for water. —

Meridian light airs & pleasant, rec^{d} from the *J. Adams* & *Enterprize* a quantity of Provisions & water. Supplied gun boats N^{o} 4 & N^{o} 5 with Provisions &c.

[NDA.]

[24 August 1804]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from John Broadbent, U. S. Navy Agent, Messina

On the 24th day of August in the Year of our Lord 1804 in the Lazarette of Messina, personally appeared before John Broadbent Naval Agent of the U. S. Of america —

William Egery, Master of the American Brig *Patty* of Rochester, and deposeth that he sailed from the Port of Leghorn on the 11th day of this month, his destination being for this Port; and that on the evening of the same day, he fell in off the Island of Elbe with a Tunisian Galley rowing 22 or 24 Oars & mounting two brass guns, the commander of which boarded him: Obliged him to quit his vessel and to go on board the said Galley where he was detained all night & till about 10 Oclock in the morning, during which time he menaced & insulted him & spit in his face, saying that his passports did not agree with that produced by the said commander, who declared that for the same reason he had sent an American ship mounting 4 guns & laden with wine, to Tunis — He also deposed that the commander of the said corsair robbed him of 110 dollars in Specie, two quadrants & a spying glass, & forced him to give him an acknowledgement in writing that he had taken nothing from him: Obliging the captain of a Spanish vessel who happened to be in company to write underneath the Said acknowledgement something to the same effect: And the said William Egery is of Opinion that his vessel would also have been detained had it not been for the representation of the said Spanish captain, who told the commander of the Privateer that it would not be a good Prize. He further deposed that the said commander produced a certificate signed by George Davis, American Consul at Tunis dated the 2^{d} July last, & numbered 34. and that the said commander had lost his right hand taken off near the wrist, and also part of one or more of his fingers of the left hand, and that the said Galley,

on parting company went into the Island of Tournique where she makes her rendezvous —

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal the day & year above written —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

[24 August 1804]

To Midshipman* Joseph Israel, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

SIR You are to proceed to Malta in case of Separation from the Squadron, and there wait my farther Orders —

Given On board the United States Ship *Constitution* — At Sea; the 24th day of August 1804.

EDWARD PREBLE

Mr JOSEPH IZRAEL
Lieut in the U S. Navy —
Commanding the U. S. Ketch *Intrepid*

[*Appointed Lieutenant by Commodore Preble.]

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August–December 1804.]

To Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Essex*, from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco

Nº 3 TANGIER MOUNT WASHINGTON
August 24th 1804

DEAR SIR I have not a Syllable of Novelty to communicate, not having heard any thing from the Emperor, nor any Person in authority under him, since I saw you —

Mr Gavino in his Letter of the 20th desires me to communicate to you the following paragraph of a Letter from a private Gentleman dated Madrid August 7th —

> "Mr Pinckney is preparing to go to Cadiz, & will leave this in 15 or 20 "Days — I am well convinced from what Mr Pinckney has told me concerning "his Instructions from the U'States, that our Goverment will be highly "enraged at the refusal of H. C. M. to ratify the Convention, and you may "rely upon it, that if this Goverment has not sent out the ratification to "the U'States, Letters of Marque will be Immediately granted."—

I do not know who this Letter is from, but it appears strange that Mr Pinckney should not know whether the ratification be sent to America or not.

A malignant Fever has again broke out at Malaga, as far as Fifty three Persons had Died of a Day: Mr Gavino writes me on the 20th that he had then just received a Letter from Mr Kirkpatrick, saying it was abating — I hope it may, but it is seldom a disorder of that Nature is of so short a duration. — When you were in the Bay on Tuesday afternoon I went to Town, but could not get a Boat to send off, which induced me to put up the Colours in a Wiff, in hopes you would have sent one on shore. —

[Am. Antiquarian Soc. NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 24 August 1804

standing on and off the town the Commodore and Squadron at Anchor at ½ past 4 the Commodore made sigl Nº 69 to the Gunboats

set and took in Sail Occasionally and T, K^{d} ship when Necessary at 6 the town of Tripoli bore SWbS at 8 Cast off the Gunboats Cap^{t} Hull went on board the Commodore at 9 took the Gunboats in tow Cap^{t} Hull returned at ½ past took one of the Bombards in tow made Sail and stood in for the Town at ½ past 5 AM took the Gunboats in tow again At 8 the Town of Tripoli bore SSW —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 24 August 1804

Off Tripoli
Moderate Weather
4½ the Commodore made signal N^{o} 69 to the Gun boats
5 a Signal was made to prepare for Battle
8 Cast off the Gun boats (9 took them in tow again with one of the Bombards. Made sail and stood for the Town
AM.
2 Cast off the Bombard & Boats
3 the Bombards commenced throwing Shells and 15 or 20 at the Town
5 A M. Took the Gunboats in tow again and stood off shore No guns fired from shore

[Mrs. C. E. Fox original. NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Friday, 24 August 1804

Moderate breezes from N E. At Single Anchor 5 Miles N E b N, from Tripoly. Squadron in company — We received this afternoon a large Quantity of lemons, One cask Sweet Oil & two small casks of Wine —

Towards evening we weighed with the Squadron & stood in for Tripoly — At 8 P. M. came to in 20 fath^{s} 2 Miles from Fort English & about 2½ Miles from the Batteries —

At this time we had fresh breezes from E b S — The Squadron (p^{r} Signal) within hail — At 9 P. M. we put slip buoys on the cable & had every thing in readiness for Action —

At 10 P. M. cast off the Bombards which were taken in tow by the *Argus* & *Syren* with directions to work in shore & wait the signal for Attacking the Batteries —

Towards Midnight light airs inclining to a calm — Capt^{s} Decatur & Stewart waited on the Commodore —

At 1 A. M. a dead calm. The Boats of the Squadron which had been Armed before night for assisting the Gun boats & Bombards, were ordered to assist in Towing them in — At 2 A. M. the Bombards began to heave shells into Tripoly, and continued doing so till day light, when they were Ordered p^{r} Signal to join company — Our Gun did not fire — The Batteries did not fire a gun during the night. From day light till 7 A. M. light airs from S S W which is the bearing of Tripoly from our Anchorage —

At 5¼ A. M. the Enemys Gun boats hauled out from the Mole, and took their old stations in a line of defence within the reefs, and under

cover of Grape from all the Batteries. At 6 A. M. Weighed and took an Offing of 3 or 4 Miles N N E. from the Batteries — Came to in 30 fath^{s} hard bottom cloudy, sultry weather all forenoon with light & variable winds from N^{d} & East^{d} — Cap^{t} Chauncey with part of his Officers & Seamen came Volunteers to the *Constitution* — His Officers & men are principally sent in the Gun boats & boats of the Squadron —

Noon light airs from N E. — We are anchored near 4 Miles N N E from the Bashaws castle, which has a breach of apparently, nearly 40 feet occasioned by our Bombards. During the Bombardment not a light was seen in the Town or Batteries.

At 9 A. M. Cap^{t} Chauncey with his Officers & Seamen rejoined the *John Adams* —

The following Signals have been made these 24 hours

At 4½ P. M — Gun boats & Bombards prepare for Action

4¾ A. M — Discontinue the Action & retire out of gun Shot, to be taken in Tow by the Vessel to which you are attached —

[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, 24 August 1804

At 8 Oclock this morning our men returned to the ship. fresh breezes from the Eastw^{d} at Meridian fresh breezes. at 6. Oclock discov^{d} the ship to drag veered away 20 fathum cable finding that not to bring her up supposing the Anchor to be foul, up anchor and got under way and stood in shore at 10 tacked ship —

[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, 24 August 1804

THIRD ENGAGEMENT ON TRIPOLI

Following the Motions of the Commodore. —

Light breezes & pleasant. At 5 got under way p^{r} signal At 7 set top gall^{t} sails At 8 K^{d} to the N E^{d} At 9 stood in shore. ½ past 9 mann'd the launch & barge. — At 10 took one of the bombards in tow. —

Midnight light airs & clear. At 1 cast off the gun boats & stood in for the town — At 2 the bombards commenced a heavy fire on the town. At ½ past 4 the Comm: made signal for the gun boats bombards &c. to retire from action. the gun boats &c come off after doing considerable damage by sinking 2 of the enemies gun boats & 1 of their galliotts. At 6 took our gun boats in tow. At 7 the Comm: came too. ½ past 7 back'd the main top sail — Meridian fresh gales & hazy, wore in shore, supplied the gun boats astern. rec^{d} a quantity of Vegitables & fruit from the store Ketch. (*Intrepid*) —

[NDA.]

To Colonel John Stricker, Navy Agent, Baltimore, Md., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP. *25 Aug: 1804.*

I yesterday received your letter of the 22 inst.

G° Harrison Esq^r by letter of the same date, received this morning has informed me that the carpenters work of the Gun-boat to be built at Philadelphia, is contracted for and will cost 2500$ — that the probable cost of the boat, including the carpenters, blacksmith's, joiners, plumbers, painters, riggers, blockmakers, mastmakers, sail-makers, tanners, chaundlers, boatbuilders and coopers bills, the cost of copper nails, bolts & spikes and flannel, will be 5838$.

An offer has been made to Sam^l Brown Esq^r Boston, to do the carpenters work of a boat at 30$ P^r Ton. —

[NDA. Off. Comg. Gunboats, 1803–1808.]

To Henry S. Langdon, Portsmouth, N. H., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP. *25^th Aug: 1804*

I have received your letter of the 15^th inst. wherein you inform me that the very infirm state of your fathers health will not permit him to attend to the building of the Gun-boat. — We mean therefore, for the present, to abandon the Idea of building at Portsmouth. Be pleased to communicate this determination to your father.

[NDA. Off. Comg. Gunboats, 1803–1808.]

To Daniel Bedinger, Navy Agent, Norfolk, Va., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t

25 Aug^t 1804.

I have rec^d your letter of the 21^st instant, wherein you inform me that you have engaged the Ship *W^m & Mary*, Cap^t Erasmus Tipling, to carry to Algiers the cargo of Timber which by my letter of 20 June last you were directed to procure.

As it will be a convenience to the owners of the *W^m & Mary* to receive a part of the freight prior to the Sailing of the Vessel, it being perfectly immaterial to the public, provided they are well secured, you may engage to pay ⅓ of the freight when the vessel shall have rec^d her cargo and be in all respects ready for sea — the remaining ⅔ you will engage to pay on the receipt of the Consul at Algiers being produced to you, stating the delivery of the Cargo to him in good order. You will transmit the Consul at Algiers, Col° Lear, an Invoice & Bill of Lading of the Cargo. You will also make the like transmittal to this Department, and to the Auditor of the Treasury.

I have directed you a remittance of $2,000 out of the "Appropriation for Barbary Negociations" to enable you to pay the advance herein authorized on account of the freight of the *W^m & Mary*. You will be careful that the public do not suffer by this Stipulation.

Insure this Cargo on the best terms in your power and let me know the rate of Insurance.

The foreign Ministers being absent from the Seat of Government, the procuring passports for the *W^m & Mary* may probably detain her for a day or two. However you will not relax in your exertions to have her prepared for Sea. We shall send the Passports as soon as we can procure them.

Should the powder ordered from Balt[o] to be shipped in the *Alfred* not arrive till the *Alfred* shall have sailed, send it out in the *W[m] & Mary* if she can safely and conveniently receive it, with directions to Cap[t] Tipling to deliver it to J Gavino Esq[r] at Gibraltar to whom you will write advising of the shipment and that it is intended for the use of our Squadron.

Deliver the enclosed Letter to Cap[t] Tipling & let him experience no unnecessary detention.

[NDA. Barbary Powers, LB, 1803–1808.]

[Enclosure]

To Captain Erasmus Tipling, of the American Ship *William and Mary*, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP[t]
25 Aug[t] [1804]

Cap[t] ERASMUS TIPLING of the *W[m] & Mary*
Enclosed to D[r]. BEDINGER Esq[r]
Norfolk. V[a]

As soon as you are in all respects ready for sea you will weigh anchor and proceed with all practicable expedition to Algiers. On your arrival there you will hand to Col[o] Lear, the Consul General at that place, such letters as you may have for him, and take his directions relatively to the delivery of your Cargo.

If D[r] Bedinger esq[r] should put on board of the *W[m] & Mary* a quantity of powder, and direct you to stop at Gibraltar to deliver it, you will act according to his directions.

R[t] SMITH. —

(Sailed 29 Sep[r] 1804)

[NDA. Barbary Powers LB, 1803–1808.]

To Robert Montgomery, U. S. Consul, Alicante, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

ALGIERS *August 25[th] 1804*

DEAR SIR I have this day drawn upon your House for Six thousands Six hundred Spanish Dollars, at 30 days Sight, in favor of David Coën Bacri, to obtain the sum of six Thousand dollars for M[r] Foley at Oran, agreeable to his letter to me, a Copy of which is enclosed, I regret that I had not the money to ad[v]ance, which I sh[d] most readily have done without any premium. Before I obtained the money I consulted with Sidi Mahomet, mentioned in M[r] Foley's letter, to know if his objects were such as w[d] make it proper to draw a bill at this loss of ten per Cent, which was the only terms on which the Money could be obtained, and he at once decided that M[r] F. must have the money; I therefore did not hesitate to procure it. I enclose also one of the Rec[ts] of Sidi Mahomet, of which I have taken three

Your acceptable favor of the 30[to] of July with the Gazetts came to hand on the 10[th] Ins[t]

As I am ordered by my Gov[t] to hold myself on readiness to proceed to Tripoli to negotiate a peace, in case the Bashaw sh[d] be disposed to conclude it on proper terms, I may be absent on the arrival of a Vessel from Alicant, so that if you should send money for M[r] Foley's

use, it w^{d} be well to provide for this event, that M^{r} Foley may not experience any disappointment

[Stephen Decatur Col. NDA photostat, Book A.]

To Thomas Foley, Oran, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

ALGIERS *August 25: 1805 [1804].*

SIR, I have been honored with your respe[c]tive favour of the 4th of July & of the 5th & 13th of the present Month I feel much Obliged for the letters forwarded with your's of the 4th of July. as well as for your Cordial Offers of Service. — The Courier by which I intended to have written to you soon after the rec^{t} of your first letter left Algiers a day sooner than I had been informed he would go; and since that I have known of no opportunity 'till the present. As I reside altogether in the Country, and seldom visit the City, I am not in the way of knowing all the opportunities which may offer by land, for the Coast.

I enclose you an extract of my letter to our mutual friend Rob^{t} Montgomery Esq^{r}, after I had rec^{d} your's of the 4th of July, and also of his answer thereto, which came to my hands on the 10th ins^{t}

You will see by my letter to M^{r} Montgomery that I had so many unexpected demands for Cash, that it w^{d} not be in my power to Supply you that article, excepting by a draft on him. — I was in hopes that he w^{d} have sent money from Alicant to be ready for your use before you should send for it, to save the Very heavy loss on Exchange, which is ten per Cent between this place & Alicant; and is the only way by which Cash can be obtained here at present. —

I now send you, by Sidi Mahomet, agreeably to your request six thousand Dollars in Algerine Gold, that is three thousand Zequins, and have taken triplicate rec^{t} therefore, two of which will be forwarded to M^{r} Montgomery with the draft upon him, and one I shall reserve for myself. —

I would not undertake to procure to money on this draft untill I had communicated with Sidi Mahomet on the Subject; and stated to him the heavy loss which w^{d} be sustained by the usansce of 10 per Cent. and as you observe that he a man of your Confidence, I presumed he w^{d} know if your Objects were such as w^{d} make this agreeable, rather than be disappointed of the money. He at once decided that you w^{d} expect the money; and I therefore did not hestitate to procure it. — and have drawn a bill at 30 days sight on M^{r} Montgomery, in favor of David Coën Bacri, for Six thousand Six hundred dollars, which covers the ten per Cent. —

I am very sorry that it was not in my power to furnish the money by other means; as I should feel more desirous of Shewing my regard for M^{r} Montgomery's recommendation, than if I had any pecuniary interest in the business

With respect to English affairs here, I refer you to the extract from my letter to M^{r} Montgomery. Since the date of that we have heared nothing more respecting them. It is generally beleived that a new Consul will be sent & every thing accomodated; but I think it will much depend on the Continuance of the War between G. B. & France.

Your letter in favor of M^{r} Domingo Roman came enclosed in one from him, I can only say to him that it is the General Policy of our Governm^{t} not to have Agents, but in places where our commerce, or other circumstances may make it necessary; and tho' I am not

restrained from making such appointments yet delicacy w^d^ forbid my doing it unless called upon by some particular motive, and in that case the recommendation of M^r^ Montgomery w^d^ have weight with me. —

I have rec^d^ orders from my Gov^t^ to hold myself in readiness to proceed to Tripoli to negotiate a peace if the Bashaw sh^d^ be disposed to make it in proper terms; and it is therefore possible I may be absent when M^r^ Montgomery sends Cash; if he sh^d^ forward any for your use; but in that case I will leave it at your command and advise you thereof.

I am much obliged by your polite offer of services; and shall not fail to improve it, if occasion requires. In the mean time, you will oblige me, if, when at leisure, you will draw up a short history of the Country where you are, touch^g^ all the important points & actual state of affairs, which your knowledge or information may enable you to do. — The Climate, Soil, face [?] of the Country, productions, manufactures, if any, towns Number of Inhabitants &^c^ &^c^ — You must not consider this as a matter to be done farther than your entire inclination & leisure may prompt. — And I pray you to command my Services when they can be useful to you.

[Stephen Decatur Col. NDA photostat, Book A.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 25 August 1804

These 24 hours Commences with fresh Breezes and Cloudy Weather Tacked and wore Ship when Necessary made and Shortened Sail Occasionally at 6 the town of Tripoli bore SWbS distant 3 leagues at 7 hoisted in the boat —

At midnight moderate Breezes & Clear at ½ past 7 Captain Hull went on board the Commodore & returned at 8 at ½ past 9 the Commodore made Sig^l^ N^o^ 886 and Sig^l^ N^o^ 68 to the Gunboats at ¾ past hoisted out the Launch We were all ready to Commence an Attack but the wind Increasing and the Sea running high found it Impossible —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Saturday, 25 August 1804

Moderate breezes from E b S —

At Single Anchor 4 Miles N N E. from the Bashaw's Castle Squadron in company and all under way except the *John Adams* & Ketch *Intrepid* — At 3 P. M. fresh breezes — We supplied the *Vixen* with 2 coards of wood & some fresh stock — The wind continued to increase till sun set when we had strong breezes from E S E — Hoisted in the Barge & Pinnance & Veered away to a cable — The *John Adams* at this time was driving — She weighed p^r^ Signal — the wind continued fresh through the night; At day light the Squadron were all in sight to the N N E & E N E. —

Morning, pleasant; with moderate breezes from E b S —

The Stock & Vegetables received by the store ship & *Intrepid* are all expended — They have been proportionably divided among the Squadron. —

At 7 A. M. (p^{r} Signal) all captains were ordered on board the Commodore —

At 8 A. M. supplied the Bombards with shells & provisions — At 10 A. M. Weighed & stood in shore under double reefed topsails & courses — From this time till noon strong breezes from the Eastward.

Gun boats N^{os} 1 & 6 carried away their lateen Yards — This forenoon, arrangements were made for a general attack upon Tripoly. Strong breezes from E & E b N prevent the Squadron from coming into action.

Cap^{t} Chauncey with a part of his Officers & crew, came on board the *Constitution* — They are distributed among the Squadron as before —

From the time of our weighing till noon, we wore and tacked as necessary to keep to Windward of Tripoly

Noon, All the Squadron in company, under way except the *John Adams & Intrepid*

Surgeons report 7 Sick & 5 convalescent —

Noon strong breezes from E b N with a rough Sea — Tripoly S W b S nearly 2 leagues —

The following Signals were made the 24 hours past —

A. M. At 7. All captains repair on board the Commodore

8 — *Enterprize* come within hail

10 — Squadron, prepare for Action

10½ — Gun boats & Bombard^{s} prepare for d^{o}

11¾ — *Enterprize* come within hail —

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, 25 August to 1 November 1804

From this date on board the Gun boats, and a Greek Ship prize to the U S Brig *Argus*, untill the first Day of November. 30 Days of which was Quarantined in Malta —

[Mrs. C. E. Fox original. NDA photostat.]

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, 25 August 1804

At 7 OClock this morning the Commodore made the signal for all Captains to repair on board. the *Constitution*. We backed our Main Top sail & the Captain went on board the commodore at 9 the Captain returned & at ½ past 9 we came to Anchor in 31. Fathum Water. at 10 the commodore made the signal to prepare for battle. sent all the Volenteers on board the *Constitution*: At Meridian fresh breezes from E S E. at half pas 12 fresh breezes from S E. b E. at half past 2 the *Constitutions* boat came along side to inform us that we must take a gun boat in tow but the wind blowing so hard we were not able to effect it soon after the Capt came on board in the green Cutter & the Black cutter returned with the men the wind blowing so hard nothing was done to day

[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, 25 August 1804

Fresh breezes & pleas[t] At 2 the *Enterprize* got under way p[r] signal. Lying off & on shore & taking in & making sail occasionally. ½ past 7 hoisted in the barge —

Midnight fresh breezes & pleas[t] standing off & on shore. ½ past 7 a signal from the Comm: for all Capt[ns] to repair on board his ship standing off & on shore. —

Latt Obs: 33° 8′ N.

[NDA.]

[26 August 1804]

To Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Ship *John Adams*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Sir, A dispute having arisen between M[r] John Darby purser, & M[r] J. Ord. Creighton, Masters Mate of the U. S. Ship *John Adams* under your command on the 26[th] Ins[t] respecting the Pursers duty, in which the most intemperate, reproachful & ungentleman like language was uttered & made use of towards each other, in direct violation of the Articles of war, and regulations of the Service, and tending to the contravention of all discipline, I do in consequence thereof Order you to arrest them both to take their trail by Court Martial, which shall be asssembled by me as soon as the service will conveniently admit of it— You will furnish M[r] Darby & M[r] Creighton with a copy of this Order with the Order of Arrest.

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

To Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, from Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy

Frigate *John Adams* Mediterranean Sea
off *Tripoli August 26[th] 1804*

Sir In compliance with your request, I now lay before you a statement of the affair between M[r] John Orde Creighton (Masters Mate) and myself — The ships steward came to me in the Wardroom, and informed me that the officers and men which had been detached from the ship yesterday had returned and wished to know whether he was to serve them out their full allowance of grog and provisions, it being a little after the grog had been served out for the day, I directed him to give them their full allowance of grog & provisions he said they wanted beef and that he had none open[d] as the Barrel which was opened last night — and which was delivered to me by M[r] Dove the master for beef proved to be pork — I told him he must give them pork in lieu of Beef; and in every instance here after, when he had not one thing, to give them the Value in another, as I would not keep an account for every trifling part of a ration at the whim & caprice of every man onboard, as one wanted one thing and another wanted pay for his &C — as I was informed by several of the Pursers out here that. that was their mode of doing the business (to Wit, they gave them one thing in place of another when they had not the article necessary for the day — M[r] Creighton who was siting in his apartment on the oposite side of the ship replyed (without being addressed or

spoken to by me) that they had a right to stop or refuse what they pleased and to demand and receive pay for it and that it was nothing more than what was customary, and that all the rest of the Pursers did it (this he spoke out in the hearing of nearly the whole of the Officers who were below, and a number of the men) I replyed that they did not all do it, he asserted again that they did. I replyed, that they did not — he then said it was faulse for they did I told him he had asserted the faulsity first, for they did not, he then said I was a damned lier and rascal, I then lost all command of myself and replyed to him in the same language, he returned the same to me with some additional abuse, and threatened me with the consiqu[e]nce of the ships protecting me, and came across to our apartment in the Wardroom and shook his fist in my face I steped up to him and drew back my fist and told him that he knew very well that the situation in which we were then placed was what alone protected him, one of the Officers (I believe M[r] Bennett,) spoke to us, threats was pased from each other on our meeting on shore, and I supposed for a moment that the business was to rest there; but M[r] Creighton on his returning to his own apartment observed in a some what lower voice that he had long since discovered what I was, and that I was not an honest man, I was not possitive what it was he did say having walked in the Wardroom and my back towards him, I immediately turned round and asked him what it was he did say, he replyed that he had long since discovered what I was, Yes says I and I have long since discovered the same of you but I thought you had said something else, yes says he I did say you were not an honest man I then told him he was a damned lier and a rascal and that I wou'd make him prove it, I understood him to say he cou'd. I told him that he certainly shou'd for I had lived too long in this life under a fair character to be charged with any thing even unGentlemanly by such a puppy as him, which was much less than that of a dishonest man

At that moment you Sir came down the after ladder and went into your Cabin — I immediately followed you and made to you a Verbal statement, with requ[e]sting you would take such notice of it as to make M[r] Creighton prove his charges against me or convict himself of a faulsity you immediately sent for M[r] Creighton & our statements differing you directed us to represent each of our statements in Writing to you, and that you would lay it before the Commodore, this I have done to the best of my recollection, the proof of which must rest upon the officers who were present —

Having Sir, finished my statement I have now to solicit you in the most pressing manner that you will do me the favor to have it layed before the Commodore and to use your interest with him to have a Public investigation of the base and criminal charges exhibited against me by M[r] Creighton, (as soon as possible) that I may either stand convicted or acquited, in the opinion of my Country & friends, the former of which I do not fear for I put him and all his nefarious accusations at defiance — yet I must confess. that the charge is the most unpleasant that my fealings have ever experienced — For as that great man of fealings Shackespear, says, He that steals my Purse Steals trash, it was mine tis his and has been a slave to thousands, but he that filches from me my good name, takes from me that which inriches him not, but makes *me, poore indeed*

I am sorry that I have been compeled to be so very prolix in this statement but the faithful narative required it. —

I will now conclude with the fulist conviction on my mind that you will have speedy and ample Justice done me —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August–December 1804.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Congress*, from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco

N° 5 TANGIER *August 26, 1804*

DEAR SIR I have now to acquaint you that I have rec'd an answer to the Letter I told you I had written Sidy Muhammed Selawy, it is dated at Salle 21st this month, he complains as [does] Alcayde Hashash, of my having put in the Passports for the Emperors Frigates an exception to their entering Ports blockaded by the Ships of War of the U States, and adds, —

> "If our master whom God assist, — should send any Vessel there [to "Tripoli], dont you hinder her, for it is the Country of Moors our Brothers "by Religion, you should not forbid it, if you do we will make War uppon "you, but at present our Master desires nothing from those parts. —
> "You are good & without fault, as well as your Nation, continuing as you "have been all well, which please God you shall keep & preserve." —

From this it does not appear to me, that there is any Immediate intention on the part of the Emperor, to Act against us, but I am fully satisfyed not only that they are exceedingly displeased, at having been prevented from sending their ships to Tripoli, but also whilst War continues with that state, nothing less will do here, than awing Muley Soliman from giving them assistance in the manner he may think he can do it most effectually — I have no tidings on the movements of the Frigates, nor have we heard anything of the Gall'ys, since they left Tangier Bay this Day Week. — Unless you know more than I have now told you, it may perhaps appear to you no longer necessary for the *Congress* to remain on this Station, but if you should retire & follow the Commo. I would by all means recommend its being done, in such a manner as it shall not be known, either here or at Gibraltar. —

I think the *Essex* should remain in & about the Straights, until such Vessel as Commo. Barron may have sent down reaches us. —

MONDAY MORNING.

Nothing further new, I have come to Town, but am so unwell with a Violent Cold, I must not venture to go off.

[Am. Antiquarian Soc. NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 26 August 1804

This day Commences with a heavy sea from the Eastwd Standing off and on in Company with the Commodore and Squadron the *John Adams* and *Scourge* at Anchor off the Town at 4 the Town of Tripoli bore SSW got our men from the Gunboats and hoisted in the launch set and took in sail as Necessary — At midnight modte Breezes and a heavy sea a Ketch in Sight to the Eastwd under American Colours at 6 AM the Commodore N° 1134 —

At Meridian bore Up to WNW the Squadron in Sight bearing WSW At 12 the Town of Tripoli bore SSW distt 4 or 5 miles —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 26 August 1804

at ½ past 2 [P. M.] fired a gun And brought too the strange sail At ¼ past 2 spoke a rusian ship from Leghorn bound to S^t Thomases. Shortened Sail & the capt^n came on board at ½ past 3 he returned on board his own Ship. filld & made sail. at Sunset Cape Spartel bore E ½ S distance 6 leagues.

A. M. at ¼ past 4 Discovered 5 sail. at ½ past 7 spoke the *Essex*.

[USNA.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Sunday, 26 August 1804

Strong breezes from E b S — We are standing off & on Tripoly with the Squadron in company. All clear for action & waiting for moderate weather in Order to attack the Batteries — At 4 P. M. we brought to, a cables length to leeward of the *J. Adams* which was at Anchor — Cap^t Chauncey rejoined her — Our large cutter was Ordered to the *J. Adams* with her Officers & seamen & returned in the close of the Evening without being able to reach —

At Sunset we parted from the Bombards & it was 9 P. M. before we got them in tow again — Between 7 & 9 P. M. we close reefed the Topsails & split the Jib & mainsail — Unbent them & bent others — Our Evening bearing of Tripoly was S b W ½ W, 5 or 6 Miles — The Squadron to the E S E, 5 or 6 Miles — The cause of our being to leeward of the Squadron was, our being employed in securing the Bombards & taking up our cutter which had attempted to reach the *J. Adams* —

At 9½ P. M. We filled to E N E, Wind S E, under close reefed topsails & foresail, & continued standing on this course through the night with a rough Sea — At different times during the night made Signals to the Squadron by Rockets & firing Guns —

At day light the S E Wind became moderate — Squadron all in sight except the *John Adams* — Out all reefs except one in each topsail — & set Top Gall^t sails — A Ketch from Malta with water & stock for the Squadron joined company —

At 9 A. M. tacked to the S S W & made all plain Sail in for Tripoly, not in sight, but supposed to bear nearly S W b S, 30 miles.

Forenoon, moderate with pleasant breezes from S E —

At 11 A. M. made the land bearing from S W to S S E — The *J. Adams* under way to S W —

Noon, Moderate breezes from S E. The Squadron in sight but much scattered — Tripoly in sight bearing S W, nearly 4 leagues.

Surgeons report 8 sick & 4 convalescent.

The following Signals have been made these 24 hours

P. M. At 4, repair all boats to their own ships
5, *J. Adams* & *Scourge*, get under way.
8, Burn't two rockets.

A. M. At 12½ — One Gun
1 — d^o
1½ — d^o
2 — d^o
6 — *Syren* & *Scourge* make more sail.
7 — *Syren* & *Vixen* make more sail

Latitude Observed 33° 9′ North

[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, 26 August 1804

The Wind blowing so very hard last evening prevented an attack being made on the Town of Tripoli the fleet which had got under way for the purpose of attacking the Town was compeled to stand to the Westw^{d} and our men not being on board & the wind blowing so hard we were not able to weigh our anchor. —

this morning the Whole of the fleet was out of sight the breeze being very light. and discovering the Tripolitan Gun boats geting under way, we considered it dangerous to remain here any longer having but a few men and boys on board we all hands officers and all turned too and weighed Anchor & got under way and stood of[f] the land soon after discovered the fleet standing towards us. at 4. P M. the Commodore spoke us and ordered us to Anchor at ½ past 5 the fleet Anchored — in 32 fathum Water the town of Tripoli bore S S. W. distance 8 miles at ½ past 5 the Commodore made the signals for all Captains to repair on board his ship —

[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, 26 August 1804

Standing off & on shore [Tripoli]

Midnight strong gales & clear. At 4 discov'd a Ketch to the N N E. ½ past 5 a signal for the squadron to make sail made all sail. ½ past 7 tack'd p^{r} signal. at 10 spoke the Comm: loos'd light sails to dry. —

Latt: Obs: 33° 10′ N.

[NDA.]

To Master Commandant John Smith, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Schooner *Vixen*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitution Off Tripoly
August 27th 1804

Sir I have received your letter of the 25th Inst: requesting permission to alter the rig of the U. S. Schooner *Vixen* under your command to that of a Brig — & stating your reasons for the request — I conceive that your reasoning is correct & that on the principle of oconomy the alteration ought to take place — You therefore have my permission to make it as soon as the service will allow of your going into port — when that arrives it is Expected that you will effect this business in the shortest possible time & return to join the Squadron on this Station —

P. S. Your requisitions are to be made on the Agents at Syracuse & Malta.

You also have my permission to take from the *Scourge* John M^{c}Fate as your Boatswain —

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

To Nicholas C. Nissen, Danish Consul, Tripoli, from James Leander Cathcart, Leghorn

LEGHORN *Aug^t 27^th 1804*

D^r SIR I have now determined to return to the United States and shall depart from this place in all October, but before I undertake this voyage I find it incumbent on me to return you my most sincere thanks for the services you have render'd the United States of America since the period you were empower'd by me to act in my absence and especially for the assistance & very humane treatment the Officers & crew of the Frigate *Philadelphia* and brig *Franklin* experienced from you during their captivity at Tripoli, and I request you to continue the same to those who remain whom in their letters to their friends (which have been publish'd) I assure you have done justice to your humanity in a very handsome manner —

As long ago as the 26^th of last December, the Secretary of State inform'd me that M^r Lear at Algiers had receiv'd the Presidents orders to have prepared a gold snuff box ornamented with the arms of the United States set in brilliants & to present it to you with such expressions of the Presidents approbation as circumstances renderd expedient; as this took place before the loss of the *Philadelphia* was known at the seat of government your kind treatment of the prisoners since will inevitably increase the Presidents esteem for you, which on my arrival in the United States I will take every means to perpetuate. The articles which I left in the Consular house I request you to dispose of, (the Flags excepted which belongs to the United States) and remit what they are sold for either to M^r Angiolo D'Andreis of the house of Sallucci & C^o of Leghorn or to me at the City of Washington. On my arrival in the United States I will write to you & at all times I shall be happy to hear of your prosperity being with unfeign'd esteem

[NA. SDA. CL, Tripoli, Vol. 2, June 1801–Sept. 1805.]

To James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. FRIGATE *Congress*
Tangier Bay August 27. 1804

SIR, I have to acquaint you that agreeable to our determination at my leaving this place on the 17^th Ins^t — I proceeded Immediately to Salle, and on my way there found the Tripoline Ship *Meshouda* & one Galley (both in a State of Ordinary) at Larache. — I arrived before Salle on the 19^th Stretched close in with the Bar & found the Ships *Maimona* & *Marboka* (with one Gall'y in a State of Ordinary) apparently ready for sea having their sails Bent: however they were within the Bar. On stretching in as near as the Bar would admit, our Colours were hoisted & a Signal Indicative of Friendship & a wish to communicate was made, without any apparent disposition to that effect on their part. On the 21^st after plying off & on before the Town for Two Days; The whole time never farther off than Seven or Eight & frequently not more than 2½ or 3 Miles, and using every means that a friendly demeanor could suggest, to bring about a communication, without any effect; I made sail again for this place, I should not have returned quite so soon, had I not concieved that

remaining longer before Salle, would occasion an alarm Injurious to a good understanding. — Whatever may have been the destination of these Ships, I am satisfyed they *now* will not attempt anything unfavourable to our Commerce this Season — I shall now proceed to Gibraltar Immediately, & from thence so soon as I can procure a little Water to Tripoli; provided you are of opinion that the State of our affairs are such as to admit of my departure; However the *Essex* will after making some little repairs at Gibraltar be with you again. —

Before I leave this I wish to be perfectly sensible that your opinion agrees with my own, as it relates to the security of our Commerce, with the *Essex* left in your neighborhood. —

[Am. Antiquarian Soc. NDA photostat.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Congress*, from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco

Nº 6. — TANGIER *27th Augt 1804*

DEAR SIR Mr Johnston has delivered me your favour of this morning, and I am happy to find circumstances have conduced to enable you to form a proposal for your future operations, so perfectly consonant with the Ideas held forth to you in my Letter of Yesterday. The Person I sent with it told me there was no answer, indeed yours anticipates the answer you would have given — If you should leave Gibraltar before a letter of mine, for Commo. Barron, reaches you, I beg you will have the goodness to say to him with my respects, that I have not anything to add to my former communications, besides what you can acquaint him of. As the Wind is, I do not think well of asking Mr Johnston to wait for that Letter — The Lateen sail Vessels you saw at Larache & Salle, must have been trading Vessells, for the Emperor has not any Gall'ys at those Ports; Those of Tetuan were at Anchor in Cadiz Bay on the 24th Inst —

Whilst I have resided at Larache & Salle, I have never seen a Boat sent off to any Ship of War — They always send one towards the Bar, & if the Weather be such as to enable them to enter with safety, a Pilot goes out with a Signal of sometimes a Red & sometimes a White Flag which he waves to the one side or the other as circumstances requires, to guide the Boat to the Best Channel. — I will not doubt but just at this time they were not very desirous of a Visit from you at Salle, As the ships have pass'd to the inside the Bar, I do not think it likely they will come out again this season, unless it be to go to Lisbon for Vespers —

[Am. Antiquarian Soc. NDA photostat.]

To Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, from Lieutenant* John Orde Creighton, U. S. Navy

U, S, FRIGATE *John Adams*
August 27th — 1804

SIR The dispute between Mr Darbey, and myself having reached Your ears — I was in hopes You would have decided it, Without Submitting it to the Commodore — But at Your request I give You a true Statement as it happened Mr Darbey having frequently interfered when in the discharge of my duty, and of Course as frequently Occasioned my displeasure I was Compell'd When I heard him inform

his Steward that he would not stop a ration, to say that Other Pursers in the Squadron did stop rations which he said was not so, I, replyed that they did, he said I, told an Untruth, I reply^{d} what he said was false, having heaped abusive names upon me Unbecoming the Gentlemen & the Officers, I shook my fist in his face told him that he was a Dam^{d} Rascal, that I would ring his Nose, & Concluded that I had formed an opinion, of his not being an honest Man — this Sir You will Perceive to be a Candid Confession, Altho in repeating the Language I hope I have not lost Sight of the respect due You as my Commander But Sir Considering You as my friend I Submit every thing to Your decission — it is hard Sir if I, Cannot draw off a gallon of Rum or Serve a Pound of Beef Without being overlooked by the Purser which M^{r} Darbey has done, and declared that he would do as he had lost Considerable upon every Barrell of Beef that had been Served Out, & that he intended to Correct the error — this error Sir must be Centered in those who superintend serving the provissions — feeling myself injured by his conduct I leave every thing to Your Consideration, —

[*Acted as Master's Mate.]

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August–December 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 27 August 1804

Commences with moderate breezes & Clear Pleasant W^{r} made and Short^{d} sail as Necessary At ½ past 4 Commodore made Sig^{l} N^{o} 877 At 5 Came too in 30 fathoms Water the town of Tripoli bearing SSW distant about 4 leagues ¼ past the Commod^{e} made Sig^{l} N^{o} 995 Cap^{t} Hull went on board of him at ½ past 6 Cap^{t} Hull returned —

Moderate and Clear W^{r} through the night At 8 AM Tripoli bore SbW a heavy Swell from the Eastw^{d} People Employed as Necessary —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 27 August 1804

[Standing off & on the town of Tangier] ½ past 7 [AM] shortened sail & came in the bay of Tangier in 10 fathoms water. the town Bearing W ½ N Cape Spartel N W B W ½ W

[USNA.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Monday, 27 August 1804

Moderate Breezes from S E. We are 7 or 8 leagues to the N E b N off Tripoly & steering in for it with the Squadron all in sight —

At 4 P. M. came to in 32 fath^{s} 5 miles N E b N from Tripoly The Squadron all anchored per Signal except the *Enterprize*, *Scourge*, *Intrepid* & Store Ketch — The *Enterprize* was ordered to look out in shore during the night — We stayed the Topmasts and set up the Rigging — At ½ past 4 P. M we made the necessary arrangements for warping the Store Ketch along side & clearing her — The increase of the E N E wind prevented it. —

The Captains & Commanders p^{r} Signal waited on the Commodore — Towards Evening fresh breezes from S E b E. — We had fresh

breezes through the night with overcast weather, Winds Veering between S E & S S W —

At 6 A. M. We warped Bombard N^{o} 1 along side: She is reported leaky & unfit for actual Service We took out the Bomb & stood it in the main Hatchway — It weighs nearly five Tons — We sent the Vessel in charge of the *John Adams*.

Cloudy Overcast weather all forenoon — Winds from N N W with a swell from the same Quarter — The captains of the Squadron waited on the Commodore — Supplied the *Nautilus* with 10 bbls Pork & 6 bbls beef

At 11 A. M. The Store Ketch was ordered along side of the *J. Adams*, to deliver her Cargo —

At 3¾ P. M. made the *Syrens* Signal, prepare for Anchor.

4 P. M. *Scourge & Enterprize* come within hail.

4½ " " All Captains —

[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, 27 August 1804

We are this morning laying at Anchor of[f] the Town of Tripoli and have recevd orders from the commodore to hoist in the Guns from some of the Gun boats, from which we suppose that the attack with the gun boats is given over for this season as the Levant Winds is expected to set in soon — at Meridian light breezes from the east^{d} — the order for hoisting in the Guns from the Gun boats is countermanded by the commodore from which we suppose another attac is to be made on the town with the Gun boats. at ½ past 3. the commodore sent his launch along side for the Volenteers. at 4 he made the signal Gun boats prepare for battle at ½ past 4 the signal was made for the fleet to get under way, at the same time the Commodores Launch left us with the men also our Barge and Black Cutter and the Capt went in the Green Cutter on board the Commodore —

Our fleet stood in near the town of Tripoli and continued standing of[f] and on during the Nigh. we cou'd discover a number of faulse fires both from our ships and the shore and some times coud here several guns which we understood to be nothing more than Signals. I set up untill Midnight in momentary expectation of seeing the engagement. we lay near enough to discover the movements of our squ[a]dron by the assistance of the light of the Moon — at Midnight the breeze sprung up fresh for the East. and concluding that no attac woud be made I went to bed. —

[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, Monday, 27 August 1804

Lying at Anchor [Tripoli]. Light airs inclining to calm. ½ past Mer: squard the yards At 4 came too with the larboard bower p^{r} signal, furl'd all sail At ½ past 4 a signal for all Capt^{s} to repair on board the Comm:

Latt: Obs: 33° 7′ N.

[NDA.]

To Joshua Wingate, Jr., Hallowell, Maine, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP[t] *28 August 1804.*

Col[o] Lear having effected a negociation with the Dey of Algiers by which he has agreed to receive Cash in lieu of naval Stores and having accordingly settled our accounts with that regency up to the 25 March last, we shall not want the Timber which you have been requested to contract for, for a considerable period of time-probably not for 2 years. We wish you therefore to suspend making the contract if you should not have already made it. As far as you have contracted the Contractors may go on unless they should be perfectly willing to relinquish the Contracts which is not to be expected if they should have made even preparatory arrangements for their fulfilment.

You will decline chartering a Vessel. Be pleased to let me hear from you immediately.

[NDA. Barbary Powers, LB, 1803–1808.]

To John Beekman, Navy Agent, New York, N. Y., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP. *28 Aug: 1804.*

Your letter of the 24[th] inst. I received this day. The Gun-boats are to be coppered and copper fastened. —

[NDA. Off. Comg. Gunboats, 1803–1808.]

To Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

ALGIERS *August 28[th] 1804*

MY DEAR SIR I wrote to you on the 24 of March by M[r] OBrien, and on the 30[th] of July (the only opportunities which have offered) acknowledging the rec[t] of your acceptable favors of the 3[d] 5[th] & 30[th] of April, and 20[th] of May. Since the last I have had the satisfaction to receive your letter of the 17[th] of June & 10[th] of July. — I am pleased to find you have rec[d] a supply of Clothing &[c] for our unfortunate Citizens; and rejoiced to learn that you & your fellow sufferers are in health, which I pray God to preserve to you. —

I feel gratefull for the attentions of Sidi Mohammed Dghies, His Excellency's prime Minister, and I trust that all those who have shewn you favors will be rewarded as well here, as by the God who rewards benevolent deeds.

I hope before this reaches you, that your situation will be alleviated; and I trust that His Excellency, the Bashaw of Tripoli will be convinced that it will be for his interest to be at peace with our Nation on honorable & permanent Grounds. It is not for us to seek war. Peace is our object; but we will never have it upon unjust terms, and I think that all the Barbary Powers, if they knew their own interest would cultivate our friendship; for we are a Nation different from all others, we are now powerfull, if we chuse to exert our strength; and we are rising rapidly to a great pitch of importance, while most other nations, which are known here, are at their full growth, or on the decline. — The misfortune of yourself & Our Citizens with you, has excited the Commisseration of our Countrymen, and your fortitude will be a Subject of their admiration, you will come out like gold tried in the fire, and I trust that Providence will

yet smile upon you and place you among the favorite Sons of America. —

The season has been very fine here hitherto, & we have been very healthy.— Mons[r] Thainville the French Commissary Gen[l] takes a Deep interest on your welfare. His wife & family sailed for France about six weeks ago. Consul Belle also feels much for you, and all your friends here are constant in their enquiries about you. M[rs] Lear begs you to be assured of her best prayers & wishes for you & those with you, to which are most sincerely joined my dear Bainbridge those of

TOBIAS LEAR.

[Stephen Decatur Col. NDA photostat, Book A.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 28 August 1804

½ past 1 [PM] rec[d] a supply of vegitables from Tangier. At 3 weigh[d] & made sail standing Out of the bay of Tangier

In the Gut of Gibraltar

[USNA.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 28 August 1804

Attacked the town and harbour [of Tripoli] with the whole squadron.

