

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

**Volume VI
Part 2 of 4**

**Naval Operations
including diplomatic background
from May 1805 through 1807**

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sent to pay a cent for ransom or tribute — Such were the resolutions formed when I left the seat of Gov. to embark in the expedition and subsequent arrangements as well of Government as of the chief commanders evidence a determination to persevere in those resolutions —

Nov. 1804.

The plan of operations the ensuing season was agreed upon by the Commodores Barron's Preble and myself — I was to go in search of Hamet Bashaw to Egypt & sieze the province of Derne, if possible, on our return — whence we were to pass to Bengazi and to be transported across the gulf of Sidra to Cape Mensurat by the squadron — and thence advance to the rear of Tripoli — We were to be supported by debarkations if necessary — Commodore Preble was to cause a reenforcement of gun boats and ketches to be provided and a union of operations was to commence against Tripoli as soon as the season would permit — Our plans succeeded — Derne was captured & the enemy's army, sent to the relief of the province, was defeated — Our march was opened to Tripoli without opposition — The reenforcements, arrived in good season — The enemy could not recruit troops for the defence of his capital — the people of the country being paralyzed by dread of the Americans and in a state of General revolt against the usurper he was totally destitute of funds and provision — and in want of ammunition.

May & June
1805.

Mr Lear had distinct instructions not to pay money for peace or ransom except compelled by adverse circumstances in our military operations — And, previously to the conclusion of the treaty, the Commodore had been instructed to suspend his attack on Tripoli, until the first of July, for the arrival of the reenforcements. When the negociator appeared off Tripoli & displayed the flag of truce. There was then but one frigate before the place with a brig or schooner — The *Essex*, which bore the flag, had not been before the coast — & what is very extraordinary, in similar cases arrangements had been made at headquarters to abandon the commanding grounds we held in the enemy's dominions and to withdraw the main body of the squadron at a farther distance from the coast before our commissioner of peace departed from [Malta?] to enter upon the negotiation —

[H. E. Huntington L&AG, EA 281.]

To Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. S. Congress, from
Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP Constitution
Syracuse 1st July 1805 —

SIR The U. States Frigate Congress under your command being ready for Sea, I have to desire that you proceed to Tunis with all practicable dispatch and hand Mr Davis, U. States charge d'affairs, the accompanying Letter —

apprehensions of Danger to our Commerce from the Beys cruizers, conceiving that War with the U. States may be his Intention, induces me to direct that you cruize at the entrance of the Bey of Tunis, to prevent any impending danger to our Trade, which at a moment when off our guard, he may seize as favourable to his piratical Intentions, & do us much injury before a force can be sent — to obviate his dark unmanly design —

The *Vixen* I shall dispatch to join you in the course of 3 or 4 Days after your departure; and her arrival, if you are thoroughly convinced that War is not the Beys Intention, you are desired to return to this Port, leaving the *Vixen* on your Station; In your passage hence calling at Malta, at which place it is not impossible you may meet me with the rest of the Squadron —

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

To the Bey of Tunis, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP Constitution
Syracuse July 1st 1805

To the Most Illustrious & most Magnificent PRINCE THE BEY OF TUNIS, the abode of happiness. —

SIR, I have the honor to acquaint your Excellency that the command of the U. States Naval forces in the Mediterranean has devolved on me since the 22^d

of May last and that the contents of your Letter to Commodore Barron of the 28th of the same Month, on the subject of the Xebecque & her two prizes sent into Malta by the U. States Frigate *Constitution* for a violation of the Blockade of Tripoli, I have been made acquainted with— You mention that said Xebecque is Tunetian property, and that the Crews of her & her two prizes are Tunetian property and your vassals; insisting at the same time, as appears by the complexion of your language, that you *alone* have the right to determine what is due to the U. States of America, in a case wherein your Subjects have assassinated that friendship which you profess to feel for said States, by the most glaring insult and *unprovoked* injury that the nature of their relative situations would admit — In reply to your Excellency on this particular question, permit me to say that it is not my wish only, but a duty which the President of the U. States has enjoined on me, to respect your legal rights, & to use all honorable means in my power to maintain friendship & a good understanding with yourself & your subjects, and not on any account to give you cause to consider the Government or Citizens of the U. States in any other shape than as your sincere friends, yet nevertheless your subjects have so often since we have been at War with Tripoli, abused that respect and friendship which I was directed in so particular a manner to observe, by their so flagrantly and repeatedly adding insult to injury, that they themselves appear not to be sensible that any respectful considerations are due *from them* to the United States. —

Without dwelling on a subject which from the duty I am pledged by honor, Interest & inclination, to perform in support of the Independence and legal rights of my Country, I have only to answer your Excellency that a compliance with your demands of the Xebecque and her two prizes is totally inadmissible. — I nevertheless flatter myself that your Excellency on taking a fair and impartial view of the subject, will perceive that the measure you have complained of is such, as justly authorizes the means I have adopted, to convince you that your subjects shall no longer infringe our Rights with impunity. —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 1, 1805.]

[1 July 1805]

Receipt signed by Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

Rec'd Syracuse July 1st 1805, from Mr Robert Dennison, by order of Sam^l Barron Esq^r late commander in chief of the U. States Squadron in the Mediterranean, nine Sheets of Paper containing Interrogations relative to the three Ottoman & Russian Vessels, captured and sent into Malta in Septem^r last; together with one piece Gold, Two hundred & twenty six pieces of Silver & Sixteen pieces of Copper, belonging to the Tunitian Xebecque, captured and sent into Malta by the *Constitution*; also one Iron Chest —

[Mrs. James S. Barron Col.]

To William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

S. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 1st July 1805

SIR Not being able to procure Money at this place in time to answer some Immediate purposes, I have directed the *Vixen*, Cap^t Cox, to Malta, with a Draft on you for \$20,000 Spanish Dollars — The Money is required Immediately, & if the whole Number of Dollars cannot be procured; rather than detain the Vessel, you will be pleased to send a part in such Gold, as passes most current in this Island.

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Captain John Hall, U. S. Marine Corps

U S. FRIGATE *President*
Harbour of Syracuse 1st July 1805

SIR I beg leave to mention to you the state of the different Detachments in the Squadron, as I think it will be necessary to make some little alterations in some of them —

From a report made to me by Lt OBannon there is wanted to compleat his Detachment One Drummer One Fifer & Twelve Privates — for the *Siren* Eight Privates & for the *Vixen* six Privates —

There is now Sir on board of the *Essex* Twenty two Marines that were on board the late U S: Frigate *Phila* that might be distributed among those Vessels as Lt Amory is not in want of them —

[LC. JRP, Vol. 1, March 1791–Dec. 1814.]

To Surgeon Samuel R. Marshall, U. S. Navy, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 1 July 1805

SIR The Surgency on board the U. States Ship *President*, being vacant, you are hereby desired to report yourself to Capt: James Barron as being directed to join said Ship, under his command as Surgeon —

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

To Lieutenant Jacob Jones, U. S. Navy, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 1 July 1805

Sir You will please transfer the orders giving you on the 12th of June, to Mr W^m Knight Sailing Master of the late Frigate *Philad*, & give him charge of the Brig — taking the necessary receipts

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

To Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Constellation*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. STATES SHIP *Constitution*
July 1, 1805. Syracuse.

SIR You are desired to adjourn the Board of Examination directed on the 29th June, for the Examination of certain Midshipmen, having pretensions to Lieutenantcy's, & attend to such Summons as Capt Barron may direct in the case of an Enquiry on the conduct of Lieut^t Blake, of which he is the Senior Officer —

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

[1 July 1805]

To John Broadbent, U. S. Navy Agent, Messina, from Cavaliere Giorgio Guillichini, Governor of Messina

SIR In order that the process against the American Officer confined in this Royal Cittadel may be furnished with the correspondent acts, in conformity with the laws, it is necessary that all the subaltern Officers, and Officers of the Schooner dressed in the same manner as the said confined Officer should go in to the Cittadel tomorrow morning at eight O'Clock in order that, being all united, they may be recognised and it may be seen, if amongst them, the Military individuals who were on guard the evening of the 23. of last Jan^y may know again the two aggressors accused of the homicide on the person of the English mate, which happened in the same evening of the 23. of Jan^y. I inform you of this in order that you may be pleased to fix with the Commander of the Schooner that the cited individuals go to the Cittadel at eight O'Clock.

MESSINA 1st JULY 1805.

LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May–Oct. 1805.]

To Cavaliere Giorgio Guillichini, Governor of Messina, from John Broadbent, U. S. Navy Agent, Messina

MES[SINA]. *July the 1st 1805.*

SIR. I am this moment honred with thy letter of this date requesting that all the Officers of the United States Schooner *Nautilus* may present themselves in

the Citadell of Messina tomorrow morning at 8 O Clok in order to be examined by the Officer of the Guard on the marine of Messina the evening of the 23^d of January last

I beg leave to observe to thy Excellency that the said Schooner has now been in Messina ever since the 14th of last month for the express purpose of giving all possible satisfaction to the Tribunal appointed by His Sicilian Majesty for trying Lieutenant Charles L. Ridgely that all the Officers of the said Schooner, and some of the men, have appeared before the said Tribunal as often as called upon, that yesterday morning they were in open Court told that there would be no further occasion for them, in consequence of which Cap: Dent has come to the resolution of sailing to day at 12. O Clock to join the Squadron. I shall not fail to communicate thy request to Cap. Dent immediately and, if in time, he will no doubt do himself the honour of waiting upon thee before he sails; I find it my duty in the mean time to say that I have just rec^d information that the Tribunal has sent in to arrest several persons who have, or ought in future to give testimony in the above cause. I am confident that such are illegal, irregular and barbarous a step can not have been done with thy knowledge and hope that thou wilt immediately put a stop to such proceedings Remember that the young man is come hither in order to give every satisfaction to the persons who take a part in the fate of the English Mate and at the same time he naturally expects to enjoy the benefit of a civilized government and the protection of the Laws of civilized nations.

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May-Oct. 1805.]

To John Broadbent, U. S. Navy Agent, Messina, from Cavaliere Giorgio Guillichini, Governor of Messina

Mess: 1, July 1805

REVERED SIR If you will be pleased to pay me a visit at home this afternoon about 23. O'Clock (Italian time) I will explain to you better, what you perhaps may not have been able to collect from the note which I sent you this morning. I[n] the mean time I am with all esteem

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May-Oct. 1805.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAV DEP^t 1 July 1805. —

Commodore Preble having represented to me that Sir Alexander Ball had expressed to him a great desire to have 2 fishing Smacks, I have, in consideration of the numerous facilities and acts of friendship experienced by our squadron from him, caused two to be purchased, viz^t The *Traveller* burthen 36 27/95 tons, & the *Ranger* burthen 26 56/95 tons, and I now send them to you, to be delivered, after they shall be divested of the public Stores on board, to Sir Alex^t Ball, who will pay to you or to your order the amount of their original cost, of which Com^{rs} Preble will inform you. —

Should you receive the amount yourself, you will apply it with all possible economy, to the disbursements of the squadron; if you should not receive it yourself, you had probably better draw on Sir Alex^t Ball, in favor of W^m Higgins esq^t for it, directing M^r Higgins to receive it and hold it subject to your order for the disbursements of the Squadron. —

The *Traveller* is commanded by M^r Benj. C. Prince, and the *Ranger* by M^r John Allen. These Commanders are ordered to report themselves to you and to deliver up to you the Smacks they respectively command, and the provisions they may have on hand, and you will dispose of them as may appear to you under all circumstances the best. —

Com^{rs} Preble will forward to you an Invoice of such things as he may send out. I have authorized him to send 33 Bomb Shells & some provisions & stores which were provided for the Bomb Ketches the *Vengeance* & *Spitfire*, but were left by them, being so much more than they could receive. —

In delivering these Smacks to Sir Alex^t Ball, you will inform him the of high consideration in which we hold his friendly civilities.

I enclose duplicate of my letter to you of the 25th ult^o —

[NDA. LB, 1799-1807.]

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

NAV DEP^t 1 July 1805. —

I have this day rec^d your letter of the 24th ult^o and am much pleased to hear that the *Spitfire* and the *Vengeance* have sailed, and that you have purchased the 2 Smacks,

You will receive herewith a Sailing Master's warrant for the Commander of the *Traveller*; fill up the blank* for the name when you shall select the Commander, and let me know the name with which you may fill it up. You will also receive a similar Warrant for M^r John Allen, Commander of the *Ranger* — letters & accompanying these Warrants, and Sailing orders for each Commander, all of which you will deliver.

For the reasons assigned in your letter, it will be better that these Smacks should proceed in Company directly from Boston to the Mediterranean taking on board the 33 Bomb Shells and the provisions and stores left behind by the Ketches. The sailing orders have been given accordingly. Instead of sending the Smacks immediately to Malta, I have as you will perceive by their orders, directed the Commanders to proceed to the Mediterranean and report themselves to the Commodore who is to deliver the Smacks to Sir Alex^t Ball, after taking out the public stores on board of them. —

You will perceive by my letter to Com^{re} Barron that you are to send to him an Invoice of the public stores you may put on board the Smacks, and that you are to inform him of their original cost, which is to be paid by Sir Alex^t Ball to him or to his order. Have the Smacks insured and add the amount of their insurance and the expence of their equipment (not including however any of the provisions or stores laid in for the Crews) to the original cost and communicate the amount to Com^{re} Barron.

The name of the Commander of the *Traveller* is left blank in the letter to Com^{re} Barron. Fill up this blank.

The Accountant will transmit to you instructions relatively to the issuing of rations & for the Commanders of the Smacks, which (after filling up the blanks) you will be pleased to deliver to them respectively.

For the reasons assigned by you I approve of the indulgence granted by you to Mids^a Nicholson.

* Fill up 24th July '05 with the name of M^r Benj. C. Prince.

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

To Sailing Master John Allen (*Ranger*) and Benjamin C. Prince (*Traveller*), U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAV DEP^t 1 July 1805

As soon as the Smacks *Traveller* & *Ranger* shall be ready for sea, you will weigh Anchor and proceed in company to the Mediterranean to join the Commodore of the American Squadron in that sea, to whom you will deliver up the Smack under your command, the Crew & all the public provisions & stores on board, and the enclosed letter addressed to him. —

After you shall have joined the Commodore, you will receive your further orders from him.

(Filled up 24 July 1805)

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

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *President*, Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 1 July 1805

[Syracuse] Agreeable to orders from Commodore Rodgers a Court of enquiry consisting of Capt^t J Barron, Campbell & Stewart, was held to enquire into the Conduct of Lieu^t Joshua Blake in the Action with the Tripoline Gun boats. on the 3^d of August last. the Examination of witnesses continued untill 6 Oclock P M when the court adjourned till 9 A M tomorrow

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

To Cavaliere Giorgio Guillichini, Governor of Messina, from John Broadbent, U. S. Navy Agent, Messina

TUESDAY the 2 July 1805.

DEAR SIR Should there be no further occasion for the Schooner *Nautilus* in the Cause of Lt Ridgely Cap Dent will go to sea this Evening

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May-Oct. 1805.]

[2 July 1805]

To John Broadbent, U. S. Navy Agent, Messina, from Cavaliere Giorgio Guillichini, Governor of Messina

SIR By your letter of this date at eight O'Clock in the evening I observe the request whether any thing occurs from the Schooner *Nautilus*, Cap. Dent having the intention to sail this evening, or tomorrow morning, and in prompt answer I repeat the same sollicitation made by my preceding note to send before his departure about eight persons of his equipage amongst officers and subaltern Officers dressed nearly like Mr Ridgely in order to take the recognisance requested by the Tribunal which informs me it is not possible to do on board as was proposed by Cap. Dent, since it would be illegal, and contrary to the System of the Country

I request then again this measure for want of which it is not possible to continue the process with that celerity which interests so much Cap. Dent, and without which it is not possible to bring the affair to a conclusion

I will assuredly not detain Cap. Dent, but only the Tribunal will be under the necessity to make known to the Government the motives which has prevented it from legalising the process in order to esculpate itself

MESSINA 2 July 1805

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May-Oct. 1805.]

To Cavaliere Giorgio Guillichini, Governor of Messina, from John Broadbent, U. S. Navy Agent, Messina

Tuesday Evening 10. O Clock
July the 2nd 1805.

SIR I am this moment honoured with thy letter of this evening signifying to me the necessity there is, in the opinion of the Tribunal, that Cap^t Dent should send about eight persons to the Citadell dressed in the same manner as Lt Ridgely in order that the Witnesses brought by the Fisco may recognize the person of Mr Ridgely previous to the departure of the Schooner; I shall communicate the same to Cap. Dent immediately, and, tomorrow morning, shall not fail to inform thee how far it may be in his power to comply with the demand of the Tribunal.

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May-Oct. 1805.]

To Cavaliere Giorgio Guillichini, Governor of Messina, from John Broadbent, U. S. Navy Agent, Messina

MES. July 2 1805.

SIR Having communicated to Cap. Dent the contents of the letter which thou didst me the honour of writing to me yesterday he resolved to wait here another day, but he does not think that his conduct would be justifiable were he to deprive his Ship again of all its officers, after the full examination which they have already under gone to the entire satisfaction of the Court, for the purpose of being re-examined or recognized: he has no objections however that the tribunal send on board, at any appointed hour of this day, such persons of fair Characters as the Fisco may think proper to call as Witnesses — Mr Ridgely might be sent from the Citadell at the same time and placed among the rest of the Officers agreeable to their own plan, but I conceive it my duty here on the part of Mr Ridgely to reject all those who have been confined, threatened or by any other means influenced by the language or gestures of their officers, or any other persons on the part of the Prosecutor; and I humbly request that this may be conveyed to the Court or Tribunal as my most solemn protest against all such illegal proceedings

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May-Oct. 1805.]

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

NAV DEPT. 2 July 1805.

You will be pleased to repair immediately to Baltimore and assume the command of the Brig *Hornet*.

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

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *President*, Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 2 July 1805

[Syracuse] The court met agreeable to adjournment and concluded the examination of Witnesses. 12 the Court adjourned —

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

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Vixen*, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 2 July 1805

This day Capt. Smith took command of U. S. Brig *Syren*. Lt. Crane, Warrington, Page, Doctor Graham, Lt. Swan, J. Lyon, J. B. Nevit, Wm. Ballard also went on board, and F. Grizner, J. Jackson, P. Burgess, C. Corporalo, P. Hardenbrook, J. Brown, T. Lucas, P. Camel, R. Corbet, A. Jacks, J. Eldridge, A. Spooner went on board and John McFate and Thos. E. Robinson. Capt. George Coxe, Lt. Gadsen, Lt. Ayers, Doctor Dorsey, Mr. Elliot, Mr. Babbit, Mr. Neal came aboard, also John Gates, Benj. Cole, Patrick Hogan, William Spinx, John Browning, Henry Young came on board the U. S. Brig *Vixen*, and Wm. Brooks, Michl. D. Downs and Wm. Hart. Received 1 poncheon spirits from the *Constitution* said to contain 160 gallons. It filled 3 fifty gal. casks and no more.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

[3 July 1805]

Extract from letter to Stephen Pynchon, Brimfield, Mass., from Surgeon's Mate John Butler, U. S. Navy

* * * * *

You will probably have hear'd more concerning a peace with the Tripolitans before you receive this, than I am capable of communicating — Whether this treaty is an honourable *one* as respects the *Americans*, under circumstances which then existed, I will leave to others to determine, at present — The prisoners were ransomed for sixty thousand dollars — And whether it was *necessary* and consistent with the honour of the American Nation, at that time, to give that sum, will be a matter of dispute hereafter — It is probable enough, that we could not have injured the walls of Tripoli materially — being extremely high and from fifty to sixty or seventy feet thick — But at the same time, many of the inhabitants would have fallen, in cause of a Bombardment, by shells and shot thrown into the town —

The prospect afforded by Gen^l Eaton and his Army at that time, was very flattering — He had, already advanced as far as Durne, one of their most considerable *towns*, which he took after a considerable resistance — And was hastening with all possible speed to Tripoli, which is thought by many, would have become an easy conquest — The Bashaw hearing of the ravages by Gen^l Eaton, became alarmed, and immediately made overtures for peace; and all I have to say, is, that peace was concluded in the course of a few days, at a time, when every thing was in readiness for war — How lasting it may be I surpose, depends upon the *honour* of Barbarians.

Sir, it is not my province, in my present situation, to comment on the manner in which affairs have been conducted — But I will venture to say, that had there have been no *jealousy* of honor existing; no *envy* at a prospect of future greatness in others — and had Gen. Eaton, at the same time, been supported, as I think was intended by the authority of the United States, the scene would have closed very different, much to the honor of America and to the immortality of the name of Eaton — However, if there is any honor attach'd to any *one* Gen. Eaton claims it. For, the Bashaw was perfectly easy respecting all the injury that could be done to him by our Naval force — But sir, notwithstanding, Tripoli is beating

her sabres into pruning hooks, yet our battleaxes and boarding pikes must be kept in repair — for there are Rumcours of wars and even *wars* anticipated, not only with Spain but with Tunis —

The Bey of Tunis swears by the length of his *beard* that if we want war, we shall have it, and, under existing circumstances, it is most probable we shall have it —

It is pretty evident that the Consul at Madrid has left that place by reason of a disturbance with Spain. The Commodore having receiv'd letters to that import —

Com^r Barron will return to America in the Frigate *President*, by reason of verry bad health — Capt. Rodgers succeeds him in office —

Gen^l Eaton will return in the *Congress*, which will probably sail in eight or ten weeks and arrive at America in the month of October —

Doct^r Babbit is anxious to return and is now soliciting an opportunity to return in the *President* —

I should be happy to go to America myself, but there is not the least chance unless I resign, which I do not wish to do at present — I have no idea, however, of continuing long in the Navy, for, I do'n't much like rocking about —

Mr. Danielson and Mr. Babbit will, probably, return with their fathers —

And now, Sir, altho' I have written over so many pages I scarcely know what they contain; for since I have been writing, I have been continually perplexed with the damned infernal Sailors, some sick, some lame and some lazy, Calling upon me for help — Sickness has been so prevalent on board the *Essex*, for six weeks past, that we have had from fifty to seventy on our Day List of Sick — principally with fevers — The sickness, however, is now abating —

I have not to acknowledge the receipt of any favor from Brimfield excepting yours which I mentioned, and, if after you receive this, you do'n't write me every month, dam-n my eyes if I do'n't take a double reef in *your* Top Sails, the first time that I see you — I wish to know the *News* — And if Brother Ichabod should ask any questions about me, give him *sixpence*, and tell him I am well —

Give my most polite compliments to your wife, and accept of my best wishes for the prosperity of yourself and family —

[H. E. Huntington L&AG, EA 39.]

Report of the Troops from Derne including Hamet Bashaw and suite, on shore at Syracuse, July 3 1805

| | | |
|--|--------|-------------------------------|
| Hamet Bashaw & suit consisting of..... | 36 men | } Discharged July 8, 1805. |
| Greek company, officers included,..... | 32 " | |
| General staff of Hamet's Army..... | 6 | |
| Company of cannoniers..... | 25 | |
| | 99 men | |
| Deduct 5 servants & hostlers..... | 5 | |
| Intitled to rations..... | 94 | |
| | 34 | 59 |
| | 25 | |
| | 59 | 40 |

[H. E. Huntington L&AG, EA 276.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies

SYRACUSE July 5th 1805

Sir, I had the honor to state to you verbally on the first instant that I should have occasion for six thousand dollars to settle the payment of the troops who served with me from Egypt to Derne and at Derne, and to satisfy some small claims for cash borrowed and applied to the service —

I will pass my vouchers into your hands to cover this sum or cover it with my receipts & hold myself responsible to government, as you may find most convenient; but as there are other accounts arising out of the same expedition which are to be settled at the seat of Government, the latter mode may be attended with less trouble to yourself — The uncertainty of the exact period when the *Congress* will leave the Mediterranean has induced me to engage a pas-

sage in one of the Store ships except you should have other dispositions which will sail as soon as discharged, take in salt ballast at Cagliari, and proceed directly to the United States — Another considerable inducement to this mode of returning is a hope of recovering a debt due me by count Porcile at Sardinia

Since the landing of the garrison from Derne M^r Dyson has issued on my request ninety four rations p^a day for their subsistence. I hope this measure may meet your approbation and that you will be pleased to order a continuation of these issues until the troops shall [be] paid off and discharged, in the same articles and quantities as are provided for the regular service —

[H. E. Huntington L&AG, EA 275.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from the Commanders in U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean

SYRACUSE 3 July 1805

SIR Before your departure permit us to express the sincere regret we feel at the severe & dangerous illness which has compelled you to resign your command, in the mediterranean & return to America — Impress'd with a full sense of your value as a Commander, we have anxiously awaited the result of your illness, indulging the pleasing hope that Providence would restore your health, & enable you to continue in command — With the deepest concern we see this hope frustrated, & our solicitude for your life prompts us to urge your departure from a climate so unfriendly to your Constitution. — Our feelings as Officers no less so than as friends demands this expression of esteem & of the concern we feel at your loss —

That the Voyage & your native air may perfectly reinstate you in your health, & be the means of preserving long, a life so dear to your friends, & so useful to your Country, is the fervent wish of Sir Y^r Ob^t Serv^t

HUGH G CAMPBELL

[Mrs. James S. Barron Col.]

To Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Argus*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*

Syracuse 3^d July 1805

SIR You will proceed to Malta without loss of time, & require of M^r Higgins \$14,000 Dollars, proceed direct to Alexandria, pay the same into the hands of Mess^{rs} Briggs of that place, take the necessary receipts and return as soon as possible to Malta where if you should not find me, and are informed by M^r Higgins that I have proceeded down the Mediterranean, you will follow me to Gibraltar taking Tunis and Algiers in your way —

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

To William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*

Syracuse 3^d July 1805

SIR, I have sent the *Argus* Captain Hull to carry the Money to Alexandria, due from the U. States to Mess^{rs} Briggs of that place — I will thank you not to detain the Brig longer than cant be avoided — You will oblige me by informing those Gentlemen that if they will point out any means by which I can serve them, it will afford me great pleasure — We are certainly under considerable obligations to them. —

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805-July 1806.]

To William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, Syracuse, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*

Syracuse 3^d July 1805

SIR I have received your favour of this Day on the subject of *Money's* to answer such purposes as stated in your Letter — In answer permit me to acquaint you that after receiving the Pay Roll, with a statement of the contingent expences

you mention, that I shall so soon as the Money arrives, advance you the Amt, taking your receipts, and holding you accountable to the Navy Department for the same. — It is totally out of my power to order subsistence for Men that have not been reported to me, agreeable to the regulations prescribed by our Service — The Governor has this Inst made a complaint to me of some of the Greeks, landed here by the Vessels from Derne, having committed various outrages on the Inhabitants of the Town — I can only say on this subject that these people are accountable to the laws of the Land they are in, and that no interference of mine shall rescue them from such punishment as the Laws of the Country they are in prescribe.

[LC. JRP, L Bk. B, May 1805–July 1806.]

To His Excellency Marcello de Gregorio, Governor of Syracuse, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 3^d July 1805

SIR This moment I have received the Letter which your Excellency has done me the Honor of writing to me, and I hear with real concern the disorders committed by Sailors and other individuals belonging to the Squadron under my command — I hasten to pay that particular attention which is due to your Excellencys representations & to assure you that on my side nothing shall be wanting to prevent the repetition of similar disorders, and that I shall immediately issue the necessary orders on that head; In the mean time permit me to observe that as it appertains to your Excellency to Watch over the tranquility and good Order of the Government confided to your Government, you can have no need of my sanction or authority for employing to that end all those means which the laws prescribe — Assuring your Excellency of my cordial disposition to co-operate with you in all measures tending to the preservation of public tranquility and the good understanding subsisting between the Inhabitants & my Squadron,

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

To Cavaliere Giorgio Guillichini, Governor of Messina, from John Broadbent, U. S. Navy Agent, Messina

Wednesday 6 O Clock July 3rd 1805.

SIR I am sorry to be trouble some to any one, particularly so, to those to whom I profess so many obligations, but I cannot at present refrain from remonstrating in the strongest terms that my language possesses against the mysterious proceedings that are daily practised against Lt Ridgely, who I understand has been shut up in his cell the whole day. Pray Sir are we in the interior parts of Barbary or in Europe? I hope that, on receipt of this, thou wilt give such effectual orders to those who have been appointed by Government to act in this business that no one may have further reason to complain

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May–Oct. 1805.]

[3 July 1805]

To John Broadbent, U. S. Navy Agent, Messina, from Cavaliere Giorgio Guillichini, Governor of Messina

SIR From the treatment which the American Officer Mt Ridgely, rubricated with an atrocious and barbarous crime of homicide has received in Messina you ought to be well aware that we are not in Barbary but in an European Country well civilised, in which he is treated with greater complaisance and mildness than he could expect among'st his own fellow citizens in Similar circumstances

The measures and orders given are indispensable and regular, continuing to allow to him a certain degree of liberty with those precautions that the actual circumstances require

Messina 3 July 1805

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May–Oct. 1805.]

To Captain John Hall, U. S. Marine Corps, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. S. *Constitution*
Syracuse 3^d July 1805

SIR, From the detachment of Marines of the U. States late Frigate *Philadelphia* you are directed to complete the detachments of the U. States Brigs *Argus*, *Siren*, & *Vixen* — If any remain over and above the compliment of the *Essex*, after you have completed the detachm^t of the three Brigs, you will attach them to such Vessels as most require them; making me a return of the same. —

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

To Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy, Syracuse, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 3^d July 1805

SIR, I have this Inst received your favours of this date, designating the Officers of the late Frigate *Philadelphia* that wish to return to the U. States — their arrangement is perfectly agreeable to me; & you will make the necessary arrangements with Captain Barron for their accommodation on board the *President*.

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

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

NAV DEPT 3^d July 1805.

Have you any knowledge of the gun carriages of which Mr Samuel Hawkins of New York is the importer and proprietor, and in which I believe Cap^t Chauncey has an interest? If you have, state to me your opinion of them, and if superior in your opinion to the gun Carriages heretofore used in our Navy, particularize their advantages.

The prices asked for them appear to me extravagantly high, when compared with the prices of the common carriages — so high indeed as to forbid my contracting for any unless they should possess very extraordinary advantages. The prices asked, are,

| | | |
|---|-------|--------|
| carriage for a 32 p ^d cannon | ----- | \$375. |
| “ “ 24 “ | ----- | 350. |
| “ “ 18 “ | ----- | 340. |
| “ “ 12 “ | ----- | 320. |
| “ “ 9 “ | ----- | 310. |
| “ “ 6 “ | ----- | 300. |

The common carriage for a 24 p^d cannon, costs from 120 to 130\$.

I shall be glad to receive your answer as early as may be convenient to you. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

To George Harrison, Navy Agent, Philadelphia, Pa., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV DEPT 3^d July 1805

I have received your letter of the 29th ult^o — agreeably to your request I enclose an Order from the Secretary of State for the use of the machine to strike the medal for Commodore Preble, & for the aid of the mint in preparing the steel to sink the die on.

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 8, 1805–1807.]

To Secretary of State from Secretary of the Navy

NAV DEPT 3rd July 1805

SIR, Will you be pleased to send me an order on the director of the mint, to permit George Harrison esquire navy agent at Philadelphia, or an artist under his direction to use the machine for striking coins — in the case of the medal for Comm^{rs} Preble — & to furnish the necessary aid in preparing the steel to sink the die on.

[NA. SDA. CL, Misc. Let., Jan.–Dec. 1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 3 July 1805

[Syracuse] ½ past 4 [P. M.] the U. S. brig *Vixen* Sailed. At 11 sailed the U S Ship *Congress*

[USNA.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *President*, Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 3 July 1805

[Syracuse] 6 P M. The U S. Brig *Vixen* Capt Cox Sailed. 10 A M. The U S F. *Congress*. sailed —

John Browning and John Yates deserted from the Ship —

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

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Vixen*, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 3 July 1805

Weighed anchor and made sail for Malta. Head wind. The *Congress* came out soon after us.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

To William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

ON BOARD THE U. S. F¹^o *Constitution*
Syracuse harbour, July 4th 1805

MY DEAR SIR, I must apologize for having [been] thus late in acknowledging the Receipt of your favor of the 25th Ultimo, with the Rheap of Paper which you was so good as to send me. The truth, on these occasions, I think is always the best; and I shall therefore say, that on the morning of our leaving Malta, I was engaged in many things which put it out of my mind, and that the *Vixen* sailed yesterday morning much earlier than I expected which prevented my writing by her. — I now take advantage of the *Argus*, which goes over to Malta preparatory to her Sailing for Egypt. —

I felt very sorry that any misunderstanding sh^d have arisen between Commodore Rogers and yourself. — I hope it is now done away, and that harmony will prevail in your future intercourse with each Other. — I am persuaded that you will find Commodore R. a most correct Officer in the discharge of his duty, and a man by no means difficult or unpleasant in transacting business. Any warmth of temper which he may discover at the moment of initiation, will I beleive, never be carried into serious discussion on points of business He felt exceedingly hurt that the letter which he had Committed to your Charge for the Secretary of the Navy, had not received that particular attention which he expected; but I know that it did not effect his opinion of your integrity or fidelity. —

I am happy to inform you that M^r Lear's health has been much better since she has been on board the *Constitution*, than it was in Malta. She has been but once on Shore since we arrived here, as she finds it much more pleasant on board the Ship in this warm Weather. We have not yet been able to go to Catania, as I wish first to prepare my dispatches for Government. to go by the *President* which will Sail with Commodore Barron for the U. S. early next week. We shall then take a short tour. Commodore B. is still very ill, and I doubt whether he will ever reach his Country alive. This being the birth day of our Country it will be celebrated by the Officers of the Squadron dining on Shore just out of the town of Syracuse, and a Ball will be given this evening on board the *Constitution*, which is now very elegantly dressed on the occasion. —

A Chous who had been sent by the Bashaw of Tripoli to Derne in the *Constellation* & ret^d in her to this place, went over to Malta in the *Vixen*, with one or two other Turks, to get a Passage from thence to Tripoli. Two others will go in the *Argus* for the same purpose. If any Vessel Sh^d be bound from Malta to Tripoli, I will thank you to let these people know when the opp^r offers, and assist them in getting their passage.

I expect to be in Malta in 10 or 12 days, and in the mean time I presume you will have the *John Adams* and Gun boats with you. M^{rs} Lear desires to be remembered to you and I unite with her in remembrance to all our friends in Malta.

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

[4 July 1805]

To John Broadbent, U. S. Navy Agent, Messina, from Cavaliere Giorgio Guillichini, Governor of Messina

SIR By your letter of this date I understand that Cap Dent Com^{dr} of the American Schooner the *Nautilus* is at last persuaded to send into the Cittadelsome Individuals of his crew, in order to take the necessary legal recognizance, tawking [sic] the process of the American Officer M^r Ridgely, and in answer I inform you of my having immediately made known this resolution of Cap. Dent to the Proauditor of war in order that tomorrow morning at eight O'Clock the individuals composing his court may go to the Cittadel so that the proposed recognizance being taken, the termination of the Process may be expedited with greatest sollicitude

I therefore beg you to communicate this intelligence to Cap. Dent, and intimate to him to send the said Individuals into the Cittadel at the hour fixed upon, and with real esteem I am

Messina 4, July 1805.

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May-Oct. 1805.]

To Cavaliere Giorgio Guillichini, Governor of Messina, from John Broadbent, U. S. Navy Agent, Messina

MESSINA July the 4th 1805.

SIR By the letter which thou hast done me the honour of writing to me the 3rd instant I observe that the demand of the Tribunal is now no longer confined to Officers, of which there are not eight on board, but to individuals indiscriminately. I have to acquaint thee that Cap. Dent is willing to send a sufficient number of them to the Citadell tomorrow morning at nine O Clock, remaining however always firm my former solemn protest against the validity of any witness, or witnesses who have been, or my be in future imprisoned, or by any means swerved from independency and truth, or overaw'd by any one but the fear of God

With this intelligence, please give such further directions as my seem unto thee meet

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May-Oct. 1805.]

To Cavaliere Giorgio Guillichini, Governor of Messina, from John Broadbent, U. S. Navy Agent, Messina

MESSINA 4. July 1805.

SIR I acknowledge that we are in Europe, but I aver that the Proceedings of the Tribunal, in the case of L^t Ridgely, are in direct opposition to the Principles of European Jurisprudence. My geographical Query of yesterday does not certainly call in doubt, whether a Nobleman, born in the Centre of Tuscany, or a man in the heart of Great Britain be Barbarians, or appertaining to the Civilized nations of Europe, nor ought it to have given thee any displeasure beyond that of raising in thee a just indignation against those who are *not using*, but *abusing* the Law, and thereby bringing Odium upon the Government of His Sicilian Majesty from nations most remote.

The honourable character given of L^t Ridgely by the two Commodores and Captains in the Squadron of the United States; of his *mild and amiable disposition*, and the strong desire he has shewn to be tried in the Country whose Laws he was accused of having violated certainly do not entitle him, upon a vague deposition on which he would be admissible to bail both in America and England, to the Epithets of *A Man rubricated with the Atrocious and barbarous crime of homicide*. In direct opposition to such language allow me to inform thee, that in the Eye of the Law, every man is presumed to be innocent until pronounced guilty by a legal adjudication: *his fellow Citizens and mine* are taught by this Spirit of Jurisprudence of our countries to consider all men innocent, and treat them as such, until they be legally convicted of the crime of which they are accused.

I am exceedingly sorry that thou hast by approving what has been done in the mysterious and inquisitorial proceedings against L^t Ridgely voluntarily classed thy

self among those, against whom, I have been under the necessity solemnly to protest, and I add that, however numerous the obligations I am under to thee, joined to the high esteem and regard I have for thy person, Office, and general conduct I differ widely from thee on the present occasion, and hope that thou wilt admit, that in the defence of the Young Officer it is my duty to be explicit. If I be wrong the custom of the Country I belong to and thy good heart will certainly plead in my favour.

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May–Oct. 1805.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from John Broadbent, U. S. Navy Agent,
Messina

MESSINA July the 4th 1805

SIR I avail myself of the Departure of an express going to Syracuse of informing thee that in the affair of L^t Ridgely I have been under the necessity of remonstrating against the proceedings of the Tribunal but that we are now coming to a better understanding By Cap^t Dent, who will probably sail tomorrow evening I shall send thee Copies of the Correspondence I have had with the Governor on this subject but as it is not yet terminated I have not time at present to acquaint thee with the nature of it

There is not the least apprehension for the fate of M^r Ridgely not the least doubt but he will shortly be restored to his Country and friends —

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May–Oct. 1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 4 July 1805

[Syracuse] L^t Benj^s Smith, & Midshipman Simon Smith Joined this ship And L^t Blakeley Left this ship and Joined the *President*

At Meridian pleasant W^t fired a salute of 16 guns as did the whole Squadron

[USNA.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *President*, Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 4 July 1805

[Syracuse] Noon Each Ship in the Squadron fired a Salute of 15 Guns.

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

To Secretary of State from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

N^o 10.

ON BOARD THE U STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbour July 5th 1805

SIR Since I had the honor of addressing you under date of the 3^d of November, I have thought it my duty to remain in the vicinity of Tripoli, that I might be at hand for entering into a negotiation with the Bashaw; whenever he sh^d give evidence of his disposition to do so on proper terms; and I accordingly took up my residence in Malta; being well assured that nothing would occur to make my presence necessary at Algiers during the Winter, and knowing that the Dey was perfectly satisfied as to the cause of my extended absence from his dominions.

On the 28th of Dec^r I received a letter from Don Guardo Joseph De Souza, the Spanish Consul at Tripoli, stating, that on the 17th of Dec^r he had a private audience with the Bashaw of Tripoli on the business of his Nation, which being over, the Bashaw introduced the subject of this war with the U. States, and expressed his willingness to conclude it, if the Americans were disposed to come forward on proper grounds The Sp: Consul answered that he presumed they would have no objections to finish the war upon honorable terms. There, he says, the subject was dropped; and he took the liberty of making this communication to me, having heard that I was in Malta; adding, as his own opinion, that if I would come over to Tripoli, in a Flag of Truce, he had no doubt but a peace might soon be concluded on honorable & satisfactory terms. — As I had reason to believe that this communication was made to me with the knowledge; if not by the express desire of the Bashaw, I felt in no haste to reply to it, as I was persuaded that, if he then discovered a desire to terminate the business, he would be more anxious to do so when the Season for active operations sh^d approach. —

On the 28th of March Commodore Barron sent a small Vessel to Tripoli with Clothing &c for our Captive Countrymen, and by that occasion I acknowledged the receipt of the Sp: Consul's letter; and observed to him that as we had last year made several overtures to the Bashaw for peace, which had been rejected, he might be assured that we should never make the first advance again on that subject. But that, notwithstanding our Force in this sea was very considerable, and would, at the proper season, act with decided vigour; yet we sh^d be ready to receive and consider any propositions which might come from the Bashaw before that Season arrived; provided such propositions were compatible with the dignity and rising character of our Nation, and tending to an honorable and permanent peace.

On the 21st of Ap^l I received by the return of the same Vessel from Tripoli, another letter from the Sp: Consul, saying that he had communicated to the Bashaw the contents of my letter of the 28th of March, who had directed him to inform me, that to shew his disposition to end the War he would make a proposition Viz. That the U. S should pay him 200,000 for peace & ransom and deliver up to him, gratis, all his subjects in their power, and make full restitution of the property taken from them. — The Sp: Consul added, that he considered the propositions of the Bashaw rather intended to form the basis for opening a negotiation, then made with an expectation of being granted. — At the same time he mentioned the mode of communication which might be persued, if I sh^d think proper to come off Tripoli with a view to opening a negotiation. These propositions were so completely inadmissable that after communicating them to Commodore Barron, I thought no more of them, fully expecting further advances either through the same, or some other channel; as it evidently appeared to be the wish of the Bashaw to open a negotiation.

Between the time last mentioned, and the 18th of May, there were intimations made, in various ways, of the disposition of the Bashaw to treat; but none in a direct or official manner. — On that day Commodore Barron wrote me the letter N^o 1. to which on the 19th I returned the answer N^o 2. And on the 22^d he informed me he had relinquished the command of the Squadron to Capt^s Rodgers. On the 24 I embarked on b^d the U. S. Frigate *Essex*, Capt^s James Barron to proceed to Tripoli. — On the 26th in the morn^g we saw the Town of Tripoli distant about 10 miles, & at the same time the U. S. Frigates *Constitution* & *President* — At 10 A. M. Capt^s Barron & myself went onboard the former when Captain Rodgers received the letter of Commodore Barron relinquishing to him the command of the Squadron &c — He returned with us to the *Essex*, when we stood in for the Town, and within a short distance from the Battery hoisted the white flag, which was immediately answered by the same from the Bashaw's Castle. In half an hour a boat came off with the Spanish Consul and an Officer of the Bashaw. — I informed the Sp: Consul that I had, agreeably to the desire of the Bashaw to treat, come for that purpose; but that the propositions which had been made through him (the Sp: Consul) were totally out of the question, and must be relinquished before I w^d consent to move one step in the business; and that if I had not the most unequivocal evidence that they would be put a side in toto I would not go on shore, and told him he had better return with my determination, and come off again the next day, if the Bashaw was desirous of having peace on terms which we could admit. He left the ship, and the Wind during the night blew so heavily on shore that the ships were obliged to stand off; and were not able to come in near the Town again until the 29th when at 9 A. M. the Sp: Consul came on board bringing the Tiscara or Commission of the Bashaw to treat on his part, on the principal points of accommodations. We now removed from the *Essex* to the *Constitution*. — The Bashaw relinquished all pretensions to a paym^t for peace or any future demand of any nature whatever but demanded the sum of 130,000 dollars for the ransom of our Countrymen, and the delivery of his subjects gratis. — To this I objected as strongly as to the first propositions; and after some time spent in discussing the subject I told the Sp: Consul; that to prevent unnecessary delay & altercation I would give him in writing my *ultimatum* which must be at once decided upon. Viz: That there should be an exchange of Prisoners, man for man so far as they would go — that the Bashaw should send all the Americans in his power on board the Squadron now off Tripoli — that his subjects should be brought over from Syracuse, and delivered to him with all convenient speed and as he had 300 Americans more or less — and we 100 Tripolines more or less, I would engage to give him for the balance in his favour 60,000 Dollars. That a treaty of peace should be made upon honorable and mutually beneficial terms. With this he went on shore in the Evening; but apparently without any expectation of its being accepted. —

On the 30th. At 11 A. M. the Sp: Consul came again on b^d the *Constitution*; and

urged me very strongly to go on shore, where every thing, he said, should be satisfactorily arranged, but as I had determined not to deviate from the ground I had taken, I declined; stating to him that it now depended on the Bashaw to terminate the business by a single word, and that very little time more would be given for that purpose. — He requested permission to send a letter on shore, to which he would await an answer. This was granted; and on receiving an answer to his letter he again urged my going on shore in the strongest terms. This I steadily refused to do. The Wind increasing obliged the ship to stand off, and prevented the Sp. Consul from going on shore this night. —

At 8 A. M. on the 31st of May, the Sp. Consul went on shore, promising to come off again in a few hours with the Bashaw's answer. — At noon he came off, and said that the Bashaw had at length agreed to the sum of 60,000 dollars for the balance of the prisoners; but that he could not think of delivering up the Americans until his Subjects were ready to be delivered to him, and again urging me to go on shore. I told him, in one word, that the business had already been protracted beyond what I conceived to be a reasonable time; but as the weather yesterday would not admit of our Countrymen being sent on board, I would allow the Bashaw 24 hours, from this time, to agree to my proposition in toto, or reject them. He begged for further time; but without effect; and left the ship at 5 P. M.

At 11 A. M. June 1st our unfortunate Countryman, Captⁿ Bainbridge came on board, who had been permitted to come off, under the guarantee of the Danish Consul and Sidi Mahomet Dghies, the Minister of foreign affairs. He assured me that the Americans would not be delivered up until a treaty of peace should be made with the Bashaw, as peace was more his object than the sum he might get for the Captives; and as it was our intention to conclude a treaty, it would be cruel to let our Countrymen languish in Captivity merely on the punctillio of negotiating the treaty before or after their delivery; as whatever related to them was already understood. — I informed him of all which had passed between the Sp. Consul and myself; and told him that as the Sp. Consul had come on board as the Commissioner of the Bashaw, with his credentials, which he had delivered to me, I considered the business as now brought nearly to a close, and that a very short time remained for the Bashaw to make up his mind. — However, as I sh^d make no difference in the terms of the treaty, whether it sh^d be drawn up before or after the delivery of the Prisoners, I would enter into an immediate negotiation for that purpose, with any proper character whom the Bashaw might send on board duly authorized; but I would have nothing more to do with the Sp. Consul. But the Americans should be sent on board without waiting the arrival of the Tripolines from Syracuse. Capt B. left us in the evening and went on shore.

In the forenoon of the 2^d of June, Mr Nissen, His Danish Majesty's Consul at Tripoli, came off to the *Constitution*, bringing a Commission from the Bashaw to negotiate with me on the articles of the Treaty. — As I had a sketch prepared I communicated it to Mr Nissen, who observed that there were some articles more favourable to us than were to be found in any treaty which the Bashaw had with any other nation; — yet he would take them on shore and submit them to the Bashaw. — He did so, and returned on board again about 4 P. M saying that the Bashaw had consented to the Articles; but was very desirous of having an article expressive of our determination to withdraw our forces &c from Derne, and that we should endeavour to persuade his brother to leave his dominions. To the first I could have no objection, as it would be a natural consequence of peace; but I insisted that if his brother should leave his territory, he should have his wife and children restored to him. Mr Nissen thought this latter clause would meet objection. However he took it on shore.

On the morning of the 3^d of June Mr Nissen came off again, and declared that the Bashaw would not agree to deliver the wife and children of his brother. — I adhered to that part of the article, and after some little time he returned on shore. — When Mr Nissen had left the ship, I told Commodore Rodgers, and Captⁿ Smith of the *Vixen*, who was on board, that if the Bashaw should persist in his opposition to that article, I would not suffer the business to be broken off, and leave our Countrymen in slavery; but would, at all hazards, take a boat and go on shore, if the white flag should be haul'd down, which Mr N. said would be the signal, if the Bashaw persisted in his determination. — At 4 P. M. Mr Nissen came off again with the seal of the Bashaw to the preliminary Articles; but with a condition that time should be allowed for the delivery of the wife and family of his Brother. — I consented to it, and we went on board the *Vixen* to stand in near the harbour. When we were close to the Town we fired a gun and hauled down the white flag. A salute of 21 Guns was fired from the Batteries, and answered by the *Constitution*. I went into the harbour in the *Constitution's* barge with the flag of the United States display'd, and was received at the landing place by the American officer

who had been in captivity, with a sensibility more easily to be conceived than described. An immense concourse of people crowded the shore and filled the streets, all signifying their pleasure on the conclusion of the peace. —

This, I believe, is the first instance where a peace has been concluded by any of the Barbary States on board a ship of war. — I must here pay a tribute of Justice to Commodore Rodgers, whose conduct, during the negotiation on board, was mixed with that manly firmness and evident wish to continue the war, if it could be done with propriety, while he display'd the magnanimity of an American in declaring that we fought not for conquest, but to maintain our just rights and national dignity, as fully convinced the negotiators that we did not ask, but grant peace. — You will pardon me if I here introduce a circumstance evincive of the spirit of our Countrymen. — At breakfast this morning, Commodore Rodgers observed, that if the Bashaw would consent to deliver up our Countrymen, without making peace, he would engage to give him 200,000 doll^s instead of 60,000, and raise the difference between the two sums from the Officers of the Navy, who, he was perfectly assured, would contribute to it with the highest satisfaction.

In the evening I visited Sidi Mahomet Dghies, whom I found a sensible, liberal and well informed man. He is a great friend of ours, and has always been opposed to the war with us.

On the 4th of June, at 11 AM. the Flag staff was raised on the American House, and the Flag of the United States display'd, which was immediately saluted with 21 Guns from the Castle and Forts, and was returned by the *Constitution*; and all our unfortunate Countrymen sent off on board their Ships. — At noon I had an Audience of the Bashaw, by appointment, and was received with every mark of respect and attention. He paid me many compliments, and expressed himself on the peace with much manliness: He is a man of a very good presence, manly & dignified, and has not in his appearance so much of the *Tyrant* as he has been represented to be. — His Court was much more superb than that of Algiers. — We spoke but little on the subject of the Treaty &c — He observed that he had given stronger evidences of his confidence in us than he had ever before given to any nation. — He had delivered our people before he had received his own; and as to the money he was to receive, it was merely nominal — the sum was nothing; but it was impossible to deliver them without something. — The other articles of the Treaty I might form as I pleased; being convinced I would not insert anything which was not just. — I returned his Compliments, and assured him he would find our nation as just as he had found them brave and persevering. —

On the 6th of June the *Constitution* sailed for Malta and Syracuse, to return to Tripoli with the money and the Tripoline prisoners. — The *Constellation* sailed also for Derne, to bring off the few of our Countrymen who might be there. — I remained at Tripoli 'till the return of the *Constitution* to establish an Agent and make a final settlement of our business there. Dr John Ridgely of Maryland, late Surgeon of the *Philadelphia* was strongly recommended as a proper person to reside at Tripoli till the pleasure of the President was known, and I accordingly appointed him, as will be seen by the inclosed power and letter of instructions. —

On the 10th I sent to the Bashaw two Copies of the Treaty, with translations in the Arabic language, to be signed by him and his Divan. He requested me to attend the Divan & see the form of business there; and as this was a favour never before granted to a Christian. he gave it as an evidence of his respect &c. I accordingly attended and was seated on the same seat with the Bashaw, on his right hand. Great order and solemnity were observed. I presented the Treaty to the Bashaw, who delivered it to his first Secretary to read article by article. Some observations and short debates took place on several of the Articles; but the Bashaw appeared to explain them satisfactorily. After the whole was read, the form of its presentation and acceptance was written by the Secretary, and the Seals of the Bashaw and Members of the Divan affixed to the two Copies, one of which the Bashaw delivered to me in a solemn manner, and with many expressions of friendship. (He speaks good Italian)

On the 17th the *Constitution* arrived; but the wind was too high to admit of her landing the Tripolines or Money — On the 18th both were sent on shore; but instead of 100 Tripolines there were only 48, and 41 Blacks. Seven had been carried to the US. by Commodore Preble, and I could never obtain an accurate account of the whole number. I had the Bashaw's Tiscara respecting those who had been taken by Com^o Dale, which had been left in hands of Mr Nissen, which I found expressed 21 Tripolines & Turks, for whom, and their goods, 7 Americans were to have been delivered. I was therefore obliged to make it appear that the Blacks were his Subjects, and were to be included in the exchange. I found no difficulty in the case, tho' I am sure he was not *convinced* of the propriety of it.