[LC original.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Tuesday, 28 August 1804

Moderate breezes from N N E with cloudy Overcast weather. We are at Single Anchor 5 or 6 Miles N E b N from Tripoly; Squadron in company — At 3 P. M. We weighed & stood in for Tripoly. The Wind by this time had veered to E b N. At ½ past 5 P. M. we weighed & came to, in 17 fath[s] hard bottom nearly 2 miles N b E ½ E. from Fort English & 2½ Miles N E b N ½ N, from the Bashaw's Castle — The Squadron was Ordered p[r] Signal to continue under weigh — We were employed till 8 in the Evening making several arrangements for the fourth attack upon Tripoly — Cap[t] Chauncey with several Officers & 64 Seamen from the *J. Adams* came on board as Volunteers on this expedition Cap[t] Chauncey remains on board as an assistant to the Commodore; Part of his Officers & seamen substitute those whom we have sent away in the Gun & ship's boats The *J. Adams*, *Scourge* & two Ketches remain at anchor — The ships company of the *Scourge* (a few excepted) are distributed among the Vessels which are intended for the Attack — Cap[t] Dent of the *Scourge* (who has all along commanded Bombard N[o] 2) in consequence of the Bombard N[o] 1 being found unserviceable, became a Volunteer as an assistant to the Commodore — Lieut[t] Robinson was removed from Bombard N[o] 1 to N[o] 2 — By ½ past 8 in the Evening we had fresh breezes from E S E — The Squadron was Ordered p[r] Signal to keep in sight to windward — We furled sails — By 12 Midnight the weather became more moderate —

The night station intended for the Bombards & Gun boats is at hand some point blunt [sic] shot from the Bashaw's Castle — At ¼ past 1 A. M. the Gun boats and Bombard were Ordered to their

Stations — The Bombard was taken in tow by the *Enterprize* — At ¼ past 1 A. M. Our Gun boats & Bombards bore up — At ½ past 2, they came to, within pistol shot of the Western Rocks, and commenced a fire on the Batteries. The Bombard in proceeding to her Station sprang a leak, Occasioned by Towing. After Anchoring her without gun shot from the Batteries, Lieut[t] Robinson with all the Americans went on board the *Enterprize*, leaving the Neapolitans to take care of her — In this Situation she could remain in safety — The *Enterprize* ran in, in order to protect our boats, should those of the Enemy come out. The *Siren, Argus & Nautilus* were exposed to the Fire from the Batteries; It was necessary that they should keep well in, in Order to be ready to Tow out disabled boats — At day light We weighed & ran in within 3 cables length of the Bashaw's Castle; the wind was E b S, which is favorable in standing either in, or out of the Harbour — In standing in we received the fire of 72 Guns, including those of Fort English, Bashaws Castle, the Square, Round, & half moon batteries — We did not fire a gun till ¼ past 6, when we commenced with round & Grape on 13 of the Enemy's Gun boats which were then in close action with our boats. We sunk one of the Enemies boats, while two more disabled ran on shore to avoid sinking — At this time the Grape from all the Batteries fell some ways without us — The Enemy's boats immediately retreated — We continued running in until we were within complete musket shot, when we brought to, & gave the Batteries nine Broadsides of round & Grape —

Although we were 54 minutes within musket shot of all their Batteries, only nineteen large shot struck the ship — We silenced the Bashaw's Castle & the half moon battery — On our firing the third broadside the Round Battery was deserted; On hauling off the Batteries recommenced the fire — Our Gun boats immediately hauled off per Signal when we received the Enemy's fire; the[y] cheered the *Constitution* as we passed them — The following Officers commanded the Gun boats. Viz[t] Cap[t] Decatur N[o] 4, Cap[t] Somers N[o] 1 Lieut[t] Gordon of the *Constitution* assisted by L[t] Nicholson of the *J. Adams* commanded N[o] 2, Lieut[t] Lawrence of the *Enterprize* N[o] 5, L[t] Crane of the *Vixen* N[o] 8, L[t] Thorn of the *Enterprize* N[o] 7, L[t] Wadsworth of the *Constitution* N[o] 6 M[r] Brooks Master of the *Argus* N[o] 3 — The Situation in which we saw our Gun boats in when we passed them was as follows, N[os] 4, 1, 2 & 6 were entirely exposed & receiving showers of Grape from all the Batteries, while N[os] 5, 8, 7, & 3 were without point blunt shot —

At the close of the Evening the Enemy displayed within the Reef 17 Gunboats, 2 Galleys, a schooner & a Brig — A Galliot & a ship without the Mole shew no colours — The Enemy's gun boats haul into the Mole in the night excepting two, which are kept outside as Guard Boats — It was 3 A. M. when our Gun boats opened their fire on the Batteries — Several shot were fired by our boats before they were returned from the Batteries — Our boats were in action two hours — Each boat fired more than 40 Rounds & some more than 50. We have fired this morning into the Enemy's batteries more than 600 round 24 lb shot & a proportionable quantity of Grape — At every Broadside we gave them, showers of stone & dust would completely cover their batteries — The Galliot without colors (mentioned before) & a three masted galley were sunk by our Gun

boats in the first of the action — Our damage is as follows — A great deal of the running rigging cut away by the Grape shot; A number of shot holes through the sails; The lanyard of the fore spring stay cut away; One of the Main shrouds; chains & Trusses of the Main Yard; Two top mast back stays; Two feet of the stock of the small bower cut completely off by a double head shot; The Stream cable & larboard fore lift cut off. One of the *J. Adams* cutters had four men killed & was afterwards sunk by the Batteries The Men were taken up by one of the gun boats — The *Argus & Siren* were stationed without our Gun boats to cover a retreat — The *Constitutions* barge under the command of M[r] Lewis Midshipman was stationed with the Gunboats as a dispatch boat — Her rudder was shot away, but she received no other damage — We Officered & manned three other Boats which the roughness of the Sea prevented from proceeding in with the Gun boats — At 9 minutes after 7 A. M. we hauled off from the Batteries & till 11 A. M. were employed in taking in tow the gun boats & Bombards & working to windward — At 11¼ we came to in 34 fath[s] hard bottom 4 miles N E b N from the Batteries, as did the Squadron — Cap[t] Chauncey & his Seamen rejoined the *J. Adams*. At this time fresh breezes from E b N with a rough Sea. — The following Signals were made these 24 hours —

P. M. At 3¼ Squadron to weigh. 3½ Gun boats & Bombards prepare for Action 3½. All captains repair on board the *Constitution* — 4 Answ[d] *Scourge* Signal N[o] 634 — A. M. At 1¼ Night Signal, Bombards & Gun boats advance to attack. At 3¼ we repeated the signal — At 5½ discontinue the Action the Boats & retire out of Gun shot — At 6 the general signal, Tow the Gun Boats. 6¼ Tow a boat to leeward — At 7¼ Squadron prepare for anchoring, leaving room for Veering & Weighing — At 11¼ all boats repair to their respective ships — At 11½ All captains repair on board the Commodore —

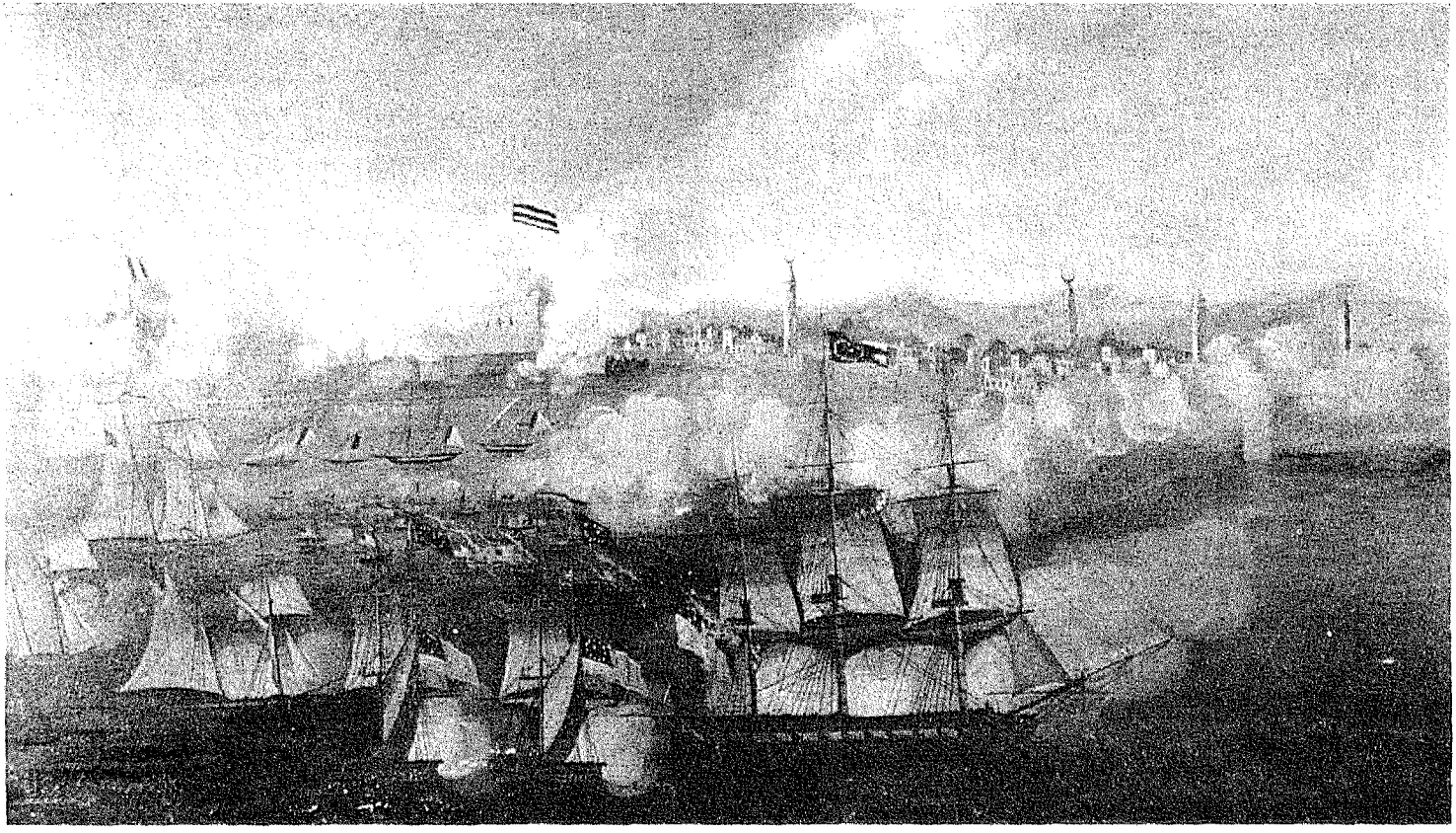
[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

[28 August 1804]

To Sir Alexander John Ball, Governor of Malta, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

August [29] 1804

Dear Sir I am honoured with your highly esteemed letter of the 21[st] Instant: and sent a boat in with a flag to deliver the letters which accompanied it — It cannot but be extremely gratefull to my feelings to have my exertions thought favourably of, by an Officer of your Excellency's talents & experience — I was in hopes ere this to have effected a peace in this quarter: but if the reinforcement of frigates does not arrive soon, I fear we shall not succeed in bringing about so desirable an event this year, as my ammunition is nearly expended and the season for such gun boats as ours to act will soon be over — In fact they are only fit for the defence of Harbours where they can at all times find protection from the weather: The stern of a frigate affords but a poor shelter for them; and they are not to be trusted alone; They have however rendered very essential service in our different attacks, although on their account we have each time been obliged to wait for a wind from the E S E or S E, to enable them to enter & retire with certainty — We must have Gun & Bomb Vessels that can protect themselves —



ATTACK ON TRIPOLI. 3 AUGUST 1804.

Yesterday I sent our eight gun boats to the rocks which form the entrance of the harbour two hours before day light, they anchored within 600 Yards of the Bashaw's castle, of two gallies & sixteen gun boats. A brisk fire was kept up until day light by our boats, & as warmly returned by the Enemy, when observing all their gun boats & gallies under way apparently with an intention to attack ours by boarding, I stood in within three cables length of the Batteries, leaving the Boats without us to retire, (as their ammunition was expended, but not without effect); and commenced a warm action with the Boats & Batteries which lasted ¾ of an hour: We sunk three of the Enemies gun boats and a large ketch, and did great execution among the other Boats & Shipping, and in the Town & Batteries — One of the ship's boat was sunk, 4 men killed & a few wounded which is all our loss in this affair — Our rigging, sails, cables &ᶜ have been considerably cut by grape shot. Only 19 cannon shot struck this ship — The heavy swell almost constantly setting towards the coast prevents us from attacking as often as we wish to — I beg you to present me respectfully to Lady Ball —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August–December 1804.]

[28 August 1804]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy

U. S. Ship *John Adams*
Off *Tripoly — August 29th 1804*

Sir, I have the Honor of enclosing you a list of the Volunteers from this ship employed on board the different vessels of the Squadron in the Attack upon the Enemy's Gun boats & Batteries on the 28th instᵗ together with a list of the killed & wounded belonging to this Ship —

Return of Killed & Wounded belonging to the U. S. Ship *John Adams* in the attack upon the Enemies Gun boats & Batteries on the 28th August 1804 —

Thoˢ Mᶜ Donald — Seaman
Wᵐ Fountain — — Dᵒ
John Bartlett — Dᵒ
} Killed

Asa Culver — — Seaman — Wounded

Total — 3 Seamen Killed — & One Seaman Wounded

Signed Isaac Chauncey

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 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, Tuesday, 28 August 1804

At 4 Oclock this morning our fleet commenced the attack on the Town of Tripoli and an incessant fireing was Keept up from our gun boats & brigs & Schooners. & the Bashaws Gun boats and the fort untill half past. 5 when the commodore went in with the *Constitution* to cover the retreat of our gun boats. they having expended nearly all their ammunission The commodores ship when standing in and during the engagement was the most ellegant sight that I ever saw. she had her Tompions out matches lit and batteries lighted up all

hands at quarters standing right in under the fort. & receiᵈ a heavy cannonading from their Battery. as soon as he got within pistol shot he commenced fireing his bow guns. and immediately laid his starboard side parralel with their battery and gave them a broad side which silenced the Bashaws batterys for a minute or so the commodore gave them several other broadsides which did greate injury to their battery and the houses on shore. several of the commodores 24ᵗᵇ Balls went through the Bashaws. Pallace. & one went through his bed in about 5 minutes after he had got out of it, he also sunk several of their gun Boats. he compleatly covered the retreat of our boats. with the loss. only of our Black Cutter & three men killed & one slightly wounded. he receid some trifling damage in his riging our gun boats did them great damage in the town and knocked down a part of the Bashaw's eastermost Battery and drove all the Tripolitan Gun boats behind the Rocks. & some of them run ashore and was deserted by their crew. there was only 8 of our Gun boats & 2 Bumbards & the Tripolitans had 16 Gun Boats & 2 Gallys. their Galleys contain[in]g from 150 to 200 men & our Gun boats & Bumbards contain[in]g not more than 25 to 30 men in any of them. & notwithstanding their great superiority of fource and the advantage of being under their own Battery they were compeled by our boats to retire within the Rocks. which makes out a little distance beyand the Bashaws Battery between which there is an inner channel and affords a compleat shelter for them. as their Huls are covered by the rock— the Commodore it is said receid above five hundred Balls between his fore and main Mast. but he had got so close in under their battery that they could no[t] depress their guns enough to hull him —

Our Fource of[f] this station are as follows

Frigate *Constitution.* Commodore Preble..... 44. Guns.
Brig *Syren* Capt Steward..... 18 Ditto.
Brig *Argus* Capt. Hull.....
Brig *Scourge* Capt Dent.....
Schooner *Vixon* Capt Smith.....
Schooner *Nautalus* Capt Summers.....
Schooner *Enterprize* Capt. Decator.....
2 Bumbards
8 Gun boats.

Frigate *John Adams* Capt Chauncey armed en Flute—

Neither the *John Adams* nor the *Scourge* were in the enagmᵗ the 28ᵗʰ August —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 28 August 1804

[Standing off and on Tripoli and attacking the batteries and gunboats.]

The Commodore made Sigˡ Nº 1205 got under way with the Squadron gunboats and bombards the Commodore made Sigˡ Nº 69 to the Gunboats at 4 he made the Sigˡ for Gunboats to Cast off at ½ past they Commenced firing on the town wore Ship and Stood in shore at ½ past 5 the Commodore made Sigˡ for the Gunboats to retire and ranged his Ship alongside the Batteries and gave them several Broadsides at 6 took the two Gunboats in tow At Meridian Anchored with all the Squadron in 30 fathoms water the Commodore made the Sigˡ for all

Captains, Capt[n] Hull went on board of him during the Action through our Larboard hause hole which cut cut off the bower Cable and Injured the lead —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 28 August 1804

(Following the Comm: motions Lying of[f] & on shore.)

Light winds & pleasant. At 4 a signal to the gun boats, prepare for battle hove up p[r] signal of the Commodore & stood in for the land. At 5 mann'd & arm'd the Launch & barge. ½ past 5 the *J. Adams's* barge came along side arm'd & mann'd, ½ past 6 took in sail, standing off & on shore.

Midnight fresh breezes & pleasant, tacking occasionally. At 3 cast off the gun boats. At 4 they came too an anchor close in the harbour of Tripoli & commenc'd a heavy fire on the Town & shipping & which was return'd by the enemies batteries. ½ past 6 the Commodore made signal for the gun boats to retire from action, the Comm: & squadron run close in & fired several broadsides on the enemies batteries shipping &c. At 7 took our gun boats in tow, the launch return'd made sail & stood off shore. At 9 wore in shore. ½ past 10 overhaul'd a range of the larboard cable. At 11 came too with the larboard bower p[r] signal. —

Meridian light winds & clear. all the Squadron at anchor. a signal from the Comm: for all Commanders to repair on board his ship. —

Latt: Obs: 33° 4′ N.

[NDA.]

[28 August 1804]

Expenditure of Ammunition

Fired Aug[st] 28 — [1804]

Constitutions Return

24 Pr[s] — 127 — Cartridges — 1016 lb Powder
D[o] — 128 — Roun Shot
D[o] — 35 — Grape
D[o] — 2 — Canister
D[o] — 3 — Double headed
12 Pr[s] — 73 — Cartridges — 192 lb of Powder
D[o] — 73 — Round Shot
D[o] — 3 — Grape D[o]
25 Pr[s] — 24 — Cartridges — 144 lb Powder
D[o] — 24 — Round Shot
D[o] — 1 — Grape D[o]

266	69 — Paper Cartridges full Charg[d] 107 — Flenell D[o] 90 — D[o] D[o] Reduc[d]	24 p[d]
126	56 — Paper Cartridges full Charg[d] 11 — D[o] D[o] Reduc[d] 12 — Flenell Cartridges full Charg[d] 47 — D[o] D[o] Reduc[d]	12 p[ds]
67	16 — Perchmant Cartridges 6 lb Each 27 — D[o] D[o] 5 D[o] 24 — D[o] D[o] 4 D[o]	25 p[ds]
375	Perchmant Cartridges Came onboard	
225	Shellune D[o] D[o]	

Ammunition Expended on board Gun Boat N° 1 *August 28th 1804*

520 lb	of Cannon Powder	65 Cartridges
6 lb	of Priming D°	
63	Round Shot	24 lb
33	Grape D°	
3	Match Rope	
63	Tubes for	24 lb
66	Wads for	D° —

Richd Somers

Edwd Preble Esqr

Expenditure of Ammunition in Action *28th Augt 1804* on board the Gun Boat N° 2 —

16 — 8 lb Cartrages
24 — 7 lb Ditto
44 — 24 lb Round Shot
2 — Bunches 24 lb Grape

Chas Gordon

Richd Somers Esqr
Master & Commandant
U. S. Schooner *Nautilus*

Expended on board Gun Boat N° 3 *Augt 27th 1804.* —

11 Shot
11 Cattridges
11 Wads

50 fathom Cable 6 inch
50 D° D° 4½
2 Anchors

Saml B Brooke

Expended on Board Gun-Boat N° 4 *August 28th 1804* —

45 — Fathoms 5 Inch Hauser
30 — Fathoms D°
25 — Fathoms 4 Inch D°
1 — Jibb Sheet
1 — Anchor Wt 240 lb
1 — Anchor Wt 120 lb
60 — 24 lb Cartriges
65 — D° Round Shott
5 — D° Grape
60 — Wadds
60 — Tubes
½ lb Priming Powder

Expenditures on board N° 6 Gun Boat H. Wadsworth Commander on the Morning *28th August: 1804*

Catridges 24 pr	51
Round shot	51
Grape shot	15
Wads	102

60 fath. 5 in. hawser with the Grapnel.
15 fath 3 in. rope _____ spring. _____
3 lb. priming powder
2 lb. match rope

300 Musket catriges expended since the 7th August. preparing ing for Battle.

H WADSWORTH

Capt DECATUR. —

Expended on Board of GUN BOAT N° 7 *August 28th 1804*

33 — 24 lb Round Shot
33 — — Cartridges
60 — — Wads
34 — Tubes
1 — lb — priming powder
3 — Blunderbuss Cartridges } damaged
25 — Musket _____ ditto }
30 — Pistol _____ ditto }
1 Sweep —
2 Swivel Cartridges _____ damaged

J THORN

Expenditures on board GUN BOAT N° 8 W Crane commander *Aug^t 28th 1804*

32 — 24 lb cartridges
29 — " round shot
3 — " double head shot
64 — Wads
2 — lb priming powder
2 — lb match rope
2 — sweeps
1 — anchor, kedge
30 — fathoms 5½ Inch hawser
15 — fathm^s 2 Inch rope, spring
32 — Tubes.

WILLIAM CRANE

Cap^t S DECATUR

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August-December 1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Sailmaker Joseph Douglass and Carpenter William Godby, U. S. Navy, formerly in U. S. Frigate *Philadelphia*

TRIPOLA *August 29 1804*

SIR I having signed a Letter wrote in Attalion conserning the Malta Boat being bound to your Squadron with Brandy Wine poatoes &c I se her taken by one of the Gallys belon[g]ing to this place and brought in this harbour the Bashaw sent Several of his Offissers down on board of the said Boat to take out the goods but he was stoped by the English Counsil and has been detained hear by the Bashaw untill this present date wich I am informed that she is to sail this evening or Tomorrow morning the Last attack you made

on the Town you have Injured a grate Many houses killed several Turcks & drove them entirely out of three of there Batrys the Capt and all the Offissers are well I heard from them this day the shells that was hove the last night all fell in the Water but verry few of shells that has been hove in Town has Bursted there is but a small Quantity of Powder in this place by the best information that I can get

JOSEPH DOUGLAS *S Maker*
WILLIAM GODBY

P S hopin we will all be soon out of this the usage is verry bad and the provisions very short

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August-December 1804.]

To William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitution AUGUST 29th 1804

DEAR SIR, I enclose you a receipt for what has been delivered from the Sparonaro you sent over some time since — The Patron alledges that he was carried into Tripoly by force: He will however tell you his Own Story — We made an attack yesterday on the Gun boats, town & Batteries — sunk three of their gun boats & a large Ketch, & did them much damage — We lost one of the ships boats sunk & 4 Men killed & some wounded our Rigging & sails considerably cut by Grape; Only 19 Cannon shot struck us — The weather has been unfavorable, but we have expended nearly all the Gun Boat ammunition — The Ketch with Water, live Stock &C which you sent over arrived safe & remains with us at present — I wish Commr's Barron would arrive with the long expected reinforcement — Adieu!

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Argus*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitution AUGUST 29th 1804 Off TRIPOLY

Stand in for the Town; Hoist the white flag at the Fore, & French at the Main, & if answered by the French Consul send a boat with the letters directed to him & Sidi Mohammed DGhies and as soon as the Boat returns come into your Station —

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

To Monsieur Beaussier, French Chargé d'Affaires and Commissary General, Tripoli, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*. At Anchor
Off *Tripoly — August 29th 1804.*

SIR, I have now on board this ship forty two Tripoline Prisoners, thirty five of which were in the three gun boats captured by us on the 3d Inst. I am desirous of establishing a Cartel for the exchange of Prisoners, & wish you to use your influence in bringing about this important object —

Humanity dictates the measure, and I have no doubt but on your application to his Highness the Bashaw, you will, by proper representations, be able to induce him to acceed to a measure so generally adopted

by all nations — You will oblige me by communicating to me your Success in this business, and I think it very probable, if I could see you on board that such arrangements may be made as to effect the ransom of the whole of my countrymen — If you should think proper to oblige me with a visit, and the Bashaw should think proper to admit of your coming off, I will send a Boat under a flag of Truce tomorrow morning at 9 O'Clock to the Rocks to receive you or (if you should not incline to come off) to receive your answer if you answer the French & White flag as hoisted before —

If you come Off, The truce shall remain sacred untill you return on shore and the Flags are hauled down — You have it in your power to render an essential Service to the unfortunate, by making use of your interest in endeavouring to effect the humane object of this letter— I have the honor to subscribe myself with

P. S. Mr OBrien is no longer with me, He went to Malta some days since & returns to America with his family —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To the Prime Minister to the Bashaw of Tripoli, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. Ship *Constitution*
August 29th 1804

Sir I have made Overtures through the French Consul to your regency for an exchange of Prisoners — I hope this much desired event may take place; I am not induced to this measure merely because it is the usage of a great part of the World, but because I think it founded in reason & humanity —

I flatter my self that Monsieur Beaussier will be permitted to come on board the *Constitution*, in which case a mode of Ransom may be fixed upon, honorable to both Parties —

I enclose to your care dispatches to the English Consul at Tripoly which I received a few days since from Malta & which you will be kind enough to have delivered —

His Excellency Sidi Mohammed DGhies
Prime Minister to the Pasha of Tripoly

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Monsieur Beaussier, French Chargé d'Affaires and Commissary General, Tripoli

Translation

Tripoli *29 August 1804* —

Commodore On the 12 Current after having myself read to the Bashaw your Letter of the day before and added what was suitable, I was about to reply in a manner which wou'd perhaps have been satisfactory to you, and to make a Signal for you to send on shore, when this Prince formally required me to suspend my Answer, until he had witnessed the effect of the third attack — This took place in the Night betwixt the 23 & 24 instant, and you Sir must be sensible that it was perfectly *null* —

Not a single Bomb was thrown beyond the Forts, and at day light a Bombarde was seen towing off by five boats — The attack between the 27 & 28 was more serious A 36 pound Shot struck the Castle and

passed through the apartment of the Prisoners — another through the Sailer's prison, & others struck a number of Houses, especially those of the Spanish, Swedish & Dutch Consuls out of the Town where a Camel was killed, and some Shot flew even into the Gardens — A Tunisian prize was sunk and a Spanish Vessel that had brought here a Messenger from the Grand Senior with a pass from M[r] Davis your Consul at Tunis was hulled and a Corsair belonging to this Regency lost four men, killed by the Grape Shot from your Guns — At day break one of the Bombardes or a Gun-Boat was seen anchored at some distance off which gave rise to the conjecture that she was obliged to leave the action — The Bashaw seems to care little about the injury done to the Houses by the Shot, which is easily repaired; the Shells only, which he fears may burn and destroy his Town, give him some uneasiness and revive in him the desire for an Accommodation —

Menaces have no other effect than to inflame the mind of the Prince —

I have informed Sidi Achmet Dghie's of the plan of your Government with regard to Sidi Achmet the Bey's Brother — I have reason to believe that he has not made him acquainted with it, lest it might destroy in him every disposition to Peace —

In the actual State of things I think it best to leave the Bashaw to his own reflexions — He is naturally dark mysterious and unconfiding — Were I to manifest any eagerness for a Decision on his part, he would only become more immoveable; In the mean while I avail myself of a Sperronar which carries you some refreshments to inform you of what is passing — This Sperronar entered the harbor on the 20 ins[t], believing that you were Masters of it —

I had written thus far Commodore, when to my great astonishment & regret I heard that a Brig of your Squadron was advancing to parley — Whatever may be the motive I cannot but veiw this Step as most impolitic as well as detrimental to the Interests of your Country, because at this moment it must be construed to your disadvantage & tend to raise the pretensions of this Regency — It had been much better *at the beginning* to have threatened, and to have followed up your attacks with energy & effect, *without entering into any negotiations* —

This instant I receive your Letter of this Morning — I cannot see the Bashaw till Tomorrow as he is at his Summer Residence in the Country — I foresee that your proposal for a Cartel of Exchange will not be relished as it is a thing not usual and never practiced betwixt Mussulmen & Christians —

August 30 — I am just come from an Audience with the Bashaw —

What I apprehended has actually occurred — In spite of all my representations & observations he absolutely rejected the Cartel of Exchange, and to shew that he is by no means intimidated by your force (of which he pretends to calculate with nicety the extent and effect) even after the arrival of the four additional Ships, he demands as the price of ransom & peace, 400000 Spanish Dollars besides presents for himself and Ministers of the Regency, declaring at the same time that he confined himself to this Sum at present merely out of Regard & Respect for his good friend the French Emperor and that it must not be understood that he meant to keep to it in the sequel. He added that if the liberation of the Prisoners coud not be agreed upon this year, it might during the next — I told him immediately that it was not in your power to subscribe to such terms & that it woud

be useless for me to communicate them, Whatever arguments I could bring forward I was unable to prevail upon His Excellency to reduce his Demand. — You have therefore Monsieur the Commodore no alternative but to attack the Town & particularly the Castle without intermission, unless you feel yourself authorized to approach nearer to the conditions proposed — If you do not it will be superfluous to reply and you must persevere until the Pacha harassd at all points shall himself ask for a Parley —

When I was at the Castle, there were brought before the Bashaw, Guns, pistols and other arms taken on board a Chaloupe or Boat which went on Shore to the Westward of the Town, and in which a Man was found who had been killed by a Musket ball —

[Mrs. James S. Barron original.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 29 August 1804

[At anchor off Tripoli.] This day Commences with fresh breezes At 1 PM James Jeffers, O. S. was badly wounded in the left hand by the accidental going off of a Pistol at 4 At Anchor Cap^{t} Hull went on board the Commodore Tripoli bore SSW at 5 Cap^{t} Hull returned hoisted in all boats fresh breezes thro, the night with a bad swell from the Eastward —

At 8 AM hoisted out all boats and took on board 1800 Gall^{s} of water from the Malta Ketch Watered N^{o} 3 & 7 Gunboats at ½ past 6 the Commodore made Gunboats Sig^{l} N^{o} 69 Ends light winds Squadron at Anchor Hands Variously Employed —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Wednesday, 29 August 1804

Fresh breezes from E b S. At Single Anchor 4 or 5 Miles N E b N from Tripoly Squadron in company. Employed repairing damages & refitting the Gun boats for another attack.

Towards evening the weather became more moderate & continued so through the Night.

At 9 P. M. fired two guns & burnt two rockets to alarm the Batteries —

At 6 A. M. ran a Warp to the Store Ketch & Warped her along side — This is the ketch that joined the Squadron on Sunday morning last. No opportunity of discharging her has offered before now — She brough[t] 133 Puncheons of water equal to nearly 10,000 Gall^{s}

Employed all forenoon in clearing the Ketch & supplying the gun boats with Powder shot and other stores —

A heavy swell all forenoon from E N E — This forenoon the Ketch *Intrepid* was carried alongside the *Syren* — She is ordered to be fitted out as a fire ship or Infernal —

Noon light breezes from N E b E with a swell from E N E.

[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, 29 August 1804

We are now laying at Anchor of[f] the Town of Tripoli Pleasant Weather and light breezes from the Eastw^d — at 2 Oclock P M. the Brig *Argus* and Schooner *Vixon* Stood in towards the Town. hoist'd the White flag which was answered by the Bashaw on shore at 4 they stood out. We understand that they went in to carry some Dispatches for the consuls on shore and to take the advantage of it, in reconnoitreing the Town and harbour and to know what damage we had done the town — in the last attack. and to hear from the french consul whether the Bashaw was better disposed to make a peace the French Consul informed us that we had done great damage to the town & that the Bashaw wished to know whether the commodores letter contained any propositions for peace. but we are informed they did not

[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, Wednesday, 29 August 1804

Lying at anchor [Tripoli]. Midnight light winds & pleasant with a heavy swell. At ½ past 7 a signal from the Commodore for the gun boats to prepare for battle. —

Latt: Obs: 33° 00′ N.

[NDA.]

To Secretary of State from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco

N^o 81. — duplicate — TANGIER *30^th August 1804*. —

SIR My late correspondence with Sidy Muhammed Selawy on subject of His Imperial Majestys wish to send Wheat to Tripoly, having in some particulars become of rather an Interesting nature, I think well to hand you herewith translations of my Letter to him of the 9^th Ins^t, his answer of the 20^th and my reply of the 26^th — I was enduced to send him the Letter from Alcayde Hashash referred to in that correspondence, because he says in it — "grant this Passport and Peace will subsist between us and you." — Knowing how apt Alcayde Hashash is to hold such Language of himself without authority, I did not mention the circumstance to you, trusting at same time the Minister would have satisfied me he had taken his accustomed liberty on this occasion; but I am sorry to find Selawy speaks much in the same strain as Hashash. — It does not appear however that it is intended to press the matter for the present. — The arrival of Commodore Barrons Squadron, in my oppinion will prevent that; and enduce this Government to act more circumspectly than it perhaps might have done, had the American Commerce continued without protection on this Coast. —

In N^o 79 I mentioned that some Saltpetre & Copper were to be shipt at Mogadore on the Frigate *Maimona* for Algiers, when these Articles were brought in from the Mines it was so reported, but M^r Gwyn in his Letter to me of the first this Month corrects, — he says

"It was from misinformation that I wrote you the Emperours Ship here was
"to load the Copper and Saltpetre for the Algerine, as she came here to load
"them for H I M Account and is to go when the Wind will permit to Sallé. —
"The Algerine is yet here waiting for a Vessel of his Nation to load his. —"

The fact is two different parcells of these Articles were brought to Mogadore — that belonging to the Emperour was laden on the *Maimona* and she has arrived at Sallé with them; but in place of proceeding to the Mediterranean, as was at first intended, we learn by Letters received yesterday from thence they have been transhipt to a Schooner belonging to the Emperour. — On the 14th Inst a Messenger arrived at Tangier from the Minister with a Letter for the Consuls, desireing Passports for this same Vessel to go from Sallé to Tunis with Pilgrims, but no mention was made of any Cargo; whether the resolution to put the Articles out of the Frigate to her was subsequent to that application I cannot say, but altho' the Vessel is no doubt bound to Tunis with about forty Pilgrims, it appears to me extremely probable, the ultimate destination of the Copper and Saltpetre is Tripoly. — That of the Emperours three Ships for the Mediterranean I also now perfectly believe was on some Scheme of giving assistance to Tripoly, for I am satisfied it is Muley Solimans wish to do so if he could, and I fear we shall henceforward find that he will only be restrained from it, by knowing a sufficient force is at hand to prevent it; we shall see what Sidy Muhammed Selawy will say in answer to my remarks on subject of the War with that State. —

The *Meshouda* lays at Larach notwithstanding these appearances, without ever having had any repair since she entered that River in October last. —

Whilst my duty compells me to hold forth to Government these powerful reasons for looking to the conduct of Muley Soliman with a Jealous Eye, still so long as no overt act of hostility is commited or the honour of the Flag assailed, I shall consider it incumbent on me for the benefit of Commerce to cherish Friendship with this Country; in fact this last consideration in such a charge as mine I believe should be the predominant object. —

The issue of the late Negotiation with the Batavian Consul was a demand of a yearly Tribute of Twenty thousand dollars, with an extra Present the first year of complete Cloathing for One thousand Soldiers and Stores for the equipment of two Cruizers.

These Conditions of Peace have been transmitted to Holland and if not accorded with the Consul has been told he must retire and his Nation to be considered as no longer in Peace with Muley Soliman. —

You will see Sidy Muhammed Selawy handed the Presidents Letter to the Emperour — no reply has been sent. — Commodore Barron left the Frigates *Congress* and *Essex* on this Station, and I am satisfied it was a wise determination. —

[NA. SDA. CL, Tangier, Vol. 2, Jan. 1803–Oct. 1810.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, Commodore, U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco

TANGIER *30th August 1804.* —

SIR My last to you 14th this Month I find did not reach you at Gibraltar, but Mr Gavino will have forwarded it. —

My Communications to Captain Rodgers of the 26th & 27th Inst follow up the detail of what I have since had to impart on Service, which he will no doubt lay before you. —

On the 17th I received your favour of the 13th this Month, in which you state the strong reasons assist your determination respecting the

request of some Wheat being sent by the Emperour to Tripoly. — I have had as you will see an answer from Sidy Muhammed Selawy, who says it is not now desired. —

I know the Emperour is highly displeased on the occasion, and I have not a doubt but for the very opportune arrival of your Squadron he would have resented it. —

I have not failed to say every thing I could suggest to the Minister to divest their intentions from unfriendly measures, but I know they are disposed to give what assistance they can to Tripoly — untill Peace be obtained there we shall have no security here, but what they are awed into. —

By advice from Salle we are assured the Schooner mentioned to you in mine of the 14th takes Saltpetre & Copper as well as Pilgrims to Tunis, whose ultimate destination is Tripoly. —

On the 28th May I wrote Commodore Preble solliciting the release of a Moor of Tangier Mohamet Ben Ally Ben Seid, whom he had detained among some Tripolines. — I have not received an answer, but I hope the person has been set at Liberty as a subject of Muley Soliman. —

[Am. Antiquarian Soc. NDA photostat.]

To Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Essex*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. States Frigate *Congress*
*Gibraltar Bay Aug*t *30. 1804*

Sir. Concieving there is not the smallest necessity at present for the services of more than one Frigate on this Station, I have thought it advisable & have determined to leave you in the command here, and shall proceed with the *Congress* direct to Tripoli, in hopes of arriving in time to unite her services to the Expedition commanded by Commo: Barron, against that place. I therefore Enclose you my instructions from him for your Goverment. As Commo. Barrons Instructions are very Explicit, I feel it unnecessary in me to add any thing further than merely to observe that I think it advisable you should (in addition to a constant correspondence with Mr Simpson our Consul at Tangier) sail about the 8 or 9th of next month, & cruize a few Days between Cape Spartel and Salle, to inform yourself whether any or Either of the Ships at Salle, have put to Sea, and if they have what is their object.

[Am. Antiquarian Soc. NDA photostat.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

Nº 3. U. S. Frigate *Congress*
*Gibraltar Bay Aug*t *30, 1804*

Sir I have the honor to inform you that I have this Instant arrived here with the *Congress & Essex* direct from Tangier which place I saild from on the 27th Inst — our passage has been long owing to a severe Lavant Gale which lasted from the night of the 27th until the morning of the 29th and drove us through the Straights into the Atlantick. —

In my last communications dated Tangier Bay 17th Inst, I informed you of Commo. Barrons having sent the *Congress & Essex* on this

Coast, in consequence of advices rec'd from M[r] Simpson our Consul at Tangier, of my Intentions to leave the *Essex* to Watch the Conduct of Two Galleys at that place & of my proceeding Immediately with the *Congress* to Salle, to inform myself of the movements (& if possible the Intentions) of the Emperors three Ships, mention'd in M[r] Simpsons communications to Commo. Barron, Copys of which the latter Gentleman has forwarded you. I did so & arrived & anchor'd before Salle on the 20[th] (taking Arzilla, Mamora & Larache in my route) where I found the three Ships in question, and to all appearance nearly ready for Sea. — After laying three Hours at anchor within about 5 miles of the Town, with American Colours Flying & a Signal Indicative of Friendship & a wish to communicate with the Shore, without any apparent disposition of the like on their part; I weighd & stood within the range of a cannon Shot of the Ships, without any further success of bringing about a communication, altho every means which a friendly demeanor could suggest was used: However I have no reason to suppose that hostile intentions on their parts were the cause of my not succeding, but that they either did not comprehend the meaning of the Signal, or were afraid to Venture off. On the 21[st] after repeating again in the same way as on the preceding Day, my wishes to Exchange Civilities, without any appearance of success; and fearing that a further attempt on the subject, might lead to suspicions unfavorable to a good understanding, I made Sail & Pursued my course back to Tangier, where I again on the 27[th] join'd the *Essex* — At Larache I found the Ship *Meshouda* (Ci de Vant Tripoline) in a State of *Ordinary*; but at Arzilla & Mamora there was not a Single Vessel of any description — On my return again to Tangier I made the usual Signal to communicate with our Consul, and in an Hour after had the pleasure of receiving advices from him corroberating my own opinion, "That whatever grounds their might have been for Suspicion, that they were so far removed as to admit of one of the Ships leaving the Coast". Two days after I left Tangier for Salle, the two Gall'ys which the *Essex* was left to watch, sail'd & one of them Boarded by her in sight of Tangier. This circumstance serves to prove that they had no orders to Capture American Vessels or they certainly would not have gone to Sea, while the *Essex* was in sight — These two Gall'ys with the three Ships at Salle, compose the greater part, if not the whole marine Force of Morocco — Since the Gallys sail'd I have heard of their being at Cadiz. The Ships are inside of Salle Bar & I have reason to believe there is but little probability of their going to Sea this Summer, as I am told there never has been an Instance of their large Cruizers, going to Sea, for the purpose of Cruizing after the 10[th] Sept[r]; However it is not improbable that one of them will go to Lisbon to receive their Annual Donation, "The Marine repository at Lisbon being the Arsinal of Morocco", As it appears that without ceremony the Emporer sends *Generally* every year a Ship to that Port with an Inventory of the Stores wanting for his cruizers, and is furnished with the am[t] without a murmur; —

I shall leave this the Instant I get Water on Board, Sufficient for Six or Seven weeks, which I am in hopes will not take longer than tomorrow morning and proceed direct to Tripoli; where I flatter myself (if Cap[t] Prible has not made a previous attack) I shall yet

arrive in time to coopperate with Commodore Barron, For I should be greatly mortified, if the *Congress* did not share a part of the Credit to be derived, in the reduction of Tripoli by inscribing a lasting & Honorable remembrance of her name on its Walls. — I can now clearly percieve that our future situation with Morocco will greatly depend on the kind of Peace we make with Tripoli; As it appears they are more closely allied than any of the other Barbary Powers, in consequence of a Blood connection between the Emperor & Bashaw, and I think it not Improbable that the Emporer hearing of the Destination of the late Squadron, put his Cruizers in motion, & made the Vague demands, mentioned by our Consul to Commo. Barron, merely with an Intention to emply a part of it, until the Season should be so far advanced, as to render an attack against Tripoli Impracticable, or at least hazardous; By the opperations of a Smaller Force than our Goverment had calculated. The *Essex* having light metal, added to her Hull being in a Very Imperfect state, her services cannot be Important in an attack of[f] Tripoli, I have therefore left her on the Gibraltar Station, to check any unfriendly design the Emporer may feel towards our commerce.

The measures I have pursued during my command on this Station, will I hope, by their Tendancy, merit your approbation, & I certainly should not have resign'd, the Command of this Station, to place myself in a more subordinate station, did I concieve there was a necessity for the services of more than one ship here. — Altho it is full likely, that the Business of Tripoli, will be finish'd before I arrive there, yet I concieve the probability of their being a necessity for my remaining here, over balanced by the possibility that I may yet arrive before Tripoli in time to join the Services of the *Congress* in the Attack.

[LC. JRP, Letters & Orders, Book A, 1804–1805.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Sir Alexander John Ball, Governor of Malta

MALTA *30 August 1804*

SIR I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellencys Letter of the 21st inst^{t} inclosing a copy of one from the Secretary of the Navy of the United States, informing you of the intention of the President to augment the Naval force in the Mediterranean which circumstance will put him under the necessity of sending two Captains Senior to you — The very flattering expressions He makes use of in observing that "*you have acquitted yourself in a manner honorable to yourself, useful to your Country, and in all respects perfectly satisfactory to us,*" must satisfy your mind, that nothing but imperious necessity could have caused your government to send an officer superior in rank to you. —

I have communicated this to all those I know. They join me in regretting that an officer whose Talents and professional abilities have been justly appretiated, and whose manners and conduct eminently fit him for so high a command should be removed from it —

I have now only to request that you will command me without reserve whenever I can be in any way useful to you

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August–December 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 30 August 1804

The Commod^{e} sent his boat on board got under way and stood in for the town at 3 PM fired a gun and hoisted the french Ensign at the main and White flag at the fore which was answered by the french Consul on Shore at ½ past 4 Lieu^{t} Blake went in the barge with a flag of Truce TK^{d} and Wore Ship Occas^{y} at 6 Lieu^{t} Blake returned filled away and Stood for the Commodore at 9 hove too Cap^{t} Hull went on board the Commod^{e} and returned at 11 filled away At 8 AM the Commodore hoisted our distinguishing flag Cap^{t} Hull went on board of him and returned at 9 filled away and stood for the town in C^{o} with the *Vixen* at ½ past 9 fired a Gun and hoisted the french Ensign at the main and White flag at the fore which was observ'd by the *Vixen* at 12 the Commod^{e} hoisted our distinguish^{g} flag & made Sig^{l} N^{o} 600 Stood for him.

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 30 August 1804

At 2 [AM] took in top gallant Sails. light airs From the North^{d} & West^{d} ¼ past came too in the bay of Gibraltar In 18 fathoms water with the starb^{d} Bower anchor Veerd & Moord ship with ½ capble each way. European point Bearing S B E ¼ E., S^{t} Rogue N ½ E Algesiras W ½ N.

[USNA.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Thursday, 30 August 1804

Moderate breezes from E N E with a swell from the same Quarter — At Single Anchor 4 Miles N E b N from Tripoly Squadron in company —

We are employed discharging the Store Ketch & supplying the Gun boats — We supplied N^{o} 2 & N^{o} 6 with a large Grapnel each, also with a fore Jeer, & a cat fall — These two boats were under the necessity of cutting in the late action.

By 5 P. M. we completed discharging the Ketch & filled 20 casks of salt water in her when she hauled Off & anchored —

This afternoon we received 18 Men from the U. S. Brig *Scourge* — These are part of the men supplied her by us when she was put in commission —

The *Argus* was supplied out of the Store Ketch with 24 Puncheons of water, and the *Scourge* with 5 — The *Constitution* took the remaining 95 puncheons, which added to the water this day on board makes 59 Leagurs, 65 Butts & 29 Gang casks, in Gallons 26,524 —

At 3 P. M. the *Argus* & *Vixen* weighed & stood in for Tripoly — They hoisted the French Jack & a white flag as a Signal to speak the French Consul — In the course of half an hour it was answered in the Town — The *Argus's* boat met one from the shore & delivered the dispatches —

Moderate through the night with a swell from E N E — This forenoon we supplyed the *Vixen* with 720 Gall^{s} water & the *Nautilus* with 640 Gall^{s} —

At 9 A. M. the *Argus & Vixen* (which had joined company at 9 last evening) ran down to the Town. They hoisted the French Jack & the white flag, which not being answered agreeable to promise they were recalled p[t] Signal; On their standing out to join the Commodore the signal was answered in the Town — The *Argus* then made the signal that communication with the shore was granted, and bore up in Order to speak a dispatch boat-stand[g] out of the Harbour — At this time the Commodore was out of the ship, examining the Ketch which is fitting out as an infernal —

Surgeons report 6 sick 9 convalescent & 4 discharged

Noon Moderate breezes from E N E.

All our carpenters employed on board the *Intrepid*

[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, 30 August 1804

At 7 Oclock this morning the commodore made the signal. for Gun boats to prepare for battle at 8 the *Argus* and *Vixon* stood in again — at Meridian light breezes from N.E. at 5 P. M the Brig *Argus & Vixon* stood out with a Maltee boat in tow that had been driven in to Tripoli by Stress of Weather. they brought. us. some Potatoes & Onions from Malta. and informed us that the Tripolins were very much distressed on shore — this day ends with pleasant Weather —

[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, 30 August 1804

Lying at Anchor [Tripoli] Throughout those 24 hours light breezes & pleasant. ½ past 2 the *Argus & Vixen* got under way & stood for the Town. At ½ past 3 the *Argus* fired a gun & hoisted the White flag at her fore & french at her main royal mast heads.

Midnight cloudy the *Argus & Vixen* lying bye close in shore. At ½ past 10 the Comm: came on board. At 11 the Commodore left us for his own ship. —

Meridian crew employ'd hoisting in water stoing it &c. &c. — rec[d] from the *J. Adams* a quantity of Provisions &c &c.

[NDA.]

To Daniel Bedinger, Navy Agent and Superintendent of Navy Yard, Norfolk, Va., from Charles W. Goldsborough, Chief Clerk, Navy Department

NAVY DEP[t] 31 Aug[t] *1804.*

I now enclose to you a Passport from the President of the U. States for the *W[m] & Mary*: Also Passports from the British, French, and Spanish Ministers.

These Passports are forwarded under the Impression that the *W[m] & Mary* is an American Ship. Should not this be the case, the Passports are not to be delivered to Cap[t] Tipling but you will return them to this office. —

[NDA. Barbary Powers, LB, 1803–1808.]

To Daniel Bedinger, Navy Agent and Superintendent of Navy Yard, Norfolk, Va., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP^{T} *Aug 31. 1804*

I this morning received your letter of the 26th ins^{t} enclosing M^{r} Higgins receipt for the Cargo of the *Woodrop Sims* [ex *Betsy Walk*] a letter from Captain Reddick to M^{r} Geo. M^{c}Intosh also a letter from M^{r} M^{c}Intosh to you — all which are herewith returned to you —

M^{r} Higgins certificate establishes the fact that a considerable part of the Cargo of the *Woodrop Sims* was damaged when delivered at Malta also that there was a deficiency in quantity in some of the articles — As you have not transmitted to me a Satisfactory account of the manner in which this damage was sustained and deficiency Occasioned, my Conduct must be Governed by the Charter Party and M^{r} Higgins Certificate the only official papers in my possession — I cannot therefore authorize any further payments to the Owners of the *Woodrop Sims* for the freight of her cargo —

I observe that M^{r} M^{c}Intosh states to you his conviction of the entire correctness of the Circumstances stated in Captain Reddicks note to him and grounds his conviction principally upon the Circumstance of the articles sent out by him on his Own account (consisting of Tierces of Coffee, of loaf and Clayed Sugars Pepper, Tobacco and Rum) being delivered in good Order — I mention this Circumstance not with a View to Examine Cap^{n} Reddicks evidence or M^{r} M^{c}Intoshs conviction, but to enquire how it came to pass that M^{r} M^{c}Intosh was Permitted to Send out in his Own Vessel Chartered exclusively for public purposes, any adventure of his Own — my letters to you of the 22^{d} Decem^{r} 1803 and 10th and 24th January 1804 are considered perfectly Explicit

By the letter of the 22^{d} Decem^{r} you were requested to procure a Vessel on Public account and the articles to be sent in her to the mediterranean were designated — By the Subsequent letters you were expressly directed to fill the Vessel with Public Stores The extreme impropriety of Suffering any private individual or any person or persons Whatever to Send out an adventure in a Vessel Chartered exclusively for public purposes must be apparent to you —

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Joseph Yznardi, U. S. Consul, Cadiz, Spain

AMERICAN CONSULATE
Cadiz 31st August 1804 —

DEAR SIR: Under date of the 27th ultimo I had the pleasure of inclosing you Copy of a Letter received from James Monroe Esq^{r} respecting the forgery Committed on the house of Mess^{rs} M^{c}Kenzie & Glennie of London in your name; I have now that of remitting you Copy of a Letter just received from M^{r} William Jarvis our Consul at Lisbon, which will inform you of the whole transaction.

Notwithstanding the many enquirys made here & steps taken to discover either Roberts or Borny all has proved in vain, as no tidings of such People can be found.

I am happy to acquaint you that by reports all matters between this Court and the United States will be settled to mutual content, as

this Government it seems has sent orders to the Marquis d'Truso to ajust all pending affairs in the most satisfactory manner possible; therefore I believe Mr Pinckney has postponed his journey —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August–December 1804.]

[31 August 1804]

To Lieutenant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Scourge*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Sir, The good of the service requires that you put the whole of your Ships Company on allowance of two Quarts & a pint of Water for twenty four hours including peas, rice and grog Water — You will therefore give orders to commence the issuing such allowance this day and continue untill farther Orders

I am Sir

Your most Obt Servt

Signed, Edward Preble
U. S. Ship *Constitution*
Off Tripoly, August 31st 1804

Capt Dent
U. S. Brig *Scourge*

[NHF. Dent's LB.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy

U. S. Frigate *John Adams*
Off Tripoli August 31st 1804

Sir I have this morning appli'd to Capt Chauncey, to know when I might expect a public investigation of the faulse and malitious charges exhibited against me by Mr John. Orde. Creighton, Masters Mate, of this ship, he has informed me that he had layed the matter before you, and that he could not say when you wou'd see fit to act on it

I have now to request of you Sir that if the nature of our countrys service is such as not to admit of your attention to matters of less importance that you will be pleased, to order Mr Creighton to remain on board of this ship or some other ship which is not immediately engaged in any future attack which may be made on the Town of Tripoli, or to be placed in any situation which might afford a chance of endangoring his life. for if Mr Creighton should be, by accident, deprived of life, before the Public investigation of his charges — I shall for ever labour under the worst of all human afflictions that of a suspected and implicated character. — For however innocent a man may be there are enough in this world to be found to say (for there are few of us who have not our enemys) there goes the man, pointing to the accused, who has been charged by an officer who was Killed at such a place, of dishonesty, and in that case it will be for ever suspended in doubt, whether the accusation be true or faulse as my friends will believe one thing and my enemys another, That being the case and particularly as I am amongst strangers & in a strange country and where you alone Sir have Cognizance of all matters which relates to your country & the officers & men who belong to the Squadron under your Command

I have to repeat again that you will be pleased to grant my request— For as Ceasar says by his wife a man shou'd not only be honest but unsu[s]pectedly so. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August–December 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 31 August 1804

at 1 PM observed a White flag hoisted on Shore made Sail and Stood for the town at 2 PM, a Maltase Sparranara Came off took her in tow at ½ past 2 Lieu[t] Morris went in the barge with a flag of Truce at 4 Lieu[t] Morris returned made sail & stood for the Commodore at 6 hove too Cap[t] Hull and Smith went on board of him in our barge at 9 Cap[t] Hull returned

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Friday, 31 August 1804

Moderate breezes from N E. At Single Anchor 4 Miles N E b N from Tripoly. Squadron in company, the *Vixen* & *Argus* excepted, who are in shore waiting for a boat which meets her half way —

A Maltese Sparanaro which sailed from Malta some days since from Malta with supplies for our Squadron, had been captured, on her arrival off here, by one of the Tripoline Gun Boats — She was permitted to leave Tripoly this afternoon, & joined the Squadron — We received by her a small quantity of Potatoes & onions.

In the Evening the *Argus* & *Vixen* joined company — They brought dispatches from Tripoly for the Commodore — At ½ past 3 P. M. the French & white flags were hauled down on both sides —

Towards evening we had fresh breezes from N E b E with a swell from E N E.

By 10 in the Evening it became Moderate & continued so throughout the Night —

A. M. Supplied the *Vixen* with 1158 Gall[s] of water — In the afternoon of this days log we supplied the *Syren* with 9 Gang casks, which added to the water had in the forenoon & the water from the *Enterprize* completes her to 1900 Gall[s]

The carpenters of the Squadron all on board the *Intrepid* fitting her out as an Infernal.

We sent this forenoon 100 shells & 50 grenades to the *Intrepid*. We sent also to the *Enterprize, Syren, Argus J. Adams, Nautilus, Vixen & Scourge*, four Tripoline prisoners each — The others remain on board the *Constitution* —

Surgeons report 3 sick, 12 conv[asct]

The Potatoes & Onions received by the Sparonaro were divided among the Squadron.

Supplyed the *Enterprize* with 4 bbls Pork

Condemned by survey & threw overboard 1200 pound of cheese, rotten, stinking & unfit for men to eat.

The Signals made the 24 hours past are as follows

A. M. 8¼ — *Syren* send your launch on board the *Constitution* (She was employed watering the *Vixen*)

8½ Answered the *Syrens* Signal N[o] 1212 — & repeated her signal for a launch —

10½ *Vixen*. Come within hail.

11 — All boats repair to the *Constitution*

11½ — Prepare for action, the gun boats

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, Friday, 31 August 1804

E. Wind, veered to the north; and we laid our course for Malta. It is remarkable that since the 21st July, the day we made Pico, a space of forty one days, the wind has been constantly and directly ahead; excepting about 12 hours in entering and leaving Gibraltar, during which time we have beat to windward a distance of four hundred and fifty leagues.

[NR&L. No. 9217, Bm[1] E 14.]

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, 31 August 1804

At Anchor of[f] the Town of Tripoli. at Meridian the Commodore made the signal to prepare for Battle. We receved on board four Tripoleen Prisoners. at ½ past 5 the Commodore made the Signal for the Schooner *Enterprize* to get under way at half past 9 A M. the commodore made the Signal to speak the *Enterprize* — Nothing further Particular occured this day

[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, 31 August 1804

Lying at Anchor [Tripoli] Throughout these 24 hours gentle breezes & pleas[t] sent the launch on board the Comm: the *Vixen* standing off shore with a large boat in tow the *Argus* lying too close under the batteries. At 9 the Commodores cutter came along side with 4 Turkish Prisoners & left them on board. At 10 hoisted out the barge, sent her on board the *Intrepid*, with articles to fit her out as an Infernal she to be sent into the harbour of tripoli & blown up —. At ½ past 11 a signal to the gun boats to prepare for battle.

Meridian sent the cutter along side the *Intrepid* — rec[d] water from the Commodore

[NDA.]

To George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

ALGIERS *Sept[r] 1[st] 1804*

SIR, The foregoing under date of Aug[t] 22[d] was written with an expectation that the Vessel destined for Tunis, w[d] have sailed the Day following its date; but she has been detained till this time; and no other conveyance could be found. We have had no arrivals here since the *John Adams*. Every thing of the Eatable kind is very high. no grain coming to market. Wheat @ 2 10/100$ and Barley @ 75. Cents p[r] Measure. Not a word respecting the English since the departure of M[r] M[c]Donough [Bryan W. M[c]Donogh].

I forward a package of Am. News Papers, which may be later than any you have rec[d] and have the honor to be with great regard & Esteem

[Stephen Decatur Col. NDA photostat, Book A.]

To George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis, from Nicholas C. Nissen, Danish Consul, Tripoli

TRIPOLI in BARBARY
September 1st 1804.

DEAR SIR, I have to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of 6th ult., in consequence of which I shall make new applications to Sidi Mehenny for the payment of the bill drawn by Sidi Hamida, and endeavour to finish this affair.

The Packet which you had inclosed for Captain Bainbridge, has been delivered to His Excellency the Bashaw's Minister, who, I dont doubt will permit the letters to come to hand.

You are certainly informed Sir, of the operations of the U. S. Squadron off this Port, and news from Europe, we have not; I can therefore only have the honor to assure you Sir, of the consideration and respect wherewith I am,

(Signed) N C NISSEN

NB. I have not yet received any letters to forward in answer to them you sent.

Sympathetic ink — [Written in lime juice.]

Dr SIR, I have sent to our common friend Mr Holck, a Journal of the operations of the Amn Squadron — I dont doubt but he will give you a translation, or the necessary information. — Poor Capt. B. was nearly killed at the cannonade, on the morning of the 28. — a 24 pound passed his head within a few inches while in bed, & covered him with mortar &ct. — In the whole the bombardement & canonade, have not had an effect sufficient to force the Bashaw, who, dont care much about his Town or his Subjects' life.

When you write to Col. Lear, please to inform him that Capt. B. did not receive the letter he sent & which you forwarded the 23d June, I delivered it but it has been detad I mentioned it to you but than I did not know what letter it was.

The Bashaw intends to fire with red hot Shot, if he can, he certainly will blow up his gunners.

The Spanish Vessel came in without seeing the Squadron, it was a Gale the day before.

Commodr P. is to have offered 120/mil. Dollars, for Peace, Consular Present ect. — The Bashaw has not made any determined demand yet, but I believe he will. They are now parlamenting; before I close this letter I shall give you the informations I may be able to get. The parlamenting has not been conducive to Peace, but the Bashaw is to have given his ultimate demands, which when I learn, I shall let you know.— they are augmented. — It appears to me, excuse the liberty, that Commodr P. enters too often in parlamenting — the Bashaw takes it as a necessity for peace & grows more obstinate. — After every attack, there has been next day a flag of truce — this is no good Policy towards an Enemy as Tripoli.

[NYHS. Geo. Davis LB, Vol. 1.]

To General William Allen from Midshipman William Henry Allen, U. S. Navy

U. S. FRIGATE the *Congress*
Gibralter bay Sept 1st 1804

DEAR SIR I seize a moment to Inform you of our having arrived here all well the 13th of August the Commodore and *Constellation*

proceded immidiately to join the Squadron aloft we remaining to take a cruise off the South coast of Morrocco and was off the City of Sallee the 20th 21st and 22nd. ultimo found lying there three Ships of war the *Momona* [*Maimona*] of 32 the *Momona* [*Maimona*] of 39 & the *Maboukir* [*Mirboka*] of 22 guns the last is the Ship that was captured by the *Philadelphia* and given up at Tangeir the present situation of our affairs with Barbary is this (the appearance of the last Squadron has induced the Emperor of Morrocco to relinquish designs of a hostile nature, the decisive conduct of Commodore Preble has compelled the Bey of Tunis to be at Peace & Tripoli remains in the same State as formerly the last accounts from Commodore Preble, he had left Malta in the *Constitution* with the Brigs, Schooners, 2 bombs & 5 Gun boats bound off there we sail in the morning on a cruise I Imagine as far as Malta — Convey from me every sentiment of Respect & Esteem to all Freinds & receive for your Self, Mama, Sarah & Thomas the warmest affectiona[te] love I dare again request you to direct your letters to this Place a brig arrivd yesterday 30 days from Boston

(Postscript) we have heard of the death of *Hamilton* [July 12, 1804.]

[Huntington Library Quarterly.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Monsieur Beaussier, French Chargé d'Affaires and Commissary General, Tripoli

TRIPOLY — *1st Septemr 1804.*

COMMODORE, The Captain of the Spanish Vessel will have the Honor to deliver you this letter along with his own papers. You will find that agreeable to Mr Davis's Passport that he was to ask your permission to go to Tripoly; but that on his arrival off this place no American Man of war was in sight: You will likewise observe that on his departure from Tripoly, he is to embark but the same number of persons composing the suite of the Grand Segnior's Tchowish. He has so strictly conformed himself to this, that the Tchowish has even discharged a person in this place belonging to his suite — The Spanish Consul desired me to furnish him with a letter to you on this subject in order that you might not prevent him from proceeding on his Voyage.

I forgot to mention to you yesterday that the Pacha, astonished to find that the Frigate that arrived here the 7th of August, never came into action, is induced to believe that she is armed *en flute* or that there is some misunderstanding between you & her Captain — I gave proper answers to these conjectures — The Prince firmly believes that in the second attack a gun boat was blown up, and in the other attacks that you have had a great number killed —

I am not astonished at your not answering to the demand preremptorily fixed by the Pacha for the ransom of your three hundred country men. If I could think it would be in your power to approach it in any manner I would say that, the Business might terminate for three hundred thousand dollars — Ah Commodore! if in the answer to my letter of the 10th of August, you had offered one hundred & fifty thousand instead of one hundred thousand, the Prisoners might have been at liberty — The little effect of the third attack & the little injury they received from the fourth has entirely changed the

State of things — The Pacha is determined to encounter all your forces in Order that Europe & Africa may conceive a favorable opinion of his strength & courage.

Perhaps you are afraid Commodore that in case of a rupture with Algiers & Tunis, these Regencies might carry their pretensions for a peace in ratio & proportion progressive with the sum you would have paid to this — But this is only a ransom, & the unfortunate accident which has assembled so great a number of prisoners will never happen again. — Peruse the last instructions you have received & perhaps you will then find means to cease running the Hazards of war, to put an end to your Expences & find hopes for the liberation of the Prisoners —

The Pacha not only permitted the Sparonaro to execute her commission, but permitted her to take in other provisions for you —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August-December 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 1 September 1804

[Off Tripoli] At 1 PM Cap^{t} Hull went on board the Commod^{e} at 3 Four tripolitan Prisoners came on board from the *Constitution*

[*NDA photostat.*]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Saturday, 1 September 1804

Moderate breezes from E N E. We are at Single Anchor 4 Miles NE b N from Tripoly — Squadron in company.

The carpenters of the Squadron are employed on board the *Intrepid*, which is nearly ready for receiving her Powder —

Between 2 [12?] & 1 P. M. signal was made for the Squadron to weigh & prepare for action.

By 4 P. M. we had fresh breezes with a sharp rough sea which prevents any operation against Tripoly this Afternoon —

The Tripoline Prisoners distributed among the Squadron are Ordered to duty. Their Allowance is one pound of bread & a portion of water each, p^{r} day —

Towards evening we made several signals in Order to alarm the Enemy on shore — On the close of the Evening furled Sails —

After 12 Midnight the weather was pleasant with moderate breezes from S E & S S W —

At 9 A. M. we Towed Bombard N^{o} 1 alongside — The Mortar which we took out of her on the 27th August, was this forenoon put into her again — Supplied her with water & provisions — Calms or light breezes from N b W all forenoon. Squadron making arrangements for a fifth attack upon Tripoly —

The *Scourge* is not considered as a vessel of war The Men are all drafted (from her) where necessary in the Squadron — a few excepted. Cap^{t} Dent continues in command of her — The Officers are all removed except a Masters mate, a Midshipman & the Boatswain.

Noon light airs from N b E with a swell from N E.

Surgeons report 4 sick, 9 convalescent.

The following Signals have been made these 24 hours

P. M. 5¼ Weigh the Squadron
5½ *Enterprize* come within Hail
A. M. 5½ *Argus* — Dº
6 — *Scourge* — Dº
9 — *Vixen* — Dº
Noon 12 — *Argus* tow the Gun boats

[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, 1 September 1804

We are laying at Anchor of[f] Tripoli and the Commodore is now prepareing the Ketch *Intrepid* to send her into the Town of Tripoli with one hundred barrels of Powder in her & a number of Bum shels she is to be sent in in the night close under the Walls of the Town and to be blown up. she is what is caled an Infurnal it is supposed she will do great injury to the town and gun boats at Meridian light breezes from E N. E. at ½ past 12 the Commodore made the Signal for the fleet to get under way. at 1 the Commodore hoisted the *Enterprizes* distinguishing flag. at the same time the gun boats cast of[f] from us and were taken in tow by the Brig *Argus*. at ½ past 1 the signal was made for all Captains to repair on board the Commodore at 4 the Commodores Launch came along side for all the Volenteers. at ½ past sent to the Ketch *Intrepid* 20 Barrels of Gun powder at 5 sent all the Volenteers on board the commodore at 6 the commodore & fleet got under way at ½ past 6 the commodore made the signal to follow his motions with or without Signals soon after the commodore Anchored in shore and all the fleet. At 8 the Ketch *Intrepid* got under way and stood down to the commodore

The Wind not proving favorable no attack was made to night —

[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, 1 September 1804

(Lying at anchor) Fresh breezes & pleas[t] At 7 hoisted in the barge. —

Midnight light winds & clear. At 5 the Comm: made signal to speak the *Argus* & *Scourge*. at 9 the signal for the *Enterprize* to come within hail At ½ past 9 the Commodore came on board. at 10 he return'd to his ship sent the launch on board the *Intrepid*.

Meridian a signal from the Comm: prepare to weigh —

[NDA.]

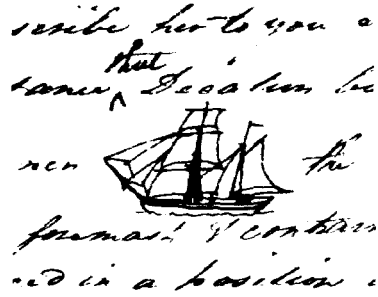
To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Assistant Surgeon John W. Dorsey, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Brig *Argus*

SEPT[r] 2[nd] 1804

SIR, I have been informed by Capt[n] Hull this day, that you intend sending me to Syracuse, with the sick of the Squadron. As I have not enjoyed good health since at sea, the situation will be very pleasing to me:

You will be pleased to accept my gratitude for your favor, & remain with respect & esteem

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August–December 1804.]



THE KETCH "INTREPID."

From a sketch in a letter from Midshipman William Henry Allen, to General William Allen, 14 November 1801. Reproduced by courtesy of the Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery.

To Assistant Surgeon (or Surgeon's Mate) John W. Dorsey, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Brig *Argus*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Off Tripoly — *Septem*[r] 2[d] 1804

Sir You will join the Brig *Scourge* under command of L[t] Comm[t] Dent, and attend to the Sick & hurt on board said Brig

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Lieutenant James Sempill Higinbothom, U. S. Navy

Frigate *John Adams* Off Tripoli
September 2[d] 1804

Sir Having Information of our going shortly home I must request, you will be good enough to permit me to join your Ship, or order me on board one of the Squadron that will be stationed in these Seas, as it has been my greatest Ambition from the earliest part of my Life to continue in the Service; and an Opportunity now Offering by which I may make myself acquainted with my Profession I shou'd think myself unpardonable was I in this Instance to let this Opportunity escape me. I must therefore beg as a favor you will grant my request, and you may rest assured I shall endeavour by my assiduity and Attention to my Duty to merit your Approbation — by complying you will very much oblige your —

This Letter has been approved by Capt. Chauncey

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August–December 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 2 September 1804

At 4 [A. M.] unmoord ship
At 9 weigh,d & stood out of the bay [of Gibraltar]

[USNA.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Sunday, 2 September 1804

Moderate breezes from N. E. We are at single anchor 5 Miles from Tripoly. This afternoon the Infernal received her powder, which with what she has received from the different vessels of the Squadron, makes nearly 100 barrels or 5 Tons — At 4 P. M. out all boats & armed them — Weighed & stood in for Tripoly Squadron in company — At Sunset we came to in 19 [or 9?] fath[s] 2½ Miles NE from Tripoly, & 2 miles from Fort English — After dark the Infernal weighed and anchored in company with the *Constitution* — The Squadron continued under way — On the close of the evening the Enemys Gun boats & Galleys hauled in under the Bashaw's Castle — At 10½ P. M. Lieut[t] Wadsworth, & M[r] Israel midshipman, six seamen from the *Constitution* & four from the *Nautilus* went on board the *Intrepid* which is now completed as an Infernal — Cap[t] Somers also went on board to take command of her — Thirteen of the Enemy's Boats, two Galleys, a Schooner & Brig ride every night between the half moon Battery & the Bashaws Castle, close along side of each other with their heads out; At 11 P. M. Slipped & steered in for the mole bearing S S W, 2½ Miles — The wind at this

time was E S E, which is two points off the land — The infernal is designed for the destruction of the Boats, Galleys, Bashaw's castle & mole head Battery — As she drew in shore & within musket shot of the place intended she was taken dead aback by the wind out of the Harbour and at 2 A. M. she rejoined the Squadron — From this time till 8 A. M. moderate Breezes between S E & E S E — Between day light & Sun rise the Enemy's boats hauled out & took their stations within the reef and under cover of Grape from the Batteries — At 8 A. M. a Spanish Polacre ship came out of Tripoly, & brought to, under our stem [or stern]. We sent an Officer on board her with Orders to anchor her — This ship had got into Tripoly during the North wind between the 19th & 22d August last — She is without any cargo from Tripoly bound to Malta, and has a passenger on board who is reported to the Commodore by the French to be an Officer of high rank & a subject of the Grand Seignior — From day light till 9 A. M. our Squadron was under all plain sail particularly the Vessels to leeward, in order to come within hail: Light breezes & a lee current prevent them — The Spanish ship from Tripoly (after a full examination) was allowed to proceed on her Voyage — Pleasant weather all forenoon with light breezes veering between E S E & E b N — The Enemy this forenoon, display 12 boats, 1 Schooner, 2 Galleys & a brig —. We are now making the necessary arrangements for attacking the Boats & Batteries — Noon moderate breezes from E b N. The Vessels intended for the attack are all under way, One mile to N b E —

The following Signals were made these 24 hours — Viz^{t} P. M. — 12½ Squadron, prepare to weigh — 12¾ *Enterprize* tack & haul your wind to the South^{d} — 1¼ All Captains repair on board the Commodore — 4¼ — Weigh the Squadron — 6 — Follow the Commodores motions — A. M. At 9 Tack, the Squadron & haul your wind to S. — Same time, *Enterprize* come within hail — At 8 *Nautilus* & *Vixen* wear; At 11½ Gun boats & Bombards prepare for Battle — At 11¾ Squadron make more sail —

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 2 September 1804

This day begins with mod^{e} and Pleasant W^{r} standing off and on the town Set and took in sail when Necessary Tk^{g} and wore Occas^{y} the Commod^{e} made Sig^{l} N^{o} 571 [or 371?] At 7 PM came to an Anchor in 20 f^{ms} water Soft bottom Tripoli bearing SbW dist^{t} about 5 miles —

At midnight got under way at 7 AM the Commodore made Sig^{l} N^{o} 1134 At 8 Tripoli bore SWbS dist^{t} 3 miles saw a Spanish barque Standing out from the town and came too under the Commod^{es} stern At meridian the Commod^{e} made Gunboats Sig^{l} N^{o} 69 and N^{o} 1036 to the Squadron to make more Sail Ends fair Pleasant Weather

[NDA photostat.]

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, 2 September 1804

At day light this morning we discovered the whole fleet under way except the Commodore. at ½ past the Commodore made the signal to Tack. the fleet and haul by the Wind at 8. we discovered a Polacca ship coming out of the Harbour of Tripoli under Spanish colours the Commodore sent his boat on board of her she Anchored immediately. at ½ past 11 the commodore made the signal for gun boats to prepair for Battle at 2 P M the commodore got under way and also the Polacca ship. We are informed that the Polacca ship is a spanish botom from Constantinople bound to Tunis with an Embassador on board from the Grand Senior — & put into Tripoli with Dispatches. she went in in the night. when our squadron was out sight of land and having in the last attack which we made on the Town Receivd a Ball through her and seeing our motions she was afraid to remain there any longer and came out under nutral colours the commodore after examining of her suffered her to pass. — at half past 3 our Squadron engaged the Tripolitans. their gun boats came out and stood along shore close in under their Forts. our boats receid no injury and it is supposed we did the enemy but little damage as they as they were a very considerable distance from each other our squadron being afraid to Ventu[re] too near in on account of the Rocks. at 4. Oclock the commodore stood in for the Batterries and fired several board sides. and receid some damage in her sails and rigging and then stood out. At 5 the whole fleet stood off at Midnight the commodore anchored —

[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, 2 September 1804

(Lying of[f] & on the town) Fresh breezes & pleasant At 5 hove up p[t] signal & made sail ½ past 6 came too with the larboard bower & furl'd all sail Tripoli bearing S. W ½ W. 1 league distant At 11 the Ketch *Intrepid* stood in for the Town.

Midnight clear & pleasant. ½ past Mid hove up made sail stood to the N E. ½ past 6 a signal for the fleet to tack. At ½ past 7 saw a ship standing out of the harbour of Tripoli wore to the N E. At 8 the above ship came too, the Comm: sent his boat on board of her. —

Meridian a signal to make sail
Latt Obs 33° 5′ N.

[NDA.]

[2 and 3 September 1804]

Expenditure of Ammunition

Sept[r] *2*[nd] *1804* fired Away at tripoli

108 — 24 Prs — Powder 864 lb
28 — 25 " ---------- 224 "
50 — 12 ---------- 236
} totle 1324 lbs of Powder

Round Shot
24 Prs ---- 111
25 Dº ---- 28
12 Dº ---- 59

Grape Shot
24 Prs ---- 20
25 Dº ---- 1

Double hhd Shot
24 ---- 11
25 ---- 3

Wm Sweeny

Expended *2*[nd] *Sept*[r] *1804* on board Gun Boat Nº 1 —

53 — Round shot
456 lb Cannon powder
4 lb priming powder
60 — Tubes
2½ lb match rope

remainging on Board Nº 1

13 — Cattridges of 24 pounder
20 — round shot. —

Wanted —

50 — 24 pd Cartridges 8 lb Each
50 — 24 pd Round Shot

Expenditure of Amunition on board of Gun Boat Nº 2 in Action. 2[nd] *Sept*[r] *1804*

16 — Eight Pound Cartrages
26 — Seven Pound Cartrages
42 — Twenty-four Pound round Shot
1 — Bunch of Grape
36 — Tubes —

Chas Gordon

Richd Somers Esqr
Master & Commander
U. S. Schooner *Nautilus*

Expended on board Gun Boat Nº 3 *Sept*[r] *2*[nd] *1804*.
22 — Cartridges of 8 lb Each.
22 — 24 lb Shot.
22 — Wads
22 — Tubes.
One Fathom Match rope.
One Sweep.
One pound of priming powder.

Charles Morris Jr

Remaining on board Nº 3 *Sept*[r] *3*[d] *1804*.
19 — Cartridges of 8 lb Each
41 — Do. " 7 lb Each.
65 — Round 24 lb Shot
20 — Grape Do.

Charles Morris, Jr

Expenditures on board GUN BOAT N° 6 on the *2nd of Sept^r 1804*
Sixty — 24 p^d Cartridges
Sixty — Wads
Sixty — 24 p^d Round Shot
Two — pound priming Powder
One — fathom Match Rope

JN° TRIPPE

Expenditures on board GUN BOAT N° 8 on the *2nd Sept^r 1804*,
Thirty Two — 24 p^d Cartridges
Thirty Two — 24 p^d Round Shot
Thirty Two — Wads
Two fathoms Match Rope
Fifteen Tubes
One & ½ pounds priming Powder

W^m CRANE

Indent of Articles wanted for the use of the GUN BOAT N° 8 Off Tripoli *Sept^r 2nd 1804.*
Thirty — 24 p^d Cartridges
Thirty — 24 p^d Shot.

WILLIAM CRANE

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August–December 1804.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 3 September 1804

A general attack on the town and harbour [of Tripoli].

[LC original.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Monday, 3 September 1804

Moderate Breezes from E b N. At Single Anchor 2½ Miles N N E from Tripoly. Squadron in company under way — Employed making some necessary preparations for attacking the Enemy's batteries & Gunboats — Fort English is situated nearly two miles to the Eastward of the Town — Ships of a heavy draft cannot approach it on account of a reef & bank nearly 1½ Mile in the Offing — Within this reef and under cover of grape from this Fort, twelve of the Enemy's boats and two three masted gallies are at anchor. — Cap^t Chauncey, Several of his Officers and 54 Seamen are as usual volunteers in this attack — Cap^t Chauncey remains on board the *Constitution* as assistant to the Commodore — Bombard N° 1 has been recommissioned and is again commanded by L^t Robinson who gives up N° 2 to Cap^t Dent — At 2¼ P. M. Signal was made for the Bombards & Gun boats to cast off & soon after the signal for them to advance — They were at this time in close order two miles from Fort English & the Enemy's boats & Galleys — Fort English is situated very low — It has 11 heavy guns and is flanked by a seven & a three gun Battery — At 3½ P. M. our Boats commenced firing on the Galleys & Gun boats — By this time the two Bombards had hove two or three shells each, in order to get their distance from the Town. We were now under way running down for Tripoly — Our Gun boats were followed by the *Syren, Argus, Vixen, Enterprize & Nautilus* as far as Safety would allow them to stand in on the Banks — In

Standing in, our boats received the fire of Fort English & the flanking batteries — As soon as our boats arrived within point blank shot, the Enemys boats Gave way & took a new station close under the Beach under cover of the Fort — They were under cover of the Bashaw's castle & the mole head Battery At 3½ P. M. the two Bombards anchored — They were then within short range for Bombarding the Town — Bombard N° 2 hove 19 shells, 15 of which fell into the Town — Bombard N° 1 hove 22 shells, 18 of which fell into the Town The Bombards from their situation were exposed to the Random shot from Fort English & the flanking Batteries, Bashaws castle, Mole head, half moon, Square & round Batteries; We continued running in for the Town. And at 3¼ P. M. were exposed to the fire of more than 80 Guns, the spray of the shot from which wet our courses nearly to the lower yards; At 3½ P. M. we brought to within point blank shot of all the Batteries, and gave them 11 Broadsides of round & Doublehead from our larboard Guns — We were 40 minutes in firing the 11 broadsides after which we hauled off in order to make a board to windward & repair our damage — Our main topsail was totally disabled, being cut by a shell by the Enemies Batteries, nearly from Leech to Leech, Two Topmast Backstays, Main Buntlines, Main Sheet fore Tack, fore top Bowline, head Earing of the foresail, Main top bowline & main reef Pendant were cut away — A shell went through the Fore topsail & a double head shot went through the Jibb — We were not struck in the Hull The Batteries fire in a good direction, but without judgement in elevating or depressing the Guns — Our Gun boats were in action nearly an hour — They received no damage excepting shot through their sails — They did not engage within range of Grape & fired on an average 40 Rounds — Several of the Enemy's Gun boats were hulled. Bombard N° 1, commanded by L^t Robinson was before hauling off much disabled; Her larboard rigging to a shroud carried away The Bed of the Bomb disabled by her own firing & two feet of water in the hold — The same Officers command the gun boats as on Teusday last; excepting N^os 5 & 6 — Lieut^t Tripp is appointed to N° 6 in the room of L^t Wadsworth, who now is on board the Infernal N° 3 is commanded by M^r Morris of the *Argus* in room of M^r Brooks who is removed to the *Argus* — From the time we hauled off which was at 10 minutes after 4 P. M. we were employed with the Squadron in taking in tow the Gun Boats & Bombards — After repairing the main topsail we made sail in order to work to Wind ward — At 11½ P. M. we came to in 40 fath^s hard bottom — Veered to 100 fath^s Squadron continue under way during the night — At day light Tripoly bore S S W — 3 leagues. At Sun rise, Signal was made for the Gun boats to prepare for Action. The carpenters of the *Constitution* were ordered at day light on board Bombard N° 1 to repair the damages she received yesterday. Pleasant weather & light breezes from E. all forenoon — The Squadron Employed repairing damages & supplying the Gun boats with Powder & shot — Bombard N° 2 was damaged in her sails & rigging in several places. Cap^ts Decatur & Somers as usual led into the Action & were closely followed by their respective divisions — The *Syren — Argus, Vixen, Enterprize & Nautilus* are considered as Vessels rather of show than force — They all Officer & mann Gun boats, and of course are not to be trusted under the Batteries, except to assist disabled boats —

The *J. Adams*, *Scourge* & the Infernal remain in the Offing at Anchor — The Ketch Store Vessell from Malta is still in the Squadron — Noon light breezes from N E. Squadron in company under way. —

The following signals have been made these 24 hours.

P. M. At 2 — Prepare to cast off Gun & Bomb Vessels
2¼ — Cast off the Boats.
2½ — Advance & attack, the 1st division & soon after the same signal to the 2d division
4½ — General Signal — Tow the Boats
8½ — Night Signal — Tack the Squadron —
A. M. At 6 — Prepare for action — Gun & Bomb Vessels —

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 3 September 1804

the Commodore at Anchor off the town at ½ past 12 the Commodore made Sigl Nº 583 at ½ past 1 he made Sigl Nº 356 with the Preparative flag TKd Occasy at 2 the Bashaws Castle bore SW ½ W at ½ past the Commodre made Sigl Nº 356 cast off the Gunboats who Stood in and Engaged the Enemys Gunboats and a General Engagemt took place at 5 PM the Gunboats were drawn off at ½ past took Nº 5 & 7 in tow At 6 stood off the land the town bore SSW distt 4 Miles — At 6 AM the Commodore made Sigl Nº 69 at 7 Capt Decatur Came on board and returned Immediately

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 3 September 1804

(Standing off & on shore under easy sail.)

Light breezes & pleasant ½ past Mer: a signal to gain the wind of the enemy. At 1 a signal to prepare to cast off the boats. At ½ past 2 cast off the boats. At 3 a signal for the 1st division to attack the enemies batteries & boats. ½ past 3 Our boats commenced a heavy fire on the enemies boats &c. the *Siren* & Schooners standing of[f] & on shore firing at the enemy. ½ past 5 discontinued the action took our boats in tow & stood off shore. —

Midnight light winds & clear. At 3 shorten'd sail. At 6 back'd the main top sail. At 9 the wind haul'd to the N E —

Meridian light winds & pleast —

[NDA.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Midshipman Henry Wadsworth, U. S. Navy

Mr Wadsworth informs the Commodore that he wishes to Volunteer his service on board the Infernal destined for the Harbour off Tripoly—

(Signed) H WADSWORTH

Commre PREBLE.

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 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, 3 September 1804

This morning Capt Chauncey came on board and most of our Volenteers came on board — at Meridian light breezes from N E. at ½ past 12 the commodore got under way and stood in shore at the same time, the commodore made the signal for all Captains to repair on board at ½ past 1 the commodore Anchored again at 8 the Ketch *Intrepid* got under way and was sent into Tripoli as a fire ship. Commanded by Capt. Summers, — he had. Our Green Cutter to make their escape from her. at ¾ past 9 she blew up in which unfortunately perished Capt. Summers. Mr Wadsworth. Mr Israel, Midshipmen, & 10 Men it is supposed that she took fire in the Magazine sooner than was intended or that they were attempted to be boarded by the Tripolitans and blew her up sooner than suffer her & themselves to fall into the hands of the Tripoleens. as she had 100 bls powder on board and we are informed that they are nearly out of Powder — the loss of those brave Officers and men are much to be regreted by their country & friends Capt Summers was as brave & enterpriseing an Officer as ever steped the Deck of a ship possesing every Virtue that the human hart is susceptable of. Mr Wadsworth & Mr Israel. I am told were very promising young men (midshipmen) who was hel'd high in the opinion of the commodore & bid fare to be an honor to their country in the line of their profession. the 10 men it is said was of Capt Decators brave Crew which boarded and burnt the Frigate *Philadelphia* — soon after the explosian the commodore fired several signal guns & threw up several Sky Rockets. no answer being returned we immediately concluded that they had all perished in the explosian as they were immediately after it, to have sent up several Sky Rockets, as signals of their escape —

[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*, Tuesday, 4 September 1804

Moderate Breezes from N E b E — We are at Single Anchor 3 Leagues N N E from Tripoly At ½ past 12, Noon we weighed & ran 3 Miles in shore when we came to in 32 faths hard bottom — Tripoly S S W, nearly 6 Miles. Employed all the afternoon making some necessary arrangements in the Squadron — Towards Evening we supplyed the *Vixen* with 12 Barrells Pork, 8 bbls Beef, One Tierce Rice, One tierce Peas containing 8 Bushels, 2 barrels flour & 50 Galls Vinegar — At 7 in the Evening we sent to the *Intrepid* part of a condemned fore Jeer & 27 faths of 6 Inch hawser We also sent a large Grapnel to her: At 8 In the Evening she slipped leaving our large cutter to weigh her anchor: She has nearly 100 Barrells Powder 100 of 13 Inch shells, & 50 of 9 Inch shells, with the necessary combustibles for an Infernal — At 8¼ P. M. she passed the *Constitution* with a leading breeze from the E b N. The Harbour of Tripoly for which she was designed bore S S W, nearly six Miles — She was convoyed in by the *Argus, Vixen & Nautilus* — The *Nautilus* followed her into 5 faths water — On the Infernal entering the Inner Harbour, two alarm Guns were fired from the Batterys, & in a few minutes after she blew up — Lieut Reid of the *Nautilus* was waiting close

in by the outer Rocks for the Return of the Adventurers — Night signals by Rockets had been agreed upon between the Commodore and Cap^{t} Somers — They not being made, soon induced the belief of their capture or destruction — The Infernal had two Boats chosen from the Squadron for their swiftness — The *Nautilus* waited sufficient time for their return, receiving at the same time several hazardous shot from the Batteries — At 10 in the Evening, which was 13 minutes after her blowing up we commenced firing Guns & burning rockets, which we repeated every 10 minutes till 9 A. M. when the *Nautilus* came within hail & confirmed the capture or destruction of the following Officers & Seamen — Viz Cap^{t} Rich^{d} Somers of the *Nautilus*, Lieut^{t} Henry Wadsworth, Joseph Israel, Lieutenant, William Harrison, Seaman, Rob^{t} Clark d^{o} Hugh M^{c}Cormick d^{o} Jacob Williams d^{o} Peter Penner d^{o} & Isaac W Downs d^{o}, all belonging to the *Constitution* — There were also in the Infernal four Seamen from the *Nautilus* Viz^{t} — Ja^{s} Simms Thomas Tompline, Ja^{s} Harris & W^{m} Keith —

Moderate breezes & clear star light during the night — In the morning the *Vixen & Nautilus* stood in with Tripoly as Vessels of observation — Towards noon they returned and reported to the Commodore that they could not see that any material damage had been done, and that they saw at anchor, the usual number of the Enemy's Gun boats, excepting 3 Boats hauld up to repair, and one totally missing, & Gallies. Lieut^{t} Reid, the reconnoitre[i]ng Officer in the *Nautilus* reported, that he saw the infernal two or three minutes before she blew up & that she then appeared to be in the very place intended, between the mole head & the Bashaws Castle — The *Nautilus* was at this time nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile from the explosion — The 100 Shells were filled with powder with fuses of 15 Seconds — Many of them were seen to burst in the air nearly 300 feet up —

At 8 A. M. we brought alongside the two remaining Gun boats that were captured on the 3^{d} August last — In bad weather they are not equal to our other Gunboats They each carry a long brass 24 p^{dr} These we took out —

All forenoon cloudy overcast weather with moderate breezes from N E & a swell from E N E This forenoon the Captains of the Squadron waited on the Commodore — Noon Squadron in company under way except the *Constitution, J. Adams & Scourge* Surgeons report 4 sick & 7 conv$^{a^{c}t}$ —

The following signals have been made these 24 hours Viz^{t}

P. M. 12½ *J. Adams* Signal for a Captain
A. M. 6½ Come within hail, the *Nautilus*
7½ *Nautilus* Join company soon as possible
9 Repeated d^{o}
11 *Argus & Vixen* — come within hail

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

[4 September 1804]

Blowing up of U. S. Ketch *Intrepid* described by Midshipman Charles G. Ridgely U. S. Navy

In the year 1804, when Preble, as Commodore of the American squadron in the Mediterranean, was gaining glory, before Tripoli, alike for himself, his officers and crews, and for his country, Lieut.

Commdt. Richard Somers had command, under him, of the *Nautilus*, a schooner of 14 guns.

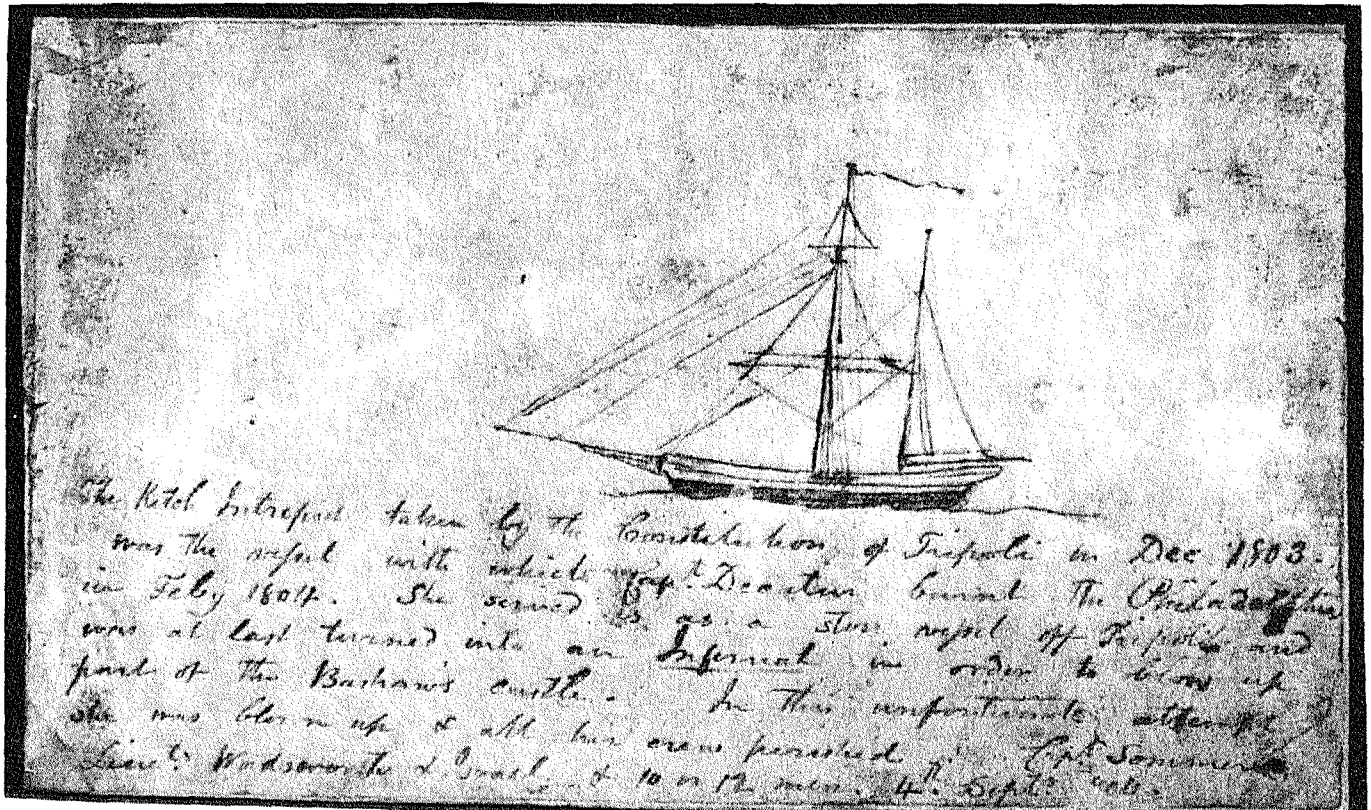
During the several fights which had previously occurred with the enemy, this officer had shown great bravery as commander of gun-boat No. 1; and, now, suggested to the Commodore, that a happy result might, possibly, be obtained, by converting the ketch, *Intrepid*, a captured craft of about 75 tons — the identical vessel with which the gallant Decatur had boarded, recaptured, and burned the frigate *Philadelphia* — into a fire-ship, and sending her into the harbor under the walls of the Bashaw's castle, in direct contact with the entire marine force of the Tripolitans.

This daring and highly dangerous enterprise being determined upon, Somers, with whom it had originated, received the orders — to which he was thus entitled — to conduct it; and the necessary preparations were promptly made by him. Fifteen thousand pounds of powder were first placed, loosely, in the hold of the ketch, and upon this, two hundred and fifty thirteen-inch, fuseed shells, with a train attached from the *cabin and forepeak*. Only one officer, the talented and lamented Lieut. Henry Wadsworth — brother of the present Com. Wadsworth — was to accompany him, and four volunteer seamen were to compose his crew.

All things were now in readiness, except the selection of the men — for it came to this, at last, every man on board the *Nautilus* having volunteered for the service. This done, it was determined, without delay, to attempt the enterprise — to succeed in it, or perish.

Two nights successively did the *Intrepid* move; but, owing to light and baffling winds, nothing could be accomplished. These failures, and an unusual movement in the harbor after dark on the third night, led Somers to believe that the suspicions of the enemy had been excited, and that they were on the look out. It was the general impression, that their powder was nearly exhausted; and as so large a quantity, as was on board the ketch, if captured, would greatly tend to protract the contest, before setting off, he addressed his crew upon the subject, telling them "that no man need accompany him, who had not come to the resolution to blow himself up, rather than be captured; and that such was fully his own determination!" Three cheers was the only reply. The gallant crew rose, as a single man, with the resolution of yielding up their lives, sooner than surrender to their enemies: while each stepped forth, and begged as a *favor*, that he might be permitted to *apply the match!* It was a glorious moment, and made an impression on the hearts of all witnessing it, never to be forgotten.

All then took leave of every officer, and of every man, in the most cheerful manner, with a shake of the hand, as if they already knew that their fate was doomed; and one and another, as they passed over the side to take their post on board the ketch, might be heard, in their own peculiar manner, to cry out, "I say, Sam Jones, I leave you my blue jacket and duck trowsers, stowed away in my bag;" and, "Bill Curtis, you may have the tarpaulin hat, and Geurnsey frock, and them petticoat trowsers, I got in Malta, — and mind, boys, when you get home, give a good account of us!" In like manner did each thus make his oral will, to which the writer was witness, and which "*last will and testament*" he caused to be executed to the very letter.



U. S. KETCH INTREPID.

"The Ketch Intrepid taken by the Constitution off[] Tripoli in Dec 1803- was the vessel with which Capt Decatur burnt the Philadelphia in Feby 1804. She served as a store vessel off Tripoli and was at last turned into an *Infernal* in order to blow up part of the Bashaw's castle. In this unfortunate attempt she was blown up & all of her crew perished. Capt Sommers, Lieut Wadsworth & Israel & 10 or 12 men. 4th Septr 1804."

It was about nine o'clock on the night of the 4th of Sept., 1804, that this third and last attempt was made. The *Nautilus* had been ordered to follow the *Intrepid* closely in, to pick up and bring out her boat's crew, in case they should succeed in the exploit. Hence, though it was very dark, we never lost sight of her, as I had been directed, by the first Lieutenant — the late gallant Washington Reed — who commanded in the absence of Somers, to keep constant watch of her for this purpose, with a night glass.

At the end of an hour, about 10 o'clock, P. M., while I was engaged in this duty, the awful explosion took place. For a moment, the flash illumined the whole heavens around, while the terrific concussion shook every thing far and near. Then all was hushed again, and every object veiled in a darkness of double gloom. On board the *Nautilus*, the silence of death seemed to pervade the entire crew; but, quickly the din of kettle-drums, beating to arms, with the noise of confusion, and alarm, was heard from the inhabitants on shore. To aid in the the escape of the boat, an order was now given by Reed, to "*show a light*" — upon the appearance of which, hundreds of shot, from an equal number of guns, of heavy calibre, from the batteries near, came rattling over and around us. But we heeded them not: one thought, and one feeling, alone, had possession of our souls — the preservation of Somers and his crew!

As moment after moment passed by, without bringing with it the preconcerted signal from the boat, the anxiety on board became intense; and the men, with lighted lanterns, hung themselves over the sides of the vessel, till their heads almost touched the water — a position, in which an object, on its surface, can be seen farthest in a dark night — with the hope of discovering something which would give assurance of its safety. Still, no boat came, and no signal was given; and the unwelcome conclusion at last was forced upon us, that the fearful alternative — of blowing themselves up, rather than be captured — so bravely determined upon, at the outset of the enterprise, had been as bravely put in execution. The fact, that the *Intrepid*, at the time of the explosion, had not proceeded as far into the harbor, by several hundred yards, as it was the intention of Somers to carry her, before setting her on fire, confirmed us in this apprehension; still, we lingered on the spot till broad day-light — though we lingered in vain — in the hope that some one, at least, of the number, might yet be rescued, by us, from a floating plank or spar, to tell the tale of his companions' fate.

To our astonishment, we learned next day, that Lieut. Israel, a gallant youth, who had been sent with orders from Commodore Preble to Somers, after he was under way in the ketch, had accompanied him in the expedition, and had shared his destiny.

Such was the end of the noble fellows, who, a few days only before, on board their own gun-boat, No. 1, had beaten six of the enemy's fleet, of equal force with themselves, immediately under the guns, and within pistol shot of a shore battery: an achievement, accomplished only, in their peculiar position, by backing astern, and keeping up an incessant fire of canvass bags, filled with 1,000 musket balls each, till our gallant commodore, in the *Constitution*, stood in to take the fire of the battery, and thus enable us, under his cover, to obey the order, "*to come out of action*" — a signal which had already been

flying more than an hour, and which Somers, *at first, would not, and at last,* (from the fierceness of the fight,) *could not see.* R.

[Naval Magazine, Vol. 1, pp. 172–175.]

[4 September 1804]

Abstract of a journal kept by Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution* and other ships of war

Joined the U S F *Constitution* —Edward Preble Esq^{r} Commander, June 20th 1803 at Boston —

Soon after joining the ship she was hove down and coppered complete — Her equipments were made with all possible dispatch, and every exertion made to procure a crew. which however were not completed until near the middle of August —

On the 14th of August we sailed from Boston having M^{r} Lear, Consul General for the Barbary powers together with his lady on board.