Those in the US. I assured him would be returned by the first opportunity — The 60,000 Dollars were paid, and a receipt therefor given on the treaty left with Dr Ridgely, and a duplicate therefor which is enclosed. — No Consular present is mentioned in the Treaty; but that it is understood will be given as is usual with all Nations when a Consul shall be sent, it does not exceed 6,000 Dollars, and the particulars I shall send in my next, as I shall also my accounts, which can not yet be adjusted, as our quarantine at Malta did not admit of my having that communication with Mr Higgins which was necessary for settling, as I had given him Bills on the House of Sir Francis Baring & Co in London for the money sent to Tripoli &c.

On the 20th Commodore Rodgers came on shore, and had an audience of the Bashaw, where the assurances of friendship &c were repeated by the Bashaw.

On the 21st in the Evening we sailed for Malta and Syracuse; arrived at the former on the morning of the 24th, where we remained two days, and sailed for this place.

I shall, in a future letter, give a more particular account of Tripoli &c. At present I confine myself to the subject of the negociation & Treaty — As I have always been opposed to the Egyptian & Derne expedition, I shall say nothing on that subject, especially as I presume there will be full communications respecting it from other quarters.

On the 5th of March last we were indebted to Algiers for one years annuity, deducting the Cargo of Timber &c, which had been sent. I had learned that they were in great want of wheat at that place, and it struck me that if a Cargo of that article was sent to them on account of our Annuity, it would be received with gratitude, and be a great saving to the US. I therefore purchased a Cargo of about 12,000 bushels at Malta, which cost, with charges about 32,000 Dollars, and sent it to Algiers with a proper letter on the occasion; And I am happy to inform you that it arrived in good time, and in fine order, and was more valuable, as it relates to the U.S., than a cargo of money would have been at that time. It was received, as intended, as a proof of friendship, and an evidence of good faith; and will settle our accounts for one year at least.

As our force in this Sea is now so respectable, Commodore Rodgers has determined to go to Tunis, not to defy the Bey to War; but to have all differences with that Regency settled on a basis that will ensu[r]e us future tranquility from that power, and place our national honor on a permanent ground. The Bey has lately been threatening us very hard; but I presume he will now be as submissive as he has been presumptuous. I shall go with him to that place on my way to Algiers, and notwithstanding what Mr Davis says of the Bey's resolution not to discuss the affairs of the U.S. with any other person but himself, I am persuaded I shall find no difficulty in convincing him that the President of the U. S. will chuse whomsoever he may think proper to settle our National Affairs, provided there be no well grounded personal objections to the man. —

[NA. Sen. 9B-B6, Pres. Message, Jan. 1806.]

To Lieutenant David Porter, U. S. Navy, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 5 July 1805

SIR You are directed to prepare for Sea without loss of time the two U States Gun boats now in this port. There will be attach'd to each of them, for the present, One Midshipman, Four Seamen and four Ordinary Seamen, their Crews will be Victualled by this Ship until further Orders

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

To Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. S. *Essex* from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 5 July 1805

SIR I have to desire that you send Fifty of the crew of the late Frigate *Philadelphia*, now on board the *Essex* in the character of Supernumeraries, on board the *President* Frigate

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

To Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *President*, from
 Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. STATES SHIP *Constitution*
 Syracuse 5 July 1805

SIR Enclosed you will find a report from Dot^r Cutbush relative to 14 Men, whom I have ordered on board the *President* Frigate under your command, and request you will give them a passage to the U. States; being improper subjects for the service —

PS. John Conway, John Carter, W^m Howell, Thomas Rabey, Joseph Smith These Men belong to the *Constitution* and their term of Service has expired — JR

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

To Cavaliere Giorgio Guillichini, Governor of Messina, presumably from John Broadbent, U. S. Navy Agent, Messina

MESSINA July, the 5th 1805. 2 P. M.

SIR Cap Dent of the U S. Schooner *Nautilus* having (agreeable to the orders which thou wast pleased to give by thy letter to me of yesterday) prepared, and given orders to some of his Officers and Crew to meet the Tribunal in the Citadel this morning at 8. O'Clock, in order that the Witnesses produced by y^r Prosecution on the part of the Crown might endeavour to recognize L^t Ridgely desires me now to express his surprise, that the said Tribunal should not have attended or have appointed some other hour in the course of the day for performing the business aforesaid Should the Tribunal still consider this a necessary act he begs that it may be done this afternoon as he is anxious to put to Sea this evening or tomorrow morning

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May-Oct. 1805.]

To Lieutenant Andrew Sterett, U. S. Navy, Baltimore, Md., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV DEP^t 5 July 1805.

I have rec^d your letter of the 29th ult^o tendering the resignation of your commission.

Your high reputation as an Officer & a Seaman and your distinguished energy of character, might and probably would ultimately have raised you to the highest honors in the Navy, under the same principle, the adoption of which has induced your resignation. I regret therefore much that you have deemed it proper to resign but I cannot refuse however painful it may be to accept your resignation. —

It has been a subject of great concern to me that the resolution of Congress of the 3rd Feby 1802, voting to you a sword in consideration of your gallant conduct in the capture of a Tripolitan Corsair, [*Tripoli*], has not as yet been carried into execution. In due time I wrote to Commodore Morris then in the Mediterranean, to procure and present to you, a suitable Sword, agreeably to the resolution of Congress. The Commodore on his return to the United States informed me that it had not been in his power to procure a suitable one. I therefore wrote to Mr Munroe, our Minister in London, requesting him to procure one and send it to me, and I entertain not a doubt but that he has given the Subject all the attention which it's delicate nature demands. —

Accept, I entreat you my cordial wishes for your happniess and prosperity in private life and believe me to be with the highest personal esteem

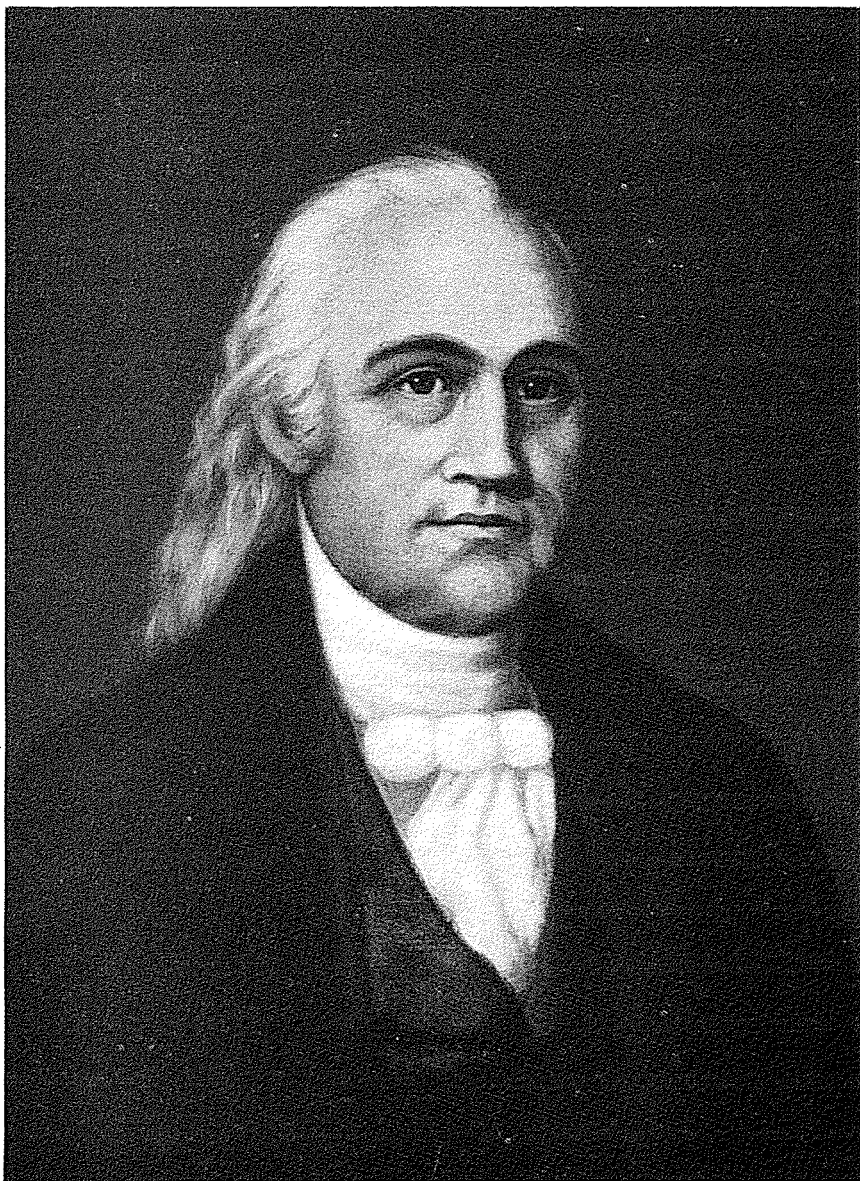
[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802-1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy commanding, Friday, 5 July 1805

[Syracuse] this evening a large company Of the most respectable people Of Syracuse came on board by invitation of the commodore to a ball, on there leaving the ship they took with them 6 silver spoons a number of Glasses and Many other articles too tedious to Mention

Exchanged crews with the *President*.

[USNA.]



THE HON. ROBERT SMITH, SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Vixen*, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 5 July 1805

Saw the harbour of Malta (calm) at 7 A. M. the wind sprung up fresh off shore. At half past 11 came to anchor in Malta. Quarantined. Received specil [sic] on board. At 3 o'clock weighed anchor but could not get out until sun set, it then blowing very fresh and heavy sea.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

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

SYRACUSE July 6th 1805

SIR, I have the honor to inclose herewith copies of my communications to the Commodores since I left Egypt — By the next occasion shall give the correspondence —

I cannot but think our pacification has been too much precipitated — Was it contemplated that so [Ms mutilated] should be sent into this [Ms mutilated] out showing [Ms mutilated] enemy's port Such is the fact! — If it had only appeared off the place I have no doubt the effect would have been a peace with out money — If it had gone into a vigorous cooperation Joseph Bashaw must have resigned at discretion, or saved himself by flight; he was calculating more on this than on defence But we have peace!

The whole expense of my expedition, in cash, amounts to \$39,108.58 cts payment of troops included — As soon as I can effect a full settlement my accounts will be transmitted — It will be necessary to negotiate bills on your department, in order to enable me to do this, to the amount of \$7,082.58 cts.

I learn that our Consul at Gibraltar, M^r Gavino, intends resigning — George Dyson Esquire, who was appointed Navy Agent here by Commodore Preble, and who has discharged the duties of that Office with activity and truth I am persuaded, would be glad to transfer his concerns [Ms mutilated] of Government — Perhaps none has better deserved it — Commodore Preble would, I think, say as much —

[NA. Sen. 9B-B6, Pres. Message, Jan. 1806.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

N^o 2.

U. STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 6th July 1805

SIR, As correspondence (A) contains all the Papers and documents relative to the *Singular* expedition, to which they relate, that has ever come to my hands; I feel it unnecessary in me to say anything farther on the subject, as no doubt the Gentlemen to whom they particularly relate will be best able to explain them. —

B. My orders for the Evacuation of Derne by the United States forces. — [6 June 1805]

C. Proceedings of a Court of Enquiry, on the conduct of Capt. Bainbridge in the loss of the United States late frigate *Philadelphia*. {Vol. III p. 189, Barbary Series.}

D. Orders from Commodore Barron to Captain Barron on the subject of Gun Boats, Amunition &c — [3 March 1805.]

E. Correspondance between Captain Barron and Lieut^t Robinson, which will explain in some measure the cause of the *Enterprise's* not having yet joined the Squadron. —

There are other Subjects of less m[a]gnitude; which the hurry of business, incident to organizing a Squadron for Immediate Service, where there has been so many changes: prevents my Pen, at present, from enabling me to lay before you any thing like a detail of past Transactions. —

The Crews of the *Constitution* and *President* have been changed, the term of service of the former being expired. —

To Captain Stewart I have given the command of the *Essex*. To Captain Smith the *Siren*, and to Cox, late Captain to Commodore Barron, the *Vixen* — These are the most material changes that have taken place on board the Vessels of the Squadron, — So soon as my time will admit, you shall be regularly informed on Subject which has taken place, since my command of the Squadron. —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

To Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *President*, from
Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse July 6th 1805

SIR You are directed to proceed to the U. States with the Frigate *President* under your command, with all practicable dispatch — Subject only to being detained on the Gibraltar Station, in the event of necessity, after communicating with Mr Simpson, our Consul at Tangier previous to your *finally* leaving the strights. — It being presumable that it is the wish of the Government for the *President* to return to Washington, I have to desire that you proceed as high up the Potomack, as the Navigation of the River will admit with all your Guns & Stores on board; & from thence inform yourself with certainty of their intentions on that head. —

Previous to your leaving the strights you will be pleased to leave at Gibraltar a Muster Roll of all the Officers & Men you have recieved from the different Vessels of the Squadron as also from the Hospital, in order that I may have it in my power to forward by the next opportunity regular returns to the Navy Department.

Wishing you a pleasant passage & that its effects may restore Commo: Barron to perfect health,

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

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy

U. S. FRIGATE *President*
Syracuse Harbour July 6th 1805

SIR, I have the honor to inform you that the U States Frigate *President* is ready for Sea and that it is my intention to depart from this Port in the morning

I trust this notice will not be considered untimely, as I authorised Captain Bainbridge several days past to inform you that I should be ready about this time & Captain Bainbridge return^d for answer that this arrangement met your approbation

[LC. JRP, Vol. 1, March 1791–Dec. 1814.]

To Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. S. *Essex*,
from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 6 July 1805

SIR I have this moment received your letter Stating & Complaining of the Insufficiency of the *Essex's* Gun Carriages in their present Station — In consequence you are hereby directed to make the Necessary Alterations, to do which, you are desired to procure a necessary number of Carpenters from the different Vessels of the Squadron to effect the same without loss of time

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

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constellation*
July 6th 1805

SIR, The loss of Mr Grenell has left in this ship a vacancy for one Lieutenant, or person to act as such; if you have not already appointed an Officer to that station, and have not a commissional officer to dispose of you will much oblige me by granting that favor to Mr E. Trenchard whose long services and strict attention to his duty require of me this mark of attention.

[LC. JRP, Vol. 1, March 1791–Dec. 1814.]

To Lieutenant Theodore Hunt, U. S. Navy, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 6th July 1805

SIR You are hereby directed to proceed to Malta by the first opportunity, and in the Event of finding the U States Brig *Argus* there, report yourself to the Com-

manding Officer as being Ordered to Join the Brig under his Command, who will assign you such station as Your Rank Entitles you to — If you should not find the *Argus* at Malta you will there wait my further orders.

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

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 6th July 1805

N^o 3. Duplicate

SIR, I am now making preparations to go to Tunis with the whole Squadron to settle our affairs with that Regency, & I hope on a more secure basis than the Beys conduct has hitherto indicated; who has lately been in the habit of threatening us with War on all occasions. about three Weeks previous to the Peace with Tripoli I detained and sent into Malta a Tunetian Cruizer and two Neopolitan Vessels, her Prizes, for an open & flagrant Violation of the Blockade of Tripoli: which circumstance I flatter myself will prove favourable to the U. States, and in the end be productive in establishing our Peace with that Nation on just & equitable terms — I concieve that the Bey is too well aware of his own Vulnirability to give us decided cause to expose it to his Enemy; but if contrary to my expectations he should offer hostilities, I will pledge myself that in less than Six Weeks from the present date, to make him perfectly sensible of his Error, — this is the moment to bring him to a sense of reason, and it shall be done — To assist me in the accomplishment of this object; Coll^o Lear in whose judgment I place the the highest confidence, & from whom every thing on his part may be expected, will accompany me to Tunis. — Concieving that the services of the Frigate *President* can with propriety be spared, and Commo: Barrons delicate health such as to require his being removed from this climate; I have directed her to proceed with all practicable dispatch to the U. States, & if our affairs with Tunis terminate as I at present expect, the *Congress* and *Nautilus* will follow her, after having shewn the Squadron at Algiers & Tangier — The rest of the Vessels I shall detain in the Mediterranean, until further orders from your Department. —

The *Ann Store Ship* arrived at Malta in 42 days from Baltimore, her Cargo has been stored here. I yesterday recieved Intelligence via Malta of three of the Gun Boats having arrived at Gibraltar, but have recieved no intelligence yet of the *John Adams*, and the rest of the Gun Boats that accompanied her when she left the United States. — I shall be ready to Sail for Tunis in the course of 10 days, provided I am not detained by the Gun Boats not arriving here so soon as I at present contemplate.

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 6th July 1805

N^o 4.

SIR I am much at a loss to know what Answer to return to the Ottoman & Russian Governments, respecting the Ottoman Ketch *Gherette* captured by the Squadron under orders of Commo. Preble, & the three Polacres, loaded with wheat, & sent into Malta for a Violation of the Blockade of Tripoli, by orders of Commo: Barron — Since the last advices Commo: Barron gave you on this subject, an Ottoman Corvette, has been at Malta, to request that, the Vessels of their Nation might be delivered up, but I was prevented from giving a decisive answer, concieving that the arrival of the *John Adams*, would afford me instructions respecting them. —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 6th July 1805

N^o 6.

SIR, I arrived here on the 27th Ult^o from Tripoli bringing with me Coll^o Lear & after landing the Tripoline Prisoners which the War with that Regency had thrown into our hands. —

On my arrival here I found the *Constellation* Captain Campbell, who had reached this place two days before me, having on board Hamet Bashaw, Mr Eaton and about one hundred Turks, Greeks & others, which had been engaged in that *Expedition*. — Mr Eaton has to Day informed me that he intends taking his passage to the U. States, in the American Store Ship *Ann*, which will sail in five or six days for Baltimore, and in conformity with your instructions, relative to him, I have acceded to his wishes. — Hamet Bashaw I shall send to the U. States, by the next public Vessel that returns, provided he will consent. If not I shall fix him either at Malta or Messina, at the expence of the United States, not exceeding 250 dollars pr month, until the pleasure of Government is known — He is a helpless unfortunate being, and humanity dictates that something ought to be done for him — The Greeks and others have no claims farther than their pay as pr contract with Mr Eaton, which I shall give immediate orders to furnish, the amount, not exceeding 6000 dollars — If it was even double the Sum, policy dictates that it should be paid, and this you will no doubt be convinced of after reading the accompanying correspondence. —

P.S. At the moment of closing this Letter, Gun boats N^o 8 & 9 have arrived safe in this Port. — The singular phenomenon of such boats crossing the Atlantic, will greatly astonish all Europe. —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

[6 July 1805]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Charles W. Goldsborough, Chief Clerk, Navy Department

DR SIR. Your favor on the subject of Mr Morris, should have been answered a long time since — but I knew that it would be quite as agreeable to you to see the officials confirming your wishes on the subject — The Secretary feels every disposition to respect your representations — You can therefore, & indeed you ought, to communicate very freely with him upon all professional points — I do not know that you entertain a doubt upon this point — but it is so essential that professional gentlemen should communicate freely, & there are so few that will do it, & pardon me when I say so few that one as capable as yourself, that my zealous wish to see the Navy Establishment upon a footing that will ensure it's durability by preserving it's popularity, has induced me to make the Hint to you — I write to you as a citizen of the United States, having at heart the prosperity of an establishment, the most valuable because the most honorable we have — Holding the station I do, I can see that there are yet wanting great restrictions in expenditures — our's is the most extravagant navy upon earth — Can not your experience suggest many salutary restrictions? The Head of a Department can not at once see all the defects of such a widely extended subject — We could not have a better man, or in any respect a fitter one, for the Head of the Dep^t than Mr Smith — I love the man & venerate the Secretary — but he, as any other person would, requires the aid of professional gentlemen, who can go into detail & lop off all exuberances — I place great stress upon the expenditures of the navy — because I am persuaded that if ever the navy becomes unpopular, it will be because of it's excessive expence — and it ought never to be forgotten that if it becomes unpopular, it must fall — since no establishment can be supported against the will of the people from whom it virtually emanates.

Rules & regulations have been made, & Statutory Laws have been enacted, but they seem scarcely to have any effect — they must be deficient — such men as yourself ought to examine them & point out their deficiencies — I wish to see the solid & substantial systems of experienced gentlemen, substituted in the place of handsome theories — I wish to see all public works erected as if with the view of teaching our remotest posterity, the state of the arts & the spirit of the times, when they were erected — Sound economy, in public works is, magnificence — & I contend that it is better economy to build of solid marble than of briks of clay — We ought not to be so selfish as to build for ourselves alone — The peasant may do this & plead his poverty as an excuse — but the Republic ought to be constantly erecting monuments of it's grandeur, that hundreds of years hence posterity may exultingly exclaim behold what our forefathers have done, let us emulate their example! — What contrary impressions would a heap of Ruins excite? And are we not now building a heap of Ruins for them?

I have thus whiled away a leisure moment, as I should have done had I been talking to you — You will see that I have taken no pains to connect my ideas — & that I have left the explanation of them to yourself —

Chauncey is ord^d to the brig *Hornet*, build^d in Balt^o — will be launched in a few days — the *Adams* is repairing for service — the Brig here — the *Wasp* — is progressing as are some handsome improvements at the yard — I apprehend the *Hornet* will be ordered to cruize off the coast —

Comm^o Barron is now I suppose before Tripoli — probably in engagement God grant him success & glory —

6 JULY '05

[LC. EPP, Vol. 15, June-Aug. 1805.]

Circular from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 7th July 1805

SIR You are desired to prepare the U. States Frigate *Constellation* for Sea as soon as possible, taking on board (with what you have on hand) four months Provision, perishable articles excepted — It is desirable that you take on board as much Powder as your Magazine will conveniently stowe — So soon as your Ship is ready for Sea, you will be pleased to report the same — The *Constitution* I presume will be ready for sea by Thursday —

| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| Cap ^t H. G. Campbell of the <i>Constellation</i> | } each a copy of the above |
| Capt. Cha ^s Stewart of the <i>Essex</i> | |
| Cap ^t Geo: Cox of the <i>Vixen</i> | |
| Cap ^t S. Evans of the <i>Hornet</i> . | |

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

Circular from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 7 July 1805

SIR Without one moments delay you are desired to repair Gun boat N^o 9 for Sea, taking on board as much Provision as you can conveniently carry —

Lieu^t Elbert,
Lieu^t N. Harridan N^o 8, Ralph Izard N^o 2, J. J. Maxwell N^o 3, Alexan^d C. Harrison N^o 5, James Lawrance N^o 6, Seth Cartee N^o 10, J. Henly N^o 4.

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

To Midshipmen William P. Smith and Brown, U. S. Navy, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

Constitution July 7. 1805

SIR You will repair on b'd Gun Boat N^o 10, & commence fitting her for Sea, without one moments delay. — for the present you will recieve your orders from Lieu^t Porter. —

W^m P. Smith, Mids^o
M^r — Brown " — N^o 11.

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

To Sailing Master William Knight, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Franklin*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

Constitution July 7. 1805

SIR You will commence fitting the Brig *Franklin* for Sea, & take on board as much Provision as you can conveniently stowe. —

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

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

NEW YORK 7th July 1805

SIR I have been honored with your's of the 2^d Inst. and shall immediately repair to Baltimore to assume the command of the *Hornet* as directed

[NDA. MC LB, 1804-5.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 7 July 1805

[Syracuse] At 9 [A. M.] arrived gun boats N^o 8 and 9. At 11 the U.S. ship *President*.

[USNA.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *President*, Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 7 July 1805

5 A M. hoisted in all boats. 7 A M. arrived from the U S. Gun[]]boats N^o 8 & 9. Meridian Commodore Barron Capt. Bainbridge and most of his officers having joined us. we got underway and stood out of the Harbour [of Syracuse].

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

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Vixen*, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 7 July 1805

Light wind. Saw one American store ship bound out. Saw the town of Syracuse at 8 o'clock A. M. At 1 o'clock P. M. off the harbour, passed the U. S. F. *President* bound out. Went in and came to anchor at half past 2 o'clock P. M. Found there the *Constitution*, *Constellation*, *Essex*, *Syren*, *Franklin* and store ship and 3 gun boats, and at 6 o'clock, arrived the *John Adams*.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Lieutenant Joseph J. Maxwell, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES GUN BOAT N^o 3
Harbour of Syracuse July 8 1805.

SIR. Conformable to my orders from the Secretary of the Navy, I herewith enclose you my instructions. on taking charge of N^o. 3.

I have to acquaint that on the morning of the 15th June last Gibraltar bearing N. E. distant 2 Leagues. I was brought too by four Spanish Gun boats, who without examining a paper or assigning an other reason, than their suspicion of my being an Englishman. took charge & conducted me into Algeziras.

'Tis necessary to remark that my Gun were at that time in the hold. Immediately on my arrival, I stated officially the circumstance to the General of Marine which I also enclose for your perusal. The Boat was instantly discharged, with many apologies & offers of supplies & assistance, should I stand in need of them.

I was requested to wait a short time. the General answer I did so 'till 4 P. M. apprehensive I might be detained much longer & knowing the importance of the boat's joining you without the smallest delay, I weigh'd without it & stood over to the Rock where for the first time since our seperation on the 15th May I found the *John Adams*.

I should have waited on the Gen^l Marine personally but could not procure pratique —

I proceeded immediately to mounting my Guns & sail'd from Gibraltar The 18th June.

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May–Oct. 1805.]

To Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Vixen*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

Constitution, SYRACUSE July 8th 1805

SIR I have to desire that you turn over to the U. States Sloop *Hornet*, eight Seamen, being part of the crew of the late frigate *Philadelphia*, now in character of Supernumerays on board your Brig. —

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

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 8 July 1805

[Syracuse] At 3 [P.M.] the brig *Vixen* arrived $\frac{1}{4}$ past 4 arrived Gun boat N^o 2 At 6 the U. S. S. *John Adams* arrived

At 3 [A.M.] arrived Gun boat N^o 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3 arrived Gun boats N^o 3 & 5 At 4 arrived gun boats N^o 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ past 4 arrived N^o 4

[USNA.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *President*, Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 8 July 1805

5 Saw two Sail standing for Siracuse which proved to [be] the U. S. F. *John Adams* and Gun Boat N^o 2.

8. Cape Porcose bore N W $\frac{1}{2}$ W. 2 miles distant

5 A M. Cape Passaro bore N W by N. 7 le[a]gu[e]s]

Latitude Observed 36°23', N.

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

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

MESSINA July the 9th 1805

SIR On the 14th Ultimo I had the honour to receive thy much esteemed letter of the 8th of the same month conveying the good tidings of Peace concluded with the Bashaw of Tripoli, which, agreeably to thy orders, I have made publeck in this place —

Cap^o Dent communicated to me thy anxiety respecting the fate of L^t Ridgely; permit me to assure thee, that no pains have been spared on my part to conduct this unfortunate Affair with all possible precaution, and with as little delay as possible.

By the inclosed Copies of my Correspondence with the Governor on this subject thou wilt perceive, that I have been under the necessity of making use of strong language, and should I ever have an oppertunity of convercing with thee on the subject I shall explain to thee fully the motives that induced me so to do, and I make no doubt but thou wilt approve of what I have done, and support me in it if necessary — The Government of America is in its infancy and the first impressions given by it will be lasting, therefore it behoves every one, in whatever capacity they may serve, to act with consistency and firmness otherwise these little tyrannical Governments would trample upon us as they do upon those who have not the means or courage to resist them.

The Process of L^t Ridgely is now in a good train and I hope that in two or three Days he will be admitted to bail, and in as many weeks that he will be perfectly free —

For any further particulars I beg leave to refer thee to Cap^o Dent who is well informed on the subject — and as soon as any thing New transpires of importance I shall take the liberty of communicating it to thee by express

Always desirous of receiving thy Commands I remain with the sincerest regard

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May–Oct. 1805.]

To Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Schooner *Nautilus*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

Constitution 9th July 1805

SIR Presuming that your presence is no longer necessary at the Trial of Mr Ridgely, I have to direct that you proceed to this Port, without delay — should you not find me here, you will proceed to Malta, at which place if you do not find me, you will find in the hands of Mr Higgins, Navy Agent, Instructions for your Government.

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

To Captain Anthony Gale, U. S. Marine Corps, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

Constitution 9th July 1805

SIR You will be pleased to make up the deficiencies in the detachments of Marines of the different Vessels of the Squadron, as soon as possible, from the Detachments bearing Supernumerary's and those bearing more than their complement

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

To Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Constellation*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 9th July 1805

SIR The field pieces you will have delivered to the U. States Sloop *Hornet* & Lieu^t S. Evans will give M^r Eaton a receipt for them; and the Mortar you will have landed —

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

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

(Copy)

TANGIER 9th July 1805

SIR On the 20th April, I had the honor of replying to yours of the 6 March delivered me by Captain Stewart, a few days ago, I received by way of Cadiz, a Copy of that letter, with your favor of the 8th April, the *Syren* left Gibraltar, on the 4th June, since that time I have not any tidings of her — On the 13th Ultimo, the Emperors Frigate *Maimoni* of 36 Guns, and 130 Men, Commanded by Arraiz Sebiar, obtained the usual Consular passports, for a Cruize and has saild from Salle Roads a single Ship—The Brig of War purchased at Lisbon, together with the other *Mamoni Mirbeha* & *Meshouds*, are all laid up in Larach River, they are getting ready the two Gallies at Tetuan where they have lately launch'd a Xebec pierced for 16 Guns — Some stores, and Six Brass 4 Pounders, are getting ready to be sent from hence for her, the Captain who is to command this vessel, told me this morning, she will be at Sea this Summer which is what no one expected — By a letter from London, dated the 3^d Ult^o I learn that the Emperors Agents there were looking out for armed Ships to purchase, and that they had offered £4000 St^r for one, but my friend adds that he did not know that they had agreed for any, as their has not been any advice received from those Men since they left Lisbon, it is supposed here the *Maimona* may have been sent to England with instructions respecting them you are possess'd of my sentiments so fully on the propriety in my Opinion of one or more vessels of War, being on this Station, it is not necessary for me to say more, than that they remain perfectly the same as before —

From Spain you will doubtless have been made acquainted, with the frequency of their Cruizers carry the vessels of the U States to port under the most frivolous pretexts — Atlay^d Hashhash lately told me, that the former Bashaw of Tripoli had been brought from Egypt by a Vessel of War of the U States, and landed on the Coast, but that his Brothers Troops had taken him prisoner — I hope it is not true. The Peace between Austria and this Country is fully concluded, & the Imperial Ambassador actually on his return from *Court*.

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

To Captain Alexander Murray, U. S. Navy, Philadelphia, Pa., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV DEPT 9 July 1805. —

It has been determined by the President to put in Commission a competent Squadron for the protection of the Commerce of the United States against the wanton depredations to which it has been recently exposed. The Command of this Force will require great vigilance & sound discretion. I have at this time to inform you that it is to be given to you and that you are to hold yourself in readiness to repair to Washington upon receiving the orders of this Depm^t

Lieu^t Stewart has been this day ordered to open Rendezvous and to use his utmost exertions to enter 100 able Seamen. He is directed to allow \$12 per month advancing 2 or 3 Months upon sufficient security, and if he should not be able to procure the

Men on these terms, he is permitted to offer a Bounty not exceeding \$20 to each man. —

You will render to Lieut^t Stewart every assistance in your power. The Men are to be entered for the *Adams*. I rely solely on Phila^a for a Crew for this Vessel, feeling a persuasion that if proper efforts are used, the men may, on such an occasion as the present where resentment for national wrongs may be wielded as a powerfully operative argument, be procured in a very few days. I have not therefore ordered any other Rendezvous for the *Adams* than that at Phila^a nor shall I unless you should inform me that the Men cannot be obtained at that place.

It may be proper to inform you now that you are to have the frigate *Adams*, and that Mr Gordon, Mr Lovell, and Mr Patton, will act as your Lieutenants. Try if you can procure a Sailing Master in Philadelphia: if you cannot, we shall be at a loss for one. —

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

[9 July 1805]

Invoice of Provisions shipped on board American Schooner *Molly*

Invoice of Seven Hundred Barrels of Mess Beef Shipped by me on board the Schooner *Molly*, Benjamin Shattuck Master, bound for Malta and Syracuse, there to be discharged for the use of the Squadron of the U. States, agreeable to Orders received by me from the Secretary of the Navy of the United States —

700, Barrels Mess Beef @ 14 50/100\$ p^r Bbl.-----\$10,150.00

N. MORRIS

New London }
July 9th 1805. }

Mr Olcott transmitted a Bill of Lading to the Department

[NDA. Officers LB, 1802-1805.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *President*, Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 9 July 1805

5 Musterd the Ships company
6 A M. The Island of Malta in sight to Windward.
Noon the Harbour of Valette bore W B N $\frac{1}{2}$ N 4 Leagues.
Latitude Observed 35° 51' N.

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

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies

SYRACUSE July 10th 1805

SIR, I have been with Hamet Bashaw this morning, and endeavoured to persuade him to go to the United States, but cannot prevail on him — He desires to remain at Naples or Malta a while, I believe, in hopes of entering into some arrangements with the king of the two Sicilies against Joseph Bashaw — As a dernier retreat he intends returning to upper Egypt — He is desirous of an interview with you, and requests me to be informed when and where you will make it convenient to see him —

[LC. Personal P. Misc, Eaton Ac No. 2553.]

To Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Vixen*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. S. *Constitution*
Syracuse July 10th 1805

SIR, So soon as the U. States Brig *Vixen* under your command is ready for Sea, you are directed to proceed without delay to Malta, send a Boat on shore with the accompanying Package to Mr Higgins, & proceed direct to Tunis Bay without loss of time; where on meeting the U. States Frigate *Congress*, you will consider yourself subject to the orders of her Commander — You will inform Capt Decatur that no circumstance has occurred to make it necessary for me to give him any additional instructions further than to say; In case of his leaving Tunis, that you

are to remain on his station until my arrival with the Squadron — I shall Sail from hence with the Squadron about Friday next, for Malta, at which place I shall not remain longer than 48 hours & from thence proceed to Tunis — you will inform Mr Davis that my not writing him, is in expectation of arriving there at farthest in five or Six Days after you.

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

To Lieutenant David Porter, U. S. Navy, from Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy

U. S SHIP *President* OFF MALTA
10th July 1805

MY DEAR SIR We have this moment arrived off here and shall not remain longer than one day

The *John Adams* went into Syracuse the afternoon that we came out — every attempt was made on the part of Cap Barron to speak her by bearing away with the Ship and also sending a Boat, but the unwillingness of her Commander to a common accommodation (notwithstanding a signal was flying from a Senior Officer to speak) has prevented us from receiving our letters which came out by her — this, you may suppose (after being twelve months without news from my family) has greatly disappointed me

I have nothing to inform you, and have only to tender you my best wishes for glory and happiness to attend you; rest assured of my sincere friendship, and command my services in the most free manner — I shall Keep you informed of Naval affairs at home and shall expect from you all particulars or interesting occurrences of the Squadron — I wish you a seperate command as soon as possible, for in that station you will be more independant than you can be in your present one (Cap^{tn} of the Flag Ship)

The Morning we sailed I delivered to Com Rogers the following message from Cap^{tn} Barron — “That he had heard that he had spoken in a disrespectfull manner of his Brother’s character, for which aspersion he should call on him to answer in a proper place and time and that Commodore Barrons illness prevented him from doing it immediately — Com R, replied that he should always be ready to answer Cap^{tn} Barron or his Brother the Commodore, and to inform him that he should certainly expect to hear from him in America, and if he did not, he, (Cap^{tn} Barron) should hear from him — I answered very well the affair is now understood — Rodgers further added “tell him if I do not hear from him, I shall impute it to a want in him of — what no Gentleman who wears a uniform should be deficient in” Presuming that he alluded to courage, I replied that I would not deliver such a message, and that he had no right to make any assertion of that kind

I have given these particulars in order to govern your opinion if hear any reports respecting it — You will know my opinion of and esteem for that good Man Commodore Barron, whose conduct I am convinced has been correct, and whose heart is as pure as gold refined a thousand times

Make my respects and best wishes to Cap^{tn} Smith and Cap^{tn} Stewart, to whom I shall write, the first moment I have any thing interesting to communicate They are friends whom I sincerely esteem, their rise in the Naval service and their happiness will always be interesting to me

Present my best respects and sincere wishes for happiness to M^{rs} Lear, If I dare I would say give my l^{ove} — to her, for she is a Lady I much esteem — Be cautious how you fulfill this paragrhap for some peoples feelings might be a little touched

Tell L^t Ben Smith I shall expect frequently to hear from him, he has my best wishes [for his] prosperity [?] and happiness

Send me by the *Congress* a handsome Bernouse for Mrs B — *and draw on me for the amount*

If you go to Algiers present my respects to Mons^r Thainville tell him we often spoke of him in prison — God bless you

[NYHS. Naval History Sec.]

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

BOSTON July 10, 1805

SIR I am hon^d withyour letter of the 1st Ins^t accompanied by the Masters Warrants Sailing Orders & letters for the Smacks, and letters for Comm^{dr} Barron, the blanks shall be filled up, letters for the Comm^{dr} sealed, Insurance shall be made, Invoices forwarded and all your directions correctly attended to.

The Smacks are ready for sea. I have been disappointed in a Master for the *Traveller* but expect one on Monday when they will proceed to fulfil their instructions.

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

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

Boston July 10 1805

SIR I am hon^d with your letter of the 26th Ult^o with a copy of your letter to George Harrison Esq^r upon the subject of the Medal.

The drawings I sent you was not intended to govern the size of the Medal but merely to give the Artist a general Idea of the subject by presenting to him a group of figures which he might reduce to suit his instructions.

I now enclose you another drawing which I think as correct a view of the commencement of our attack 3^d Aug^t as can well be given in so small a compass, I have a painting of the subject 6 feet long by 4 wide which I intend to send to the Navy Office if permitted.

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 10 July 1805

[Syracuse] Arrived the US schooner *Nautilus* boats employed bringing provisions from the store ship *Ann*.

[USNA.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *President*, Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 10 July 1805

5 Came to in the Harbour of Valette with the larboard bower in 12½ fathoms Receiving stores and setting up the Rigging. — 37 Men Sick.—

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

To Lieutenant Samuel Evans, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Sloop *Hornet*, 10 Guns, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse July 11th 1805.

SIR You are desired to remain here not exceeding 24 hours after the Squadron Sails, to bring with you an Inventory of all the Stores of every description remaining at this place, in the hands of M^r George Dyson our Agent, — the two Gun boats Spars, blocks, powder, Shot &c, are to be included — after you have completed this mission you will make the best of your way to Malta to join the Squadron.

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

To Surgeon Edward Cutbush, U. S. Navy, Marine Hospital, Syracuse, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

Constitution SYRACUSE 11 July 1805

SIR When patients are in a state to be discharged from the Hospital, you are desired to send them on board the first U. States Vessel that arrives, to be born on her Books as Supernumerarys until she meets the Vessel to which they belong —

The Enclosed order to M^r Dyson you will hand him after taking a copy of the same —

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

To George Dyson, U. S. Navy Agent, Syracuse, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

Constitution, SYRACUSE, July 11, 1805

SIR, You are desired to furnish to the order of Doct^r E. Cutbush of the Marine Hospital, such articles of cloathing as he may require for the use of said Hospital during my absence, taking his receipts for the same — The funeral expences on

such Persons as may Die at the Hospital, must be charged to the Ship to which they belong; to enable you to do this, Doct^r Cutbush will furnish you with the necessary information. —

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

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

U. STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 11th July 1805

SIR Your esteemed favour of the 9th Inst^y accompanying a copy of the correspondence between yourself and the Governor of Messina on the subject of Lieut^t Ridgely's Trial, I have this Inst^y received by the U. States Schooner *Nautilus*. — The Interest you have taken in this business demands my warmest thanks, and I shall not fail be assured Sir, to make mention of it to our Government, in a manner suitable to the respect & attention it justly merits — I am very anxious to Know the decision of the Court, particularly as I do not feel that confidence which I otherwise would, where Laws are exercised with more justice — If I had only 48 Hours to spare (being at present on the eve of Departure for Tunis) I would make you a visit with the whole Squadron —

I do not wish, at present, to make any comments on the Governors conduct; but he certainly will do well to be a little more cautious in future — If on meeting an admiral of a certain Nation at Sea, I was to send him to America as an hostage, for the performance of Justice in a certain case, it perhaps might be thought very extraordinary — No authority whatever shall trifle with the life of an Officer under my command, or Sully the reputation of the American Flag, by conduct the *most infamous* with impunity — my time does not admit of communicating to you my sentiments fully at present; but you may assure the Governor of Messina that this young Man was delivered up in full confidence *only*, that he as the Agent of Justice & representative of his Government, would prevent illegal & unwarrantable proceedings being exercised to his prejudice —

I shall make you a visit so soon as the nature of our affairs will admit, In the mean time accept my best wishes for your future happiness and believe me to be with unalterable respect and Esteem,

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *President*, Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 11 July 1805

6 hove up and stood out of the harbour [of Valetta]

7 Came to in 22 fathoms the light house bearing SWBS. $\frac{1}{2}$ league distant Ships draught of Water. 20. feet 9 inches forward and 21. 6 Aft —

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

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Vixen*, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 11 July 1805

[Syracuse] Pleasant. Got underway at 5 o'clock A. M. wind ahead. At 4 o'clock P. M. the wind came astern. It lasted about 2 hours and then fell away. At 8 o'clock spoke an English Frigate. There were two in company. This completes 2 years service.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

To Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS Friday evening 7 O'clock
12 July [1805]

DEAR SIR I this morning delivered Comm^o Rodger's letter to the Bey's Minister, having previously made known its contents, he still insists on the restitution of the Vessels and gives me to understand, that it will be supported by the Bey even to a declaration of War, (*this I doubt*) the style of the letter, will probably induce him to decide very soon, —

I have been with the Bey and Ministers from Six untill nearly four OClock & almost constantly, a *Grand Council* is held this evening and am ordered to appear at the palace in the morning, — from this state of things, I am entirely at a loss to suggest the probable result, arrangements however will be made by me, for leaving the country. you [will] be constantly Kept informed of every transaction & for expedition & security must beg you to let your boat come on shore every morning by ten, never to wait latter than twelve

[HS of Pa.]

To Lieutenant James Semphill Higinbothom, U. S. Navy, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

Constitution July 12th 1805

SIR You are directed to have all the Boats, brought to this Port by the U. States Schooner *Enterprise*, takin to the Arsenal where they are to laid up & their Sails unbent, which with every other movable belonging to them you are to have carefully stored as George Dyson Esqr, Navy Agent, may direct, taking his receipt for the same — You are to remain here in charge of these as well as the two *Ci di Vant* Tripoline Boats, all of which, you are directed to have Kept in the best possible order, without incurring any expense further than caulking, in case they may require it, and this is only to be done by such caulkers as can be furnished you from time to time by the Hospital.

It will be well to have a Man attach'd to each boat, to keep her clean, wet her Decks night & morning &^e &^s, which Men you are also to receive from the Hospital, from among such recovered Men as Doct^r Cutbush may consider the most proper Persons to furnish you with — This order to remain in force until further orders from me.

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

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Lieutenant George Washington Reed, U. S. Navy

U SCHOONER *Nautilus*
Syracuse July 12th 1805

SIR Having some time ago applied to Com: Barron for permission to return to the United States my request was not granted on account of the expected attack on Tripoli; as that objection no longer exists I must again urge my request to you Sir on the same subject. I have now Sir completed upwards of two years in the *Nautilus* and the situation of officers on board of Schooners is by no means agreeable. I[n] fact the continuance of officers on board of such vessels for any length of time is sufficient to give them a disgust to the service. You no doubt Sir will acknowledge the justness of my observations as you are well acquainted with the nature of these vessels, and of course cannot but confess that my request is reasonable. My rank in the service I should suppose would entitle me to a better situation but as that can not be effected without importunity on my part permission to return home would be grateful to my feelings. Should these observations not make that impression on you (which I expect it will) the business would be better understood by a few minutes conversation with you at any time you may be at leasure.

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May-Oct. 1805.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Robert Denison, Secretary of Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

President OFF MALTA HARBOR
12 July 1805 8 oc. A M

SIR Commodore Barron being too weak to write himself has directed me to state to you the severe disappointment which he experienced at not speaking the *John Adams* being within a short distance of her as she entered the Harbor of Syracuse — The Commodore is utterly at a loss to account for the reluctance which the Officer commanding her displayed to speak the *President* altho' a Signal was made to that effect — As he is exceedingly anxious to know what advices she brings from America, and to receive the private Letters which he supposes she must have brought for him, he has desired me to request of you

particularly to forward them by the first opportunity for Gibraltar, where it is not impossible that they may overtake us.

Nothing material has occurred since we arrived at Malta — Commodore Barron is still confined to his bed tho' rather better than when he left Sicily —

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May–Oct. 1805.]

To George Dyson, U. S. Navy Agent, Syracuse, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

(Copy)

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 12th July 1805

SIR For the subsistence of Hamet Bashaw you will be pleased to pay him Two hundred Spanish Dollars pr Month, on account of the United States, giving him one Month in advance. —

This order to continue in force until the pleasure of the Government of the United States shall be made known to you through a regular channel, observing at the same time that on his leaving this Island without my consent, that you are to consider this obligation as no longer obliging you to make him any further advances on account of the U. States. —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

[12 July 1805]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from George Dyson, U. S. Navy Agent, Syracuse

SYRACUSE 12 July 1805

SIR I have waited on the Governor in your name and represented to him your intention of leaving Hamet Bashaw in this City till accounts might be receiv'd from Government respecting Him — (The Governor requests me to inform you that being so perfectly satisfied with the conduct of the American Squadron in this Port) He will give every protection to Hamet Bashaw & suit during their residence here —

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May–Oct. 1805.]

[12 July 1805]

To Hon. David Thomas, Chairman of Committee upon Hamet Caramanli's Petition, from William Eaton

SIR: My statement to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, February 20, 1804, and to the Secretary of the Navy of August, 1805, are fair indices to all our engagements with Hamet Caramalli, ex-Bashaw of Tripoli, and to the result of the measures concerted with him. Much document concerning this subject has been exhibited, both to the committee of the Senate and to that of the House of Representatives, who had it under consideration during the first session of the ninth Congress; to which recurrence may now be had for information.

The general instructions from the Secretary of the Navy of 1804–5 to the commander-in-chief of the expedition, Commodore [Samuel] Barron, and the instructions of the Secretary of State of June 6, 1804, and April 20, 1805, to the commissioner, Mr. Lear, show the views and expectations of Government, both in regard to the operations of the force provided for the Mediterranean, and to the terms on which peace might be concluded. It will appear, on examination, that in both Government have been disappointed. To those exhibits, and the comments of the committee of the Senate thereon, in their report, it seems nothing need be added to enable your committee to form a clear opinion on the subject referred to them.

The following copy of an order from Commodore Rodgers, and the statement annexed, show the provisions passed to the Bashaw since our having removed him from the province of Derne, in his kingdom: [See letter of 12 July 1805 from Commodore Rodgers to George Dyson, U. S. Navy Agent, Syracuse.]

On the within order, Mr. Dyson paid him, up to the 12th of May, 1807, \$4,400; and, in the end of May, or beginning of June of the same year, the further sum of \$2,400, agreeably to special appropriation, amounting to \$6,800.

The number of the Bashaw's suite, on arrival at Syracuse, was about forty, attached to his person; that number is reduced, by death or desertion, to about twelve or fifteen.

The moveable property, consisting of horses, camels, arms, and clothing, which he abandoned at Derne, did not exceed \$50,000. But when drawn from Upper Egypt, he was at the head of the Mameluke Arabs, as General-in-chief, in alliance with Elfi Bey. He cannot return thither.

The sum of \$30,000 or \$40,000 might be considered a generous provision for his future subsistence; but, to enable him to enjoy it, he should be removed to some part of the Turkish dominions.

[Am. State Papers, For. Rel., Vol. III, 1807-1815.]

To Master Commandant John Shaw, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. S. *John Adams*,
from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

(Copy)

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse July 12th 1805

SIR You are to consider James Roach a Midshipman now on board the Frigate *John Adams* under your Command as under an Arrest for Neglect of Duty on the 12th June in suffering John Patterson, Will^m White and George Brown (Seamen) belonging to the United States Gun Boat N^o 6 being taken from said Gun Boat by the British Squadron, blockading Cadiz under Command of Admiral Collingworth, contrary to the Orders of Lieut Lawrence his commanding Officer —

[NDA. MC LB, 1804-5.]

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

Boston July 12th 1805

SIR I take the liberty to enclose you a letter I rec^d from M^r G. Dyson, and a copy of a letter from him to yourself as it is possible the original may not have reached you,

I know nothing of the misunderstanding he speaks of more than his letter explains, but am confident that less than 5 p^r Cent on the articles purchased for the Squadron would not pay the Agents for their trouble; as the greatest part of the supplies are sent from this Country on which they charge no Commission, altho they receive & deliver the whole out to the ships, if they were allowed a small commission on the stores sent out, for receiving & delivering them, I presume the 2 p^r C^t would be sufficient on what they actually purchased, but if they are to receive and deliver the stores sent out from this Country and be responsible for them without any consideration, I do not believe they can afford to make the purchases they are obliged to for less than 5 p^r Cent.

I hope you will pardon the liberty I take in giving my sentiments on this subject

P S. You will oblige me by returning the letter directed to me.

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy,
commanding, Friday, 12 July 1805

[Syracuse] Arrived the U.S. schooner *Enterprise* With 5 gun boats
Anthony Gale Joined us as Cap^t Marines

[USNA.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board
U. S. Frigate *President*, Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday,
12 July 1805

½ past 6 Weighed and sailed
5 A M sent the pinnace on shore for the purser
8 the pinnace returned —
Latitude Observed 35°53' N.

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

To Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, from William Eaton, U. S. Navy
Agent for the Barbary Regencies

SYRACUSE 13th July 1805

DEAR SIR, The Fleet is under way, I am still at Moorings, shall see you at Malta in twelve days, and take passage in your ship down the coast. Meantime I am as always

[NDA. Isaac Hull LB, 1803-1806.]

To William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, Syracuse, from
Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*

Syracuse July 13, 1805

SIR Not until after the Signal was made for the Squadron to get under weigh, did I receive your statement, dated yesterday, on the subject of the Invalides you mention — I informed you yesterday that those Men might be sent on board the *Constitution* (the one in the Hospital excepted, who would receive the benefit of the *Hospital* until cured) and that I would determine on something to alleviate their sufferings — I again repeat that this is the utmost I can do for them — I have never been in the habit of deferring things of even the smallest importance, until the last moment.

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805-July 1806.]

Income to be paid Hamet Caramanli

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*

Syracuse Harbor July 13, 1805

I have ordered George Dyson Esq^r the U. States Navy Agent at Syracuse to pay Sidi Hamet, Ex Bashaw of Tripoli, two hundred Dollars per month for the support of himself and Suit, until the pleasure of the Government of the U. States shall be Known on the subject, or until I shall see cause to revoke said order —
Signed JOHN RODGERS

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

To Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé
d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS *Saturday Night 11 P M*

July 13th 1805

DEAR SIR My conferences with the Bey, which have been long and frequent, have not terminated in any decisive reply, other than relates to the Vessels, which his Excellency insists on having restored, — he complains of the style of the Commodore's letter, and will I presume write the President on the subject, and which will close our discussions *for the time being*, —

I should like to send a copy of the Letter to the Commodore, but it may be five or six days before I receive it, — can you detain your Frigate that Length of time for this object, if not my dispatches shall be closed immediately, —

P. S. I go to the Palace in the morning

[HS of Pa.]