After a passage of 23 days we made Cape St Vincent having been favored with remarkably pleasant weather and moderate winds from the Westward —

The Ship sailed remarkably well although very deep with stores of every description proper for a cruise in the mediterranean Sea —

Off Cape St Vincent's we fell in with a *Moorish cruiser, but as she had all the* requisite passports from our consul and as were ignorant of any difference existing with the government of Morocco she was suffered to pass — From Cape St Vincent's to Cape Spartel we had a rough passage of 6 days — On our arrival at Tangiers and making the customary signal for the Consul we were surprised to find it altogether disregarded — Suspecting a difference had taken place we bore away for Gibraltar where we arrived in the evening and learned that our Consul at Tangier had been confined, and orders issued by the Emperor to his cruisers authorising the capture of all American Vessels — We found the *Philadelphia* Capt. Bainbridge in the Bay of Gibraltar together with her prize a Moorish ship of 20 Guns, and an American Brig recaptured from the Moors The next day the Frigate *John Adams* arrived from the Eastward with a prize of 20 Guns taken from the Tripolitans — The Frigate *New York* Comd^{r} Morris, and the Schooner's *Nautilus* and *Vixen* anchored in the Bay during the day —

Sep^{t} 17th Weighed and stood into Tangier Bay — The Commodore had an interview with our Consul M^{r} Simpson, but nothing was decided upon — Returned the next day to Gibraltar — The Ship's draught of Water was —

21. Feet. 6 inches forward
23. *feet 3 inches Abaft*

Sep^{t} 25. Stood into Tangier Bay with a flag of Truce flying — had interview with the Consul, then bore up and cruised between Larache & Arzillai until the 30th when we bore up and came to an Anchor in Gibraltar Bay — Oct^{r} 5th came too in Tangier Bay, lay at Quarters during the night, had intercourse with the Shore and learnt that the Emperor of Morocco was expected at Tangier —

Oct^{r} 6 the Emperor came in sight of the City with an escort of 15,000 men — The Troops continued firing Salutes from their first appearance until they reached their encampment on the Hills near the City — The American flag was hoisted on the Consular house immediately after — and the ship saluted with 18 Guns — The salute was returned and the ship dressed — The *New York* and *Jn^{o} Adams* came too soon after and M^{r} Simpson our Consul came on board — Oct^{r} 8th The Emperor came upon the beach attended by his court to view the ship — We saluted him with 21 Guns, which was returned, and a present from the Emperor of 10 Bullocks, 20 Sheep and some fowls soon after sent on board to the Commodore —

We remained in the Bay until the 15th during which time a peace was concluded on the same terms as specified in the former treaty with that power — We saluted the Town on leaving the bay and bore away for Gibraltar where we came to an Anchor the same day — Here we remained until the 23^{d} during which time several instances occurred of desertion from our ships to those of his Brittannic Majesty — which singular conduct can only be accounted for — by their unconquerable desire of Change, which they will frequently gratify though they may know, at the time that their change must be for the worse — A serious misunderstanding took place between the Commodore and the English officers in consequence of the desire which they evinced to encourage our men in a continuance of such conduct —

From Gibraltar we sailed for Cadiz where we arrived the next day and were quarantined for three days — Employed watering and overhauling the rigging during our stay in this place — The ship carries

93 Leaguers — 29760 Gallons.
90 half leaguers — 10800 Dº
84 Gang casks — 4620 Dº

Making a Total of 45,180 Gallons —

Novr 6th Sailed from Cadiz in Company with the *Enterprize* going out of the harbour passed his most Catholic Majesty's Ship *Bon Aventuro.* 74 Guns — Admiral Locoas de Payto — passed through the straits to Gibraltar then hauled our wind to the other side of the Bay and Anchored off Algesiras in 21 fathoms. the Town bearing W. S W. 2 Miles —

Novr 13 Weighed and stood to the Eastward. the Ships draught of water was

21. feet. 6 inches forward
23 feet 4 inches abaft

Standing to the Eastward without any material occurrence until Novr 20th when we came to Anchor in Algeirs Bay The City bearing W N W, Cape Caxine N ½ W. Cape Malifora E ½ North. — The City saluted with 21 Guns which was returned

Colo Lear and family left the Ship — on the 21st at night the wind freshened to a gale from the Northward. We got under way with considerable difficulty and worked out of the bay — which is very dangerous with, northerly winds. — Stood in toward the Town on the 22nd and received on board a present from the Dey consisting of Bullocks, Sheep Vegetables and Fruit — Then bore away to the Eastward — On the morning of the 24th spoke His B Majesty's Ship *Amazon* who gave us the melancholy intelligence of the loss of the Frigate *Philadelphia* Capt Bainbridge upon a shoal near Tripoli, and that the Officers and crew had been made prisoners of War

Novr 27 off the harbor of Malta sent a boat on shore, with an officer who returned with a confirmation of the above unfortunate accident — Came to an Anchor on the 28th in Seracuse harbor — and saluted the Town — Novr 30th Our Purser Mr Deblois departed this life — his loss was sincerely regretted by his brother officers who paid his remains all the respect in their power —

(Decr 9th Ships draught of Water

23. Feet 2 inch aft
21. 1 inch forward)

Having concluded to make this Harbour a place of general rendezvous for our small squadron on account of its safety and its neutrality, we were employed in sending on shore to the Arsenal all spare spars and stores and making the necessary arrangements for cruising off Tripoli until Decr 18th when we weighed and stood over to Malta, where we remained one day off the harbour — communicating with our Consul. — From thence we made the best of our way off Tripoli, On the 23d fell in with and captured a Ketch from Tripoli bound to Constantinople with an ambassador his suite, slaves and presents. — The Schooner *Enterprize* Capt Decatur in company

On the 30th Decr came too in Siracuse with the prize — The Ship remained in the harbor overhauling her rigging painting &c. While the Commodore went to Malta in the *Vixen* to make arrangements for the approaching summer — After an Absence of a fortnight the Commodore returned on the 25th Janv. 1804.

From Febr 1st to Febr 3d the crew were employed in preparing combustibles and getting the prize Ketch ready for sea —

On board the U. S. Brig INTREPID

On the 3d I went on board the Ketch, now called the *Intrepid* together with Messrs Izard, Laws, Davis & Rowe other Midn from the *Constitution* — We soon after sailed under the command of Lt Stephen Decatur, having 64 men and officers on board The U S. Brig *Siren* being in company — We had a moderate breeze until the 13th Febr at night when we arrived off the harbor of Tripoli and came to Anchor about one mile to the Westward of the Town — Owing to a heavy sea from the westward the pilot [Salvadore Catalano] was averse to taking us into the Harbor — To satisfy himself and ourselves of the practibility of entering he was dispatched in a boat to examine the entrance, I was ordered with him and was soon notified that all attempts to enter would at that time be imprudent if not impracticable and made my report accordingly — we immediately got

underway and stood off shore with the *Siren* — A severe gale of wind ensued which buffeted us for five days. and as we were in a very weak vessel and upon a lee shore our situation was by no means enviable — On the 17th [16] the wind having again moderated we made the town, and set all sail shewing an apparent wish to enter, while we placed drags over the stern that prevented our progressing more than [one] or two Knots — This mode of conduct effectually lulled all suspicion, of our Real character and enabled us to approach the Frigate *Philadelphia* in their harbour without exciting alarm

at 10 minutes before 11. the order was given to board which was almost instantly executed, and in 15 minutes she was completely enveloped in flames, the Ketch clear of her with all hands on board, having one prisoner and without having experienced the slightest loss on our part — The batteries commenced a heavy fire which they continued long after we were beyond their reach and which did us no injury — We remained in sight sufficiently long to ascertain that our enterprise had been completely successful — We then bore away for Siracuse where we arrived on the 19th and I returned on board the *Constitution* —

On board the U. S. Frigate CONSTITUTION

The next day the U S. Schooner *Nautilus*, sent in a merchant Brig captured for an attempt to force the blockade of Tripoli —

March 21st The U S. Brig *Syren* sent in a brig of 24 Guns taken from the Tripolitans — On April 17th she was purchased from the Captors by the Commodore and commissioned — Lt Dent was promoted to the command of her — Midn Wadsworth & Izard were made her Lieuts myself her Master —

On board the U. S. Brig SCOURGE

From April 17th to May 5 we were employed in equipping the Brig now called the *Scourge* for sea — our crew was composed of about 20 men, the refuse of the Squadron — our Brig though 27 years old was perfectly sound but slightly built — She sailed but moderately especially by the wind — We arrived off Tripoli on the 10th May and were employed cruising off the harbor until the arrival of the Commodore on July 25th accompanied by 6 gun boats & 2 Bombards procured from the King of Naples. As our Brig was not of sufficient force to act with any effect against the Batteries, the officers with the exception of Mr Izard were ordered on board the *Constitution*, On the 3d of August having made all the arrangements thought to be necessary the Squadron Bore up and attacked the batteries of Tripoli — before which were placed 21 Gun boats & three Galleys. Our Six Gun boats advanced [word illegible] of the enemy and a sharp contest captured three and drove the rest into the harbor — The Bombards threw a number of Shells into the city — and the *Constitution* ranged along the batteries firing about 600 Shot into the city and Town — Lt [James] Decatur who was killed in the heat of the action was the only loss we sustained

On the 7th the Gunboats and Bombvessels advanced again to attack the Town, but a strong westerly current carried them so far to leeward that they were obliged to form a new line, in doing which much confusion ensued owing [to] the unmanageableness of the boats — The enemy availed himself of this opportunity and kept up a very heavy fire which blew up one of the prize boats commanded by Lt [Caldwell] who together with Midn Dorsey & eleven men were lost. A Breeze springing up soon after enabled our boats to extricate themselves after receiving considerable damage —

On board the U. S. Brig ARGUS

On the 8th August I was appointed Lieut of the U S Brig *Argus* and joined her on the same day — Boisterous weather and other circumstances prevented another attack until the 28th when at 4 in the morning the gunboats having gained a very favorable station near in shore commenced a well directed fire upon the Town, the vessels were engaged as opportunity offered until 8 oClock, when the Signal was made to haul off

This attack was well conducted and effected considerable injury to the enemy — on the 2nd Sept another attack was made but was attended with no particular circumstances and productive of no good effect. — During the intervals of the different attacks repeated attempts had been made to negotiate a treaty with the bashaw, but his demands were always such as the Commodore would not comply with — Feeling an inclination to view the harbor I obtained permission to go in one of the boats that carried the different dispatches under a flag of Truce — I was disappointed however in my object being ordered to remain quite in the outer part of the harbor, where I could make but very few observations. I however remarked the advantages of the Situation which was afterwards improved by the Gun boats on the 28th August —

Late in Sep[r] the Ketch *Intrepid*, was loaded with 100 barrels of powder 80 Loaded shells for the purpose of exploding them in the harbour of Tripoli among the Gunboats, and near the castle — L[t] Commandant Somer's was selected to command her and L[ts] Wadworth & Israel with 17 men were ordered to her. she weighed about 8 P M and stood in for the harbor — the *Enterprize* and *Vixen* following her at a convenient distance About 10 — three guns were fired apparently from the Castle and immediately after the Ketch exploded

A night of painful anxiety was spent by the officers of the Squadron, and the morning only arrived to realize their fears as no vestige of the Ketch was remaining and nothing to be seen of any part of the brave crew who conducted her in — No doubt existed of their having been destroyed by the explosion, but different opinions were entertained as to the manner in which the explosion took place. I was induced to believe that the enemy had discovered her approach, and made the attempt to board her, and that in the confusion naturally consequent upon such an action some sparks of fire were unfortunately communicated to the train which in a moment launched both the assailers and assailed into eternity — The loss of these brave officers was severely felt by our small squadron, being universally esteemed for their private virtues, and respected for their Professional Talents — The Season was now so far advanced, and our Ammunition so nearly expended that no further offensive operations were attempted — About the 1[st] of October Com[o] Barron arrived in the *President*, having the *Constellation*, *Congress* and *Essex* under his command — After a short parade off the harbour for about 3 weeks during which nothing was attempted the Squadron went to Malta and Siracuse into Winter Quarters, — just before leaving the Station three Greek Ships were detained on suspicion of an attempt to break the blockade of Tripoli— in one of them I returned to Malta where I was quarantined for 30 days —

[Mrs. C. E. Fox original. NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 4 September 1804

at ½ past 1 P M the Commodore made Sig[l] N[o] 995 Cap[t] Hull went on board the Commodore at 4 cast off the Gunboats — At 7 Cap[t] Hull returned on board At 8 the Ketch fireship [*Intrepid*], *Vixen*, and *Nautilus*, got under way and Stood in for Tripoli the fireship stood in under the Batteries the *Argus*, *Vixen*, and *Nautilus*, standing after her at 9 hove too at 9 heard 2 Guns from the Batteries at 10 Minutes past observed the Explosion of the fire ship at 11 filled away and made Sail off & on the town At ½ past 9 AM Cap[t] Hull went on board the Commodore At 11 the Commodore hoisted the *Argus's* Distinguishing Sig[l] made Sail and Stood for the Commodore at ½ past 11 Cap[t] Hull returned took Gunboat N[o] 3 in Tow —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 4 September 1804

(Standing off & on shore under easy sail.) Throughout those 24 hours gentle breezes & clear pleas[t] weath[r] At ½ past Meridian a signal for all Commanders to repair on board the Commodores ship. ½ past 6 back'd the main top sail ½ past 8 fill'd away. At 10 the Ketch *Intrepid* that was prepar'd as an Infernal, was taken into the harbour of Tripoli (by Lieu[t] Comm Richard Summers of the *Nautilus*, L[t] Wadsworth & M[r] Israel, Midshipman, with 7 men) & was blown up. ½ past 11 the Commodore making repeated signal for Cap[t] Summers, which was not answer'd, back'd the main topsail —

Midnight fill'd away, the Commodore still making signals without being answer'd, day light saw the *Argus* & *Vixen*, (which had accompanied the Ketch near the harbour) standing off & on shore. At 7

back'd the main top sail, & was inform'd by the *Argus* that nothing had been heard or seen of Cap^{t} Summers & the Ketch's crew, after she had been blown up

Meridian fill'd away. —

[NDA.]

To Lieutenant George W. Reed, U. S. Navy, of U. S. Schooner *Nautilus*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitution — Off TRIPOLY
Septem^{r} 4th 1804

SIR, You are immediately to cause an exact account to be taken of all the personal property belonging to Richard Somers Esquire (supposed to be deceased) late commander of the U. S. Schooner *Nautilus*, and transmit the same to me, Signed by yourself and two other officers, the Purser to be one — You will also send me his Journals and other papers, in the Order in which they now are with a General inventory of the Same —

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

To Lieutenant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Scourge*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitution off TRIPOLY
September 4th 1804

SIR, You will proceed to Syracuse with the Brig *Scourge*, and on your arrival there settle all your Accounts with the Agent and be ready to take Command of the *Nautilus*

I am Sir
Y^{r} Ob^{t} Serv^{t}

(Signed) EDWARD PREBLE

Lieut^{t} Comm^{dt} DENT
U. S. B. *Scourge*. —

[NHF. Dent's LB.]

[4 September 1804]

To Lieutenant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, ordered to command U. S. Schooner *Nautilus*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

SIR You are hereby appointed to the Command of the United States Schooner *Nautilus*, you will therefore settle your Accounts for the Brig *Scourge* and transfer all the Stores &^{ca} to Lieut^{t} [Space] who is to take charge of her, you will then repair on board the *Nautilus* and assume the Command of s^{d} Vessel for which this shall be your sufficient authority. M^{r} Reid will be your first Lieut^{t} and you are to join the Squadron off here without loss of time — An exact Inventory of every Article on Board the *Nautilus* is to be taken at the time you assume the Command in presence of three Officers for which you have to receipt to me. —

Given on board the U. S. Ship *Constitution* off Tripoly the 4th day of Sept^{r} 1804

(Signed) EDWARD PEBLE

P. S. You may discharge from the *Scourge* all the Neapolitans and Sicilians that are not fit for our service and send all the Tripolines to Prison immediately after your arrival at Syracuse. —

[NHF. Dent's LB.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Lieutenant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy

4th SEPT. 1804

List of the Officers and Crew of the United States BRIG *SCOURGE*

John H. Dent	Comd.
John Green	Purser
John Rowe	Masters mate
Henry Casey	Midshipman
John M^{c}Fate	Boatswain
Robert King	Gunner
William Wiley	Sail maker
Ezeheil Darling	Boy
Emanuel Schulenberg	Seaman
Philip S Pearce	d^{o}
John Delitia	O^{r} d^{o}
Sam^{l} Golden	d^{o}
John Woolley	d^{o}
James Barry	d^{o}
William Kelly	d^{o}
Archibald Frampton	d^{o}
John Carson	d^{o}
Adam Bastian	d^{o}
John Smith	Cook
Philip Bricoa	Ord^{r} Seaman
John Haslip	Boy
Joseph Ashiedo	d^{o}
Jack Tripoli	d^{o}
Henry Tripoli	d^{o}
Frederich Tripoli	d^{o}
Robert Barney	Ord^{r} Seaman
John Akerman	d^{o}
Henry Fleck	d^{o}
James Roberts	d^{o}
Samuel Blythe	d^{o}
Anthony Fletcher	Ord^{r} Seaman
Brown Laurance	Ord^{r} Seaman
Francis Weaver	Boy
Henry Johnson	Ord^{r} Seaman
James Gurmley	d^{o}
Stephen Hurley	Carpenter
Benjamin Cuthbert	Sarg^{t} Marines
Patrick Lynch	Marine
William Bonny	d^{o}
Michael Dawley	d^{o}
Patrick M^{c}Graw	d^{o}
John Baptist Guiteano Valera Doming Sarcha Guiangeito Cambese Bartholemew Boscarun Vinzencio Parmasan	Neapolitans from the Ketch
Bassman Alley Mohamet Mahomet	Tripolitan Prisoners

51

Water Remaining 200 Gallons

SIR The above is a correct statement of the crew of the *Scourge* and the quantity of Water remaining —

JN^{o} H DENT

Sept^{r} 4th 1804.

[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, Tuesday, 4 September 1804

We are this morning laying at Anchor of[f] the Town of Tripoli at half past 11 the commodore hoisted the Brig *Argus's* distinguishing flag. (the *Argus* was commanded by Capt. Summers) at 4 P M we got under way and in heaving up parted our cable we continued to stand of[f] and on the coast all night — at 7 the Town of Tripoli bore S S. W. Dist 5 Miles at ½ past 7 the *Constitution* got under way —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

To James Monroe, U. S. Minister to London, England, from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP[t] *Septem 4th 1804*

Congress by Resolution of 3[d] February 1802 directed the President of the United States to present to Lieu[t] Sterett a Sword Commemorative of his gallant Conduct in the Capture of a Tripolitan Corsair on the 1[st] August 1801 — Desirous that this resolution should be carried into Effect as early as was practicable I wrote in the year 1802 to Com[re] Morris then in the mediterranean, directing him to procure a sword and present it to Lieu[t] Sterett who was also in the mediterranean at that time — This order not having been complied with, the resolution of Congress remains unexecuted — I therefore take the liberty Sir to request that you will be pleased to purchase a suitable sword to be presented to Lieu[t] Sterett and send it to me by the first opportunity that may offer Col John Stricker of Baltimore will make you a remittance for this purpose —

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

To John Gavino, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar, from Richard O'Brien, Malta

(Duplicate Copy) MALTA *Sep[r] 5th 1804*

DEAR SIR 1[st] The American frigate Corsairs Gun Boats & Bombards attacked Tripoly Castles Corsairs & Gun Boats on the Evening of the 3[d] of Aug[t] & after a severe contest Captured 3 Tripolin Gun Boats whose Crews were 96 Men of the Number 46 were killd & 50 Made Prisoners, amongst the latter Number 18 were severely wounded. We lost Lieu[t] Ja[s] DeCature & 13 Men killd & wounded —

2[d] the 7[th] of Aug[t] the American force attacked Tripoly to the West of the Citty after a Great deal of Gun Boat firing & also of the 2 Bombards they silenced a 7 Gun Battery, & threw several shells into the Town, in these two attacks Tripoly must Certainly have lost 500 Men. We lost a small Gun Boat, & 12 Men amongst this Number is Lieu[t] Caldwell & M[r] Dorsey the Boat blew up by the fire of wads of another Boat —

3[d] On the Morning of the 29[th] of Aug[t] at 1½ A. M. the American Gun boats &c[a] 2 Bombards enterd the Harbour of Tripoly & within 600 feet of the Bashaws Castles Commenced the attack, they fird 120 rounds each Sunk 3 of the Enemys Gun Boats & a Merchant Polacra.— At Day light the *Constitution* laid in within Pistol shott of the chief of the Baterys fired 9 Broad sides — rec[d] 12 Shott in the hull lost 4 Men Killd & 2 wounded in one of the Boats by shott — In Tripoly they have mounted on the Citty frunting the East North &

West 115 Guns, has 45 Th^d^ Arabs & the Inh^t^ to defend the Citty, had 19 sail of Gun Boats 2 schooners & 2 Galliotts and a Brig. The Americans had the *Constitution Argus Siren Vixen & Nautulus, Enterprize* 6 Gun Boats & 2 Bombards, the whole of the American Crews am^t^ to 890 Men & the Neopolitans 120 the latter behaved well. In the latter Action Cap^n^ Chancy Officers & Crew of the *John Adams,* Volunteerd their services in the *Constitution* & Gun Boats. We have been Expecting to be Joind by Com^r^ Barron & frigates but he will be too late to end the affair this year as the Summer season is all but over for Gun Boats, & Tripoly in Winter can only be Blocaded by Corsairs at times off & on. This Extract will shew that our present forces is only adequate to Irritate Tripoly, but will not be adequate to reduce it to American terms & obtain our fellow Citizens. — N B. The Expected frigates joind with the present force will do it, or Drive the Bashaw & Divan out of Tripoli —

12^th^ Sep^r^ 1804

On the Evening of the 5^th^ arrived here Com^r^ Barron & Cap^n^ Campbell, the former saild on the Evening of the 7^th^ & the latter for Tripoly on the Morning of the 8^th^ no doubt but they arrived off Tripoly the 10^th^ & of course all Joind will give Tripoli a Gen^l^ attack.

Since they sailing we have learnd by the return of a Vessel here which carried Water to the fleet, that on the night of the 1^st^ the americans sent in a Vessel prepaird w^th^ 50 Barr^ls^ of Pow[d]er & a Number of loaded shells that this Vessel had got close in to the Harbour of Tripoly amongst the Enemys Gun Boats said Vessel was set fire to, by some accident or another the fire & ship blew up before that the Officer & Crew could get clear, & in consequence the Officer Midshipman & 12 Men were blown to attoms. I beleive it is Cap^n^ Smith of the *Vixen,* the *Constitution* Gun Boats and Bombards led in & had a long severe action. I have not been able to obtain from the Maltees Crew any better acc^t^ on this subject as they have not brought any one letter, they were Convoyd by one of our Brigs of warr w^ch^ did not enter this Port but went for Syracuse. I have not been well. I left the fleet the night of the 22^d^ Ult^o^ & when the *John Adams* returns here and discharges I shall proceed w^h^ my family in said ship for the U. S. — Will you please to forward a Copy of this letter to the Secretary of State.

Malta *Sep^r^ 14^th^ 1804*

D^r^ Sir I have to inform you that it is Cap^n^ Somers w^h^ Lieu^t^ Wadsworth & M^r^ Israel Midshipman & 10 Men that blew up by the Explotion of the fire ship on their entering amongst the Gun Boats of Tripoly Cap^n^ Smith in the *Vixen* arrived here this day he left off Tripoly 3 days past, he says that Comodor Barron & Cap^t^ Campbell arrived there the 9^th^ That on the 7^th^ the Gun Boats Bombards w^h^ the *Syren Enterprize Scourge & John Adams* left the Coast of Tripoly for Syracuse. The *President Constitution Constelation & Argus* remains off Tripoly that it is Considerd if the weather would be fav^bl^^e^ that the 3 frigates would attack the place. I do not think that without the Gun boats & Bombards they will reduce Tripoly to American terms, or obtain the liberation of our fellow Citizens, the Season is too farr advanced for the Gun Boats and Bombards to remain with safety on the Coast of Tripoly —

[NA. SDA. CL, Gibraltar, Vol. 2, 1796–1804.]

To Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. S. *John Adams*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Copy Nº 2 *Constitution* Off Tripoli
September 5th 1804

Sir You will proceed to Malta with the U States Ship *John Adams* under your Command, and on your arrival there deliver to Wm Higgins Esqr U. S. Agent one half of the Provissions and Stores you have on board, with the remainder you will proceed to Syracuse, and deliver to George Dyson Esqre U. S. Agent at that place — from thence Sail for the City of Washington, touching at Messina Naples, Leghorn, Marseilles, Barcelona, Alicant, Malaga and Gibralter, to take the American Trade at those places under your Convoy: You are however not to touch, at any Port declared to be in a State of Blockade by any of the Belligerent powers: neither are you to remain, an unreasonable Time at any Place, considering the advanced Season of the Year — Four or Five Days is as long a time as it will be prudent for you to wait at any one place after you leave Syracuse — If Mr OBrien applies to you for a passage for himself and Family, I presume it will be agreeable to Government that you accommodate him, and equally so that you accommodate Mr Cathcart and Family from Leghorn — Mr OBrien will shew you a Letter from the Department of the Navy or the State Department which promises him a passage in some returning Frigate

I shall forward Dispatches to Syracuse for the Navy Department, which you will please to take particular Care of. I am happy in this Opportunity of acknowledging the high Opinion I have of your Talents as an Officer, Of expressing my entire approbation of your Conduct as a Volunteer on board this Ship in the Actions of the 27th Ultº and 3d Inst with the Tripoline Gun Boats & Batteries, and to request you to accept my thanks for the able Assistance I received from you on the Quarter Deck in the Absence of my Principal and a large Proportion of other Officers.

You will make requisitions for what may be found necessary for your Ship, upon the Agents of the United States in the Different Ports at which you may touch.

P. S. You will tow to Malta three Gun Boats and from thence to Syracuse — Order the Officer attached to each Boat, to take an exact Acct of every Article on board her, and sign a Receipt to be accountable for the same

[NDA. MC LB, 1804–5.]

[5 September 1804]

To Lieutenant* Thomas Robinson, Jr., U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

(L S) By Edward Preble Esquire Commander in Chief of the U. S. Squadron Stationed in the Mediterranean

To Lieutenant Thomas Robinson hereby appointed Lieutenant Commandant of the U. S. Schooner *Enterprize*

By Virtue of the power and Authority to me given, I do hereby constitute and appoint you Lieutenant Commandant of the U. S.

Schooner *Enterprize*; Willing & requiring you forthwith to go on board and take upon you the charge and command of Lieutenant Commandant in her accordingly: Strictly charging & commanding all the officers and company belonging to the said Schooner to behave themselves jointly and severally in their respective employments with all due respect and obedience unto you their said Lieutenant Commandant: And you likewise to observe and execute the general printed instructions and such orders and directions as you shall from time to time receive from me or any other your superior officer for the United States Service: Hereof, nor you nor any of you may fail as you will answer the contrary at your peril. And for so doing this shall be your warrant.

Given unde[r] my hand & seal the 5th day of September 1804 & 29th year of the Independance of the U. S. of America

(Signed) EDWARD PREBLE

U. S. Ship *Constitution*

[*On 10 September 1804 he was commissioned Master Commandant, U. S. Navy.]

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

[5 September 1804]

To Lieutenant Thomas Robinson, Jr., U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

SIR You are hereby appointed Lieutenant commandant of the U. S. Schooner *Enterprize* — You will therefore repair on board said Schooner and proceed to Malta with Capt Decatur, who will deliver her over to you, after making the necessary arrangements for the crew; Her present crew being to be turned over to the *John Adams*, to be replaced by an Equal number from that ship — You will make your requisitions for provisions &c on Wm Higgins Esqr and join the Squadron off here as soon as possible, and without loss of time —

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 5 September 1804

[Off Tripoli] At 6 the Commodre hoisted our distinguishing flag stood for him hove too to leward of him Capt Dent came on board and went on board the *Scourge* accompanied by Doctr Dorsey

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Wednesday, 5 September 1804

Moderate breezes from N E. with Cloudy overcast weather — We are employed supplying the Gun boats & bombards with ammunition for the Sixth attack upon Tripoly — As the afternoon advanced the wind increased from the N E with a swell from the E N E & had the appearance of Strong breezes from N E. — The Gun boats were Ordered pr signal to the vessels to which they were attached & at 4½ P. M. the Squadron was all under weigh — At Sun down we weighed & filled to the N N W — Winds N E By 9 P. M. light breezes, from which time till 2 P. M. we had calms or light airs from N N E, with

a swell setting in shore — At 2½ A. M. we came to in 30 fath^{s} in Order to prevent our drifting in with the land We kept our Topsails a trip in readiness for a breeze — At day light we saw Tripoly bearing S b E nearly 5 miles — Morning cloudy & overcast — The *John Adams* anchored p^{r} signal. The other Vessels of the Squadron continued under way with light airs from the North^{d}

At 7 a. m. we hauled up the two Bombards & took the Mortars out of them — Bombard N^{o} 1 has been several times reported to the Commodore to be unsafe & unserviceable owing to her leaky state occasioned by the 5 different actions she has been in, & is at present useless — Bombard N^{o} 2 is not reported leaky, but the Bed of the Mortar (from the different actions against Tripoly, is so split & shivered that she is totally unserviceable and is at present considered useless —

The Neapolitan Gun boats altho' nearly 30 Tons each, are (owing to their being flat bottom'd) but ill calculated to meet a gale of wind. This forenoon the Guns from N^{os} 4, 2 & 6 were taken on board the *John Adams* — N^{os} 3, 4 & 5 are towed by the *Syren & Argus* — they are not within communication by Signal —

By 10 A. M. the weather cleared away, from which time till noon light breezes from N E, with a swell setting in shore —

This forenoon in loosing one of the Staysails which has not been set since the action on Monday last a large Grape Shot fell down on deck & wounded a Seamen in the foot — During the three actions in which the *Constitution* has been under the Walls of Tripoly She has been struck in 41 places by large shot — Our second & third actions were within range of Grape, a number of which are now on board — Our loss in the different actions is One Cap^{t} 4 Lieutenants One Midshipman & 30 Seamen & Marines in the Squadron. This forenoon the *Scourge*, Cap^{t} Dent parted company for Syracuse. She convoys the Store Ship that arrived here on the 26th August last, & has been necessarily detained since —

Surgeons report 5 Sick & 7 conv^{sc}^{t}

Signals made as follows

P. M. at 3¼ *Vixen* Tow Your gun boat
3½ — *Nautilus* — Come w^{p} hail.

Lieut^{t} Gordon this forenoon rejoined the *Constitution* — His Gun boat has been unarmed —

Lieut^{t} Robinson who has always commanded a Bombard, has not been attached to them except when in action.

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, Wednesday, 5 September 1804

Arrived at Malta. Quarrantined: having spoke a Tunissian.

[NR&L. No. 9217, Bm^{l} E 14.]

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, 5 September 1804

At. half past 5 the commodore came to Anchor at 6. we anchored in 30. Fathoms Water the town of Tripoli bore South. took in 3

Guns. 24 pounders. out of Gun boats No 1. 2. 6. — at Meridian light breezes & Pleasant. at 5 P M got underway and stood to the N & W. at 6 the commodore made the signal for the *Syren* & *Enterprize* to take the Gun boats in Tow. at sun set Tacked ship the Town of Tripoli bearing South distant 4 or 5 Miles at ¾ past 6 a signal was made from the commodore to close in sight to prevent seperation in the night — We continued under way all night.

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

To Daniel Bedinger, Navy Agent and Superintendent of Navy Yard, Norfolk, Va., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP^{T} *6 Septem^{r} 1804*

It is very unfortunate that the bowsprit, powder, cannon shot and Spare Spars, have not been shipped by the *Alfred* — We had better have declined sending any other part of the Cargo than not to have sent these articles — The frigate *Constitution* is in great want of a bowsprit and Spare Spars — the Carronades shipped in the *Alfred* will be useless without the shot and the Squadron will in all probability soon be in want of powder — my principal object in sending the *Alfred* to Norfolk was that she might take on board the bowsprit and Spare Spars

If the *William and Mary* can receive the articles left behind by the *Alfred* you will put them on board of her with direction to deliver them to John Gavino Esq^{r} at Gibraltar to Whom you will write and enclose a Bill of lading — If I understand your letter of the 21st ult^{o} you have chartered the ship *William & Mary* for the Voyage — and if so the Owners cannot reasonably demand any freight for these additional articles — They may demand and you may consent to give them a reasonable compensation for any detention which the Vessel may experience in consequence of taking them on Board — all port charges which may be Occasioned by such addition to the Cargo you may also consent to pay — I entertain a hope that you will be able to send out in the *William & Mary* the articles which have been left behind by the *Alfred* — and if you should you will carefully note on the back of each of the passes that have been sent to you for the *William and Mary* each particular article stating that after the passes were Obtained, the Government of the United States found it Expedient to make Such addition to the Cargo of the *William & Mary*. that such additional articles belong to the United States of America and are intended to be delivered to John Gavino Esq American Consul at Gibraltar, for the use of the American Squadron in the Mediterranean Sea —

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

To Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. S. *John Adams*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitution — Off TRIPOLY
Septem^{r} 6th 1804

SIR The Service will not permit me to direct a Court Martial to be assembled at present for trial of M^{r} John Darby & M^{r} J: Ord: Creighton; but on the arrival of the *John Adams* at Malta, you may inform them it shall take place if consistent with the good of the Service

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Lieutenant (acting as Master's Mate) John Orde Creighton, U. S. Navy

U S Frigate *John Adams*
Off *Tripoli Sep*^{t}, 6th *1804*

Sir Trusting You Would Grant A, release from my Confinement Provided the Dispute between M^{r} Darby & Myself Could be Accommodated, in Consequence of which every exertion on my Part has been exercised — but Not being Able to effect My Object on terms honourable to Myself. I have to Solicit Your interference, in Calling a, Court Marshall, Or Your Indulgence in Granting me A, release that I may Again return to my duty. Apprehensive Sir that if the Ship Should Seperate from the Squadron, a, length of time May elapse before we meet during which I may be Confined, the Unpleasantness of which I am Already Sensible Of — Should You be so indulgent as to release Me, I trust My future Conduct Will be Such As to Merit Your Approbation.—

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August–December 1804.]

To Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. S. *John Adams*, from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

Copy

United States Ship *President*
Malta 6th *Sept*^{r} *1804*

Dear Sir The Bearer M^{r} Randolph was a Passenger in the *President*, from the U. States to this Place (by the Order of the Secretary of the Navy) who has directed me to cause him to be accommodated with a passage back in any Ship of the United States which may return at the Time he wishes to benefit by such an Opportunity.

In addition to the Secretary's Instructions on this Subject I beg leave to introduce M^{r} Randolph to you (individually) and assure you that any Attention you will please to bestow on M^{r} R— will be gratefully acknowledged by, Dear Sir

[NDA. MC LB, 1804–5.] Sam^{l} Barron

To Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitution Off Tripoly
Septem^{r} 6th *1804*

Sir You will proceed to Syracuse in the U. S. Schooner *Enterprize*, and as your present rank entitles you to a superior command, you will deliver up that of the *Enterprize* to Lieut^{t} Thomas Robinson who is appointed by me to succeed you: previous to which you will turn over to the U. S. Ship the *John Adams*, for the purpose of going home, all that part of the *Enterprizes* crew, who do not incline to re-enter for two years, and Cap^{t} Chauncey will re-place them with an equal number from the *John Adams* — Lieut^{t} Robinson will receipt to you for every article on board the *Enterprize* which you may cause to be delivered to his charge — If any of the *Enterprizes* crew wish to re-enter, the able seamen may receive 12, the Ordinary Seamen 8, & Boy's 6 dollars p^{r} month —

You will then proceed to Messina with the Bomb Vessels and all the Gun Boats, and formally deliver the Neapolitan Boats to General

Espluger — You may also make a requisition on M^r^ Broadbent for three thousand dollars, to be advanced to the Officers & crews of Gun Boats N^os^ 4 & 6 on account of their prize money — The Prize boat lost in the action of the 7th Ulto: shall be paid for by the U. S. at the rate the others sell for — I have the honor to be

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

To Sir John Acton, Prime Minister of State, The Two Sicilies (Palermo), from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Off *Tripoli 6th Sep^r^ 1804* —

SIR, I feel peculiar pleasure in announcing to you the success which has attended several attacks I have made on the Batteries and Marine force of Tripoli.

On the 3rd Ult^o^ our Six Gun Boats under cover of the Squadron, advanced into the Harbour of Tripoli, and engaged 22 of the Enemy's Gallies and Gun Boats, and after an obstinate engagement obtained a complete victory, after having boarded and carried three of their heavy Boats, sinking another, and driving the remainder under the Bashaw's Castle, in a shattered condition, and a great many men killed on board them. Since which, they have not dared to hazard an Action — We however on the 28th Ult^o^ attacked them at their Moorings under the Castle, and sunk their largest Galley, a Gun Boat, and a Merchant Ship — We have thrown a great number of shells into the Town, and have in several instances drove the Turks from their Batteries. It is impossible to ascertain how many of the Enemy have been killed in these several engagements, but I think I may safely say that these Barbarians never have suffered more from any Christian power.

I have to regret the loss of six brave Officers killed, and several wounded, and between 40 & 50 seamen & Marines killed and wounded; this loss is not so great as we had reason to expect, more especially as we have been exposed to the fire of at least 115 pieces of heavy Cannon from the different castles and Forts of Tripoli; besides two Gallies, a Brig of 10 Guns, two armed Schooners, and Nineteen Gun Boats.

For the very great advantages resulting to our Country from these efficient operations against a powerful Barbary State, we must in a very large degree be indebted to His Neapolitan Majesty for his generous loan of Gun Boats & Mortar Vessels, Ammunition &c^a^ &c^a^ and to you Sir, for the good will with which you seconded his intentions, and I feel it my duty so assure you, that my Gov^t^ will in due time manifest the very high sense with which they will receive such Hon^b^^le^ proofs of His Majesty's friendship.

I cannot in justice pass over the merits of Antonio Massene assigned me as Bombardier, and the Gunners attached to the diff^t^ Gun Boats & Bomb Vessels: — their intrepidity, and good conduct merits my warmest approbation, and I beg leave to recommend them to your notice.

The reinforcement of four frigates from the United-States have not yet arrived, but they have been anxiously expected from day to day these six weeks. Had they arrived before the season compelled me to send off the Gun & Mortar Vessels, we should have

forced a peace, or destroyed their Town & Cruisers: as it is, the Town is much injured, and I have no doubt that in case they arrive we shall command a Peace, but we cannot so effectually distress them after the boats have left us. I send them off this day by an officer who will deliver them up at Messina, together with an Inventory of every thing on board.

I hope e're long to have the pleasure of communicating personally the particulars of this Campaign. In the meantime, I have the honor to be,

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To George Dyson, U. S. Navy Agent, Syracuse, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitution Off TRIPOLY *Septem*r *6*th *1804*

DEAR SIR I refer you to Capt Decatur for information from this Quarter. Capt Chauncey of the *John Adams* is ordered to deliver to you one half, the cargo of that Ship, with the other he will sail for Malta.

I congratulate you on the confirmation of your appointment & hope yet to be able to do more to serve you.

P. S. Attend to Capt Chauncey — He is my friend, & I wish you to be acquainted —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To John Broadbent, U. S. Navy Agent, Messina, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitution Off TRIPOLY *Septem*r *6*th *1804*

DEAR SIR In great haste I refer you to Capt Decatur for transactions in this Quarter, in which his Gallantry has shone greatly conspicuous —

The Neapolitans have behaved well: Our ammunition is expended, but not without effect — I wish the Neapolitans may be discharged & paid & that you may advance three thousand dollars to Capt Decatur on acct of Prize Money to be distributed —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

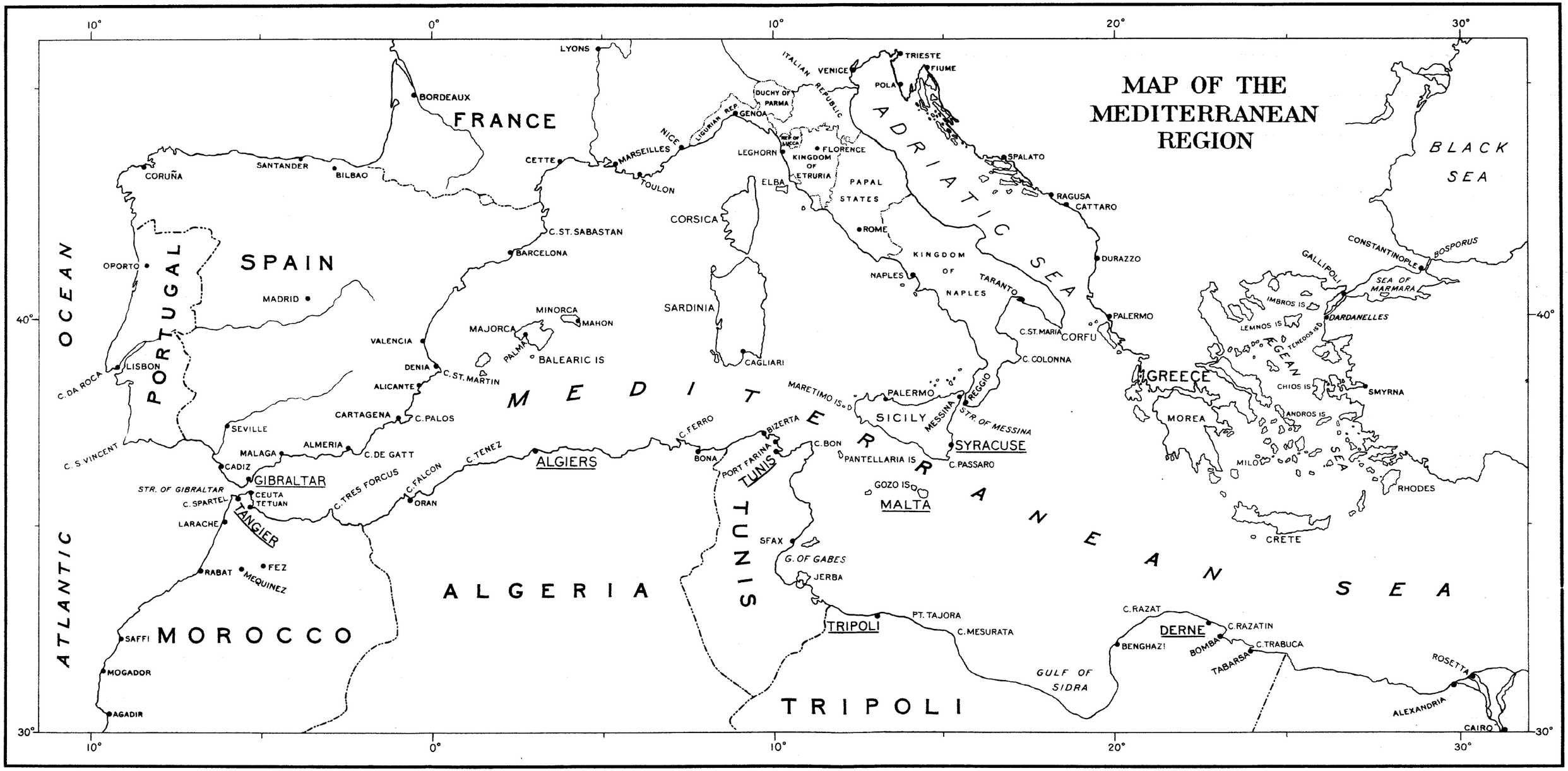
[6 September 1804]

To Midshipman Thomas Macdonough, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

SIR You are hereby appointed Lieutenant of the U. S. Schooner *Enterprize* — You will therefore repair on board Said Schooner, and take upon yourself the charge & duty of Lieut agreeable to the regulations of the Service, for which this shall be your Sufficient Authority —

Given under my hand on board
the U. S. Ship *Constitution*
off Tripoly the 6th day of Septr 1804
Signed EDWd PREBLE

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]


MAP OF THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION
10°
0°
10°
20°
30°
40°
30°
FRANCE
SPAIN
PORTUGAL
MOROCCO
ALGERIA
TUNIS
TRIPOLI
ATLANTIC OCEAN
MEDITERRANEAN SEA
BLACK SEA
ADRIATIC SEA
AEGEAN SEA
LYONS
BORDEAUX
CORUÑA
SANTANDER
BILBAO
CETTE
MARSEILLES
NICE
TOULON
GENOA
LIGURIAN REP.
ITALIAN REPUBLIC
VENICE
TRIESTE
FIUME
POLA
DUCHY OF PARMA
REP. OF LUCCA
LEGHORN
KINGDOM OF ETRURIA
FLORENCE
ELBA
PAPAL STATES
ROME
SPALATO
RAGUSA
CATTARO
DURAZZO
CORSICA
C. ST. SABASTAN
BARCELONA
OPORTO
MADRID
LISBON
C. DA ROCA
C. S VINCENT
SEVILLE
CADIZ
GIBRALTAR
STR. OF GIBRALTAR
MALAGA
ALMERIA
C. DE GATT
CARTAGENA
C. PALOS
ALICANTE
DENIA
C. ST. MARTIN
VALENCIA
MINORCA
MAHON
MAJORCA
PALMA
BALEARIC IS
SARDINIA
CAGLIARI
NAPLES
KINGDOM OF NAPLES
TARANTO
C. ST. MARIA
CORFU
PALERMO
C. COLONNA
MARETIMO IS.
SICILY
MESSINA
REGGIO
STR. OF MESSINA
SYRACUSE
PANTELLARIA IS
C. PASSARO
GOZO IS.
MALTA
C. FERRO
BIZERTA
BONA
PORT FARINA
TUNIS
C. BON
ALGIERS
C. TENEZ
C. FALCON
ORAN
C. TRES FORCUS
CEUTA
TETUAN
C. SPARTEL
TANGIER
LARACHE
RABAT
MEQUINEZ
FEZ
SAFFI
MOGADOR
AGADIR
SFAX
G. OF GABES
JERBA
TRIPOLI
PT. TAJORA
C. MESURATA
GULF OF SIDRA
C. RAZAT
DERNE
C. RAZATIN
BENGHAZI
BOMBA
C. TRABUCA
TABARSA
ROSETTA
ALEXANDRIA
CAIRO
CONSTANTINOPLE
BOSPORUS
SEA OF MARMARA
GALLIPOLI
DARDANELLES
IMBROS IS.
LEMNOS IS.
TENEDOS IS.
GREECE
CHIOS IS.
SMYRNA
MOREA
ANDROS IS.
MILO
RHODES
CRETE

To Midshipman Jonathan Thorn, U. S. Navy, to take charge of U. S. Brig *Scourge*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitution — Septem^r 6^th^ 1804.

SIR You are to proceed to Syracuse in the *Nautilus* and on your arrival there take charge of the U. S. Brig *Scourge* until farther orders: It is expected that you will be very attentive to the Vessel, and that you do not sleep out of her.

You are to give L^t^ Comm^t^ Dent duplicate receipts for every article on board & deliver me a Copy of the Same.

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

To Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Siren*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitution. Off TRIPOLY *Septem^r 6^th^ 1804*

SIR You will proceed to Syracuse with three Gun boats in tow of the *Syren*, and on your arrival there, take in Six weeks provisions & water & return to join the Squadron on this Station without loss of time — You are permitted to remain four days at Syracuse, but no longer

Order some of your Officers to take an exact inventory of every thing on board the Gun boats and take the receipt of the Officer and principal gunner for the Same, to prevent Embezzlement

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

To Secretary of the Navy from William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies

MALTA *6. Sep. 1804*

SIR, Hamet Bashaw is at Alexandria in the friendship and protection of a Bey of Egypt; waiting as M^r^ Pulis informs me, for answers to his proposals offered to the Government of the United States.

The advantages calculated to result from a co-operation with him seem not to have diminished in prospect from any occurrences which have happened since those proposals were made — The reigning Bashaw persists in his demand of a ransom for our captives — But the distress which must be occasioned by the means he is obliged to use in support of these pretentions cannot but increase the discontentment of his subjects and ripen them for revolt. For, such of them as subsist, ordinarily, by commerce or cruising being barred those resources by a harassing blockade, and such as depend on labor for subsistence being compelled to serve for his defence without pay, will be very apt to sieze an opportunity of relieving themselves from that distress when it offers on principles so consistent with their proper allegiance and religion — Those subjects who were heretofore in the interest of the friendly Bashaw, are still so — Through these instruments, I firmly believe, the enemy may be taken from his sofa at the same instant that our fellow citizens are rescued from chains — The only obstacles which seem to oppose the success of this measure are want of supplies to put it into operation — These are not in the fleet — And the Commodore is not decided whether any construction of the Presidents instructions extends to a discretion of procuring and furnishing them: he will probably express himself on this subject after having fixed on his plan of operations.

It is, perhaps, unfortunate that the arrival of the squadron had not been more seasonable — It is the fault of the elements alone — After a flattering passage of fifteen days to the Western Islands we experienced forty one days successive head winds and calms, excepting about twelve hours —

[H. E. Huntington L&AG, EA 206.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, Thursday, 6 September 1804

Mr. O'Brien, under the stern, said he had been to Tripoli and Tunis, by authority. To the Bey of the latter he had offered an annual tribute of eight thousand dollars to compromise for a frigate by him demanded of the United States. To the former one hundred and ten thousand dollars for a peace and ransom of our captives. Terms rejected by both.

[NR&L, No. 9217, Bm[1] E 14.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 6 September 1804

[Off Tripoli] Light winds through the night the Commodore off our lee bow at ½ past 8 the commodore made Sig[l] N[o] 600 Tacked Ship and Stood for him at 9 Cap[t] Hull went on board of him —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Thursday, 6 September 1804

Moderate Breezes from N N E — We are at single anchor four miles N b W from Tripoly. The Squadron in sight & under way except the *John Adams* which is at anchor in company. As the weather was moderate, till 4 A. M. we were employed taking out the Powder from the gun boats & Bombards, except Gun boats N[os] 3, 4 & 5 which although in sight are not within communication by signal —

By 5 P. M. we had fresh breezes from N E b N — We weighed & made sail to the N W b N — The wind continued freshening till sun set when Tripoly bore S b E ¼ E, 8 miles. The Squadron at this time was much scattered. They were Ordered to close p[r] Signal — By 9 P. M. the Weather became moderate which continued during the night — We made & shortened sail as necessary to keep the Squadron in Company, in order to prevent any surprize from irregular Currents or the swell setting in shore. At 9 P. M. we sounded in 40 fath[s] at 10 in 55 & at 12 Midnight in 80, Hard bottom —

At 6 in the morning we saw two sail to the N N W, which we supposed to be the *Scourge* & the Store Ketch which parted company yesterday for Malta and Syracuse —

At ½ past 6 we wore with the Squadron to the E S E — At this time we had light breezes which continued all all forenoon veering between E N E & N N E — At 9 A. M. we brought to, with the signal out for the Squadron to come within hail — Out large cutter & pinnace —

We have been employed this forenoon in receiving the Muskets, Wads & Shot from all the Gun boats — The Seamen & Marines belonging to the *Constitution* were ordered out of the Gun boats — The Squadron has been employed all the forenoon in getting the

Gun boats & Bombards ready for returning to Port Saragosa — This forenoon we supplied Bombard N^{o} 1 with a large Grapnel — She was under the necessity of cutting in the last action — We also supplied the *Nautilus* with three gang casks of water.

This forenoon Lieut^{t} Robinson of the *Constitution* was discharged on promotion to the command of the U. S. Schooner *Enterprize* — M^{r} Ridgely Midshipman is also promoted to a Lieutenancy on board the U. S. Schooner *Nautilus* —

Noon light breezes from E b N. A heavy contracted horizon — The land in Sight from the Mast head bearing by compass S E b S which we suppose to be Tripoly.

Signals made as follows.

A. M. at 6 *Syren* tow two gun boats.
6½ — Squadron to close
9 — Squadron come within hail
9¼ — All Captains

Latitude observed 33° 07′ North

[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, 6 September 1804

At half past 8 this morning the commodore made the Signal to keep within Hail at ¾ past. 8 the commodore made the signal for all Captains to repair on board. at ½ past 10 the Captain went on board the *Constitution* at Meridian Moderate breezes — at ½ past 12 the captain returned from on board the commodore at ½ past 1 P. M. one of the Prize Gun boats came a long side with two Brass Twenty four Pounders. hoisted them in at 4 made the Signal to the commodore of being ready to proceed on service shortly after the commodore made the signal for all Captains to repair on board. at ½ past 4 P M Capt. Chauncey went on board the commodore. at 6. the Town of Tripoli bore S by E. distance 4 Leagues. at ½ past 6 the commodore made the signal for us to make the best of our way to our intended Port. We have in company the *Nautalus Syren Enterprize* with 8 Gun boats & 2 Bumbards. bound for Syracuse. —

[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, 6 September 1804

(Standing of[f] & on shore with the Squadron. —)

Light breezes & pleasant. At ½ past Meridian furl'd flying jib — At ½ past 4 backd the main top sail & spoke the *Enterprize*. At ½ past 6 a signal from the Commodore, to close in the present order, to prevent seperation at night. At 7 hoisted in the barge & launch. ½ past 7 fill'd away & made sail off shore —

Midnight light airs & cloudy. ½ past 4 made all sail. ½ past 8 a signal for all Commanders to repair on board the Commodores ship. — At 11 back'd the main top sail. —

Meridian light airs & pleasant —

Latt: Obs: 33° 17′ N

[NDA.]

INDEX

INDEX

Page

Abbreviations index to sources ..... viii, ix
Accountant of the Navy, correspondence with Navy, Secretary of 138
Acton, Giovanni. *See* Acton, Sir John.
Acton, Sir John, General, Prime Minister of State, The Two Sicilies:
  Cathcart, James L., negotiations with 31, 32, 50
  Correspondence with—
    Cathcart, James L 50
    Preble, Edward, Capt 90, 97–99, 523
  Preble, Edward, Capt., appeals to *re* quarantine of U. S. Vessels 103, 145
  References to 90, 178, 248, 523
Acts of Congress:
  Authorizing publication of these documents ..... iv, v
  Citizenship and holding registered vessels 243
  Pertaining to Navy, reference to 142
  Protection of Commerce and Seamen of the U. S 132
Adams, William, Seaman, U. S. brig *Argus* 231
Addington, Mr. (England) 201
Aga, Sidi Mohamet Meten, Ambassador of the Sultan of Turkey 403
Agents. *See* Navy Agents, U. S.
Agincourt, H. B. M. S., Capt. Thomas Briggs 241, 242, 282
Akerman, John, Seaman, *Argus* and *Scourge* 98, 515
Alcayde Hashash. *See* Morocco, Governor of.
Alessandro, Guiseppe di, G. B. No. 4 360
Alexander, James, seaman, Gun Boat No. 9 381
Alexander, ship, reference to 273
Alfred, Am. Storeship 371–373, 375, 458, 521
Algeciras, salute from Spanish fort 311
Algiers:
  Annuities, presents, and tribute to 155, 156, 157, 168, 171, 208, 226, 231, 232, 471
  Chauncey, Isaac, Master Comdt., visit to, and salutes 319, 323
  Constantine. *See* Constantine.
  Consulate of U. S., description of 324, 325
  Description of customs, government, dress, inhabitants, language, and religion 326, 327
  Dey of, Mustapha Pacha—
    Assassination of, falsely rumored 209, 215, 220, 221
    Horse presented to Consul Lear, by 325
    Residences of 326
  Great Britain, relations with 68, 69, 165, 169, 170, 172, 173, 221, 275, 280, 459
  Guns, Naval Force 79
  Internal conditions of, rumors of revolution 209, 215, 220, 221, 280, 373, 374, 437
  John Adams in harbor of 319, 323, 385
  Lear, Tobias, U. S. Consul General, Algiers. *See* Lear, Tobias.
  Morocco, relations with 261, 284, 423, 424
  New Prophet (Marabout), strength of Army of 373, 374
  O'Brien, Richard, narrative of journey to Tunis 59–61
  Pilgrims on way to Mecca 335
  Portugal, relations with 280, 325, 327
  References to ..... iii, 32, 33, 69, 94, 226, 232, 319, 497

Page

Algiers—Continued.
Sally lost off St. Lucar, cargo of replaced ... 171, 208
Salutes ... 319, 325
Sanhedrin of, reference to ... 32
U. S. affairs in ... iii, 68, 172
Vessels of, references to ... 79, 173, 280, 327
William and Mary carrying timber to ... 457
Alicante, Spain, Montgomery, Robert, U. S. Consul ... 69, 186
Allan (or Allen), C., Boatswain's mate, *Vixen* ... 309, 349
Allen, William, General, correspondence with Allen, William Henry, Mid ... 12, 495, 499
Allen, William Henry, Mid ... 12, 16, 495, 499
Alley, Tripolitan prisoner, U. S. brig *Scourge* ... 515
Alline, Benjamin, Purser, correspondence with Navy, Secretary of ... 5
Amazon, H. B. M. S., reported loss of *Philadelphia* ... 511
Ambassadors. *See* Consuls.
American Antiquarian Society, records published by courtesy of ... 423, 424, 454, 464, 468, 486
Ammunition (*See* also Tripoli and Lists) ... 337, 477–479, 502, 503
Anderson, Thomas O., Mid., U. S. Navy:
Correspondence with—
Preble, Edward, Capt ... 55
Stewart, Charles, Master Comdt ... 136
Madona Calapoliana, prize master of ... 55, 170
Angelene, Francesco, Gunboat No. 2 ... 359
Anna Maria, Am. Merchant Ship ... 157
Appleton, Thomas, U. S. Consul, Leghorn:
Correspondence with—
Lear, Tobias ... 171
Livingston, Robert R ... 22, 450
Preble, Edward, Capt ... 238
State, Secretary of ... 23
Apreo, Carmine, G. B. No. 6 ... 360
Apuzza, Antonio, G. B. No. 2 ... 359
Arbib, a Tripolitan Jew at Leghorn ... 33
Archer, Sterling, Surgeon, U. S. S. *Constellation*, and *Siren* ... 139
Argus, U. S. brig, Master Comdt. Isaac Hull:
Anchor sent on board *Enterprize* ... 100, 101
At Gibraltar ... 44
At Malta ... 224, 226, 228, 242, 244, 247
At Syracuse ... 11, 18, 20, 24, 25, 27, 30, 231, 234, 239
At Tunis ... 188, 200–202, 210–213
Brooke, Samuel B., Sailing Master ... 29, 31, 43, 504
Casualties ... 240
Convoy duty ... 27, 43, 189, 230, 234, 247
Dent, John H., Lt., went on board of ... 118
Enterprize spoken by ... 113
Extracts from journal of, (Nautical Day) ... 1, 11, 14, 18, 20, 24, 25, 27, 30, 47, 52, 61, 66, 67, 70, 71, 74, 76, 80, 85, 87, 91, 95, 96, 98, 100, 104–106, 111, 113, 115, 118, 119, 121, 123, 127, 128, 137, 142, 146, 151, 162, 170, 174, 179, 181, 185, 191, 196, 197, 200, 202, 208, 210, 212, 217, 223, 224, 226, 228, 231, 234, 240, 242, 244, 247, 252, 257, 260, 265, 293, 315, 318, 322, 344, 366, 370, 379, 389, 394, 399, 405, 414, 420, 425, 428, 432, 438, 448, 451, 454, 460, 464, 469, 476, 483, 489, 493, 497, 500, 505, 513, 519, 526
Extracts from journal of Mid. Charles Morris, Jr. (Nautical Day) ... 36, 389, 400, 406, 411, 414, 418, 420, 425, 429, 432, 444, 448, 451, 455
Extracts from log book kept by Sailing Master Samuel B. Brooke (Nautical Day) ... 30, 98, 100, 105, 137, 144, 147, 150, 163, 185, 249
Guns ... 152, 310, 341
John Adams, references to ... 379, 382
La Vergine del Rosario, captured by. *See La Vergine del Rosario.*
Le St. Jean Baptiste capture of, with *Vixen* ... 149–151, 189
Mast, alteration to ... 25
Morris, Charles, Jr., ordered to ... 36, 387, 512
O'Brien, Richard, passenger, references to ... 240, 394, 395, 399–401, 406

Argus, U. S. brig, Master Comdt. Isaac Hull—Continued. Page
Orders and instructions 26, 27, 84, 189–191, 194, 196, 223, 239, 310, 340, 376, 379, 394, 395, 400, 434, 439, 440, 444–446.
Preble, Edward, Capt.—
Returned to *Constitution* 217, 218
Went on board of 212, 213, 301, 389, 390, 399, 400
References to iii, 6, 59, 72, 139, 150–152, 218, 254, 299, 300, 361, 365, 449, 480, 507, 516.
Sailed from Malta 228
Sailed from Syracuse 14, 30, 31, 189
Seamen and Marines from, transferred to *Scourge* 98
Sicilian subjects, passengers on board of 240
Signals to and from 85, 427, 449, 489, 498
Tripoli—
Engagements before—
Complement of 341
Damages sustained 301, 305
Order of Anchoring and Sailing 314, 315
Participation in attacks 47, 74, 98, 99, 146, 147, 150, 163, 171, 303–305, 337, 342, 343, 376–379, 389–391. 405, 406, 408, 425, 426, 473–476, 503, 504, 517.
Flag of Truce, peace and ransom negotiations 389, 390, 392, 394, 395, 399–402, 484
Guard ship at 394
Gunboats and Bombards towed by 293, 301, 318, 341, 366, 379, 400, 406, 455, 505, 513, 520
In chase of strange vessel off Tripoli 307
Intrepid, infernal, references to, and convoyed by *Argus* 306, 438–440, 506, 513
Off and on, cruising and attacking 33, 43, 51, 52, 75, 88, 97, 149, 182, 183, 186, 188, 191–193, 267, 294, 298, 307, 310, 314, 330, 341, 353, 453, 490.
Tripolitan prisoners on board, from *Constitution* 493, 497
Tunisian sandal captured by, and released 207, 210
Vixen sighted by 61
Williams, Daniel, deserter from 247
Arraez Sebrah, references to 284
Arrito, Tommaso, G. B. No. 3 359
Arsenal of Morocco, references to Lisbon 487
Artiuno, Pasquale, G. B. No. 1 359
Ashiedo, Joseph, boy, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
Atkins, Isaac, Am. citizen, Memorial of, concerning Thomas Wood 150
Austria, *Paulina*, a vessel of. *See Paulina.*
Auwed, Capt. Hadge Tacher, comdg. *Maimona* of 32 guns 240
Aveta, Guiseppe, G. B. No. 3 359
Azores or Western Islands, names of 270
Bacri and Busnah, Jewish Brokers, Algiers 86
Bacri, David Coën, Algiers 172, 458, 459
Bainbridge, Joseph, Mid., Gunboat No. 5:
Engagements before Tripoli (*See* Gunboats) 295, 296, 361
Lieutenant's commission pending examination 138
References to 146, 342, 383
Bainbridge, William, Capt., U. S. S. *Philadelphia* and prisoner in Tripoli:
Cipher and key, references to 48, 141
Clothing and stores for prisoners of Tripoli 230, 231, 255, 258
Comments, opinions and recommendations of, *re* Tripoli 76, 186, 195, 198–200, 214, 222, 258
Correspondence with—
Davis, George 122, 195, 199, 222, 271, 368
Lear, Tobias 4, 8, 75, 112, 149, 165, 198, 264, 321, 471
Murray, Alexander, Capt 87
Navy, Secretary of 143
Preble, Edward, Capt 112, 179, 186, 205, 213, 230, 255, 258, 263
Court of Inquiry into loss of *Philadelphia*, references to 135, 143
Lemon, lime or milk used as invisible ink 76, 187, 195, 200, 263, 264

Bainbridge, William, Capt., U. S. S. *Philadelphia* and prisoner in Tripoli— Page
Continued.
Letters for 41, 221, 301
Mirboka, thanks of President for capture of 112
Money sent to 79, 151, 235
Narrow escape during attack on Tripoli 302, 495
Peace and ransom negotiations iii, 76, 187, 188, 195, 206, 258, 272
Philadelphia, U. S. S. and Tripolitan prize iv
Present of his coat to Commo. Preble 256
References to 134, 148, 154, 169, 181, 183, 184, 192, 204, 207, 212, 215, 219, 220, 228, 229, 242, 244, 251, 273, 276, 280, 282, 283, 346, 349, 363, 374, 390, 396.
Treatment of, as prisoner of Tripoli 4, 8, 75, 76, 179, 186
Visited by Lt. Ralph Izard, Jr 41
Bainbridge, William, Mrs., Perth Amboy, N. J. correspondence with Navy, Secretary of 396
Baker, Nathan, Purser, U. S. brig *Siren*, resignation of 139
Baldwin, Christopher Columbus, First Librarian, American Antiquarian Society 423
Ball, Alexander John, Mrs., references to 475
Ball, Alexander John, Sir, British Civil Commissioner and Governor of Malta:
Correspondence with—
Langford, William Wass 244
Preble, Edward, Capt 220, 221, 441, 474, 488
Preble, Edward, reference to his being relieved of command 488
References to 136, 163, 224, 230, 231, 274, 282, 437, 447
Schembri, Gaetano Andrea, references to loading ship 447
St. Crucifisso captured by *Nautilus*, a fair prize 41
Baptist, John, Neapolitan, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
Barbary Regencies, confirmation of title of rulers, every five years 304
Bardo, place of residence of Bey of Tunis 72, 74
Baring, Sir Francis, & Co., reference to 156
Barlow, Mr., reference to 48
Barnes, Joseph, U. S. Consul, Sicily:
Correspondence with Preble, Edward, Capt 29, 140
References to 49, 145, 178
Barney, Robert, *Argus* and *Scourge* 98, 515
Barns, Livingston, Seaman, prize *La Vergine del Rosario* 137, 142
Barron, James, Capt., U. S. S. *New York* and *Essex:*
Correspondence with—
Navy, Secretary of 19
Rodgers, John, Capt 424, 486
Simpson, James 454
Court of Inquiry to try Bainbridge, William 136
Orders and instructions to 127, 422, 486
Protection of U. S. commerce off Moroccan coast 424, 486
References to 12, 39, 112, 180, 205, 207, 242, 377, 421, 422
Spence, Robert T., Mid., reference to 346
To command frigate *Essex* instead of *United States* 19, 115
Barron, James S., Mrs., records published through courtesy of 132, 175, 179, 217, 218, 320, 330, 369, 393, 483
Barron, Samuel, Capt. and Commodore of U. S. Mediterranean Squadron, U. S. S. *President:*
Alfred, Am storeship 373
Arrived at Gibraltar with his Squadron 409, 441
Arrived at Tripoli with his Squadron 513, 517
Assumed command of Mediterranean Squadron 307
Authorized to establish a hospital 135
Authorized to procure necessary gunboats 148
Commodore of Mediterranean Squadron, in U. S. S. *President*, relieving Commo. Preble iii, 12, 143, 144, 180, 300, 307, 353, 377, 417, 443, 484
Congress and *Essex* sent to Gibraltar Station by 485, 486
Correspondence with—
Campbell, Hugh G., Capt 175
Chauncey, Isaac, Master Comdt 291, 522
Lear, Tobias 320

Page

Barron, Samuel, Capt. and Commodore of U. S. Mediterranean Squadron, U. S. S. *President*—Continued
Correspondence with—Continued.
Navy, Secretary of 99, 133–136, 138, 143, 148, 152–154, 160, 375
President Thomas Jefferson 132
Rodgers, John, Capt 179, 193, 203, 218, 219, 241, 414
Simpson, James 281, 329, 392, 411, 485
Court Martial sentence approved, trial of Quinn and Kirkpatrick 219
Court of Inquiry on Capt. William Bainbridge 135, 136
Court of Inquiry held on Capt. Richard V. Morris 39
Hamet Caramanli, co-operation with 445
Lear, Tobias, co-operation of, in peace negotiations 153, 155
Mirboka, necessity of refusing passport to 411
Orders and instructions 99, 132–134, 138–140, 143, 148, 153, 160
Orders prizes sent from Tripoli to Malta under convoy of *Constitution* 307
Preble, Commo. anxious to make peace with Tripoli before arrival of 388, 391, 395
References to 106, 115, 127, 131, 175, 205, 207, 242, 243, 288, 289, 304, 320, 321, 367, 373, 385, 387, 399, 403, 422–424, 450, 464, 468, 480, 486–488
Rodgers, John, Capt. reference to 488
Sailed for Mediterranean with Squadron 249
Sword made in London to be turned over to Tobias Lear 155
Vessels comprising his squadron 152
Barry, James, ordinary seaman, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
Bartlett, John, seaman, *John Adams*, killed 309, 475
Bashaw, Lewis, seaman, claimed to be a Frenchman 335
Bashaw. *See* Tripoli, Bashaw of.
Basile, Domenico, G. B. No. 6 360
Bassman, Tripolitan prisoner, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
Bastian, Adam, ordinary seaman, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
Battimiello, Catiello, G. B. No. 1 359
Bazen, James, Mr., correspondence with Navy, Secretary of 273
Beaussier, Citizen, Charge d'Affaires and French Commissary General, Tripoli:
Attitude of, towards United States 206, 207, 248, 251
Character of 450
Correspondence with Preble, Edward, Capt 117, 146, 180, 184, 227, 251, 363, 369, 389, 393, 397, 398, 480–483, 496.
Le St. Jean Baptiste, Ligurian prize liberated by Commo. Preble 146, 251
Opinion of Commo. Preble's overtures to Tripoli *re* peace and ransom 482, 483, 496
Opinions and participation of, in negotiations with Tripoli 4, 8, 40–42, 82, 117, 180, 181, 184, 185, 237, 238, 251, 355, 363, 369, 389, 393, 394, 397, 398, 400, 401, 450, 480–483, 495, 496.
References to 59, 87, 178, 192, 200, 276, 365, 368, 375, 404, 489
Bedinger, Daniel, Navy Agent and Superintendent of Navy Yard, Norfolk, Va.:
Correspondence with—
Goldsborough, Charles W 490
Navy, Secretary of 67, 208, 231, 371, 372, 457, 491, 521
References to 6, 36, 211, 267, 312, 371, 375, 458
Beekman, John, Navy Agent and Superintendent of Navy Yard, New York, N. Y.:
Correspondence with Navy, Secretary of 471
Instructions and orders to, regarding building of gunboats 253, 428
Benevolenza, Capt. Luca Lucovich. *See La Benevolenza.*
Bennett, Edward, Mid., *John Adams* 5, 463
Bennett, John, taken on board H. B. M. S. *Narcissus* 136
Bercia, Moroccan galley, Arraez Mohamet Ben Ottoman, commanding 392
Betsey, Am. schooner, Capt. Wellman, Boston 111
Betsey Walk, (renamed *Woodrop Sims*) Am. storeship, Capt. Miles Reddick 28, 163
Bey of Tunis. *See* Tunis, Bey of.
Bey (or Prince) of Tripoli. *See* Tripoli.
Bianchi, Joseph, Capt., Spanish ship *La Marianna* 403
Biddle, James, Mid 22, 279

Page
Bille, Mr., Danish Consul, Algiers ... 166, 199, 472
Bittern, spoken by *Constitution* off Tripoli ... 260
Bizerta, Tunis, Confidential Agent to be appointed at ... 80, 82
Blake, Joshua, Lt., comdg Gunboat No. 3 in attack on Tripoli ... 76, 137, 295, 383, 385, 386, 489
Blakely, Johnston, Mid., correspondence with Rodgers, John, Capt ... 92
Blockades:
Comments and opinions concerning ... 108, 133, 209
Of Tripoli. *See* Tripoli, blockade of.
Violations of ... 161–163, 170
Blodget, Samuel G., Mid ... 138
Blyth, Samuel, seaman, *Argus* and *Scourge* ... 98, 515
Boit, Henry, concerning Thomas Wood, prisoner at St. Lucar ... 150
Bombardiers, engaged at Messina ... 128, 129
Bombards. *See* Gunboats and Mortar Boats.
Bonaparte, Napoleon ... 22, 23, 25, 122, 180, 195, 198, 200, 214, 290, 355, 368
Bonaparte, Napoleon, brother of ... 290
Bon Aventuro, Spanish Ship, Admiral Locoas de Payto ... 511
Bongiorno, Felice, G. B. No. 3 ... 359
Bonny, William, Marine, *Argus* and *Scourge* ... 98, 515
Booth, James N., Mrs., acknowledgement to ... iv
Borney, Charles, forger. *See* Roberts, Laurent.
Boscarun, Bartholomew, Neapolitan, U. S. brig *Scourge* ... 515
Boston, Jacob ... 349–351
Boston Public Library, records published by courtesy of ... 249
Bowers, Algerine Schooner ... 79
Bowsprit of U. S. frigate President ... 67
Brahm, Saul Levi ... 168
Brent, Mr ... 40
Bricoa, Philip, ordinary seaman, U. S. brig *Scourge* ... 515
Briggs, Thomas, Capt., R. N., comdg. H. B. M. S. *Agincourt*, correspondence with Preble, Edward, Capt ... 241, 282
Broadbent, John, U. S. Navy Agent, Messina:
Correspondence with Preble, Edward, Capt ... 45, 122, 126, 145, 453, 524
Prize money to be paid to complements of Gunboats ... 523
References to ... 46, 131, 140, 141, 146
Brooke, Samuel B., Sailing Master, *Siren*, *Argus* and Gunboat No. 3:
Action off Tripoli, Aug. 28, 1804 in G. B. No. 3 ... 473
Correspondence with Preble, Edward, Capt ... 29
Extracts from log book of. *See Argus*.
References to ... 26, 29–31, 43, 310, 377, 383, 428, 478, 504
Brooks. *See* Brooke, Samuel B.
Brophy, Matthew, *Constitution*, punished for various offenses ... 71
Brown, George, deserted from *Madona Catapoliana* ... 136
Brown, John, U. S. S. *Vixen* and G. B. No. 9, killed ... 309, 380, 381
Brown, Laurent. *See* Roberts, Laurent.
Brown, Mayne &, Lisbon. *See* Mayne & Brown.
Brown, Samuel, Navy Agent, Boston, Mass.:
Correspondence with Navy, Secretary of ... 65, 254, 266, 422
References to ... 371, 372, 457
Brown, Thomas, Mid ... 31, 129, 344, 383
Brown, William B., *Constitution*, punished for various offenses ... 71
Budd, Mr., U. S. brig *Siren* ... 16, 18
Bullock, Archibald S., Navy Agent, Savannah, Ga., correspondence with Navy, Secretary of ... 253, 277
Bullus, John, Surgeon, U. S. N ... 21
Buchard, John, Master at Arms, U. S. S. *Constitution* ... 398
Burrello, Andrea, G. B. No. 6 ... 360
Burrows, William, Mid., *Nautilus* and *Siren* ... 30, 34, 38, 43
Burrows, William W., former Lt. Col. Commandant, U. S. M. C ... 56
Bushard, John. *See* Burchard, John.
Cadiz, Spain, Consul, U. S., Yznardi, Joseph ... 242, 409
Cafarello, Filippe, G. B. No. 6 ... 360
Caldwell, James R., Lt., *Siren* and Gunboat No. 9:
Commanding prize taken 3 Aug., and named Gunboat No. 9 ... 298
Commanding *Siren's* barge in attack of 7 July 1804, off Tripoli ... 254, 257

Caldwell, James R., Lt., *Siren* and Gunboat No. 9—Continued. Page
Killed in Gunboat No. 9, 7 Aug. 1804 299, 308, 352–356, 375–381, 384, 417, 512, 516
Reference to 95
Tribute to, by Robert T. Spence 352
Cambese, Guiangeito, Neapolitan, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
Camel, Mr 97
Cammilleri, Ignazio, Mate, English ship *Eliza* chartered by Mr. Higgins 245
Campbell, Hugh G., Capt., comdg U. S. S. *Constellation:*
Arrived off Tripoli 307, 517
Commanding U. S. frigate *Constellation* 115, 143, 144
Correspondence with Barron, Samuel, Capt 175
Member of Courts of Inquiry held on Capts. Richard V. Morris and William Bainbridge 39, 136
Orders and instructions to 127
References to 12, 377
Candela, Domenico, G. B. No. 3 359
Candela, Giacomo, G. B. No. 1 359
Cannon (or Carmon), M., Private, U. S. M. C., *Vixen*, wounded 309
Cape Carthage and vicinity, Soundings off 12
Cape de Gatt, earthquake off 452
Captain Pacha. *See* Turkey.
Caramanli, Hamet, rightful Bashaw of Tripoli. *See* Hamet Caramanli.
Caramanli, Yusuf, Bashaw of Tripoli, usurper of Hamet's throne. *See* Tripoli, Bashaw of.
Caravello, Guiseppe, G. B. No. 1 359
Carera, Joseph, Master, *St. Ferdinado* 224
Carmick, Daniel, Capt., U. S. Marine Corps, correspondence with Navy, Secretary of 231, 269
Carmon (or Cannon), M., pvt. U. S. M. C., *Vixen*, wounded 309
Carr, John, Purser, U. S. Gunboat No. 1 279
Carroll, M. B., Lt 311
Carroll, Right Reverend Bishop, Baltimore, Md., correspondence with Navy, Secretary of 56
Carson, John, Ordinary seaman, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
Carson, Joseph, Mr., acknowledgment to iv
Carter, D. M., copy of painting vi, 290
Casey, Henry P., Mid 129, 147, 515
Cassin, John, Lt., Navy Yard, Washington, D. C.:
Correspondence with—
Goldsborough, Charles W 328
Navy, Secretary of 14, 20, 39
Rodgers, John, Capt 127
References to 4, 16, 372
Cassin, Stephen, Mid 30, 43, 44
Casteliaccio, Arcangelo, G. B. No. 5 360
Castellaccio, Girolamo, G. B. No. 4 360
Castellano, Carto, G. B. No. 6 360
Casualties, killed or wounded:
Adams, William 231
Allan, C 349
Bartlett, John 475
Brown, John 380
Caldwell, James R., Lt 299, 352–356, 375–381, 384, 417, 512, 516
Clark, Robert 507
Clark, William, *Argus*, wounded by fall 240
Congress, men fell from rigging 266, 268
Connor, M., U. S. M. C 349
Constitution, killed or wounded 298, 309, 338, 339, 507, 520
Cooper, William, Marine 254, 257, 273
Culver, Asa 475
Darling, David 271
Deblois, James S., Purser 511
Decatur, James, Lt. killed 3 August 1804 295, 297, 298, 337–340, 345, 347, 348, 351, 354, 356, 417, 512, 516
Decatur, Stephen, Jr., Capt., wounded in action off Tripoli, 3 Aug 1804 298, 338, 345–348, 354

Casualties, killed or wounded—Continued. Page
Dorsey, John, Mid. 299, 352, 355, 356, 376–381, 384, 417, 512, 516
Downs, Isaac W. 507
Enterprize, one of crew died 121
Fountain, William 475
Frazier, Daniel, wounded in action 3 Aug. 1804 348
Gunboat No. 8 300, 377–381
Gunboat No. 9, killed and wounded 7 Aug. 1804 63, 300, 352, 378–381
Harris, James 507
Harrison, William 507
Hendrickson, Jacob, died 110
Henzie (or Henry) Samuel, Marine 254, 257
Hopkins, Francis, Marine, *Constitution* died at Malta 171
Intrepid, officers and crew of, killed 65, 306, 353, 506, 507, 513, 517
Israel, Joseph, Mid 306, 353, 356, 506, 507, 513, 517
James, Thomas, wounded in action of 3 Aug. 1804 348
Jeffers, James 483
John Adams, crew of boat of, killed or wounded 304, 474–476, 480
Jones, Alexander 380
Keith, William 507
Macey, Samuel, Marine 260
McCormick, Hugh 507
McDonald, Thomas 475
Merry, Thomas, *Argus*, killed by fall 240
Morrison, John, prisoner of Tripoli, died 61, 75
Morse, Noah, Seaman, *Constitution*, died at Malta 171
Nautilus, a Neapolitan and 2 seamen wounded, 3 Aug. 1804 309
Officers, Seamen & Marines, U. S., killed or wounded 254, 257, 273, 297–300, 308, 309, 337–340, 344, 345, 356, 417, 506, 507, 512, 513, 516, 517, 520, 523.
Penner, Peter 507
Philadelphia, prisoners taken by Tripoli 4
Pyles, John 427
Riveness, Thomas, Marine 254, 257
Rodgers, John, Carpenter's Mate, U. S. S. *Congress*, died 366
Rogers, Franciso, died 408
Ryan, J., U. S. M. C. 349
Sears, John D., Mid., drowned 235, 288, 291
Simms, James 507
Siren, killed in boat of 234
Somers, Richard, Lt 306, 353, 356, 506, 507, 513, 517
Tompline, Thomas 507
Tripolitans, killed or wounded 234, 260, 295–297, 300, 303, 304, 313, 338–340, 345, 348, 352–354, 356, 363, 365, 516.
Trippe, John, Sailing Master, Gunboat No. 6, wounded 3 August 1804 296, 298, 338, 345, 349, 351, 352, 355, 417
Vallance, Lawrence, Ordinary Seaman, *Congress*, died 432
Wadsworth, Henry, Mid., killed 306, 353, 356, 506, 507, 513, 517
Williams, Jacob 507
Williams, William, Marine 254, 257
Wilson, James, *Argus*, fell overboard 240
Wren, Sal., Sergt. U. S. M. C. 348
Catalano, Salvadore, Pilot 511
Catapoliana. *See Madona Catapoliana.*
Cathalan, Stephen, Jr., U. S. Commercial Agent, Marseilles, France 9, 86, 92, 116, 154
Cathcart, James L., Leghorn and Naples:
Cipher, references to 48, 141
Correspondence with—
Acton, Sir John 50
Cathalan, Stephen, Jr. 92
Nissen, Nicholas C. 467
Preble, Edward, Capt. 31, 47–49, 99, 101, 126, 141, 177–179, 248
State, Secretary of 175
Criticism of 8, 10
Disposition of articles left in Consular house by 467

Cathcart, James L., Leghorn and Naples—Continued. Page
Gunboats and Mortar Boats 31, 32, 50, 92, 178, 179
Opinion of, concerning Richard O'Brien and George Davis 32, 33, 178
Prisoners of U. S. in Tripoli, aid to 32, 50, 86, 177
References to 9, 47, 96, 117, 123, 155–157, 187, 276, 390
Return of, to U. S., in *John Adams* 92, 99, 178, 467, 518
Spence, Robert T., recommended by 49
Status of, in the Mediterranean 48, 49, 175
Tripoli, opinions concerning 48, 49, 178
Cathcart, Mrs 177
Celia, Am. brig, Capt. Richard Bowen of Boston 510
Cesario, Giacomo, G. B. No. 6 360
Cesario, Guiseppe, G. B. No. 6 360
Chalmers, John, Navy Yard, Washington, D. C., correspondence with Goldsborough, Charles W 182
Chancy. *See* Chauncey, Isaac.
Chappel, copy of original painting by vi, 290
Charge d'Affaires. *See* Consuls.
Chauncey, Isaac, Master Comdt., *John Adams* and *Constitution:*
Algiers, visit to and courtesies extended by 319, 323–325
Commended by Capt. Edward Preble 303, 305, 518
Correspondence with—
Barron, Samuel, Capt 291, 522
Creighton, John Orde, Lt 468
Darby, John, Purser 462–464
Navy, Secretary of 16, 18, 106, 116–119, 123, 129, 160, 182, 211, 227, 287, 292, 320, 364
Preble, Edward, Capt 288, 385, 387, 462, 475, 518, 521
Extracts from journal of Purser John Darby. *See John Adams.*
Extracts from journal of U. S. S. *John Adams. See John Adams.*
John Adams in attacks on Tripoli. *See John Adams.*
Joined *Constitution* with other volunteers, for attacks on Tripoli 302, 304, 356, 384, 413, 415, 426, 427, 456, 461, 472, 503, 517
Orders and instructions to 18, 116–119, 161, 287, 289, 301, 387, 518, 524
Promotion of, to Master Commandant 106
Reconnoitered harbor of Tripoli in small boat 301, 429, 430
References to 12, 128, 143, 144, 160, 180, 197, 205, 207, 300, 320, 321, 367, 377, 379, 408, 419, 440, 465, 476, 492, 499, 522.
Returned to *John Adams* with volunteers, from *Constitution* 432, 433, 474, 506
Cheeseman, Mr., to furnish gun carriages 16
Chesapeake, U. S. frigate 2, 234
Chief Clerk of Navy Department. *See* Goldsborough, Charles Washington.
Church, Mr., Englishman, killed in Tripoli 64
Cingolla, Guiseppe, G. B. No. 3 359
Circulars 115, 142, 241, 423
Citizen, Am. Storeship, Capt. Lawson 408
Civil day commences 12:01 a. m. ends midnight of indicated day.
Clark, Robert, seaman, *Constitution*, killed 309, 507
Clark, William, U. S. brig *Angus*, wounded from fall on deck 240
Clarke, Winlock, Mid., correspondence with Navy, Secretary of 3
Clementee, Mr 71
Clothing (*See* Stores and *Philadelphia*) 32, 101
Cocke, Buller, Storekeeper, Navy Yard, Washington, D. C 70, 328
Collins, Clara R., Mrs., acknowledgment to iv
Commanders of U. S. Ships of War, Syracuse, correspondence with Preble, Edward, Capt 267
Commodore Barry, Am. ship 291, 425
Conception, Antonio Grima 396, 402, 404, 424, 439, 443, 444, 451
Conde Galino. *See* Schembri, Gaetano Andrea.
Congress of the United States, resolution awarding a sword to Lt. Andrew Sterett 516
Congress, U. S. frigate, Capt. John Rodgers comdg:
Arrived at Tripoli 513
At Gilbraltar 402, 407, 411, 412, 415, 418, 472, 486, 489, 495, 499

Congress, U. S. frigate, Capt. John Rodgers comdg.—Continued. Page
At Hampton Roads 164, 175, 182, 239, 241, 246
At St. Marys, with guns and provisions on board 150
Casualties 266, 268, 366
Commissioned 88
Course of, from Cape Henry, Va. to Gibraltar, 4,407 miles in 38 days 399
Deserters from 415
En route to the Mediterranean 268, 377
Extracts from journal of (Nautical Day) 246, 247, 249, 268, 285, 316, 366, 387, 412, 415, 418, 426, 429, 432, 438, 465, 469, 472, 489, 499.
Fitting out for the Mediterranean 92, 112, 115, 163, 180, 182, 193, 205, 207, 229, 242, 289
Guns 12, 127, 143, 144, 152
In Potomac River 147
In Tunis Bay 346
Launch of, unable to be stowed, left at Norfolk, Va 241
Morocco, cruising off, and in Tangier Bay 346, 387, 414, 421–424, 426, 429, 438, 441, 464, 465, 467–469, 472, 485–488, 496
Off Island of Madeira 316, 317
Off Maryland Point 127
One of Commo. Samuel Barron's Squadron 152, 399, 513
Orders to 193, 241
Quinn, Robert and Kirkpatrick, John, tried on board 203, 218, 219
Recruiting 163, 241
References to 45, 67, 95, 139, 143, 144, 227, 300, 432, 488
Rodgers, John, Carpenter's mate, died 366
Sailed from United States 246–249
Connor, M., U. S. M. C., wounded in action off Tripoli 349
Constantine, operations of new master of 108, 262, 280, 373
Constellation, U. S. S., Capt. Hugh G. Campbell:
Arrived at Tripoli 307, 513, 517
At Gibraltar 402, 407, 411, 412
Commissioned 88
Earthquake felt off Cape de Gatt 452
En route to the Mediterranean 268, 377
Fitting out to join the Mediterranean Squadron 112, 115, 175, 182, 229, 242, 289
Guns 12, 143, 144, 152
One of Mediterranean Squadron, Commo. Samuel Barron 152, 495, 513
Orders to 127
References to 45, 54, 139, 143, 144, 300, 307
Sailed from Gibraltar en route to Tripoli 421, 441
Sailed from United States 246, 247, 249
Constitution, U. S. frigate, Commo. Edward Preble:
At Malta 22, 24, 71, 151, 158–161, 163, 171, 174, 189, 224, 227, 272–275, 281, 284, 294, 308.
At Messina, Straits of 118, 120, 121, 126, 131, 189, 235, 237, 238, 243, 244, 246, 248, 249, 257, 259, 293
At Naples 90, 91, 101–103, 106, 110, 111
At Syracuse 26–30 33–37, 40, 45, 46, 51–57, 61, 66, 68, 130, 138. 140, 143–145, 147, 189, 226, 228, 231, 234, 239, 260, 265, 267, 268, 269, 293.
At Tunis 6, 7, 10–13, 15, 42, 81, 82, 84, 130, 191, 200–202, 204–213, 218, 220
Ball, Sir Alexander, went on board of, at Malta 163
Bowsprit and spars needed by 154, 371, 372, 375, 521
Cannon and ammunition taken on board at Messina and Naples 105, 106, 189
Casey, Henry P., Mid., rejoined 147
Conception store ship and prize, violation of blockade of Tripoli 443
Corbett, Robert, received on board at Malta 174
Darling, David, boy, killed 271
Davis, George, conferred with Commo. Preble 11, 211, 212
Davis, John, Mid., transferred to *Scourge* 35
Deblois, James S., Purser, died 511

Constitution, U. S. frigate, Commo. Edward Preble—Continued. Page
Decatur, James, Lt., death on board of, and burial from 337, 339, 365
Decatur, Stephen Jr., Capt. to command 307
Deserter from Garrison at Syracuse, delivered up by 55, 56
Deserters from 106, 257, 284
Destruction of, by negligence of Lt. Tarbell, narrowly averted 151, 159, 160, 173, 177
Draft of 66
Elbert, Samuel, negligence of 250, 251
Extract from journal of Mid. Charles Morris, Jr 36
Extracts from diary of Commo. Preble. *See* daily entries 1–289
Extracts from journal of Commo. Preble. (Nautical day) (*See* daily entries) 292–448
Extracts from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden. (Nautical day). *See* daily entries 7–526
Extracts from memorandum book of Capt. Preble. (Nautical day) (*See* daily entries) 7, 14, 22–27, 35, 52, 84, 174, 185, 191, 208, 259, 270, 272, 316, 336, 375, 388, 400, 472, 503
Flagship of Commo. Preble, Mediterranean Squadron 62, 152
Flogging 71, 160, 197, 202, 286, 439
Flying English Colors 19
Goldsborough, Robert W., Purser, to serve as Clerk while on 75
Gordon, Charles, Lt., rejoined 520
Greek vessels with cargo of wheat detained by 307, 308
Guns 152, 206, 341, 374, 375, 476
Guns for boats of 289
Hall, Francis C., Mid., rejoined 147
Israel, Joseph, Lt., ordered to 437
Izard, Ralph, Jr 37, 41, 302
John Adams—
Joined Commo. Preble's squadron off Tripoli 384
Relief crew transported by 43, 54
Jourvass, Lewis, pilot on, discharged 159, 160, 220
Laws, Alexander, Mid., rejoined 147
Lear, Tobias and family debarked at Algiers 511
McFate, John, transferred from, to *Scourge* 35, 68
Marines exercised at great guns 310
Messina, officers and men sent on board two bomb vessels at 257, 259
Morris, Charles, Jr., Mid., in *Scourge* and *Argus* 36, 37, 512
O'Brien, Richard on board 24, 81, 102, 103, 175, 330, 405, 406
Peterson, Emanuel, deserter from *Nautilus*, received on board at Malta 174
Philadelphia's officers and men, prisoners, clothing for 96, 205, 207
Preble, Edward, Capt., returned on board 74, 217, 218, 365, 389, 394, 490
References to 4, 88, 101, 118, 147, 242, 350, 387, 489, 496, 497, 510
Rowe, John, Mid., transferred to *Scourge* 35
St. Ferdinando, permission requested of, to enter Tripoli 224
St. Guisseppe storeship off Tripoli 316–318, 333, 334
Sailed from—
Boston, Tobias and Mrs. Lear on board 510
Malta for Tripoli 174, 175, 284, 286, 289, 330
Messina 131
Naples 113
Syracuse 68, 189, 239
Syracuse for Tripoli via Malta with 2 bomb vessels, 6 gunboats, *Nautilus* and *Enterprize* in company 269, 271
Tripoli 197, 307, 516
Tripoli with *Argus* and *Enterprize* to appear off Tunis 188
Tunis 42, 84, 123, 189, 215, 217, 218
Salutes by and to 11, 12, 26, 81, 510
Scourge—
Complement of 35, 512
Engagements before Tripoli. *See Scourge.*
Officers and men from, return on board *Constitution* 333, 489
Refitting rigging, assisted and outfitted by 44, 66, 68
Scuttles lined with thick cloth 175
Stores for 6, 37, 302, 370, 400, 401

Constitution, U. S. frigate, Commo. Edward Preble—Continued. Page
Tripoli, engagements before—
Action of—
3 August 1804 ..... 296–298, 337, 339, 342, 344, 350, 351, 354, 512
7 August 1804 ..... 298, 300, 376, 378
17 August 1804 shots fired from shore batteries 426, 427
28 August 1804 ..... 302, 303, 472–476, 480, 516
2 or 3 September 1804 ..... 304, 305, 501, 503–505
Actions, general participation in 342, 401, 509, 517
Bainbridge, William narrowly escaped death, 28 Aug. 1804 495
Casualties, killed or wounded 298, 309, 338, 339, 507, 520
Chauncey, Isaac and men from *John Adams* volunteered and served in 302, 304, 384, 415, 421, 426, 427, 456, 472, 503
Damages inflicted on batteries, shipping and town of. *See* Tripoli.
Damages sustained by 297, 303–305, 337–340, 342, 354, 418, 473–476, 480, 501, 504, 516, 520
Dent, John H., Lt., in charge of gun deck 302, 472
Employment of ship's company 391, 395, 400, 419, 451, 506, 526
Gunboats and Bombards. *See* Gunboats and mortar boats.
Intrepid, blowing up of, 3 or 4 September 1804. (*See Intrepid*) 306, 499, 506, 507, 513
Officers and men of Squadron commended and thanked by Commo. Preble 297, 303, 361
Off Tripoli with squadron during all attacks 179–198, 293–526
Order of Anchoring and Sailing 314, 315
Peace and ransom negotiations 41, 185, 186, 191, 394, 400, 401, 481–483, 495, 496
Preparations for attacks 87, 206, 294, 298, 300–302, 310, 394, 395, 465, 472, 500, 503, 506, 513, 519
Prisoners taken 337, 339, 340, 366, 480, 493
Prizes taken by U. S. squadron. (*See* also Gunboats) 298, 307, 339, 344, 364
Reports or accounts of—
Haraden, Sailing Master Nathaniel 338–340, 472–474
Preble, Edward, Commo. *See* Preble, Edward.
Signals to squadron 336, 338, 341–345, 354, 375, 380, 390, 401, 402, 413–416, 418, 421, 425–434, 440, 444–453, 455, 465, 474, 493, 498–507, 527
Weather delayed attacks 341, 406, 412, 413, 415, 429, 443, 453–456
Vessels boarded and spoken by 68, 86, 111, 118, 500, 501
Wadsworth, Henry, Mid., ordered to *Scourge* 37

Consuls, Vice Consuls, Consuls General, Chargé d'Affaires, Ministers, Ambassadors:
Denmark—
At Tripoli. *See* Nissen, Nicholas C.
At Tunis. *See* Holck, Capt.
Foreign. Capts. Bainbridge's and Preble's opinions of 42, 214
France—
At Algiers. *See* Monsieur Bille.
At Algiers. *See* Thainville, Dubois.
At Tripoli. *See* Beaussier, Citizen.
Great Britain—
At Tripoli. *See* Langford, William Wass, Consul General.
At Tripoli. *See* McDonogh, Brian.
In the United States. *See* Merry, Anthony, Minister.
Russia—
At Naples. *See* Manzo, N. de, Counsellor and Agent General.
At Naples. *See* d' Karpow, P., Minister.
At Paris, France. *See* Monsieur d' Oubril, Chargé d' Affaires.
Spain, at Tunis. *See* Noguera, Don Joseph.
United States—
At Algiers. *See* Lear, Tobias, Consul General.
At Alicante, Spain. *See* Montgomery, Robert.
At Cadiz, Spain. *See* Yznardi, Josef.
At Gibraltar. *See* Gavino, John.