To Captain Stephen Decatur, Sr., Philadelphia, Pa., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV DEPT— 13 July 1805.

Doctor Bullus will deliver to you a letter addressed to your son Capt Stephen Decatur jr, and a box (of which the enclosed is the Key) containing a Sword, voted by Congress to your Son, in consideration of his gallant Conduct in the destruction of a Tripolitan Frigate [*Philadelphia*] of 44 guns, while lying in the harbour of Tripoli. I request the favor of you to deliver this letter, the Box and the Key, to your Son, when you shall see him —

I offer you, Sir, my congratulations, on the very distinguished character acquired by your Son, and request you to accept assurances of my respect and esteem.

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

To Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAV DEPT 13 July 1805.

The Sword, which will be delivered to you with this Letter, has been procured and is now presented to you, agreeably to the Resolution of Congress of the 27 Novr 1804. —

Receive this Sword, Sir, as a testimony of the high sense entertained by your Country of your gallant Conduct in attacking in the Harbour of Tripoli and destroying a Tripolitan Frigate [*Philadelphia*] of 44 guns, and believe me when I assure you, that among all my official acts none can afford me greater pleasure than that of executing the will of our Country on this occasion.

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

To Andrew Sterett, former Lieutenant, U. S. Navy, Baltimore, Md., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV DEPT 13 July 1805.

The Sword which will be delivered to you with this letter has been procured and is now presented to you agreeably to the Resolution of Congress of the 3rd Feb^r 1802.

Receive this Sword, Sir, as a testimony of the high sense entertained by your Country of your gallant Conduct in the Capture of a Tripolitan Corsair [*Tripoli*], and believe me when I assure you that among all my official acts, none can afford me greater pleasure than that of executing the will of our Country on this occasion.

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy commanding, Saturday, 13 July 1805

[Syracuse] ¼ past 10 [A.M.] the brig *Syren*. schooner *Nautilus*. and all the gun boats Got under way and stood out Of the harbour, Arrived here a Rusian Frigate

[USNA.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Vixen*, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 13 July 1805

This morning pleasant, fresh breeze. We arrived off the harbour of Malta at 6 o'clock A. M. Saw a Frigate to leeward. We made a signal and she answered it. We bore down upon her and found her to be the U. S. F. *President*. We gave her our package of letters which we brought from Syracuse and then she made sail and stood down the straits. We put about and went into the harbour and came to anchor at 8 in the morning, at which time the *Grand Seignoro* Sloop of War fired a salute, which was answered by the two Frigates that came in with us. We were quarantined. Rec'd product at 12 o'clock. Rec'd some rope from shore and one sack Tobacco.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

To Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS Sunday Night 14th July 1805

DEAR SIR My conference with the Bey this mor[n]ing lasted untill nearly 12 OClock, the result of which is the impossibility of arranging our Affairs as was expected, and almost a certainty of a declaration of War "Nothing" but the famine restrains him" — It is more than probable that I shall be compelled to solicit a passage on board your Frigate, —

I doubt whether I shall be able to see the Bey Tommorrow, as he has given me his whole attention for three days; if not Wednesday morning will bring you a final answer, —

[HS of Pa.]

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

BALTIMORE 14th July 1805

SIR I arrived here last evening and shall assume the command of the [Brig] *Hornet* tomorrow and report her state and condition immediately after

The reason of my not arriving here sooner was in consequence of my not feeling perfectly well I took passage by the way of French Town and unfortunately had a long one.

[NDA. MC LB, 1804-5.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 14 July 1805

½ past 2 [P. M.] Weighd Made sail and beat Out of the harbour [of Syracuse] in company with *Constellation* *Essex* and *John Adams* and schooner *Enterprize*. Latitude Observed 36°06' N.

[USNA.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Vixen*, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 14 July 1805

[Malta] This day pleasant. At 6 o'clock got underway and stood out of the harbour and lay to waiting for Mr. Hunt the Purser. At 12 o'clock sent our boat on shore with orders to bring him off immediately. The boat returned in about 2 hours with the Purser. We then made sail for Tunis. Head wind. Nicholas Cole sent on shore.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

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

MALTA 15th July 1805

SIR, I have the honor to acquaint you that I have detained here a Turkish Frigate that brought Dispatches for me from Constantinople to enable you to send an answer to the requisition made to you by the Ottoman Porte.

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 1, 1805.]

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

Copy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Malta 15th July 1805

SIR I have this Instant the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of this date, direct and through the hands of my predecessor those of the 19th March and 5th of June last, with the accompanying correspondence by Mr Shatton, his Britanic Majesty's Minister at Constantinople and Rais Effendi, Minister for Foreign Affairs to his Highness the Grand Signior, on the subject of the Ketch *Gheretti* captured by the U States Squadron, under Command of Commodore Edward Preble, and the Polacres *La Madona & Jebra*, under Ottoman Colours, which were detained and sent into Malta in Sept^r last by the Squadron under Command of Commodore Samuel Barron, for a Violation of the Blockade of Tripoli —

In the case of the *Gheretti*, I beg Your Excellency will have Communicated to the Ottoman Government, that owing to the outrageous insult and open hostility committed by her in conjunction with the Tripoline Gun Boats, in the Capture of the late U States Frigate *Philadelphia*, as has already been stated to the Ottoman Government by Commodore Barron, through the Medium of your Excellency, as an outrage in its nature, so flagrant, and insulting to the Flag of the U States; as not to admit of my giving an Answer until I am specially authorized so to do, by my Government; further than to say that the Master, Mustapha, and Crew of the *Gheretti* have been liberated, and that the Slaves or Tripoline Negroes found on board of her, at the time of Capture, have been delivered to the Bashaw of Tripoli, in conformity with a stipulation in the Articles of Peace between the U States of America and the Bashaw, in which the

latter claim'd said Negroes as his Subjects: of course he is at present the accountable authority to his Highness the Grand Signior for them —

The Polacres *La Madona & Jebra*; the existence of the cause which produced their detention having terminated in our contest with Tripoli, and knowing the strong desire that the Government of the U States, has of maintaining harmony and good understanding with his highness the Grand Signior; I shall in consequence, for the benefit of the original Owners, take upon myself to restore these Two Vessels in good order, and have directed to be paid into the hands of the Ottoman Consul, resident here, a Sum in Specie exactly equal to the Amount of what their Cargoes sold for, subject to their order—

I feel concerned that any circumstance should have occurred in our affairs, to give your Excellency so much trouble, and I shall feel equally concerned if the result, should lessen in the smallest degree, that friendship which has hitherto existed between his Highness the Grand Signior, and the Government of the U States of America; feeling sensible at the same time that if he will take a fair and impartial view of the whole subject, that he will distinctly perceive, that compulsive measures alone in support of our rights, in common with other Nations, was the sole cause of the Capture of one Vessel, and the detention of the Two others; and that he will, as he must be sensible of the disinterestedness of our Friendship, by the restoration of the Two Vessels & Cargoes in dispute, on a similar occasion in future enforce the necessary measures to prevent his Subjects committing similar abuse—

So soon as I am informed of the determination of my Government in the case of the *Gheretti*, Your Excellency shall be made acquainted therewith, presuming that your Excellency will have the goodness to communicate the same to the Ottoman Government.

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

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

Boston July 15th 1805

SIR Mr Benjamin Clark Prince has this day accepted the appointment of Sailing Master in the Navy, & taken command of the *Traveller*; he is a young man of good abilities & character. I expect they will sail the day after tomorrow.

A vessel arrived here this day from Lisbon which spoke Mr Harraden in N^o 8, 7 days after he left that Port. Mr H reported that N^o 8 sailed well and proved a good sea Boat. I have no doubt but long before this he is with the squadron.

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

To Master Commandant John Shaw, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. S. *John Adams*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

Constitution. MALTA July 16th 1805

SIR, From the list of Supernumerays on board the U. States Ship *John Adams* under your command, I have to desire that you will turn over to each of the Gun Boats, Seven Men.

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

Report of Nicholas C. Nissen, Danish Consul, Tripoli

[Translation]

Most respectful memorandum.

*Dispatched from Tripoli July 16, 1805,
received in Copenhagen October 19, 1805.*

In my report of the 10th of last month I had the honor to express my most respectful gratitude for the gracious communication from the high administration, dated the 2nd of March last, and to inform you of the conclusion of peace between North America and the Pasha.

Consul General Lear, in order to settle every thing before his departure, remained in Tripoli until the 21st of last month and dispatched a frigate to Syracuse and Malta with the North American prisoners of war who were held here, which thereafter returned on the 17th with 60,000 piasters fort. [?] and about 100 Tripolitans and negroes, who had been captured by the North Americans. Another frigate was dispatched the day after the peace to Derne to transport Major Eaton and the

North American troops stationed there, the guns, etc. and to persuade Sidi Hamid likewise to voluntarily leave the Tripolitan area. In order to be informed about the present of affairs, the Pasha sent out a Schaus [?] with the frigate, which has recently returned by way of Malta. Sidi Hamet has left Derne with the frigate; nevertheless, six corsairs have been equipped here and two Anglo-Maltese vessels chartered to bring 800 men with ammunition p. p. [?] to Derne, and a reinforcement is also being sent by land to the troops which are in the neighborhood. The Pasha intends to demand a considerable sum from that part of the population which has shown itself to be loyal to Sidi Hamet, and, as Derne has on the whole always shown itself rebellious, the Pasha will in all probability try to assure himself at this opportunity of their obedience in the future.

Soon after the peace eight corsairs, some small, were dispatched to the coast of Sicily and Naples, of which three soon returned with prizes and prisoners; a large Neapolitan vessel was also brought in, loaded with grain, but, as she was provided with a Tunisian passport and bound for Tunis, she was soon released. The Pasha's Admiral Murad Rais is ready to embark with an eight-gun chebacco, but will doubtless first follow the expedition to Derne.

The merchants here now desire entirely neutral vessels to send to Europe and the Levant waiting cargoes of zinc, madder, negro slaves, p. p. [?]. Sidi Muhamed Dghies has on this account requested me to write to Malta and in this connection has assured me that the treatment of the Danish vessels will be such, that the masters themselves will now go to Tripoli. I have therefore written to Mr. Fromcaux at Malta and requested him to communicate this information to the Danish vessels there which are seeking freight; I am awaiting his reply.

On account of illness Commodore Barron has assigned the command of the North American squadron in the Mediterranean Sea to Commodore Rodgers, who is daily expecting a reinforcement of 800 men and 10 gun vessels with 2- to 32-caliber guns p. p. [?]; and, in spite of the peace with Tripoli, the greatest part of the squadron and all the gun vessels are remaining here. After hearing Colonel Lear's assurance, the Congress has decided to keep a squadron in this harbor at all times, and it is intended for this purpose to obtain the harbor of Syracuse by a kind of property right; this is all the the more probable, since even the proposals which have been received with respect hereto seem to indicate such a desire on the part of the government in Naples, and it would perhaps give to Syracuse an activity and prosperity which is now sought in vain.

Most respectfully,

N. C. NISSEN. *m.p.*

TRIPOLI IN BARBARY *July 16, 1805.*

To The Royal Administration for the African Consulates.

[Original in Danish Archives. Courtesy of Lt. M. V. Brewington, U. S. N. R.]

To Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS *Tuesday, 12 O'clock*
16th July 1805

DEAR SIR I shall take a passage on board your ship, and will be at the Gouletta on Friday morning by 8 or 9 O Clock — you will not consideration measure as a declaration of War, the reasons will be detailed to you in person, — The multiplicity of Affairs which occupy me at such a moment must plead my apology for being laconic

I shall continue to advise you every day as usual of all occurrences, until I have the Pleasure of seeing you on board, —

[HS of Pa.]

To Captain commanding H. B. M. S. *Eurydice*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Malta 16th July 1805

SIR It being represented to me *this Day* that there is an American Seaman on board his Britanic Majestys Ship *Eurydice* under your command, by the Name of James Gardiner, who was impressed into your Service; I have to request that in case this Man is on board, as has been represented; that you will have the

goodness to discharge him from your Service; in order that I may proceed in his case as the Laws of the United States direct.

Copy of the above in favor of John Kelly & Allan Fish sent to the Commr [officer] of his Britanic Majestys Ship *Pheobe*. — 17th July

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

[16 July 1805]

Launching of U. S. Gunboats Nos. 4 and 10

Gun Boat N^o 4. was launched the 5th of March, and Gun-Boat N^o 10. the 8th of April. 1805. from the Navy Yard Washington —

JOSIAH FOX, *Navy Constructor*

NAVY YARD WASHINGTON. 16th July 1805 —

[NDA. Misc. LB, Vol. 4, 1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 16 July 1805

½ past 4 [P. M.] shortend sail & came to anchor in the harbour of Malta in 13¼ fathoms water the North point at the entrance of the harbour Bore N B E the south point N E ½ E.

The light house N ½ E. ½ past 5 Moor,d ship. came in and Anchord the US ships *Constellation Essex* and *John Adams* brig *Syren* schooners *Nautilus* & *Enterprize*, the store brig *Franklin* and the 8 Gun boats.

[USNA.]

[17 July 1805]

To President Thomas Jefferson from Hamuda, Bey of Tunis

[Translation]

HAMUDA BASHAW BEY,

Prince of Princes of Tunis, the Well Guarded City, the Abode of Felicity.

To Mr. THOMAS JEFFERSON,

President of the United States of America.

MY GREAT AND GOOD FRIEND, The object of the present is to inform you of the capture about two months ago, by one of your men-of-war of a Tunisian corsair with two prizes. You will gather the details pertaining to this capture from the attached documents and the additional one which your Chargé d'Affaires, George Davis, will explain in detail to your Minister, which will inform you that whatever reasons they may have had or believed they had, there was none for holding the said vessels, unless, as I feel from the unbecoming language of your present Commodore, the latter has resolved to take hostile measures against me and my subjects. Nevertheless, I am far from supposing that such a thing is authorized by you, in view of the fact that the good faith in regard to the treaties and the sincere friendship which I profess for you and your Government, have always been maintained and observed by me.

The style of the letter from your Commodore would have constrained me to take those measures which it is my strong desire to avoid, had you not assured me that the rash and precipitous action of an Individual, which would tend to engage and plunge us into a state of war, can never be approved by you.

I am this same day informing your Commodore of these my genuine sentiments through the said Davis, your Chargé d'Affaires, who with my approval, is going personally to see him, and make him, in the most solemn manner, responsible for any unexpected hostile operations prejudicial to the state of amity fortunately existing between us which he may believe himself authorized to undertake, before there has been an understanding between you and me, which I ardently and sincerely desire and hope will occur.

I cherish the hope and expect that the promptest steps will be taken for the return of my said vessels, and take this opportunity to wish you from Heaven, My Great and Good Friend, the most complete Happiness.

HAMUDA BASHAW BEY (SEAL)

At the Bardo of Tunis 17 July 1805 19 Rebia Teni, A.H. 1220

[NA. SDA. CD, Tunis, Vol. 3, July 1805–Sept 1806.]

To William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Malta 17th July 1805

SIR You will oblige me by informing the Ottoman and Russian Consuls resident here, that in consequence of not hearing from my Government on the subject of the Ottoman and Russian Vessels sent into this Port by the U. States Squadron under command of Commodore Barron, that I will take upon myself to restore to their original owners, the Vessels with the amount of what their Cargoes sold for in this Island, they giving receipts in full of all Damages and Costs against the United States and Captors — This is the extent of restitution that I feel myself at liberty to make, therefore there will be no necessity for any thing further being said on the subject, than whether this proposition is acceptable or not; and I will thank you to inform me of their answer as soon as possible. —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 1, 1805.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta

MALTA 17th July 1805

SIR I am honored with yours of this date, but before I proceed to communicate the instructions you impart to me to the Ottoman & Russian Consul, I should be glad to be informed if you mean to restore the Vessels & Cargoes in question to their original Proprietors exempt from the charges which have been incurred in the repair of the one and sale of the other or if it be only the *Nett produce* you mean to restore — if it be the Gross amt you restore of course my charges will come against the U. States Navy Department. —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 1, 1805.]

To William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
MALTA 17th July 1805

SIR, In answer to your favour of this evening permit me to observe that I did not know of any material repairs being made on the Vessels in question; however since this has been the case I will deliver them in the condition they now are in, clear of charges on account of their repairs. — The Commissions on the sale of their Cargoes with all other attendant expences, the original proprietors must pay. —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 1, 1805.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Lieutenant James Lawrence, U. S. Navy

U S GUNBOAT *Nº 6* July 17 [1805]

SIR After the misfortune of loosing three of my men on my passage out, I am again under the disagreeable necessity of informing you that W^m Butler belonging to *Nº 6* deserted last night Mr Chauncey and one of my petty Officers have been in search of him since 7 O'Clock but have not yet returned.

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May–Oct. 1805.]

To George Hay from Secretary of State

DEPARTMENT OF STATE July 17th 1805.

SIR, In the course of the last year one of the Vessels under Commodore Preble in the Mediterranean captured the Brigantine *Transfer* [renamed *Scourge*] bound to Tripoli, after having an estimate made of her value he took her temporarily into the public service, and she has since been proceeded against as prize at Norfolk, where an interlocutory decree for her sale has been made and time given till the 13th day of the next term of the District Court for claimants to come in. Her late owner being a resident of Malta, and Mr Merry, the British Envoy, supposing him to be a British subject, has addressed a letter to me on the subject of this capture, intimating a dissatisfaction that the prosecution should proceed without the presence

of any representative of the owner. As it does not appear that the master or any of the officers of the *Transfer* were brought to Norfolk with her, as she was converted to public use abroad when in strictness she should have been previously sent home for adjudication, it is thought to be not unreasonable in order to satisfy forms and repair any irregularity which might have taken place before the judicial proceedings commenced, that ample time should be given for the owner to make his claim if he should think proper. You will therefore be pleased to apply to the Court to prolong the time limited for the claim and to suspend the distribution of the proceeds of the sale for six months or such other term as may be sufficient for notice to reach the Island of Malta.

[NA. SDA. Dom. L, Vol. 15, June 1805–July 1810.]

[17 July 1805]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Master Commandant John H. Dent,
U. S. Navy

SIR Agreeable to your order of yesterday, I have had a muster and a Search, for those deserters from the Garrison and there is none on board the United States Schooner *Nautilus*

THURSDAY MORN^g

[LC. JRP, Vol. 1, March 1791–Dec. 1814.]

To Major General La Villette, Malta, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
MALTA 17th July 1805

SIR I have received your Letter of this date on the subject of Six Deserters from the Garrison under your command, & regret that any circumstance should ever have occurred to give you reason to anticipate, by the arrival of our Ships in your Port, the loss of your Men — There is not a Vessel in the Squadron, under my command, but what at present has more than her compliment of Men; but if on the contrary they were deficient be assured Sir, that I shall ever discountenance such improper means of procuring them — I have ordered a general search throughout the Squadron and should the Men you mention be found, they shall be returned to you immediately. —

From the orders I have this moment given, no officer of the Squadron, will presume to take Men from this Garrison, out of the Port.

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

To Captain Thomas Bladen Capel, Royal Navy, H. B. M. S. *Phoebe*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Malta July 17th 1805

Copy

SIR, It being represented to me *this Day* that there are two American Seamen on board His Britanic Majestys Ship *Phoebe* under your command, by the Names of John Kelly and Allen Fish, who were impressed into your service; I have to request, that in case those Men are on board the *Phoebe*, as has been represented, that you will have the goodness to discharge them from your service, in order that I may proceed in their case as the Laws of the U. States direct. —

Honb! Cap^t Kipple
commg. His Britanic Majestys Ship *Phoebe* —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Captain Thomas Bladen Capel, Royal Navy, H. B. M. S. *Phoebe*

HIS BRITANNICK MAJESTYS SHIP *Phoebe* AT MALTA
the 17th July 1805

SIR I have to acknowledge the Receipt of your letter requesting the two Men impressed by me out of an American Ship at Sea might be given up

The Master of the Vessel they were impressed from, only assured me that *one* was an American, but as their Certificates were not Regular or Clear I had strong

grounds for Supposing them English Seamen, but upon any assurance from you that they are really American Subjects I shall immediately give them up; I beg leave to acquaint you that I have received a Petition from a Seaman named Samuel Peacock on board the U S Ship *John Adams*, claim—the Protection of the Flag of Great Britain also from Cha^r Wilson, Ja^s Pearson, Step^r Kentle, & Edw^d Barken, of the U S States Ship *Constitution* all of them surrender themselves as Deserters from His Britannick Majesty's Ship *Juno* I have therefore to Request you will have the goodness to Order them to be delivered up The two Men belonging to the *Constitution* declare to me that they also are deserters from His Britannick Majesty's Ship *Hornet* and are British Subjects

I enclose two Petitions above alluded to for your peruseal & have to beg they may be Returned

P S. by the *Juno's* books lodged in the Storekeepers Office the above men appear to belong to her.

[LC. JRP, Vol. 1, March 1791–Dec. 1814.]

To Captain Thomas Bladen Capel, Royal Navy, H. B. M. S. *Phoebe*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean

Copy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*

Malta 18 July 1805

SIR, I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of this date on a subject which if impartially dissected will prove that the Flag of the U. States is insulted by the very language which you offer as an apology for an injury of the first magnitude. — To wit, on my requesting that you would have the goodness to discharge two American Seamen which I was informed were on board his Britannic Majesty's Ship under your command, your answer to me is, that, "When you impressed these Men, out of an American Merchant Vessel at Sea, that the Master of the Vessel they were impressed from, only assured you that one was an American, but as their Certificates were not regular or clear, that you had strong grounds for supposing them English Seamen" — At the same time you enclose me two papers from five Men belonging to different Vessels of the American Squadron, now in this Port, requesting of me to deliver them up as British Deserters, when at the same moment, you have two Deserters belonging to the *Constitution* under my Command, which you have not even given yourself the trouble to mention, altho they have been demanded. —

Permit me to ask you Sir, what Law authorizes your impressing Seamen from an American Merchant Vessel at Sea? Whether it is an acknowledged privilege you have exercised over our Merchant Vessels by Special Covenant existing between our two Governments? Whether it is a peculiar privilege you separately enjoy by the acknowledged Laws of Nations? or whether it is a Law of necessity, prescribed alone by your own ideas of our rights, according to the various exigencies which the necessity of having your Ship well Manned may suggest to your imagination? if the latter, permit me to assure you that such policy you will find is not your interest, for this very reason; that the effects of the principal would oblige us in return to adopt the same system; in which case you would loose Ten Men where you would receive one in return — this you must be aware of, & on taking an impartial view of the subject, perceive that we have avoided giving you cause to pursue a measure, which if practiced to that extent which your Letter bears the marked features of, will unavoidably end in a dispute between two Nations, whose Interests are connected in such a manner as to be injurious to both. — you may readily conceive that whenever Men in our Service infringe its Laws, to an extent to merit the severest punishment; that they will readily avail themselves of any protections; which presents to their view a possibility of rescuing them from the chastisement which their bad conduct merits. —

I request again Sir, that you will have the goodness to deliver the two Men I wrote for yesterday, also John Graves and John Pindar, Deserters from the U. States Service, now on board the *Phoebe*; at the same time permit me to assure you that I have too much respect for the British Navy ever to detain one of its Deserters so long as the practice of Justice by its Officers, in similar cases, will in any shape authorize my pursuing a different conduct.

Two of the Men you mention in your Letter as Deserters, have been on this Ships Books upwards of Sixteen Months, which will prove to you that they are not the Characters they wish to make themselves appear to be. —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

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

(Copy)

TUNIS July 18th 1805.

SIR, I have the honor to inform you, that the United States Frigate *Congress* Capt. Decatur, eight days from Syracuse, anchored in the Road of the Gouletta on the morning of the 11th Inst. — The same day received a letter from the Commodore, enclosing one for His Excellency the Bey of Tunis, Copies of both I have the honor to transmit you. —

On the following morning [12th] was at Bardo, and informed the Sapatapa that I had received a letter for his Master, which was written in English; and delivered it, to him — He spoke much of the detention of the captured Vessels & of the disagreeable consequences, which would necessarily arise therefrom. — I informed him that the Commodore, with Consul General Lear, would shortly be here, & endeavour to close all difficulties — he requested to know the object of their visit — I stated, it was probably for the final arrangement of our Affairs, as well as for making some changes in the Treaty. — He answered, that neither would be received, until the captured Vessels, were restored, & that Col. Lear, would never be acknowledged as one authorized to transact public business with him — that if he visited him as the Consul of Algiers, it was well — if he visited him as the Interpreter of the Commodore, well; but never while there was another acknowledged Representative, could a Consul of Barbary, come to talk with his Master on public affairs. — The discussion was continued for a long time without producing any thing decisive. —

On the 13th was at Bardo — the Bey gave me a private audience — he said, that the letter had been translated which I delivered his Minister, & that I should learn hereafter what he thought of its contents; that he only wished to know, why the Vessels were not restored; if the act would be sanctioned by the Government; & if he was to consider it, as a declaration of war. — Informed him, that on all these points, Satisfactory answers should be given, when the Commodore arrived. — He said, that the Commo: did not appear to be a man whose presence was necessary, unless to produce an immediate declaration of war; that he must first repair the injuries he had done, before he could expect that any negotiation would be entered into — that on this point he should write His Excellency the President — that with respect to the Consul of Algiers, he had already said, in what capacity he should consider him, & how he would be received; that he could not defend him from visiting his Regency; but that he certainly should decline any conversation with him relative to our Affairs. — With respect to a change in the Treaty, that could not be done; he was satisfied with it, as it was, & we had already — expressed our approbation of it; if we wish to break any of the Articles, or make any new ones, the shortest way was to recall me, commence hostilities; and then make a new peace; when such a Treaty should be concluded, as we thought proper, *if we paid well for it* — In relation to a final arrangement on the score of his pretensions, this depended much on ourselves; that he would be treated as we treated the Dey of Algiers, to whom he never could feel himself inferior — that the insignificant offers made him, had, & would be declined. —

On the morning of the 14th was again at Bardo — the conversation of the day before was talked over, when I assured the Sapatapa, that the Vessels could not be restored; that the Commodore, would unquestionably visit this Bay, with his Squadron; and with the expectation of seeing all difficulties arranged before he left it; & that unpleasant consequences might result from the Bey's refusal to receive Col. Lear, in the manner, which the President expected — that for the arrangement of our affairs no great sacrifices could ever be made, & that it was the indispensable duty of the Commodore to know, the Bey's last expectations; always observing, that nothing would be offered greater than those his Master had rejected the last year, & which indeed I was not authorized at the moment, to repeat, or even accord, if the Bey would accept. — He assured me, that the final termination of the Affair must be war, unless our mode of negotiation was wholly altered — that the first thing which ought to be done, was the restoration of the Vessels; a concession on our part, indispensably necessary, previous to his entering into any negotiation with myself, or the Commodore. —

[See also 13 July 1805.]

[LC. JRP. Vol. 2, Series Two, May–Oct. 1805.]

To Levett Harris, U. S. Consul General, St. Petersburg, Russia, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

Copy A

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Malta 18th July 1805.

SIR, Your letter of the 20th of March in answer to Commodore Barron, my late predecessor's communications dated Syracuse 20th Jan^y on the Subject of the Russian Polacre *St Miguel*, [or *St. Michael*] detained & Sent into Malta by the United States Squadron, for attempting to enter Tripoli in violation of the Blockade by said Squadron; I have this instant before me, & beg leave to express the high Sense I entertain of the interest you have taken in this business.

As the object no longer exists which authorised & equally demanded in support of our rights in common with other Nations, the Capture of this Vessel, peace being concluded between the Bashaw of Tripoli & the U. States of America, on terms perfectly honorable to the latter, & our captive brethern, which chance had placed in their hands, restored again to the arms of liberty, & their Country; I have in consequence & even at variance, with general custom in similar cases, taken upon myself to restore to the Original Owners, the Vessel & amount of the Sales of her cargo in Malta with a belief that the Russian Government will duly appreciate my motive, when I assert that the high respect & regard, which I conceive the Government of the U. States entertains for that of Russia, is the only authority I have to justify my proceedings in the present case, & one in which it cannot but be clearly perceived by the responsibility I have taken upon myself, how confident I feel that my Government will approve a measure, which if view'd by that of Russia in a liberal & just point of View, will equally prove the independence of the United States & the unquestionable respect, our Government entertains for the commercial rights of the Russian nation. —

Whenever disputes arise between Governments, the primitive cause, either by intention or inadvertance is generally on our Side. To acquit my Country of either & both these charges, it is necessary only for me to observe that the restoration of the Vessel & Cargo, in question, in the manner as before mentioned, is the Strongest and most undeniable proof that neither pecuniary considerations in the officer, commanding the Squadron, by which She was detained, or of any construction, which the orders of his Government admitted, would have produced the measure complain'd of with any Nation, much more that of Russia, with whom we have so long lived in friendship, & reciprocal commercial advantages, but merely a compulsive exercise of indispensible duty in Support of the Independence, honor, & interest of his Country's Flag, which not only the case required, but the established Law's of Nations authoris'd, & it is not too much to Say, on taking a retrospective View of the whole affair, considering that chance had placed 300 of our unfortunate Countrymen in the power of Such an enemy as the Bashaw of Tripoli, that even the exercise of more vigorous measures would have been justifiable. —

Under the circumstances, You having already Stated in the Russian Government, the possitive and indubitable manner in which this Vessel attempted to violate the Blockade, will convince that Government of the justice of our proceedings & liberality & purity of our intentions in a manner, I flatter myself, on similar occasions *in future*, to induce the Russian Govern^t to take measures to prevent their Subjects, committing similar abuse. —

[NA. SDA. CD, St. Petersburg, Vol. 1, 1794–1809, also Captain's LB, Vol 2, 1805.]

To Antonio Reynaud Carcus, Consul to the Emperor of Russia and the Grand Signior, from William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta

Copy

MALTA the 18 July 1805

SIR I am directed by His Excellency the Commander in chief of the American Squadron in the Mediterranean to impart to you, that he has received no instructions relative to the Greek & Russian Vessels, captured for attempting to violate the Blockade of Tripoli. He feels however persuaded that his Government wishes to preserve and cultivate the good understanding at present subsisting between it, and his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Russia, & his Highness the Grand Signeur — under this impression he authorises me to say, that he will restore to the original Proprietors the above mentioned Vessels in the state they now are; altho nearly five thousand Dollars have been laid out in their repairs to fit them for a voyage to America, & he will further give up the amount of their Cargoes of Corn after deducting therefrom, all the expences incident to their sale. — He

expects on the part of the Proprietors, that upon such restitution they will give receipts exonerating the Captors and the United States of America from all future responsibility and claim whatsoever.

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 1, 1805.]

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

BOSTON July 18 1805

Dr SIR Soon after I return'd to this Country, in a conversation I had with the Secy of the Navy I mention'd that you were desirous of obtaining a couple of Fishing Smacks, in consequence of which he directed me to purchase and send them out to Comm^de Barron who has directions to divest them of the Public stores on board, and deliver them to you at the original cost here.

One is called the *Traveller* & the other the *Ranger* — both very fast sailers, I have had the holes in the Well-room secured with pine plugs, have sheathed the bottoms of both with half Inch cedar boards and sealed the wells inside with pine plank to enable them to cross the Atlantic with greater safety.

Should they be made use of for Fishing Smacks the sealing in the well room which is only tacked with small nails must be taken out and where the plugs now are, the holes bored through the bottom for the free admission of Water, the well rooms should be kept very clear and the holes through the bottom clear or the fish will not live. Should you not want to employ them as Fishing vessels they will in their present state make excellent Packet boats.

I entreat you to present my most respectfull compliments to Lady Ball.

P S. Please to accept the news papers I send you.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 15, June-Aug. 1805.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Vixen*, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 18 July 1805

This day variable winds. We came abreast of the harbour or Bay [Tunis], at 2 o'clock P. M., coming up with an island off the bay we were fired upon by a Tunisian gun boat. Having a fresh breeze we choose not to stop and speak her, but stood in for the town, she still pursuing us. In 15 minutes it came calm and she came up with us very fast with her sweeps. Not knowing what her intentions were, we got our sweeps out and swept around so as to bring a broadside to bear upon her. A fresh breeze springing up, we in sweeps and stood in and left the boat to make the best of a bad wind as she could. We were soon after met by the *Congress* who put about and stood in with us. We came to anchor abreast the Town at 6 o'clock P. M. There is at the entrance of the Bay a high mountain on the starboard hand as you go into the bay on which is a small town which is a part of the ruins of ancient Carthage which was destroyed by an earthquake. The land so sunk forms the bay.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

To William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Malta 19th July 1805

SIR, For the benefit of the Captors I have to request that you will have the Ottoman & Russian Vessels, captured by the U. States Squadron under command of Commodore Barron, valued by five respectable and disinterested characters, previous to their being delivered to their orriginal owners: a certificate of which with the necessary receipts agreeable to the principal on which they were retained, I will thank you to have forwarded as soon as possible to the United States Navy Department.

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 1, 1805.]

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

VALLETTE 19th July 1805

SIR, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellencys Letter of the 15th Instant which I deferred answering until I could have a conversation

with the Captain of the Turkish Frigate now here who was commissioned to settle the business which your Letter explains — He informs me, that he has received a Note from Mr Higgins Agent of the U. States, specifying in precise terms the conditions on which you could release the Ottoman Vessels that had violated the Blockade of Tripoli, to which he has agreed. I have therefore only to represent the same to the Ottoman Porte, and to offer you my services on any occasion in which I can be useful —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 1, 1805.]

To William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta, from Antonio Reynaud Carcus, Consul to the Emperor of Russia and the Grand Signior (the Sultan of Turkey), Malta

[Translation]

MALTA 19th July 1805

SIR, In compliance with the commands of the Sublime Port under date the 27th April I accept with the consent of the Illustrious Sign^r Saluman Captain Commanding the Corvette of the before mentioned sublime Port the restitution of the two Ottoman Vessels as likewise the neet produce of their Cargoes of Grain once that His Excellency the Commander in Chief of the Squadron of the United States has been pleased to restore the same to the respective Owners & upon which restitution these shall give receipts exonerating as well the Captors as the United States of America from every future responsibility and claim whatsoever.

Signed ANTONIO REYNAUD CARCUS
Ottoman & Russian Consul

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 1, 1805.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, 19 July 1805

The Traveller Mr. Benj. Prince Master & Ranger Mr. John Allen sailed for Malta.

[LC original.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Master Commandant John Shaw, U. S. Navy

U. S. FRIGATE *John Adams*
Malta July 20th 1805

SIR Yesterday the following Men run away from the Cutter on Ship's Duty under the care of Midshipman Keen and have not since made their Appearance on board (Viz) Cha^s Barton (Sea) Nath^l Stone (Sea) and James M^cCann (O sea). —

I think it probable they may have taken refuge on board some of the British Vessels in Port and have ordered an Officer in search of them. —

[LC. JRP, Vol. 1, March 1791–Dec. 1814.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Lieutenant James Lawrence, U. S. Navy

U. S. GUNBOAT No. 6, July 20, [1805]

SIR: I am sorry to be again under the necessity of informing you of the desertion of two of my crew, (a Marine and a boy) last night while the crew were busily employed washing cloathes, they took advantage of the moment and swam from the boat, two of my officers have been in search of them since daylight, they have been heard off, and I make no doubt will be apprehended this evening, since the loss of my other men I have constantly had two sentry on deck, and so good a look out kept that it would have been impossible for them to swim from the vessel at any other time than they did, as I never suffered a man to be on deck after 9 o'clock.

[NDA. A-4.]

To William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta, from Captain John Rodgers,
U. S. Navy

Constitution. MALTA 20th July 1805

SIR Fourteen Tripolines (part of the suit of Hamet Bashaw) I have to send on shore, and request that you will have them subsisted at the expence of one shilling each p^r Day, until a passage can be procured them to some part of Egypt — For their passage you will be pleased to furnish them with such quantity of Provision, as you may conceive necessary, which with the amount of their subsistance during their residence here, you will charge to the Navy Department of the U. States.

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

To William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta, from Captain John Rodgers,
U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Malta 20th July 1805

SIR, In case any public Vessels of ours should arrive here within 20 days after my Departure, you will be pleased to direct their Commanders to proceed to Gibraltar, looking into Tunis and Algiers Bays; at one of which places it is possible they may find me with the Squadron: but should any Vessels arrive after the expiration of the 20 dy^s, you will direct them to remain here until further Orders from me.

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

To Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy, and a copy to each of the commanders
in the squadron, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Malta 20th July 1805

SIR, In case of seperation you are to consider Tunis Bay the Rendezvous. —

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

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

BOSTON *July 20 1805*

SIR I rec^d a letter a few days since from Lt Haraden [dated 27 May 1805] of Gun Boat N^o 8 which I immediately caused to be published, as it gives additional character to that class of vessels.

The Smacks have sailed for the Mediterranean, each one is navigated by a Master, Masters Mate, 3 Seamen, a Cook & Boy. I shall make a return of the stores on board, and transmit it to the Department as soon as I have copied it into my Books.

PS. I shall leave this for Portland tomorrow, where I hope to remain for the summer, excepting an occasional visit to Newbury Port where a bomb & Gun Vessel is building.

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy,
commanding, Saturday, 20 July 1805

[Malta] Joined this ship as Master W^m Knight from the brig *Franklin*. I B. Turner promoted to Acting Lt

[USNA.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Vixen*,
Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 20 July
1805

[Tunis] This morning a boat came off from shore with Consul (Doctor Davis) bro't off some sheep. We received some of them on board the *Vixen*. Blowing a gale of wind.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA[copy].]

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

N^o 34

TUNIS July 21st 1805.—
rec^d Aug^t 3^d 1805

SIR I had the honor to receive on the 11th inst. from Capt: Decatur your polite favor of the 30th of June —

Be pleased to accept my thanks for your attention in forwarding me a transcript of the treaty with Tripoli your injunctions relative to it shall be carefully observed

Altho' the Bey declines, receiving you as one, authorized to transact affairs with him, still it is possible that the arrival of the Squadron may give an entire change to his mode of thinking be that as it may, I most earnestly solicit your presence; as your advice will ever have the greatest weight deciding my public Conduct on every occasion, *but particularly at such a moment.* —

As Captⁿ Decatur leaves this immediately, I have not time to transcribe the letters enclosed to Commodore Rodgers to whom I therefore beg leave to refer you, for the occurrences of the last Eight days. —

[NA. SDA. CD, Algiers. Vol. 7, Part II, Jan. 1806–Sept. 1807.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

N^o 2

TUNIS July 21st 1805.

SIR, I am honored with yours of the 29th ultimo, enclosing a letter for His Excellency the Bey of Tunis, which has been delivered; and for your full information, have the honor to transmit a Copy of my present dispatch to the Hon^{ble} the Secretary of State — This I had hoped to have handed you in person; but as I found there was a possibility of my missing you, my departure has been declined; and the reasons thereof stated to the Bey. —

Your early presence, is *as ever*, anxiously look'd for; Satisfied that it is the only means of bringing the Affairs, under my management, to a final conclusion — to obtain which, & fulfill the expectations of our Government, on the score of retaining the peace, none will so cheerfully co-operate with you, as myself. —

By a recurrence to Commodore Barron's letter, you will find that I was authorized, to give the Bey reason to believe the Vessels might be restored, on his making a proper application to the Commander in Chief; but as I conceived it a point, which would materially influence the final result of our negotiations here, it was thought important, rather to destroy such a hope, *even at the risk of a war*; than by exciting it, to lay the foundation for extravagant pretensions — In the letter you honor'd me with on the 11th ultimo, you only observe, that your conduct, would be agreeable to the assurances Commodore Barron had given me; It was therefore most natural for me to ask an explicit answer, as I shall ever avoid committing myself with my Government, particularly on a point so wholly dependant on yourself. —

I have also the honor to enclose you a Copy of the Bey's letter, to His Excellency the President of the United States; the contents of which, as well as my letter to the Depart^t of State, you will have the goodness to communicate to Col Lear; not having time to make another Copy —

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May – Oct 1805.]

To Midshipman John E. Sherwood, U. S. Navy, U. S. Frigate *Constellation*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

Constitution MALTA 21st July 1805

SIR, You are directed to take charge of the Tunetian Xebecque & her two Prizes sent into this Port by the U States Ship *Constitution*; Midshipman Reed now in charge of them is to join the *Constellation* in your place, you are therefore desired to give him the necessary receipts, after which you will be held responsible for every article belonging to them —

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

To Midshipman Oliver Hazard Perry, U. S. Navy, U. S. Frigate *Constellation*, from
 Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

Constitution. MALTA 21 July [1805]

SIR You are hereby directed to join the U. States Schooner *Nautilus*, as her
 first Lieutenant, & report your self to her commanding Officer Capt. John H. Dent.

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

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent,
 Malta

MALTA 22 July 1805

SIR In Conformity with your orders of yesterdays date I have to inform you
 that thier exists in Store the following Public Provisions. —

| | |
|---|-------|
| 660 Barrels of Beef and Pork | |
| 1000 Bags of Malta Biscuit Containing about 120,000 pounds Weight | |
| 26 Casks & Butts of Bread, old | |
| 3 Tierces Rice | } bad |
| 3 Kegs of Butter | |
| 6 barrels of Beans | |
| 3 barrels of Flour | |

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Vixen*,
 Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 22 July
 1805

[Tunis] Pleasant. Fresh breeze. At 9 o'clock the *Congress* and ourselves got
 underway, stood out of the bay. The *Congress* stood away for Malta. We stood
 off and on all night * * *

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent,
 Malta

MALTA the 23 July 1805

SIR As I expect the difficulty of obtaining money here will every day encrease
 and that I shall not be able to place the bills I now hold unless at other places, I
 beg leave to suggest the necessity, if no war takes place with Tunis, of sending
 one of the smali Vessels upon this Service immediately, the more especially as I
 have been obliged to borrow of all my friends to supply the wants of the Squadron,
 By this plan Government will be a considerable saver, as a better Exchange will be
 obtained without the expence of freight and Insurance which I should pay if the
 Cash was brought by an English Man of War Leghorn would be the best place
 to recur to, the English having no intercourse there and bills would not be so
 abundant as one may expect to find them every where else — I take the liberty
 of earnestly recommending this business to your attention, and if no other Vessel
 could be spared one of the larger Gunboats might answer the purpose —

[LC. JRP, Vol 2, Series Two, May-Oct 1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy,
 commanding, Tuesday, 23 July 1805

[Malta] At 5 [A. M.] weigh,d Made sail and stood out of the harbour All the
 Squadron in company Meridian light airs and pleasant Weather.

[USNA.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAV DEPT. U: S. 25 July 1805.

As the Navy Agent at Syracuse receives no compensation for his trouble in receiving and discharging the Stores and provisions sent to him from the U — States for the use of our Squadron, and as the Articles purchased by him for us are not to a great amount, and as the circumstances attending his agency are somewhat peculiar, I am willing that a Commission of 5 per Cent be allowed to him on all purchases made by him for the use of the Squadron. You will therefore allow him 5 per Cent on the amount of purchases made by him as Navy Agent.

[NDA. LB, 1799-1807.]

To Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, from William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies

SYRACUSE 26th July 1805

DEAR SIR, Captain Decatur arrived here last Evening and leaves this morning, will touch at Malta, but not go on shore, as he apprehends difficulty in landing my Horses. —

I have finally concluded to take passage in a Merchantman which leaves this in six days, and flatter myself with the pleasure of going down the Mediteranian with you. Intend to get into a Yankee at Gibraltar if possible and steer strait home. — You will have no war with Tunis — That Bey finds a better Account in stealing Sheep, than in hunting Tigers. —

[NDA. Isaac Hull LB, 1803-1806.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Vixen*, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 26 July 1805

Light winds. Saw 2 sail ahead. Made sail and came within gun shot. Found them to be a Polacri Brig and gun boat. They immediately on seeing our guns hauled their wind. We fired a shot athwart her bows. She did not regard that. We gave her another between the two. She paid little attention. We gave her a third just under her stern. She immediately kept away for us. We boarded her, also the gun boat. Found them to be Tunisians with passports from Consul Davis. Saw another sail to windward, made sail and stood for her — did not speak her.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

To Lieutenant David Porter, U. S. Navy, from Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy

U. STATES FRIGATE *President*

Bay of Gibtaltar 27th July 1805

MY DEAR SIR We left Malta on the 13th, and have this moment anchored in this Bay. I wrote to you from Malta and have now no news to inform you of. Com. Barron is something better and I hope in a fair way to recover his health.

Your servant has got what I hope his master will steer clear of among the fair sex; however this will not depreciate him, as there is some allowance to be made for a close confinement of 19 months.

I have to accuse you, my friend, for not making me your confident, and telling me whom your fair one was, for then, on my arrival in America I could have visited her and gave you information respecting her tender heart; now I shall have to find her out by magic: but do not be jealous of my intention, * * *

After my arrival in America I shall give you full details of the Navy, and of all other matter (in my power) which may be interesting to you. Let me hear from you as often as opportunities will admit.

Believe me, Dr Porter, to be with sincere regard, and honor, glory, and happiness to attend you,

* * * * *

[NYHS. Naval History[Sec.]

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, 28 July 1805

[Note.—This log is written from the viewpoint of a Sailing Master and contains minute details of the handling of the sails, care of the rigging and all subjects pertaining to the navigation of a sailing vessel.]

This Day at 4 PM the U. S. Brig *Hornet* was Launched from Mr Prices Yard [At Baltimore, Md.], draft of Water forward Seven feet Six inches Aft ten feet 6 inches — Moored the Brig along Side of the Wharf — Officers attached to the Brig as follows — Isaac Chauncey Esqr Commander, James Leonard 1st Lieut Charles F Grandison Master Lawrence Keene Midshipman, Thomas Warrell do, Samuel Renshaw do, Peter Penny do, John Nicholson do, Mr Johnson Boatswain Mr Green Purser —

[NA. NDA. Original, 1805–1810.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *President*, Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 28 July 1805

5½ Saluted Admiral Bickerton with 15 Guns as we passed him which he returned with 13 —

6 Came to anchor in 13 fathoms in the Harbour of Gibraltar —

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

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

Copy

MESSINA 29, July 1805.

SIR On the 15th of this month arrived in this Port the Gunboat N^o 2 which had lost convoy about ten days before and was pick'd up or rather taken in tow by an Imp^l vessel about fifty Leagues East of Malta with two men on board in great distress agreeable to the deposition of Matteo Mievith[?] the Master which was also confirmed by the men found in her The Imp^l vessels last departure being Constantinople subjects the Gun boat according to the regulations of the Health Office here to forty days quarantine consequently I could not go on board or take any Inventory of the vessel. About two days afterwards the men went in a small boat which I had procured them (in order to enable them to get their provisions on board) along side H. B. M. Ship *Euridice* Cap. W Hoste and one of them remained on board whether he offerd his services or was detained or what could induce them to go from their own vessel along side the Frigate which was also in quarantine I know not, but having demanded the men both t[h]rough the means of Mr Bameester the British Consul and direct to Cap Hoste he was refused alledging that he was an Irish man. Two or three days afterwards I was informed that some Greeks also in quarantine had been on board and that they had purchased some thing from the man but of this I have not been able to get any positive proof Not knowing what might happen next if the vessel remained in that state I have come to the resolution to Ship three Sailors here and have given the command of her to Luigi Autore a native of this Place and a Pilot who has often been in the Service of the United States and who I believe has always conducted himself well. I have given him a certificate authenticated by the Governor of this City, and the French & British Consuls, which I hope will be sufficient to protect the vessel as far as Syracuse I have agreed to allow him one Dollar per day, and that the three men shall be paid the same as able seamen in the Service of the U. S. for the 24 of this month to the time that they can be returned to this Place

I have warned Autore not to put any of the Ships in Quarantine by going on board before he gives an account of the circumstance of the vessel having communicated with Several Ships here not admitted to Pratique

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May–Oct. 1805.]

To William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, from William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta

MALTA the 29 July 1805

SIR I have been honored with Your three letters of the 19. 23 & 26 July. to the contents of which I have paid attention The Turks have been put on board

the Tunisian Prizes with some others waiting a passage to Egypt, These the Commodore directed me to allow One Shilling a day to and I have taken upon myself in consequence of your recommendation to extend the same support to those. Your letters for Capt^r Hull arrived too late, but he will no doubt be shortly here when they shall be delivered him, that for Capt^r Decatur is in his possession he left us yesterday Morning for Tunis.

I hand you on the other side a Note of the produce of your Draft which could not be negociated either here or at Naples, the balance in my favor stands charged to your debit in Account. in Doll^r 105½

I shall be exceedingly happy to see you here

[H. E. Huntington L&AG, EA 317.]

To Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS July 29th 1805 MONDAY NIGHT

SIR you will have the goodness to inform me whether you have any communications that require my immediate presence on board, as no change has taken place, since the Frigate *Congress* left this Bay — and I presume will not until the arrival of the Squadron, of which I should be happy to learn something — you know the formalities which must be observed before I can have the pleasure of seeing you in person.

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May-Oct. 1805.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *President*, Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 29 July 1805

[Harbor of Gibraltar] The U S Bomb Ketch, *Vengeance* — Lewis arrived from Boston

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

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Vixen*, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 29 July 1805

Excessive hot and calm. At 3 o'clock chased a ship until we came within gun shot. We fired two guns at her and she hove to, but being so near on shore, we left to steer into Tunis again, which place she had left the same day.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

Constellation, TUNIS BAY.
July 30th 1805

SIR I arrived at the Goleta this morning at day break, and at Merredian received the Enclosed from Mr Davis, which is all the information I have able to collect, Except, that the *Congress* and *Vixen* left his place Eleven days Since — I informed Mr Davis of your coming and requested he would be off in the Morning, he will probably wish a boat to attend him

[LC. JRP, Vol. 1, March 1791-Dec. 1814.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Vixen*, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 30 July 1805

Tunis Bay. This morning at 8 o'clock saw a sail. We gave chase and came up with her at 10 o'clock. We cleared away to quarters but finding she was not a match for us we sent our boat on board and she proved to be a Tunisian, with a passport from the American Consul in Tunis. She mounted 6 guns and 60 men. We let her proceed about her business. At 1 o'clock P. M. we saw a number of sail in the offing, some of them very large, at 4 o'clock spoke the first one which was the *Constitution*, Commodore Ro[d]gers and the squadron consisting of sixteen

sail. We then stood in for Tunis. The fleet now consisted of the *Constitution*, *Constellation*, *Essex*, *John Adams*, Brigs *Syren*, *Vixen*, *Franklin*, Schooners *Nautilus*, *Enterprise*, Sloop *Hornet* and 8 gun boats, making in the whole eighteen sail. Lay to in the Bay all night.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

To Captain Alexander Murray, U. S. Navy, Washington, D. C., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV DEPT. 31 July 1805

As soon as the Frigate *Adams* shall be prepared, you will weigh Anchor & proceed to sea, & use all practicable vigilance to carry into execution the following instructions.

I. The Coast between the river St Mary's & St George's Bank and to the distance of the Gulf Stream you will consider as your cruising range or station.

II. Within the territorial jurisdiction of the United States, i. e. within a marine league of the margin of our Coast, you will protect all vessels whatever, as well foreign as American, against the aggressions of the armed vessels publick or private of any nation whatever; and you will repress all infractions of law which may be therein attempted by any such armed vessels. —

III. Any private armed vessel without a regular Commission that you may find within or beyond our jurisdictional limits cruising to the annoyance of the commerce of the United States, you will bring or send into some port of the United States for examination & trial.

IV. If the Master of any private armed vessel cruising against the commerce of the United States, will not when requested produce to you his Commission, or if when produced there shall, from the Appearance of the Commission itself, or from the Conduct of the Master, be sufficient ground to suspect its genuiness or validity, you will in every such case, bring or send her and her Officers and crew into some port of the U. States for examination and trial. —

V. Every American Vessel taken within our jurisdictional limits, you will retake & release in whatever place you may find her; and every American vessel taken either within or beyond our jurisdiction by a private armed vessel without a regular Commission, you will retake & release.