Consuls, Vice Consuls, Consuls General, Chargé d'Affaires, Ministers, Ambassadors—Continued. Page
United States—Continued
At Leghorn. *See* Appleton, Thomas.
At Lisbon. *See* Jarvis, William.
At Liverpool, England. *See* Maury, James.
At London, England. *See* Monroe, James, Minister.
At L'Orient. *See* Vail, A., Commercial Agent.
At Madeira. *See* Lamar, Marien.
At Madrid, Spain. *See* Pinckney, Charles, Minister.
At Malaga, Spain. *See* Kirkpatrick, William.
At Malta. *See* Pulis, Joseph.
At Marseilles, France. *See* Cathalan, Stephen, Jr., Commercial Agent.
At Naples. *See* Matthiew, John S. M.
At Palermo. *See* Gibbs, Abraham.
At Paris, France. *See* Livingston, Robert R., Minister.
At Russia, St. Petersburg. *See* Harris, Levett.
At Sicily. *See* Barnes, Joseph.
At Tangier, Morocco. *See* Simpson, James.
At Tunis. *See* Davis, George, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires.
Barbary Regencies. *See* Eaton, William, U. S. Navy Agent for.
Circular letter to certain ---- 423
Navy Agents. *See* Navy Agents, U. S.
Cooper, William, Marine, wounded ---- 254, 257, 309
Copigi Bashaw of the Grand Signior. *See* Turkey, Sultan of.
Corbett, Robert, U. S. schr. *Nautilus* ---- 174
Cordis, John B., Lt., correspondence with Navy, Secretary of ---- 312
Cordrey, Abraham, Purser, Gunboat No. 1 ---- 279
Cornè, M. F., copies of paintings by ---- Frontispiece, vi, 204, 248
Courts Martial and Courts of Inquiry:
Bainbridge, William, Capt. (*See* Bainbridge, William) ---- 136, 143
Creighton, J. O. and Darby, John, reference to ---- 521
Livingston, W. M., Lt., resigns to avoid ---- 43
Morris, Richard V., Capt., sentence of ---- 38, 81, 105
Page, Octavius A. to be tried by ---- 91, 93, 111
Sentences of Robert Quinn and John Kirkpatrick ---- 203, 218, 219
Shields, Mr., to be held on ---- 148
Cowdery, Jonathan, Surgeon's Mate, taken prisoner in U. S. S. *Philadelphia:*
Extracts from journal of, 24 April to 6 September 1804, (Civil Day) ---- 61–65
Cox, Lt ---- 51
Cox, Edward N., Mid., U. S. schr. *Nautilus and St. Crucifisso:*
Correspondence with Preble, Edward, Capt ---- 27, 69, 114
References to ---- 30, 43, 138, 190
Cox, George, promotion of, to Master Commandant ---- 106
Cox, John S. H., Lt., Philadelphia, Pa., correspondence with Navy, Secretary of ---- 67
Cozzens, Leonard, *Constitution*, punished for various offenses ---- 71
Crane, William M., Lt., U. S. schr. *Vixen* and Gunboat No. 8 ---- 138, 289, 298, 376, 377, 380, 473, 479, 503
Creighton, John Orde, Lt. (acting as Master's Mate):
Correspondence with—
Chauncey, Isaac, Master Comdt ---- 468
Preble, Edward, Capt ---- 522
References to ---- 304, 462–464, 492, 521
Crescent, Algerine frigate ---- 327
Crippen, Capt., H. B. M. sloop of war, *King Fisher* ---- 275, 278
Criscuolo, Raffaile, G. B. No. 1 ---- 359
Cristino Caleguo, G. B. No. 6 ---- 360
Cristino, Michelangelo, G. B. No. 6 ---- 360
Crocillo, Peter F., Surgeon's Mate ---- 29
Culver, Asa, seaman, *John Adams*, wounded at Tripoli ---- 475
Curcio, Giovanni, G. B. No. 5 ---- 360
Currin, Anthony (or Antonio), G. B. No. 9 and *Siren* ---- 309, 381
Curtis, Bill ---- 508
Curtis, William, able seaman, *Constitution*, deserted at Malta ---- 284

Page
Customs, policy of "Free Flags" and "Subject Flags" 129
Cutbush, Edward, Surgeon, U. S. Navy 135
Cuthbert, Benjamin, Sgt. Marines, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
Cutulillo, Antonio, G. B. No. 2 359
Dale, Richard, Capt iii, iv, 155
Dana, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, records published by courtesy of 234
D'Andreis, Angiolo, of Sallucci & Co., Leghorn 467
Darby, John, Purser, *John Adams:*
Correspondence with—
Chauncey, Isaac, Master Comdt 462–464
Preble, Edward, Capt 492
Dispute with Master's Mate John Orde Creighton 462–464, 468, 492, 521
Extracts from journal of. *See John Adams.*
Malta, description of 366, 367
References to 290, 292, 311, 323–325, 522
Report of attack on Tripoli 475, 476
Darling, David, boy, *Constitution*, killed 271
Darling, Ezekeil, boy, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
Davis, George, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis:
Algiers, conditions in 209, 215, 221, 373, 374, 437
Cathcart, James Leander 33, 178
Confirmation of status of, in Tunis 102
Correspondence with—
Bainbridge, William, Capt 122, 195, 199, 222, 271, 368
Lear, Tobias 58, 108, 166–169, 214–216, 275, 494
Nissen, Nicholas C 221, 495
Noguera, Don Joseph 216, 217
O'Brien, Richard 65, 66, 80
Officers Commanding United States Ships of War in the Mediterranean 58, 151
Preble, Edward, Capt 6, 13, 17, 36, 79, 80, 96, 204, 209, 210, 219, 277, 340, 367, 368, 386, 442
State, Secretary of 93–95, 261–263, 373, 436
Health of 204, 215, 222, 276
O'Brien, Richard, references to 53, 93, 166, 167
Passports issued by, to *La Vergine del Rosario* and *La Marianna*, resulting complications 58, 104, 105, 108, 109, 121, 151, 163, 170, 183, 210, 216, 217, 219, 367, 368, 374, 386, 403, 496.
References to 4, 9, 10, 34, 45, 59–61, 87, 113, 137, 157, 164, 165, 168–170, 172, 188, 189, 207, 224, 280, 283, 357, 404, 453, 482.
Secretary of, retained 81, 94, 95
Tripoli, remarks concerning 272, 436, 437, 442
Tunis, United States affairs in, and general conditions 11, 12, 16, 18, 42, 72–74, 79–82, 84, 93–95, 109, 110, 211, 212, 215, 330, 437.
Davis, John, Mid., *Constitution* and *Scourge* 35, 52, 407, 511
Davis, William, boatswains mate killed 308, 381
Dawley, Michael, marine, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
Deacon (David), Mate, *Constitution* 129
Deblois, James S., Purser, *Constitution*, died at Syracuse 511
Decatur, James, Lt., comdg. Gunboat No. 2:
Commendation of, by Commo. Preble 297, 361
Constitution, died on board of and buried from 337, 339, 365
Death of, avenged by his brother Capt. Stephen Decatur 347
Gunboat No. 2 commanded by, in attack of 3 August 1804 on Tripoli. *See* Gunboats and Mortar Boats.
Killed in action of 3 August 1804 on Tripoli 295, 297, 298, 308, 337–340, 345, 347, 351, 354, 356, 384, 417, 512, 516
References to 146, 282, 342, 343
Decatur, Stephen, Jr., Capt. *Enterprize* and Gunboat No. 4:
Avenged death of his brother Lt. James Decatur 347, 348
Boarding Tripolitan Gunboat, 3 August 1804, copy of painting vi, 290
Conspicuous gallantry shown before Tripoli 303, 305, 307, 337, 340, 361, 524

Decatur, Stephen, Jr., Capt. *Enterprize* and Gunboat No. 4—Continued. Page
Correspondence with—
Preble, Edward, Capt 33, 45, 120, 143, 345, 380, 522
Spence, Keith, Purser 346
Enterprize in attacks on Tripoli. *See Enterprize.*
Extract from "Life of Stephen Decatur," by Alexander Slidell Mackinzie, U. S. Navy 347, 348
Gunboat Division Two commanded by, in Gunboat No. 4. *See* Gunboats and Mortar Boats.
Life of, saved by Daniel Frazier 296, 348
Life of, saved by Reuben James 347
Officers and men of Gunboat Div. 2 commended by 297, 345
Orders and instructions to 143, 522
Reconnoitered harbor of Tripoli 301, 429, 430
References to iv, 11, 37, 45, 53, 97, 100, 113, 118, 121, 138, 165, 174, 197, 242, 310, 344 350, 352, 357, 370, 420, 455, 476, 479, 505, 506, 508, 511, 519, 524
Reports of engagements before Tripoli 299, 345, 380, 351
Spence, Robert T., Mid., commended by, for bravery displayed at Tripoli 299, 346, 351
To command *Constitution* 307
Tripoli, engagements before. *See* Gunboats and Mortar Boats.
Wounded in action of 3 August 1804 309, 338, 345–348, 354
Decatur, Stephen, Mr., records published by courtesy of 5, 69, 76, 113, 149, 158, 166, 170, 173, 181, 199, 208, 265, 281, 283, 320–322, 459, 460, 472, 494.
Decatur, Stephen, Mrs., presented Koran to Catholic College Library, Georgetown 348
Degen, Frederick, U. S. Navy Agent, Naples 29, 32, 103, 123, 124, 144, 153, 177, 178, 249, 371
Degen, Purviance & Co., U. S. Navy Agents, Leghorn 117, 124, 141, 144, 153, 168, 169, 371, 372
de Italinsky, Mr., Russian Ambassador to Constantinople, correspondence with Preble, Edward, Capt 158
de Krafft, F. Cornelius, Mid., U. S. brig *Siren:*
Extracts from journal of. *See Siren.*
Reproduction from original drawing by vi, 336
Delitia, John, ordinary seaman, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
De Minter, Admiral 252
Denmark, relations with Great Britain and Tripoli 263, 424
Denoon, Charles, copy of print by vi, 474
Dent, John H., Lt., comdg. *Scourge* and Bombard No. 2:
Bombard No. 2. *See* Gunboats and Mortar Boats.
Commanding U. S. brig *Scourge* 34, 35, 41, 82, 190, 512, 515
Correspondence with Preble, Edward, Capt 34, 57, 191, 492, 514, 515
In charge of gun deck on *Constitution* in action of 28 August 1804 302
Orders and instructions to 57, 191, 514
Recognition of gallant conduct of, before Tripoli 361
References to 52, 60, 97, 118, 121, 128, 162, 223, 252, 472, 476, 497, 499, 519, 520, 525
Scourge in attacks on Tripoli. *See Scourge.*
Tripoli, engagements before. *See* Gunboats and Mortar Boats.
Water ration 492
Derne, Bashaw of. *See* Hamet Caramanli.
Description of a Tunisian frigate 223
Desertions. *See* names of ships.
De Simone, Domenico, G. B. No. 3 359
Desney (or Derney), James, wounded 309, 381
Deven (or Devers), Thomas, seaman, *Siren*, wounded 309, 381
de Worontzow, Alexander, Count. *See* Woronzow, Alexander, Count de.
Dey of Algiers. *See* Algiers, Dey of.
Dghies, Sidi Mohamet, Minister of Foreign Affairs or Prime Minister of Bashaw of Tripoli:
Attitude toward Capt. Bainbridge and prisoners 76, 117, 122, 228–230, 249, 255, 263, 271, 471
Correspondence with Preble, Edward, Capt 179, 229, 363, 481
Hamet Caramanli, reference to 482
Peace and ransom negotiations 188, 369, 393
References to 199, 255, 258, 365, 390, 480

Page
Diana, H. B. M. frigate 275
Diary of Commodore Preble. *See Constitution.*
d'Karpow, P., Russian Chargé d'Affaires, The Two Sicilies 107, 108, 110, 161, 396
Domingo, Mr., Roman 459
Donaldson, Mr 49
Donnarumena, Fedele, G. B. No. 2 359
Donnarumena, Salvatore, G. B. No. 3 359
do Payto, Admiral Locoas, ship *Bon Aventuro* 511
Dorsey, John S., Mid., *Siren* and Gunboat No. 9 ..... 254, 257, 299, 308, 352, 356, 375–381, 384, 417, 512, 516
Dorsey, John W., Asst. Surgeon, *Argus* and *Scourge* 498, 499, 519
d'Oubril, Monsieur, Russian Chargé d'Affaires, Paris, France, correspondence with Livingston, Robert R 17
Dougherty, William, O., seaman, U. S. brig *Argus*, sent on board prize ketch *Le St. Jean Baptiste* 150, 151
Doughty, Mr., assigned to Navy Yard, Washington, D. C., as head carpenter 14, 21
Douglass, Joseph, sailmaker, *Philadelphia* 62, 479
Dove, Marmaduke, Sailing Master, *John Adams* 462
Downs, Isaac W., seaman, U. S. S. *Constitution* and ketch *Intrepid* 309, 507
Downs, Mr 97
d'Thurn, Count, Commander-in-Chief of His Sicilian Majesty's Navy 31, 92, 98, 100, 110
d'Truso, Marquis, adjustment of U. S. affairs with Spain, by 492
Due, William, taken on board British frigate *Narcissus* 136
Duffy, William, seaman, U. S. S. *Constitution* 197
Dunn, Robert, seaman, Gunboat No. 9 381
Duties, rules regarding levying of, at Madeira 213
Dyson, George, U. S. Navy Agent, Syracuse 34, 35, 47, 88, 123, 124, 140, 141, 149, 154, 266, 371, 373, 439, 518, 524
Earthquake off Cape de Gatt 452
Eaton, James, seaman, *Constitution*, deserted at Messina 257
Eaton, William, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies:
- At Hampton, Va 175
- Commission of, as U. S. Navy Agent, Barbary Regencies 120
- Correspondence with Navy, Secretary of 120, 525
- Description of voyage to Mediterranean 250
- En route to Mediterranean in *President* 243, 266, 494
- Extracts from journal of ..... 175, 243, 250, 266, 285, 286, 317, 319, 366, 407, 413, 421, 434, 440, 445, 452, 494, 520, 526.
- References to 153–156, 203, 215, 219, 398, 441, 446

Edlin, James, U. S. Marine, U. S. brig *Argus* and prize ketch *La Vergine del Rosario* 137, 142
Egery, William, Master, Am. brig *Patty* of Rochester 453
Egypt, Bey of, reference to 525
Elbert, Samuel, Lt., U. S. frigate *Constitution* 142, 173, 250, 251, 392
Eleanor, Am. provision ship 154, 291
Elia, Francesco di, G. B. No. 5 360
Eliza, Capt. Francis or Francesco Gilio:
- Provisions, water and money carried by, to Commo. Preble off Tripoli 244–246, 255, 431, 443, 446–449
- Purchased from English owner at Malta, price of 447

Elroy, George W., Am. Citizen 150
Engagements before Tripoli:
- Bombards Nos. 1 and 2 in action. *See* Gunboats and Mortar Boats.
- Casualties. *See* Casualties.
- Civil Day and Nautical Day, attention invited to, in studying dates.
- Composition of Commo. Preble's Squadron, Gunboats, Bombards or Mortar Boats, *Constitution, Siren, Argus, Nautilus, Vixen, John Adams, Enterprize* and *Scourge*. *See* names of Ships.
- Gunboats Nos. 1 to 6. *See* Gunboats and Mortar Boats.
- Gunboats Nos. 7, 8, 9, prizes taken 3 August, 1804. *See* Gunboats and Mortar Boats.
- Orders of Anchoring and Sailing before Tripoli 314, 315
- Preble, Edward, Commo. ordered attacks on Tripoli ended for Season 307

England. *See* Great Britain. Page
Enlisted Men, U. S. Navy and Marine Corps:
Advances to 241
Commendation and thanks for gallant conduct in attacks on Tripoli 254, 297, 361, 377, 390, 392
Deserters from U. S. Ships of War 257
Engagements before Tripoli, casualties and actions. *See* names of ships and Gunboats.
Hospital in Mediterranean authorized 135
Mutiny, punishment for 218, 219
Navy Yard, Washington, D. C 20, 21
Pay of 136, 522
Relief crews 136
Remarkable morale of Commo. Preble's squadron 353, 356
Seaman wounded on *Constitution,* 5 Sept., 1804 520
Enterprize, U. S. schr., Capt. Stephen Decatur:
Anchors for 100, 101, 121
At Cadiz 511
At Malta 272, 273, 274, 281, 284, 294
At Messina, repairing 33, 37, 41, 189, 243, 246, 248
At Syracuse 37, 53, 138, 142, 147, 189, 226, 228, 230, 231, 234, 260, 265, 267–269, 293.
At Tunis 58, 188, 191, 200–202, 210–213
Complement of, relief crews, and re-enlistments 11, 43, 54, 117, 130, 136, 139, 142, 187, 341, 519, 522
Correspondence with seamen of 11
Deserter from, taken on board French privateer 52, 53
Guns 152, 341
Health of men very sickly, one died 121, 142
Macdonough, Thomas, Lt., ordered to 524
O'Brien, Richard, taken to Tunis, in 42, 45, 53, 54, 58, 82
One of Mediterranean Squadron 152
Paulina, capture of, protested by Germany 203, 204
Provisions and Stores 447, 451
References to iii, 42–45, 59, 80, 93, 100, 104, 105, 117, 118, 182, 208, 298, 361,401, 453, 461, 462, 493, 511, 513.
Robinson, Thomas, Jr., Lt., appointed to command 518, 519, 522, 527
Sailed from Messina 252
Sailed from Syracuse 54, 147, 234, 269–271
Sailed from Tripoli 39, 197, 420, 517, 527
Signals to 470, 494, 498, 500
To join *Argus, Vixen* and *Siren* off Tripoli 43, 45, 53, 143, 179, 194
Tripoli, engagements before—
Action of—
13 May 1804 98, 99
3 August 1804 337, 342, 343
7 August 1804 300, 376, 378, 379
28 August 1804 303, 476
2 or 3 September 1804 304, 503–505
At Tripoli, cruising off and on and participating in attacks 76, 88, 97, 111, 113, 119, 120, 163, 170, 181, 183, 196, 197, 234, 293, 294, 302, 310–312, 317, 330, 353, 443, 449, 451, 453, 462, 469.
Casualties, names of killed or wounded 309
Four Tripolitan prisoners sent from *Constitution* 493
Ordered to lookout, inshore 469
Orders of Anchoring and Sailing 314, 315
Sailed from Malta en route to Tripoli 281
Sailed from Syracuse for Malta en route to Tripoli 269–271
Sent to Malta for provisions and stores 301, 431
Station of 51, 186, 188, 192, 193, 342
Towing Gunboats and Bombards off Tripoli and to Syracuse 293, 307, 310, 318, 473, 517, 521, 522, 527
Vessel boarded by, possibly *La Vergine del Rosario* 121
Epervier, reference to vii
Espluger, Maresciallo Marchese, General of Marine, Messina 103, 123, 522

Page

Essex, U. S. S., Capt. James Barron comdg:
Arrived at Gibraltar from United States 412, 418
Arrived at Hampton Roads 175
Arrived at Tripoli 513
Commissioned 88
En route to the Mediterranean 268, 377, 411
Guns 143, 144, 152
Morocco and Gibraltar stations, ordered to remain on 414, 418, 421, 422, 429, 441, 464, 465, 468, 485–488
Officers assigned to *United States*, to be transferred to 19
One of Commo. Samuel Barron's Mediterranean Squadron 115, 143, 144, 152, 180, 205, 207, 229, 289, 513
Orders to 127
References to 19, 45, 182, 351, 397, 402
Sailed from United States for the Mediterranean 246, 247, 249
Evans, Samuel, Lt., recruiting vouchers of 241
Explosions. See Gunboat No. 9 and *Intrepid*.
Falconett, & Co., Naples 29
Fanning, Nathaniel, Lt. U. S., Gunboat No. 1, died at Charleston, S. C. 279
Farfara, Leon, broker at Tripoli 48
Fariello, Antonio, G. B. No. 3 359
Farquhar, Richard, Malta, correspondence with Preble, Edward, Capt. 19, 71
Farrell, James, Qr. Gunner, *Siren* and G. B. No. 9, killed 308, 381
Farrugia, Don Cayetano, Maltese Shopkeeper, Cadiz, Spain 435
Favaruolo, Bartolomeo, G. B. No. 1 359
Fenwick, Mr 147
Fino, Antonio di, G. B. No. 5 360
Fiorentino, Vincenzo, G. B. No. 6 360
Fish Guard, H. B. M. S., references to 287, 290, 291
Fitzgerald, John, seaman, *Constitution*, deserted at Messina 257
Fitzsimons, Thomas, Philadelphia, Pa 23
Flags:
Congress in need of 92
Constitution displays English Colors 19
Gunboats from Messina 131
Memorandum concerning "Free Flags" "Subject Flags" 129
Fleck, Henry, seaman, *Argus* and *Scourge* 98, 515
Fletcher, Anthony, ordinary seaman, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
Flogging 71, 160, 197, 202, 218, 219, 226, 227, 286, 439
Foley, Thomas, Oran 458, 459
Foley, Mr., references to 283
Fontaine. *See* Fountain, Minor.
Fort American. *See* Tripoli.
Fort English. *See* Tripoli.
Forteguerra, Bartolommes, General, Naples, correspondence with Espulga, Maresciallo, Marchese, Messina 103
Fountain, Minor, Master's Mate, *Philadelphia*, taken from prison and compelled to work 62
Fountain, William, seaman, *John Adams*, killed 309, 475
Fox, Mrs. C. E., records presented by. *See Argus*, journal by Mid. Charles Morris, Jr.
Fox, Josiah, Ship Carpenter and Navy Constructor, Navy Yard, Washington, D. C 85, 233, 250, 253
Frampton, Archibald, ordinary seaman, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
France:
Beaussier, Citizen, Consul and Commissary General, Tripoli. *See* Beaussier, Citizen.
Blockade of Tripoli by U. S. advantageous to 172
Bonaparte, Napoleon, declared Emperor of 180
Constantine, master of, captured 54 Frenchmen 280
First Consul, Napoleon Bonaparte 22, 23, 330
Great Britain, at war with 172
Intercession of, in behalf of U. S. relations with Tripoli 40, 42, 180, 184, 200, 238, 298, 301
References to 40, 52, 53, 189, 224, 281, 298, 482
Franklin, Am. ship, Capt. Andrew Morris 148, 467
Fraud perpetrated on Commo. Edward Preble. *See* Preble, Edward.

Page
Frazier, Daniel, seaman:
Life of Capt. Stephen Decatur saved by 296, 348
Note concerning name, pension and death of 362
Wounded in action off Tripoli 309, 348
Gadsden, Christopher, Jr., Mid., recruiting instructions to 2, 3, 36, 138, 242
Gale, Anthony, Capt., U. S. M. C., Philadelphia, Pa., correspondence with Navy, Secretary of 56, 57
Gallagher, Stephen, seaman, Gun Boat No. 9 381
Galligni, Count. *See* Schembri, Gaetano Andrea (il conte Gallino).
Gardiner, Mr. *See* Gardner, John M.
Gardner, John M., Mid 2, 67, 138, 241
Gavino, John, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar:
Correspondence with—
Lear, Tobias 68
Meade, R. W 435
Navy, Secretary of 154, 371
O'Brien, Richard 516
Preble, Edward, Capt 6, 112, 247, 291
State, Secretary of 441
References to ..... 69, 89, 117, 119, 124, 236, 237, 242, 283, 287–289, 292, 371–373, 403, 454, 458, 485, 521.
General Order of Thanks by Preble, Commo. *See* Preble, Edward.
General Wayne, Am. schooner spoken by *Constitution* 118
Genevay, Didier, Citizen 146
George Washington, U. S. S., references to iii
Geri, Tommasco, G. B. No. 5 360
Germany:
Ambassador of, Paris, correspondence with Robert R. Livingston *re Paulina* 203, 204
Relations with Morocco and Spain 240, 261
Gibbon, James, Mid 138
Gibbs, Abraham, U. S. Consul, Palermo 88, 140, 141
Gibraltar:
Barron, Samuel, squadron of, arrived at 441
British vessels in bay 287
Consul, U. S., Gavino, John 68
U. S. Ships at. *See Essex, John Adams, President, Congress* and *Constellation.*
Gilallia, Moroccan Galley, Arraez Mohamet Ben Mishod, commanding, passport issued to 392
Gilio, Francesco, Capt., comdg. *Eliza* 244–246, 447
Gloria, ship, Capt. Bounds 156
Glover, Mr 97
Godby, William, carpenter, *Philadelphia*, correspondence with Preble, Edward, Capt 479
Golden, Sam, ord. seaman, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
Goldsborough, Charles W., Chief Clerk, Navy Dept.:
Correspondence with—
Bedinger, Daniel 490
Cassin, John, Lt 328
Chalmers, John 182
Goldsborough, Robert W., Purser, correspondence with Navy, Secretary of 75
Gonne Harrison & Lupton, Lisbon, Portugal 434
Gordon, Charles, Lt., U. S. frigate *Constitution* and Gunboat No. 2 ..... 91, 173, 186, 297, 302, 377, 431, 473, 478, 502, 520
Gore, John, Capt., R. N., comdg. H. B. M. S. *Medusa* 288
Gorham, Mr 145, 249
Granada, description of 313
Grand Battery, Tripoli 427
Grand Signior. *See* Turkey, Sultan of.
Graves, John, Am. Citizen, memorial of, concerning Thomas Wood 150–151
Grayson, Capt., Am. schr. *Eleonora* 154, 291, 311
Great Britain:
Algiers, relations with 68, 69, 165, 169, 170, 172, 173, 275, 280, 459
Alliances entered into with Russia, Denmark, and Sweden, by 424

Great Britain—Continued. Page
At war with France 172
References to 6, 9, 64, 191, 224, 225, 281
U. S. Consul, Liverpool. *See* Maury, James.
U. S. Minister to London, Monroe, James 124
Vessels of—
Detention of, in New York, until 24 hours after departure of French Vessels 224–225
Jalouse anchored in Syracuse harbor 265, 266
Kent, impressed American on board of 97
Madrass, H. B. M. S., at Malta 332
Privateer at Malta refused to give up deserters from *Madona Catapoliana* 136
Greaves, Samuel, Seaman, U. S. S. *Constitution* 439
Greece, vessels of, detained by U. S. squadron 308, 461, 513
Green, John, Purser, *Nautilus* and *Scourge* 35, 57, 515
Greenleaf, Robert, Lt., U. S. M. C., *Constitution* 173, 297
Gregorio, Marcello de, Governor of Syracuse 47, 50, 52, 55
Griffin, Larkin, Asst. Surgeon, *John Adams* 290, 292, 311, 323–325
Grima, Antonio, Master, storeship *Conception* 402, 424, 443
Grippi & Caleagui, Cadiz, Spain 435, 436
Grog, references to 14, 438
Gruna, Antonio, Capt., English polacre *Conception*. *See* Grima, Antonio.
Gunboats and Mortar Boats or Bombards:
At Malta 272–274, 281, 284, 294
At Messina, preparing for Tripoli 120, 121, 123, 126, 131, 145, 189, 248
Barron, Samuel, authorized to procure necessary gunboats 148
Bombardiers engaged at Messina, for Mortar Boats 128, 129
Complements of 126, 128–130, 141, 259, 294
Description of 293, 294
En route from Tripoli to Syracuse 517
Gunboats Nos. 1 to 6 and Bombards Nos. 1 and 2 commanded by Lt. Richard Somers, loaned by Neapolitan Government at Syracuse 126, 130, 131, 138, 140–142, 147, 189, 206, 226, 228, 231, 234, 239, 260, 265, 267–269, 293, 308.
Guns 128–130, 248, 293, 294
Livingston, Robert R., reference to 9
Neapolitans serving with U. S. Navy 126, 128, 130, 146, 294, 297, 523, 524
Negotiations and procuring of Gunboats, Bombards and Ammunition from the Sicilian or Neapolitan Government 29, 31, 32, 42, 50, 90–92, 97, 98, 100–106, 130, 140, 141, 178, 206, 238, 293.
Sailed from Malta for Tripoli 284, 286, 289
Sailed from Syracuse for Malta (with 2 Bombards) 269, 270, 271
See also Gunboats, U. S.
Tonnage 128, 129, 293, 294
Tripoli, engagements before—
Ammunition expended 348, 349, 380, 382–384, 473, 478, 479, 502, 503, 516
Bombard No. 1, Lt. Thomas Robinson Jr.—
Action of 3 August 1804 295, 296, 337–342, 354
Action of 7 August 1804 298–300, 376, 378
Action of 24 August 1804 455
Action of 2 or 3 September 1804 304, 503, 504
Damages to 305, 456, 504
Towed by *Constitution* and *John Adams* 293, 470, 497
Unserviceability of 470, 472, 520
Bombard No. 2, Lt. John H. Dent, comdg—
Action of 3 August 1804 295, 296, 337–342, 354
Action of 7 August 1804 298–300, 376–378
Action of 28 August 1804, Robinson, Lt., removal of, from Bombard No. 1, to 472, 473
Action of 2 or 3 September 1804 304, 503, 504
Useless, due to damage to Mortar Bed 520

Gunboats and Mortar Boats or Bombards—Continued. Page
Tripoli, engagements before—Continued.
Bombards Nos. 1 and 2—
At Messina 126, 130, 146, 189, 206, 244, 246, 259
At Syracuse 259, 260, 293
Mortars removed from 520
Neapolitans on board 334
Supplied with Water 419, 430
Casualties (*See* also each ship) 380, 408
Damages sustained by Tripolitan Vessels 297, 300–304, 306, 455, 456, 473, 475, 504
Division One, Lt. Richard Somers, comprised Nos. 1, 2, 3 295–298, 341
Division Two, Capt. Stephen Decatur, comprised Nos. 4, 5, 6, Bombards Nos. 1 and 2 and prize 295–300, 341
Gallantry and commendations 297, 345, 377, 385, 509, 510
General action—
3 August 1804 343, 344, 512, 516, 523
7 August 1804 298, 299, 375–377, 379–382
24 August 1804 302, 455, 456
28 August 1804 303, 304, 470, 472–477, 484, 512, 516, 523
2 or 3 September 1804 304, 305, 501, 503–505, 512
Gunboat No. 1, Lt. Richard Somers—
Action of 3 August 1804 295–298, 337–339, 344, 354
Action of 28 August 1804 473, 478
Casualties 298
Indent of Articles wanted for use of 502
Lateen yards damaged 419, 461
Officers and men of, commended by Lt. Richard Somers 345
References to 336–339, 341, 342, 344, 509, 510
Somers, Richard, Lt., report of concerning 344–345
Towed by *Nautilus* 293, 318
Gunboat No. 2, Lt. James Decatur and Lt. Charles Gordon—
Action of 3 August 1804 295–298
Action of 7 August 1804 298–301, 377
Action of 28 August 1804 302, 303, 473
Brown, Thomas, Mid., in command after James Decatur was killed 337, 344
Casualties 295, 297, 298, 337, 339, 340, 344, 345, 347, 351, 354
Decatur, James, killed 3 August 1804. *See* Casualties 295, 297
Prize taken 3 August 1804 295
Towed by *Argus* 293, 366
Gunboat No. 3, Lt. Joshua Blake, Sailing Master Samuel B. Brooke and Mid. Charles Morris—
Action of 3 August 1804 295–298, 337–339, 345, 354
Action of 7 August 1804 300, 377, 473
Action of 28 August 1804 473
Action of 2 or 3 September 1804 304, 504
Blake, Joshua, Lt., report of, concerning 3 Aug. 1804 386
Towed by *Argus* and *Siren* 293, 366, 379, 513, 520
Water from *Argus* 432
Gunboat No. 4, Capt. Stephen Decatur, Jr.—
Action of 3 August 1804 295–298, 336–345, 347, 348, 351, 354
Action of 7 August 1804 report of Capt. Decatur 380
Action of 28 August 1804 473
Action of 2 or 3 September 1804 504
Casualties, Tripolitans, killed and wounded 296, 298, 347, 348
Damage sustained by, in actions of 3 and 7 August 1804 300, 348, 377
Decatur, Stephen, Jr., Capt.—
Life of saved by Daniel Frazier 296
Report of, concerning 299, 345, 380
Wounded 298
Prisoners, Tripolitans 296
Prizes taken 3 Aug. 1804, guns and description 295, 337–340, 343, 345, 347, 348, 351, 354
Spence, Robert T., report of action of 3 August 351
Supplied with water and provisions 428, 453
Towed by *Enterprize, Siren* and *Argus* 293, 520

Gunboats and Mortar Boats or Bombards—Continued. Page
Tripoli, engagements before—Continued.
Gunboat No. 5, Lts. Joseph Bainbridge and James Lawrence—
Action of 3 August 1804 295–298, 337–339, 343, 345
Action of 28 August 1804, Lt. James Lawrence 302, 303, 473
Damage sustained by, in action of 3 August 1804 297, 337–339, 345
Supplied with provisions and water by *Siren* 417, 419, 453
Towed by *Siren* and *Argus* 293, 343, 520
Gunboat No. 6, Sailing Master John Trippe and Mid. Henry Wadsworth—
Action of 3 August 1804, boarded and captured enemy gunboat 295–298, 337–340, 343, 345, 350, 351, 354
Action of 28 August 1804 473
Action of 2 or 3 September 1804 304, 504
Boarding party, bravery of 296
Casualties on board of 296, 298, 349
Casualties, Tripolitans, killed and wounded 296
Damages sustained by 300, 377, 379
Henley, John, Mid., bravery of 296, 297
Lateen yards 419, 461
Prisoners, Tripolitan, in action of 3 August 296
Prize money to be paid officers and crew of 523
Spence, Robert T., Mid., report of, concerning 351–352
Towed by *Vixen* and *John Adams* 293, 416
Trippe, John, Lt., wounded in action of 3 August 1804 296, 298
Gunboat No. 7, prize taken 3 August, Mid. Jonathan Thorn—
Action of 7 August 1804 298–301, 376, 377
Action of 28 August 1804 473
Guns 308, 338–340
Gunboat No. 8, prize taken 3 August, Lt. William M. Crane—
Action of 7 August 1804 298–301, 376, 377
Action of 28 August 1804 473
Action of 2 or 3 September 1804 503
Casualties 300, 377, 379–381
Damages sustained by 300, 380
Guns 308, 338–340
Indent of articles wanted for use of 503
References to 338–340
Towed by *John Adams* 416
Gunboat No. 9, prize taken 3 August, Lt. James R. Caldwell—
Blown up 7 August 1804 63, 299, 338–340, 352–356, 376–381, 384, 512, 516
Casualties, killed and wounded 63, 299, 300, 352–356, 376, 378–381, 384
Complement of 376, 381
Rigged by *Siren* 370
Spence, Robert T., Mid.—
Bravery of 299, 355, 380
Describes blowing up of 352
Escape of, with men, after explosion 376, 380
Survivors of, picked up by boats 381, 382
Guns from gunboats Nos. 2, 4 and 6, taken on board *John Adams* 520
Illustrations of action of 3 August 1804, copies of paintings vi, 248
Morris, Noadiah, Purser, describes activities of 354, 355
Ordered to be towed to Messina and delivered to General Espluger 356, 520, 522–524, 526, 527
Preparing for action against Tripoli, provisions, ammunition and personnel supplied by U. S. squadron 304, 336, 338, 341, 390, 395, 400, 413, 490, 500, 504, 519
Prisoners, Tripolitan, taken in actions 296, 337–340, 345, 352, 354, 363, 365, 366, 377, 493, 497, 515, 516
Prize gunboats, taken in action of 3 Aug., fitted out for service (Nos. 7, 8, 9) 295, 296, 365, 370, 376, 384, 512, 516, 523
Rig of 128, 129, 298
Six gunboats and two bombards, procured from Naples, arrived at Tripoli 293, 294, 312, 317, 328, 330, 512

Gunboats and Mortar Boats or Bombards—Continued. Page
Tripoli, engagements before—Continued.
Towed by ships of U. S. squadron 293, 310, 318, 406, 455, 498
Tripolitan gunboats in motion, and appear to meditate attack on U. S. gunboats 376
Volunteers from *John Adams* sent to various gunboats 427
Water capacity of 292
Gunboats, Tripolitan:
Built by Spanish subjects 238, 275, 277
In harbor of Tripoli 62
Number of, and being built 42
Ready for action against U. S. Squadron 316, 376
See also Tripoli, Vessels of.
Gunboats, U. S.:
Building at—
Baltimore, Md 253
Boston, Mass. (cost of) 254, 422
Charleston, S. C 253
Hampton by Mr. Hope 312
New York, N. Y 253, 428, 471
Philadelphia, Pa 253, 388, 457
Savannah, Georgia 253
Washington, D. C., No. 1 232, 233
Directions to agents regarding building of 253
Gunboat No. 1—
Commissioned and Warrant Officers 248, 279
Guard of Marines 278
Ordered off So. Carolina and Georgia 277, 279
Resumé concerning, from Dec. 1803 to Oct. 1805 279
Gunboat No. 2, Lt. James W. Murdock 279
Portsmouth, N. H., none to be built at 254, 457
See Gunboats and Mortar Boats for those engaged in attacks on Tripoli, loaned by Neapolitan Government.
Tripoli, prizes taken in engagements. *See* Gunboats and Mortar Boats.
Gun Carriages:
Morocco, present to 51, 84, 125, 126
Not to contract for, for frigate *United States* 18
Reference to 16
Guns:
Algerine Naval Force 79
Algiers, 10 brass 24's and 5 brass 18's with Carriages 156, 157, 171
Argus, U. S. brig 30, 152, 310, 341
Bercia, Moroccan galley 392
Congress, U. S. frigate 12, 143, 152
Constellation, U. S. frigate 12, 143, 152
Constitution, U. S. frigate 152, 206, 252, 338, 339, 341, 356, 374, 375, 476
Constitution's boats 289
Elevation of 248
Enterprize, U. S. schooner 152, 341
Essex, U. S. frigate 143, 152
Fort American 310
Fort English, fortification of 310, 503
Gilallia, Moroccan galley 392
Gunboats and bombards 104, 128–130, 141, 248, 293, 294
John Adams, U. S. S 12, 288, 312, 315, 386
Maimona, Moroccan ships 30 and 32 guns 125, 240, 261, 284, 392, 496
Mirboka, Moroccan ship 240, 261, 496
Nautilus, U. S. schooner 27, 28, 41, 152, 341, 508
President, U. S. frigate 12, 143, 152
Scourge 36
Signals 319, 320
Siren, U. S. brig 54, 68, 152, 341, 476
Taken from *Philadelphia* used in defense of Tripoli 65
Transfer renamed *Scourge* 41
Tunisian Naval Force 78, 223
United States, U. S. S 12
Vixen, U. S. schooner 152, 341

Page
Gurmley, James, ordinary seaman, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
Gwinn, Robert, *See* Quinn, Robert.
Gwyn, Mr., misinformed James Simpson regarding shipment of copper and saltpetre on *Maimona* from Mogador to Algiers 484
Hacksener, Lewis, (German), ordinary seaman, *Philadelphia*, turned Turk 62
Hadge Alcayde Abde-Rhaman Hashash. *See* Morocco, Governor of.
Haggard, H. B. M. S., spoken by *Congress* 429
Hall, Francis C., Mid., *Constitution* and Gunboat 129, 147
Hall, John, Capt. U. S. M. C., *Constitution* 173, 297, 349
Hall, Mr., mast maker, Norfolk, Va 67
Hall, Mr., U. S. S. *Essex* 175
Hamet Bashaw. *See* Hamet Caramanli.
Hamet Caramanli, rightful Bashaw of Tripoli:
At Alexandria, Egypt 525
Cooperation of United States 153, 155, 398, 445, 482, 525
Derne, Bashaw of plans return to 20, 71
Farquhar, Richard, Malta, assistance of 19, 20, 71
Hamet, Turkish officer 64
Hamida, Sidi 495
Hamilton, Alexander, death of 496
Hamilton, J. K 348
Hamouda (or Hamuda) Bashaw. *See* Tunis, Bey of.
Hampton Roads, U. S. Ships of War at. *See John Adams, Congress, President, Essex* and *Constellation.*
Hanson, Mr., Purser, assigned to Navy Yard, Washington, D. C 21
Happs, Isaac, seaman, *John Adams*, wounded 309
Haraden, Nathaniel, Sailing Master, *Constitution:*
Extracts from log of. *See Constitution.*
References to 173, 297
Reports of engagements before Tripoli 338–340, 377, 378, 472–474, 503–505
Harriot, Am. brig 242
Harris, James, seaman, U. S. S. *Nautilus* and ketch *Intrepid*, killed 309, 507
Harris, Levett, U. S. Consul General, St. Petersburg, Russia:
Correspondence with Preble, Edward 161
References to 17, 163
Harris, Mr., passenger in U. S. S. *Congress*, to be appointed Purser, U. S. brig *Siren* 139
Harrison, A. C., Sailing Master, U. S. brig *Siren* 26, 29, 38, 43, 138
Harrison, B. G 195
Harrison, George, Navy Agent and Superintendent of Navy Yard, Philadelphia, Pa 45, 253, 388, 396, 457
Harrison, John, Surgeon's Mate, U. S. N 21
Harrison, William, seaman, U. S. S. *Constitution* and ketch *Intrepid* 160, 309, 507
Hashash, Hadge Alcayde Abde-Rhaman. *See* Morocco, Governor of.
Haslip, John, boy, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
Haswell, John M., Mid., comdg. storeship *St. Guisseppe* 268, 314, 333, 334
Hays, William, deserted from *Madona Catapoliana* at Malta and went on board English privateer 136
Heather, W., reproduction of Map of port of Saragosa (Syracuse) from "The Mediterranean Pilot" published by ..... vi, 40
Heermann, Lewis, Surgeon, U. S. N., report of wounded on Gunboat No. 4 348
Hendrickson, Jacob, died from fall 110
Henley, John D., Mid 138, 296, 350
Henley, Mid., Prize Master, ketch *Le St. Jean Baptiste* 149
Henley, Mr 324, 325
Henry or Henzie, Samuel, Marine 309, 254, 257
Hermoine, H. B. M. S 203
Heximer, Lewis. *See* Hacksener, Lewis.
Higgins, William, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta:
Appointment of, as U. S. Navy Agent, Malta 123, 124
Correspondence with—
Hull, Isaac, Master Comdt 137
Navy Secretary of 371

Page

Higgins, William, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta—Continued.
Correspondence with—Continued.
Preble, Edward, Capt. 230
332, 396, 404, 417, 424, 431, 443, 446, 447, 480
Orders and instructions to, *re* provisions, stores and water to Tripoli. 230, 231, 234, 246, 255, 332, 371, 396, 402, 404, 418, 420, 431, 491
Pulis, Joseph, reference to. 447
References to. 69–71, 101, 102, 154, 163, 220, 282, 333, 364, 367, 373, 385, 439, 518, 519
Translations by. 185, 252
St. Crucifisso, cargo of, landed at Malta in care of. 114
See also Alfred, Conception, Eliza, La Vergine del Rosario, and *Woodrop Sims*.
Higinbothom, James Semphill, Lt., *John Adams*. 311, 499
Hillson, Thomas. *See* Willson, Thomas.
Hodge, George, Boatsn., *Philadelphia*, taken from prison and compelled to work. 62
Holck, Capt., Danish Consul, Tunis. 276, 495
Holland:
Damage to house of Consul of, at Tripoli during U. S. engagement of 28 August 1804. 482
Peace made with Tripoli. 263
Relations with Morocco. 485
Holmes, John, seaman, *Siren* and G. B. No. 9, killed. 308, 381
Holmes, Nathan or Nathaniel, Marine, killed. 309, 381
Hope, Mr., U. S. gunboat built at Hampton by. 312
Hopkins Francis, Marine, U. S. S. *Constitution*, died at Malta. 171
Hospital: Barron, Samuel, Commo., authorized to establish at Syracuse or some other port near Tripoli. 135
Hospital Ship:
Intrepid to be fitted up as. 142
At Malta. 171
Hoyt, James, seaman, U. S. brig *Argus*. 137, 142
Hull, Isaac, Master Comdt., U. S. brig *Argus:*
Commission of, as Master Commandant. 107, 128
Correspondence with—
Dyson, George. 149
Higgins, William. 137
Navy, Secretary of. 84
Preble, Edward, Capt. 26, 190, 480
Extracts from journal of. *See Argus.*
Extracts from journal of *Argus*, Mid. Charles Morris, Jr. *See Argus.*
Extracts from log book of *Argus* kept by Sailing Master Samuel B. Brooke. *See Argus.*
On board *Constitution* off Tripoli. 293, 310, 315, 322, 477
On board *Siren* at Syracuse. 26
Orders and instructions to. 26, 27, 84, 190, 196, 480
Recognition of gallant conduct of, before Tripoli. 361
References to. 24, 72, 182, 207, 230, 370, 426
Tripoli, participation in attacks on. *See Argus.*
Humphreys, Colonel. 49
Hunt, Mr., references to. 272
Hunt, Thomas, Mid., U. S. S. *Constitution*. 43
Huntington, Henry E., Library and Art Gallery, records published by courtesy of. 12, 175, 243, 250, 266, 285, 286, 317, 319, 343, 366, 407, 413, 421, 434, 496, 499, 526.
Huntington Library Quarterly, records published by courtesy of. 12, 496
Hurley, Stephen, carpenter, U. S. brig *Scourge*. 515
Illustrations, List of. vi, vii
Ink, secret, sympathetic or invisible. 75, 76, 195, 200, 214, 222, 256, 258, 263, 264, 272, 368, 495
International Law, Neutrality, departure of vessels of belligerent nations from neutral ports. 224–225
Intrepid, U. S. ketch, (ex-*Mastico*), Lt. Richard Somers:
At Syracuse. 142, 260, 265
Converted into hospital ship at Syracuse. 142, 260
Israel, Joseph, Mid., ordered to command of. 446

Intrepid, U. S. ketch, (ex-*Mastico*), Lt. Richard Somers—Continued. Page
Off Tripoli 460, 461, 469
Philadelphia, Tripolitan prize, burning of. *See Philadelphia.*
Provisions, stores and water for squadron off Tripoli 302, 398, 431, 438–440, 451, 456, 483
References to iv, 443, 447, 448, 489, 490, 504, 505, 511
Reproducion from sketch of Mid. William Henry Allen 499
Reproduction from sketch by Mid. William Lewis vii, 508
Tripoli, explosion in harbor of—
Casualties 506, 507, 513, 517
Convoyed to harbor by *Argus*, *Vixen* and *Nautilus* 306, 506, 513
Effect of explosion on town 306, 509
Fitted out as infernal and entered harbor to destroy shipping, batteries, castle etc 305, 352, 483, 490, 493, 494, 497–501, 506, 508, 509, 513, 517
Israel, Joseph, Midn., killed in blowing up of 506, 507, 513, 517
Manned by volunteers from *Constitution* and *Nautilus* 499
Oral "Will and Testament" of officers and crew of 508
Premature explosion of 3 or 4 Sept. 1804 306, 352, 353, 355, 506, 508, 509, 513, 517
Reports of—
Reed, George W., Lt 507
Ridgely, Charles G., Mid 507–510
Spence, Robert T., Mid 352–353
Somers, Richard, Lt., killed in blowing up of 306, 309, 353, 356, 506, 507, 513, 517
Wadsworth, Henry, Mid., volunteered and was killed in blowing up of 305, 499, 505–508, 513, 517
Irving, George, seaman, killed 309, 381
Irwin, William 423
Isace, Giovanni, G. B. No. 1 359
Israel, Joseph, Mid., U. S. S. *Constitution* and *Intrepid* 43, 305–307, 309, 353, 356, 438, 446, 454, 499, 506, 507, 509, 513, 517
Izard, Ralph, Jr., Mid., *Constitution* and *Scourge* 34, 37, 41, 43, 60, 190, 302, 334, 390, 511, 512
Iznardi. *See* Yznardi, Josef.
Jackson, Thomas, seaman, U. S. S. *Constitution* 202
Jacono, Rajine, G. B. No. 5 360
Jalouse, H. B. M. brig, Capt. Strachey 265, 266
James, Reuben, saved the life of Capt. Stephen Decatur, Jr 347
James, Thomas, wounded in action off Tripoli, 3 Aug. 1804 309, 348
Jane, schooner 409
Jarvis, William, U. S. Consul, Lisbon, Portugal 409, 491
Jeffers, James, ordinary seaman, *Argus* wounded by accidental discharge of pistol 483
Jefferson, Thomas. *See* President of the United States.
Jerba, Tunis, references to 80, 82, 108, 109
John Adams, Am. schr. from Philadelphia, Capt. Ramsdel 247
John Adams, U. S. S. Master, Comdt. Isaac Chauncey:
Armed en flute 54, 427
Arrived at Gibraltar from United States 287, 288
At Algiers 319, 320, 323, 326, 385
At Gibraltar 287, 288, 290–292, 385, 510
At Hampton Roads 182, 198, 211, 226, 227
At Malta 364, 367, 385
Baker, Nathan, to return home in *John Adams* 139
Cathcart, James L., and his family, may take passage in, to the U. S. 518
Chauncey, Isaac, Master Comdt., report of, concerning movements of 385, 386
Complement of 129
Discipline of Officers and Crew 211
En route to Mediterranean 103, 235, 270, 313, 315, 335
Extracts from journal of Isaac Chauncey, (*See* daily entries, Nautical Day) 226, 229, 235, 243, 266, 274, 278, 285–312, 319, 323, 335, 362, 363, 366, 370.
Extracts from journal of Purser John Darby. (*See* daily entries, Civil Day) 197, 218, 226, 229, 235, 270, 278–327, 335–527

John Adams, U. S. S., Master Comdt. Isaac Chauncey—Continued. Page
Gun carriages left on *Congress* and *Constellation* 300
Guns 12, 288, 312, 315, 386, 416
Magrath, Humphrey, to return to the U. S. in 139
Meshouda, Captain and passengers complain of treatment received on board of 95, 96
Morris, Richard V., sent to Tripoli from Malta, by 39
Nicholson, John B., attached to 140
O'Brien, Richard, and family, to return to U. S. in 517, 518
Orders and instructions to 54, 55, 88, 116–119, 143, 144, 161, 364, 377, 385, 387, 418, 440
Orders to Commo. Barron with reference to Tunis 160
Provisions and Stores for Mediterranean Squadron 39, 40, 88, 128, 247, 323, 385, 386, 400, 401, 414, 419–421, 434, 440, 441, 449, 518, 524.
References to 2, 39, 43, 146, 152, 154, 241, 275, 278, 301, 390, 394, 397, 405, 425, 437, 490, 507.
Relief crews for *Constitution* and *Enterprize* 43, 54, 117, 136, 139, 519, 522
Sailed from—
Algiers 321, 323
Gibraltar 247, 292, 311
Malta for Tripoli 364, 367
Tripoli for Malta and Syracuse, gunboats in tow 307, 517, 518, 527
United States 175, 227, 229, 235
Sailing qualities 288, 291
Salutes 290, 319, 320, 323, 326
Sears, John D., Mid., fell overboard and was drowned 235
To join Mediterranean Squadron 112, 129, 180, 205, 207, 242
Transport and convoy duty of 128, 131, 139, 140, 518
Tripoli, engagements before—
Actions of 7 and 28 August 1804 302, 384, 472, 476, 477
Boat belonging to, sunk while in tow of *Nautilus* 304, 474, 475
Casualties 304, 309, 474–476, 480
Cutter of, to be used for escape from *Intrepid* 506
Four Tripolitan prisoners received on board 493, 494
Guns from gunboats, taken on board of 520, 521, 527
In charge of Bombard No. 1 off Tripoli 470
Joined U. S. Squadron off Tripoli 62, 187, 300, 355, 356, 377, 379, 382, 384, 388, 406, 407
Officers and crew of, volunteered on board *Constitution* and gunboats 304, 356, 413, 415, 416, 421, 426, 427, 456, 461, 470, 474, 503, 517
Off Tripoli 300, 370, 385, 391, 395, 401, 406, 407, 412, 413, 415, 416, 421, 430, 434, 439, 445, 460–462, 464–466, 470, 484, 492, 494, 498, 499, 505, 516, 520, 526.
Signals to and from 445, 448, 449, 453, 465, 484, 494
Took Gunboats Nos. 6 an 8 in tow 416, 419
Volunteers from, returned on board 432, 433, 506
Water allowance 385, 386
Johnson, Henry, ordinary seaman, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
Johnson, John, Lt., U. S. M. C 349
Johnston, Mr 423, 468
Jones, Alexander, seaman, Gunboat No. 8, killed in action of 7 Aug. 1804 off Tripoli 380
Jones, John, seaman, *Vixen*, killed 309
Jones, Mid. (*Chesapeake*) 234
Jones, Sam 508
Jones, Thomas, seaman, U. S. S. *Constitution* 202
Jones, Walter, Alexandria, Va., correspondence with Navy, Secretary of 2
Journals, extracts from. *See* Name of ship.
Jourvass, Lewis, Pilot 66, 74, 159, 160, 220
Karamanli. *See* Caramanli.
Keets, Capt., H. B. M. S. *Superb* 173, 280
Keith, William, seaman, U. S. S. *Nautilus* and ketch *Intrepid* 309, 507
Kelby, William, ordinary seaman, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515

Page

Kennedy, Edmund P., gunner's mate, *Siren* and Gunboat No. 9 ..... 299, 381
Kent, H. B. M. S 97
King Fisher, H. B. M. sloop of war, Capt. Crippen 275, 278
King, Mr., plumber, assigned to Navy Yard, Washington, D. C. 21, 127, 182, 193
King, Robert, gunner, U. S. brig, *Scourge* 515
Kirkpatrick, John, landsman, U. S. S. *President*, Court Martial and punishment of 203, 218, 219, 227
Kirkpatrick, William, U. S. Consul, Malaga .. 6, 69, 113, 186, 264, 280, 283, 423
Kirkpatrick, William, Mrs., reference to 281
Knox, Dudley W., Capt. U. S. N. (Retired), documents printed under supervision of v
Knox, Frank, Secretary of the Navy.
Koran presented to Catholic College Library, Georgetown 296, 348
La Benevolenza, Imperial polacre, Capt. Luca Lucovich, arrived at Leghorn from Tripoli with Tripolitan Cargo 33
La Cava, Guiseppe, G. B. No. 3 359
Lamar, Marien, U. S. Consul, Madeira, correspondence with State, Secretary of 213
La Marianna, Spanish vessel, Capt. Joseph Bianchi and Capt. Andrea Rosella:
  Passport issued by George Davis to, to carry Ambassador (Sidi Mohamed Meten Aga) and Suite to Tripoli 367, 368, 374, 386, 403, 404
Lamott, John, seaman, wounded 309, 381
Langdon, Henry S., Portsmouth, N. H., correspondence with Navy, Secretary of 457
Langdon, Woodbury, Navy Yard, Portsmouth, N. H., instructions and orders to, regarding building of gunboat 254
Langford, William Wass, British Consul General, Tripoli 64, 220, 244, 245, 255
La Provoyant, H. B. M. sloop in Gibraltar Bay 287
Larache. *See* Morocco.
La Reina, guard ship at L'Orient 408
Laurance, Brown, ordinary seaman, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
La Vergine del Rosario, Spanish ketch, Capt. Francesco Della Torre:
  Ambassador of Turkey, and his suite, passengers in 58, 137, 163, 170
  Captured by *Argus* and released 137, 163, 164, 167–170, 205, 216, 217, 275
  Passport issued by George Davis, violation of 58, 216, 217, 219
  Prize master and crew sent on board, from *Argus* 137, 142, 181
  References to 79, 104, 105, 121, 146, 147, 151, 207, 224
  See La Marianna.
Lawrence, James, Lt., *Enterprize* and Gunboat No. 5 ..... 302, 361, 420, 473
Laws, Alexander, Mid., *Constitution* 129, 147, 511
Lawson, Capt., comdg. Am. storeship *Citizen* 408
Leacraft, Mr 17
Lear, Tobias, U. S. Consul General, Algiers:
  Correspondence with—
    Appleton, Thomas 171
    Bainbridge, William, Capt 4, 8, 75, 112, 149, 165, 198, 264, 321, 471
    Barron, Samuel, Capt 320
    Davis, George 58, 108, 166–169, 214–216, 275, 494
    Foley, Thomas 459
    Gavino, John 68
    Kirkpatrick, William 280
    Montgomery, Robert 69, 283, 458
    Nissen, Nicholas C 148
    O'Brien, Richard 59, 72, 169, 322
    Preble, Edward, Capt 82, 164, 206–208, 321
    State, Secretary of 155–158, 226
  Horse presented to, by Dey of Algiers 325
  John Adams, officers of entertained by 323–327
  Money transactions 156–158, 168, 169, 458, 459, 471
  Orders and instructions to 155–158
  Passports, references to 158, 207
  Peace and Ransom negotiations, Tripoli 153, 155, 169, 188, 272, 280, 351, 446, 458, 460
  Portuguese officer, prisoner and Christian slave to Dey, residing with 325

Lear, Tobias, U. S. Consul General, Algiers—Continued. Page
Prisoners in Tripoli, from *Philadelphia*, aid to 9, 165, 264, 471
References to 24, 36, 42, 48, 65, 66, 79, 94, 119, 122, 141, 172, 178, 186, 189, 195, 199, 212, 220, 256, 271, 277, 319, 330, 340, 374, 385, 409, 495, 510, 511, 547, 548.
Snuff box to be given to Nicholas C. Nissen 467
Sword, purchased as present, to be delivered to 155
Tunis, comments of, concerning affairs with 10, 13, 37, 93, 164, 166–170
Lear, Tobias, Mrs., references to 4, 9, 69, 76, 82, 113, 149, 165, 166, 170, 199, 207, 264, 281, 321, 322, 325, 472, 510.
Leckie, Mrs. F., appeal to Capt. Preble in behalf of Governor of Syracuse 46
Leghorn, Italy, U. S. Consul, Appleton, Thomas 171, 450
Leigh, Capt., an American, at Gibraltar 292, 311
Lemon or lime juices used as invisible ink. *See* Ink, secret.
Leonard, James T., Mid 138, 428
Leonard, P., Chaplain 282, 404
Le St. Jean Baptiste, French or Ligurian ketch, prize to *Argus* and *Vixen:*
Men from *Argus* sent on board 150, 151
Property of French Merchants restored by the Bashaw of Tripoli 146
Sent to Syracuse and released 149, 189, 227, 228
Vixen with *Argus* captured and released ketch 149–151, 189, 228
Leva, Pasquale di, G. B. No. 5 360
Lewis, Mr 112
Lewis, William, Mid., *Constitution:*
Agincourt, H. B. M. S., passenger in 242
Correspondence with Preble, Edward, Capt 242
References to 241, 274, 282, 474
Reproduction from sketch of *Intrepid*, by vii, 508
Library of Congrss, copies of these volumes may be furnished to v
Lieutenant Commandant, commission 128
Lisbon:
Arsenal of Morocco, referred to as 487
Consul, U. S., Jarvis, William 409
Lists of:
Algiers, naval force of 79
Ammunition 104, 348, 349, 362, 380, 382–384, 477–479, 502, 503
Casualties (*see* also Casualties) 254, 257, 298, 300, 308, 309, 338, 348, 380, 381, 417, 475
Clothing 101
Guns 104, 152
Moroccan vessels 240, 261
Neapolitans serving with U. S. squadron 359, 360
Officers and Men, U. S. Navy 21, 173, 279, 515
Provisions 39, 246, 267, 282, 291, 372, 398, 402
Tripoli, batteries and forts of 310
Tunisian vessels 358
Vessels of Commo. Barron's squadron 152, 175
Vessels of Commo. Preble's squadron 341, 476
Livingston, Robert R., U. S. Minister to Paris, France:
Correspondence with—
Appleton, Thomas 22, 450
Cathalan, Stephen, Jr 9, 86
d'Oubril, Monsieur 17
German Ambassador to Paris, France 203
Preble, Edward, Capt 102, 121, 237
Talleyrand-Périgord, de. Charles Maurice 24
References to 172, 200, 214, 239
Livingston, Wm. M., Lt. U. S. brig *Argus* 27, 28, 43, 139
Logs, Extracts from. *See* Names of ships.
Lombard, Ezekiel, U. S. Marine, U. S. S. *Constitution* 197
Lorckner, Mr., former consul of Denmark 450
Lôrenzo, Antonio di, G. B. No. 5 360
L'Orient, Commercial Agent, U. S. *See* Vail, A.
Louisiana Treaty, Spain refused to ratify 403
Lovell, John Pittman, Sailing Master, comdg. Gun boat No. 1 21, 248, 277, 279, 280

Page

Lubarez, Ibrahim, Reis, comdg. Moroccan ship *Mirboka* 240, 284, 329, 330, 392
Lucovich, Luca, Capt., Imperial Polacre *La Benevolenza* 33
Ludlow, Charles, Lt 2, 8, 17
Lunenburg, Henry F., Mr., acknowledgment to iv
Luongo, Gaetano, G. B. No. 3 359
Lynch, Patrick, marine, *Argus* and *Scourge* 98, 515
Maboukir. *See Mirboka.*
MacCormick, Hugh, seaman, *Constitution,* killed 309
MacCrindle, Loretta I., Miss, acknowledgment to iv
MacDonnell, Catherine M., Miss, acknowledgment to iv
Macdonough, Thomas, seaman, *John Adams,* killed 309
Macdonough, Thomas, Mid., Gunboat No. 4:
Boarding Tripolitan Gunboat, 3 Aug. 1804, copy of painting vi, 290
Conduct of, at Tripoli, praised by Capt. Decatur 297, 345, 347
Correspondence with Preble, Edward, Capt 524
Macey, Samuel, Marine, *Siren,* fell overboard and was drowned, off Tripoli 260
MacKenzie, Alexander Slidell, extract from "Life of Stephen Decatur," by 347–348
Mackenzie, James, & Glennie, A., London, England:
Correspondence with—
Monroe, James 124
Preble, Edward 89, 237
Forgery committed on house of, in name of Capt. Preble 89, 124, 144, 201, 235–237, 491
References to 112, 153, 247, 372, 434–436
Madeira, Lamar, Marien, U. S. Consul 213
Madison, James, Secretary of State. *See* State, Secretary of.
Madona de Catapoliagne. *See Madona Catapoliana.*
Madona Catapoliana, Capt. George Morfino, capture and release of 1, 24, 29, 31, 38, 40, 51, 54, 55, 59, 61, 83, 84, 86, 107, 108, 110, 111, 136, 159, 161–163, 170, 182, 189, 396.
Madrass, H. B. M. S., Capt. Schomberg, R. N 273, 332, 437
Madrid, Spain, Pinckney, Charles, U. S. Minister 186
Magliano, Pasquale, G. B. No. 4 360
Magrath, Humphrey, Sailing Master, *Argus* and Gunboat No. 1 28, 30, 43, 139, 279
Mahomet, Tripolitan prisoner, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
Maidstone, H. B. M. S 123
Maimona, 30 guns, Moroccan ship, Capt. Hadge Tacher Aumed (or Arraez Sebrah), Salée 125, 240, 261, 284, 392, 403, 411, 423, 424, 467, 484, 485, 496
Maimona, 32 guns, Moroccan ship, fitted out at Larach 240, 261, 284, 392, 496
Maine Historical Society:
Painting reproduced through courtesy of vii, 474
Records published by courtesy of 245, 360, 398
Malaga, Spain:
U. S. Consul. *See* Kirkpatrick, William.
Yellow Fever epidemic 442, 452
Malta:
Description of harbor and Valetta 366–367
Governor of. *See* Ball, Sir Alexander John.
Higgins, William, appointed U. S. Navy Agent at 123, 124
Hospital ship at 171
Maltese speronare captured off Tripoli released and permitted to join U. S. Squadron 479, 480, 493
Preble, Edward, Commo., Squadron of, sailed for Tripoli 284, 286
Quarantine at 224, 226, 461
St. Crucifisso at 74, 114
Tunis, relations with 23, 59, 74
U. S. Ships at. *See Constitution, Argus,* Gunboats, *Nautilus, Enterprize, Vixen, John Adams, Siren.*
Manzo, de N., Russian Counsellor and Agent General, Naples:
Correspondence with Matthiew, John S. M 83
Madona Catapoliana, capture and release of 83, 84

Page

Maps of:
Mediterranean Region ... 524
Port of Saragosa (Syracuse) ... vi, 40
Port of Tripoli, indicating maneuvers of squadron during battle of 3 August 1804 ... vi, 336
Valetta Harbor, Malta ... vi, 114
Marabewt, Mohammedan priest, duties and customs of ... 62, 63, 64
Marboka. *See Mirboka.*
Marcellin, George A., Mid., transferred from *Constitution* to gunboat ... 129
Marianna, Spanish polacre. *See La Marianna.*
Marine Corps, U. S.:
At New Orleans, under orders of U. S. Army, *re* rank of ... 5, 231
Marine, on board *Constitution*, wounded ... 338, 339
Officers needed for *Congress, Constellation, Essex*, and *President* ... 45
Officers of the Staff to perform duties in the Line ... 18
Pay ... 134
Recognition of gallant conduct of ... 361, 377
Relative rank with U. S. Navy ... 269
Remarkable morale of Commo. Preble's squadron ... 353, 356
Marine League, definition of ... 133–134
Mariners' Museum, Newport News, Va., water color reproduced by courtesy of ... 354
Marseilles, France, Cathalan, Stephen, Jr., Commercial Agent ... 116
Marshall, Mr ... 3
Marshall, S. R., Surgeon, U. S. brig *Siren* and *Constellation* ... 139
Marshall, Thomas, Ass't Surgeon, U. S. N., U. S. brig *Scourge* ... 35, 55
Martino, Francesco di, G. B. No. 6 ... 360
Martino, Mariano di, G. B. No. 4 ... 360
Massene, Antonio, Neapolitan Bombardier Commended by Capt. Edward Preble ... 523
Mastico, prize ketch, renamed *Intrepid*, references to ... iv, 59, 511
Masuda. *See* Meshouda.
Matta Woman Shoal ... 127
Matthiew, John S. M., U. S. Consul, Naples:
Correspondence with—
Manzo, de N ... 83
Preble, Edward, Capt ... 86
Philadelphia, officers and crew, prisoners of Tripoli—
Clothing for, left with, at Naples ... 32, 86, 96, 101
References to ... 83, 90, 177, 178
Maury, James, U. S. Consul, Liverpool, England, correspondence with State, Secretary of ... 243
Maxwell, Joseph, Mid., U. S. brig *Siren* ... 54, 138, 405
Mayne & Brown, Lisbon, Portugal ... 124, 125, 409, 434, 436
McConnell, Camilla S., Miss:
Acknowledgement to ... iv
Records published by courtesy of. *See John Adams*, journal of Purser John Darby.
McCormick, Hugh, seaman, U. S. S. *Constitution* and ketch *Intrepid* ... 507
McDonald, Thomas, seaman, *John Adams* ... 475
McDonogh, Brian, British ex-Consul, Tripoli ... 48, 60, 173, 187, 280, 322, 479, 481, 494
McDonough, Mr. *See* McDonogh, Brian.
McFate, John, Boatswain's mate ... 35, 68, 466, 515
McGrath, Mr. *See* Magrath, Humphrey.
McGraw, Patrick, marine, U. S. brig *Scourge* ... 515
McIntosh, George, references to ... 491
McMillan, Archibald, H. M. S. *Kent*, Naples, correspondence with Preble, Edward, Capt ... 97
McWilliams, Alexander, Surgeon, Gunboat No. 1 ... 279
Meade, R. W., Cadiz ... 434–436
Mediterranean Fund, The ... 409
Mediterranean passes and passports. *See* Passports.
Mediterranean Region, Map of ... 524
Mediterranean Squadron. *See Vessels*, United States.
Medusa, H. B. M. S., Capt. John Gore, R. N ... 287, 288
Mehenny, Sidi ... 495
Memorandum Book of Commodore Preble. *See Constitution.*

Page

Mercellise, P. Blaise, Capt. French Corsair *Rusé*, compensation for conveying wounded Tripolitans to Tripoli 363, 365, 369, 377, 378, 389
Meridith, Jonathan, sergt, U. S. M. C., *Siren* and Gunboat No. 9, killed 309, 381
Merry, Anthony, British Minister to U. S 224
Merry, Thomas, U. S. brig *Argus*, killed by fall on deck 240
Meshouda, Tripolitan ship claimed by Morocco, Reis Omar:
At Larache in state of ordinary 467, 485, 487
Passengers and prisoners, treatment of 51, 95, 96, 158, 410
References to 51, 240, 432, 510
Suspected plans of Emperor of Morocco, regarding 240, 261
Messina, Biaggio, G. B. No. 2 359
Messina:
Constitution at 120, 189
Enterprize, repairs at 37, 41, 45, 46
Gun and Mortar Boats with ammunition procured from Naples, at 100, 101, 103, 104, 120, 121, 123, 128, 189, 206
Nautilus, repairs at 41, 53, 120
U. S. Navy Agent. *See* Broadbent, John.
U. S. Ships of War at. *See Constitution, Nautilus, Enterprize,* Gun and Mortar Boats.
Migliaccio, Francesco Antonio, G. B. No. 4 360
Migliore, Antonio, G. B. No. 1 359
Migs, Sergt., U. S. M. C 350
Miller, Mr., a baker 40
Miller, James A., Mid., Gunboat No. 1 279, 297, 345
Ministers. *See* Consuls.
Mirabilo, Vincenzo, G. B. No. 2 359
Mirboka or Mirboha, Moroccan ship, Reis Ibrahim Lubarez:
At Salée 467, 496
Capture of, by *Philadelphia* 496
Fitted out at Larache 261
Guns 261, 496
Instructions to 329, 392
Loaded with Wheat for Tripoli 284, 329, 410, 423, 484–486
Passport issued to 240, 261, 284, 410, 411
References to 67, 112, 214, 510
Sailed from Larache to join the *Maimona*, 32 Guns, and *Maimona*, 30 Guns 392
Mirro, Pasquale, G. B. No. 4 360
Mishod, Mohamet Ben Arraez, commanding Moroccan galley *Gilallia* 392
Mitchell, Mid 6
Mitchell, Walter, seaman, Gun Boat No. 9 381
Mitchell, William, seaman, *Siren* and G. B. No. 9, wounded 309, 381
Mohamet, Tripolitan prisoner, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
Mohamet Ben Ally Ben Seid, release of, as subject of Morocco, requested by James Simpson 125, 486
Molica, Domenico, G. B. No. 5 360
Momona. *See Maimona.*
Monroe, James, U. S. Minister to London, England:
Comments of, *re* affairs in England 201–202
Correspondence with—
James Mackenzie & A. Glennie 124
Navy, Secretary of 516
State, Secretary of 201
References to 124, 491
Sword for Lt. Andrew Sterett to be purchased by 516
Montgomery, Robert, U. S. Consul, Alicante:
Correspondence with Lear, Tobias 69, 283, 458
References to 186, 281, 459, 460
Monticello, home of the President of U. S., Thomas Jefferson 81
Morale. *See* Preble, Edward, Commo.
Moreau, ——— General, French 368
Morfino, George, Capt, *Madona Catapoliana*, prize 83, 107, 111, 161–163
Morgan, James, seaman, Gun Boat No. 9 381
Morgera, Scipione, G. B. No. 2 359
Morgiana, H. B. M. brig, spoken by *Constitution* 71
Morocco:
Congress, U. S. S., stationed off Morocco to protect U. S. interests 414, 421, 429, 487

Morocco—Continued. Page
Constitution saluted with 21 guns by, which was returned 510
Emperor of, Muley Soliman, Ben Mohamet, Ben Abdallah references to 95, 112, 284, 421, 454, 485, 486
Essex, U. S. S., stationed off Morocco to protect U. S. interests 393, 414, 421–424, 429, 487
Governor of, Hadge Alcayde Abde-Rhaman Hashash—
Assurance of, that Peace with U. S. will be maintained 410, 411
Displeasure of Emperor with 240
References to 422, 484
Gun carriages delivered to, as present from U. S 51, 84, 125, 126
Lisbon referred to as Arsenal of Morocco 487
Meshouda, Tripolitan ship claimed by. *See Meshouda.*
Passports requested, and issued (*see* also *Mirboka*) 329, 392, 403, 409, 410, 422, 464
Pilgrims going to Tunis 485, 486
Presents to, from Bey of Algiers 261, 281, 284
Relations with—
Algiers 261
Holland 261, 485
Tripoli 486, 488
Tunis 261
United States, general references to iii, iv, 158, 288, 357, 413, 454, 467, 496
Report of Capt. John Rodgers 486–488
Secretary of State of Emperor of, Sidi Mahomet Selawy references to 393, 464, 484–486
Simpson, James, U. S. Consul, Tangier. *See* Simpson, James.
Spain, mediation in behalf of Germany 240, 261
Vessels of—
At Cadiz 436, 468
At Larache 125, 281, 403, 467, 468
At Salée 281, 410, 422–424, 438
At Tetuan 281, 284
Complements of 240
Composition of marine force 487
Maimona, 30 guns, from Salée. *See Maimona.*
Maimona, 32 guns, from Larache. *See Maimona.*
Mirboka. *See Mirboka.*
Neapolitan Squadron, presence of hampers operations of 329
References to 240, 261, 392, 414, 422, 423, 441, 487
Wheat for poor of Tripoli. *See Mirboka.*
Morrell, Antonio, seaman, *Siren* and G. B. No. 9., wounded 309, 381
Morris, Andrew, Captain, American ship *Franklin*, captured by Tripoli 148, 157
Morris, Charles, Mid., *Constitution*, *Scourge* and *Argus*:
Correspondence with Commo. Preble 34, 333, 387
Extracts from journal of (*see Scourge*, *Constitution* and *Argus*) 461, 510–513
References to 36, 37, 43, 190, 304, 333, 334, 387, 389, 394, 493, 502, 504, 510–512,
Morris, Noadiah, Purser, U. S. N., *Constitution*:
Report of, on activities of Mediterranean Squadron from 25 July to 7 Sept. 1804 353–359
Warrant of, reference to 128
Morris, Richard V., Capt:
Commission of, revoked 105
Correspondence with Navy, Secretary of 81, 105
Court of Inquiry, opinion of 38
References to iv, 2, 19, 20, 42, 123, 329, 516
Tunis, Bey of, restitution of property demanded 10, 13, 15
Morrison, John, seaman No. 111, taken prisoner in *Philadelphia* died April 24, 1804 61
Morse, Noah, seaman, U. S. S. *Constitution*, died at Malta 171
Mortar Boats. *See* Gunboats and Mortar Boats.
Mott, John, Lieut., Gunboat No. 1 279
Muley Soliman. *See* Morocco, Emperor of.
Mumford, Mr 324, 325
Muollo, Antonio, G. B. No. 5 360

Page

Murdoch, James W., Lt., Gunboat No. 2 ..... 279, 388
Murray, Alexander, Capt., correspondence with Bainbridge, William, Capt 87
Murray, Daniel, Mid 45, 138
Murray, Jos'h, U. S. brig *Argus*, sent to *La Vergine del Rosario* 137
Mustapha Pascha, Dey of Algiers. *See* Algiers, Dey of.
Mutiny, punishment of Robert Quinn and John Kirkpatrick 226, 227
Naples:
Clothing for American prisoners in Tripoli, stored at 32, 50
Constitution at 90, 91
Consul, U. S., Matthiew, John S. M 32, 83
Degen, Frderick, appointed U. S. Navy Agent at 123, 124
"Free Flags," given advantage of 129
Gunboats and Mortar Boats (or Bombards) with ammunition, procured from, and taken to Messina 90–92, 97, 98, 100–106, 121, 123, 130, 140, 141, 178, 206, 512
King of, references to 86, 101–104, 122, 126, 140, 244, 356, 512, 523
Money for U. S. prisoners in Tripoli, deposited at 32
Neapolitan crew loaned to, and paid by, the United States 104, 126, 128–131, 146, 294, 334, 359, 360, 514, 517, 523, 524
Relations with Tunis 92, 262, 373, 437
St. Guisseppe, charted to carry provisions to Squadron off Tripoli 265, 266
Vessels of 60, 68, 92, 120
Narcissus, H. B. M. S., captain of, refused to give up U. S. seamen 136
Nautical day, commences noon of previous day, ends noon of indicated day.
Nautilus, U. S. S., Lts. Richard Somers and G. W. Reed:
At Gibraltar 510
At Malta 68, 272, 273, 274, 281, 284, 294
At Syracuse 20, 24, 27, 30, 37, 53, 54, 260, 265, 267–269, 293
Burrows, William, transferred from, to *Siren* 38
Cassin, Stephen, Mid, appointed Acting Master of 43, 44
Damaged by collision with *Siren*, off Tripoli 28
Damaged in gale off Tripoli 20, 27, 28, 35, 41
Dent, John H., Lt., ordered to command of 514
Green, Mr., Purser, transferred to *Scourge* 35
Guns 20, 27, 28, 41, 152, 341, 508
Messina, repairing at 27, 28, 43, 45, 46, 53, 54, 103, 120, 126–128, 130, 145, 146, 189, 243, 246, 248, 257
Neapolitan seaman, wounded 309
One of Mediterranean Squadron 152
Peterson, Emanuel, deserter from, on board *Constitution* at Malta 174
Reed, George Washington, Lt., in command of, in absence of Lt. Somers 509
References to 1, 30, 59, 60, 74, 131, 304, 350, 361, 433, 448, 470, 478, 489, 507, 520
Ridgley, Charles Goodwin, Lt., ordered to 432, 526
Sailed from—
Malta for Tripoli 284, 286, 289
Messina 259
Syracuse for Malta en route to Tripoli 269, 270, 271
St. Crucifisso, captured by. *See St. Crucifisso.*
Signals to 427, 500
Surgeon of, to attend *Intrepid* and Tripolitan prisoners at Syracuse 146
Tripoli, engagements before—
Action of—
August 3, 1804 ..... 337, 338, 341–343
August 7, 1804 ..... 300, 376, 378, 379
August 28, 1804 ..... 303, 304, 473, 476, 517
September 2 or 3, 1804 ..... 304, 503–505
At Tripoli 40, 293, 294, 312, 314, 330, 344, 353, 356, 428
Casualties, killed or wounded 308, 309, 507
Four Tripolitan prisoners sent from *Constitution* 493
Intrepid, explosion of, participation of *Nautilus* in expedition 306, 499, 506–509, 513

Nautilus, U. S. schr., Lt. Richard Somers—Continued. Page
Tripoli, engagements before—Continued.
Ordered to tow bombs and gunboats to Syracuse 307, 525, 527
Orders of Anchoring and Sailing 314, 315
Station of 342
Towing one gunboat off Tripoli 293, 318
Naval Academy. *See* U. S. Naval Academy.
Naval Historical Foundation:
Records published by courtesy of 34, 57, 359, 492, 514
Reproduction of painting, through courtesy of vi, 290
Naval Peace Establishment Act, Law supplementary to Act 20
Navy Agents, (U. S.), and Superintendents of Navy Yards:
Baltimore, Md. *See* Stricker, John.
Barbary Regencies. *See* Eaton, William.
Boston, Mass. *See* Brown, Samuel.
Charleston, S. C. *See* Smith, William, Sr.
Leghorn. *See* Degen, Purviance & Co.
Malta. *See* Higgins, William.
Messina. *See* Broadbent, John.
Naples. *See* Degen, Frederick.
New York. *See* Beekman, John.
Norfolk, Va. *See* Bedinger, Daniel.
Philadelphia, Pa. *See* Harrison, George.
Portsmouth, N. H. *See* Langdon, Woodbury.
Savannah, Ga. *See* Bullock, Archibald.
Syracuse. *See* Dyson, George.
Navy, Secretary of, Robert Smith:
Barron, Samuel, Commo. orders and instructions to 132–136
Correspondence with—
Accountant of the Navy 138
Alline, Benjamin, Purser 5
Bainbridge, William, Capt 143
Bainbridge, Mrs. William 396
Barron, James, Capt 19
Barron, Samuel, Capt 99, 132–136, 138, 143, 148, 152–154, 160, 375
Bazen, James 273
Bedinger, Daniel 67, 208, 231, 371, 372, 457, 491, 521
Beekman, John 471
Bennett, Edward, Mid 5
Brown, Samuel 65, 266, 422
Bullock, Archibald S 253, 277
Carmick, Daniel, Capt., U. S. M. C 231, 269
Carroll, Right Reverend Bishop 56
Cassin, John, Lt 14, 20, 39
Chauncey, Isaac, Lt 16, 18, 106, 116, 118, 123, 129, 160, 182, 211, 227, 287, 292, 320, 364
Clarke, Winlock, Mid 3
Cocke, Buller, Purser 70
Cordis, John B., Lt 312
Cox, John S. H 67
Degen, Purviance & Co 124, 144
Eaton, William 120, 525
Fox, Josiah 85, 233, 250
Gadsden, Christopher, Jr., Mid 3, 36
Gale, Anthony, Capt., U. S. M. C 56, 57
Gardner, John M., Mid 2, 67
Gavino, John 154, 371
Goldsborough, Robert W 75
Higgins, William 371
Hull, Isaac, Lt 84
Jefferson, Thomas, President 38
Jones, Walter 2
Langdon, Henry S 457
Leonard, James T., Mid 428
Lovell, John P., Sailing Master 248, 277, 280
Ludlow, Charles, Lt 2, 8
Monroe, James 516
Morris, Richard V., Capt 81, 105

Navy, Secretary of, Robert Smith—Continued. Page
Correspondence with—Continued.
Murdoch, James W., Lt. 388
Murray, Daniel, Mid. U. S. N. 45
Nicholson, John B. 140
Ogilvie, Peter S., Lt. 232
Patch, Joseph, Capt. 373
Perry, Oliver H. 54
Preble, Edward, Capt. 40–44, 88, 103, 114, 128, 130, 136, 187–190, 235, 293–308, 313, 374
Randolph, John, Jr. 131
Rodgers, John, Capt. 95, 127, 150, 164, 239, 241, 402, 422, 486–488
Smith, William, Sr. 2
State, Secretary of. 171
Stewart, Charles, Master Comdt. 420
Stricker, John. 457
Tipling, Erasmus H., Capt. 458
Vail, A. 408
Wharton, Franklin, Lt. Col. Comdt., U. S. Marine Corps. 18, 45, 278
Wingate, Joshua. 232, 471
Morris, Richard V., Capt., *re* Court of Inquiry. 38
Preble, Edward, Capt., commended by. 115, 152, 374, 377
Questions authority for transportation of private cargo by *Woodrop Sims*. 491
References to. 12, 27, 112, 247, 291, 299, 385, 414, 417, 441, 488
Navy Yards, U. S.:
Pay and allowances of workmen. 14, 16
Washington, D. C.—
Clerk of the Yard, Mr. Smallwood. 21
Engagement of ship carpenters and constructor for. 16, 85
List of ranks of officers and men at. 20, 21
Pay and Emoluments of Surgeons stationed at. 138
Neale, Benedict J. (or I.) 56
Neilson, Lord. *See* Nelson, Lord.
Nelson, Horatio, Lord, British Vice Admiral:
References to. 6, 60, 172, 263, 280
Neutrality, violation of, by Commander of British vessel at New York. 225
New York Historical Society, records published by courtesy of. 95, 123, 195 200, 222, 272, 368, 374, 495
New York, U. S. S., Capts. Richard V. Morris and John Rodgers. 2, 39, 510
Nicholson, John B., Mid. 140, 473
Nicholson, Mr. 129, 147
Nissen, Nicholas C., Danish Consul, Tripoli:
Correspondence with—
Cathcart, James Leander. 467
Davis, George. 221, 495
Lear, Tobias. 148
Gold snuff box to be presented to, by order of the President. 148, 467
Opinion of Commo. Preble's overtures of peace and ransom. 495
References to. 8, 151, 187, 192, 214, 220, 228–230, 255, 265, 276, 282, 368
Nobilione, Pasquale, G. B. Nos. 3 and 5. 359, 360
Noguera, Don Joseph, Spanish Consul General, Tunis:
Correspondence with—
Davis, George. 216, 217
Preble, Edward, Capt. 223, 275
La Vergine del Rosario re capture of. 216
North James (alias Daniel Frazier) 362
O'Brien, Capt., Am. ship *Shepherdess*. 6
O'Brien, Richard, U. S. ex-Consul General, Algiers:
At Malta. 24, 82, 244, 446
Cathcart, James L., opinion concerning. 32, 178
Comments of Capt. Preble *re* character and services of. 141
Correspondence with—
Davis, George. 65, 66, 80
Gavino, John. 516
Lear, Tobias. 59, 72, 169, 322
Preble, Edward, Capt. 183, 443, 446
State, Secretary of. 330

O'Brien, Richard, U. S. ex-Consul General, Algiers—Continued. Page
Narrative of attacks on Tripoli, by 341, 343
Narrative *re* journey from Algiers 26 March, to Tunis 24 April 1804 59–61
On board *Argus* 240
On board *Constitution* 84, 102, 103, 174, 405, 406
On board *Vixen* 37, 68, 69, 400
References to 4, 9, 42, 43, 48, 116, 117, 120, 123, 156, 157, 180, 194, 205, 207, 213, 214, 215, 220, 227, 251, 256, 271, 321, 370, 393, 437, 441–443, 471, 481.
Return of, with his family, to United States in *John Adams* 517, 518
To Malta in prize *Conception* 443, 451
Tripoli, peace and ransom negotiations 24, 37, 63, 86, 87, 141, 179, 181, 183–188, 192, 195, 198–200, 206, 248, 264, 272, 330, 331, 389–391, 394, 398–401, 450, 517, 526.
Tunis, general references to U. S. affairs in, including peace negotiations 42, 45, 53, 54, 58, 72–74, 79–81, 93–95, 166, 167, 330, 526
Valuation of *Transfer* made by 35
O'Brien, Richard, Mrs., references to 170, 322
Oda Bashaw of the Goletta 209
Officers, U. S. Marine Corps:
Duties of 18
Praise of, by Commo Preble 297
Rank with Navy, policy 269
Officers, U. S. Navy:
Commanding ships of Mediterranean Squadron—
Correspondence with—
Davis, George 58, 151
Preble, Edward, Capt 54, 72, 88, 173, 438
Orders and instructions to 134, 438, 439
Commended for gallant conduct in attacks on Tripoli 254, 297, 337, 361, 377, 390, 392
Commission of Lieutenant Commandant 128
Detained by Governor of Syracuse 53
Duties of Midshipmen 143
Navy Yard, Washington, D. C 20, 21
Payments of money to 44, 134
Promotion to Lieutenant subject to examination 138, 139
Rank with U. S. Marine Corps, policy 269
Remarkable morale of Commo. Preble's squadron 353, 356
Volunteers to man *Intrepid* 499
Ogilvie, Peter S., Lt 232, 279
Omar, Reis or Arraez, of Tetuan, Capt. of Tripolitan ship *Meshouda* 51, 95
Operations before Tripoli. *See* Engagements.
Orders issued by Commo. Preble. *See* Preble, Edward, Capt.
Osborne, Mr 97
Ottoman, Mohamet Ben, Arraez, Commanding Moroccan galley, *Bercia* 392
Ottoman Porte. *See* Turkey, Constantinople.
Oubril, Monsieur. *See* d'Oubril, Monsieur.
Owlin, George, Qr. Master, *Argus* and prize *Le St. Jean Baptiste* 150, 151
Pace, Guiseppe, G. B. No. 1 359
Page, Octavius A., Mid 91, 93, 111, 196
Palermo, Abraham Gibbs, U. S. Consul at 88
Palle, Geremia, G. B. No. 5 360
Palma, Gennaro di, G. B. No. 5 360
Paola, Raffaele di, G. B. No. 4 360
Parmasan, Vinzencio, Neapolitan, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
Parzieri, Guiseppe, G. B. No. 1 359
Passports:
Comments of George Davis concerning 209
Davis, George, issued by 58, 108–110, 122, 151, 183, 216, 217, 219, 367, 368, 374, 386, 403, 404
For Moroccan vessels 261, 329, 340, 392, 423
For *William and Mary*, Am. storeship 490
Instructions regarding 205, 207, 210, 223, 224
Issued by Ministers of Great Britain, France and Spain 490

Passports—Continued. Page
Mediterranean Passes 43, 115, 143, 155, 158, 409, 410
Violations of 216, 217, 275
Patch, Joseph, Capt., Am. provision ship *Alfred* 373
Patterson, Daniel T., Mid., commissioned a Lieutenant, pending examination 138
Patty, Am. brig, Master, William Egery, boarded by a Tunisian galley 453
Paulina, Austrian polacre, prize to *Enterprize* 203, 204
Pay:
Eaton, William 120
Naval Storekeeper, Washington, D. C 70
Neapolitans serving with U. S. Navy 126, 131
U. S. Navy and Marine Corps officer and enlisted personnel 2, 3, 5, 21, 44, 134, 136, 138, 139, 522
Workmen at Navy Yards 14, 16
Peace Establishment Act, Naval. *See* Naval Peace Establishment Act.
Peale, Rembrandt, reproduction of portrait of Commodore Edward Preble, by vi, 159
Pearce, Philip S., seaman, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
Pease, Matthew, *Argus* and *La Vergine del Rosario* 137, 142
Peck, Samuel, American Citizen, memorial of, concerning Thomas Wood 150–151
Penner, Peter, seaman, U. S. S. *Constitution* and ketch *Intrepid* 309, 507
Peolina. *See Paulina.*
Percuece, Guiseppe, G. B. No. 1 359
Perry, Oliver Hazard, Mid 54, 138
Persico, Vincenzo, G. B. No. 3 359
Peters, Judge, Philadelphia, Pa 190
Peterson, Emanuel, deserter from *Nautilus* 174
Pettigrew, John, Mid., *Argus* and *La Vergine del Rosario* 137, 142, 181
Philadelphia, Algerine brig 79
Philadelphia, U. S. frigate and prize captured by Tripoli, Capt. William Bainbridge:
Cowdery, Jonathan, Surgeon, journal of 61–65
Destruction or burning of by U. S. ketch *Intrepid* 92, 194, 351, 357, 358, 512
Grounding and capture of—
Bainbridge, William, Court of Inquiry 135, 136
Information of, received by Navy Department 114
Prestige of U. S. adversely affected by 152, 164, 168, 169, 172, 357
References to iv, 35, 69, 88, 142, 143, 148, 187, 214, 234, 511
Gun from, used in defense of Tripoli 65
Mirboka, Moroccan cruiser, capture of, by 67, 496, 510
Muster roll, references to 67, 273
Negotiations for sale of, to Tunis 60, 357
Officers and crew of, taken prisoners by Tripoli—
Aid to, by U. S. citizens, policy 23
British subjects among crew 263
Casualties 4, 61, 75
Clothing, stores, and money for, from all sources 4, 31, 32, 42, 50, 75, 86, 96, 101, 102, 112, 113, 122, 134, 135, 149, 164, 165, 169, 170, 177, 179, 180, 184, 186, 189, 192, 205–208, 213, 220, 228–230, 234, 235, 239, 244, 246, 247, 255, 258, 282, 283, 471.
Conduct of 8
Dependents of, to receive allotments of pay of 65
Dghies, Prime Minister, Tripoli, interest in 271
Escape attempted 187, 256
France's intercession in behalf of 25, 40, 42, 237, 251, 472
Health of 471
Letters for 276, 301, 425
Murray, Alexander, Capt., sympathy of 87
Nissen, Nicholas C., aid given to, by 148, 467
Peace, ransom, exchange of prisoners; estimates, demands, proposals and negotiations iii, 41, 42, 63, 153–155, 179–181, 183, 184, 186, 192, 248, 264, 272, 301, 351, 355, 363, 393, 394, 397, 480–483, 495, 496.

Philadelphia, U. S. frigate and prize captured by Tripoli, Capt. William Bainbridge—Continued. Page
Officers and crew of, taken prisoners by Tripoli—Continued.
Quarters of 41, 149, 186, 214, 258
References to iv, 40, 331, 511
Russia's intercession with Turkey for release of 6
158, 163, 176, 180, 207
Treatment of 4,
8, 19, 22, 23, 41, 62, 63, 117, 130, 141, 146, 198–200, 214, 229, 230, 255, 256, 258.
Tripoli, building batteries for 42
References to 49, 59, 60, 147, 238, 242, 266, 349, 506, 508
Pinckney, Charles, U. S. Minister to Madrid, Spain 186,
190, 198, 219, 238, 264, 288, 403, 435, 441, 454, 492
Pinelli, Michele, G. B. No. 6 360
Pitt, Mr. (England) 201
Pizzarello, Giovanni, G. B. No. 4 360
Polly and Sally, Am. schr., Baltimore, Mr. Keith, Master 127
Porcile, Anna, redemption of, at Tunis 94
Portelli, Antonio, G. B. No. 6 360
Porter, David, Lt. 134, 135, 272, 368
Portugal:
Algiers, relations with 280, 325, 327
References to 247, 311
Preble, Edward, Capt. and Commodore of U. S. Mediterranean Squadron, *Constitution*, flagship:
Arrived off Tripoli with Squadron 293
Bainbridge, William, present of coat given to Commo. Preble 256
Beaussier, Citizen, Commo. Preble's opinion of 180, 237, 238
Certificate of, concerning Peter F. Crocillo 29
Command of Mediterranean Squadron given to Capt. Samuel Barron, senior to Commo. Preble 12,
115, 301, 307, 353, 377, 417, 437, 441, 443, 488
Commendations and General Orders of, in recognition of gallant conduct of personnel 297, 308, 337, 361, 365, 390, 391
Commended by—
Davis, George, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis 96
Lear, Tobias 172
Morris, Noadiah, Purser 356, 357
Navy, Secretary of 115, 152, 374, 377
President of the United States 82, 88, 115, 293, 377, 417, 488
State, Secretary of 82
Constitution in attacks on Tripoli. *See Constitution.*
Correspondence with—
Acton, Sir John 90, 97–99, 523
Anderson, Thomas O 55
Appleton, Thomas 238
Bainbridge, William, Capt 112,
179, 186, 205. 213, 230, 255, 258, 263
Ball, Sir Alexander John 220, 221, 441, 474, 488
Barnes, Joseph 29, 140
Beaussier, Monsieur 117,
146, 180, 184, 227, 251, 363, 369, 389, 393, 397, 398, 480, 481–483, 496.
Blake, Joshua, Lt 386
Briggs, Thomas, Capt. R. N 241–242, 282
Broadbent, John 45, 122, 126, 145, 453, 524
Brooke, Samuel B., Sailing Master 29
Burrows, William 34
Cassin, Stephen, Mid 44
Cathcart, James Leander 31, 47–49, 99, 101, 126, 141, 177–179, 248
Chauncey, Isaac, Master Comdt 288, 385, 387, 462, 475, 518, 521
Cox, Edward N., Mid 27, 69, 114
Creighton, John Orde, Mid 522
Darby, John, Purser 492
Davis, George, Dr 6
13, 17, 36, 79, 80, 96, 109, 204, 209, 210, 219, 277, 340, 367–368, 386, 442.

Preble, Edward, Capt. and Commodore of U. S. Mediterranean Squadron, *Constitution*, flagship—Continued.
Correspondence with—Continued. Page
Davis, John, Mid 52
Decatur, Stephen, Jr., Capt 33, 45, 120, 143, 345, 380, 522
Degen, Frederick, & Co 249
Dent, John H., Lt 34, 57, 191, 492, 514, 515
Dghies, Sidi Mohamet 179, 229, 363, 481
d'Italinsky, Mr 158
d'Karpow, P 107, 110, 161, 396
d'Thurn, Count 110
Dorsey, John W., Asst. Surgeon 498, 499
Douglass, Joseph, sailmaker 479
Dyson, George 524
Elbert, Samuel, Lt 250, 251
Enterprize, Seamen of 11
Farquhar, Richard 19, 71
Gavino, John 6, 112, 247, 291
Godby, William, carpenter 479
Gregorio, Marcello de, Governor of Syracuse 47, 50, 55
Harris, Levett 161
Harrison, Alexander C., Sailing Master 29
Haswell, John M., Mid 314, 333
Higgins, William 230, 332, 396, 404, 417, 424, 431, 443, 446, 447, 480
Higinbothom, James Semphill, Lt 499
Hull, Isaac, Master Comdt 26, 190, 480
Israel, Joseph, Mid 446, 454
Izard, Ralph, Jr., Mid 34, 334
Langford, William Wass 220, 255
Lear, Tobias 82, 164, 206–208, 321
Leckie, Mrs. F 46
Lewis, William, Mid 242
Livingston, Robert R 102, 121, 237
Livingston, Wm. M., Lt 27
Macdonough, Thomas, Mid 524
Mackenzie, J. & Glennie, A 89, 237
Magrath, Humphrey, Sailing Master 28
Marshall, Thomas, Asst. Surgeon 55
Matthiew, John S. M 86
McMillan, Archibald 97
Meade, R. W 434–435
Morris, Charles, Mid 34, 333, 387
Navy, Secretary of 40–44, 88, 103, 114, 128, 130, 136, 187–190, 235, 293–308, 313, 374
Noguera, Don Joseph 223, 275
O'Brien, Richard 183, 443, 446
Officers commanding U. S. Ships of War, Mediterranean 54, 72, 88, 267, 438
Officers of the Wardroom, U. S. frigate *Constitution* 173, 222
Page, Octavius A 93, 111
Reed, George W., Lt 514
Ridgely, Charles Goodwin, Mid 432
Robinson, Thomas, Lt 518, 519
Rowe, John, Mid 52
Schomberg, C. M., Capt. R. N 332, 437
Simpson, James 51, 125, 240, 284
Smith, John, Master Comdt 194, 289, 442, 466
Somers, Richard, Lt 28, 46, 126, 145, 344
State, Secretary of 144
Stewart, Charles, Master Comdt 26, 51, 52, 170, 182, 191, 194, 254, 381, 405, 525
Tarbell, Joseph, Lt 151, 173
Thorn, Jonathan, Mid 525
To whom not indicated 146
Tunis, Bey of 10
Wadsworth, Henry, Mid 35, 333, 505

Preble, Edward, Capt. and Commodore of U. S. Mediterranean Squadron, *Constitution*, flagship—Continued. Page
Correspondence with—Continued.
Wells, James, Surgeon 210, 431
Yznardi, Joseph 491
Exchange of prisoners. *See Philadelphia.*
Extracts from diary, journal and memorandum books of. *See Constitution.*
Fraudulent withdrawal of funds by Laurent Roberts. *See* Roberts, Laurent.
Health of 19, 26, 61
Illustrations of U. S. attacks on Tripoli, and of Commo. Preble vi, vii, 159, 204, 434, 474
Maxwell, Joseph, Mid., treatment of, by Commo 405
Morale of squadron of, very high 353, 356
Narrow escape of, during attack on Tripoli 3 August 1804 339
No duels or courts martial in squadron of 308
O'Brien, Richard, comments concerning character and services of 141
Off Tripoli, sent boat ashore 4, 8
On board U. S. S. *Siren*, *Argus*, and *Vixen* 212, 213, 301, 365, 389, 390, 399, 400, 511
Orders and instructions to, *re* Crews of *Enterprize* and *John Adams* 128, 139
Passports, instructions 207, 223, 224
Peace and ransom negotiations with Tripoli—
Beaussier, Citizen, part played by, in negotiations with Tripoli 184, 238, 298, 363, 369, 389, 397, 398, 400, 401, 450, 480–483, 495, 496
Cathcart, James L., prepares rough draft of proposed Treaty 48
Criticism of Commo. Preble's offers and overtures 482, 483, 495, 496
Lear, Tobias, authorized to negotiate peace 153, 155, 169, 280, 351, 458, 460
O'Brien, Richard, sent to Tripoli by, to negotiate for peace 24, 37, 264
Proposals, offers and general data 63, 180, 181, 186–188, 205, 206, 263, 265, 272, 301, 357, 363, 369, 389, 391, 394, 395, 397, 398, 401, 446, 480–484, 495, 496, 512, 524.
Proposals of, rejected 355, 394, 526
See Philadelphia.
Wishes to effect peace before arrival of Commo. Barron 388, 391, 395
Plan for attack on Tripoli, abandoned because of advanced season 307, 520
References to iv, 59, 60, 62, 65, 71, 74, 75, 80, 84, 95, 108, 113, 116, 119, 123, 154, 155, 165, 169, 175, 185, 198, 215, 234, 261, 264, 265, 280, 281, 283, 287, 299, 330, 346, 350, 352, 353, 364, 366–368, 384, 394, 395, 403, 468–470, 486, 487, 509, 510.
Relative rank of 115, 488
Reports of engagements before Tripoli 293–308, 336–338, 340, 376, 417, 523
Returned on board the *Constitution* 74, 217, 218, 365, 389, 394, 490
Return of, to United States, to be in *John Adams* 307
Sailed from Syracuse for Malta en route to Tripoli 269, 270, 271
Sailed from Tripoli 307
Salute of 13 Guns, ordered by, on anniversary of American Independence 248
Schembri, Gaetano Andrea—
Loaded ship for Tripoli 396, 404, 425, 447
Statement *re* peace plans of 19, 20
Thanks to Mrs. Lear for gift 82
Tripoli, engagements before. *See* Gunboats and Mortar Boats and names of ships.
Tunis, U. S. affairs in 6, 10, 13, 15, 22, 37, 42, 81, 82, 160, 161, 210, 403
Waited on by Captains of the Squadron 400, 406, 408, 415, 455, 507
Preface iii–v
President of the United States, Thomas Jefferson:
Cannon and Gun carriages for Dey of Algiers 171
Correspondence with—
Barron, Samuel 132
Navy, Secretary of 38
Gold snuff box ordered by, to be presented Nicholas C. Nissen 148, 467

President of the United States, Thomas Jefferson—Continued. Page
Letters from, to Bey of Tunis, delivered by Davis, George 72
Message to Congress of the United States 293
Morris, Richard V., opinion of Court of Inquiry 38, 81
Opinion of, relative to constitution of a blockade 133
Passport for *William and Mary* issued by 490
Preble, Commo., commended by 51, 82, 88, 115, 293, 300, 377, 488
References to 10, 17, 21, 23, 25, 49, 74, 79, 93, 94, 103, 105–107, 112, 114, 115, 117, 132, 133, 142, 153, 157, 188, 214, 224, 271, 277, 353, 398, 417, 420, 485, 488, 516, 525.
Russia's intervention in behalf of prisoners, appreciated by 176
President, U. S. frigate, Flagship of Commo. Samuel Barron:
Arrived at Tripoli 307, 513, 517
At Gibraltar 205, 207, 407, 409, 411, 412, 414
At Hampton Roads 175, 182, 203, 218, 219, 241
At Malta 520, 522
At Mogador 366
At St. Marys 150
Becalmed off Cape de Gatt, felt violent shock of an earthquake 440, 452
Bowsprit, dimensions of 67
Commissioned 88
Eaton, William, on board of 243, 266, 407
En route to the Mediterranean 268, 285, 286, 317, 319, 377, 407
Extracts from journal of William Eaton. *See* Eaton, William.
Guns 12, 143, 144, 152
Ludlow, Charles, Lt., to be one of officers of 8
One of Mediterranean Squadron 152
Quinn, Robert, seaman, incited mutiny. *See* Quinn, Robert.
Randolph, John, Jr. Hon., on board of 441, 522
References to 8, 180, 193, 402, 494, 495
Sailed from Gibraltar, en route to Tripoli 421, 441
Sailed from United States for Mediterranean 243, 246, 247, 249
To join Mediterranean Squadron 112, 115, 143, 144, 205, 207, 242, 289
U. S. Marine officers for 45
Prisoners:
American—
At San Lucar 150
Captured by Tripoli. *See* U. S. frigate *Philadelphia*.
Portuguese officers at Algiers 325
Tripolitan—
At Syracuse 146, 514
Daily Report of, by John Burchard, Master at Arms, *Constitution* 398
Exchange of 134, 170, 179–181, 184, 389, 397, 480
Inhabitants of Tripoli on board U. S. S. *Scourge*, to be imprisoned at Syracuse 514
Ordered to duty with U. S. Squadron 497
Preble, Edward holds as hostages 22
See Gunboats and names of ships.
Taken in brig *St. Crucifisso* 41
U. S. Surgeon to look over Tripolitan prisoners in Syracuse 146
Wounded, conveyed to Tripoli by French corsair *Rusé*. *See Rusé*.
Prizes:
Conception, detained by U. S. Squadron 443–444
Four vessels taken by vessels of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean 82
Greek ship taken by *Argus* 461
La Vergine del Rosario captured by *Argus*. *See Argus* and *La Vergine del Rosario*.
Le St. Jean Baptiste. *See Argus* and *Le St. Jean Baptiste*.
Madona Catapoliana. *See Madona Catapoliana*.
St. Crucifisso, captured by U. S. S. *Nautilus*. *See St. Crucifisso*.
Taken by *Constitution* to be sent to Malta 307
Taken by U. S. vessels, must, if practicable, be sent into some port of the U. S 134
Three Tripolitan Gunboats captured, in action of 3 August 1804. *See* Gunboats and Mortar Boats.
Transfer. *See Transfer* and *Scourge*.