VI. Whenever you find an American Vessel that has been captured by a private armed vessel, enquire and ascertain whether the captors are taking her to any port in St Domingo not possessed by the French, or to any other place where it is notorious there cannot be a regular trial. Also enquire and ascertain whether the Captors have plundered the Vessel, or have separated the Master from the vessel, or have destroyed or suppressed all or any of the papers of the Vessel. you will in either of these cases release the American Vessel. —

VII. Publick vessels of war of every nation you are to respect, unless you should find them violating our territorial jurisdiction. —

VIII. You are not to extend your protection, unless within the jurisdiction of the United States, to any foreign vessels whatever, nor to any American vessels that may be engaged in a contraband Trade. —

The Brig *Hornet* Captain Chauncey will be put to Sea as soon as she can be prepared. Cap^t Chauncey will be ordered to place himself under your command.

Whatever additional instruction may hereafter be deemed necessary, will be deposited for you with the Navy Agents at New York & Charleston S. C. You will therefore occasionally touch at those ports for such information.

Write to me by every opportunity that may occur. Keep a regular journal of all your proceedings of which you will transmit me a Copy.

[Similar Instructions were sent to Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, 23 September 1805 and Lieutenant James Biddle of Gunboat No. 1, 11 October 1805.

[NDA. LB, 1799-1807.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Vixen*, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 31 July 1805

[Tunis] Pleasant. This day formed a line in two Divisions Capt. Smith had charge of the first and Capt Coxe the second division. Capt. Smith formed on the starboard of the Commodore and Capt. Coxe on the larboard side. The frigates at proper distance formed their line in center. Thus we sailed into the harbor and came to anchor at 2 o'clock P. M. Our line being thus formed stretched athwart

the harbour from one end to the other. The *Nautilus* was sent in to fire a gun and hoist a flag of truce, which she did and lay off and on waiting for the American Consul to come off.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

[About 1 August 1805]

Conversation between the Bey of Tunis and George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires,
Tunis

"Your commodore's letter ought not to be viewed in any other light than a declaration of war; and I certainly should have acted agreeable to such an impression, had not your master assured me that the hasty and rash acts of an individual, which tend to produce such an event, would never be countenanced by him. Ask any of the Christian consuls in this regency if Hamouda Bashaw has ever received such an insult from their governments."

"The President of the United States must know, that my father and grand father have sat on the throne and ruled a kingdom. He shall learn from me that Hamouda is not yet dead, and every crowned head in Europe shall approve the eternal continuance of that war which you seem resolved to force me into — for I solemnly pledge myself, that if war is the result, never, while I have a soldier to fire a gun, will I accord peace. You may form some idea of my character from the difficulty you had to negotiate a peace, because you weakly permitted the Dey of Algiers to interfere. You may also learn my conduct to the Venicians, who rashly forced me into a war; and if I am doomed to engage in another, it shall be continued to the last hour of my existence. I frankly tell you, that the famine in my country has prevented my declaring war against you, in order that I might convince my subjects that their miseries should not be increased, unless I was forced thereto. Without such a motive, you certainly never would have been asked the reason why you captured my vessels; but that just motive to a protraction of our difficulties, must be sacrificed to those considerations which I owe myself and all Europe."

"You are the first power which has ever captured a Tunisian cruiser in full peace, on any pretext whatever. — You are the first that has ever offered unprovoked insults to Hamouda Bashaw, who has ruled a kingdom for twenty-seven years, and been respected by all the world, as a sovereign. If I was tamely to submit to such acts of outrage, what should I expect from nations, far more powerful than yourselves. You have seen what has been accorded me, by Spain, Sweden and Denmark, whose local situation, and maritime force must render them more formidable enemies than the United States. Abstracted from this, the measures you pursue, are such as do not permit me to enter into any negotiation. Your commodores have done me great and repeated injuries, for the last of which my political existence forces me to insist on a proper reparation."

These strong indications of hostility on the part of the Bey of Tunis, determined commodore Rodgers to pay him a visit with all his disposable force, as soon as our affairs with the Bashaw of Tripoli would permit; and immediately after the treaty was concluded, and the necessary measures for complying with the stipulations on our part were taken, he gave orders for all the vessels, not otherwise specially employed, to prepare with all practicable despatch, to proceed with him to the bay of Tunis. The frigate *Congress* and the brig *Vizen*, were immediately sent thither to watch the movements of the Bey; and on the 23d July, the frigates *Constitution*, *Constellation*, *Essex* and *John Adams*, the brig *Siren*, the schooners *Nautilus* and *Enterprize*, the sloop *Hornet*, and a number of gun boats sailed from Malta and arrived in Tunis bay, on the 31st July, and got to anchorage on the 1st August, 1805. The signal for the consul to come on board was immediately hoisted. He appeared on board on the 2d August, and gave a detail of all his conferences with the Bey. A council of war was then called by the commodore, who submitted all the information in his possession. Colonel Lear was present at this council, and it terminated in deciding, that the following letter should be addressed by the commodore to the Bey: [See letter of 2 August 1805]

[U. S. Naval Chronicle.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 1 August 1805

¼ past 1 [P. M.] shortened sail and [came] too with the larb^d bower anchor in 6 fathoms water cape Carthage bearing North distance about 2 miles the Goletta W ½ S. 5 Miles.

soon after all the squadron came to anchor [Tunis Bay] — at sunset sent down top G^t and royal yards.

$\frac{1}{4}$ past 11 [A. M.] the *Congress* came to anchor.

[USNA.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *President*, Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 1 August 1805

[Gibraltar] Pleasant Weather. The U. S. Ketch *Spitfire* arrived.
35 Men Sick

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

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Vixen*, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 1 August 1805

Tunis Harbour. This day blows very fresh. The Consul came off at 10 o'clock. At 12 arrived the U. S. Frigate *Congress*. The consul returned the same evening.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAV DEPT 2^d Aug^t 1805.

I have heard with great concern indeed of your extreme indisposition. It has continued so long that I fear the climate is unfriendly to you, and that you will not recover your health while you remain where are. — Altho under these imperious circumstances, I feel that you cannot obtain your own consent to ask permission to leave your Ship. — difficult indeed must it be for a military gentleman, ambitious of glory, to transfer to another the accomplishment of a projected enterprize which promises a rich harvest of fame. You will not ask permission because you cannot divest yourself of hopes that you will recover your health, and achieve the enterprize in view — & probably because you fear that asking permission might excite impressions unworthy of you. These hopes and these fears are natural to every Gentleman (similarly circumstanced) tenacious of reputation. —

I must prescribe for you, and advise you if you should still continue unwell, either to return to America, or go to some healthful place on the Continent of Europe, in search of Health. Your character cannot suffer by such a measure, although you may lose an opportunity of acquiring additional reputation. Consider this letter, not as conveying an order, but advice and permission to pursue it. —

[NDA. LB, 1799-1807.]

[2 August 1805]

To the Bey of Tunis from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Tunis Bay

To Hamuda Bassa, the Most Illustrious and Most Magnificent Prince, the Bey of Tunis the abode of Happiness —

On my departure from the United States, I was honor'd by the President with a letter for Your Excellency; of which I take the liberty of enclosing you a copy.

I shou'd before this have had the honor of presenting myself to your Excellency, for the purpose of fulfilling the Presidents wishes express'd in his letter, had I not been informed by George Davis Esqr. the Chargé d'Affairs of the U. States at your Court, that your Excellency wou'd not receive me, or any other person but M^r Davis, as authorized to transact any Affairs relating to the U. States in your Regency. —

In consequence of this declaration I shall decline presenting myself to your Excellency, unless your resolution shou'd be revoked; as I cannot appear in any other character than that Assign'd to me by the President of the U. States

I pray your Excellency to accept the Assurances of my high respect & Consideration —

On board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution* Tunis Bay Aug^t 2nd 1805

[NA. SDA. CD, Algiers, Vol. 7, Part II, Jan. 1806-Sept. 1807.]

To George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis, from Captain John Rodgers,
U. S. Navy

(Copy)

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay Aug^t 2, 1805
@ 8 oClock AM.

SIR Yesterday about an hour after you left the *Constitution*, I had the honor of receiving from the hands of Captⁿ Decatur your favor of the 21st Ult^o with a Copy of your statement to the Honbl^e Secretary of State detailing to him your conferences with his Excellency the Bey of Tunis of the 12th—13th—14th & 16th Ultimo on the subject of the Tunetian xebecque & her two prizes, sent into Malta by the U. States Frigate *Constitution*, for a violation of the Blockade of Tripoli—after perusing them with equal attention & concern, as also after the most mature & deliberate reflection, I feel that our situation with this Regency is such as to have authorized and determined me to announce to His Excellency the Bey the resolution contained in the enclosed letter & which I flatter myself you will perceive the propriety of his receiving immediately — I am sensible of the consequences which may ensue to our Country by this determination, but I feel sensible at the same time that its effect cant possibly place us in a worse situation than we now stand; and I have thus acted after I could devise no alternative between it, & Ignominiously making sacrifices which would irretrievably brand our common Country with disgrace and myself with more than equal reproach. If the Bey thinks proper to revoke the declaration he has made you I should yet be happy to see our differences terminated in Peace, yet I will not suffer one hour to pass over the 36th from date of this letter before I will commence offensive and defensive operations against his Regency: without I have the most unequivocal assurances from him that he does not intend War. —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

[Enclosure]

To the Bey of Tunis from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

(Copy)

U. S. SHIP *Constitution* TUNIS BAY
Aug^t 2^d 8 oClock AM. 1805

To the Most Illustrious & most magnificent
PRINCE THE BEY OF TUNIS,
the abode of happiness. —

SIR, It is with equal pain and astonishment that I was yesterday made acquainted by George Davis Esqr Charge des Affaires to your Court; with your declarations, wherein you informed him that my appearance here with the Squadron under my command, would not only be blocking up every avenue to a reconciliation but would determine an immediate declaration of War on your part — If this be the case, those explanations which brought me here, and which I had hoped would reestablish a good understanding between your Excellency and the Government of my Country, are unnecessary, as it now only rests for me in justification of my conduct, to request that your Excellency will have the goodness to inform me whether there has been any mistake in the application of your assertions tending to a declaration of War with the U. States, as your Excellency will without doubt see the propriety as also the necessity on my part of commencing both defensive and offensive operations against your regency in the course of 36 hours, should I not hear from you on this important & equally (to me) painful subject.

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

To John Beekman, Navy Agent, New York, N. Y., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV DEPT Aug^t 2^d 1805

We want for the Brig *Hornet* one large Cutter, with a well in her Centre 28 feet long 7½ feet Broad and 3½ feet deep — Mr Walter Michel having been in the habit of building Boats of this Description, and being recommended by Cap^t Chauncey your employing him to make this Cutter will be agreeable to me. We also want a small cutter of the same Dimensions as the one Built by Mr George Buckmaster for the *John Adams*, excepting as to length, to which 2 feet must be added — It will be agreeable to me that Mr Buckmaster should Build this small cutter —

You will have both of these Cutters Built as early as may be practicable — Cap^t Chauncey will call for them and you will at the same time deliver to him the new 14 inch cable landed by him from the *John Adams* if it should still be in your Possession —

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 8, 1805-1807.]

[2 August 1805]

To Secretary of the Navy from Reeves Spalding

SIR I take the liberty to inform you that on the 12th of July last I at Public Sale purchased the Brig *Transfer* (late *Scourge*) and her Spars and two pieces of old Cables and two old Anchors one of them unfit for use. I gave the sum of five Hundred and Ninety Six dollars. her Guns was also sold to another person for one hundred and fifty doll^s But her Sails, Riggin Blocks and Sundry other Articles are taken from her and put into the Naval Stores at Gosport. they are too much wore and too old to go on board any Ship of War and if they was not it would Cost half their Value to have them Alter'd for any other Vessel. their being fitted for my Vessel makes me wish to purchase them at a fair valuation, for if they Remain six months in Store they will not sell for half so much as they now will. * * *

George Town Aug^t 2. 1805 —

[NDA. Misc. LB, Vol. 4, 1805.]

To George Harrison, Navy Agent, Philadelphia, Pa., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV DEP^t 2^d Aug^t 1805

I have this day received from Cap^t Bainbridge a letter enclosing a Statement of that part of the Crew of the late frigate *Philadelphia* which have turned Turks and also of those that have died which you will find in the following list Viz

| | | |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Thomas Prince | Ordy Seaman | } Turned Turk, 5. |
| John Wilson | Quarter master | |
| Peter West | Carp ^t Crew | |
| Thomas Smith 1 st , | Seaman | |
| Louis Hickson | Landsman | |
| John Mc ^o Donald 1 st , | Seaman | } Dead, 5. |
| John Morrison | Seaman | |
| Edw ^d Gorman | Ord ^y Seaman | |
| John Hilliard | Ord ^y Seaman | |
| Ja ^s Anderson 1 st , | Ordinary Seaman | |
| Jacob Dowerdisher | Seaman | |

10.

All payments upon Powers of attorney granted by these men must cease and Govern yourself accordingly.

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 8, 1805-1807.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *President*, Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 2 August 1805

[Gibraltar] 1/2 past 9. A M Weighed and stood out of the Bay.
Ships draught of Water aft 21 F. 6 in. forward 21 feet —
34 Men Sick —

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

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

(Copy)

TUNIS August 3^d 1805
Saturday Morning 5 oClock

SIR, The Letter which you honored me with, yesterday enclosing a Communication for His Excellency the Bey of Tunis was not received until one oClock P. M.; it will be delivered at ten this morning — no public affairs are trans-

acted after one o'clock, until which time I shall certainly engross all of his attention; and as you have written in English, a translation cannot be made until Sunday morning; so that it is impossible to receive an answer, within the prescribed time, and probably not sooner than Monday or Tuesday —

As you have informed me, as well as His Excellency the Bey, that you will commence *Offensive & defensive operations* in 36 hours from the date of your letter if an answer is not received; I send you this express merely to learn whether you mean to give a *sufficient time* for the Bey to answer you, & solicit you to send the bearer as speedily as possible with your reply, which I expect will find me at the palace. —

From the conversation which took place when I had the honor of seeing you on board the Frigate, I could not have expected such a communication — It either plunges us instantly into a War, or removes all hopes of accommodation for some time. —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 1, 1805.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, from George Davis
U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS August 3^d 1805

Saturday Afternoon 2, O'clock

(Copy)

SIR, I had the honor to address you this morning relative to the expected answer from His Excellency the Bey of Tunis, and stated to you the impossibility of receiving it in the limited time — Was at the Palace early this morning & had a long conversation with the Sapatapa; at 10 the usual hour of the Beys leaving the Hall of Justice, to give audience to foreign Consuls, I was admitted; and informed his Excellency that I had a Letter from the Commodore, which was handed him — he replied, that he did not read English, & as none of his Christian Secretaries understood the language, beg'd I would communicate its contents, which was done —

(Bey) "The Commodore stipulates 36 hours for my answer; if he will have it in the Turkish or Moorish languages, it shall be given immediately; but there is no Christian Clerk at this time to write him — I however will give you my answer *by word of mouth*, & beg you to communicate it." —

"My conduct shall be guided wholly by the letter and Spirit of the Treaty; and I have already taken the measures which it points out, to wit, a proper Representation to the President of the United States for redress of grievances; until an answer is received from *him* I shall strictly maintain the Peace which exists between us; but if your Commodore attacks or detains any of my Vessels, Cruisers, or Merchantment, or fires a single Gun with a hostile intention, that instant your flag shall be hauled down; I will hold no converse with him, either relative to peace, or War, change of Treaties, or any other public concern; excepting on the subject of the Captured Vessels — *no hostile act shall be commenced by me*: his Boats may pass freely and without any kind of interruption — It therefore rests with him to respect the Treaty made by his Master or not — for altho' I am resolved not to provoke a commencement of hostilities; still I shall not shrink from it, when properly invited — I made the Treaty with the President of the United States, and not with the Commodore." —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

To George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis, from Captain John Rodgers,
U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*

Tunis Bay August 3^d 1805

SIR I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of this date, and to inform you that after perusing and duly considering its contents, I immediately made the Signal for the commanders of the respective Vessels under my Command to repair on board the *Constitution*, where a Counsel of War was held: the decision of which, has determined me to extend the time for receiving the Beys final answer to my Letter to him of yesterday, until Noon of the ensuing Tuesday corresponding with 12 O'clock of the 6th day of the present Month. — I am very much astonished to find that you were not acquainted with my determination previous to your leaving the *Constitution*. —

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

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

TANGIER 3^d August 1805

DEAR SIR I received on the 23^d last month your favours of the 26th April and and 22^d May — to the former I will not trouble you with any reply on Service — to the latter I will only beg to say that none of your Friends more sincerely regretted the cause of your seeing a necessity to yield up the Command than I did, — it is with equal satisfaction I now learn that you continue to get better. — You have my best wishes that the Air of your native clime, may perfect your recovery. —

I can scarce snatch a moment to say the disappointment I have met, in not obtaining the supplies for you I much wished, by no means proceeds from any particular regulation respecting the Ships of War of The United States, but that of a general. —

M^r Simpson joins me in every good wish and I beg you will be assured I am with every sentiment of respect and esteem

[Mrs. James S. Barron Col.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *President*, Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 3 August 1805

½ Past 2. Came to Anchor in the bay of Algeiras. with the Larboard Anchor in 24 Fathoms Water —

½ Past 4 A M Weghed and sailed a Portuguese Sixty four under way at the same time —

Noon. Europa point bore E B N. ½ N. and Ceuta S E B S.

Latitude Observed 36° N.

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

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Vixen*, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 3 August 1805

This day a Marine was flogged through the fleet. 18 of the *Philadelphia's* crew went on board the *Syren*.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

(Copy) N^o 5.

TUNIS Aug^t 4th 1805.

SIR, The letter which I shall have the honor to deliver you in person, contains the verbal answer of His Excellency the Bey of Tunis, as literally as can be translated — I have to solicit you to give me in writing your resolutions thereon, before I again leave the *Constitution*; for if the Bey's answer as detailed by me, should not prove satisfactory, I see no means on our present plan of reducing things to a happy accomodation. —

As I free myself from all responsibility; so I would not wish to obtrude an opinion; but an imperious sense of duty to my Country, & myself as its Representative supported by the Instructions of the Honorable the Secretary of State to the Consul General Lear, relative to the termination of our affairs with this Regency, urges me to recommend a suspension of any hostile operations, untill advice can be received from His Excellency the President of the U. States. — No material injury will arise from the delay — our situation will not be rendered worse; & that of the Enemies will not certainly be bettered —

If you should think proper to hold a Council of War on this subject, may I solicit the honor of being present. —

After apologizing for these remarks, I again beg leave to assure you, of the high respect, with which I have the honor to be,

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 1, 1805.]

To George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis, from Captain John Rodgers,
U. S. Navy

(Copy)

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay August 4th 1805

SIR, I have recieved your two Letters of this Instant detailing to me the Beys Verbal answer to my Letter of the 2nd Instant, & giving your reasons why he has not answered me officially. —

You Sir, no doubt will agree with me in the necessity of my recieving from him *in form* an answer to so important a question, and to establish which it is at least necessary that the British & french Consuls should be present to witness the Guarantee which he gives me for a continuance of Peace — Unless he does this you are authorized and directed by me to assure him that I will most certainly dispose the Squadron under my command in a manner not only to guard against his Cruizers now at Sea doing our Commerce injury, but also prevent them from going out of his Ports until I can hear from my Government on the subject of their intentions touching the same —

P. S. I have named the British and French Consuls as the most proper Persons to be present to witness the Guarantee given you by the Bey for the maintainance of Peace; the British Consuls presence is indispensibly necessary, but should any circumstance that may arrise in your mind, induce the French Consul to decline giving his presence, I leave it to your discretion to name some other Consul in his stead. —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 4 August 1805

[Tunis Bay] At 9 [A. M.] Mr Davis consul came off] from Tunis. two tunician Soldiers swam on board from Tunis

[USNA.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *President*, Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 4 August 1805

½ past one as we were passing the Town of Tarifa on the Spanish Side with our colours hoisted the batteries and Gunboats commenced firing upon us, and threw about 20 Shot over us but without damage In return for this insult we hoisted the Spanish colours under ours & stood on our course without paying any further attention to them —

4 hove too in the harbor of Tangier and sent a boat on shore.

7. The boat returned, bore up, and made sail to the westward —

8 Cape Spartel bore South 5 Miles distant, from which I take my departure it lying in Lat. 35.48 N. and Longitude 5° 48' West.

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

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Vixen*, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 4 August 1805

Tunis Harbor. At 9 o'clock got underway and formed upon the right of the fleet. At 2 o'clock got underway and stood for Jack Island where we lay to all night in company with the *Nautilus*.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

To Midshipman Charles Robinson, U. S. Navy, U. S. Frigate *Constellation*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay Aug^t 5. 1805

SIR You are hereby directed to take charge of the U. S. Brig *Franklin* (Transport) and give Lt George W. Reed the necessary receipts. —

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

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPT 5 Aug^t 1805

After peace with Tripoli shall have been effected you will consider yourself authorized to have any of the vessels of the squadron, that may not otherwise be in a condition to return in safety to the United States, repaired. You will also consider yourself authorized to send home immediately such Vessels as from existing circumstances in relation to the Barbary Powers may in your judgment securely be spared, & in case the Gun Boats can at such season go to New Orleans you will order them with one of the Brigs or Schooners under the Command of a Master Commandant of distinguished merit to that place for orders.

[NDA. L.B, 1799-1807.]

[5 August 1805]

To the Bey of Tunis from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, on board
U. S. Frigate *Constitution*

(Copy)

To His Excellency HAMUDA BASSA *the Most Illustrious & Most Magnificent Prince, the Bey of Tunis, the Abode of Happiness.* —

I had the honor of addressing your Excellency two days past, & of enclosing the Copy of a letter which I bear from the President of the U. States to your Excellency, & which I have been charged to deliver with my own hand, and to make certain communications on behalf of the President to Your Excellency. —

As George Davis Esqr. our chargé d'Affairs at your Court has informed me, that on delivering & explaining said letter to your Excellency, that you refus'd to receive me as a person authorized to transact any business of my Nation with you; I find myself unable to execute the duty Assign'd me, by the President of the U. States, & which might tend to restore that harmony and good understanding, which it is desirable should exist between our Countries, and shall feel it incumbent upon me to place any evil which may result from your Excellency's refusal to communicate with me, to its proper source

U. S. F. *Constitution* Aug^t 5 1805

[NA. SDA. CD, Algiers, Vol. 7, Part II, Jan. 1806-Sept. 1807.]

[5 August 1805]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from the Bey of Tunis

[Translation]

The BASHAW BAY OF TUNIS, *the City well guarded, the Residence of Felicity* —

To Mr Tobias Lear Consul General of the U States of America, attach'd to the Regency of Algiers, and at present on board the Frigate *Constitution*, in the Roads of Golletta —

Your genteel letter of the 2^d of this Month, I received the day before yesterday, the contents of which gives me a pleasure, untill now unknown to me, that is to say the power, & Character given to you by the President, to have care of different important affairs in the Mediterranean, of which the Copy of your credentials proves to me — Not having been before informed of this your incumbance, & knowing myself, by the Grace of God, independent Lord and Sovereign of my Country, was the reason I told your Messenger I would not treat with a Consul attached to another Prince, when their existed a direct Treaty between your Government & me, & a person here that represented Your Nation, and if it was the pleasure of the President to employ another, such Commission might have been sent to the Commodore Commanding in these Seas, or send me direct a person capable of explaining and terminating every thing —

As thereby the tenor & Spirit of the Presidents letter to you, you are appointed as such to all the Powers, whose Coasts are Wet by the Mediterranean, and as I am one of those powers, I make not the least difficulty to the Contrary. I would find the greatest pleasure in conversing with you, & find means as I hope to destroy all differences and displeasures between us, assuring that you will be received by me, with all that politeness you merit, & the friendship I profess for your President for whom I have the greatest esteem —

Not knowing if the Italian language is familar to you, I beg conduct with you a person, who understands it, that I may not be under an obligation of employing a

Minister or strange Interpreter, which might be displeasing or suspicious to you —
I remain anxious to make your personal acquaintance, in the mean time I wish you all happiness

(Sign'd) HAMUDA BASSA, Bey —

DAL BARDO di TUNIS 5th Aug^t 1805 *In the Evening*

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

To George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis, from Captain John Rodgers,
U. S. Navy

(Copy)

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay August 5th 1805

SIR, Since the Letter I wrote you yesterday I am induced after more mature reflections; in order to prevent farther prevarication, and in order that I may not be again misunderstood on any one point tending to terminate the Business which brought me here; permit me to observe to you that the Guarantee given by the Bey must be in the following form and that no longer than until the ensuing Thursday at Noon will be given him to decide, and if he does not intend War to give from under his hand, the result of his determinations, To Wit, —

WHEREAS the Commander in chief of the Squadron of the U. States of America, now laying in Tunis Bay, has been induced to believe that it was my determination to declare War against the said U. States, in consequence of one of my cruizers and her two prizes having been detained by the aforesaid Squadron in their attempting to enter Tripoli during the late Blockade of that place; or from some other cause, I do hereby solemnly declare that it is not my Intention, and that I will not commence hostilities or declare War against the said U. States so long as the Treaty existing between myself and the said United States shall be faithfully adhered to by them, and not until I shall have made an application to the Government of the U. States for redress of any injuries which I may receive or have received from the said United States and have been refused such redress. —

Captain Stephen Decatur of the U. States Navy who will hand you this is directed by me as my representative to be present at the audience which the Bey gives you for the purpose, adduced in this Letter.—

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

[5 August 1805]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from the Bey of Tunis

The BASHAW OF TUNIS, *the City well guarded the residence of Felicity* —

To Commodore JOHN RODGERS *Commander in chief of the U. States Naval forces in the Mediterranean, actually on board the Ship Constitution, anchored in the roads of Galetta.*

SIR, In answer to your Letter dated 2^d August which I received the day before yesterday, I declare it was never my intention to refuse seeing, or treating with you, any time you presented yourself in a friendly manner, that is with only a part of your Squadron, as I have always had the pleasure of seeing done, by Commanders sent by other powers my friends, but it is certain that I have positively declared to the person charged with the affaires of your Government residing here, that I did not know how to tolerate your presenting yourself, in a hostile and powerful manner, as you now have done with all the force under your Command, when there was no reason for so doing, except that of a friendly Treaty to be decided on, for it is by explanations & clearness of different points that the consolation of good harmony which happily subsists between your Government & me, are to exist & more and more augment; this for my part I have always maintained & will maintain according to the tenor of the stipulated & solemn Ratification of our Treaty. —

But as I am now informed that Consul Gen^l Lear is invested with the power to make with me a final Treaty, in consequence of which, I invite him to come in Person in the character which is conferred on him by the President, that he may explain to me the desires of the same —

With pleasure I declare if you find it proper to accompany him, you will be very welcome, and would give me a particular pleasure. —

In the mean time I have the pleasure of wishing you all happiness.

(Sign'd) HAMUD BASSA, *Bey*

The Court of Tunis

In the evening 5th Aug^t 1805

Translated from the Italian

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

To President Thomas Jefferson from Hamet Caramanli

SYRACUSE, August 5, 1805.

EXCELLENCE: For nearly eleven years, I have been laboring under the weight of misfortune; but, notwithstanding which, my distress was never equal to that which the actual combination of circumstances has made it.

My residence was near Cairo, when there arrived in Alexandria a brig commanded by Captain Hull, in company with General Eaton, who came recommended to Mr. Briggs, His Britannic Majesty's consul, and inquired of him where I could be found. My place of abode being made known, a courier was despatched for Cairo, by order of the general, and on his arrival at Razid, a second one, which came to Cairo, directed to the house of Tursuf Bashaw, an officer of the Ottoman Porte, who received a letter in which he was requested to suffer me to pass without interruption, in order that I might co-operate with the Americans to take Tripoli. These things being communicated to me, caused me to reflect seriously, whether they could be true or not. All doubts were dissipated by General Eaton meeting in Cairo my secretary, named Mahumed Mezaluna, to whom he consigned another paper, and, in company with two Maltese, arrived at Said, my place of residence, and delivered to me a despatch, urging me to leave that place immediately, in order that we might have a meeting (as really happened) in the city of Damintur, where the general was made known to me as one who had been sent thither by your excellency for the conquest of the Kingdom of Tripoli. I engaged to go with him to Syracuse, and also to keep myself secret, from which circumstance I was necessarily compelled to abandon all I possessed, and thus lose my horses, camels, &c. Previous to my leaving Damintur, General Eaton assured me the peace would never be made, unless I was placed in my *own seat* (throne) and often swore by himself, that he would never take me from where I was for the sole purpose of making the conquest.

I did not, however, fail to suggest to the general, that in case Jussuf Bashaw should actually remain conqueror, what part he would take in my favor, as I should not be able to remain any longer in the Turkish dominions. I was answered that if the combinations of war should prove favorable to Jussuf Bashaw, a pension would be granted me, sufficient to maintain my family and suite; the people and money demanded by me, to effect this object, (for such a movement,) were ready; and that I had better expedite my secretary to Captain Hull, to inform him, that the general had come to conduct me from Upper Egypt to Syracuse, but that I could not trust myself at sea in the manner he had. My envoy having executed his commission, arrived first in Syracuse, and afterwards in Malta, in consequence of the absence of Captain Hull from the first, (place,) and whom he afterwards found in the second place, (Malta,) and executed his embassy: he was answered by the same (Hull) that every thing I could possibly want was ready, and in fact, there was sent me a vessel, laden with supplies and provisions, accompanied by the brig commanded by Captain Hull, which arrived at Bomba, delivering to the general and myself a despatch (to him directed) from the commodore, in which he renders Hull responsible for every thing I might want; I then asked for cannon, powder, and other warlike supplies, and was answered that a frigate was hourly expected, and that they would be sent to me. I afterwards left Bomba, in company with General Eaton, and we pursued our route towards Derne, arriving near it in twelve hours. Such a voyage made me extremely happy, as well as all my people, while the manner in which we were treated by the general excited universal admiration; his dignified soul (conduct) merits applause. We were scarcely on the twelfth hour of our voyage, when we saw a schooner, which brought us two pieces of cannon, and nothing more. After an attack of two hours, in which all the troops applaud and admire the courage of General Eaton, Derne was taken, (as the people of that country were much in our favor,) and in which attack the general was wounded in the hand.

After the capture of the city, we received from the chiefs of the brigands, letters offering to join us. After ten days a troop of cavalry and infantry (of the enemy) advanced; they were twice broken and put to flight by us. We now asked from the schooner, which had been sent us, people and arms, while there remained a respite and peace, and were waiting an answer respecting our demand for people and arms, in order that we might go and take Bergaza and Tripoli; in the mean time arrived a frigate which we supposed had brought us people, but she landed a Turkish ambassador from Jussuf Bashaw, who informed the general of the alliance of Jussuf Bashaw with your excellency; saying that the said Bashaw would restore my family, and that your excellency would give me, in the name of the United States, a pension. The same evening of the arrival of the frigate, the general informed me, that I must embark with with all my people; and thus was again compelled to abandon all I possessed — the general having prevented the Turkish ambassador from landing, and thus we parted for Syracuse, where we found the whole squadron.

I daily expected my family, when finally I was told that he (the Bashaw) would not let them go: having thus broken his word, I demanded of the general to be replaced in my own country, which was also denied me, saying that he had no orders to that effect from your excellency, and it is thus I find myself in this country, with the small pension of two hundred dollars per month, and on which sum I am to support myself with a number of people. Such a state of things makes me feel that the weight of misfortune has only increased, and for the first time, am completely abandoned, and by a great nation; I therefore fling myself on the mercy of your excellency, who, under the influence of just laws, will not fail to render me that justice which oppression and misfortune entitle me to.

With the hope of an early reply from your excellency, I remain, &c &c.

ACHMET BASHAW, son of Ali Bashaw, &c.

[Am. State Papers, For. Rel., Vol. II, 1797-1807.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Stephen Decatur, Sr.

PHILADELPHIA August 5th 1805.

SIR With the liveliest feelings of sensibility I acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 13th ult^o accompanied by a box containing a sword for my son, voted to him by Congress and agreeably to your request shall hand over to him the letter and the Box with its contents when I shall have the pleasure of seeing him.—

Please accept my unfeigned thanks for the congratulations you so kindly offer on this occasion and believe me to be with the greatest sincerity

[NDA. Misc. LB, Vol. 5, 1808.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 5 August 1805

[Tunis Bay] At 2 [P. M.] Consul Davis left the Ship for Tunis.
Capt Decatur went on shore at Tunis

[USNA.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Vixen*, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 5 August 1805

[Tunis] We near the Islands. Capt. Coxe and Capt. Dent went on shore. When they returned we made sail and stood in. We came to anchor at 7 o'clock P. M.

[6 August] Got underway at 10 o'clock P. M.

L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

[7 August 1805]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from the Bey of Tunis

The BASHAW BEY OF TUNIS *the City Well guarded the residence of the Felicity*

TO MR TOBIAS LEAR *Consul General of the U States of America, attached to the Regency of Algiers, and at present on board the Frigate Constitution in the roads of Goletta.*

SIR, At this moment I received your second letter, of the day before Yesterday which was sent to me by a Captain of a Frigate of Your Nation, who said he had

commission to speak with me, by orders of Your Commodore, but I did not see him.

Hearing now that the above mention'd Captain in company with the messenger, George Davis has departed this morning to go onboard, I send you direct, by the hands of Davis my answer, & I include you a Copy of what I wrote to you the day before yesterday, repeating again as you are authorized by the President, I am entirely disposed to hear from You an explanation of Your Wishes, and in consequence expect you with pleasure, & repeat I wish to speak with you.

Be so good make my compliments to Commodore Rodgers & inform him that I also wrote to him the day before yesterday, & have no doubt but that the Messenger has consign'd to him my Answer.

I salute you and wish you all good

(Sign'd) HAMUDA BASSA — Bey —

DAL BARDO DI TUNIS

7th Aug^t 1805. 9 o'Clock A.M.

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

To Captain William Hannover, American ship *Raleigh*, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPT. 7 August 1805. —

CAPT As soon as you are ready for sea you will weigh anchor and proceed to Algiers without unnecessarily touching at any other place. On your arrival at Algiers you will wait on Consul Lear to whose order, you are to deliver the public property committed to your care. On your delivering it, you will take a receipt therefor, stating that it has been received in good order.

I enclose passports for the President of the United States, and from the British & French Ministers. —

Mr Wingate will give you directions respecting the payment of freight.

I have only to add that it is expected you will sail as quickly as possible and proceed on your voyage with all practicable expedition.

[NDA. Barbary Powers LB, 1803-1808.]

[7 August 1805]

Notice issued by Sailing Master Benjamin C. Prince, U. S. Navy

August 7 Long 48.30 W Lat 43.54 N

U States Sloop *Traveller* Benj C. Prince

all well out 16 Day expearence very bad Weather lost sight of the Sloop *Ranger* Lat^d 43.54 North Long^d 55.35 West left the Grand Bank 4 A. M. morning. Wind continually from the Eastward.

BENJ C. PRINCE

Commander of U States Sloop *Traveller*

to be put in the paper in the First Port. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 15, June-Aug. 1805.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Vixen*, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 7 August 1805

[Tunis] We were near the westernmost Island. A number of officers went on shore and shot several seals and fowls and then set the Island on fire and came off. We then stood in and came to anchor at 3 o'clock P. M. Fitz H. Babbit went on board the Frigate *Essex*.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

[8 August 1805]

To the Bey of Tunis from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Tunis Bay

(Copy)

To His Excellency HAMUDA BASSA, the Most Illustrious and Most Magnificent Prince, the Bey of Tunis, the Abode of Happiness. —

I had the honor last evening to receive your Excellency's letters of the 5th & 7th of the present month in answer to mine of the 2^d and 5th of the same.

In consequence on the information which I received, both before and since my arrival in this Bay, that your Excellency wou'd not receive me, or have any communication with me on the Affairs of My Nation, I have not had it in my power, to say or do any thing, which might have had a tendency to restore harmony and a good understanding between our Nations. — And the repeated threats of your Excellency to make war upon the U. States, has obliged the Commander of the American Squadron in this Sea, to place himself in a situation to guard against that evil as much as possible. — In this state of things, it becomes necessary for him to be assured, in the most unequivocal manner, that these threats of your Excellency will not be carried into effect, while the Treaty between our Nations remains unbroken on our part, and not untill you may have been refused redress for any injuries, in the way pointed out in this Instrument. —

I am apprehensive that your Excellency has been impress'd with a belief that the Commodore came with his Squadron to this Bay, with a view to provoke or commence hostilities against your Regency. This I can assure you was very far from being the case. He had no other view than to see all little matters of difference, which then existed amicably adjusted, and he cou'd not conceive, that the appearance of his Squadron, which was passing down this Sea, cou'd be construed into an act of hostility. Your Excellency may then judge of his surprize, when he found our Country threatend with immediate war, for an Act which could in no wise be considered as hostile; and it at once became his duty to take such Measures as wou'd avert from or lessen the evil to his Country; and to persist in those Measures, until he should have such unequivocal evidence of the relinquishment of hostile intentions on the part of your Excellency as wou'd fully justify to his Government & to the World, his withdrawing his forces

This Assurance he has requested, & still requests our charge d'affairs to obtain from your Excellency in a Manner stated to him, and until it is accorded in due form, we must consider every avenue closed which wou'd admit of a fair & friendly discussion of any points of difference between our Nations — And I cannot possibly have the honor of presenting myself before your Excellency, while we are without any security for the Continuance of Peace from day to day. —

The Interest, the Policy, & the Principles of the Government of the U. States of America, lead us to wish to be at peace will all Nations; and knowing that the only certain mode of securing that blessing, as far as it is practicable, is to maintain & secure our own National rights, & repel in a proper manner, any insult, or indignity offer'd to our Nation; While we at the same time, respect the rights of other Nations and inviolably adhere to the letter & Spirit of our Treaties, & to all public engagements, — We shall always be extremely cautious of giving just cause of complaint against us, or when an injury may have been done, to grant immediate redress for the same. When the application is made in the form prescribed in Treaties; or in such a way as is usual between Nations in a State of Amity. — I am fully persuaded that your Excellency, desirous of preserving the peace now existing between our Nations, will not hesitate to give the evidence requested of your pacific intentions, without which it is impossible to enter into a discussion on any points, to restore and strengthen that friendship which we so earnestly wish may continue to bind us to each other. —

ONBOARD THE U. STATES F^t *Constitution*
Tunis Bay Aug^t 8th 1805

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. 7, Part II, Jan. 1806–Sept. 1807.]

To George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis, from Captain John Rodgers,
U. S. Navy

(Copy)

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
TUNIS BAY August 8th 1805

SIR, As I have not recieved that satisfaction from His Excellency the Bey of Tunis which the nature of our affairs required, I now am induced to desire that in case he does not give you the Guarantee by Tomorrow at Noon which you have been directed to demand, that you inform that, no farther advances will be made by me, and that in consequence of his refusal you are directed to repair on board the Squadron tomorrow by 4 O'Clock P. M. —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

To Lieutenant Joshua Blake, U. S. Navy, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay Aug^t 8th 1805

SIR You are hereby arrested by me for quarreling with Capt^r Thomas Robinson, commander of the U. States Schooner *Enterprize*, on the quarter Deck of this Ship on the Night of the 6th Instant.

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

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 8 August 1805

[Tunis Bay] Cap^t Decator returned from Tunis accompanied by Doct^r Davis At 8 [A. M.] sent up top G^t Yards At 10 Consul Davis left the Ship for Tunis

[USNA.]

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

To the Honorable Secretary of the Navy
of the United States

AT SEA. MEDITERRANEAN
August 9th 1805

SIR I have now the honor herewith to forward copies of the Correspondences promised in my letter of 6th ultimo. a View of the Transactions and the circumstances in which these correspondences Originated give rise to some Remarks and observations which I shall submit with candor and Frankness.

When it was Determined by Commodore Barron to co-operate with Hamet Bashaw though the Commodore then expressed his Doubts Concerning an implied Discretion in your instructions for Applications of supplies to this object an Idea was suggested of Making this co-operation an instrument only to the attainment of Peace with the Reigning Bashaw of Tripoli Nothing was then talked of but Chastisement the examples of Commodore Preble then recent and conspicuous inspired the Relieving Squadron with an ambition and a confidence equalled only By their patriotism, insomuch that it seemed to be Regretted the space of a Winter must intervene before they could be Brought to the theatre of action Peace was avowedly an object secondary to national honor and individual applause Of course every Measure was adopted and every mean embrace^d which seemed to favor those primary objects and the Earliest Occasion of the ensuing season was to give an Imposing lesson to the furtive Pride of Barbary —

With these impressions Commodore Preble returned home under Engagements with his successor to give his influence with the Government for hastening forward such additional aids as the Expedition would require and with the same impressions I was sent to Egypt, with entire discretion of using means to Bring Hamet Bashaw on the Rear of the enemy Commodore Preble executed his commission with the exactness and dispatch which mark his character and I have the consciousness of not having been indolent in my endeavours to acquit myself of the trust confided to Me, both from one Quarter — and the other measures succeeded beyond the calculation of the most sanguine expectation and never did a season For decisive operations open with more flattering prospects of Success than this in which it has been determined that a flag of truce instead of our squadron should be Displayed to the enemys view the Result is well Known but it is so foreign to what we calculated Here and to what it is believed was expected by the Government and People of the United States that apologies are sought to parry the censure and do away the Disappointment to which this Result cannot but give Birth. Among [these subterfuges I am charged of having gone] too far of having exceeded the intentions of Government and of having shaped to myself projects the end of which could not be foreseen if finding out the object of my research and moving understandingly with him against the enemy be to exceed the intentions of Government I may have gone to far admitting this I Have not penetration enough to comprehend how it could Have obstructed offensive operators in other Quarters as As to projects none were new shaped on my part after I left head Quarters but at what period the project took Shape of resting the whole expectations of our country on the Instrumentality of the hapless Hamet Bashaw for the attainment of Peace I know not presume however it was not till Commodore Barron [d]espairs of recovering his health in season for activity and not until a man who had no authorized agency in the war had intruded himself in To his confidence and gained

an ascendancy over his resolutions the line of conduct pursued at head Quarters and the communications from that Quarter to the coast establish the fact that such a project had Superceded our Original plans and the event proves it to have been Carried into effect in the Commodores letter to Hamet Bashaw Dated Malta 21st March he expresses him Self with great satisfaction I have received from Mr Eaton the Intelligence of your Junction with him and of the Measures you had adopted to commence your March Towards derne no sooner did I receive this intelligence than I Made every exertion to collect the Succours requierd in your Letter Here is not only an explicit and clear Sanction to all we had done but also an unequivocal as Rance [assurance] of Dispositions Made on the part of the Commodore to Furnish the Succours requierd by Hamet Bashaws letter for prosecuting a plan of co-operation but these Succours were what the Bashaw had always Requierd if therefore I should from any inducement have carried a different language to him How Justly might he have suspected me of a disposition to raise impediments to his progress and more especially as the whole tenor of the Commodores letter goes to encourage his expectations if the Commodore Requires me To Become the interpreter of this letter how Inconsistent nay how treacherous would he make himself And me appear By Translating also anothe[r] from his own hand clearly expressing his real intentions to be only to lead the Bashaw forward as an instrument I could not but hope that Returning Strength or some candid adviser would restore the Commodore to Resolutions more worthy of his own and the Dignity of his country on the Day next Succeeding the Date of this letter from the Same place the Commodore writes me I cannot but applaud the energy and perseverance that has Characterized your progress thro a series of Perplexing and Discouraging difficulties to the attainment of the object of your Research and attainment which I am disposed to Consider as a fair presage to Future Success. Success in what the co-operation in what Manner this is Explained by the Commodores Reiterated Resolution to withhold his sanction from any Specific or Definite engagement with Hamet Bashaw and by his unqualified confession of our views in favoring the cause of the exiled Prince as an instrument only to the attainment of an object that this object is a Separate Peace with his rival and that this object obtained we would withdraw from him our Succour Struck himself with the Discouraging and dishonorab^{le} Conditions here imposed of what he calls a co-operation he adds by way of Injunction you will not however conclude that these Considerations important and Necessary as they are ought to induce us at once to abandon the benefits which the Measures you have adopted Seem to promise — Benefits were already Anticipated from the Measures we had thus far pursued and the plain Construction of this and the following periods of the same letter enjoins it on me to persevere in those measures and by way of Encouragement the Commodore pledges himself to give us the most active and Vigorous Support from his squadron So Soon as the Season and arrangements would permit him to appear in force before the enemys Walls — and in Case of our Successful Progress to give the Bashaw Evey Support by a systematic union of operations, so as to enable him to come on the Rear of the enemy, * * *

We did persevere and our Success considering the obstacles we had to encounter and the Means afforded to overcome them exceeded our Calculations what then became of the Most active and Vigorous Support of the Squadron and Systematic union of operations the instant the Effect of our Successes Discovered itself through the alarmed Solitude of the enemy a messenger of Peace is sent to Meet the overtures of the Panic Struck Joseph Bashaw and to bid him be under no apprehensions while our To Credulous ally is sacrificed to a Policy at the Recollection of which honor Recoils and humanity Bleeds I am Says the Commodore unwell to write with my own Hand it was Needless for him to add this it was easily perceivable by the Drift and Composition of the communication, there is no Feature of Barrons manly soul to be traced In it. it is the Work of a Machiavelian Commissioner into whose influence the Commodore had yielded his Mind through the infirmity of Bodily Weakness it is a well Known fact that at this period he had been Nearly six Months unable to remain on Shipboard and so Debilitated by a Painful and wasting Illness that he scarcely retained the remembrance of Occurrences from day to day this Commissioner in order to take advantage of that Circumstance, [affected to be averse to peace, and an advocate] for exemplary Measures the Sequel will show a Specimen of his Sincerity it is only proper to observe here that tho the instructions of the Secretary of the Navy left an entire discretion in the Commodore Concerning the cooperation in View Mr Lear Confirmed him in his Doubts that the Discretion to act and to apply the Means of acting were distinct and that the Sum appropriated to this object was limited to \$20,000. Evidence Nevertheless that Government had calculated upon it on the 23rd March, the Commodore in his instructions to Captain Hull

states as you will perceive by my letter To Mr Eaton I have left the application of these Succours and Consequently the Responsibility wholly to him Which I conceive proper as well on account of his having the Chief Direction of the Land operations as that by the time You arrive on the coast he will have it in his power to form a Just Estimate of the chances of success and thence How far it is safe and expedient to pursue the object.

I revert to this Clause in the Commodore's instruction to Captin Hull to corroborate what My former Communications Stated that an understanding Subsisted Between the Commander in chief and myself that I Should go forward And exercise Discretionary Measures for bringing Hamet Bashaw forward with all his Influence in order To Intercept Supplies to the Enemy from the country and to cut off] his escape in the rear — Mr Lear has misrepresented this fact at Malta and elsewhere Though the communications which came from the Commodore by Captain Hull, and which were delivered me at Bomba were extremely discouraging, I could find nothing in them which would justify an abandonment on my part of the expedition thus far conducted, But after we had gained possession of Derne and still more so after having beaten the enemy's army in that province and opened our way to the gates of Tripoli I could not but hope the commodore would take confidence from these successful and be animated to push his operations by a systematic union. What then ought to have been my astonishment to receive, on the first of June his letter of 19th May containing the following periods.

"If the Bashaw, after having been put in possession of Derne, his former government and the district [district] in which his interest is said to be most powerful, has not in himself energy or talent and [is] so destitute of means and resources as not to be able to move on with successful progress seconded by our naval force acting on the coast he must be held unworthy of further support, and the co-operation as a measure too expensive and too little pregnant with hope and advantage to justify its further prosecution.

In Short, Sir, the matter reduces itself to this. We are ready and willing to support the Bashaw, by an union of operations on the coast so long as the war with Tripoli continues, but his exelency must be explicitly informed that our supplies of money, arms, and provisions are at an end, and that he must now depend on his own recourses and exertions.

In consequence of recent advices from Tripoli, I have thought it my duty to state to the consul General Col. Lear (now at this Place) my candid opinion that the present is a moment highly favourable to treat of peace and a communication has just been handed me from that gentleman expressing his determination to meet the overtures of the reigning Bashaw so far as to [found] on it the commencement of a negotiation and to proceed to Tripoli in the *Essex* frigate in the course of the week. From a variety concurring circumstances the present period appears propitious to such a step."

This Letter labors ingeniously to find some pretext for deserting Hamet Bashaw, at the very moment we profit of his operations and his influence to secure peace to ourselves. — But the ingenuity of the design is not sufficient to disguise the hypocrisy of the design. We are still to amuse the exile with an idea of co-operation and union of operation on the coast at the very moment that a pending negotiation necessarily suspends all hostile operations on the part of our Commander in Chief. But this was a moment highly favorable to treat of peace. What rendered it so? at the period this candid opinion is expressed by the Commodore he had not seen Tripoli during the last eight months nor ever within gun shot, some of his frigates had not ever been nearer it than Malta; seldom if ever more than two of them cruising off] the port and generally not but one; his squadron had never been display'd to the enemys view; nor a shot exchanged with the batteries of Tripoli since commodore Preble left the coast except *en passant*: and what is a truth equally demonstrable, no visible preparation were making at head quarters for the investment the ensuing summer which could give the enemy any uneasiness. The commodore I am sensible was too much and invalid to take an active part in the expedition. But was he so destitute of energy of mind as to be incapable of directing its operations, and had he no commander in the fleet to whom he could confide the conduct of an expedition under his own direction. If destitute of these capacities himself his counsellors possessed them and it would have cost them no more exercise of mind to encourage than to derange Plans. But the theatre of the war was transferred to the eastern provinces. Why not then support us there with the means of subsistance and detachments of Marines? All that was now necessary was to support us and show himself. The idea of this step surpassing his authority is ridiculous and could not have originated with him. What! A commander in chief without authority to make discretional dispositions of his

forces and the means of subsisting them? It is objected that the services of the officers were all to be called for on board their respective ships as soon as offensive measures were entered upon. In a bombardment or a cruise marines are of little more use in a man of war than cavalry or Pioneers, and while the vessels are laying in port they are used only as badges of Rank and machines of ceremony. Why not send them where they could be useful at least till offensive measures were entered upon. Gentlemen of that Corps I am well assured actuated like their brethren of the navy by a manly zeal to distinguish themselves, were ready to volunteer in the expedition — and it did not require a greater latitude of discretion to indulge them the permission to fight at Derne than to furlough them on parties of pleasure at Catania — and they must have subsisted cheaper on the coast than at any port in Italy. But we were compelled to sacrifice forty five days at that post fixed, within an hours march of the main force of the army without the power of attacking them with any reasonable prospect of success: and only for the want of 200 Bayonets! Would such a detachment have defeated the great operations carrying on by the squadron. When peace was finally resolved upon what were the provisions made for the brave men who have fought our battles in an enemys country, and who had contributed in rendering this moment propitious to such an event — Supplies indeed are sent out for the Christians under my command but the alternative left me to perish with the mahometans under my command or desert them to their fate and abandon my post like a coward!

This is the first instance I ever heard of a religious test being required to entitle a soldier to his rations; and the only on[*e*] of an ally being devoted to destruction with so little necessity and with so much cool Blood. Is all this to be ascribed to the debilitated state of the comodores system; I am perswaded it is. And for this reason I cannot but feel the persons near him who dictated his measures as well as his stile (he says in his letter also he cannot write himself) are deeply reprehensible for adopting pacific measures so prematurely, under circumstances so favorable to coercion and on conditions so dissonant to the general tone of our Government and Country. — They ought ought at least to have suspended those measures until advises which would naturally be expected after the return and representations of comodore Preble from the head of the Department. The season for naval operations had hardly opened and the delay of two or three months could work no probable disadvantages in our affairs even should no advise have come forward. But as provisions were made at home had the subject been considered with due influence over measures, we might with great certainty have calculated on taking possession of Tripoli and of the enemys person. — Indeed I do firmly believe we might have done it with the means we did originally possess had those means been properly directed into action, and this without any considerable sacrifice on our part — Some lives might and probably would have been lost: but when a man accepts a Sword and bears on his shoulders badges of the confidence of his country he ought no longer to calculate on or dying on a feather bed. After our commissioner had arrived at Tripoli and had opened communication with Joseph Bashaw the command of the squadron being trasfered to Captain Rodgers, some disagreement occured which Broke off the intercourse. At this crisis Captain Dent arrived off Tripoli, being dispatched by the late comodore with information to the acting comodore of the reinforcement of Gunboats and bombketches having arrived in the mediteranean from the United States: and with my letter of 15th May stating our success against the enemy's army in the eastern Province. Captain Dent was also authorized to assure the comodore of my determination to hold our possession at Derne until some thing definite should be decided in our affairs. Here then was a fair apportunity for the acting comodore Rodgers to have distinguished himself; to have set an example to all tributary nations, by chastising the temerity of a Barbary pirate; and to have rendered a most important Service to his country. Why he did not profit of the occasion can only be accounted for by presuming that he was discouraged by the commissioner of Peace and by him Led under the impression that it became his duty to govern himself by the posthumous opinions of his predecessor. Knowing, as every one does the patriotism personal energy and laudable ambition of Captain Rogers it would be difficult to conceive any other reason for his not siezing so great an occasion to have done a singular honour to his flag and to have immortalized himself. I am indeed at a loss for reasons why Mr Lear abandoned these high grounds after having affected so much engagedness for for exemplary measures. But the negotiation was resumed and peace purchased! and on 6th June this commissioner states to me official information of the transaction. The Bashaw's demands "says" he were 200,000 Dollars for peace and ransom &c — which terms were at once rejected in toto — and after some discussion "he adds" I proposed that a mutual

exchange of prisoners should take place and as he had a balance of more than 200 in his power I would give him 60,000 Dollars for them; but not a cent for peace &*

On these terms [peace] was definitely concluded. But this statement adopted on its literal sence is an imposition on the understanding of the public. It is true indeed that a balance of Prisoners was in Joseph Bashaw's power But we had in our power being actualy in our possession the capital of the largest province in his Dominions containing between 12 & 15000 Souls. Could not this have been exchanged for 200 Prisoners of war Was the attempt made. It was manifest the enemy despaired of obtaining it by Force of arms, and so far from not giving a cent for peace as asserted by the commisioner — We gave a kingdom for peace. Tripoli was in our power and with no verry extrordinary effort it might have been also in our hands. The enemy felt a conviction of this and did not hesitate to acknowledge it in the presence of commisioner, and the latter has since expressed to me his own belief in the feasibility of the enterprize, but he advances as argument for concluding the peace in the manner he did and with such prospects before us that we wished to make peace with a man who would have the ability to keep it. If parricide fatracide treason perfidy to treaty already experienced and systametic piracy characteristic guarantise of good faith Mr Lear has chosen the fittest of the two brothers for his man of confidence: Their ability to keep the peace is less essential than ours to keep it, undoubtedly nothing but terror would bind either of them nor any other Barbary chief to a faith[ful] observance of treaty stipulation. Our negociation ougt however to have considered that Hammet Bashaw's was the popular cause and that this cause is fast gaining ground in Barbary — It was the cause of Liberty of freedom. He ought to have considered, that to cede the advantageous Position we held could not but make the desire of peace appear like too much of an object with us and could not But leave an impresion of weakness or want of spirit on our characters. It would be hard to suspect our commisioner of intentional fraud on the United States in his generosity with Joseph Bashaw but it is harder to reconcile his needless concessions and prodigalities to the test of patriotism. Although Mr Lear would never admit that our operations in the eastern provinces had any influence on the disposition of the enemy and although he made it a condition upon his entering upon a Negociation that the comodore should take measures to compel the evacuation of Derne yet in a paroxism of candor he expresses himself thus in his letter above quoted I found that the heroic bravery of our few countrymen at Derne and the Idea that we had a large forse and immense Supplies at that place had made a deep impresion on the Bashaw I kept up that idea and endeavoured from thence to make some arangements favourable to his brother who although not found to be the man whom many had supposed, was yet entitled to some consideration from us. But I found this was impractible and if persisted in would drive him to Measures which might prove fatal to our country men in his power. The reasons here assigned for the deep impresion made on the Bashaw are not strictly true. It was impossible for us toly to prevent communication between the camp and the town. Is it probable that a garrison of one hundred christians on the coast left totally destitute of supplies could of itself impress such deep apprehensions? For shame let us not admit this so much the more humiliating our conditions of peace is. No it was the dread of the revolution moved by Hamet Bashaw being brought to his capital through our assistance that made the impresion on the enemy. But the apprehension insinuated by Mr Lear that endeavouring to profit of this circumstance in favour of the legitimate prince might prove fatal to our country men in his power betray ignorance puslanimity or design. Or if menances were used to impress such an apprehesion it can hardly be admitted as suficient reason for bartering the honour of our country and deserting the interest of an ally For if he had not already been made aquainted with the rhodomantade of Joseph Bashaw's character a common observance of the operations of human nature might have taught him that man seldom meditaes vengeance when dissolution glares him in the face, nor violates the rights of nature and the laws of nations when certain destruction awaits him In this case however the experiment had been fairly tried, and this Bravado's resolution put to the test by Comodore Preble. That Bashaw threatened him and swore by the solemnity of his religion to put every on[e] of our country men to death who were in tripoli if the comodore fired a shot into his batteries. Did he put the threat into execution, On the contrary when ever that determined officer approached his walls after the first

attack the terrible bashaw's first care was to provide for his own safety and he uniformly took refuge in his gardens or in his Bomb-proof and all experience has taught us that the more roughly he was handled and the nearer danger approached him the more tractable he has been rendered but if the idea of our large force and immense supplies at Derne or more honestly our transactions [with his] Brother made a deep impresion on the Bashaw as it manifestly did was this the first instance of the commisioner being apprized of it? If so he had neglected his duty for it was notorious to every other american Officer in the mediteranean and he ought to have known it and to have mad[e] an honourable use of it instead of which he proceeds. —

"I therefore engaged of course that on the conclusion of peace (for which he gave not a cent) we should withdraw all our forces from Derne and other Parts of his dominions and the Bashaw engages that if his brother withdraws himself quietly from his dominions his wife and family should be restored to him. He goes further. He realy not only negotiates Hamet Bashaw out of his own teritories but pledges the faith of the United States to carry the stipulation into execution and at the same time secretly convenes with Joseph Bashaw that the fulfillment of his engagement in this article shall never be made a subject matter of consideration. Was Mr Lear sent out to co-operate with Joseph Bashaw? Or is this a crisis in the circumstances of the United States which renders darkness and duplicity necessary to our political safety or existence? Is it possible that any thing can render it so in favour of a piratical chieftain of a barbary garrison whom one frigate and a few tenders had so often drove from his strong holds If so it ought to appear to justify our conduct to the world. Our Commissioner closes his communication to me. I pray you will accept yourself and present to Mr O'Bannon and our brave countrymen with you my sincere congratulations on an event which your and their heroic bravery has tended to render so honourable to our country. After having subscribed to a treaty the conditions of which under the then existing circumstances reflects a wound on our national dignity and after having siezed an occasion to use me as an instrument to the attainment of this aquisition as he seems to think it he evidently flatters himself he shall absord my Just sence of indignation & Chagrin in a plausible paragraph of fulsome adulation. Whatever may be considered by capasities capable of judging correctly the merit or Demerit of my conduct, I beg you will entertain a more favorable [opinion] of my pride than to suppose I ever lived a moment when I should have thought it an honour to receive a military compliment from the provisional colonel Lear.

A colonel * * *

Who never set a squadron in the field
Nor the division of a battle Knows
More than a spinster —

Of one thing I am confident — If there be any honour or advantage in the peace, a share of the merit cannot be refused to those whose exertions influenced the event — If it has been too precipitately concluded and all the advantages, not secured which sitation aforded it was not my fault. — It was my invariable opinion and I invariably endeavoured to impress it both by argument & effort that the measure ought to be delayed untill all our means of chastisement were brought to bear on the enemy But the instrument the most imposing that which the enemy greatly dreaded and on which our country had fixed its chief hope and reposed its honour never appeared in the field and our Squadron and our commissioner negotiated out of our hands a Post in the enemy's dominions next in population and consequence to his capital Without any equivalent whatever. Thus tho it was our business and tho we had most amply the means to dismantle the enemy instead of this we have established him in a more safe situation to do us and mankind mischief than he posed before the war or than he could have posed without the war, for by expeling the rival we have relieved his most dangerous adversary He has gained a kingdom what have we gained by the war. However the Peace may be received by the government and people of the United States here are circumstances in which both our interest and honour are so deeply involved that the[y] cannot but induce an inquiry

P. S. List of the Naval force which might have been employed before Tripoli by the middle of July actually at the rendezvous at Syracuse the 4th & 11th

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|----|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Frigates | 1 | <i>President</i> | 44 | Gun boats & Ketches the U. States | } deduct 7 not arived | 1 | Not Sailed | | |
| | 2 | <i>Constitution</i> | 44 | | | 2 | | | |
| | 3 | <i>Congress</i> | 36 | | | 3 | | | |
| | 4 | <i>Constelation</i> | 36 | | | 4 | | | |
| 5 | <i>Essex</i> | 32 | 5 | | | | | | |
| 6 | <i>John Adams</i> | 32 | 6 | | | | | | |
| Brigs | 1 | <i>Argus</i> | 18 | | | 8 | | 8 | |
| | 2 | <i>Syren</i> | 18 | | | 9 | | 9 | |
| | 3 | <i>Vixen</i> | 14 | | | | | | |
| | 4 | <i>Franklin</i> | 8 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | Gunboats from Tripoli | | |
| Schooners | | | | | | 1 | | | |
| | | | | | | 2 | | | |
| | 1 | <i>Enterprize</i> | 14 | | | | | | |
| | 2 | <i>Nautiliss</i> | 14 | | | | Gun Boats from the Adratic | | |
| Sloop | | | | | | 1 | | | |
| | | | | | | 2 | | | |
| | 1 | <i>Hornet</i> | 8 | | | 3 | | | |
| | | | | | | 4 | | | |
| | | | 318 | | | 5 | | | |
| | | | 33 | | | 6 | | | |
| | | | 351 | | | 33 | | | |
| | | | | | | | carrying in all Guns & Mortars | | |

[Stephen Decatur Col.]

[9 August 1805]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, Hampton, Va., from Charles W. Goldsborough, Chief Clerk, Navy Department

SIR, Agreeably to your request I delivered to Genl Eaton, the note addressed to him by you, relatively to his communication to the Secretary of the Navy of the 9th August 1805 — I also delivered to him the newspaper, (in which you had first read that communication) with marks designating the parts upon which you required an explanation from Genl Eaton — These papers were delivered to Genl Eaton, on the day prior to that, on which he had, previously to receiving them, determined to leave Wash^a, & to the day on which he did leave Wash^a.

At the time that I delivered these papers to Genl Eaton, I remarked to him, that as no definitive measures could be immediately taken by you, an *immediate* answer was not essentially necessary. — I stated to him however, that it would be agreeable to you, to receive his communications as early as might suit his convenience, as your mind must necessarily be kept in a state of unpleasant suspense until you did receive them.

The result of Genl Eaton's observations to me, was — an expression of his hopes that he should be able to give to you satisfactory explanations — he warmly expressed his esteem for you — he concluded his observations with saying that if his explanations should not be deemed satisfactory, he should be at the city of Washington before you would have it in your power to take any decisive course upon the subject, & would then give such further satisfaction as circumstances might require —

WASH^a May 26th 1806

[9 August 1805]

To William Eaton from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

21 April 1806

SIR, In your letter to the Secretary of the Navy of the 9th Aug^t 1805, you have made some remarks which cannot pass unnoticed as it seems to reflect on a Character which hitherto the Breath of Slander has never dared to Sully

I have requested Mr Goldsborough to ask of you, an explanation, on certain Points in the letter above alluded to

I should have addressed you sooner but had hopes, that the Decision of the Committee of the lower house, who are in possession of Documents, which that of the Senate did not possess, would have enabled me to act at once decisively, but it appears that want of time has stopped the Progress of further proceedings during the present Session —

[9 August 1805]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from William Eaton

WASHINGTON CITY Feb. 14. 1807

SIR, No unprejudiced inference from my letter to the Hon. Secretary of the Navy of Aug. 9th 1805 can impute to *your dispositions* the regrets so universally felt on account of our squadron in the Mediterranean, that year, not having been brought to bear on the enemy previously to offering terms of peace. On the contrary, it cannot but plainly appear that this misfortune, so far as implicates your conduct, has been ascribed, and justly, to a general debility of your system over which you could have no control; an Act of God in which you certainly had no volition — I disavow any intention in that letter to derogate from your reputation, or to outrage your feelings — The bad management, which no sophistry can veil, and the reproach due to the inglorious manner of finishing the war with Tripoli, I meant should fix on our commissioner of peace — I then believed, and still believe him the author and the Agent of our national disgrace on that coast. Such is the opinion reported by a Committee of the Senate; who have *all* document before them. Such is the opinion impressed on the public mind — It is the opinion which ought to obtain —

Of the sincerity of these declarations you have evidence in a paragraph of that letter, as follows — “I am” says the Commodore “too unwell to write with my own hand.” *It was needless for him to add this: it was easily perceived by the drift and composition of the communication; there is no feature of Barron’s manly soul to be traced in it. It is the work of a Machiavelion commissioner into whose influence the Commodore yielded his mind through the infirmity of bodily weakness — &c.*

Lear was instructed to offer no money as a condition of peace or ransom, except adversity should render the campaign abortive — It is presumed he never stated to you this article of his instructions — We had experienced no adversity; except the long, painful, and wasting sickness which incapacitated you to act — This we considered as a misfortune. But yet we believed there were commanders near you who would have done honor to the flag of our Country in leading an expedition under your orders; though you remained at the rendezvous —

The grounds we held over the enemy, at the time of the negotiation, was such as we would have chosen — For though it cannot be said, in regard to the squadron, that the campaign had moved; yet the enemy acknowledged himself conquered — The commissioner knew it; and has confessed it to me — But if the enemy had not acknowledged it, the humblest capacity, calculating on ordinary events, cannot but perceive that the means we possessed, if brought into united action, must have crushed him.

I feel myself warranted in charging to Col^o Lear the intrigue and duplicity of prevailing on you first to make arrangements to abandon our conquests at Derne, then to resign your command, with a view of rifling from you the honor of an agency in the peace — Well has he signalized himself as a man of diplomatic skill by offering sixty thousand dollars for a peace at a moment when the enemy would have gladly yielded half his kingdom to have been left in peaceable possession of the other half — It may not be uncharitable to suspect him willing to snatch a laurel from my brow as well as yours — and to gratify a cowardly jealousy at the expense of his country; for in his communications to the Department of State he explicitly says — “I have always been opposed to the Egyptian and Derne expedition —” His pretence of the danger of our prisoners is a deception — Captain Rodgers says in his report to the Secretary of the Navy — “I never thought myself, that the lives of the American prisoners were in danger.” For these things I have denounced Lear —

On reviewing my letter, above alluded to, I am not convinced of any errors which require correction or modification — Were the movements of our campaign in the Mediterranean of 1805 retraced I believe facts would come to the support of my statements — But it must be a forced and a misconstruction of my meaning to make any part of it carry a censure of your fair intentions —

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

[9 August 1805]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from the Bey of Tunis

The BASHAW BEY OF TUNIS, *the City well guarded the Residence of Felicity*
To Mr TOBIAS LEAR Consul General of the U States of America attach'd to the
Regency of Algiers, actually onboard the Frigate Constitution, anchor'd in the
roads of Goletta.

SIR, Reflecting on the different conferences which I have had for some time, with the Charge of Affairs of Your Nation & in particular within those few days, I think there is a misunderstanding between us; Reflecting likewise on the numerous writings which pass'd between you, your Commodore & me, that you are the sole Person at this moment invested with the character & power of the President of your Government to treat with me on affairs relative to your Nation, I don't hesitate a moment to reply anew, to your complaisant letter of yesterday received this morning, leaving at the same time to your penetration and to that of the Commodore's, who I distinctly reverence, to reflect & to decide on those applications, from which spring so many contrasts [Note: Here follows a lengthy recapitulation of diplomatic correspondence.]

More again to convince you of my peaceable intentions & good friendship and also the esteem I have for the President, whatever may be your intentions, or that of the Commodores, no more to treat with me untill new orders are receiv'd, after what has happen'd, I propose to you to send a person of distinction of my Regency to your Government to explain & accomodate all, which will accelerate the final depending between us. If the Commodore will receive him on board his, or any other vessel of the Squadron, on his advisal he shall be immediately sent, but if not I will dispatch him in a Vessel charter'd by myself for that purpose.

Again I am

(Sign'd) HAMUDA BASSA, *Bey.*
(L. S.)

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Vixen*.
Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 9 August
1805

The *Nautilus* got underway this morning and stood out of the harbour [Tunis]. She came in and came to anchor at 4 o'clock P. M. The commodore made a signal and she immediately got underway and stood out again. Blowing a gale of wind all day.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

[10 August 1805]

To the Bey of Tunis from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, on board
U. S. Frigate Constitution

(Copy)

To His Excellency HAMUDA BASSA, *the most Illustrious & most magnificent Prince,*
the Bey of Tunis, the Abode of Happiness

I had flatter'd myself that I shou'd have had the honor of hearing from Your Excellency, in answer to my letter of the 8th of this month, which was deliver'd to Mr Davis, our Chargé d'Affairs the same day; who came on board this Ship Yesterday by order of the Commodore, without any letter from your Excellency, or the formal assurance for a maintenance of the Peace which I had hoped your Excellency wou'd have thought proper to have sent, and which might have enabled me to present myself before Your Excellency, and I trust to have arranged the differences between our Nations, to our Mutual satisfaction and interest

As this is not the case, and your Excellency may conceive that all communication is cut off, since the departure of our Chargé d'Affairs from your Regency, I have the honor to assure you, that there will be on our part, the same security for any persons who may come on board our Vessels as has been heretofore, until we may be in a declared state of hostility, which God forbid; and your Excellency may be assured that any communications from yourself will meet the most respectful at-

tention. I pray your Excellency to accept the homage of my high respect and consideration

ON BOARD THE U S F^t *Constitution*
August 10th 1805 —

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. 7, Part II, Jan. 1806–Sept. 1807.]

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

TUNIS Monday Even^g Aug^t 10, 1805

DEAR SIR The Bey has appointed 8 O'Clock to morrow morning to see me at Bardo, and as I may be gone thither (before the boat comes up) I write a few lines this evening for her to take to you, but of course can say nothing yet, on the main point — I asked the Minister to day, at the Goletta, if it would be expected, that I should be attended by some Officers in my Audience with the Bey — He said that would be as I pleased — But that when a person came to the Bey on business, it was most customary for them to come without any Suit, which would be expected on a visit of Ceremony — I therefore did not request that any one might come — All the Consuls, excepting the Danish & Spanish (who are in the Country) have been to see me, and express no doubt but every thing will be done, as we wish; This we shall see to morrow I presume, —

In the meantime I will only say good night, and that I am, very Respectfully and truly Yours —

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 10 August 1805

[Tunis Bay] At 4 [P. M.] Consul Davis came on board With his Baggage
Meridian fresh breezes and clear weather
Consul Davis went on board the *Constellation* With his baggage

[USNA.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Vixen*,
Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 10 August 1805

[Tunis] Gale of wind. The Commodore made a signal to us to get underway, which we did at 9 o'clock A. M. and stood off to windward. Saw the *Nautilus* and spoke her at 5 o'clock P. M. Saw also the *Enterprise* coming out.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

[11 August 1805]

To the Bey of Tunis from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, on board
U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Tunis Bay

To His Excellency HAMUDA BASSA, the most Illustrious, and most magnificent
Prince, the Bey of Tunis, the Abode of Happiness —

The length of time necessary for making a full and correct translation of the letter with which your Excellency honor'd me yesterday, dated the 9th of the present Month, will, I hope, account for its not having been sooner acknowledged. —

I have attentively considered the contents of the last, as well as the former of your Excellencies letters, and as they contain such assurances of your friendly disposition towards the U. States, & expressions of a determination to continue that friendship, on your part, according to the Treaty now existing between our Nations; I shall not hesitate to present Myself before your Excellency tomorrow, in order to have a full & clear explanation of all differences which have arisen, & to confirm that harmony & good understanding which it is so desirable shou'd always prevail between your Excellency & the Government of my Country. —

Shou'd our conference terminate, as I trust it will, in restoring that confidence in the continuance of Peace between our Nations which shall be fully satisfactory, the guarantee which has been required by the Commodore for securing this important point, will no longer become necessary.

As I am not sufficiently conversant in the Italian language, to make my communications to your Excellency perfectly understood, I shall take the liberty of carrying with me a Gentleman for that Purpose. —

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. 7, Part II, Jan. 1806–Sept. 1807.]

[11 August 1805]

To Hamuda, Bey of Tunis from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

(Copy)

To His Excellency HAMUDA BASSA, *the Most Illustrious and Most Magnificent Prince, the Bey of Tunis the abode of Happiness.* —

As your Letter of the 9th of the present Month to Tobias Lear Esq^r Consul General for Algiers, contained some items addressed to me; I in consequence again do myself the honor of writing to assure you that it is even yet my sincere wish to see a Peace between you and the U. States founded on the most secure basis, and different from what present appearances indicate —

It having been reported to me that your Excellency had threat'ned my Country with immediate War in case of my appearing in this Bay with the Squadron under my command — that neither myself, nor Consul Gen^l Lear (*in the capacity assigned him by his Government*) would be received by you, without my having previously made concessions, by restoring the Xebecque and her two prizes which I had captured for attempting to violate the Blockade of Tripoli — that you had summoned the Spanish & Dutch Consuls to witness a protest against me for detaining said cruizer & her two prizes. These with many other circumstances of similar magnitude wherain the honor & interest of my Country are deeply concerned have alone produced the measures I have taken by requiring of your Excellency a Guarantee for the maintainance of Peace, witnessed by the English & French Consuls, and this measure I feel satisfied your Excellency cannot complain of when you revert to your having summoned the Spanish & Dutch Consuls to witness a protest against me, for the detaining of said Corsair & her two prizes — I require nothing but what is fair and equally honorable to yourself & my Country, and from this position, sooner than retract in the smallest degree, I would without any other compensation than that of having the pleasure of defending the honor of my Country, cheerfully sacrifice every private consideration — As I have never had the smallest intention of acting towards you in any other shape than as I wished you to do towards my Country, & feeling convinced that I have executed this intention, I now inform you that no farther advances can be made by me until you either give me the Guarantee already required, or propose some other Terms of securing a Peace which I may have reason to consider an equivalent to the Guarantee. —

It appears that your Excellency's greatest cause of complaint is my coming into your Bay with all my Squadron; even admit this measure to be sufficient grounds for offence; you will perceive (it is likely [in] less than 48 hours) that you have been deceived in the information you have received respecting our Force, by the arrival of two Bomb Brigs and one Sloop of War, which I momentarily expect here to receive orders for their future destination, and even this does not compose our whole force in the Mediterranean by one 44 Gun Frigate & eight formidable Gun Boats —

The Minister your Excellency proposed sending to the U. States I can undertake to say will be received by the Government with all the respect due to his character and I doubt not but that it will have the most happy effect for both Nations. —

In order that no part of my language may be considered vague, or admit of more than one construction, permit me to acquaint your Excellency that in case the result of Consul Gen^l Lear's presenting himself at your Court proves satisfactory on behalf of the U. States, that I shall consider it a sufficient equivalent for the Guarantee which I have already requested

TUNIS BAY Aug^t 11th 1805

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Surgeon James Dodge, U. S. Navy

MED DEP^t 11th August 1805

U STATES SHIP *Constitution*.

SIR, Permit me to congratulate you once more, on that *extra* state of health, which the crew of the *Constitution* continue in the possession of — You will

doubtless from your own feelings on the subject appreciate mine: Yet I assure you Sir, my greatest satisfaction, has its origin in a secondary cause; for I believe sincerely, (and I am happy in being authorized to express the sentiment) that the unexampled health of the Crew, is principally, and I might say almost *altogether* owing, to that strict attention to *cleanliness*, which is prescribed by Your *internal regulations*, and that particular care and punctuality with which the orders are carried into effect by the Officers in their respective departments. — Indeed I do not hesitate to say that the effect of such *attentions* has been, to deprive *Surgery* of his *Knife* and render the aid of *Medicine* almost superfluous. — No complaint of a serious nature exists on board: in particular, I cannot trace any symptom of small pox, by which we have been so lately and justly alarmed.

following, is an abstract from the daily report book, which will at one view give you the exact number of those more immediately under my care, their complaints &c

| | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Rheumatism..... | 1. |
| Pneumonia..... | 1. |
| Sore leg..... | 2. |
| Intermitt. Fever..... | 4. |
| Ophthalmia..... | 1. |
| Cramp..... | 1. |
| syphilis..... | 4. |
| Pain in breast..... | 2. |
| Bilious Fever..... | 1. |
| Debility..... | 1. |
| Boils..... | 1. |
| Diarrhea..... | 1. |
| Total | 20. |

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May–Oct. 1805.]

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

TUNIS August 12th 1805 Noon

DEAR SIR On reaching the Goletta I found the Minister with whom I took a cup of Coffee &c — He had not yet been inform'd by the Bey of my intention to come on shore, but sent off immediately to inform him of it — I also sent the Drogerman from this place for the same purpose — At the Goletta there appeared much pleasure when it was known that I was to see the Bey — At this place every thing appears quite silent — We saw but very few People from the landing place to the House &c—

I shall not now detain the Boat to inform you of the time the Bey appoints to see me, but if you will have the goodness to send her up here, early tomorrow morning — I can tell you more, and will have provided some things to send off by her —

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Lieutenant James S. Higinbothom, U. S. Navy

SYRACUSE August 12th 1805 —

SIR I should have wrote you before this respecting the arrival of Gun Boat N^o 2. which was last at sea on the 7th of July when under the Convoy of the United States Schooner *Enterprize* had I not been informed by Mr Bird Clerk to Mr Dyson that he Mr D. had inclosed a Letter a copy of the one I received from our agent at Missina respecting the arrival of Gun Boat N^o 2 in that port in great distress being taken up by an Emperial vessel from Constantonople sixty miles to the eastward of Malta, she arrived in this port the 2nd of August from Missina without provisions or water, supplied them with every thing which was wanting not being able myself to go on board as she was in Quarantine and had been so from her first arrival at Missina on the 7th of August having obtained pratique for her, went on board & took her in the Arsenal having strip'd her of every movable article on board and Lodge them in the magazine of George Dyson Esq^r Navy Agent, taking his receipts for the same, the four men shipped by Mr Brodbent Navy

Agent at Missina I have discharged Lewis Autory Pilot of the Schooner *Enterprise* had charge of said Gun Boat and being allow'd one Dollar Pt Day & the other three Men the pay of Able Seaman it was the opinion of Mr Dyson as well as myself that they should be discharged from the Service of the United States as they could be of no service to me but an Expence to Government, it appears from what Lewis Autory says that a Misunderstanding has taken place between Mr Brodbent the men & himself that the agreement which had been made that he would as also the Men remain in quarantine forty Days after his Arrival in this Port & impressed with that Idiea he as also the men had left Missina to join said Gun Boat orded to Syracuse, & having obtain'd pratique for her on the 7th of July they were very much disconserted at being discharged but from the Letter which Mr Brodbent wrote there was nothing mentioned of any such agreement therefore I came to a determination of paying them \$30 — Dollars for their services & leaving the rest for Mr Brodbent to settle This being approved by Mr Dyson which I witness'd his paying them said sum I have at present on board each Boat one man which I received from the Hospital but am sory to say among the whole of them not one man understands caulking & at present the Boats are all in want of it sence I have been left in Charge of those Boats they have stolen from Trabaccoli N^o 1 One of her large Kedge Anchors weighing three hundred & have stolen from her all pins for rowing also fore & main Tacks & Sheets of new rope three Inch, & all Blocks & Running Rigging they have cut Hooks & Thimbles out of — they have also taken from Trabaccolo N^o 2. two muskatoons which was refused my landing in the Town, & has been the case of their being stolen they have also] taken the Iron pins of which I had indeavoured to take away myself so that I could put them in the Magazine but finding it so very difficult as I should have been obliged to employ four Carpenters & it would have taken them two days before they would have been able to have got them out I therefore thought it imposible to be stolen & permitted them to remain their & is likewise Several pins stolen from the Gun Boats in the Arsenal & three large sweeps belonging to the Tripoline Boats which had formely belong'd to the Schooner *Enterprise* & not sufficient room for their entering the Magazine their has also been a Number of Shot Stolen from the Tripoline Boats as yet I have not ascertained the quantity & have myself been attacked by eight men on board the Trabaccolos having received several blows & my sword forced from my side breaking the Hooks of the belt, by men that were employed on board, before I had any Idiea of their intention or time to draw my sword from my side, the consequence of which I made a regular report of it to Mr Dyson & having ordered every man to be imprisoned give information of it the Governor & the following morning in answer to Mr D. from the Governor was informing him that every man was imprisoned & sending the Major of the Town as also his First Officer to request I would forgive them, & permit them to come out of prison, but before I had given an answer, or even new such a message had been sent, every man was released from prison by order of the Governor, the consequence of which the Next Evening I was a Second time attacked when in the presence of the officer of the Guard when passing through the Gates returning from the Boats by a large Man with a Stick lifted up to strike me when I immediately drew my sword & making a blow at him he avoided it by Jumping backward when at the same moment having recovered my self from the Blow which I had made & turning round for fear I should be attacked by some other person I had Just time to parry of the Bayonet of the Centinal aimed at my Brest which had I not have done he must have run me through the same time receiving a blow of a Stone from the crowd but not able to tell from whom it came; this officer coming to my assistance with a guard of Soldiers soon dispersed the mob, when I immediately demanded of the officer to put the sentinal of the Gate in Confinement for attempting to take my life & without cause, this was immediately done & Mr Dyson wrote the Governor respecting the manner in which I had been attacked, but no satisfaction was ever given me & the sentinal forgiven, I have every reason to suppose that the very men which had been emprisoned by me & let out by the Governor where the very men which robbed the Boats having Broken the Cabins open & some of my owen cloaths stolen, I have on my owen account offerd five Dollars if information can be brought me, the American which arrived in the Gun Boat informes me that the Emperial Vessel had taken from the Boat eight sweeps one [ms mutilated] sail nearly new, one small Kedge anchor & two forty Gallon caeks & [ms mutilated] the Commander of the Ship *Euridise* had sent his boat with an [ms mutilated] & men & pressed from the Boat John Fitzpatrick belonging to the Schooner *Enterprise* he having said he was an Irishman & also obliged the other man being only two on board to go on board the ship & by purswasion & offering him of money as also did the Commander of the *Sea Horse*

Frigate having obliged him to go on board, but finding they could not persuade on the man to desert his Boat they permitted him to go. I have wrote Mr Brodbent respecting the men shipped on board Gun Boat N^o 2 but as yet I have not rec^d an answer —

JAMES S. HIGINBOTHOM

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May–Oct. 1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 12 August 1805

[Tunis Bay] At 9 [A. M.] sighted the larb^d bower anchor.
Consul Lear left the ship for Tunis

[USNA.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Vixen*, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 12 August 1805

[Tunis] Calm. Saw 2 sail standing out of the Bay. We made sail and stood for them. At 3 o'clock stood and came to anchor. Capt. Coxe informed the Commodore that we were in want of water which he told us we must take from the *Constellation*.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 13 August 1805

[Tunis Bay] ½ past 11 [A. M.] arrived the U. S. Brig *Argus*

[USNA.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Vixen*, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 13 August 1805

Tunis Bay. This day an address to the Commodore inclosed in one to Capt. Coxe was sent into the cabin, expressive of our wishes to return to America, as our times were out that we engaged for. At 11 o'clock A. M. arrived the U. S. Brig *Argus*. We got underway at 1 o'clock P. M. and stood out for Jack Island when we fell in with the *Nautilus* at 5 o'clock.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

[14 August 1805]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from Hamuda, Bey of Tunis

[Translation]

In order to further convince you of my peaceful intentions, as well as the friendship and esteem which I have for the President, in case it should be your intention and that of the Commodore not to treat with me until you receive new orders from Him after what has happened; I propose to send a distinguished personage of my Regency to Your Government to explain everything and remove all difficulties, and thus to expedite the settlement of all the undecided matters which have arisen between Us; if the Commodore would receive him aboard His flagship or aboard any other vessel of His squadron, he will be sent by me immediately upon notice from him; failing this I shall send him in a Vessel which I shall charter for the purpose.

I am once again,

HAMUDA BASHAW BEY (SEAL)

A true copy, TOBIAS LEAR

[NA. SDA, CD, Algiers, Vol. 7, Pt. II, January 1806–September 29, 1807.]

[14 August 1805]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from the Bey of Tunis

THE BASHAW BEY OF TUNIS, *the City well guarded the Residence of Felicity*
To Commodore JOHN RODGERS, *Commander in chief of the U. States Naval forces*
in the Mediterranean, actually on board the Ship Constitution anchored in the
roads of Goletta.

SIR, Leaving to Consul General Lear, the care of informing you, how long and friendly were our conferences of yesterday and to day, limit myself by the present to confirm in the most solemn manner, that which I have wrote to you & to the same Consul General Lear, assuring you that it was never my intention to declare War, against your Nation, nor to begin any hostility if not first provoked on your part. —

I conclude this misunderstanding between us must have originated from those who have not well understood, or well remembered my words, or my writings not being well understood or explained. —

In this state of Affairs & to dispel all shade of coldness or misunderstanding, between the two Nations, I have resolved to send without delay an Ambassador to the President of the United States, to make a reclamation relative to the Xebec & two prizes in question. I dont hesitate a moment in giving you my Word of honor & that of a Prince, as I reciprocally demand of you, that I will not commence any hostilities whatsoever, or make the least change in the present Peace existing between us, until the return of my Ambassador from your Country, with the ratification of Peace or some other propositions or determinations of the President. —

Be pleased then in this interval to send me a Charge d'Affairs, until there is, by the President chosen, named and sent to me a Consul. —

With confirming the above Said, I salute you & wish you all happiness. —

HAMUDA BASSAW BEY

The Prince of all Princes of Tunis. —

THE COURT OF TUNIS

14th August 1805. in the Evening.

(A true Copy of the Translation)

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

(L. S.)

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

TUNIS Aug^t 14th 1805 Noon

DEAR SIR I had the pleasure to receive your letter of yesterday, just as I was about to go to Bardo this morning, from whence I have just returned — I found the Bey much better disposed than he was yesterday, to enter fairly into the business between us — He began with observing that we had talked over all matters yesterday, and had time to reflect upon them, which was the Way he wished to do business, — He has now promised to write a letter to you, saying, that he shall send an Ambassador to the United States, and to give assurances to you of his determination to maintain the peace agreeably to our Treaty &c — His letter will be sent tomorrow, & soon after he will send you a letter for the President to the same effect, to be dispatched by a vessell, if any one should go, before that in which his Ambassador sails, and that as his Ambassador will be a person of some consequence here, it will not be possible for him to arrange his affairs in less than 15 or 20 Days, in such a manner as to enable him to be absent so long as he must necessarily be on his Mission to the U States, and as you have promised him a passage in one of the Frigates, he begs that the one intended for that purpose, may either remain here for that time, or if she goes elsewhere, to return again here within a month — He wishes also another person to be left in charge of our affairs, untill we may hear from the U. S, as he says, he is afraid that if the person last here, should remain, their might be new difficulties created — But on this point I presume he will touch in his letter to you — On the subject of alteration on that part of our Treaty relating to Commerce, he has expressed a willingness to place us, upon the footing of the most favoured nations — But as the arrangement of our present differences was most necessary to be dispatchd this remains untill he shall have so far completed his promise as to write to you, and fix the matter of sending an Ambassador to the U States —

So far things appear to be in a fair train for settlement — but we can count upon nothing with certainty until it is finished — The letter which he has promised to send you tomorrow, & that which he will write to the President will enable us to judge better of what we may expect in the end — For my own part, I have not the least doubt of his present determination being to Keep the peace most strictly, and his sending an Ambassador to the U S will insure it, at least until his return — I have not yet had an opportunity of asking the Dutch Consul, what passed respecting the Protest mentioned in Mr Davis's letter, as the Bey requested I would do — One thing seems certain (at least so far as depends on the Beys Christian Secretary & others who were present) that the Spanish Consul was not there, and no other than the Dutch, who, it is said was at Bardo, & that the Bey call'd upon him to hear him declare, that if he was forced to go to War, with us, he would never make Peace —

Your letter of yesterday to me was expressive of what I knew to be your just resolution, & I am convinced, that such conduct towards these people will always bring them to a proper sense of what they owe to other Nations — The letters which came by the *Argus*, have not yet been delivered, as I shall wait for a performance of the promise tomorrow — In the mean time,

P S As I Keep no Copy of my letters to you, I must have a Copy when I come on board —

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

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

U S SHIP *Constitution*
TUNIS BAY 14th August 1805

DEAR SIR I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this day, and am happy to find, that the Bey is now disposed to accede, to such terms, as the honor and Interest, of our relative situation demands without obliging us to pursue measures which altho', such as to bring him to a sense of his duty, yet nevertheless, such as only the last resort can justify. The sooner he gives the necessary Assurance of his Pacific Intentions the better, as it may prevent certain evils Incident to the present state of our affairs. I mention this owing to a circumstance, which happen'd this evening—which was as follows. An Armed galley coming into the Bay, was first discovered close to Cape Carthage, with the Brig *Vixen* in chase of her, and on perceiving that the *Vixen*, would not be able to bring her too, before she reach the Goletta, I made the Signal for the *Essex* (Which was the nearest Ship inshore), to fire on her. however she was suffered to pass, without examination after 12 or 14 Ineffective Shot had been fired discovering at the time, that if more decisive measures were taken to stop her, that the consequence would prove fatal to the Galley. His sending an Ambassador to the U States will be one of the greatest proofs of his desire for Peace, and no doubt will have the most happy effect for us. Therefore so soon as this is made Certain, either the *Constellation* or *Congress* will be appointed to receive him.—

As he appears to be dissatisfied with Mr Davis, no doubt an other person would be most proper to leave in charge of our affairs until the determination of Government shall take place — However I shall not consider myself Justifiable in sending any part of the Force off until his Ambassador is received on board Therefore the sooner he is Embarked the better. So soon as he gives me good and sufficient reasons to suppose that he is sincere, in what he professes, I shall cease laying his Cruizers under th restraint which they at present are.

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

To Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Congress*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
TUNIS BAY Aug^t 14th 1805

SIR As it is my intention that the Frigate *Congress* under your command shall return to the United States, in consequence I have to desire that you exchange such part of your crew whose term of service has not expired for an equal number whose term has expired belonging to the Brigs *Argus* *Syren*, & *Vixen* & Schooner *Nautilus*, giving to each a proportionate number of Seamen Agreeable to the

respective Rates of the different Vessels, — I wish this change to take place as soon as possible, After which you will be pleased to furnish me with a list of the number of Men you have left whose term of Service has not expired

[HS of Pa.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Vixen*, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 14 August, 1805

This day at 10 o'clock, saw a small sail, gave chase and soon came up with her. She was from Porto Perana. We sent her back again. At 2 o'clock saw another sail standing into the port. We gave chase until we came within gun shot, she still crowding sail and standing in for land. We fired several shot into her, but she would not heave to. We were obliged to stand along the land as we shoaled our water very fast. We kept firing at her as often as our guns would bear until she passed the Frigates, at which time they all fired at her, but were too far from her to do much injury, except the *Essex*, which gave her some heavy pills. We chased her in under the forts and then stood out to the Commodore where we received orders to let no vessel go into Tunis.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

[15 August 1805]

A General Order issued by Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

GENERAL ORDERS —

The Commodore cannot but express his concern and regrets that an incident should occur which compels him to order the infliction of punishment on Individuals serving under his command, both painful and degrading to the character of a Seaman & Soldier, but viewing the crime of Desertion, particularly from the service of the U. States, where Seamen have so many advantages over others in any other service, as a Crime of the BLACKEST Kind & Justly meriting the most exemplary punishment, and being determined never to pardon Crimes fraught with such fatal consequences to the Service, nor to mitigate in the smallest degree the punishment annexed by Law to such Crimes; In consequence after having approved the sentence of the Court Martial decreed against John Graves, John Pindar, Stephen Kentle, Henry Brim & Michael Penny on the 9th Inst, orders the same to be executed this Day on the display of Signal for Punishment —

Signed JNO. RODGERS

U. STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay August 15th 1805

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

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

U STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay 15th August 1805

SIR I have received your two letters of the 12th & 13 Inst, and am extremely sorry to find that the Bey is still disposed to equivocate or at any rate that he is not willing to accede to such terms as we had reason to suppose he would, his saying that if all is settled, there will be no necessity for sending a minister to the U States, you will agree with me, I am sure, goes for nothing as at least he must do one of three things, by simple request, or else do all three by force, that is he must either give the Guarantee already required, without any deviation from the terms already prescribed — He must give sufficient security for peace, and afterwards send a Minister to the U States to adjust the same, or else he must make such alterations in the Treaty as you may require, and this too in a manner to satisfy you, that their is confidence to be placed in what he does — His prevaricating with you in particular, induces me to beleive, that he is now more than ever the Scoundral, I had thought him before, and I have only to repeat, that if he does not do all that is necessary, & proper, that even at the risk of my Conducts being disapproved by my Country, he shall yet feel the Vengeance of the Squadron now in his Bay — The Brig *Argus* has just arrived from Alexandria, and I send

you enclosed a small Package of letters for different persons in Tunis, among others one for Hodge Unis, which you will deliver as you may think proper —

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

To Richard Oglander from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

ON BOARD U. S. Frigate *Constitution*.

Tunis Bay Aug^t 15. 1805. —

DEAR SIR A Turkish Corvette arrived here the day before yesterday from Malta, on board of which was a Servant and some Articles for you. As her boat was not permitted to land yesterday, the Captain of the Corvette Sent your Serv^t and things on board this Ship, requesting they might be forwarded to you by the first opportunity. — The Corvette sailed again yesterday before noon. — Your Serv^t &^s would have been sent up yesterday; but the wind was to high to admit of a boat's going on Shore conveniently. — The boat which goes up now is very small and will not be able to take your things; but they will be sent up tomorrow or next day. —

I will thank you to inform me if any thing new has occurred since I left Tunis. Should all things remain as when I left that, it is probable M^r Lear will accompany me up tomorrow or next day. She Sends her best Compl^{ts} to you

PS. My Compliments to M^r Clarke. —

[Stephen Decatur Col. Bk. B.]

[15 August 1805]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from George Harrison, Navy Agent, Philadelphia, Pa

Dr SIR The medal is in hand & by the Spring the President will have y^r pleasure of handing it you — It cannot be done in less time, & as I wish it equal to any other of its size (2½ inches) I do not press him — One of the three drawings you sent on has been selected — y^r follow^{rs} are the inscriptions

Edwardo Preble Ducis Strenuo
Comitia Americana

Vindici Commercii Americani
Ante Tripoli
1804 — (in Roman characters)

It shall be superior to any thing of the kind ever executed in America —
AUGUST 15th 1805

[LC. EPP, Vol. 15, June–Aug. 1805.]

[15 August 1805]

Recommendation to the Merchants of the United States trading to the
Mediterranean

Whereas the Trade of the U. S. to the Mediterranean, is one of the most valuable of the said States, & has been during the last, & more particularly during the present War much molested by an infamous set of Privateers, fitted out in the Ports of Spain, whose general rendezvous has been, & continues to be, the port of Algeciras, before which port every vessell bound to the Mediterranean must necessarily pass, & whereas It appears There is no Consul or Agent for the U. S. nor has there been for several years past at Algeciras, except a Spaniard nominated by Mr John Gavino of Gibraltar, within a few weeks, & that the said port being within the Jurisdiction of the Consul of Cadiz, which office is held by a Spaniard now residing at Madrid, & who has not resided for many years past within 50 miles of his Consulate, & that the Interests & honor of The U. S & its Citizens are totally neglected, & Its vessells are daily captured & carried into the port of Algeciras, & the Captains or Seamen there engaged either to sign papers in a foreign language which in many instances are made the grounds of their Condemnation or obliged to enter into compromises equally injurious both to the honor of The U. S, & the Interests of Its Citizens, & Whereas J. Yzardny Consul General of The U. S. at Cadiz & its dependencies has been applied to, to appoint a Vice

Consul at Algeciras, & He has either been unwilling so to do, or has been unable to get any Person to serve under him, alledging that no person would consent to remain there without a fixed salary, which the Government have refused to allow to any Consul or Vice Consul, & whereas from the above stated facts, It clearly appears that The Interests of The U. S. & its Citizens are totally abandoned to the mercy of a sett of Privateersmen & that immense sums have been lost & continue daily to be brought in & condemned.

It is therefore strongly recommended to The Citizens of The U S. engaged in the Trade to the Mediteranean to call meetings in the different Sea ports, & present a petition to Congress, claiming that protection which they conceive themselves & their property entitled to, & requesting that a respectable Citizen of The U. S. may be appointed to the office of Consul General of Cadiz & its dependencies, with the obligation of residing at his post, & in case of no Citizen being willing from the local situation of Algeciras to remain there, without a Salary, that a Salary may be allowed to The Vice Consul residing at the port of Algeciras.

CADIZ 15th AUGUST 1805.

[NDA. Misc. LB, Vol. 4, 1806.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 15 August 1805

[Tunis Bay] Observ'd the *Vixen* in chace of A Gally. $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3 fired a gun to bring the Gally too.

[Colonel Lear returned on board from Tunis on 16 August.]

[USNA.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Vixen*, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 15 August 1805

[Tunis] This day chased 2 sail, bro't them to and then let them go about their business, At 4 o'clock P. M. the *Nautilus* came out with orders for us to go in and come to anchor which we did at half past 9 o'clock.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from Secretary of State

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

August 16th 1805

SIR, Since your last letter dated 3^d November from Malta, I have received communications from Mr Mountford of the 3 & 4 Jan^r 1st Feb^r and 25 March. You will receive the present by a store ship about to sail from Kennebec with a cargo of plank, timber, spars &c, an invoice of which will be transmitted to you by the Agent who collected it, and which it is hoped will be received upon the annuity, of which more than a year has now become due. To render them the more acceptable, they are accompanied with the five brass Eighteen pounders, with carriages and apparatus complete. The remainder of the brass guns will be finished and forwarded without delay. Inclosed is a bill of the weight of the Guns which are correspondently marked, in order that if the practice be as is suggested to weigh but one as a criterion of the whole, such an one may be selected as may bear the nearest average proportion to the whole. This is the one numbered 4.

The reluctance manifested by the Regency to receive the Timber by the *William and Mary*, is the more extraordinary as it was intended to replace that sent by the *Sally*, which went on shore at St Lucar [20 November 1803], and as nothing existed to produce a doubt respecting the necessity of sending it. The present cargo of wood was collected last year and is composed of such an assortment as your communications have indicated as the most desirable at Algiers. I have also directed to be shipped a piece of muslin embroidered with gold and another with silver, according to the Dey's request signified to Mr Mountford; but in case the latter piece cannot be obtained two pieces of fine India Dimity are to be sent in its stead. To these are added two hundred dollars worth of sweetmeats preserved without a spirituous mixture and fifty pounds of Coffee, which as well as the muslin and Dimity may be presented to the Dey. This and the former cargo of timber and the fifteen brass cannon when delivered, it is calculated will leave the Regency in our debt. If therefore the select quality and kinds of timber, plank

&c composing this cargo and the circumstances of its having been procured before it was known that it would not be very acceptable and its being accompanied with the cannon and other articles so much desired, should not fully satisfy the Regency in accepting it, it may be observed that as nothing will probably be due on the annuities, we are justly entitled to more time to procure and forward the articles contained in the disadvantageous list, formerly dictated to you, if it be absolutely necessary to do so; but much reliance is placed in your exertions to have it retracted and to obtain a favorable substitute.

The articles you have on hand from the Consular present received from Mr Cathcart and the Attagon by Commodore Barron, if it can be disposed of according to its value, may constitute part of the biennial present due this year, and the remainder be obtained in Italy or from the Jews as may be deemed most advisable in reference to the comparative cost of the articles and the necessity there may arise from circumstances of policy to deal with the Jews. I shall cause a remittance to cover the expence of these supplemental articles in the present, to be made to Sir Francis Baring & Co of London, on whom you will consequently draw for it.

[NA. SDA. CL, Despatches to Consuls 1, 1800-1817.]

To Master Commandant John Shaw, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. S. *John Adams*,
from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*
Tunis Bay Aug^t 16, 1805

SIR I have to direct that you continue Midshipman William Reid in the *John Adams* until her return to the U. States & that you consider him as Suspended from all duty as an Officer in the Navy of the same, until the pleasure of his Excellency the President shall be made known respecting the proceeding and decree of the late Court Martial convened on 12th Inst^t for his Trial; a Copy of which I shall forward to the Navy Department by you in due form.

Proceedings of a Court Martial held on board the U States Ship *Constellation* on the 12th Aug^t 1805 by the Order of Commodore John Rodgers for the Trial of William Reid Midshipman belonging to the *John Adams* charged with Drunkenness, and making a *Mutinous* and Seditious assembly among the Crew, and writing a Malicious and False Letter to the Commodore

| | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| HUGH GEO ^d CAMPBELL Capt ⁿ & President | |
| STEPH ^d DECATUR Capt ⁿ & Member | |
| CHA ^d STEWART | |
| JOHN SHAW | } Masters Comm ^d & Members |
| JOHN SMITH | |
| DAVID PORTER | } Lieut ^t & Members — |
| SAMUEL EVANS | |
| THOMAS JOHNSTON Act ^t Judge Adv ^t | |

The President, Members and Judge Advocate being duly sworn, the Prisoner William Reid appeared the Charges were read to him which he pleads *Not Guilty*. —

The Prisoner then addressed the Court as follows —
Gentlemen of the Court.

You will Consider the situation of a young Midshipman on board of a Frigate, I am an American, and you are my Countrymen. —

The Court being cleared Proceeded to Consider the Case of the Prisoner W^d Reid, and after Mature deliberation do determine, That on the first Charge Viz^t of Drunkenness, he is not Guilty. — On the second charge Viz^t of making a Mutinous and seditious assembly among the Crew. do find him not Guilty. — on the third Charge Viz^t Writing a Malicious and false letter to the Commodore, do Pronounce him Guilty. —

Having found him Guilty of the third Charge Writing a Malicious and false letter to the Commodore, dated Malta 20 July last, which is in the Opinion of the Court, a breach of the 3^d Article of the regulations for the better Government of the Navy of the U States — and do there fore Sentence him to be deprived of his Warrant and dismissed the service of the U States. —

(Signed) HUGH G CAMPBELL Pt
THO. JOHNSTON Act^t Judge Advocate

[NDA. CMR, No. 29, Vol. 1, 1799-1805.]

[16 August 1805]

To Hamuda, Bey of Tunis, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

To His Excellency HAMUDA BASSA, *the most Illustrious and Most Magnificent Prince, the Bey of Tunis, the abode of Happiness* —

From the hands of Consul General Tobias Lear, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 14th Inst; the friendly contents of which I most sincerely reciprocate — Your friendly treatment of Consul Gen^l Lear; and wherein you profess an Intention of placing the U. States on a footing with the most favored Nations, added to the pacific features of your Letter, wherein you inform me that you have resolved to send an Ambassador to the U. States; are the strongest and most expressive proofs of your pacific Intentions toward the President and Citizens of my Country — I therefore beg leave to inform you that I have in consequence given orders to the Commanders of the Ships and Vessels under my Command to consider yourself, and Subjects wheresoever the parties may meet, (on the high seas or elsewhere) *as formerly*, in the light of friends, and to behave to them in all respects as such until the source of our Differences shall have been properly adjusted between yourself and the President of the U. States. —

In expressing to you the wish of my Government, I beg leave to inform you that I sincerely hope to see a Peace established between yourself & the U. States of America *on the most permanent basis*, and at the same do assure you that nothing shall ever happen on my part to prevent the same. Another Person to take charge of our affairs shall be appointed provided you wish it, but in justice to myself as Mr Davis left your Regency by my orders, I must request that you give me reasons why he should not be returned.