Page
Procida, Tommaso, G. B. No. 1 ---- 359
Provisions, Stores and Water:
For Mediterranean Squadron ---- 37, 39, 40, 43, 54, 128, 154, 189, 190, 247, 265–267, 282, 291, 301, 302, 304, 371–373, 375, 385, 396, 398, 402, 404, 424, 438–440, 448, 449, 451, 460, 461, 469, 470, 518.
See Vessels, carrying provisions, stores and water, Mediterranean squadron.
Provoyant. *See La Provoyant.*
Pulis, Joseph, U. S. Consul, Malta:
Correspondence with State, Secretary of ---- 116
References to ---- 18, 255, 256, 258, 525
Resents appointment of William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent at Malta ---- 447
Punishment. *See* Flogging.
Pyles, John, seaman, *Constitution*, death of ---- 427
Quarantine:
L'Orient ---- 408
Malaga, Spain ---- 442
Naples, unfair to U. S. Vessels, ---- 99, 100, 103, 145, 358
Quinn, Robert, seaman, U. S. S. *President*:
Copy of letter, calculated to incite mutiny, said to have been written by ---- 203
Court Martial and punishment of ---- 203, 218, 219, 227
Radish, or Radishjz, Lucca, Master of *Paulina* ---- 204
Raffone, Nicola, G. B. No. 2 ---- 359
Raja, Givacchino, G. B. No. 2 ---- 359
Raja, Guiseppe, G. B. No. 4 ---- 360
Ramsay, General ---- 274
Ramsdel, Capt., Am. schr. *John Adams*, of Philadelphia ---- 247
Randolph, John, Jr. Hon. U. S. Congress, on board U. S. S. *President* ---- 131, 441, 522
Rank, U. S. Marine Corps and U. S. Navy ---- 138, 139, 269
Ransom. *See Philadelphia* and Preble, Edward, Capt.
Raspacele, Luigi, G. B. No. 2 ---- 359
Recruiting instructions ---- 2, 3, 5, 45, 99, 232, 241
Reddick, Miles, Capt., Am. storeship *Woodrop Sims*, (ex *Betsy Walk*)
References to ---- 6, 27, 35, 36, 59, 163, 491
Reed, George Washington, Lt., *Nautilus* ---- 126, 127, 146, 361, 506, 507, 509, 514
Reed, Hethcote J., Mid., commissioned a lieutenant, pending examination ---- 138
Regina, Giovanni, G. B. No. 4 ---- 360
Reid, Mate, U. S. S. *Constitution* ---- 129, 147
Reports of engagements before Tripoli. *See* Tripoli, reports of.
Rhind, Charles, American Citizen, memorial of, concerning Thomas Wood ---- 150–151
Ricciardo, Domenico, G. B. No. 2 ---- 359
Ridgely, Charles Goodwin, Mid., *Nautilus* and G. B. No. 1 ---- 43, 129, 282, 297, 342, 345, 432, 507–510, 527
Riveness, Thomas, Marine, wounded ---- 254, 257, 309
Roberts, James, seaman, *Argus* and *Scourge* ---- 98, 515
Roberts, Laurent, forger:
Believed to be Charles Borny or Borney ---- 434
Fraudulent withdrawal of funds in name of Commo. Preble ---- 89, 124, 125, 144, 201, 235–237, 409, 434–436, 491
Information on, unavailable ---- 112
See Mackenzie & Glennie.
Robertson, Purser, *Enterprize* ---- 310
Robinson, John, seaman, *Siren* and G. B. No. 9, killed ---- 308, 381
Robinson, Thomas, Jr., Master Comdt., *Constitution*, *Enterprize*, Bombard No. 1 ---- 173, 284, 295, 296, 300, 304, 305, 337–339, 341, 342, 354, 361, 472, 473, 503, 518–520, 527
Rodgers (or Rogers), Francis (or Francisco), seaman, died ---- 309, 381, 408

Rodgers, John, Capt., comdg. U. S. S. *Congress*: Page
Correspondence with—
Barron, James, Capt. 424, 486
Barron, Samuel, Capt. 179, 193, 203, 218, 219, 241, 414
Blakely, Johnston, Mid. 92
Cassin, John, Lt. 127
King, Benjamin. 182, 193
Navy, Secretary of. 95, 127, 150, 164, 239, 241, 402, 422, 486, 488
Simpson, James. 423, 424, 464, 467, 468
Wharton, Franklin. 147, 174
Extracts from journal of U. S. S. *Congress*. *See Congress.*
Orders and instructions to. 127, 193, 241, 414
References to. iv, 2, 12, 39, 115, 136, 143, 144, 158, 377, 410, 421, 485
Report of U. S. affairs in Morocco. 486–488
See U. S. S. *Congress.*
Tripoli, eager to take part in attacks on. 403, 488
Rodgers, John, Carpenter's Mate, U. S. frigate *Congress*, died. 366
Rodgers, William, seaman, Gun Boat No. 9. 381
Rodner, Sam, pvt., U. S. M. C., *Nautilus*, wounded. 309
Rogers, Dr. 231
Romitiello, Giovanni, G. B. No. 5. 360
Roosevelt, Franklin D., President:
Print reproduced by courtesy of. vi, 434
Records published by courtesy of. 92
Rosella, Andrea, Capt., Spanish polacre *La Marianna*. 368, 374, 386
Ross, John, & Co., Malta. 89, 245
Rotunno, Antonio, G. B. No. 5. 360
Rowe, John, Mid., *Scourge*, *Intrepid* and *Constitution*. 35, 52, 511, 515
Rules and Regulations:
Rules governing armed vessels of belligerent powers going to sea from U. S. ports. 225
Rusé, French Corsair, Capt. P. Blaise Mercellise:
Conveyed wounded Tripolitans to Tripoli from U. S. Squadron. 298, 363, 365, 369, 377, 378, 389
Russel, Mr. 368, 442
Russell, John, seaman, U. S. S. *Constitution*, punishment of. 160
Russia:
Ambassador of, left Paris. 368
Charge d' Affaires, The Two Sicilies, d'Karpow, P. 110
Grand Chancellor of, Alexander, Count de Woronzow (or Worontzoff). 17, 24
Intercession of Emperor in behalf of U. S. prisoners in Tripoli. 6, 17, 25, 158, 163, 176, 180, 190, 207
Offensive and defensive alliance entered into with England, by. 424
Pulis, Joseph, comments on affairs of. 116
References to. 86, 94, 221, 262, 368
U. S. Consul General to St. Petersburg, Harris, Levett. 17, 161
United States relations with. 6, 17, 158, 159, 161–163, 176, 396
Ryan J., private, U. S. M. C., *Vixen*, wounded. 309, 349
Sacco, Francesco, G. B. No. 3. 359
St. Crucifisso, Mid. Edward N. Cox, prize master:
Captured by *Nautilus* and later released. 41, 54, 163, 190, 512
Ordered to U. S. for adjudication, unable to cross Atlantic. 43, 74
References to. 60, 69, 70, 114
St. Ferdinando, Spanish brig., Master Joseph Carera. 224, 275, 277
St. Guisseppe, storeship, Mid. John M. Haswell:
At Malta, William Higgins in charge of. 272–274, 281, 284, 333, 390, 404
At Syracuse. 268, 269
Certificate of Capt. Preble regarding. 333, 334
Haswell, John M., Mid., to command. 314
Off Tripoli. 310, 322, 331, 343
Orders of Anchoring and Sailing. 314, 315
Sailed with squadron for Tripoli, with provisions and stores. 266, 269–271, 284, 286, 289, 314, 333
St. Jean Baptiste. *See Le St. Jean Baptiste.*

Salemo, Genaro, G. B. No. 6 360
Sallucci & Co., Leghorn 467
Sally, Am. ship, wrecked off St. Lucar, cargo of annuity for Algiers, to be replaced 156, 171, 208, 226
Salpietro, Antonio, G. B. No. 4 360
Salutes 11, 12, 26, 212, 248, 290, 319, 323, 510
San Filippe, Guiseppe, G. B. No. 1 359
Sanhedrin of Algiers 32
San Lucar:
Sally and Cargo lost off 171
Woods, Thomas, prisoner at 150
Santa lamaechia, Ancello, G. B. No. 2 359
Santoro, Antonio, G. B. No. 5 360
Sapatapa. *See* Tunis.
Saragosa (Syracuse) Sicily, Map of port. Reproduction from "The Mediterranean Pilot" ..... vi, 40
Sarcha Doming, Neapolitan, U. S. brig. *Scourge* 515
Savage & Degen 195
Savannah, Georgia, references to Governor and Collector of Customs .. 277–279
Schembri, Gaetano Andrea (il Conte Gallino):
Character of 447
References to 60, 83
Speronare loaded with ammunition for Bashaw of Tripoli 396, 404, 425, 447
Unauthorized representation of United States, by 19, 20, 181
Schomberg, Capt. R. N., comdg. H. B. M. S. *Madrass*, correspondence with—
Preble, Edward, Capt., and references to 274, 332, 404, 437
Schoolfield, J. J., Surgeon, Gunboat No. 1 280
Schulenberg, Emanuel, seaman, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
Schurg. *See Scourge.*
Sciarrone, Diego, G. B. No. 6 360
Scourge (ex-*Transfer* prize), U. S. brig. Lt. John H. Dent, comdg.:
Commissioned 35
Complement of, names and list of officers and men supplied by U. S. squadron 34–37, 41, 43, 44, 52, 55, 57, 68, 98, 333, 334, 472, 489, 497, 499, 512, 515, 525
Convoying store ship *St. Guisseppe* 334, 343, 520
Cruising instructions to 57
Extracts from journal of Mid. Charles Morris Jr., 17 April to 8 Aug. 1804 36
Guns of 36
Not considered as a vessel of war 497
One of Mediterranean Squadron 57
References to ..... iii, 60, 82, 95, 101, 106, 118, 128, 252, 335, 395, 401, 412, 413, 416, 426, 507, 519, 526
Sailing qualities of 194
Signals to 445, 448, 449, 465, 470, 474, 498
Syracuse—
At Syracuse 53, 56, 61, 66, 68
Fitted out at 233
Neapolitans and Sicilians on board of, unfit for service, to be discharged at 514
Tripolitans on board of, to be sent to prison at 514
To sail for the U. S 353
Tripoli—
Action of—
July 7, 1804, chased enemy vessel into harbor 254, 257, 259
August 28, 1804, anchored off 302, 472, 476
Blockading, at anchor and cruising off Tripoli ..... 36, 88, 96, 97, 119, 127, 137, 144, 162, 163, 179, 181, 183, 186, 188, 189, 191–194, 197, 229, 233, 234, 259, 260, 267, 293, 294, 310, 312, 314, 330, 341, 353, 384, 388–392, 407, 419, 421, 430, 464, 469, 505.
Four Tripolitan prisoners sent from *Constitution* 493

Scourge (ex-*Transfer*, prize), U. S. brig. Lt. John H. Dent, comdg.—Con.
Tripoli—Continued. Page
Joined the Squadron off 406
Of insufficient force to act against batteries of 512
Order of Anchoring and Sailing 314, 315
Sailed from, for Syracuse, gunboats in tow 307, 517, 520
Water allowance for ship's company 492
Scuada, Salvatore, G. B. No. 3 359
Scurvy in Commo. Preble's Squadron off Tripoli 42
Seaman, C. B., American Citizen, memorial of, concerning Thomas Woods 150–151
Seamen. *See* Enlisted Men.
Sears, John D., Mid., *John Adams*, fell overboard and was drowned 235, 288, 291
Sebrah, (Arraez) Capt., Commanding Moroccan ship *Maimona* 240
Selawy, Sidi Mohamet Ben Absalem, Secretary of State of the Emperor of Morocco. *See* Morocco.
Shaw, John, Master Comdt 205, 207
Shepherdess, Am. ship, Capt. O'Brien 6
Shields, Mr., U. S. Marine, U. S. S. *Congress* 147, 148, 174
Shipping Papers, alterations in 2
Shrote, Samuel, U. S. S. *Congress*, fell overboard and was picked up 366
Sicily:
Consul, U. S., Barnes, Joseph 29
Loan of gunboats and bomb vessels by King of. *See* Gunboats and Mortar Boats.
References to 32, 50, 83, 84, 91, 111, 221
Relations with Tripoli 90
Subjects of, passengers in *Argus* 240
Vice Consuls and Navy Agents needed in ports of 140, 145
Sidi Hamida 495
Sidi Mehenny 495
Sidi Mohamet Dghies. *See* Dghies, Sidi Mohamet.
Signals:
By flags and guns, Algiers 319, 320
See Gunboats and names of ships.
To be used between ships of war of Sicily and U. S. 110
Sim, Patrick, Asst. Surgeon 282
Simmons, George, *Constitution*, punished for various offenses 71
Simms, James, seaman, *Nautilus* and *Intrepid*, killed 309, 507
Simpson, James, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco:
Correspondence with—
Barron, James, Capt 454
Barron, Samuel, Capt 281, 329, 392, 411, 485
Preble, Edward, Capt 51, 125, 240, 284
Rodgers, John, Capt 423, 424, 464, 467, 468
State, Secretary of 158, 261, 409, 484
New Mediterranean passport furnished 158, 409, 410
On board *Congress* in Tangier Bay 426
Passports issued and requests for refused 284, 329, 410, 422, 484
References to 95, 247, 288, 385, 414, 422, 441, 486, 487, 510
Report of, *re* affairs in Morocco 392, 393
Simpson, James, Mrs 126
Sinagra, Guiseppe, G. B. No. 6 360
Siren, U. S. brig, Master Comdt. Charles Stewart, comdg.:
At Malta 56, 68, 163, 170, 171, 181, 175
At Syracuse 24, 26, 27, 31, 35–37, 53, 54
Brooke, Samuel B. Master, transferred to *Argus* 31
Burrows, William, Mid., appointed acting Master of 34, 38, 43
Collision with *Nautilus* 28
Convoy duty 51, 53, 54, 182
Decatur, Stephen, Jr. Capt., went on board 118, 344
Deserters, from and to 136, 170
Extracts from journal of Mid. F. Cornelius de Krafft (Nautical Day).
See daily entries 1, 7–37, 54–77, 90–106, 118, 123, 163, 181, 196, 223, 229, 235, 252–260, 273, 311, 313, 318, 332–527.

Siren, U. S. brig. Master Comdt. Charles Stewart, comdg.—Continued. Page
Guns 1, 54, 68, 152, 331, 332, 341
Hamet Caramanli and others require passage in 71
Macey, Samuel, Marine, fell overboard and was drowned, off Tripoli 260
Madona Calapoliana, captured by. *See Madona Calapoliana.*
Men from, transferred to *Scourge* 35, 36, 52
One of Mediterranean Squadron 152
Preble, Edward, Capt., went on board of 365
Prizes to 29, 66, 105, 183
References to iii, 19, 29, 30, 59–61, 74, 85, 87, 95, 115, 139, 172, 180, 190, 252, 298, 349, 350, 361, 365, 398, 412, 419–421, 430, 434, 440, 441, 448, 449, 465, 511, 512.
Sailed from Malta 68
Sailed from Syracuse 19
Signals to 427, 465, 466, 470, 493
Transfer, prize to 28, 35, 41, 512
Tripoli—
Blockade of, in company with *Argus*, *Vixen*, *Scourge* and *Enterprize*, previous to general engagements—
Action of 29 April 1804 75, 183
Action of 13 May 1804 98, 99
Action of 7 July 1804 234, 254, 257, 259, 260, 273, 313
Off Tripoli 27, 33, 40, 43, 51, 54, 75, 88, 96, 97, 101, 111, 119, 121, 123, 127, 137, 144, 182, 188, 189, 191, 194.
Report of Master Comdt. Charles Stewart on proceedings and occurences of 182
Engagements before—
Action of 3 August 1804 337, 342, 343
Action of 7 August 1804 300, 376, 378, 379, 381, 382
Action of 23 or 24 August 1804 455, 456
Action of 28 August 1804 303, 473, 474, 476, 477, 517
Action of 2 or 3 September 1804 304, 503–505
Casualties, names of killed or wounded 308, 309
Employed rigging prize Gunboat No. 9 370, 382
Four Tripolitan prisoners sent from *Constitution* 493, 494
General Orders of Thanks of Commo. Preble read on board of 392
Gunboats Nos. 4 and 5 supplied with water and provisions by 417, 419, 421
Off Tripoli 196, 197, 223, 229, 233–235, 259, 260, 265, 267, 273, 293, 294, 310–315, 317, 318, 330–332, 336, 353, 381, 392, 395, 401, 402, 405, 413, 419, 430, 440, 446, 449, 453, 466, 470, 484, 490, 494, 498, 501
Order of Anchoring and Sailing 314, 315
Towing gunboats 293, 294, 307, 310, 318, 382, 517, 520, 521, 525, 527
Sailed from, for Syracuse, gunboats in tow 307, 517, 520, 521, 525, 527
Intrepid, fitted out as infernal. *See Intrepid.*
Lost her anchor off 416, 419
Tunis—
At Tunis 7, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17, 18
Ordered from Syracuse to Tunis 1
Tunisian sandal captured by, may be basis of extravagant demands 261
Smallwood, Mr., assigned to Navy Yard, Washington, D. C., as Clerk of the Yard 21
Smith, Charles, seaman, U. S. S. *Constitution* attempted to desert 106
Smith, Francis Gurney 348
Smith, Frederick, seaman, U. S. brig *Argus*, 137, 142
Smith ———, General 172
Smith, John, Master Comdt., comdg. U. S. schr. *Vixen:*
Commission of, as Master Commandant 107, 128
Concerning claim of Reis Omar 51
Correspondence with Preble, Edward, Capt. 194, 289, 442, 466

Smith, John, Master Comdt., comdg. U. S. Schr. *Vixen*—Continued. Page
On board *Argus* 1, 47
Orders and instructions to 194–196
Recognition of gallant conduct of, before Tripoli 361
Recommends altering rig of *Vixen* to that of a brig 442–443
References to 24, 63, 67, 72, 77, 95, 97, 162, 170, 174, 223, 235, 272, 349, 394, 399, 400, 476, 493, 517
Requested Governor of Syracuse to restore deserter from *Enterprize*, who was taken on board French privateer 53
Vixen in attacks on Tripoli. *See Vixen.*
Went ashore off Tripoli with boat's crew 101
Smith, John, ordy. seaman, Gunboat No. 9 381
Smith, John, cook, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
Smith, Mr., a baker 40
Smith, Robert, Secretary of Navy. *See* Navy, Secretary of.
Smith, Robert, Mrs 240
Smith, William, Sr., Navy Agent, Charleston, S. C. 2, 253, 277
Somberg, Capt. *See* Schomberg.
Somers, Richard, Master Comdt., *Nautilus*, Gunboats and *Intrepid*:
At Syracuse 1, 26, 53
Character and gallant conduct of 303, 305–307, 353, 361
Commanding Gunboat No. 1, and G. B. Division No. 1, in attacks on Tripoli 295, 300, 303, 336–339, 341, 342, 344, 350, 354, 473
Commanding six gunboats at Syracuse 126–129, 131, 138, 145, 146, 508, 513
Commission of, as Master Commandant 107, 128
Correspondence with Preble, Edward, Capt 28, 46, 126, 145, 344
Instructions concerning personal property of 514
Intrepid, explosion of. *See Intrepid.*
Killed in explosion of *Intrepid* in harbor of Tripoli 306, 309, 353, 356, 506, 507, 513, 517
Nautilus in attacks on Tripoli. *See Nautilus.*
Ordered to Messina 46
Praise of conduct of officers of Gunboat No. 1 at Tripoli 297
References to 24, 41, 43, 45, 114, 350, 370, 380, 382, 386, 476, 478, 502, 516
Report of engagements before Tripoli 344, 345
Suggested to Commo. Preble converting the *Intrepid* into a Fire Ship 508
Survey of provisions in care of William Higgins, Malta, Report of 282
Took command of *Intrepid* 499
Tripoli, engagements before. *See* Gunboats and Mortar boats, *Nautilus* and *Intrepid.*
Soundings off Cape Carthage and vicinity 12
South Carolina, Charleston, Collector of the Customs and Governor of, references to 277, 278
Spain:
Consul of, Mediator between Germany and Morocco 240, 261
Damage to house of Cousul and vessel of, in Tripoli, by U. S. Squadron 303, 304, 482, 501
References to King of 122, 216, 219
Relations with United States 190, 238, 288, 290, 403, 441, 454, 491
Ship Carpenters from, at Tripoli, building gunboats for Bashaw 190, 238
Vessels of—
La Marianna. See La Marianna and Davis, George.
La Vergine del Rosario. See Vergine del Rosario.
Polacre boarded and released by *Constitution* 500, 501
References to 31, 79, 105, 121
Reported great damage done to Tripoli by U. S., July 7, 1804 313
Spear, John, Qr. Master or seaman, *Siren*, killed in G. B. No. 9 308, 381
Spence, Keith, purser, U. S. Navy, U. S. S. *Philadelphia* and prisoner in Tripoli 49, 101, 102, 134, 135, 251, 299, 346
Spence, Robert T., Mid., U. S. S. *Constitution* and Gunboat No. 9:
Correspondence with Spence, Keith, Mrs., Portsmouth, N. H 351–353
Heroism of, in Gunboat No. 9, during attack on Tripoli, and commendation for 299, 346, 352, 355, 376, 380
Left sick at Leghorn, befriended by J. L. Cathcart 49
References to 49, 50, 99, 178, 179, 378, 381

Spence, Robert T., Mid., U. S. S. *Constitution* and Gunboat No. 9—Con. Page
Report of engagements before Tripoli 3 and 7 August 1804 351–353
Son of Purser Keith Spence 49
Volunteered to go in *Intrepid* (Infernal) 352
Sposito, Antonio, G. B. No. 3 359
Sposito di Giov, Pasquale, G. B. No. 1 359
Sposito d'Giov, Vincenso, G. B. No. 1 359
Sposito, Francesco, G. B. No. 4 360
Sposito, Raffaile, G. B. No. 1 359
Spósito, Tommaso, G. B. No. 4 360
Stajano, Giovanni, G. B. No. 2 359
Staples, Charles, seaman, *Constitution*, punishment of 286
State, Secretary of, James Madison:
Circulars to—
Collectors of Customs 115
U. S. Consuls in Europe 142, 143
Correspondence with—
Appleton, Thomas 23
Cathcart, James L 175
Davis, George 93–95, 261–263, 373, 436
Fitzsimons, Thomas 23
Gavino, John 441
Lamar, Marien 213
Lear, Tobias 155–158, 226
Maury, James 243
Merry, Anthony 224
Monroe, James 201
Navy, Secretary of 171
O'Brien, Richard 330
Preble, Edward, Capt 144
Pulis, Joseph 116
Simpson, James 158, 261, 409, 484
Woronzow, Count Alexander de 176
Policy regarding aid to U. S. prisoners in Tripoli 23
Preble, Edward, Capt. commended by 82
References to ..... 22, 42, 49, 53, 80, 87, 96, 158, 164, 166–168, 177, 188, 189, 215, 271, 272, 275, 276, 283, 320, 368, 386, 442, 467, 517.
Steel, Isaac, Sailmaker 97
Sterett, Andrew, Lt., U. S. schr. *Enterprize* 203, 516
Stewart, Charles, Master Comdt., U. S. brig *Siren:*
Commends officers and men for bravery in attack on Tripoli 7 July 1804 254
Correspondence with—
Anderson, Thomas O., Mid 136
Navy, Secretary of 420
Preble, Edward, Capt 26, 51, 52, 170, 182, 191, 194, 254, 381, 405, 525
Extracts from journal of Mid. F. Cornelius de Krafft. *See Siren.*
Orders and instructions to 1, 52, 191, 194, 525
Promoted to Master Commandant 107, 128, 420
Recognition of gallant conduct of, before Tripoli 361
References to ..... 7, 14, 17, 19, 36, 37, 54, 56, 68, 70–72, 74, 75, 77, 90, 95, 98, 99, 101, 106, 118, 123, 163, 172, 180, 190, 196, 207, 223, 242, 252, 272, 313, 332, 346, 352, 370, 408, 416.
Report on proceedings and occurrences of *Siren* 182
Siren in attacks on Tripoli. *See Siren.*
Transfer sold by, to Commo. Preble pending condemnation by U. S 35
Waited on Capt. Edward Preble 12, 310, 455
Stewart, Mr., reference to *La Vergine del Rosario* 137
Stores. *See* Provisions, Stores and Water.
Strachey, Capt., H. B. M. brig. *Jalouse* 265, 274
Stricker, John, Navy Agent, Baltimore, Md.:
Correspondence with Navy, Secretary of 457
Instructions and orders to, regarding building of gunboat 253
References to 232, 516
Sturt, Capt. *See* Sterett, Andrew, Lt.

Page

"Subject Flags" 129
Suggs, Mr., may be appointed Sailing Master 139
Superb, British Ship of War, Capt. Keets, arrived at Algiers, with Brian McDonogh on board 173, 275, 280
Sweden:
Damage to house of Consul of, by U. S. squadron 482
Offensive and defensive alliance entered into with England, by 424
Tunis, relations with 261, 262
Sweeny, William 502
Sword made in London, turned over to Tobias Lear 155
Sword to be presented to Lt. Andrew Sterett 516
Syracuse:
Deserter from Garrison of, on board *Constitution* 55, 56
Dyson, George, appointed U. S. Navy agent at 34, 123, 124
Governor of, Gregorio, Marcello de—
Correspondence with Preble, Edward, Capt 47
Detained by force Lt. Richard Somers and eight other U. S. officers 53
Difficulty with adjusted 52, 53
Enterprize—Deserter from, protected by 52–53
Preble, Edward, Capt. expresses opinion concerning conduct of 46, 47
Preble, Edward, Squadron of sailed for Malta en route to Tripoli 269, 270, 271
Rendezvous of Mediterranean Squadron, and depository for stores 154, 357
See names of ships of U. S. Squadron at.
Talanga, Ottavio, G. B. No. 4 360
Talleyrand-Périgord de, Charles Maurice, French Minister of Foreign Affairs, Paris 24, 41, 237
Tarbell, Joseph, Lt. U. S. S. *Constitution*:
At solicitation of his brother officers, ordered to resume his duties 173, 177
Correspondence with Preble, Edward, Capt 151, 173
Suspended from duty for endangering frigate 151, 159, 160
Tasulo, Domenico, G. B. No. 2 359
Taylor, William, Gunner, Gunboat No. 1 279
Termagant, H. B. M. sloop, in Gibraltar Bay 287
Termion, H. B. M. sloop. *See Termagant.*
Terrigno, Gaetano, G. B. No. 4 360
Territorial jurisdiction, United States 277
Thainville, Dubois, French Chargé d'Affaires and Commissary General, Algiers, references to 4, 9, 166, 199, 472
"The Mediterranean Pilot" reproduction of map vi, 40
Thom, Mr., on board *Citizen* 408
Thompson, Mid., passenger in *Agincourt* to Malta 242, 282
Thorn, George, U. S. brig *Argus*, sent on board prize ketch *La Vergine del Rosario* 137, 142
Thorn, Jonathan, Mid., *Enterprize* and Gunboat No. 7:
Correspondence with Preble, Edward, Capt 525
References to 376, 377, 384, 479
Tripoli, engagements before—
Commanding prize, Gunboat No. 7 298, 347, 473
Commended by Capt. Decatur, Gunboat Division No. 2 297, 345
Tingey, Thomas, Capt., Superintendent, Navy Yard, Washington, D. C. 233
Tipling, Erasmus H., Capt., *William and Mary* 457, 458, 490
Tompline, Thomas, seaman, U. S. S. *Nautilus* and ketch *Intrepid* 309, 507
Torres, Francesco Delle, Capt. of Spanish Vessel *La Vergine del Rosario* 58, 216, 217, 224, 275
Torte, Tommaso, G. B. No. 2 359
Tortora, Agostino, G. B. No. 4 360
Tourne, Count (Count d'Thurn) 92
Townsend, John W., Jr., acknowledgment to iv
Transfer, prize brig taken by *Siren* (renamed U. S. S. *Scourge*), Lt. John H. Dent comdg.:
Guns 41
Purchased, commissioned and renamed *Scourge* 35, 36, 41, 82, 190, 512
References to 18, 24, 31, 60, 70
Sailed from Tripoli with oil for Malta, but was captured by U. S. brig *Siren* 28, 35, 41
Valued and sold to Commodore Preble for $5,000 pending condemnation in U. S. 35, 41

Page

Tricoli, Antonio, G. B. No. 2 359
Trigg, General 441
Trippe, John, Sailing Master, comdg. Gunboat No. 6:
Commissioned Lieutenant pending examination 138
References to 304, 342, 343, 350, 503, 504
Tripoli, engagements before—
Extraordinary bravery displayed by, in boarding and attacking enemy boat 296, 337, 345, 361
Gunboat No. 6 commanded by, in attack of 3 August 1804 on Tripoli 295
See Gunboats and Mortar Boats.
Severe wounds received by 296, 309, 338, 345, 349, 351, 352, 355, 417
Tripoli:
Arbib, a Tripolitan Jew at Leghorn 33
Army of, comments *re* maneuvers of 62
Attacks on U. S. squadron, by (*see also* Gunboats and names of U. S. ships) 47, 98, 99, 163, 171, 183, 303, 378, 385, 516, 517
Bainbridge, William, Capt., comments regarding 76, 214, 264, 265
Bashaw of, Yusuf Caramanli—
Ambassador sent to, by Sultan of Turkey, to confirm Bashaw in title 304
Castle of, and forts, displayed a number of flags 394, 395
Confident of own strength 330
Description of character of 482
Dispatches from Sultan of Turkey to, on board *La Marianna* 403
Displeasure of, with terms for Peace offered by Commo. Morris 20
Hamet Caramanli, rightful Bashaw of Tripoli. *See* Hamet Caramanli.
Influence of Napoleon Bonaparte with 22, 23, 200, 330
Influence of Sultan of Turkey with 207
Minister of Foreign Affairs or Prime Minister of. *See* Dghies, Sidi Mohamet.
Misunderstood motive of Commo. Preble in sending wounded prisoners on shore 369
Objection of, to English vessels carrying stores to U. S. Squadron 447
O'Brien, Richard, disliked by 450
References to ..... 48, 61–65, 76, 83, 102, 126, 127, 132–134, 179, 181, 183, 187, 188, 194, 205, 214, 222, 230, 234, 256, 258, 263, 302, 322, 351–357, 367, 374, 375, 391, 480, 495, 496, 525.
Refused burial to Americans washed ashore 65
Batteries, forts and naval strength of ..... 42, 62, 130, 189, 294, 302, 310, 316, 330, 336, 338, 339, 341, 342, 378, 406, 427, 503, 523.
Beaussier, Citizen, influence and activities of 40, 42, 178, 237, 238, 394, 450, 480–482, 484
Bey of—son of Bashaw of 62, 64, 65
Blockade of—
All vessels found on coast of, liable to examination by U. S. vessels 205
Conception detained for attempted violation of 443–444
La Vergine del Rosario captured for violation of 58, 137, 219
Madona Catapoliana, captured for violation of 55, 107, 161–163, 170
Nautilus ordered to, after completion of repairs at Messina 40, 46
Passports, references to 209, 217
Raised by Commo. Morris 39
References to ..... iii, iv, 74, 83, 216, 217, 238, 262, 267, 284, 329, 357
To be maintained effectually 133, 153, 181, 411
U. S. ships of War, *Argus*, *Siren*, *Nautilus*, *Scourge*, *Enterprize*, *Vixen* and *John Adams* 26, 40, 43, 45, 51, 53, 54, 57, 103, 143, 191–193
Vessels needed for 35, 196
Casualties. *See* Casualties.
Casualties and damages to vessels, town, castle, forts and batteries 62, 64, 74, 300, 303, 304, 337, 339, 340, 376–378, 417, 473, 475, 476, 480–482, 512, 516

Tripoli—Continued. Page
Conditions in ... 234, 255, 307
Cowdery, Jonathan, Surgeon, references to (*See* journal of) ... 62, 63
Customs of ... 61–65
Derne, Bashaw of. *See* Hamet Caramanli.
Engagements before—
Attacks on, by U. S. Squadron commanded by Commo. Preble. *See* Gunboats and names of ships.
Civil Day and Nautical Day, attention invited to, in studying dates.
Composition of Commo. Preble's Squadron. *See Constitution, Argus, Enterprize,* Gunboats and Bombards, *John Adams, Nautilus, Siren, Scourge* and *Vixen.*
Ended for Season by Commo. Preble ... 307
Explosion of U. S. infernal *Intrepid. See Intrepid,* premature explosion of.
Fort American, guns ... 310
Fort English ... 304, 305, 310, 427, 473, 503
Forts, names of ... 310
Illustrations—
Attack on by U. S. squadron under Commo. Preble, copy of painting, ... Frontispiece
Attack on Tripoli, 3 August 1804, from water color by Charles Warren ... 354
Commo. Preble's Squadron attacking Tripoli, 3 August 1804, copy of painting ... vi, 204
Commo. Preble's Squadron engaging Gunboats and Forts of, 3 August 1804, reproduction from print ... vi, 434
Gunboat action during attack on, 3 August 1804, copy of painting ... vi, 248
Map of port of, indicating maneuvers of squadron during battle of 3 August 1804, copy of drawing ... vi, 336
Malta Battery, guns ... 310
New York, sailed from ... 39
Peace and ransom negotiations. *See* Preble, Edward and *Philadelphia.*
Philadelphia, all details concerning. *See Philadelphia.*
Prisoners taken by U. S. Squadron. *See* Gunboats, names of ships and prisoners.
Prisoners, U. S., building batteries at ... 42
Prisoners, U. S., taken in *Philadelphia. See Philadelphia.*
Ready for action against U. S. Squadron ... 294, 316, 356
Red hot shot to be used ... 495
Relations with—
Denmark and Holland ... 263
Great Britain ... 9, 172
Morocco ... 484, 488
The Two Sicilies ... 90
Reports of—
Cowdery, Jonathan. *See* journal of ... 61–65
Darby, John, Purser ... 475, 476
Decatur, Stephen, Jr ... 345
Haraden, Nathaniel (log) ... 338–340, 377, 378, 472–474
O'Brien, Richard ... 330, 331, 341–343
Preble, Edward ... 293–310, 336–338, 340, 376, 417, 523
See also names of individuals and ships.
Somers, Richard ... 344, 345
Spence, Robert T ... 351–353
Schembri, Gaetano Andrea, references to ... 19, 20, 181, 396, 404
Spanish ship, which had entered harbor with Ambassador from Grand Signior damaged ... 303
Tunisian galley sunk in harbor of ... 303
Vessels of—
Capture of Maltese speronare by gunboat of ... 479, 480, 493
Capture, sinking and damage to, in attacks against. *See* Gunboats and names of ships.
Complement of ... 294
Cruisers of, to be built and equipped at Bengazi ... 90
Gunboats of, complement and mounting of ... 294
Meshouda. See Meshouda.

Tripoli—Continued. Page
Vessels of—Continued.
Number and position of vessels and gunboats in attacks by U. S. Squadron 186, 194, 336–338, 341, 342, 370, 406, 427, 429, 455, 473–476, 480, 499–501, 503, 504, 507, 512, 517, 523
Xebec dismantled at Tunis 42, 208
Vixen Battery, guns 310
Tripoli, Frederick, boy, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
Tripoli, Henry, boy, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
Tripoli, Jack, boy, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
True American, Am. ship, New York 242
Truman, Daniel, Am. Citizen, memorial of, concerning Thomas Wood 150–151
Tucker, Dundas Preble, Lieut. Comdr., reproduction of portrait of Commo. Preble by Rembrandt Peale, by courtesy of vi, 159
Tunis:
Affairs of, in confusion 262, 442, 437
Annuities and presents for 65, 66, 73, 166, 167, 170, 437, 525
At peace with U. S 157, 330, 351, 496
Battery and naval strength of (*See* also Vessels of) 23, 42, 59, 74, 78, 121, 130, 188, 223, 368
Bey of (Hamouda or Hamuda)—
Conduct of James L. Cathcart criticized by Bey 10
Correspondence with Preble, Edward, Capt 10
Davis, George, renders medical attention to 215
Letters to, from U. S. President, delivered to 72
References to 6, 31, 33, 80, 92–94, 215, 220, 262, 288, 330, 367, 442
Claims of, for captured property settled 37, 42, 79, 82, 94
Complaints *re* sandals captured by U. S. vessels 108, 164, 167–170, 205–207, 209, 210, 374, 387
Davis, George, negotiations with, assisted by Richard O'Brien 13, 15, 53, 72–74, 82, 109, 110, 166, 167
Demands of 13, 15, 23, 24, 72, 73, 79, 82, 94, 102, 157, 167, 168, 170, 172, 261
Farina, agent to be appointed at 80, 82
Hostility toward United States 22, 79, 160, 161, 172, 188, 209, 212, 238, 239, 403
La Marianna, Spanish vessel, passport for 403
La Vergine del Rosario, Spanish vessel, to carry dispatches to Tripoli 58
Lear, Tobias, references to, *re* negotiations 166, 167, 169, 170
Malta, arsenal for 59
O'Brien, Richard, narrative of journey from Algiers to 59–61
Oda Bashaw of the Goletta 209
Passports issued and refused 58, 219, 223, 224, 403
Philadelphia, purchase of, negotiated by Bey 357
Pilgrims going to, from Morocco 485, 486
References to 82, 96, 108, 109, 157, 208, 210, 212, 497
Relations with—
Morocco 261
Naples 92, 262, 373, 437
Sweden 261, 262
United States iii, 1, 17, 51, 80, 275, 287, 290, 368, 386
Sapatapa, Minister of Bey of, reference to 72, 73, 79, 93, 94, 167
Tripolitan Xebec dismantled at 42
Tripoli's relations with U. S. will influence Bey of 79, 96, 437
U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Davis, George. *See* Davis, George.
U. S. Ships of War off. *See Constitution, Argus, Enterprize.*
Vessels of—
Description of frigate in bay of 223
Galley, 22 or 24 oars, 2 brass guns boarded Am. brig *Patty* 453
Galley sunk in harbor of Tripoli during U. S. action of 28 August 1804 303
Lists of 78, 358
Tartan loaded with cannon boarded by *Enterprize* 121
Turkey:
Rulers of Barbary Regencies, renewal or confirmation of title, by Sultan 252, 304

Turkey—Continued. Page
Sultan of—
Ambassador of, with his Suite, passengers in *La Vergine del Rosario*, captured 58, 137, 216
Ambassador of, to be given passport to go to Commo. Preble off Tripoli 210
Ambassador of, sent to Tripoli to confirm Bashaw in his title 304
Ambassador of, en route to Tripoli in Spanish polacre *La Marianna* 367, 368, 374, 386, 403, 500, 501
Chiaus of 496
Intentions of, with respect to Barbary 262
Intercession by Emporer of Russia in behalf of officers and crew of *Philadelphia* 17, 158, 163, 180, 207, 355
References to 94, 96, 122, 205, 303, 482
Referred to as Grand Signior.
Turnè, Count, Commander in Chief, Messina. *See* d'Thurn, Count.
United States of America:
Relations with Spain 290, 491
Territorial jurisdiction of 277
United States, U. S. S., Capt. James Barron:
Guns 12
Not to go to Mediterranean 18
Officers attached to, to be transferred to frigate *Essex* 19
Preparing to join the Mediterranean Squadron 112, 242
Recruiting for 2, 3
U. S. Naval Academy:
Records published by courtesy of. *See Congress*, extracts from journal of.
Reproductions of painting, by courtesy of vi, 204, 248
Vail, A., U. S. Commercial Agent, L'Orient, correspondence with Navy, Secretary of 408
Valera, Guiteano, Neapolitan, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
Valetta Harbor, Malta, reproduction from "The Naval Chronicle" for 1811 vi, 114
Vallance, Lawrence, ordinary seaman, U. S. S. *Congress* 432
Van Dyke, William, taken on board British frigate *Narcissus* 136
Van Schaick, Sybrant, Lt., U. S. brig *Argus* 105, 138
Veddenburgh, Daniel, seaman, U. S. S. *Constitution* 439
Vergine del Rosario. *See La Vergine del Rosario.*
Vessels, Foreign. *See* country concerned.
Vessels, United States:
Carrying provisions, stores and water for Mediterranean Squadron—
Alfred, Am. storeship. *See Alfred.*
Betsey Walk. *See Betsey Walk.*
Conception from Malta to Tripoli. *See Conception.*
Eleanor, bound for Gibraltar 154, 291
Intrepid. *See Intrepid.*
John Adams. *See John Adams.*
St. Guisseppe, transport, for supplying Squadron off Tripoli. *See St. Guisseppe.*
William & Mary, store ship. *See William & Mary.*
Woodrop Sims (ex Betsy Walk), storeship. *See Woodrop Sims.*
Law concerning registered vessels 243
Merchant—
In Gibraltar Bay 287
"Subject Flags" definition of 129
Passports for ships in Mediterranean, change in 43, 115
Ships of War—
Brig to be built at Washington, D. C 250
Mediterranean Squadron—
Barron, Samuel, Commo.—
Arrived at Gibraltar 403
Disbursements, Commo. Barron's squadron 153
Relieved Commo. Edward Preble of command iii, 12, 300, 307
Sailed with Squadron from United States 246, 249

Vessels, United States—Continued. Page
Ships of War—Continued.
Mediterranean Squadron—Continued.
Barron, Samuel, Commo.—Continued.
Squadron of 115, 143, 144, 152, 175, 205, 207, 242, 247, 300, 377
United States, U. S. frigate, not to be one of his squadron 18
Lists of 112, 115, 144, 152, 341, 350, 517
Morris, Richard Valentine, squadron of 38, 39
Neapolitans serving with, list of 359–360
Neither a duel nor court martial occurred in squadron since leaving U. S 308
Officers, seamen and Marines of, tendered thanks of Commo. Preble 361, 365
Preble, Edward, Commo.—
Operations of squadron of before Tripoli 293–308
Relieved by Commo. Samuel Barron 12, 307, 488
Sailed with squadron for Tripoli 269–272, 284, 286, 289
Ships of squadron 152, 170, 294, 312, 316, 517
Quarantine at Naples 99, 100, 103, 145, 358
Reports of engagements before Tripoli. *See* Preble, Decatur, O'Brien, Somers, Haraden, Spence, Morris, Ridgely, Darby and Boston.
Scourge (ex-*Transfer*, prize) sold to Commo. Preble 35
Syracuse, rendezvous of, and depository for stores 357
Tripoli, engagements before Commo. Preble's Squadron. *See* Tripoli, Preble, Edward, Gunboats and Mortar Boats and names of ships.
Water allowance 438, 439
U. S. Gunboats building. *See* Gunboats, U. S.
Vice Consuls. *See* Consuls.
Vinilla, ship, of Boston, spoken by *Argus* off Syracuse 1
Virgin of Catapolaghi. *See Madona Catapoliana.*
Vixen, U. S. S., Master Comdt. John Smith:
Alteration of rig, to brig, recommended and approved 442, 443, 466
At Gibraltar 351, 510
At Malta 22, 24, 42
At Syracuse 35–37, 68, 69
Boston, Jacob, Sergt., U. S. M. C., ordered to 349
Guns 152, 341
Le St. Jean Baptiste captured by, with *Argus* 146, 149–151, 189, 227, 228
O'Brien, Richard on board 24, 37, 42, 68, 69, 400
One of Mediterranean Squadron 152
Orders and instructions to 24, 194–196, 365, 394, 395, 400, 418, 419, 439, 440, 444–446
Page, Octavius A. Mid., ordered to 196
Preble, Edward, Capt., hoisted his flag on board of 511
References to iii, 1, 59, 61, 63, 66, 67, 72, 74, 77, 82, 95, 163, 206, 252, 298, 313, 340, 349–351, 361, 370, 399, 400, 408, 419, 420, 448, 449, 460, 466, 490, 506, 513, 517, 520.
Returned to U. S 351
Sailed from Malta for Tripoli 183, 284, 286, 289
Sailed from Syracuse 11
Tripoli—
Attack of, on vessel carrying wheat to 234
Blockade of—
Action of 13 May 1804 98, 99, 101
Action of 7 July 1804 254, 257, 259, 272–274, 313
Argus, *Siren*, *Enterprize* and *Scourge* in company 33, 43, 51, 75, 88, 97, 127, 137, 144, 150, 151, 162, 163, 170, 174, 179, 181–183, 186, 188, 189, 191–194, 196, 197, 223, 229, 233, 234, 259, 260, 265, 267, 293, 294, 307.
Fired on fort and batteries of 47, 98, 99
Fired on vessel in harbor and on inhabitants of Tripoli, 9 July 1804 260

Vixen, U. S. S., Master Comdt. John Smith—Continued. Page
Tripoli—Continued.
Casualties 273, 309
Engagements before—
Action of 3 August 1804 296, 337–339, 341–343
Action of 7 August 1804 300, 376, 378
Action of 28 August 1804 303, 476
Action of 2 or 3 September 1804 304, 503, 505
Four Tripolitan prisoners sent from *Constitution* 493
Intrepid convoyed 4 September 1804 to harbor by 306, 506, 513
Off Tripoli in company with Squadron 312–314, 317, 330, 353, 357, 442, 489, 493, 494
On the lookout to Eastward of 420
Order of Anchoring and Sailing 314, 315
Signals to 427, 448, 449, 465, 493, 498, 500
Stood in for the town 370, 400–402, 416, 484, 507
Towing Gunboat No. 6 and prize 293, 294, 318, 344, 427
Peace and ransom negotiations 391, 392, 394, 395, 489, 490
Wadsworth, Commodore, brother of Mid. Henry Wadsworth 508
Wadsworth, Henry, Mid., *Constitution*, *Scourge*, G. B. No. 6 and *Intrepid*:
Appointed Lt. and ordered to *Scourge* 35, 37, 43, 190
Correspondence with Preble, Edward, Capt 35, 333, 505
Intrepid, volunteered and accompanied expedition 305, 306, 499, 504, 505, 508, 513
Killed in explosion of *Intrepid* 306, 309, 353, 356, 506, 507, 513, 517
Ordered to *Constitution* as one of her Lieutenants 333, 334
Praise of 307, 506, 513
References to 233, 234, 377, 478, 512
Tripoli, engagements before, 28 August 1804 Gunboat No. 6 commanded by 473
War, Secretary of, references to 5
Wardroom Officers, U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, correspondence with Preble, Edward, Capt 222
Warren, Charles 354
Warrington, Lewis, Mid., *Vixen* 289
Washington, D. C., brig building at (Josiah Fox) 250
Water. *See* Provisions, Stores and water.
Weaver, Francis, boy, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
Wellman, Mr. master of Am. schooner *Betsey* 111
Wells, James, Surgeon, U. S. N., *Constitution* 173, 210, 431
Wharton, Franklin, Lt. Col. Comdt., U. S. M. C.:
Correspondence with—
Navy, Secretary of 18, 45, 278
Rodgers, John, Capt 147, 174
Ordered to supply Guard of Marines to U. S. Gunboat No. 1 278
Promotion of 56
White, James, seaman, U. S. S. *Constitution* 202
Wiley, William, sailmaker, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
Wilkie, Mr., H. B. M. Commissary for Fleet at Malta 404, 431
Wilkinson, General 231
William and Mary, Am. storeship, Capt. Erasmus H. Tipling:
Passports for 457, 490
References to 458, 521
Williams, Daniel, seaman, *Argus*, deserted at Malta 247
Williams, Jacob, seaman, U. S. S. *Constitution* and ketch *Intrepid*, killed 309, 507
Williams, William, Marine, killed 254, 257
Williams, William, seaman, *Siren*, killed 308
Willson, (Hillson?), Thomas, Am. Citizen, memorial of, concerning Thomas Wood 150–151
Wilmer, James, seaman, Gun Boat No. 9 381
Wilson, James, U. S. brig *Argus*, fell overboard 240
Wilton, John, U. S. Marine, U. S. brig *Argus*, sent on board prize ketch *La Virgine del Rosario* 137, 142
Wingate, Joshua, Hallowell, District of Maine, correspondence with Navy, Secretary of 232, 471

Woodrop Sims, (ex *Betsy Walk*), Am. storeship, Capt. Miles Reddick: Page
At Syracuse, loaded with stores for Squadron, from Norfolk 24, 27
Convoyed by *Argus* 27, 43, 51
Convoyed by U. S. brig *Siren* 54, 182
Cox, Edward N., Mid. passenger in, to U. S 114
References to 6, 36, 37, 53, 59, 69, 74, 189, 287, 491
Woodrough Sims. *See Woodrop Sims.*
Woods, Thomas, American Citizen, prisoner at San Lucar, memorial concerning 150
Woolley, John, ordinary seaman, U. S. brig *Scourge* 515
Woronzow (or Worontzoff), Alexander, Count, Grand Chancellor of Russia 17, 24, 176
Wren, Solomon, *Enterprize*, wounded 309, 348
Young, Charles, pvt., U. S. M. C., *Constitution*, wounded 309
Yznardi, Josef, U. S. Consul, Cadiz, Spain:
Circular letter to 423
Correspondence with—
Jarvis, William 409
Preble, Edward, Capt 491
Memorial to, regarding Thomas Wood 150
References to 6, 242
Zaraffa, Givacchino, G. B. No. 3 359

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