As my arrangements are such as not to be able to separate the Squadron before your Minister is embarked, I beg that you will do me the favor not to detain him longer than circumstances make absolutely necessary — I have already ordered a Frigate, (and which is in all probability the only Vessel that will return to the U. States) to prepare for his accomodation. —

U. S. Ship *Constitution*

TUNIS BAY August 16th 1805

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

To Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Constellation*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*

Tunis Bay Aug^t 16th 1805

SIR, I have to request that you cause a Survey to be had on the U. States Frigate *Constellation* under your command by three of the Senior Captains of the Squadron, & report to me her state & condition with their opinion thereon touching her capacity to perform another years service without any material repairs. —

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

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

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
16 August 1805. —

I intend that the Bombs & Gun boats shall hereafter be commanded by Gentlemen holding the Rank of Masters in the Navy. Look out therefore for competent persons to command the 2 Bombs and 2 Gun boats now building under your direction and when you shall have procured good men for these stations, let me know their names and I will forward appointments to them. They will be allowed \$40 per Month and 2 rations per day which is the pay and rations allowed to all masters in the Navy.

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 7, 1805-1807.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Vixen*, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 16 August 1805

[Tunis] This day the Captain went on board the Commodore and bro't off word to the Purser that all those who came from Baltimore in the Brig *Vixen* to

go home and that he must make out his accounts as soon as possible. Accordingly I was called to take all the receipts.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

N^o 18.

U. STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay Aug^t 17th 1805

SIR In answer to your Letter of the 24th of April on the subject of Lieut^t Murdock's relative Rank, permit me to observe I discovered that his removal from the *John Adams* into any other Vessel would have given umbrage to other officers, he being, by the date of his old Commission senior to any of the Lieutenants not at present in command, M^r Murdock I have no doubt is a valuable officer he is spoken well of both as a Gentleman & Officer by all who know him, but at this late period to give him rank agreeable to the date of his Commission, I am afraid would be attended with much difficulty and perhaps injury to the service, as I have reason to believe that many valuable Officers would conceive themselves injured, and at the same time I cant but observe that his services are an object particularly as proper characters for first Lieutenants, *such as himself*, would be found wanting were as many as fifteen Ships to be fitted out at any one time within the next three succeeding years — and this circumstance presents forcibly to my mind the necessity of an unwarped Impartiality being exercised in determining the relative Rank of all Officers that remains yet undetermined.

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

To Doctor James Dodge, appointed to act as U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis, by Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

(Copy)

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay August 17th 1805

SIR In consequence of authority vested in me I do hereby appoint you Charge d'Affaires for the U. States of America to the Regency of Tunis, and as successor to George Davis Esq^r, until the pleasure of his Excellency the President shall be made known to you touching the same: and as Tobias Lear Esq^r Consul General for the Regency of Algiers (who is now present) is invested with Special authority from his Government relating to all matters of the Consulate wherein you are at present concerned; I beg leave to refer you to him for all the necessary advice & Instructions for your present as well as future Government respecting the duties attached to y^r office. —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

To George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay Aug^t 17th 1805

SIR As you have expressed a desire to return to the U. States; I have in consequence nominated & directed Doctor James Dodge (the present Surgeon of this Ship) to succeed you as Charge d'Affaires for the U. States of America to the Regency of Tunis, until the pleasure & authority of the President shall induce him to revoke the same. In consequence I have to request that you will be pleased to deliver to Doct^r Dodge the Seals, with such Papers and appendages as necessarily belong to the Consulate.

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

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

◊ 48

PORTLAND Aug^t 17. 1805

SIR I take the liberty to enclose you a letter I rec^d a few days since, from M^r Haswell, and beg leave to observe, that his anxiety to go into the Merchant service, for a time, proceeded from the most laudable motives — a wish to afford pecuniary aid to a large family of female relations, dependant on him.

Mr H lost the use of his arm in Battle, on board the *Boston*, where he behaved well, and his conduct while under my command was that of a good & meritorious officer.

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Master Commandant George Cox,
U. S. Navy

U. S. BRIG *Vixson* Aug^t 17th 1805

SIR If my servisis with propriety can be despenst with in this cuntry I will thank you for permission to returne to America. —

GEO COX

[LC. JRP, Vol. 1, March 1791–Dec. 1814.]

Presumably to Secretary of the Navy from Midshipman John B. Nicolson, U. S.
Navy

BALTIMORE August 17th 1805

SIR Enclosed you will find a warrant which you was so good as to send me about one month since, through the recommendation of my friend W^m A. Barnwell —

You made a mistake in filling it up in regard to the name. My name is spelt without the *h* as thus *John B. Nicolson*

There is a young gentleman in the navy of the same name — but spells his with the *h*. some mistake may occur, which would be perhaps disagreeable: I would thank you to make the necessary alterration and forward it on to this place

[NDA. Officers LB, 1802–1805.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Lieutenant David Porter, U. S. Navy

Syren TUNIS BAY August 18th 1805

SIR Many of the crew of the late Frigate *Philadelphia*, now distributed about the Squadron, have personally applied to me to gain information of the intended destination of them, as the time for which they have entered has expired, and have repeatedly expressed to me their great desire to return to America — This being a point on which I could give them no information they have requested me to apply to you on a point which so nearly concerns them — Any information you may please to favour me with on this head will be communicated to them with pleasure by

Sir

Your Obedient
Humb^le & Devoted Serv^t

D PORTER

Commo^r JN^r RODGERS

[F. D. Roosevelt Col.]

[18 August 1805]

To Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy, from Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr.,
Master Commandants Charles Stewart and John Shaw, U. S. Navy

SIR We according to your order's of yesterday's date have proceeded to survey the Condition of the Frig^t *Constellation* under your Com^d

We are of opinion that her bottom requires a complete overhaul (Caulking and Coppering) to enable her to perform the services which may be required for the ensuing year.

AUG^t 18th 1805

[LC. JRP, Let. & Doc., Ac. 3647, 1799–1848.]

To Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Constellation*,
from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay Aug^t 18th 1805

SIR, You are hereby requested to convene a Court Martial on board the U. States Ship *Constellation* tomorrow Morning at ½ past 9 oClock to try Joshua

Blake first Lieutenant of the Frigate *Constitution* — charged with having Quarrelled with Master Command^t Thomas Robinson on the Quarter Deck of the *Constitution* on the night of the 6th Inst —

Capt^a Robinson himself & Mr Johnston (Purser) are the evidence adduced by me in support of the Charge exhibited against Lieutenant Blake. —

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

To Master Commandant John Shaw, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. S. *John Adams*,
from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay, August 18th 1805

SIR, You will please furnish Gun Boats N^o 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 8. 9 & 10 with Water equal to 20 days consumption with what they have on board. —

If you have any Wood to spare you will furnish Gun boat N^o 3, with a small quantity. —

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

To Dr. James Dodge, appointed to act as U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis, from
George Davis, former U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

ON BOARD THE U. S. FRIGATE *Constellation* —
Tunis Bay Aug^t 18th 1805.

SIR, Agreeable to the request of Commodore John Rodgers, I deliver to you the public Seals; whatever papers, belong to the office, are in the possession of the Secretary Amb[rose]. Allegro Esq., & who is directed to deliver them to you. — His Salary is fixed at one Dollar per day, & has been paid up to the first of March 1805 — You will find in him, integrity & fidelity. —

[NA. SDA. FA, CL, Vol. 2, (7240), 1801–1809.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from George Davis, former U. S. Chargé
d'Affaires, Tunis

U. S. FRIGATE *Constellation*
Tunis Bay Aug^t 18th 1805

SIR, The Letter which you honored me with under date of the 16th [or 10] Inst was not recieved until late last night; & in consequence of your order, have this morning delivered to Doct^r James Dodge the Seals of Office &^r &^r —

The just & powerful motives which induce me to return to the U. States have already been stated, and I trust you will concur in the opinion, that it is a measure enforced, by a high sense of duty to my Country & myself; & from the full conviction that his Excellency the President, will learn the Bey of Tunis, that he must in future, be as circumspect in his Words, as he has been in his written communications — I shall with your permission, embark on board the Frigate which takes the ambassador, & again beg leave to assure you * * *

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 1, 1805.]

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

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay 19th August 1805

DEAR SIR, I have this instant (4 P M) received your favor of yesterday by the Turk to which the Bey has given a Tiskura for procuring the Water at Port Farina, which was required for the use of the Squadron — The *Syren* & some others of the small Vessells will proceed thence tomorrow for that purpose The *Constellation* and *John Adams* will proceed to Malta the day after tomorrow, to settle their Account, provision, Water &c, &c & from thence proceed to America, calling here on their way and if they do not find me here, to proceed direct on their passage to the U States, If you have any Commands, for Malta one of these Vessells shall execute them, — This has been a busy day with us, as 8 or 9 of the Vessells has changed their crews — A survey has been had on the *Constellation* which has determined me to send her to America — Pray present my best respects to M^r Lear,

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

To Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Constellation*,
from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay Aug^r 19th 1805

SIR, As it is my intention that the Frigate *Constellation* under your command shall return to the United States; in consequence I have to desire that you exchange such part of your Crew whose term has not expired for an equal number whose term has expired belonging to the Frigate *Essex*, Brig *Syren*, Schooner *Enterprise* and Sloop *Hornet* giving to each a proportionate number of Seamen agreeable to the respective Rates of the different Vessels. —

I wish this change to take place as soon as possible, after which you will be pleased to furnish me with a List of the number of Men you have left, whose terms of service has not expired. —

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

To Master Commandant John Shaw, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. S. *John Adams*,
from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay August 19th 1805

SIR, As it is my intention that the U. States Ship *John Adams* under your Command shall return to the U. States; In consequence I have to desire that you exchange with the U. States Ship *Constitution* for such Seamen, Ordinary Seamen, Boys & Marines, whose term of service has expired an equal Number whose Term has not expired — also exchange with all the Gun Boats, Effective for such defective Men as they have on board. —

I wish this change to take place as soon as possible, after which be pleased to furnish me with a list of the number of Men you have left whose term of service has not expired. —

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

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

TUNIS, August 20th 1805

DEAR SIR, I had the pleasure this morning to receive your two letters of yesterday, and feel much obliged by them. I have no further commands for Malta than what was contained in the letter sent yesterday for Mr Higgens. — Mr Rylander will send the Box for Mr H. which you have had the goodness to say shall go in one of the Ships. — Ald Feroud tells me he has the permission of the Sapatapa to carry off to the Squadron anything which may be wanting, without the formality of a Tiskara, and I have accordingly directed him to take on board tomorrow morning some Bullocks and some Sheep, when you will give him orders for the further quantity which you may want. —

The old drogerman is still very sick, and his son, who was ordered to go to Bardo yesterday, did not go 'till this morning, which prevented the Bey from fixing the hour to see me today; and he has desired us to come to Bardo tomorrow morning at 7 o'clk. — Mrs Lear goes with the Swedish Consul's lady early tomorrow morning to Carthage, and I shall go from Bardo to the same place, from whence we shall return tomorrow evening. —

When will the Vessel go to Tripoli, which you mentioned to me your intention of sending? — I shall wish to write by her to Dr Ridgely & Mr Nissen. —

I pray you will have the goodness to send me by the boat tomorrow three hundred & forty Spanish Dollars, which, with the 10 doubloons I rec^d the other day, will make 500 doll^r — leaving for me still 500 — of the 2000 which were due me. —

Mrs Lear has purchased the two Barnouses and two Shawls for you, and she has desired Mr Simms to bring up a small trunk of her's, which is in the Cabin, to put them in, that they may be carried on board without injury. — The Slippers will be procured also, and if there is anything else which you wish before we leave this place she will procure it with pleasure, She desires her best compliments to you, and thanks for the two bottles which were *not* sent. She knows you did not retain them for your own use. —

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May–Oct. 1805.]

[20 August 1805]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Lieutenant Seth Cartee, U. S. Navy

Will Commodore Roggers be so good as to let me go on shore At Tunis While we Lay there for A short time he Will Oblige his Obed^t friend & One Who wishes his welfare & success — in Glory. —

GUN BOAT 10 —
20th August 1805

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May – Oct. 1805.]

To Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, from Captain John Rodgers,
U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay 20th Aug^t 1805

SIR Since you request a definite answer to your letter of this morning, wherein you require permission to return to the U States. Permit me to inform you, that I have already given you, my answer which was that you could not return unless you could prevail on Cap^t Campbell to take your place, I therefore have nothing now to say on the subject.

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

To Captain Stephen Decatur Jr., U. S. Navy, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S
Navy

Constitution TUNIS BAY
Aug^t 20th 1805

SIR The Boat you mention as coming from the Goletta is intended to go round with the Vessels to Farina to bring off the Water — so soon as you have changed your Crew, you will be pleased to get underweigh & proceed thence for that purpose.

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

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay Aug^t 20th 1805

SIR, Lieut. Robert Henly who hands you this, has got my permission to return home in consequence of bad health, he is an excellent deserving Officer & will do credit to his Country, I am convinced, in whatever situation you may think proper to honor him with — I have said thus much of Mr Henly from my own Personal Knowledge of him. Inclosed is the Certificate of his bad health. —

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

To Master Commandant Thomas Robinson Jr., U. S. Navy, from Captain John
Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay Aug^t 20. 1805

SIR, As I have consented to your returning to the U. States, I have to desire that you Transfer the command of the U. States Schooner *Enterprize*, at present under your command, to Lieut^t David Porter taking from him all the necessary documents & information respecting the said Schooner agreeable to the prescribed regulations of the service. —

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

To James Dodge, appointed to act as U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis, from Captain
John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

Constitution TUNIS BAY
Aug^t 20th 1805

DEAR SIR I have this moment receiv'd your polite favor of this day and am glad to find that you are pleased with your situation —

There has been great changes among the officers since you left us; particularly among the poor Doctors, as at least one half of them have been changed into different Vessels — Mr Blake has been tried & acquitted (farther than having received a reprimand) and is returned to duty again — It is now ten o'clock and I am sleepy — May you enjoy good health, live long, and live happy; Is the sincere wish of your Friend and Humble serv^t

[NA. SDA. FA, CL, Tunis, Vol. 2 (7240) 1801-1809.]

To Midshipman Samuel G. Blodget, U. S. Navy, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

*Constitution. TUNIS BAY
August 20th 1805*

SIR, You are for the present charged with the command of the U. States Sloop [10 Guns] *Hornet*; and I have directed Lieut Samuel Evans to transfer to you all Papers, Documents &c relative to said Sloop, for which you will give him the necessary receipts. —

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

To Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

*U. STATES SHIP Constitution
TUNIS BAY, August 20th 1805. —*

SIR As I have consented to your returning to the United States, I have to desire that you transfer the Command of the U. States Schooner *Nautilus*, at present under your command to Lieut. Sam^l Evans, taking from him all the necessary Receipts and giving to him all the necessary Documents and Information respecting the said Schooner, agreeable to the prescribed regulations of the Service

[NHF. Dent's LB, 1803-1810.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

N^o 19.

*U. STATES SHIP Constitution
Tunis Bay Aug^t 20th 1805*

SIR, By the *John Adams* I recieved your dispatches of the 30th - 29th - 24th and duplicates of the 16th of April — In answer to your advices of the 16th April permit me to inform you that the extra Men (261 in number) sent by the *John Adams*, were, in general, very ordinary; they were put on board the different Vessels of the Squadron, principally the Gun boats, apportioned comparatively, with the exigences of the larger Vessels —

The *John Adams* as she had all her Guns mounted and her full compliment of Men, I conceived it advisable to detain her in the place of the *President* until after our affairs with Tunis should be settled; as I could not fairly calculate on the services of the *President*, for reasons such as Captain Barron will be best able to explain to you —

In conformity with your Instructions transferred to me by Commodore Barron, a Court of Inquiry was held on Capt^s Bainbridge's conduct in the loss of the Frigate *Philadelphia* previous to the reception of your order revoking the same. —

The 38 Lieutenants Commissions I recieved, but the more urgent business of the Squadron, since my command of it, has prevented the Examinations taking place — Indeed to determine their relative Rank at present is impossible — altho to have the comparative rank of this class of Officers established is certainly of great importance to the service, but the period when this desirable object was attainable, being suffered to pass, prevents it at present and will in all probability before they return to the U. States without giving umbrage to a very large proportion of them — When they return, it may be done with more Justice to them and more advantage to the service, by a reexamination, as by that time those that are to be the Judges of their pretensions, will be better acquainted with their separate merits: in the mean time as they are examined and qualified I shall deliver their Commissions, without making any changes *different from the Rank* in which they have acted without *urgent necessity* shall require it.

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

Extracts from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *President*, Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 20 August 1805

Pleasant weather with very light breeze from the Northward.

Midnight moderate breezes —

9 A M A Serpent passed the Ship, he was of reddish colour and from the best judgment formed of it, its length was about 30 feet and was $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet in circumference. This Serpent proved to be a Squid —

Long. worked by Garnet projection was $36^{\circ} 51'$ West —

11 Another Serpent was seen about 15 feet long, and proportioned like the first seen —

Lat. Observed $34^{\circ} 22'$

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

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

N^o 11

U. S. SHIP *Constellation*

TUNIS BAY Aug^r 21st 1805

SIR, The speedy departure of the *Constellation* and *John Adams* for America, owing to my wishing them to arrive before the Winter sets in, prevents my laying before you *in form* the proceedings of the Squadron since I last had the honor of writing you by the Frigate *President*; farther than to say that the Bey of Tunis has been brought to a sense of reason in a manner highly honorable I conceive to the United States, and in a manner I flatter myself to leave such impressions as will ever again prevent him or his successors from daring to renew the same conduct — Instead of acceding to his terms, he has been forced to accede to reason and ours, and to consent to send an Ambassador to the United States, whom with his Suit will in all probability arrive in the U. States very soon after this reaches you — He would have been sent in the *Constellation* but that Ship having to go to Malta, to settle her accounts with the Navy Agent previous to her departure for America, induced me (by the way of saving time) to direct the *Congress* to perform this service; which Ship will I presume sail from hence in 7 or 8 Days at farthest, direct for Washington — Should this reach you before the arrival of the *Congress*, I must necessarily refer you to Captain Stewart for particulars: In the mean time permit me to acquaint you that by the arrival of the *Congress* you will be regularly informed on every subject. — The *Constellation*, *Congress*, *John Adams* and Brig *Franklin* are the only Vessels which I shall send home until I hear from you — These Vessels including the *President* will reduce the expences of the Mediterranean Forces near, if not quite one half. — Peace on honorable Terms is always preferable to War, and if Government thinks proper to overlook the late unfriendly conduct of the Bey of Tunis; I think I can almost with certainty say that he never will again attempt to behave in a similar manner; as I feel satisfied this lesson has not only changed his opinion of our Maritime strength, but has caused him to discover more distinctly his own weakness in every sense: However should the Government determine to chastise him for what has passed; permit me to solicit the honor of bearing the standard of their Vengeance; and as a guarantee for the fulfillment of their wishes, I will pledge all that's sacred and dear to me in this World, provided such intention is made known to me by the first of March next; that before the ensuing first of September following, that my Country shall not only obtain an honorable Peace, but make him pay the expences of the War, and this too with no more Force than what remains this Winter in the Mediterranean. —

After Peace may I beg leave to solicit the favor of returning to the United States?

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

To Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Constellation*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constellation*

Tunis Bay August 21st 1805

SIR, So soon as the U. States Frigate *Constellation* under your command is ready to depart I have to request that you proceed to Malta and fill up your Water, Provision your Ship for a passage to the United States, settle her accounts with Mr Higgins Navy Agent and, from thence proceed with all practicable dispatch

to the U. States, on your passage calling at Tangier to learn from Mr Simpson our Consul the state of our affairs with that Regency. —

As I presume it is the wish of the Government that the *Constellation* should be laid up at Washington, in preference to any other Port, I have in consequence to desire that you proceed to the Eastern Branch, and as early as possible report your arrival to the Navy Department.

[*The following was in different writing.*]

SIR, I am commanded by Commodore John Rodgers to transfer the above order to you which you will be pleased act upon as directed—

HUGH G. CAMPBELL

To Capt CHARLES STEWART

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Midshipman Oliver Hazard Perry.
U. S. Navy

U. S. S. *Nautilus* August 21st 1805

SIR Finding that the *Constellation* is about to return to the U. States, I have to request your permission to join her again as one of her Lieut^s a situation in which I left America

When I state my reasons for making this application I am convinced you will not consider them in an ordinary light — My leaving the *Constellation* was very much against my inclination & as you at that time gave me to understand (although not in direct terms) that the order should be revoked: I have not considered my situation on board the Schooner permanent

Having understood some time since the *Constellation* was not to return home I had a wish to place myself under your immediate command as several of your Officers informed me you took a pride in promoting the interest of such as merit gave a claim to your influence — In addition to these, I shall ever refuse (from the assurances of the Secretary of the Navy) to be examined for a Lieut. and of course those officers who pass & rec. Commission will insist on ranking me. Be pleased to recollect Commodore that I have been two years and a half acting as a Lieut. and I see not the least prospect while I remain out here of getting my Commission —

I cannot conclude this letter without returning my sincere thanks and at the same time expressing my gratitude for the polite and I think I may say friendly manner in which you treated me in the two interviews I had with you whatever may be the fate of this request I shall still entertain the same sentiments

P. S. As I presume Sir from the multiplicity of your business you cannot answer my letter by writing I will wait on you personally

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May–Oct. 1805.]

To William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*

Tunis Bay 21st August 1805

DEAR SIR As things have turned out, I am induced to send more of the vessels home, than I had contemplated. I have therefore sent the *John Adams* & *Constellation* to Malta, for the purpose of provisioning and settling their Accounts, and as I shall be obliged to remain here, until there return you will greatly oblige me by giving them all the dispatch in your power — As the season is now far advanced I shall not be able to make the tour of the Medeterranean, with the Squadron as I had contemplated — I shall go from this to Leghorn, from thence in all probability to Algiers, and from the latter place its most likely to Malta. The Gun Boats with a Brig and Three or four more small vessels, I shall send to Syracuse to rendezvous, and the *Essex* & two other smaller Vessels, to Gibraltar dividing that part of the Squadron which remains in the Medeterranean into two Divisions. If you have any Commands for Leghorn, I should be glad to execute them. My business to Leghorn is principally to procure Cash for the use of the Squadron. I therefore hope to have the pleasure of seeing you again, at farthest by the 1st October — The Bey of Tunis has after considerable prevarication on his part, been brought to a sense of reason and think I can venture to say, will never oblige us, to pursue the same measures again. He sends an Ambassador, to the U States. For particulars relative to our transactions here, I must beg leave to refer you to Cap^t Stewart and Shaw. The Xebecque, and her two prizes, sent into Malta by the

Constitution I beg you will give orders to the Officers in Charge of them, to take great care of them, as I intend they shall remain unsold untill I hear from the Government —

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

To James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco, and John Gavino, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay 21st August 1805

DEAR SIR I have sent the *Essex*, and *Vixen* to remain on the Gibraltar station this Winter, for the security of our Trade into the Streights, with directions to consult with you, on all matters concerning the same — As it would take a Volume to inform you, of what has transpired, between us and Tunis, I must beg leave to refer you to Cap^t Campbell for all information on that Score —

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

To Master Commandant John Shaw, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. S. *John Adams*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

Copy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay 21st Aug^t 1805

SIR I have to desire with the United States Ship *John Adams* under your Command that you repair to Syracuse, and require of Doct^r Cutbush to put on board your Ship all the Invalids, or in other Words all the Men under his Care which are unfit for Service. —

From Syracuse repair with all practicable dispatch to Malta, and Provision your Ship and Settle her Accounts with M^r Higgins Navy Agent, and from thence proceed without Loss of Time to the United States, and into the Eastern Branch (Washington) and as early as possible report your Arrival to the Hon^{ble} the Secretary of the Navy.

Wishing you a Speedy and pleastant Passage

[NDA. MC LB, 1804–5.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

N^o 7

U. STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay Aug^t 21st 1805

SIR As Capt^s Shaw will be best able to explain to you the circumstances to which the enclosed Letters allude, I must beg leave to refer you to him for the necessary explanations. —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Master Commandant John Shaw, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *John Adams*
August 21st 1805

SIR Induced from a Belief of your Wish to serve an Officer in the Service in preference to injuring his local Situation in Life compels me to make a Statement to you from a Belief that no Injury or Detention, can arise from my touching at Naples to investigate the Property I left there when in Public Service in the *George Washington*. Government gave me a Considerable Tonnage in that Ship and of Course I made Use of it. I was compelled to land at Naples a Large Invoice of Goods and consigned to Mess^{rs} Falconett & C^o for which I never have received a due Remittance.

I will Prove to you that my Ship touching there will Subject the Government to no Expence

The Advance and Slops to my Crew on an Average amount to 6½ Mth in Advance, this will bring them indebted to Government to the 15th and 20th of November next, even if I should be detained in the Mediterranean until the 5th October I would have sufficient Time to come within the Limits of the Service as Government will have no Demand on a Crew which is discharged before the Expiration of their Times.

As I have been injured in the Public Service, I am of an Opinion I have a small Claim on your Patronage, and if granted Sir you may be assured of my making no unnecessary Delay at any Place I shall touch at; trusting to your Reconsideration and Compliance I remain

P. S. Mr Knight Sailing Master of the *Constitution* was with me at the Time of landing the Merchandise. —

[LC. JRP, Vol. 1, March 1791–Dec. 1814.]

To Master Commandant John Shaw, U. S. Navy, from Captain John Rodgers,
U. S. Navy

Constitution, TUNIS BAY
21st August 1805 —

SIR I have received your letter of this morning, — And am sorry to say, that your request of going to Naples is absolutely out of my power to grant — It is what I would not do, even to gain to myself an Independent fortune —

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

To Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy, U. S. Frigate *Constellation*, from Captain
John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

Constitution TUNIS BAY
21 August 1805 —

SIR I have to direct that you assume the Command of the U States Frigate *Essex*, giving to Cap^t Stewart, the Command of the Frigate *Constellation*, both of you, taking such receipts, and transferring such Documents to each other as the regulations of the service requires —

After the exchange of Ships you will Transfer the order directing the return of the *Constellation* to the U States, to Cap^t Stewart —

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

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy
U. S. FRIGAT *Constellation*

Tunis Bay, Aug^t 21st 1805

SIR There is on board this ship, ten or twelve men that I feel much attached to, and request the favor of being permitted to take them with me on board the *Essex*, it being an indulgence that commanders in our Service have Generally Experienced

[LC. JRP, Vol. 1, March 1791–Dec. 1814.]

To Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S.
Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Congress*
Tunis Bay Aug^t 21 1805

SIR You will please to furnish the U States Ship *Argus* with ten Seamen and ordinary Seamen to fill up her compliment, —

[HS of Pa.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

N^o 10

U. STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay August 21st [or 23] 1805

SIR I herein enclose you a statement from Lieut^t Laurance [see 12 June 1805] concerning three men taken from Gun boat N^o 6, under his command, by a British Squadron off Cadiz under command of Admiral Collingswood as also a Certificate wherein it appears that Mr Roach, Midshipman, and second Officer of the Boat, is accused of neglect of duty — As this is an affair of great moment not only to the Character of Mr Roach, but also to his Country, I have sent him home in the *John Adams* under suspension from Duty, considering his case such as to require the decision of a higher authority than myself.

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

N^o 8

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay Aug^t 21st 1805

SIR, Enclosed I forward for your consideration a Copy of a Letter [8 July 1805] from Lieutenant Maxwell stating his having been taken into Algeziras by four Spanish Gun Boats [on 15 June 1805]. — This insult it is possible was owing entirely to the Ignorance of the fellows commanding the Boats which took him in. —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

To George Harrison, Navy Agent, Philadelphia, Pa., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV DEP^t Aug^t 21. 1805

You will continue to pay to the Wives, parents and children, of the Officers, Seamen & Marines (of the late frigate *Philadelphia* now Captives in Tripoli, the half pay heretofore respectively authorized by regular powers of attorney to be paid to them — but make no payments in cases where the powers of attorney were granted to any other person or persons, than the *Wives* parents and Children & you will discontinue all payments which were authorised by such of the Captives, as you have been or shall hereafter be advised have turned Turks.

If any of the Prisoners who have died since their capture left powers of attorney with their Wives, parents or Children to receive their half pay & there should in such cases exist pecuniary distress on the part of those who may hold such powers of attorney Be pleased to report such cases to me — & I will endeavour to provide for their temporary relief.

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 8, 1805-1807.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 21 August 1805

[Tunis Bay] ½ past 6 [P. M.] Sailed the *Congress* and *Enterprize* for ferreno.
[USNA.]

Extracts from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *President*, Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 21 August 1805

- 6. Saw a Sail under the lee bow standing to the Eastward.
- 9. Carried away the Slings of the Fore yard.
- 11. Saw a Sail upon the weather beam.
- Midnight pleasant.
- 1-½ Spoke the Strange sail which proved to be the English privateer *Bellona* of Liverpool from the River Le Plate bound to London.
- 6 discovered a fleet bearing S W. standing to the N^d & Eastward.
- 9 discovered a large ship detached from the fleet in chace of us.
- Noon the fleet still in sight to Windward We counted 40 Sail many of them apparently of the line. continued standing on our Course.
- Latitude D. R. 34°27'N. Longitude D. R. 38°3'W.

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

[22 August 1805]

To Sidi Josseph, Sapatapa and Prime Minister of the Bey of Tunis, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

To SIDI JOSSEPH, Sapatapa and prime Minister to His Excellency the Bey of Tunis. —

SIR, In consequence of the converastion which I had the honor to hold with you yesterday, by order of His Excellency the Bey, on the subject of commerce, & certain articles of the Treaty now existing between His Excellency, & the U. States of America — I take the liberty of making the following observations, for the consideration of His Excellency and yourself. —

As the sole object of the government of the United States is to incerase the harmony & good understanding, which exists between them and those Nations with whom they are in friendship, they would wish to be placed upon the same footing with his Excellency, in respect to their Commercial intercourse, & the

reception given to their Citizens as is observed towards other Nations, with whom his Excellency is in habits of friendship & mutually advantageous commerce. — It is therefore proposed, that the Articles in the Treaty between His Excellency, and the U. States, which subjects the Citizens of the U. States, to pay the same duties on merchandize imported into this Regency, under the Flag of the U. States which wou'd be paid by a Tunisian Subject carrying merchandize to the U. S. shou'd be annull'd; and that the Americans shou'd pay the same & no more duty on merchandize imported by them into the Regency of Tunis, than is paid by other Nations the most favour'd, where it does not infringe upon any Treaty now existing between His Excellency and any foreign Nation

The Article which compels the Master of a Merchant Vessel, to charter his Vessel to the Government, if she shou'd be wanted, deprives the said Vessel of the fair Opportunity of making such Voyages as might be most advantageous to the owners of said Vessel, and lays a restraint on commerce which must be highly injurious to the same. It would therefore be desirable to have this Article either differently modified, or annull'd. —

The Salute given to Vessels of War of the U. States, to be return'd in the same manner by such Vessels, and not by the payment of a Barrel of Gun Powder for each Cannon which may be fired in salute of said Vessel, as it now stands in the Treaty. —

That the Article which relates to Slaves taking refuge on board Ships of War of the U. States, shou'd be the same as that which relates to the same subject with the most favour'd Nations. —

The existing Treaty between His Excellency the Bey & the U. States of America, have been made by the mutual consent of the parties, & duly ratified, can only be changed by the mutual agreement of the same. — The foregoing propositions are therefore made for the consideration of His Excellency the Bey, who will, in his wisdom, be able to judge, if an acquiescence in them will tend to increase the friendship and good understanding between the two Nations, and promote their mutual advantage. —

Shou'd he be convinced that those benefits wou'd result from a confirmation of them, His Excellency will be pleased to signify his assent thereto; or should he be of a different opinion, he will have the goodness to make such remarks thereon, as may arrise in his mind; or suggest other propositions which may produce the same desirable effects. —

TUNIS August 22nd 1805.

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. 7, Part II, Jan. 1806–Sept. 1807.]

To William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP Constitution
Tunis Bay August 22^d 1805

SIR Since writing you yesterday, I have changed my mind, respecting the *Constellation*, and *John Adams*, calling at this Bay, and have directed their proceeding direct to America. Cap^t Stewart goes home in the *Constellation*, and Cap^t Campbell goes into the *Essex* —

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May, 1805–July 1806.]

To Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, U. S. Frigate *Constellation*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S FRIGATE Constitution
Tunis Bay 22 Aug^t 1805

SIR The former Gunner of the *Essex* COSGROVE is to return to the U States in the *Constellation*, and as you know him better than myself you will make such representations to the Secretary of the Navy—respecting him, as his Conduct merits — The former Sail maker of the same ship MASON, is also to return, to the U States in the *Constellation* — Long the Carpenter now on board the *Essex* is to return to America in the *Constellation* — She is I understand in want of a Carpenter, & if you think proper to solicit that he may be reinstated, and attached to that ship your solicitations shall be attended to

MASON sail maker is to be suspended from duty untill the sentence of the late Court Martial convened for his trial shall be promulgated by order of the proper Authority. JR —

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

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy
 U, S, S, *Constellation* [*Essex*] TUNIS BAY
 August 22^d 1805 —

SIR I have to inform you that I Took Charge of this Ship [*Essex*] at Two oClock P M, Likewise that she has on board Eight thousand Gallons of water, with a greater proportion of Provisions, with which, she Waits your orders —

[LC. JRP, Vol. 1, March, 1791–Dec. 1814.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
 Tunis Bay 22^d August 1805

N^o 12

(Sent by the *Congress Frigate*)

SIR I herewith have the honor to Enclose the proceedings of all the Courts Martial, which have been held since my Command of the Squadron — By those cases you will discover that it had become high time to make some examples, and I hope the result will have a good effect — perhaps the next *twelve* months may pass over without a single example of the kind being necessary. I should have sent the Proceedings of the Courts in the cases of Midshipmen Reid & Cheshire & Doct^r Kipp by the *John Adams*, as they return to the U States in her, had I been able to have got them copied in time. Kipp appears to be a poor Simple creature and deserves to be pited —

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

To Robert Montgomery, U. S. Consul, Alicante, Spain, from Secretary of the Navy

NAV DEPT 22 Aug^t 1805.

Capt^t [William Hannover] commanding the [American ship *Raleigh*] having on board Naval Stores for Algiers, has been ordered in the event of Algiers being blockaded to proceed to Alicant and there deliver his cargo to you. If under these orders Captain [Hannover] should proceed to Alicant, you will be pleased to receive the cargo and have it taken care of, forwarding to Col^o Lear by the first opportunity that may offer, all necessary information respecting it, and you will be pleased to attend to such instructions as you may receive from Col^o Lear on the subject.

[NDA. Barbary Powers LB, 1803–1808.]

Extracts from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *President*, Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 22 August 1805

1½ Spoke the Ship which had given chase to us she proved to be his B M. Ship [space] of 74 Guns. he sent his boat on board us, and informed us the fleet in sight was the English East India fleet of 37 Sail under Convoy of 7 Sail of the line commanded by Admiral Rainiar

Latitude Observed 34°49' N.

Longitude Observed 40°25' W.

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

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
 Tunis Bay Aug^t 23^d 1805

N^o 9.

SIR Enclosed is a Copy of an authority given by me [12 July 1805] to George Dyson Esq^r Navy Agent Syracuse for the subsistence of Hamet Bashaw, and have to request that you will have the goodness to inform me, as early as possible, what is to be done with that unfortunate and helpless Man. — I endeavoured all in my power to prevail on him to go to the U. States, as I conceived it would be best that the Government should see him — and have an opportunity of determining for themselves, however the horrid ideas he entertained of crossing the Atlantic, prevented my persuasion having any effect.

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

[23 August 1805]

Affidavit of Sailing Master John Allen, U. S. Navy, and John Thompson, Master's Mate

CONSULAR OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

(L. S.)

GIBRALTAR.

On this 13th day of September, 1805, personally appeared in my consular office of the United States of America, John Allen, commander of the sloop *Ranger*, belonging to the government of the aforesaid United States, and John Thompson, master's mate on board said sloop *Ranger*, who, after being sworn on the Holy Evangelists, did declare jointly and severally, each speaking for himself, that they sailed in and with said vessel from Boston, in America, on or about the 21st day of July last, on the service of said government, in company with the sloop *Traveller*, commanded by captain Benjamin Prince, with whom they parted company a few days after their leaving Boston, by stress of weather.

That on the 23d of August last, being in latitude 40 deg. 32 minutes north, and longitude 30 deg. 33 minutes west, a schooner came up with them mounting six guns with 16 blunderbusses, and about eighteen men, who, although the American colours were flying on board the *Ranger*, and the vessel hove to, fired three broadsides at her without shewing any colours, ordering capt. Allen to go on board them, which he did; they then came on board the sloop *Ranger*, broke open captain Allen's chest and trunk, taking from them twelve white shirts, a suit of uniform, six pair silk and six do. cotton stockings, twelve handkerchiefs, two blue jackets, three white dimity waistcoats, two new hats, two pair new shoes, and two pair nankeen pantaloons, a spy-glass, 63 gallons brandy, butter, cheese, pork, and other articles of ship's stores; likewise, the doctor's box, the mate's, and some of the men's clothes and money; also, a letter from the governour of Malta, and several other papers.

That the commander and crew of the said schooner privateer behaved in a most insulting and abusive manner, and they seemed by their appearance, language, dress, and manners, to have been Spaniards; wherefore, they make this declaration, and protest, not only for the robbery committed, but also for the insult shewn the flag under which they sailed.

JOHN ALLEN,
JOHN THOMPSON.

Sworn and declared the day and year first above written, before me,

JOHN GAVINO

Consul of the United States of America.

[Am. State Papers, Vol. 5, 1803-1807.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. NavyN^o 13U. STATES SHIP *Constitution**Tunis Bay August 23th 1805*

SIR, I herein have the honor to Enclose you a statement of the quantity of Provisions left in Store at Malta & Syracuse, exclusive of what the Squadron has at present on board; This will enable you to form a pretty correct opinion of the quantity necessary to be sent from the U. States calculating that there is after the departure of the *Congress*, *Constellation* and *John Adams* for America, about equal to 1600 Rations consumed p^r Day. — 40 or 50 Hawsers from 6 to 10 Inches also 2 Cables of 22 Inch, 2 Do, of 19 Inch, 2 do, of 15 Inch — 2 do, of 16 Inch and 4 of 14 Inch, as also 300 coils of Rigging assorted from Ratling to 8 Inch — a small quantity of Sail Cloth will answer, each Vessel having a pretty good stock on hand exclusive of what is in Store—Light Canvass is most wanting such as N^o 4, 5 & 6 and some Ravens Duck. —

I pray you will inform me whether the agents at Syracuse & Malta are to be allowed 2½ p^r Cent on all Provisions received & delivered by them, or whether it is only on their purchases. — This thing appears not yet to be understood, as 5 p^r Cent has in most instances been charged by them on their purchases and nothing for provisions sent from the U. States, altho received and delivered by them — two a half p^r Cent on all would be equal to rather more than five p^r Cent on purchases but I concieve it would have a good effect in the end; as they now consider that they have all the trouble as also some responsibility in receiving Provisions sent from the U. States without any profit.

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 23 August 1805

[Tunis Bay] ½ past 5 [P. M.] the *Constellation* Got under weigh for Syracuse
¼ past 6 Colonel Lear came on board from Tunis —

[USNA.]

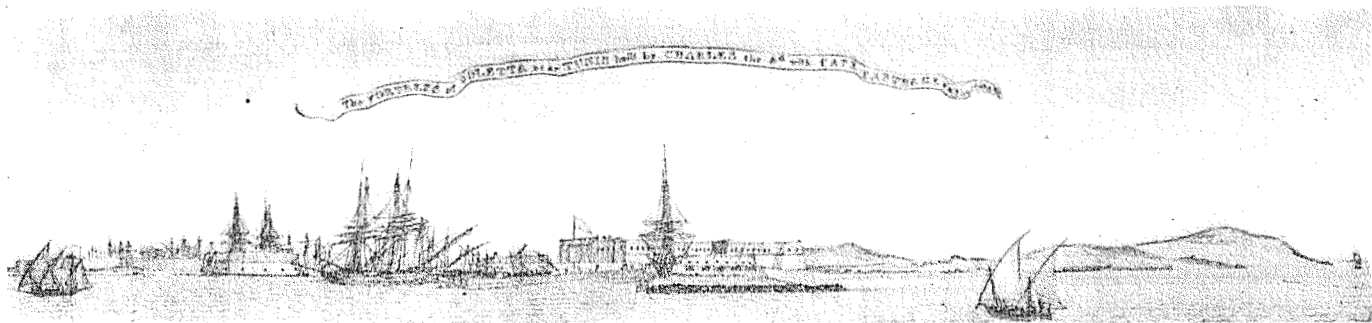
To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

U. STATES FRIGATE *President*
at Sea August 24, 1805.

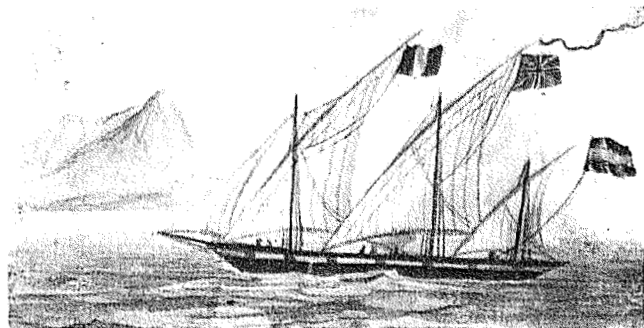
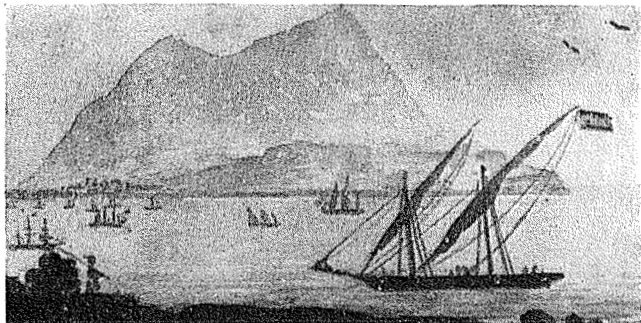
SIR! I have the Honor to transmit you under Cover of the Present sundry papers relating to the situation of Mr Cha^r L. Ridgely, an acting Lieutenant lately attached to the U. States Schooner *Nautilus*, with some particulars of which report may probably 'ere this have made you acquainted. Nothing Sir is more distressing to the feelings of a Commander than to be under the necessity of representing in the language of regret and censure the Conduct of those Serving under him; more especially when that Conduct is not confined to the faults of the Individual but tends to commit the reputation of the Service & the National honor — the occurrence to which I allude is one of those which imposes on me this unpleasant duty. — The Letter annexed of 13 April [See Vol. 5, p. 508] from Lieut. Ridgely with the demand of the Governor of Messina addressed to Captain Dent will best explain the circumstances of this unhappy affair, to these therefore I beg leave to refer you without entering into further detail as to the facts; I conceive it proper however officially to acquaint the Navy Department that on a view of the nature of the offence complain'd of & the formal Demand of Governor Guillechini, I felt myself called upon by every principle of right & justice no less than the acknowledged laws & usages among civilized Nations to deliver up the Officer in question to a judicial investigation. It will be seen by a reference to the accompanying papers that this determination was not form'd without due & sufficient deliberation, & that it was cheerfully acquiesced in by Mr Ridgely himself, who while he strongly asserted his innocence of the crime laid to his charge, felt in common with myself & the Officers of the Squadron in general the necessity of coming forward & publicly clearing his own Character as well as that of the Service from the imputation of an act, so heinous in itself & so abhorrent to Society; In consequence of this determination, I placed him in charge of Captain Decatur comm^d the *Congress* frigate (who was instructed to touch at Messina on his way to Leghorn) & having the highest confidence in the judgement of that Officer, who interested himself warmly in the matter, I left the management of it to him — At the same time I addressed a Letter to Mr Broadbent our Agent at Messina, the respectability of whose Character & standing in life joined with a great share of active benevolence, constituted him a fit Advocate on such an occasion, recommending the young Man in the most impressive terms to his friendly protection, & earnestly soliciting the exertion in his behalf of the powerful influence which he possesses with Individuals & with the Government.

The letters from that Gentleman, from Captain Decatur & Mr Ridgely will inform you of the Sequel, & the situation in which the affair stood at my Departure from Sicily; from the measures adopted & the caution observed as well as the assurances of Mr Broadbent I entertain little doubt that it has 'ere this been brought to a favorable termination, & that Mr R. is return'd with a mind more at ease to his duty in the Squadron. —

In addressing you Sir who are so well qualified to judge of this subject, it were needless to enter into a justification of the motives which dictated my Conduct in giving up Lieutenant Ridgely to be tried by that authority whose Laws he stood accused of having violated — these motives bear testimony to their own rectitude, they are such as approve themselves to my own mind & I am persuaded they will be perfectly satisfactory to the Department — it wou'd be equally unnecessary to dwell upon the sinister impression made by this event, not only in Sicily, but at Malta (the unfortunate Victim of the affray being a British Subject & attached to the King's Service) or on the reasons derived from a view of the Consequences which must inevitably have ensued to our Operations & our national Interests in the Mediterrⁿ, had not the claim of the Sicilian Government been complied with, as these reasons, altho they had their weight being important in themselves, were yet secondary to those which originated in a sense of Justice & the Respect due to the established Laws & Customs of Nations. You will perceive by my Correspondence with Commodore Rodgers that at my suggestion he sent the *Nautilus* to Messina immediately after Peace was concluded, in order that Captain Dent & his Officers might appear on the Trial & render all the assistance



THE FORTRESS OF GOLETTA NEAR TUNIS.



TWO SKETCHES OF SPANISH GUNBOATS OFF GIBRALTAR.

in their power; His return was hourly expected when the *President* left Syracuse & I doubt not but the Commodore will make known the issue by the earliest Conveyance. —

It is not without deep reluctance that I make this Communication to you, the subject of which is the more painful as Mr Ridgley's General Character is in every respect deserving of the Esteem of his Brother Officers — active, brave and generous, he has given flattering indications of those qualities which matured by experience would form a valuable & distinguished Officer, and I cannot sufficiently lament that in an imprudent hour he should bring me as Commander of the Squadron into circumstances productive of so much difficulty & anxiety, & himself into a situation which might have annulled the promise of his early years, & placed an insuperable bar to his future advancement and fame; I hope however that an honorable acquittal will dissipate this cloud & restore him again to the service of his Country, and it is greatly to be wished that He as well as other young Men in the service may not remain unadmonished by this unfortunate occurrence, which should teach them to be more upon their guard when on shore in foreign Countries, where it becomes them to consider that they are not the Depositories of their own reputations only, but of the reputation of the Navy, and the Honor of the Nation whom they represent. —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

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

TUNIS August 24th 1805

SIR, I have the pleasure to inform you that we had a passage to this place yesterday of 5½ hours, which made it too late to go to Bardo according to appointment which was 7 o'clock. — At 11 we went to the Gardens of the Bey and Sapatapa, where we received every mark of respect and polite attention. An elegant entertainment was provided for our Officers, with which they were much pleased. On our return we met the Bey on a plane, among his horses, where we stop'd a short time, and I introduced the officers to him. He was gracious as usual, and full of friendly expressions. I told him you would have come on shore had you not found so much to engage you on board that prevented your leaving the Squadron with convenience. He expressed the pleasure he should have had in seeing you &

The Sapatapa is to send me a written answer today to my letter respecting the alteration of articles in the treaty. — The Ambassador dined with us. He will pay his respects to you, and go to see the Congress as soon as she arrives; and in the meantime will be ready to embark by Wednesday or Thursday. —

The day after tomorrow I shall return on board with Mr Lear, who sends her sends her best regards & Compliments to you

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May–Oct. 1805.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

U. S. S. Essex. TUNIS BAY
Aug^t 24th 1805

SIR I beg leave to inform you That the Wheel of this ship is so defective as to require immediate repairs. It is now in the Carpenters hands and will I presume be ready for use by Tomorrow Evening —

[LC. JRP, Vol 1, March, 1791–Dec. 1814.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy,
commanding, Saturday, 24 August 1805

[Tunis Bay] At 4 [A. M.] Colonel Lear left the ship for Tunis, the *Argus* got under weigh for Port Farino to water
sailed the schooner *Nautilus*.

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

TUNIS Aug.^t 25th 1805

DEAR SIR, I had the pleasure this morning to receive your acceptable favor of yesterday; and am much pleased to find the expressions of respect for us extends

Commission pray send me a Duplicate as soon as possible — The little Cargo coming out now or during the winter *would* answer, but I must have liberty to land & sell out of Store in small parcels —
I send you a letter for Capt^r Barron which please forward

[L.C. EPP, Vol. 15, June-Aug. 1805.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 21 August to Sunday, 25 August 1805

[Steward Loomis was transferred to the *Congress* from the *Vixen* on 19-20 August 1805.]

Went to Porto Perana and watered ship and returned and anchored in Tunis Bay
[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 25 August 1805

[Tunis Bay] the Frigate *Congress* Arrived from Port Farino [after midnight].
[USNA.]

Extracts from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *President*, Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 25 August 1805

10½ Joseph Ferguson fell from the Main top and expired a few minutes after —
1½ [A. M.] Committed the body of Joseph Ferguson to the deep with the usual ceremonies.

Latitude Observed 35°34'N. Longitude D. R. 46°26'W.

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

To Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay August 26th 1805

SIR I have to acquaint you that the Ambassador will be down on a visit to your Ship tomorrow he will call here first & from this will go to the *Congress*; I shall Salute him on his leaving the Ship by manning yards with three cheers, but no Guns & wish you to do the same, —

[HS of Pa.]

Certificate concerning U. S. Brig *Franklin*

Constitution TUNIS BAY 26 Aug^t 1805

These are to Certify that the Brig^t *Franklin*, at present under the Command of Mr Charles Robinson Midshipman, is the property of the U States, and that the crew on board of her, regularly belongs to the service of said States —

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

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

N^o 16

U. STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay August 27th 1805

SIR, For the good of the service — as Master Commandant Stewart was very desirous of returning to the U. States I was in consequence induced to direct Capt^r Campbell to take command of the *Essex* & Stewart to return to America charged with the command of the *Constellation*. —

The *Essex* and Brig *Vixen* will remain on the Gibraltar station this Winter for such reasons as appear in my orders to Capt^r Campbell, which I herein enclose you. The remainder of the Squadron will Rendezvous at Syracuse — I shall send the *Enterprize* (the command of which Vessel I have given to Lieut Porter) from this

to Tripoli to ascertain how our affairs stand in that Regency, altho this is almost unnecessary; as I know with certainty that all is well. Was it not that while we have a force in these Seas so formidable as the present, I conceive it ought to be kept in motion; as it not only affords the Officers an opportunity of gaining information, but also informs the different powers of the Mediterranean that our Force is not only numerous but active — The *Enterprize* after communicating with Tripoli will return to Syracuse. — As it respects my own destination I refer you to the orders herein enclosed to Capt^v Hull — My reasons for going to Leghorn are to procure Cash for the use of the Squadron as it cannot at this moment be procured at Malta or Syracuse without great loss: Coll^v Lear goes with me to Leghorn to procure the Biennial present for Algiers, and at which place I shall set him down on my return to Syracuse. —

To Lieut^t Evans I have given the command of the *Nautilus*, Master Commandant Dent, her former Commander, having requested permission to return home in the *John Adams*, in consequence of bad Health — At present the Vessels of the Squadron are commanded as follows — Cap^{tn} Campbell of the *Essex*—Hull the Brig *Argus*—Smith, Brig *Syren*—Cox, Brig *Vixen*—Porter, Schooner *Enterprize*—Evans, the *Nautilus*—Crane, Sloop *Hornet* and the Gun Boats the same Commanders as when they left America — Master Comm^{dr} Robinson returns to the U. States in the *Congress* Frigate. —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

[27 August 1805]

To Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

SIR, I would rather you would go to Tunis after Captains Decatur and Smith return — Cap^t Smith has signified that he wishes to go tomorrow, Cap^t Decatur is now there, and if more of the Commanding Officers then two at a time was to go; I should be exposing the Vessels in case of bad weather. —

TUESDAY EVENING 27th Aug^t 1805

[NDA. Isaac Hull LB, 1803–1806.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

N^o 21.

U. STATES SHIP *Constitution*

Tunis Bay Aug^t 27th 1805

SIR, Neither of the two Bomb Vessels mentioned in your Letters of the 30th of April had arrived at Syracuse or Malta on the 26th or 27th of last Month, as the *Congress* left both those places on these days — however as the *John Adams* calls at both places before she returns, perhaps you may yet hear of their arrival by her. —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

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

NEW YORK 27th August 1805

SIR I arived hear on Saturday last and found that the Boats for the *Hornet* nearly completed. and I think are two of the finest boats I ever saw —

I have not yet been able to discover any suitable Character's for a Boatswain, Gunner, or Carpenter, but hope too befor I leave this. which I contemplate doing the latter part of this week

[NDA. MC LB, 1804–5.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 27 August 1805

[Tunis] Turkish Consul came on board — fired a salute and manned the yards.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 27 August 1805

[Tunis Bay] At 11 [A. M.] the *Argus* arrived from Port Farenò.

[USNA.]

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

TUNIS Wednesday Aug^t 28. 1805

DEAR SIR, Owing to the lightness of the wind after we got into the lake, we were not able to get up to Tunis while there was light enough to know the Channel, and consequently got fast on the flats, a short distance from the landing place, where we were detain'd so long as to prevent our getting through the Gates before they were shut. And after once shut at night they are opened to no person. — We were taken by the Ambassador to the House of one of his friends in the outskirts of the City, where we met with every hospitality they could bestow, and furnished with excellent lodgings. — This misfortune prevents us from going to Bardo, today, as we could not give information of our intention 'till this morning. I have now sent the droggerman out, and expect by him an answer, which I presume will fix the hour for tomorrow morning. — Should we not go to Bardo today I shall not be able to invite those persons on board tomorrow, as you wished; but the Consuls, if they go would go on Friday as readily as any other day. I shall pass the compliments which you requested to the Sapatapa & Hadge Unis; but I do not think either will come on Friday. —

Mr Eaton went down to the Goletta this morn^g in order to go on board your ship. — I find his arrival here has created much speculation, and no little suspicion on the part of some of the natives respect^g the object of his visit as it relates to our affairs; and I should not be surpriz'd if it should cause a hesitation in doing all which might otherwise be done. — I think he should not have come on shore, without your knowledge; and had his case been mine, I w^d have wished that the Govern^t might have known that I was here before I landed. —

If there are any accounts of the Ships to be settled here, would it not be well for Mr Johnson to come up tomorrow for that purpose, as he knows what has been or will be sent on board? —

M^{rs} Lear desires her regards & compliments —

[LC. JRP, Let. & Doc., Ac. 3647, 1799-1848.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

N^o 22 forwarded by the
Congress Cap^t DECATUR

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay 28th August 1805

SIR I herewith enclose to you the Commissions of all the Officers, which have returned to the U States, as there was no opportunity to examine them previous to their return, altho one of the first orders, I gave after my succession to the Command of the Squadron, was for that purpose —

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805-July 1806.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *President*, Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 28 August 1805

4½ [A. M.] Thomas Doane departed this life having an attack of Convulsion fits.

9 Committed his body to the deep —

Latitude Observed 36° 11' N. Longitude Observed 50° 23' W.

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

To Master Commandant John Smith, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Siren*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay 29th August 1805

SIR You are desird to furnish Cap^t Cox with a Copy of all papers & documents, relating to the U S Brig *Vixen* that you received from the Navy Department —

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

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

TUNIS, Aug^t 30th 1805

DEAR SIR, We have been at Bardo this morning, where we met the usual civilities, such as have been shewn since I have been here. Capt^r D. goes on board this forenoon. — The Ambassador has his last audience tomorrow morning, and has requested Capt D. to let him have a boat sent up to embark at 3 o'clk. —

I must see the Bey again tomorrow morning, and shall, therefore, not be able to come off tomorrow, as I mentioned yesterday. For myself I would go on board tomorrow afternoon; but as M^r Lear goes with me, I should not wish her to take the chance of being out after night; so that we shall go on Sunday morning to the Goletta by land, and be there by 7½ or 8 o'clk, from whence we will go on board in the Barge, if you will have the goodness to send her for us. — As there may be many things to be sent on board tomorrow, I will thank you if you will let the first cutter be sent up here tomorrow morning to take off every thing. —

Notwithstanding there have been many attempts to interrupt the final sittlement of our business here, in the way it has been done, we shall accomplish it in the handsomest manner. —

M^r Lear desires her best regards & compliments to you. — Believe me to be very respectfully & truly Your's

P. S. 12 o'clk. I have this moment rec^d your favor of this date, and I find that which I have written is partly in answer to it, so far as relates to the time of the Ambassador's going on board. — As the time of departure is so pressing I presume it will not be convenient for those persons to go on board to dine of whom we spoke when I was on board. — I know how anxious you must be, of course, to get off from hence, on many accounts, and I am sure I feel the same anxiety; but it would not be well to depart until all our affairs are fully finished, which will certainly be tomorrow. — I shall see Hodge Unis and the Sapatapa this afternoon, and will make them the compliment of going on board; but at the same time shall hint at the necessity of our immediate departure, on account of the season &c^r

I send this by Capt^r Decatur, and if anything more occurs before the departure of the Gigg, — will communicate it.

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May–Oct. 1805.]

To Lieutenant David Porter, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Schooner *Enterprize*,
from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay 30th August 1805

SIR You will proceed to Tripoli and after communicating with Mr Ridgely our Charge d'Affaires, and receiving his dispatches you will repair to Syracuse, and hold yourself subject to the orders of the Senior Officer that you may find in that port —

P S When it is intened you shall commence the execution of these orders the signal will be made for the *Enterprize* to weigh J R —

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

To John Ridgely, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tripoli, from Captain John Rodgers,
U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay 30th August 1805

SIR I have sent the U States Schooner *Enterprize* Lieut^t Porter (your old fellow sufferer) to Tripoli to ascertain from you, how our affairs are going on &c^r — The Bey of Tunis has received a lesson lately such, as he has not hitherto been accustomed, but as Lieut Porter is well acquainted with every thing that has transpired in this quarter, I beg leave to refer you to him for all the necessary information — After Lieut^t Porter has communicated with you, and received whatever dispatches you may have to forward to Government, or myself, I have directed him to proceed to Syracuse — Pray present my unfeigned respects to that Amiable and good Man Mr Nissen, and tell him that the reason of my not Sending the Wine, which I promised, was owing to their being none of the same quality at Syracuse —

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

To Master Commandant John Smith, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Siren*,
from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay 30th Aug^t 1805

SIR So soon as the signal is made for the U States Brig *Siren*, under your command, to weigh. — I have to desire that you proceed without loss of time to Syracuse, calling at Malta in your passage to direct the Bomb Brig's if they have arrived there to proceed to Syracuse to Rendezvous & receive further orders* You are directed also to remain at Syracuse with the *Siren* untill further orders from me —

*In case of a provision Ship having arrived at Malta & her Cargo not landed before you reach there, you are directed to Convey her to Syracuse to deposit the same in the hands of Mr Dyson Navy Agent—

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

To William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay 30th August 1805

SIR You will receive this by the *Siren* which vessel, I have directed to call at Malta, for the purpose of ordering the Bomb vessels, in case they have arrived there, to Syracuse, also to Convey the Store Ship if she has arrived to Syracuse, to make a deposit of her Cargo, provided she has not done this at Malta, previous to this reaching you — I have no news worth Communicating, further than what Cap^t Smith, will be able to give you, except that my provisions are so far expended that I shall be obliged to call at Syracuse, to replenish, and will perhaps take Malta in my way thence — The *Congress* will leave this to morrow for the U States, with a Tunetian Ambassador on board, and I shall leave here, the day after her departure

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

To Surgeon Thomas Marshall, U. S. Navy, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay 30th August 1805

SIR You are here by appointed to act as Surgeon, to the Gun Boats — Your residence to be on board of Gun Boat N^o 2, [*] — In port you are desired to visit all the boats once a day and administer to the Sick in such manner as will best insure the health of their Crews, you will be provided with a Boat for your own separate Convenience, in the discharge of your duties, which Boat is not to be used for any other purposes without your Consent — You will be pleased to establish a black Ball, about the size of a half Bushell, to be hoisted at the Maintopmast head of the Boats, as a signal to express their want of a Surgeon, in any particular case, which will be answered by the Boat you may be on board of, at the time the signal is made, by an American Ensign at the same mast head —

[*Another copy of this letter states "on board No. 3".]

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

To Midshipman Charles Robinson, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Franklin*,
from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay 30th August 1805.

SIR After getting to Gibraltar, and discharging the provisions you now have on board, (in such manner as Captain Campbell may think proper to direct) you are desired, to proceed to the Eastern Branch, Washington, and as early as possible, report your arrival to the Hon^{ble} the Secretary of the Navy, for further orders —

[NDA. Officers LB, 1802–1805.]

[31 August 1805]

To President Thomas Jefferson from Hamouda, Bey of Tunis

[Translation]

HAMUDA BASHAW BEY, *Prince of Princes of Tunis, the Well Guarded City, The Abode of Felicity.*

To Mr. THOMAS JEFFERSON,
President of the United States of America.

MY GREAT AND GOOD FRIEND, I certainly did not expect to find myself under the necessity of writing to you in the present sense; but since an unforeseen chance requires it, and since the consequences deriving from an inappropriate dispute forced on me, which I never provoked, offer me this supreme and for me ever new pleasure, I shall limit myself to telling you that having resolved to send an Ambassador to you personally, with the aim of still further convincing you of my good friendship for you and your nation, and of the high esteem in which I hold you particularly, I have entrusted to him a compendium of the last discussion between Commodore Rodgers, the Consul General Tobias Lear, and myself.

From the same please note that the many unpleasantnesses which I experienced on this occasion could quite well have been avoided were it not for the too martial temper of the aforesaid Commodore Rodgers, very imprudently stirred up and supported by the Chargé d'Affaires, George Davis, whose equivocal conduct has deserved examination, just as it caused me extreme surprise.

My Ambassador aforesaid, who will be the bearer of the present, is my faithful and well-deserving servant Soliman Melemelli, whom I had already destined for an important mission to the Grand Sultan in Constantinople.

He is charged to present you with some tokens of my esteem which I hope you will be pleased to receive favorably, especially since he will assure you of my perfect good friendship and of my wish to continue it in spite of what has been done or attempted to plunge us into a state of war.

Inasmuch as, despite the address of the sagacious Consul Lear, who has dealt with me on this occasion by virtue of the authority conferred on him by you, we have not been able to settle in a mutually advantageous and reciprocal manner the divers points of complaint or of pretension raised by Commodore Rodgers and the Chargé d'Affaires, Davis, the latter having become through their own fault of such a temper that it required your examination and your direct decision; I therefore have provided my Ambassador with my authority and my instructions to treat with you and terminate everything in conformity with my said instructions.

The principal demand is that of the alteration and addition to some articles of our Treaty of Peace, solemnly approved and ratified by your Predecessor.

I do not know nor have I been able to understand how this could be demanded (threats even having been used against me) when such claims have never been addressed or indicated to me by you. Wherefore, not knowing any reason for making such a change, not taking pleasure in altering our treaties, I have however proposed to Consul General Lear that I should consent to the proposed change, provided that I be accorded a proportionate Indemnity.

This is one of the principal points on which we have not succeeded in agreeing, and it is concerning this that I beg you, my Great and Good Friend, to give entire and full credit to all that my Ambassador will tell you in my name, assuring you that everything which he may conclude and agree upon with you in the tenor of and in conformity with the orders and instructions which I have given him will have my approval.

Impatient to receive your gracious tokens with the notice of the safe arrival before you of my Ambassador, whom once again I recommend to you, I wish you from Heaven, my Great and Good Friend, the most complete Happiness.

At the Bardo of Tunis, the 5th of the Moon Gemed Theni, A. H. 1220, And the 31st of the Month of August, A. D. 1805.

HAMUDA BASHAW BEY
(SEAL)

[NA. SDA. CD, Tunis, Vol. 3, July 1805–Sept 1806.]

[31 August 1805]

To Secretary of State from Jussuf Hoggia, Keeper of the Seals, Prime Minister of the Bey of Tunis

[Translation]

JUSSUF HOGGIA, Keeper of the Seals and Prime Minister of His Excellency the *Bashaw Bey of Tunis*.

To the Honorable JAMES MADISON, Secretary of State of the Government of the United States of America.

Sir, I cannot permit Si Soliman Melemelli, Ambassador of my Illustrious Master to the President of the United States of America, to leave without entrusting to him this letter of mine to you, Sir, in which I have the pleasure to assure you directly of my distinguished esteem, and of my care to maintain in the mind of my Master friendly and peaceful sentiments toward your nation, of which he is now giving proof by means of the Ambassador, who bears papers sufficient to confirm these sentiments and dispositions.

I shall be extremely grateful for all attentions, kindnesses and facilities which you may use toward the bearer of my letter of recommendation and I shall be so all the more when I know that through your valuable assistance he has succeeded in consolidating the amity between the two nations on a stable and mutually advantageous footing.

To the said Ambassador, Melemelli, I have entrusted some remembrances, which I beg you to accept as a slight token of the ambition which I nourish of being useful to you and convincing you that on all occasions I shall always be sincerely

Your Ob^dt Serv^t and Friend

JUSSUF HOGGIA (SEAL)

AT THE BARDO OF TUNIS
31 August 1805

[NA. SDA. CD, Tunis, Vol. 3, July 1805–Sept. 1806.]

[31 August 1805]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from Jussuf Hoggia, Keeper of the Seals, Prime Minister of the Bey of Tunis

[Translation]

JUSSUF HOGGIA, Keeper of the Seals

Prime Minister of His Excellency the Bashaw Bey of Tunis.

To Mr. TOBIAS LEAR, Consul General of the United States of America for the Regency of Algiers, &c.

SIR, In reply to the letter which you wrote me on the 22d of the current Month of August, I have the pleasure to inform you that having taken under Consideration the contents of the same, Concerning the requested modification or complete alteration of four articles of the Treaty of Peace existing between our Regency and the United States of America, I have rendered an exact account of the whole to His Excellency the Bashaw Bey, my Illustrious Master. And after mature reflection the latter instructs me to tell you that in regard to the article on customs, he promises from now henceforth and until the return of the ambassador, Sidi Soliman Melemelli, from America, not to oblige nor make American Subjects who shall come here to trade in this interval pay any duty in excess of what is here paid by the most favored nations, and that similarly he will not make use of American vessels which he may sometimes need, excepting under the same terms and conditions that apply to the vessels of the most favored nations under similar circumstances.

With regard to the salute to be given by these fortresses to the men-of-war of the United States which might from time to time call here, and with regard to the flight of slaves aboard the same, His Excellency intends to let these two articles stand with the same tenor and force as the Treaty itself and not to alter them before the return of the Ambassador with the ratification of the President or with such additions or modifications as he shall have made in agreement with His Excellency the President aforesaid.

Of this I hasten to inform you, and offering you my sincere respects, I am with the highest regard, Your most affectionate friend

JUSSUF HOGGIA (SEAL)

AT THE BARDO OF TUNIS
31 August 1805

[NA. SDA, CD, Algiers, Vol. 7, Pt. II, January 1806–September 29, 1807.]

To Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. S. *Essex*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay 31 August 1805.

SIR As I have resolved on dividing the Squadron, into Two Divisions, or rather as it is my Intention, that the Frigate *Essex*, and Brig *Vixen*, should remain on the Gibraltar Station, during this Winter, for the protection of our Commerce, as also to forward to me, all important dispatches from our Government; I have in consequence to direct that you proceed thence with these Two Vessels, with all practicable dispatch, and as early as possible, inform yourself of the State of our affairs, in that quarter, which information you will be pleased to communicate to me by the Schooner *Nautilus*, which vessel will proceed down with you for that purpose. The latest accounts from Madrid induce me to suppose, that there is a great probability of War between the U States & Spain. I therefore suggest to you the propriety of your visiting Spanish ports with some caution, at least until the appearance of a rupture between the two Countrys, shall be removed. —

You will communicate with Mr Simpson, our Consul at Tangier as often as possible and keep the Navy Department, as also myself regularly informed of every thing of magnitude where in our Country is in any way interested. You may draw on Mess^{rs} James M^rKenzie & A Glennie of London. for what money you may want for the supplies of the two Vessels under your Command, taking care to express in the Bills the purposes for which they were drawn. I shall inform the Hon^{ble} the Secretary of the Navy, of your being stationed, at Gibraltar and suggest to him, the propriety of distinguishing such dispatches, if any) as require there contents, being made known to you, previous to my reception of them — As I have directed the Brig *Franklin* to proceed to the U States I have to request, that you will convoy her clear of the Streights. After having at Gibraltar landed or received, on board your Ship, as most convenient, such provisions, as she has on board, leaving her only a sufficient quantity to carry her to the U States.

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

To Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Argus*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay 31st August 1805

SIR With the Brig *Argus*, (under your immediate Command) Sloop *Hornet* and Gun Boats N^{os} 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, & 10, you are directed to proceed to Syracuse, and there Rendezvous, until my return (without the Political jarring of the European Powers, at War, should make Syracuse, an improper Port, for our Vessels; in which case you are directed to rendezvous at Malta). I shall proceed from hence to Leghorn, from thence to Algiers, and it is most likely from the latter place to join you at Syracuse, therefore in all probability, I shall not be with you again, until some time in October. In which case, I have to desire, that about the first of October — you send the *Syren*, or one of the Schooners, to this Bay, to Communicate with our Charge d'affaires, & ascertain if all is quiet. As the Officers, Commanding the Gun Boats, are generally very Young, and at an Age, whose prominent trait is not Stability, I have to desire that you pay great attention, to have regularity and System, maintained, in every thing belonging to, and under their respective Commands, and not on any Account, to suffer, any alterations to be made, without your special permission, and these only in instances, where they are absolutely necessary — Among Officers of the Age of the Majority of those, which will be with you, Dissipation is frequently not the least conspicuous, and sometime even to a degree, that saps the root of subordination, to an extent not only injurious to the particular service they are in, but also to the Character of their Nation. On this subject during my absence, I shall much rely on your discretion, & judgement in maintaining that strict

subordination, & general harmony throughout the Squadron, without which we cannot be respected. —

Mr Dyson will furnish you, with all the necessary supplies — As it respects Cash, he must furnish you with what small sums you may want, until my return, one of my reasons for going to Leghorn, is to procure that Article, therefore, he will be reimbursed immediately on my return. All requisitions to him, must be made through you — As soon after your arrival at Syracuse as possible, you will write to Mr Higgins and direct that if the Bomb Vessels, have arrived there, to order them to proceed to Syracuse — And should a Store Ship have arrived, — to direct her also to Syracuse to deposite her Stores, an[d] in case the deposite should have been made at Malta, previous to your having an opportunity of communicating this order, you are directed to dismount the Guns of the *Hornet*, and have them transported to Syracuse by her. The Freight of the Store Ships from America, are to be paid as usual. —

P S. When it is intended you shall commence the execution of these orders, the signal will be made for the *Argus* to weigh.

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1805.]

To Midshipman John D. Henley, U. S. Navy, Gunboat No. 4, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay 31st Aug^t 1805

SIR You are directed to discharge Mr J B Henry from Gun Boat No 4 under your Command, he having obtained my permission to leave the service of the U States for an unlimited time in Consequence of his accepting the appointment of Secretary to Col^l Lear Consul General for Algiers —

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

[7 July to 1 September 1805]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, Commodore, U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean

No 1.

SIR In my communications of the 8th of June, and those by the Frigate *President*, of the 6th & 7th July, you were partially informed of every material event, appertaining to the affairs of the Squadron, since my succession to the Command of it, and I now do myself the honor of detailing to you, all subsequent Transactions.

Between the 7th & 9th of July, the *John Adams*, and Eight Gun Boats arrived, and joined the Squadron at Syracuse, all within the space of 28 hours. This is a very extraordinary circumstance, and equally worthy of remark, when we consider that they sailed on different days, and from all the different *principal* ports between, and including Charleston (S.C.) & Boston (M.C.). In point of effective force and utility as Gun Boats, they are vastly superior to any thing of the kind, I have yet seen, and they sail, and behave in all respects uncommonly well — No 7 has not yet join'd the Squadron, I am apprehensive that some accident must have happen'd to her Mast, which has either prolonged her passage or obliged her to return. This I am induced to believe from the observations of some of the Officers commanding the other Boats, who say, that Lieutenant Ogilvie complained of her Mast not being well secured —

By the *John Adams*, I received your dispatches of the 30th, 29th, 24th and duplicate of the 16th of April, and their contents have been duly respected, as you will discover by the accompanying answers, agreeable to their respective dates.

On the 12th of July, the *Enterprize* (Capt Robinson) arrived at Syracuse, bringing with him, five boats, part of Six, which he had purchased at Alcona, for *Gun Boats*, for the particulars of which, as also his authority for purchasing them, I beg leave to refer you, to the accompanying letters denoted S, B, I, B & R — As they were neither furnished with Guns, Amunition, or Men, I was induced to lay them up at Syracuse, in the same state of Ordinary in which they arrived.

On the 14th of July, with the Frigates, *Constitution*, *Constellation*, *Essex* and *John Adams*, Brig *Syren*, Schooners *Nautilus*, and *Enterprize*, and Gun Boats No 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, & 10, as also Brig *Franklin* (Transport,) I sail'd for Malta (leaving the

Sloop *Hornet*, Lieut^t Evans, to obtain an Inventory of all the Public Stores remaining in the hands of George Dyson Esq^r Navy Agent, and to sail in 24 hours after the departure of the Squadron to join the same at Malta) at which place I was obliged to call, to furnish many requisitions, which could not be supplied at Syracuse. The Frigate *Congress*, and Brig *Vixen* being previously dispatched for Tunis, to counter act every impending danger, which might effect injury to our Commerce, before the Squadron, could arrive in that quarter, and the Brig *Argus* to Alexandria, to re-emburse Mess^{rs} Briggs & Brothers of that place, in the sum of 14,000 Dollars loaned by them to M^r Eaton, on account of the U States, which from the length of time, they had lain out of the money, and their pressing solicitations to be reimbursed, I was under the necessity of dispensing with the services of the *Argus*, for the purpose of quieting their importunities. The purpose for which this money was procured will be explained to you by the documents forwarded by Commodore Barron, previous to his resignation of the Command —

On the 16th of July we arrived at Malta, without any thing happening, on the passage worthy of remark, and gave orders for all the necessary supplies to be furnished the Squadron, as soon as possible. On my arrival at Malta, I found a Turkish Frigate, which had been sent by the Sublime Port, to claim the Ottoman Ketch *Gheritti*, and the two Greek Polacres, loaded with Wheat, and under Ottoman Colours. The former captured by Commodore Preble, (the *Gheritti* is the Ketch [*Mastic* renamed *Intrepid*] that destroyed the Frigate *Philadelphia*, and that was afterwards, the Infernal which destroyed Lieut^{ts} Somers, Wadsworth and Israel, and 10 Seamen) and the two latter, two of three vessels captured by orders of Commodore Barron, for a violation of the Blockade of Tripoli — As the object which caused the Capture of these Vessels, had died with our Tripoline Contest, I was induced to return them with the Amount of their Cargoes, to their Original Owners, without damages or costs. This I was induced to do, from a belief that the President was opposed to the measure, (as appears by his Ideas of Blockade, quoted in your general instructions) and feeling sensible in my own mind, that the consequence of detaining them longer, would in all probability prove dangerous, not only by hazarding a rupture with the Nations under whose Colours they were sailing, but in consequence of the precedent it would establish, to the great and irrevocable injury of our own Commerce. For the particulars, relative to these Vessels, I beg leave to refer you to Commodore Barrons former advices, on the subject, and for the result respecting them, to the accompanying Papers, designated B, R, H & O —

During our stay at Malta, their being 8 or 9 British Men of War, anchored in the same harbour with our Squadron, it gave rise to uneasiness in consequence of the Desertion of some Seamen from each Squadron, into the respective service of the other, which produced remonstrance, and demand of restitution on both sides, as you will discover by letters denoted A. R. & B. C. The result of this business is not explained by these letters, as perhaps the British Commander felt there was some Policy favorable to his Nation, in not committing the discussion to writing, but it will appear, that altho, an old established Law of England (I say established, because I was so informed by Cap^t Cobbett of the Frigate *Sea Horse*, who was sent by Commodore Hammond, Senior Officer, to discuss and arrange the business on their part) authorises its Officers receiving and affording protection to persons who declare themselves British Subjects, Yet, nevertheless, either the Officer has a right, to modify the Law, in proportion to the opposition he meets in its execution, or the Government aware of the consequence of such arbitrary measures, gives its Officers particular Instructions relative to their Intentions of the extent which they wish it to be exercised, which is perhaps, no further than in instances, where but little opposition is made. To shew that this is likely to be the case, it is only necessary for me, to inform you, that the two American Seamen, mentioned in Cap^t Capels letter, as also the two Deserters from the *Constitution* were delivered up, altho you will perceive he says, that the two latter, were Deserters from the British Frigate *Hornet*, and British Subjects, previous to their having entered into our service in *America*.

After receiving the Men, which I had demanded, it was stipulated between Commodore Hammond, and myself, that all Deserters from our respective Squadrons, (impressed Americans excepted) should be given up, he saying at the same time, that he did not conceive, I was bound to give up Men, which had entered our Service in the *United States*, whatever might have been their previous situation. This is what the British have never, in any one instance acknowledged before.

On the 19th July the *Hornet* Lieut^t Evans arrived at Malta, after having executed the orders for which she was left at Syracuse. On the 22nd the respective vessels of the Squadron were reported to me, as being ready for Sea, but the

Wind then blowing with great obstinacy from the Westward, prevented our departure, until the morning of the 23^d, when at 4 A. M. the signal was made to unmoor, and at 6 to weigh (altho the Wind still from the Westward, yet the appearance indicative of a change) and at 7 I had the satisfaction to see the Squadron (consisting of the same Vessels as before, with the addition of the *Hornet*) clear of the Harbor.

On the 31st July after a tedious passage of 8 Days, we reached Tunis Bay, where I met the *Constellation* Capt Campbell, (who I had sent a head two days before, to gain all the information possible, relative to our affairs before my arrival) and the Brig *Vixen* Capt Cox, which had been previously dispatched, & from whom I learnt, that the *Congress* had sailed for Malta ten days before,

Suddenly after entering the Bay it falling calm, which being soon after succeeded by a fresh breeze from the S. W, the Squadron was prevented from getting to Anchorage untill the 1st Day of August, when at Noon They came too, in 6 fathoms Water, in the Road of the Goletta, and about 4 or 4½ Miles from the same — The Schooner *Nautilus*, Capt Dent, was dispatched, and remained, all the remainder part of the day, close in with the Goletta, with a Signal flying, indicative of a wish to communicate with the Consul, yet Mr Davis did not get on board, untill the 2^d, at which time he handed me, for perusal, the detail of his conferences with the Bey of Tunis of the 12th 13th 14th & 16th of July, on the subject of our affairs denoted Q, wherein you will not only discover the most inconsistent, and petulant observations on the part of the Bey, but also language highly insulting to our Government, indeed so much so, as ought, in my humble opinion to have induced Mr Davis (particularly as he knew the Force we had here at hand, and being previously informed of my intentions) to have taken his leave — This would have given me an opportunity to have assumed, entirely a different posture immediately on my arrival, and one which the submission on his part rendered no less embarrassing to me, than had I persued a different conduct, viewing matters as they stood, on my arrival, would in all probability have gained me the disapprobation of Government. —

There can be no doubt at such a crisis, that War was the Interest of the U States, and had Mr Davis have left the Regency at a moment, when such violent threats, and gross Insult was offered, I should have had a fair pretext, for discussing the subject, by the Language of our Cannon, the only language capable of making an Imperious Barbary Pirate correct his Conduct — After perusing with due care Mr Davis's detail to the hon^{ble} Secretary of State, as before mentioned, he observed in presence of Col^l Lear (from whom in every affair of magnitude, I have never failed to Consult) that the most certain means of securing the Friendship of the Bey would be, for our Government at once to consent to pay him Tribute, and that by keeping three or four years in arrears, *in our payments*, We should always have security for the maintenance of Peace — Here I will make no comment, as such language to a Spirited Government like that of the U States, speaks for its self, further than to observe, that untill the day of my Death, I shall lament, that our affairs were now at a point which required decisive measures, yet nevertheless, it required the authority of Government, to authorise my drawing the Sword of the Nation, in defence of its honor and Interest, at a moment when I knew our force was sufficient (in Ten Days) to have made him call for Mercy on his bended Knees, however not being willing to commit any rash act, however sure of success, I considered it my duty, to obtain the best possible advice on the measures most proper to pursue, and in Consequence made the Signal for all the Senior Commanders to repair on board the *Constitution*, where a Council of War (at which Col^l Lear was present) was held, the result of which, determined me to write the Bey and Mr Davis the accompanying letters designated B & D, and to which on the 4th I received the letter marked R S, here you will observe the Bey has changed his tone, altho you will at the same time perceive, that his petulant and perverse spirit has not yet foresaken him — After reading and duly considering the contents of his letter, resolving still not to commit any act which my Country might disapprove, I again assembled a Council of War (at which Col^l Lear as before was present) and by the unanimous opinion of all, wrote Mr Davis letter S, and on the 5th directed Cap^t Decatur of the Frigate *Congress* to repair to Tunis, for reasons such as you will discover in letter X.

On the 7th Cap^t Decatur, and Mr Davis returned again to the *Constitution*, Mr Davis bringing with him letter B E Y—But owing to the Bey's informing Mr Davis, that he would not receive Cap^t Decatur, in the capacity assignd him, by me, Cap^t Decatur in a Spirited manner, refused visiting him on any other terms, and in consequence returned on board again. This step (Cap^t Decatur's returning without waiting on the Bey) produced in one hour after his departure, a letter from the Bey to Col^l Lear, expressive of his alarm, a Copy of which you will re-

ceive denoted F. This Letter was sent express, and received, before Cap^t Decatur got on board, altho it was written one hour after he embarked —

On the 8th Mr Davis debarked, for Tunis again, with Instructions N, and a letter from Col^l Lear to the Bey; On the 9th Aug^t Mr Davis returned on board again, accompanied by his Secretary and Drogerman, (bringing with him his Baggage) and informed me that the Bey would not give the Guarantee in the manner required, and (the Bey) saying that he could not consent, to the English, and French Consuls being present, that his Seal was sufficient — It was now that I saw, our situation was such, as to require the most decisive measures, at least to a certain extent, and this I was enabled to express, by a Brig (whose Colours I could not distinguish, but believe they were Rigutian) that got under weigh, which I fired two Shot at, conceiving at the time, that she had been order'd to get under Sail, in order to prove whether I would verify my last declaration, of which Mr Davis was the medium of Conveyance, and which produced the cessation of his Functions denoted N. I now ordered the *Nautilus* Cap^t Dent, to get underweigh, and lay off the entrance of the Bay, and to board all Vessels, going out, and if they belonged to Tunis, and were *armed in any shape*, to send them into Port again, and board all Vessels coming in, and if belonging to Tunis, to ascertain whether they had committed any depredations on our Commerce, previous to suffering them to pass, and at any rate, if Tunetian Cruizers, to oblige them to return into this Port.

On the Morning of the 10th of August the *Vixen* Cap^t Cox, and *Enterprize* Cap^t Robinson was directed to get underweigh, and cruize at the entrance of the Bay, under the same orders, which Cap^t Dent had received the preceeding day — At Noon, and about two hours after the sailing of the two latter Vessels, the Bey sent by express, letter L, directed to Col^l Lear, and by which you will discover the panic that has taken possession of his Royal Breast—

On the 11th Col^l Lear, and my self both wrote the Bey letters, E & W — and on the 12th Col^l Lear, accompanied by M^r Cruize, (Chaplain of the *Constellation*) as *Interpreter*, debarked for Tunis, on the 13th received a letter from Col^l Lear, informing me, that he had, had an interview with the Bey, and that the succeeding Morning was appointed by him to discuss, and arrange all *matters of complaint*, altho at the same time the Bey still appears from his reception of Col^l Lear to feel something of his former disposition to prevaricate.

On the 14th at 3 P.M. discovered the *Vixen* coming round Cape Carthage, in chase of a Galley under Moorish Colours, at $\frac{3}{4}$ past 3 P. M. the chase refusing to heave too for the *Vixen*, the signal to the *Essex* (she being the nearest Ship in Shore) was made to fire at her, however this did not prevent her pursuing her course, and I was prevented from taking more effective means, as I conceived that a further attempt, would bear the appearance of Offensive, rather than defensive measures. However thus far I felt myself authorised to go, not only from the nature of the situation, in which I was placed, but from the peculiar situation, in which the honor of my Countrys Flag was at this moment pending, as can be sufficiently elucidated, by the correspondence between myself and the Bey, and his communications to M^r Davis, as stated in the latter Gentlemans communications to me—

On the 15th August at half past 2 P.M. Col^l Lear returned on board again, and by whom, I received from the Bey letter Y. and being informed by Col^l Lear, that every thing was in a fair way, for an honorable adjustment on our part, I was induced immediately to call in all Cruizers, and suspend even the defensive measures, which had thus far brought our affairs to a happy issue

On the 16th wrote the Bey letter G. On the 18th Col^l Lear debarked again for Tunis in Company with M^r Dodge, Surgeon of the *Constitution*, as Charge d'Affaires to the U States of America in the place of George Davis Esq^r — For the reasons why M^r Davis was not returned, as Charge d'Affair again to Tunis, I beg leave to refer you to Col^l Lears Communications to the Hon^{ble} the Secret^y of State. M^r Davis express'd a desire to return to the U States, and the Bey signified, that he did not wish him to be left, in Charge of our affairs, saying that it might be the cause of new difficulties, therefore as the Bey neither wish'd to receive, nor M^r Davis to return, I was induced to appoint Doct^r Dodge in his stead, untill the President may think proper to appoint some other Person — My reasons for appointing this Gentleman in preference, was, because his services could be better dispenced with, in the Squadron, than those of any other Person, of the same qualifications, that I had a personal knowledge of; Doct^r Dodge is a man of good sense, amiable in his disposition, and his integrity, the most unquestionable, however I presume, he does not expect to hold this situation, any longer than another Person can be appointed, and sent, to supercede him.

On the 19th [August] procured a Tiskura, on permit, from the Bey, to procure Water for the Squadron, at Port Farina, and sent the *Congress*, *Syren*, *Vizen*, *Enterprize* and *Nautilus*, there for that purpose —

On the 22^d Col^l Lear in company with Doct^r Dodge, returned on board the *Constitution*, after the Doct^rs having been presented to the Bey as Charge d'Affaires.

On the 24th they returned to Tunis again, accompanied by some Officers from the Squadron.

On the 27th the Tunetian Ambassador Solyman Mella Melly, made me a visit, accompanied by Col^l Lear. Saluted him with 11 Guns, and Manned the Yards &c, after taking a turn through the Ship, and making his remarks, the particulars of which I did not understand, he was accompanied by Col^l Lear, to the *Congress*, (on board of which Ship, he is to Embark for America) where he again was saluted, as on board the *Constitution*, after spending one hour on board the *Congress*, he returned to the *Constitution*; Dined, and in the afternoon debarked for Tunis — in Company with Col^l Lear and Cap^t Decatur.

On this day (1st Sep^r) the Ambassador and suit, have embarked on board the *Congress* to pursue his voyage, and as she sails to morrow for the U. States, I must beg leave for the present, to refer you to Captain Decatur for certain items. And to Col^l Lear's dispatches to the Hon^{ble} the Secretary of State for further general information—

After having detaild to you, the most material events and their effects since the departure of the Squadron from Syracuse. I now do my self the honor to offer with brevity — an exposition of my motives, to justify every part of my proceedings — It has appeard to me, for upwards of two Years — *and ever since, I have had an opportunity to form a Correct knowledge of our relative situation with Tunis*, that the moment had arrived, when decisive measures on our part, were absolutely necessary, and that such alone could prevent a War, with that Regency. Those measures have been taken, (and I will add justified by the Beys, unwarrantable conduct, not only before, but since the arrival of the Squadron in this Bay) under a conviction that whatever might be the result, that the U States would be benefitted; as I felt sensible that the Force, I had the honor of commanding, not only from its number of Guns, but the high discipline, Valor and enthusiastic zeal that prevailed throughout, was such, as to insure success against a far more formidable Enemy than the Bey of Tunis — The result is now known, and altho we seperately have gained nothing (I mean the Squadron) yet in common with our Countrymen, with the means afforded us, we have made those impressions on the mind of the Prince of this Regency, which naturally turns unprovoked menace, into Fear, and forces him to seek, the recovery of his lost consequence, by appeal to the Generosity of our Government. In fine; I conceive that our Country has already gained, every thing that she could have promised herself, from the most successful War —

As Col^l Lear's powers were seperate from those invested in the Commanding Officer of the Squadron, it is but just, that I should assert there is (I conceive) more than Common merit, in all his transactions with this Regency.

U S SHIP *Constitution*

Tunis Bay 1st Septemter 1805

[It is believed that all pertinent documents herein mentioned are included in this volume in their proper chronological order.]

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

[1 September 1805]

To the People of the United States of America, from Hamet Bashaw, son of Ali Bashaw, Caramanli of Tripoli

To the People of the United States of America.

It is known to the whole world that the reigning Bashaw of Tripoli, Jusuf, obtained the Throne by the Murder of our Father and Elder brother and by my exile, who came next in succession. Driven by his impious and cruel usurpation, I took refuge in Egypt where I was kindly received by the Mameluke Beys, who gave me a distinguished rank in the military service. Reposing in the security of peace, I had ceased to repine for the loss of my Throne, and regretted only the lot of my unhappy Subjects, doomed to the yoke of my cruel and tyranical brother.

It was at this Epoch, that the arrival of General Eaton gave me hopes of better fortune, and tho' I could not tell what were his powers, I trusted to the faith of a great people, of whom he was the ostensible representative, and threw myself into his arms. We concluded a Treaty at Alexandria, a copy of which is among the

papers of Commodore Barron in the custody of his Secretary Mr Robert Denison. This treaty not only stipulates the recovery of the Throne for me, but also includes several advantageous articles for the United States, for which Gen^l Eaton will be my Voucher: ought I then to suppose that the engagements of an American Agent would be disputed by his constituent Government? I cannot suppose that a Gentleman has pledged towards me the honor of his Country on purpose to deceive me!

General Eaton and myself with our joint followers had already advanced 600 Miles into the Kingdom of Tripoli; and a general defection had seized my brothers army, and all things prepared the protected of America to be hailed Sovereign of his usurped Throne. At this juncture a peace is concluded in which a Throne, acquired by rapine & murder, is guaranteed to its usurper, and I the rightful Sovereign, the friend and ally of America, am left unprovided for. No article in my favor, no provision for me and my family, and no remuneration for the advantages I had foregone in trusting to American honor. — I am left in Syracuse with 30 dependants, on the pittance of two hundred Dollars per Month and no prospect of future establishment. What with the expences of my retinue &c &c I, a Sovereign Prince, am now reduced to the pension of 150 Cents per day.

I must here observe that Mr Eaton, whose generosity I cannot sufficiently praise, has assisted me from his own finances, else hard indeed had been my lot.

When the prevalence of ages has accustomed men to the Government of one, the right of a Throne enters into the system of human thoughts, and that usage must have its rights like others.

In this situation I appeal to the Virtue, generosity and candour of the people and government of America. I trust that a brave and free Nation will interest itself in behalf of a fallen Prince, who has trusted to its National honor and good faith. I trust the Government will take my case into consideration and at least send me back to Egypt indemnified for those comforts lost by uniting my fortune to theirs, and I am confident the American People will feel for the misfortunes of one, who has fought in the united cause of their interest and his own right.

(Signed) AHMET BASHAW SON OF ALI BASHAW,
(L. S.) CARAMALLI of Tripoli.

SYRACUSE 1st Sept^r 1805.

[NA. Sen. 9B-B6, Pres. Message, Jan. 1806.]

To Lieutenant Samuel Evans, U. S. Navy, U. S. Schooner *Nautilus*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
TUNIS BAY 1st Sept^r 1805

SIR, I have authorised Cap^t Campbell of the *Essex* to furnish bills for the amo^t of your disbursements at Gibraltar and in Case of accident after leaving Gibraltar, you are authorised to Draw on Mess^{rs} J M^rKenzie & A Glennie of London for what money you may require for the use of the *Nautilus*, taking care to express in the bills the purposes for which they are drawn —

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

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 1 September 1805

[Tunis Bay] At 4 [P. M.] the *Essex* came in

At 11 [A. M.] Colonel Lear came on board from Tunis accompanied by the Tunisian Ambassador who we Saluted with 11 Guns

[USNA.]

To Secretary of State from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

N^o 11

ON BOARD THE U. S. Ship *Constitution*
TUNIS BAY Sept^r 2, 1805 —

SIR On the 7th of July I had the honor to receive your respected letter of the 20th of April, by which the U S Frigate *John Adams*; by which I find that the instructions given to me dated June 6th 1804, were to be still followed, as nothing in the state or prospect of things subsequent thereto, made a change necessary. — I have accordingly pursued the same, agreeably to the circumstances under which

they were brought into operation; and I hope my Conduct will meet the approbation of the President —

I claim for myself no superior merit for the highly favourable, and indeed unexpected manner in which our affairs have been settled with this Regency. — The moment was peculiarly happy for us, and the judicious and decided measures taken by Commodore Rodgers made so powerful an impression on the mind of the Bashaw, that the negotiation afterwards became easy and unembarrassed. —

I had the honor of addressing you on the 5th of July, by the U. S. Ship *President*, and now forward duplicate of that dispatch, with its enclosures. —

ON THE 13th OF JULY we left Syracuse, and proceeded to Malta, with all the Vessels of war and Gun Boats, where we arrived on the 15th. After taking in the necessary supplies for the Squadron, the Commodore sailed, on the 22^d for Tunis, as I mentioned in my last was his intention: — He had a tedious passage of 9 days to this place, owing to calms and head winds, in which the Gun Boats (altho' the most excellent Vessels of their kind in the world) could make but little progress. On the first of August Mr Davis came off on board the *Constitution*, and shewed to the Commodore and myself, the Copy of a letter which he had Written to the Honorable the Secretary of State, detailing the interviews he had had with the Bey on the 12th 13th 14th & 16th of July, in which the Bey had repeatedly threatened our Country with immediate War, as you will see by Mr Davis's letter, or the Copy enclosed. He also informed us of his determination to have gone to Malta or Syracuse, to have had a conference with the Commodore & myself — After some conversation with Mr D. on the subject of our affairs here, I asked him what he considered would be the best means of securing the Peace of this Regency on solid grounds; he answered that he conceiv'd it would be best to give them an Annuity of 8 or 10,000 dollars and keep them two or three years in Arrears, the fear of losing which would prevent their making War upon us. — Upon my expressing some surprize at such a proposal, and saying that if we intended doing this it would have been sufficient to have sent a single Vessel for the purpose; he added that in his opinion we should either do this; or keep always a force in this Sea sufficient to prevent any evil from a sudden attack. I assured him I was certain our Government would never leave this Sea without a proper force to guard our Commerce; while we should have any [of] it; and that we should never again agree to pay a tribute for peace with any Nation. —

In consequence of these declarations and hostile disposition of the Bey, as communicated by Mr Davis the Commodore assured him, that he should feel it his duty to take measures to prevent has [sic] carrying them into effect, by preventing his Cruizers now in port, from going to sea, and those which were out, from committing any depredations on our Commerce; and even blockade his port, if necessary to reduce if him to Reason. —

Mr Davis declared, that if the Commodore made such communication of his determination to the Bey he would pledge himself that the Bey would cut down the Flag staff and declare War in twelve hours. — The Commodore assured him he should write to that effect, as he conceived that the present state of things made it necessary for him to come to a decision without delay. — Accordingly he wrote to the Bey, recapitulating the threats he had made, and the hostile disposition he had discovered towards the U. S. as stated by Mr Davis; and while he expressed an earnest desire to preserve peace, and restore a good understanding between the two Nations; yet, if he did not receive from the Bey within 36 hours assurances of his pacific and friendly disposition, he should feel it his duty to Commence defensive & offensive measures against his Regency. —

At the same time I wrote a Letter to the Bey, N^o [space] and enclosed a Copy of the Presidents letter to him, in my hands. —

ON THE 3^d OF AUGUST Mr Davis wrote to the Commodore, stating that it would not be practicable to obtain an Answer from the Bey within the 36 hours, and probably not until the 5th or 6th ins^t — A Council of War was called on board the *Constitution*, when it was determined to extend the time for receiving an Answer to noon of the 6th & Mr Davis was accordingly informed thereof. —

AT 10 A M ON THE 4th Mr Davis came off and delivered to the commodore two letters which he (Mr D) had written to him (he had not received the Commodores last letter) stating that he had an interview Yesterday with the Bey, and delivered the Commodores letter of the 2^d to him. — The Bey said that as the time did not admit of his *writing* an answer to the Commodore, Mr Davis might tell him, by word of mouth, that it was his determination to adhere to the letter and Spirit of our treaty with him, and that he would not make war upon the U. States, untill he should have heard from the President on the Subject of his Vessels captured and detained; and added, in a threatening and insulting manner, that if the Commodore should stop one Vessel of his; or fire a single shot; or do any other

act which could be considered hostile, he would immediately declare war against the U. States. —

A Council of war was again called, and it was the opinion of the Commanders, as well as of myself, who was present at this & the proceeding consultation, that the Commodore should demand, in *writing* from the Bey, a declaration that he would not make war, nor commit any act of hostility against the U. States, so long as we should adhere to the Treaty now existing, nor until he should be denied reparation or indemnification for injuries or losses he may have sustained from us, after he should have made his reclamation agreeably to the Treaty existing between us; and, as the Bey had according to Mr Davis's statement, called before him two Consuls to hear his protest ag^t the United States and the Commodore, that this declaration should be made, in like manner, in presence of two Consuls. Should the Bey refuse to give such a declaration in writing, it would be concluded that he did not intend to adhere to his *verbal* declaration, and that the Commodore would be justified in taking measures to prevent his Cruizers from going to Sea, and secure our commerce effectually against any depredation. —

Mr Davis had always positively declared that the Bey would never receive me as a person authorized to do business with him, and his letters both before and after my arrival in this Bay were pointed to that effect. I had, however (as I had the honor to inform you in my last) very little doubt of his receiving me in a proper manner, when he should be *justly* informed of the Character in which the President had ordered me to present myself to him. —

ON THE 5th OF AUGUST the Commodore sent Captain Decatur up to Tunis, with the form of a declaration to be signed by the Bey; or the substance thereof in other words. —

I also wrote to the Bey by Capt. Decatur, stating that as I could not be permitted to meet him on business, agreeably to the Presidents letter, I should impute all evils which might arise from this circumstance to their proper cause. —

ON THE 7th [AUGUST] Capt. Decatur returned from Tunis, in company with Mr Davis. Capt. D. had not seen the Bey, as he was informed by Mr Davis, that they Bey refused to have any communication with him, on the Subject for which he was sent. — Just before they came on board, a boat reached the Ship from the Goletta, bringing two letters from the Bey to me, which will be found in the Packet marked, [space] saying that he had not before understood the nature of my Mission, that he was willing to see me on the Subject of our affairs and inviting me strongly to come to Bardo. Mr Davis brought a Copy of one of these letters, and also a letter from the Bey to the Commodore. Mr Davis said that he yesterday presented to the Bey Commodore Rodger's demand of a guarantee to be given, for the preservation of the peace, which irritated the Bey exceedingly and he told Mr D *that he would take out his eyes if he persisted in offering it &c^s &c^s &c^s &c^s*. The Bey says nothing on that Subject in his letters either to the Commodore or myself. Mr Davis reports that great disorder and consternation prevails at Tunis — No business done. — the Bey appearing like a Madman &c^s

ON THE 8th OF AUGUST Mr Davis returned to Tunis with a letter from me to the Bey (copy in packet) and one from the Commodore to himself, directing him, to present to the Bey, without delay, the form of the assurance which was required from him for preserving the peace &c^s and saying that no longer time than to morrow noon would be allowed for the Bey to decide on it; and if not then that he (Mr D) would come off to the *Constitution* by 4. P. M prepared to leave the Regency; as he was determined, if the Bey should persist in refusing to give the assurance required, to carry into execution his promise of preventing the departure of his Cruizers, and of examining every vessel going in or out of his ports to guard against any Clandestine attempts to annoy our Commerce; and Mr Davis having declared in the most solemn manner that these measures would produce an immediate declaration of war on the part of the Bey, the Commodore did not think it would be prudent for him to remain in the power of the Bey; notwithstanding Mr Davis had told the Commodore & myself that let the issue of the present differences be what it might, war or peace, he would continue in Tunis. —

IN THE AFTERNOON OF THE 9th [AUGUST] Mr Davis came on board the *Constitution*, with his Baggage, Secretary & the Drogerman. He reported that the Bey would not give the Guarantee required by the Commodore before two Consuls; but that he would give the same thing under his Seal, and in the most formal manner, without the witnesses, if Mr Davis would wait till to morrow morning, which from the Commodores orders he did not think himself warranted in so doing. — Soon after Mr Davis came on board, a Merchant Vessel got

under way at the Goletta to go out, when she came within Gun Shot, the Commodore ordered a Shot to be fired at her to bring her too for Examination, the first shot not being regarded, a second was fired, upon which she immediately put about and went up to the Goletta again to anchor. —

ON THE 10th [AUGUST] I received a very lengthy letter from the Bey (in Packet marked) disavowing his threats — giving the most solemn assurance of his determination to keep the peace, and promising to send an Ambassadors to the U. States, to arrange, and settle all differences, and give evidences of his friendly disposition; at the same time engaging me, in the most earnest manner, to come on shore, and settle all points of immediate difference.

In consequence of this letter, which was deemed by the Commodore & myself sufficiently expressive of his earnest wish and since desire to maintain the peace, I wrote to the Bey that I would go on shore the day after to morrow to confer with him. —

ON THE 11th [AUGUST] Mr Davis came on Board the *Constitution* from the *Constellation*, where he had taken up his quarters, when I shewed him the letter I had received from the Bey, informed him that I was to go on shore to morrow, and invited him to accompany me — He expressed some surprize & resentment against the Bey, on reading the Letter, and said he should not go on shore again, and never wished to put his foot in the Regency from this time. —

ON THE 12th [AUGUST] I went on Shore accompanied by Mr [space] Chaplin of the *Constellation*, who understood & spoke the Italian language perfectly, and whom I afterwards found very useful in the Course of our Negotiations. — At the Goletta met the the Sapatapa, whom I requested to send a Messenger to inform the Bey of my being On Shore, and ready to confer with him at any time he might appoint. Proceeded to Tunis, from whence I sent the Drogerman to Bardo with the like message. On his return he informed me that the Bey had appointed to morrow morning at 7. O'clock to give me an Audience. — In the evening I received a Visit from all the Consuls residing in Tunis. —

AT 7 OCLth A M, OF THE 13th [AUGUST] I went to Bardo where I was immediately introduced to the Bey in his private Audience room. my reception was cordial & flattering I delivered him the Presidents letter, which he received with great respect, and said that the Copy which I sent to him had been translated, and he knew its contents — After taking Coffee, he ordered all persons to retire excepting his first Secretary — Hadge Unis Ben Unis, one old man, and his Christian Secretary — He wished to know on what points I wished first to enter. — I recapitulated to him his threats of making war upon us at different times as communicated by Mr Davis, and that in consequence thereof, the Commodore had come here and taken the measures which he knew of, to avert or guard against that evil. — Having a Copy of Mr Davis's letter to the Secretary of State of the 18th of July detailing his several interviews with the Bey in which he had threatned War, I recapitulated them in order. —

First, that he had said he would make war upon Us in consequence of his Cruizer and her two prizes having been taken, without asking a question about restitution, had not the situation of his Country forbid it. — To this he replied by asking me if I thought him a wise man, or a fool? I told him the world gave him the Character of a Wise prince. — Well, says he, if I am not a fool, do you think I would have made such a declaration of the distration situation of my Country, to the Representative of a Nation with whom I may expect to be at War? — I told him he knew best what he had said; and asked him if the words mentioned by Mr Davis as his were true, in effect or not. — He replied, *that it was not true — he had never expressed himself in that manner, or to that effect.*

Secondly That he (the Bey) had declared to Mr Davis, that if the Commodore came into this Bay, with his Squadron, he would declare War against the U. States. — He answered, that he had told our Charge d'affaires, that if the Commodore came here with his Squadron he should consider it as a declaration of War on our part; as he could not conceive why we should come here with such a force, if our intentions were pacific; but that he had never said that *he* would declare War in that event. —

Thirdly: That he had called the Spanish and Dutch Consuls to hear him protest, that if the Government of the U. States did not pay him for his Cruizers and her two prizes, and make indemnification for taking and detaining the same, and give him satisfaction for the insults offered him by the Commodore, he would declare war agst the U. States. — The Bey answered — On that occasion there was only the Dutch Consul present. He was at Bardo and was called into the Hall, to hear him say that if he was *forced* into a War with the U. States he would never make peace with them as long as he lived. He desired me, (as this was a point

on which there might be Witnesses) to ask the Dutch Consul, if this was not the case, and the Spanish Consul, if he was there. —

On the Subject of blockaded ports, we had much conversation. — The Bey saying that Altho' England was at war with France; yet his Vessels were permitted to enter the ports of those nations; and also, by them, permitted to enter the English Ports. I explained to him the nature of a Blockade, such as ours of Tripoli. — He either did not; or pretended not to understand it. — However, after some conversation with Hadge Unis, in Turkish, he appeared to have it explained. —

He acknowledged that after the Commodore had received the information from Mr Davis, as before stated, he was perfectly right to take the measures he had done; but that the information was groundless. —

On the subject of sending an Ambassador to the U. States, he said he should rather wish to have all matters settled now, which would render that measure unnecessary. But I told him the Commodore could not undertake to restore his Vessels, even were he inclined so to do, without becoming personally responsible for them. —

We had some conversation respecting the changing certain articles in our Treaty, which bore hard upon us — He observed that he conceived our Treaty placed us upon the same ground as other Christian Nations stood with him; and that the alteration of a Treaty must be by the mutual consent of the parties. — This I granted; but assured him we did not stand on the same footing as other Nations. — He said he would consider the Subject; but gave no assurance that he would make any change.

With respect to demands upon the U. States for presents, or payments in any Shape, he declared he had none. He acknowledged that he had asked for a Frigate; but he had only made the request, as from one friend to another; which, if not convenient or agreeable to grant, should never produce any difference, and as we did not think proper to give him one, he had never made war or been disgusted in consequence thereof. — We had made him an offer of 8 or 10,000 dollars annually in Cash; but he had not thought proper to accept it, which ought not to be a Subject of difference between our Nations. —

After a conversation of more than five hours, which was supported on his part with much good sense & shrewdness, and great, pleasantness, I took my leave, promising to wait upon him again to morrow morn^g at 7 O'clock to finish our business.

ON THE 14th [AUGUST] I went to Bardo at 7 O'clock agreeably to appointment. — After taking Coffee, the Bey observed that we had yesterday conversed fully on all points between us, and had time to reflect on the Subject, which was the mode he liked to do business — After some general conversation, he asked what I had determined upon; or what I expected him to do. I told him I expected he would write a letter to the Commodore, giving him the fullest assurances of his determination to preserve the peace according to the Treaty between our Nations; and informing him of his intention to send an Ambassador to the U. States to lay before the President his requisition for restoration of his Cruizer and her two prizes; and to make all arrangem^{ts} which might prove mutually beneficial to the parties. —

This he promised to do this evening or to morrow morning. I assured him his Ambassador would be accommodated in the Frigate according to his rank; and would be received in the U. States with all the respect and attention due to his Character. He said the Ambassador would be ready to embark in 15 or 20 days. —

We then entered into the Subject of the Treaty. — I told him that as it now stood we could have no commercial intercourse with his Regency, as the duties we should have to pay (being the same as were paid in the U. States) were 3 or 4 times more than were paid here by the English or French, and unless we were put upon the same footing with those nations, we could never come in competition with them. I pointed out the advantages which would accrue to him from a commercial intercourse with us; besides it fixing our friendship on a more secure basis. He listened with great attention, and conversed on the Subject with his Minister & Hadge Unis who both appeared to advocate my proposition. The bey then observed, that he had thought we were, by our Treaty, placed upon same footing, as it respects commerce, as the French and English. I assured him he was mistaken. He sent for his Treaty with G. B. and the U. S. and upon examination found it was right, as the English only pay 3 per cent duty. — He then observed that it was his intention that we should be placed upon the footing of the most favored nations in this point. — I told him I would put in writing the alterations or additions which we wished in our treaty, and submit it to him; that it must be a matter of mutual consent, and both parties must find their interest in it. —

The Bey asked me if a Charge d'affaires would not be placed here. I told him undoubtedly, and observed if Mr Davis wished to return again, he would certainly be sent — The Bey replied that he had rather have some other person; for altho' he would not accuse Mr Davis of wilful or intentional misrepresentation; he might have mistaken his expressions; or he might have forgotten some part of the Conversation between the time of its taken (g) place & committing it to writing; Yet after what had happened, he could not suppose there would be that Cordiality existing between them which was so desirable for both parties, and he should prefer some other person. —

After leaving the Bey, the Prime Minister sent for me, with whom, I found Hage Unis. We had a long conversation on the several points which had been discussed by the Bey and myself this and the preceeding day, and they appeared cordially disposed to promote the object of altering the treaty: On their Assurances however, I place but little dependence. —

ON THE 15th [AUGUST] I return'd on board the *Constitution*, & on the 16th I communicated to Mr Davis, who had come on board the same Ship, all that had pass'd in my two interviews with the Bey. — The Commodore asked Mr Davis if it was his wish to return again to Tunis as Charge d'affaires; because, if it was, he would send him back again, in a proper manner, notwithstanding what the Bey had said; unless the Bey shou'd give some very strong and substantial reasons for not receiving him. — Mr Davis answer'd, that it was not his wish to go back to Tunis; but to return to the U. States, as he conceived that the respect due to himself, after what had pass'd, made it proper for him to return home and lay his case before the Government, when he expected to be sent back again with marks of approbation. — He urged very strongly the propriety & necessity there was of *Acting immediately* upon the information he had given of the Bey's threats; notwithstanding the Bey had denied them, and given the most pointed and unequivocal assurances of the reverse. — I assured him that I did not doubt but the Bey had told him either the Very words which he had written, or to the Amount of them, and I was also confident that the Government wou'd not disbelieve him; Yet when it came to the point of Acting, the written & solemn assurances of the Bey, & his revoking, or disavowing such language, must have its weight. —

As Mr Davis had declined returning to Tunis under any circumstances, the Commodore appointed Dr James Dodge, Surgeon of this Ship, to take charge of our Affaires here, untill the pleasure of the President shou'd be made known thereon

ON THE 18th [AUGUST] I went to Tunis with Dr Dodge to present him to the Bey as Charge d'Affairs. — On the 21st went to Bardo & introduced Dr Dodge, who was received, in form, as the Representative of our Nation. — The Bey inform'd me that he had instructed his Prime Minister to confer with me on the subject of making alterations in our Treaty. — After our Audience, we waited upon the Sapatapa, and immediately enter'd upon the discussion of the several points which we wish'd to have alter'd. — He at once recapitulated them, and said they had long known that they were unfavorable to us, & expected that we shou'd have long before endeavour'd to get them changed. I told him I *knew* application had been made for that purpose but not effected. After a full conversation on the business, I promised to write him this day or tomorrow, state our wishes, and leave it for him to answer me in the same way. —

ON THE 22nd [AUGUST] I return'd on board the *Constitution*, where I remain'd 'till the 24th when I went again to Tunis with Dr Dodge, and a number of the Officers of the Squadron; to partake of an Entertainment provided for us at the Gardens of the Bey, a little beyond Bardo. We met with every mark of respect & attention, and found our Entertainment prepared in an Elegant stile. — After Dinner we met the Bey on a plane near Bardo, where I introduced the Officers to him &c.

ON THE 30th OF AUGUST had my audience of leave of the Bey, when I presented him with an Elegant Watch set with Brilliants — I gave also a watch similar, but inferior, to the Sapatapa; and to the First Turkish, & first Christian Secretaries each, an enameled Snuff box ornamented with Brilliants. The custom of the Country makes it unavoidable to give presents on such an Occasion; and I reserved them to the last day of My being here, that they might not be considered as given with a View of making favorable impressions for our obtaining any points with them which we wished to carry. —

I this day received a letter from the Prime Minister on the Subject of certain Articles in Our Treaty, which you will find in the Packet Marked A. The two most important points are granted, and the other two left to be discussed & settled by the Ambassador sent to the U. States. —

ON THE 1st OF SEPTEMBER I came on board this Ship with Sidi Soliman Mellamella, the Ambassador, Accompanied by several of the first Officers of the

Regency—The wind blowing very fresh, obliged the Ambassador and the persons accompanying him, to remain on board all night, The Next Morning the Ambassador went on board the U. S. Ship *Congress*, Cap Decatur, prepared to carry him to the U. States, & the rest returned to Tunis

Thus, Sir, I have given you a faithful detail of *events & facts* as they have Occurred since our arrival in this Bay, not from memory; but from Notes taken at the time when such circumstances occurred; The Documents which accompany this letter, will give a more minute account on some points than are stated here. — I shall make no comments on what I have written, as I feel an honest pride in placing only plain facts before those whom I know will receive them with candor, and draw from them the proper inferences. — I will just observe, that the impression made here by the judicious display of our force, and the prompt and decided conduct of our Commodore is such as has never before been felt, and has utterly astonished the foreign representations at this court. — My path, as I before observed, was plain & easy, I had rather to guard against asking too much, least it should be imputed to an improper advantage after the Moment; and I avoided pressing, with impetuosity, those points which were demanded, that they might see we were just as well as powerful. —

The recent situation of Algiers has been such, as to divert the attention of the Dey from foreign Nations. — A formidable & threatening insurrection in the heart of his dominions, a lawless and ungovernable soldiery, who have lately committed the most horrid Massacre's in the City, and kept him in awe, have obliged him to attend to his personal safety only. His Cruizers are disarmed & dismantled, from a fear that their Crews might seize his Treasures, and carry it off, so that we can have nothing to apprehend from that quarter. — As our biennial present becomes due this Month, I shall proceed to Leghorn, in this Ship to make arrangements for it, before I return to Algiers; and indeed the pressure of business which has been upon me during our Negociation at Tripoli, & since, at this place, has very much injured my health, that I feel it necessary to have a few weeks relaxation, before I enter again into the Scenes of anxious business which always occur, in these Regencies.

You will pardon my remarking that the salary of two thousand Dollars, will not allow a Public Character to live in Tunis, in a situation by any Means equal to his Standing — 5 or 6 years ago it wou'd answer — Now every Article has increas'd more than three fold. — It is not possible for me to prepare my accounts, for this opportunity The Month past has been occupied very closely — and at this Moment the *Congress* is detain'd solely for my dispatches. I shall not fail to have them prepared & forwarded before I return to Algiers.

To the President I pray you will be pleased to present my grateful respects, and say, that in all my conduct both here, and at Tripoli, I have been actuated with a confident belief, that I was conforming to his wishes and determination to support the honor & dignity of the U. States, while we convinced Nations of our Justice and Generosity — And I also pray you will receive the warmest testimony of the highest respect, and purest attachment,

[NA. SDA. CL, Tunis, Vol. 2, Part 2, 1803–1806 and Stephen Decatur Col.]

To Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. S. *Essex*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay 24 Sep^r 1805

SIR In addition to the Instructions given you on the 1st [31 August 1805] Instant I have to desire that you will direct the *Nautilus* to touch at Algiers. Communicate with our Charge d'Affairs at that place, and in Case he has any thing to Communicate which it may be necessary that the Consul General Lear, or myself should be informed of without delay, you are in this Case, requested to direct the *Nautilus* (after having Completed her Mission to Gibralt[r]) to proceed to Leghorn, and in Case she should not find me there, nor be informed of my having been there, after tarrying five days to pursue her Course to Syracuse, with whatever dispatches she may have —

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

To Doctor Benjamin Rush, Philadelphia, Pa., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV DEP^t Sep 24 1805

I have received your favor of the 28th ult^o —

However qualified your son may be he cannot be readmitted into the navy as

a Lieutenant without violating a rule of the Department in relation to its Officers— There are but two stations to which he could consistently be appointed — namely the station of sailing master or midshipman — If he will accept the appointment of a Sailing master he shall have the command of a Gun Boat, as I intend that the Gun Boats hereafter shall be commanded by Officers of that Grade — Or if he should prefer the appointment of a midshipman he shall have a Warrant — In either case it would be some time before he could expect to be raised to a Lieutenantcy unless indeed he should achieve some very Brilliant Exploit which would entitle him to promotion —

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 8, 1805–1807.]

[2 September 1805]

To Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Dr SIR With sincere pleasure I congratulate you on your return to your native country and restoration to your family & friends — A few days since your favour of the 1st Nov^r last came to hand. it could not but be extremely gratifying, as it assured me that my exertions to relieve you from Tripoline bondage met the approbation of yourself & officers.

I beg you to present my respectful compliments & congratulations to M^{rs} Bainbridge & to assure you of the friendship & esteem with which I am &

PORTLAND Sep^r 2

[LC. EPP, Vol. 16, Aug. 1805–Jan. 1806.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 2 September 1805

[Tunis Bay] ½ past 5 [P. M.] the *Enterprize* and *Syren* Sail, d

At 10 Sailed the *Argus* with all the Gunboats

At 7 the *Ambassador* left the ship

[USNA.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

N^o 2

U S SHIP *Constitution*

Tunis Bay 3^d September 1805

SIR About an hour after closing my letter, or diary, of the 1st Instant. I received a visit from the Governor of Port Farina, Minister of Marine High Admiral, Commander in Chief of the Troops, the Beys first Secretary, and two or three other persons of Distinction, who Dined, remained on board all Night, and the next morning about 7 O'clock, went on shore, the Commander in Chief of the Troops excepted, who went on board the *Congress*, with the Ambassador (Solyman Mella Melley) his Brother. — T^{is} unnecessary for me, to repeat to you in what a very different light, these people view us to day, to what they did Two years, or I may say even two Months ago. And I feel satisfied, that the Impression cannot be eradicated even by the most powerfull, and artfull Nations of Europe. The Consuls of the different European powers appear much astonished, and some of them have openly said, that no other Nation, has ever Negotiated with the present Bey, on such honorable terms as ourselves. —

The Brigs *Argus* & *Syren* with all the Gun Boats, and Sloop *Hornet*, sailed for Syracuse on the 1st Instant, the Schooner *Enterprize*, yesterday for the same place, to call at Tripoli in her passage, and the *Essex*, *Vizen*, *Nautilus*, and Brig *Franklin*, this day for Gibraltar, to call at Algiers in their passage thence —

Whatever may be the Intentions of Government, respecting this Regency. Permit me Sir to suggest to you, the necessity of their being communicated as early next Spring as possible. If Government should not see fit to chastise them further, (which indeed I can't at present see any necessity for) permit me to say, that I think One Frigate, Two Brigs and One Schooner, will always be sufficient to secure the necessary respect, and protection to our Commerce in the Mediterranean.

I beg Sir you will excuse the liberty I have taken, to offer thus freely an Opinion, on so Important a Subject and at same time, beg pardon for repeating again, that the Force, which remains in the Mediterranean is perfectly adequate to chastise this Regency, in the most complete manner, provided our Government is not yet satisfied. I am much afraid the *Constitution* will soon require, a new Main Mast,

as also her Standing Rigging Fore and Aft, however with care, both may, I conceive, be made to answer, another Twelve Months. —

The *Congress* has been detained for Col^l Lears Dispatches, Thirty Six hours, longer than I expected when I closed my letter of the 1st Instant, however she will sail to morrow, and I shall leave this in a few hours, after her, with the *Constitution*, but having only Eight or Nine Days provisions and Water, I shall be obliged to call at Syracuse, to replenish those articles before I proceede to Leghorn and Algiers.— During the Thirty two days, the Squadron lay in this Bay, no accident of any kind happened, neither was there, a single Death, I believe, out of 2,500 Men, those are equally pleasing and remarkable Circumstances.

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

To Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Congress*,
from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay 3^d Sep^r 1805

SIR As the Ambassador Solyman Mella Melley and suit are now embarked on board the U S Frigate *Congress* under your Command, you are directed to proceed with all practicable dispatch to the U States, — As I presume its the wish of his Excellency the President that the *Congress* should return to Washington in preference to any other port, I have to desire, that you proceed thence, and into the Easter Branch, and as early as possible report your arrival to the Hon^{ble} the Secretary of the Navy for further orders, — as it may be a matter of importance that the Ambassador, as also the dispatches sent by the *Congress*, does arrive at the Seat of Government, as early as possible I have to request that in Case of head Winds, after you enter the Chesapeak that you will have both Convoyd thence as early as possible, and in such manner as your own judgement will best point out to you —

P S to Cap^t S Decatur's Orders —

When it is intended, you shall Commence the execution of these orders, the Signal will be made for the *Congress* to weigh —

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

[3 September 1805]

To the Director General of the Fleet from the Secretary of State and of the Marine,
St. Ildefonso

[Translation]

SIR, — The minister of the United States, complaining of new injuries and captures of American vessels by Spanish cruisers, has given information of the carrying to Algeziras of eleven vessels of his nation, under pretext, as he says, of their carrying English merchandize. The king, being made acquainted with it, has been pleased to determine that, if there be no other cause for the capture of these vessels than that alleged by the minister, they should be put at liberty again; since, according to the 15th article of the treaty with the United States, *the American flag secures the freedom of the merchandizes, although they may be enemies' property.* But if the cause of detention be any other, his majesty requires that they be decided in due course, and with as little delay as possible. I communicate it to you by the royal order, in order that you may communicate it to the generals of the departments of marine, in order that they may make it known to the commandants of marine in every district, and to the owners of privateers, informing them that they will be responsible for the injuries they may occasion.

St. ILDEFONSO, *Sept. 3, 1805.*

[State Papers, Public Doc., Vol. V., 1803-1807.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy,
commanding, Tuesday, 3 September 1805

[Tunis Bay] At daylight the *Essex* and *Nautilus* Sailed in company. with the brigs *Vixen* and *Franklin* on their passage down the Mediterranean

[USNA.]

To Captain Stephen Decatur Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Congress*,
from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay 4th Sept 1805

SIR In whatever part of the U States the Ambassador may be disembarked I have to desire, in case Circumstances should prevent your accompanying him to the seat of Government, that you send an Officer with him. This is absolutely necessary to prevent those impositions which are often practised in every Country on Strangers, particularly on people of his discription, and in his situation —

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

To Secretary of State from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

ON BOARD THE U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay Sept^r 4th 1805. —

DEAR SIR, The bearer of this, Sidi Soliman Mellamella, goes to the U. States, to present himself before the President, as Ambassador from His Excellency the Bey of Tunis; as his Credentials &^r will fully shew. — He has been Ambassador from this Court to Naples and Genoa, appears to be a man of correct observation, and much liberality of sentiment. —

My public dispatches, which accompany this, will fully detail all matters here — I give this to the Ambassador, by his particular desire, as a personal recommendation. —

If any proper person can be found in Washington, who is acquainted with the manners & customs of these people, it would be desirable that such an one shou^d see that they are accommodated, as much in the Style of their Country, as the difference of climate & circumstances will permit; as I know they will be very backward in expressing their wants or wishes, least they might not accord with our ideas of the propriety of things

Mr^r Lear unites with me in every good & friendly wish for your good Lady & yourself, and I pray you will be assured of that affectionate regard & sincere attachment with which I have the honor to be,

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. 7, Part II. Jan. 1806–Sept. 1807.]

To William Smith, Navy Agent, Charleston, S. C., from Captain Alexander Murray,
U. S. Navy

SEPT^r 4th 1805.

SIR I am Instructed by the Secretary of the Navy to call off the bar of Charleston for any further orders he may have to communicate, altho I do not as yet presume that he hath written to me, yet I Have a desire to receive from you any communications you may deem Necessary as my Object is to afford Protection to our commerce within our Jurisdictional limits against the Illegal depredations of any cruisers that Violate our Commercial System as far as the force I am Intrust^d with can enable me, I have not as yet met with any cruisers since I left the Chesapeake & shall be on this station &c as far as the river St Marys for a few weeks to come if not Otherwise direct^d, can you favour me with some late News Papers from time to time or any current news you will much Oblidge me & if it is possible for you to procure me a careful man as an Acting Lieutenant and at the same time well acquaint^d with this coast who is a Seaman and otherwise well disposed I will gladly receive him on board in that capacity & give him the pay and emolument of a Lieut^t

[NDA. A. Murray's LB, 1799–1805.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 4 September 1805

(No entries from Aug. 28th to Sept. 4th 1805)

Tunis. Sailed with a fair wind from Tunis Bay today.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, 4 September 1805

[At Baltimore, Md.] The whole of this Day pleasant weather hauld the Brig round to Mr Prices Wharf and Moor^d head & Stern with the Mooring Junk and run out the stream Anchor, took on board 200 pieces of Kentledge and 10 Gun Carriages

[NA. NDA original, 1805–1810.]

Concerning the British Blockade of the ports of Cadiz, San Lucar and Seville,
Spain

5th of September 1805

His Britannic Majestys Ship *Saint George*

I have received your Letter by the Flag of Truce, addressed to rear Admiral Sir James Saumarez, and in answer I have the honor to acquaint you, that the Ports, of Cadiz and San Lucar, including Seville being completely blockaded, no Vessel whatever can be permitted to enter or sail from either.

Signed CH. M. POLE

[NA. SDA. FA, Cadiz, Register, C37 (C9), Vol. 1.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*. Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 5 September 1805

At 3 [P. M.] weigh'd and made Sail, the *Congress* sailed for America
Latitude Observed 37°48' N.

[USNA.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Surgeon John Ridgely, U. S. Navy,
appointed U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tripoli

(Copy)

TRIPOLI IN BARBARY 6 Sept 1805

SIR By Lt Porter I was honored by yours of the 30th Ultimo, and have the pleasure to reply, that our affairs are well. Tho I have not the most distant expectation that this Government will ever again make a War with us, yet I shall be glad to see a Ship of War occasionally here, that in case any misunderstanding should ensue, it might be conveyed to you, and Col^l Lear, in the speediest, and surest way —

Lt Porter was requested by the Bashaw to take Hadge Mahomed, our old Guard and friend, from here to Bengazi, but from the want of Provisions &c he found it necessary to proceed immediately to Syracuse — It gave me pleasure to hear, that the Pride of Tunis is humbled, we take them in rotation, Rank is everything It must be mortifying to some of the Neighbouring European Powers, to see that the Barbary States have been taught their first lesson of humiliation from the Western World —

LIST OF BASHAWS CRUISERS AT SEA

| | | | |
|------------|----|----|------|
| Zebec | of | 8 | Guns |
| D° | | 12 | d° |
| " | " | 6 | " |
| Martingala | " | 4 | " |
| " | " | 4 | " |
| Barque | " | 1 | " |
| Kulangis | " | 4 | " |
| Corvette | " | 10 | " |

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

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from John Ridgely, acting as U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tripoli

TRIPOLI IN BARBARY Sept 6th 1805

SIR, About a fortnight ago a Corvette of 22 Guns belonging to the Grand Signior anchored in this port. — The Bashaw Saluted her, and all the Consuls hoisted their flags. As I knew we had neither treaty with or Ambassador at the Ottoman Porte, and as I was officially ignorant of the existence of the Turkish nation, I did not hoist my flag. I have been informed (it came indirectly thro' the French Commissarie and consequently I dont put all faith in it) that the Turkish Captain expressed his displeasure at not being Saluted by the American flag, and that he threatened to insult the first American Merchantman he met. If this is true, I regard it as the vain empty menace of an impotent Turk. I thought proper to communicate this to you and Col. Lear, and if my conduct is not approved, to instruct me in case a similar one occurs.

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May-Oct. 1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 8 September 1805

¾ past 4 [A. M.] Saw the Island of Gozo bearing S, E. B S — At 11 shorten,d Sail and back the main top sail the town of Malta bearing S W ½ W. distance ½ Mile the Commodore went on shore in the Gig. accompanied by Col Lear. the 4th cutter went on shore with Capt^a Allen and Mate.

[USNA.]

Extracts from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *President*, Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 8 September 1805

6 [A. M.] discovered a fleet a head Standing to the Eastward
Noon Spoke His Britannic Majesty's Ship *Vanguard* of 74 Guns from Jamaica, bound to England with a Convoy of 60 Sail of Merchantmen — 6 Weeks out.
Latitude Observed 35°31' N.

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

To Secretary of the Navy from Sailing Master Benjamin Clark Prince, U. S. Navy

GIBRALTER, Sep^t 9th 1805 —

Sir — I am happy to inform you of the safe arival of the U. S. Sloop *Traveller*, after a passage of five and Forty Days, and likewise to inform you that I lost sight of the U. S. Sloop *Ranger*. Lat 43° and Long^a 55°35' West. in a Gale of Wind from the Southward and Eastward. which cause me to lay two six and thirty Hours. since my arival the Consil inform me that he Dayly expects the American Squadron here and his his advice to me, is for me to make a small tarry till I can get some information Concerning the said Squadron and if not, in the space of two or three Days I then shall proceed to Malta

[NDA. Officers LB, 1802-1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 9 September 1805

3/4 past 12 the commodore return,d on board at 1 [P. M.] the 4th Cutter returnd, run the boats up filled away and Made Sail. At 4 the Island of Malta bore W B S ½ S Distance 7 leagues

At 8 [A. M.] the town of Syracuse bore W N W distance 3 or 4 leagues 3/4 past 9 shorten,d Sail and came to anchor in the harbour of Syracuse with the larb^d bower in 5 fath^ms water, the light house bearing S E 1/2 E Mount Etna North found laying here the *Argus & Syren* brigs, the *Hornet* sloop. the bomb Ketch and all the gunboats

[USNA.]

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

Nº 6

ON BOARD OF THE U. STATES FRIGATE *President*
Hampton Roads 10th September 1805

SIR, I have the honor to inform you that I have arrived this day in the U. States Ship *President*, Cap^t James Barron.

Enclosed you have a list of the Officers of the late Frigate *Philadelphia*, by which you will percieve who have returned to the U. States with me, and the distribution of those that have remained in the Squadron. 101 — of the Crew — have also arrived in the *President*.

Commodore Rodgers has sent to you in his dispatches the proceedings of the Court of Inquiry held on my conduct in the loss of the Frigate *Philadelphia*; — permit me, Sir, to request that you will be so obliging as to give them publicity.

As I shall have the honor of seeing you very soon after the receipt of this letter, I shall postpone all particulars.

[Enclosure]

List of the Officers of the U. States' late frigate *Philadelphia*, designating those returned in the frigate *President* and those who have remained in the Squadron.

RETURNED IN THE *President*

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Jacob Jones | — 2 ^d Lieut. |
| Ben. F. Read, | Midshipman & master's mate |
| James Gibbon, | D ^o D ^o D ^o |
| Daniel T. Patterson | D ^o D ^o D ^o |
| James Biddle | } Midshipmen |
| James Renshaw | |
| Wallace Wormeley | |
| William Cutbush | |
| Robert Gamble | |
| Keith Spence, | Purser, |
| Jonathan Cowdery, | Surgeon's Mate |
| Nicholas Harwood | D ^o D ^o |
| W. Anderson, | Captain's Clk. |
| Richard Stephenson, | Gunner |
| George Hodge, | Boatswain |
| Joseph Douglass, | Sailmaker |
| Minor Fountain, | Master's mate of the Hold. |

10th of Sept^r 1805

W^m BAINBRIDGE

REMAINING IN THE SQUADRON

David Porter, 1st Lieut.; now acting Captain of the U. S. frigate *Constitution*.
 Theodore Hunt, 3^d Lt; — first Lt of the Brig *Argus*
 Ben. Smith, 4th Lt; — 2^d Lt of the *Constitution*
 W^m Knight, Sail^r Master; — charge of the Brig *Franklin*.
 Bernard Henry, Midshipman; — Sailing Master of the Brig *Vixen*.
 Simon Smith, Midship^e; — Mid^e of the *Constitution*
 Rich^d B. Jones, D^o; — Mid^v & Master's Mate of the Brig *Argus*
 John Ridgeley, Surgeon; — temporary Consul at Tripoli.
 William Godby, Carpenter; — Carpenter of the *Constitution*.

10th Sep^r 1805

W^m BAINBRIDGE

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

To Lieutenant Sybrant Van Schaick, U. S. Navy, from Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy

U, S, BRIG *Argus* 10th Sep^r 1805. —
 [Syracuse]

SIR, By Authority vested in me by John Rodgers Esq^r Commander in Chief of the United States Squadron in the Mediterranean. — I do hereby appoint you to the superintendance of the United States Arsenal in this place. — You will as soon as possible take an exact Account of all the Spars & such other Stores as may be deposited there belonging to the United States. —

You will likewise be charged with the Six Gun Boats now in the Bason, also with all the public Stores now deposited in different Magazines in Town the whole of which as soon as you can get an Account of your own to receipt for to the Commander afloat. —

You are to receipt & receive from time to time such Stores as may be sent to the Yard, giving a receipt for them — But no Stores are to be delivered without written Orders from the Senior Officer in Port. —

The Stores belonging to the United States being deposited in so many different Magazines and where they are liable to be stolen. — I should recommend their being removed to the Store in the Navy Yard, as many as can be conveniently stowed. — The remainder Stowed into such Magazines as may be thought by You to be safest. —

After you have made these arrangements, you will have the Magazine Numbered and an Account of what each One contains separate that you may know when to look for such as may be called for in haste. — All Spars, water Casks, or any other Stores sent to the Yard for safekeeping cannot be received Unless they are Marked or Branded, with the Vessels Name they belong to, and you will be

particularly careful y^t the Stores of one Vessel are not delivered for the use of another without Orders from the Senior Officer in Port as you will be Accountable for the same. —

You are to keep an account of all Stores received & delivered and see that every Vessel is charged with such Articles as She may be furnished with from you. —

For the purpose of assisting you in carrying the foregoing Orders into effect you will be furnished with a Midshipman & ten Men who as well as Yourself are to sleep within the Walls of the Arsenal. — A regular Watch is to be kept, and it is expected that the Yard will never be left without an Officer. —

You will from time to time be furnished with provision and such other Stores as you may want by M^r Dyson on Your requisition being signed by the Senior Officer in Port. —

[LC. D. Porter P, Let. & Ord., 1805-1808.]

To Lieutenant Colonel Commandant Franklin Wharton, U. S. Marine Corps, from
 Captain John Hall, U. S. Marine Corps

FRIGATE *President*
 Hampton Roads 10th Sept^r 1805

SIR I take the earliest opportunity of informing you of my arrival in America — & shoud certainly forward you my returns by M^r Dennison, but expect to see you nearly as soon as he will —

I beg leave to inform you that Lt Howard of the Brig *Siren* & Lt Osborn of the late Frigate *Phila** are passengers on board of the *President* —

I have added to my Detachment Eighteen good Musicians which hope you will be pleased with — Comd^r Ro[d]gers & Col^l: Lear concluded a Peace with the Bashaw of Tripoli on the 3^d June last paying him a Ransom for the Prisoners of \$60000 God knows what they will say to it at the City — I beg you will make my respects to your Family & the Officers at Barracks.

[MCA. LR, 1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 10 September 1805

[Syracuse] At 11 [A. M.] the Brig *Syren* Sailed for Messina

[USNA.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *President*, Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 10 September 1805

4 [A. M.], had 18 fathoms — stood to the Westward —

5½ took a pilot for Hampton Roads and another for the Potomac on board — Same time saw the land bearing W B N.

11. Cape Henry light house was abeam. it being in,

| | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| | 36°57' N. & 76.4 |
| By D Reckoning | 36.54 N. & 75.48 |
| Error of D Reckoning | 3' .16' |

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

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 11 September 1805

This evening came to anchor in Alicant.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, John Captain Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 11 September 1805

[Syracuse] At 4 [P. M.] Col and M^r Lear went on board of Gunboat N^o 4 to sail for Catania, soon after She Sailed

Fresh breezes and squally throughout the Night — At 8 Gun boat N^o 4 returned with Col & M^r Lear in consequence of having head winds. At 10 Col & M^r Lear came on board

[USNA.]

To William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 12 September 1805

SIR In consequence of the representations made to me of the leaky condition of the *Constitutions* three prizes at Malta, I have to request that in case the Tunetian Consul will give proper Security for their Value, in case of their being Condemned as lawful prizes to the Captors — that you will have them valued, and delivered to him. If he will not do this (for the Benefit of all Parties) you are hereby Authorised to sell them, holding the Amount of Sales, in your hands, subject to be paid to whomsoever the same may belong — I shall leave this the day after tomorrow for Leghorn, from thence I shall go to Algiers & from that return to this place by the Way of Malta

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

To William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 12th September 1805

SIR The Sloop [10 Guns] *Hornet*, Lieut^t Crane, who hands you this, is sent to Malta for the purpose of transporting the Bread you have in store, over to this place — The Squadron is much in want of Winter Cloathing for Seamen & Marines, & as they cannot be procured here, I have directed Cap^t Hull (who will Command during my absence) to furnish you with the necessary requisitions Counter-signed by himself, which you will be so good as to consider sufficient Authority for your Compliance with the same —

Both you and myself will be saved much trouble, as also the service benefitted by your taking Specific Receipts from the receiving Officer, on the delivery of all Articles furnished the Gun Boats *in particular*, as it will enable me or the Commanding Officer at any time to settle their Accounts without the presence of their Commanders —

I wish much the arrival of a Store Ship, as we are entirely out of the Articles of Cheese, Butter, Molasses, Rum, flour & Pease & neither to be got here —

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

[12 September 1805]

Concerning Storeship *Huntress*

Huntress J. STINSON M^r

MINUTES of the Judgment in the High Court of Admiralty of England on the Hearing of the above Cause on the 12th September 1805.

The Right Honorable Sir William Scott Knight the Judge observed: This is a Question arising on the british Recapture from the Spaniards of a Vessel laden with naval and military stores going for Malta and Syracuse — it has been truly stated that generally neutral Property is not liable to Salvage on recapture, it is also true that in the course of the last War the Law was, in consequence of the frequent rapine of the French altered by the consent of Neutrals themselves, this was founded on the practice of the French and confirmed in recaptures from them — Naval Stores destined to a british Port are by Treaty between Spain and America liable to condemnation, these would therefore be subject to Salvage but in this Instance in fact not going to Malta consigned to English possession or for english use, but for the use of an American Squadron then notoriously cruising against the common Enemy of Spain and America and every other civilized state, the Property of the Government not *lucranda causa*. What therefore would have been its Situation in a Spanish Tribunal? I think the preceeding Facts are fully established in Evidence before this Court and that they would have so been before the Spanish Courts. I cannot but assent to the principle that great deference is to be paid to the Declaration of Governments, here is that of the President himself confirmed, I cannot say confirmed for it needs no confirmation but seconded, by that of the french and english Ministers — It is impossible to suppose that the American Government would wish to deceive and that those stores were for the use of the british in Violation of the Treaty with Spain, its good Faith is too well known, I am therefore of Opinoin that Restitution would have been due

from the Justice of the Spanish Tribunals and that the british re-Captor is not entitled to more than the Expences of submitting this Question to the Court which was not improper. —

Restitution of the Ship and Cargo Decreed upon payment of the Re-Captors Expences. —

[NDA. Misc. LB, Vol. 1, 1806.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 12 September 1805

[Alicante] At 10 o'clock A. M. the Harbour Master came off and informed us that we must perform quarantine 11 days. At 3 o'clock P. M. got underway.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 12 September 1805

[Syracuse] At 4 the Schooner *Enterprize* Sailed, with Col & M^r Lear On board for Catania.

[USNA.]

To Midshipman William Lewis, U. S. Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbour 13 Sept 1805

SIR I have to desire that you transfer the Command of the U S Bomb *Vengeance*, at present under your Command to Lieut^t Benjamin Smith requiring of & receiving from him all the necessary receipts for your security and Exoneration & giving to him all the necessary documents & information respecting the said Bomb agreeable to the prescribed regulations of the Service —

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

To Midshipman William Lewis, U. S. Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 13th September 1805

SIR You are hereby directed to join the U S Brig *Argus*, as one of her Lieut^t & report your self to her Commander Cap^t Isaac Hull

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

To Midshipman James S. Higinbothom, U. S. Navy, from Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy

ON BOARD THE U. S. BRIG *Argus*
Syracuse 14th Sept 1805.—

SIR, In consequence of Orders I have this Day received from John Rodgers Esq^r Commander in Chief of the United States Squadron in the Mediterranean. —

I have to direct that immediately on receipt of this you repair on board & take charge of the two Trabacaloes or Gun Boats belonging to the United States now Moored in this Harbour for the purpose of making Store Vessels of them. —

You are to see they are kept in good order and in readiness to receive any stores that are sent to them by Order of the Commanding Officer in Port. — You will not receive any Stores in Your charge that are not Marked with the Vessel's Name or Number that they belong to; and be particularly carefull that the Stores Receipted for by you from one boat are not delivered to another without an Order from me or the Commanding Officer as you will be accountable for the same. —

You will see that the Stores that are put under your charge are stowed in such a manner as to admit of their being got out at the shortest notice and those of each Vessel separate if necessary. — For this purpose you will be furnished with a Midshipman Three Men & a Boy. —

You will observe that you and the Midshipman are not to be absent at the same time and it is expected that you will be present at all times when Stores are coming

on board or delivering from the Boats.— as you will be accountable for the same. —

You will Indent for such Articles as you may want for cooking for Yourself and the Men under your command likewise for provisions for One Month all of which will be furnished you by Mr Dyson on the requisitions being regularly signed. —

You will observe that after having received your provisions you will be accountable for the expenditure.— consequently you will see the Men do not receive more than they are allowed by the regulations of the Navy.—

You are from time to time to make a report of the Stores you have on board and of the state of the Boats, that they may be furnished with such Articles as they are absolutely in want of.—

As there will most likely be a large quantity of valuable Stores on board these boats belonging to the US and put there for their Safe Keeping; and the same Boats having been lately Robbed of every movable Article.—

I have to request that you Sleep on board One Boat & the Midshipman attached to them on board the other that we may not be subject to the like complaints in future. —

[LC. D. Porter P, Let. & Ord., 1805-1808.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 14 September 1805

[Syracuse] At 5 the English brig *Spider* sailed with a convoy for Malta.

Light airs and pleasant throughout the night — Sailed the U. S. sloop *Hornet* for Malta.

[USNA.]

To James Dodge, acting as U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis, from George Davis

U: S: S: Congress
Gibraltar Bay Sep: 15th 1805

DEAR SIR We anchored in Algiciras Bay yesterday morning; and in this a few hours since, but are in quarantine, it will only be for a day or two — The *Essex* & *Constellation* are here, The *John Adams* has not yet arrived — as we have had no communication with the shore, I can give you but little news —

A store brig sailed a few days since for Malta, & Ship & Schooner are daily expected with supplies; the *President* sailed on the 5th Ult^o for the U: States, Comodore Barron's health, was then infinitely better — two *fishing smacks*, are lying here & by which I send you this line; they are a present from Comodore Preble to Sir Alex: Ball, uncommonly beautiful vessels — Comodore P: has refused to accept the appointment of Secretary of the Navy — he is to take a tour through Europe, by order of the Gov^t: to visit the different Dock & Navy yards, in order to collect whatever may be useful to our little Navy; he justly enjoys the unlimited confidence of his Country, for him there is no party; all the world pay him, those honors, which he has so gallantly acquired —

There are 35 sail of English blockading Cadiz — & a Portuguese Squadron Cruising in the Gut — the Camp near St: Roka is said to consist of more than 12000 men — and is increasing; it is believed they will make an attempt on Gibraltar — every thing is quiet with the Emperor of Morocco —

P: S: I shall always trouble you with an enclosure —

[NA. SDA. FA, CL, Tunis, Vol. 2, (7240) 1801-1809.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 15 September 1805

This morning arrived at the Rock of Gibraltar went over to Algeiras and came to anchor. The *Essex*, *Vixen*, and *Nautilus* arrived the evening before.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

To President Thomas Jefferson from Secretary of the Navy

NAV DEP^t Sept^r 16, 1805. —

THE PRESIDENT — It would seem from the tenour of the Communications from our Ministers at Madrid that they were mortified not only from their failure in the negotiation, but from the manner of its being conducted on the part of

Spain. Its unfortunate termination, be the motives of Spain what they may, has brought us to a Crisis that demands great Consideration. That Nation, throughout the whole of her recent deportment in relation to the U. States, has evidently been presuming much upon our strong predilection, for Peace and upon our not possessing the means of materially annoying her in War either upon land or upon water —

After what we have experienced, we cannot, without stooping too much, send another Envoy Extraordinary, or instruct our Minister Resident again to make *advances* towards renewing the Negotiation. If we could allow ourselves to do either, I see no ground for believing that another Gentleman would, effect what Munroe and Pinkney were not able to do.

If there should hereafter exist on the part of Spain any disposition to adjust their differences with us, advances will be made by her. In exciting such a disposition on the part of Spain her fear, as I understand her character, will be the most powerful Agent. I would therefore, be for adopting measures calculated as well to work upon her apprehensions as to protect, in case of war, our Territories and our Commerce. —

The secure protection of New Orleans ought to be our first Object. That place in its present weak defenceless condition could easily be taken. And it could not be easily retaken by us. It could not, in my opinion, be retaken by us, but by means of a large well organized and well disciplined regular army with a great train of artillery. Some think it would not be within the resources of the U. States to retake it, unless we had the command of the Gulf of Mexico, of the Mississippi and of Lake Ponchartrain. But as we are now in possession and as our possession is easily defended in case we have the Command of the Mississippi & Lake Ponchartrain, I would advise the sending into the Mississippi & Lake Ponchartrain of all the Gun boats we have and as many more as we may be able to finish in the course of this Autumn and the ensuing Winter and Spring until the necessary compliment be there stationed.

It ought to be recommended to Congress at their next Session to provide for building additional Gun boats — for repairing, equipment and putting in Commission all our Frigates — for building the six 74's for which we already have the principal part of the Materials — and for building six additional 74's. —

As far as it may at this juncture be necessary and compatible with the resources of our Country, we ought to prepare the means of offensive as well as of defensive War. Such a preparation will not only enable us to press with more effect our reasonable demands upon Spain; but will, in the future secure us against aggressions and pretensions as injurious as they are humiliating. Such a nation as Spain would not have dared to have committed such depredations upon our Commerce and such aggressions upon our Rights, and still less would she have dared to have treated our reasonable demands for explanation and reparation so superciliously, had she not been under the impression that we are utterly unprepared for a state of war, and of course that we would not be easily provoked to declare war against her. Spain has, besides, no doubt, been taught to know that, as we have in our Navy no Vessels above the rate of Frigates, a small number of her line of Battle Ships stationed at the Havanna with the aid of a few Frigates &c would give her the Command of the Gulf of Mexico and such a Control over our Mississippi Commerce as effectually to intercept all communication between Orleans and the Ports of Europe and of America. —

With 12 Ships of the Line added to the Frigates we now have and to the contemplated Gun boats, we would have nothing to apprehend from such a Nation as Spain. on the contrary we could confidently take with respect to her a Commanding attitude. And if she were alone, rather than entangle ourselves in the mazes of Great Britain, I would with such an augmentation of our Navy, prefer encountering her without an Ally. But if France, as there is reason to think, should be really moving with Spain against the U. States, and if the state of things will not admit of delay, then an Alliance with a Nation capable of affording us the requisite naval assistance would be expedient. Without such an aid not only our Commerce and our Sea Port — Towns would in a War with France and Spain, be greatly exposed to depredation; but there would be strong ground for apprehending the entire & irrevocable loss of Orleans and the adjacent Country. Whereas with such aid we would be completely protected at every point and we could moreover with great ease take the Floridas which are essentially necessary to our securely enjoying without interruption the numberless advantages resulting from our lately acquired Territory. But were we even to form an alliance with Great Britain and upon the most advantageous Terms, I would recommend the proposed augmentation of our Navy. I would do it, because independently of other

powerful considerations it would be desirable to be not altogether dependent on the Nation with which we might be so allied. —

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

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

BALTIMORE 16th Sept^r 1805

SIR The *Hornet* is now ready to haul in the stream A Marine Guard therefore will be necessary as soon as possible and if an Officer cou'd be spared one wou'd be desirable, Music is indispensable, I refer you to my letter of the 29th July last for the number of Non-Commissioned Officers and privates necessary for the *Hornet*

[NDA. MC LB, 1804-5.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 16 September 1805

[Gibraltar] This day we were informed that if we did not go to the Rock this day we should not get product. We got underway at 4 o'clock P. M. came to anchor at the Rock at 10 o'clock P. M.

[On the 17th fired a salute of 11 guns.]

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco

TANGIER 17th Septem^r 1805

SIR I have received your favour of the 31st last Month, advising your having appointed the *Essex* and *Vixen* for the Gibraltar Station. — The 28th August a Tunisean Xebeque of six Guns and seventy five Men arrived at Tetuan — the Commander said he left your Squadron in Tunis Bay and that on shore they talked of War with the United States. — I am happy to learn that matters have been fully accommodated. — Mr Gavino transmitted to me copy of your advice to him of Peace having been concluded with Tripoly, which I considered sufficient authority for me to acquaint the Emperor of that event. — His Majesty immediately ordered the *Meshohda* should be fitted out, for purpose of sending her home. — Soon after, Marrat Arraez, arrived in this Bay from Tripoly in a Vessel of eight Guns with a Letter for Muley Soliman confirming the news of Peace — we are told he takes command of the *Meshohda*, but as no application has yet been made to the Consuls for Passports for the Ship, we Dont Know her Destination. — Lisle has in the mean time been on a Cruize to the Westward, and we are told from Larach, has taken a Doggar of Lubeck. — The only Vessel of Muley Solimans has been at Sea this Summer was the *Maimona* of 32 Guns, she captured a Lubeck Doggar bound for Lisbon with Naval Stores. —

At Tetuan they have a Xebeque to mount sixteen Guns, nearly ready for Sea, but at this advanced Season it is not likely she will go out — the three Frigates and Brig of War are now laid up at Larach. — The Batavian Republik has lately made Muley Soliman a Present of a Sloop of War, has been for a length of time at Malaga. — Yesterday a Messenger arrived with advice of Orran — Treman [?] and that Neighborhood having proclaimed Muley Soliman their Sovereign, and this morning rejoicings have been made here on the occasion.

[LC. JRP, Vol. 2, Series Two, May-Oct. 1805.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Sailing Master Benjamin C. Prince, U. S. Navy

GIBRALTER Sept 17th 1805.—

SIR I am happy to think that it is in my power to inform you of the safe arrival of the two sloops, the *Traveller* on the 7th and the *Ranger* 13th the *Ranger* in the Lat about 40° and Long 30 West was plundered by a Spanish privateer of all her small stors and people clothes taken away from them, I parted with the *Ranger* the tenth Day after I left Boston, in a gale from the southward & Eastward, which cause me to lay to six and thirty Hours, I shall sail the wind for Syracuse and if I should not meet the Commodore their then to proceed to Malta and their

to tarry till he should return from the upper parts of the strates (this advice I have from Cap^t Cammel and Consil) the wind has for the last ten Days been Blowing a Gale from the Eastward

[LC. EPP, Vol. 16, Aug. 1805-Jan. 1806.]

To Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *President*, Eastern Branch, Washington, D. C. from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPT^t 17 Sept: 1805.—

I this morning rec^d your letter of the 10th inst with the accompanying communications & congratulate you on your safe return to America. —

The petty officers, able Seamen, ordinary Seamen and boys of the Crew of the Frigate *President* must be paid off and discharged as soon as she can be brought to her moorings in the Eastern Branch, and her Provisions & stores must be delivered over by inventory to the order of Captain Thomas Tingey. The Marines are to be landed and will by their Commanding Officer be delivered up to the Col^o Com^t of the Marine Corps. To your Commissioned and Warrant Officers you may give furloughs for 2 weeks, directing them, at the expiration of that time to report themselves to me. —

When these orders shall have been executed, you will deliver up the ship to the order of Cap^t Thomas Tingey. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 7, 1805-1807.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy

BALTIMORE 17th Sept 1805

D^r SIR Your favour of the 30th Ult. I found at this place on my return from New York and Connecticut where I have been for some time in consequence of the Death's of my own Father and M^r Chauncey's Mother who both Died within a few days of each other

The Dimentions of the *Hornet*, spars, rigging, &c &c shall be forwarded to you in a few days — We have all our water and stores in and cou'd bend sails tomorrow if we cou'd get the Joiners out of the ship and the Iron work done — which is the only things that detains us, and I am fearfull will detain us untill the first week in October

Some of the officers (late of the *Phil.*) arived in town last evening — they came home in the *President* which has arived and proceeded for Washington, Commodore Barron Capt James Barron and Capt Baimbridge have returned in the *President* the former is still very ill at Hampton; I suspect that the *Barrens* are not well pleased with the new Com^d however as in all probability I shall see them in a few days I shall then know their sentiments and will write you — M^r Chauncey (who is with me) Joines me in compliments to yourself and M^r Preble

[LC. EPP, Vol. 16, Aug. 1805-Jan. 1806.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 17 September 1805

[Syracuse] at 3 [P. M.] the *Enterprize* schooner arrived With Col. & M^r Lear [USNA.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Robert Denison, Secretary of Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

GEORGETOWN (POTOMAK) 18 Sept 1805

SIR! I have the Honor to hand you inclosed a Letter from our mutual friend the gallant Captain Decatur, whom I left in good Health at Syracuse early in July, also one from my Brother in Law M^r Leckie — I arrived from the Mediterranean in Hampton Roads on board the *President* Frigate on the 10 Instant, & immediately proceeded by Land to this place with the Dispatches for Government — Commodore Barron was landed at Hampton in a very weak state — he charged me to present you his particular Regards. —

I cannot but consider myself unfortunate that the distance which separates us precludes the pleasure of delivering these Letters to you in person, I hope however that a short time will afford me the opportunity of personal acquaintance

with an Officer who ranks so high in the Estimation of his Country & whose friendship I should be no less proud than happy to cultivate.— I anticipate the pleasure of hearing from you & remain with unfeigned sentiments of Respect & Consideration,

(Care of EDWARD DENISON Baltimore)

[LC. EPP, Vol. 16, Aug. 1805–Jan. 1806.]

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

BALT. Sep. 18th 1805

SIR, With pleasure I inform you of the safe arrival of Lewis and McNeel at Gibraltar and of their having proceeded aloft to join the Squadron.

I am up to the eyes in despatches from the Med^a I have only time to say to you that your friend Bainbridge has had a Court of Enquiry on his Conduct & that the sentence is honorable to him. And further I must inform you that the Ex-Bashaw [Hamet Caramanli] in a formal Note to Eaton has explicitly signified to him his acquiescence in the terms of peace declaring himself fully satisfied with what the U States had done. In his note among other expressions of gratitude he says — “I submit to the will of God and thank the King of America and all his servants for their kind dispositions towards me” — Eaton in his despatches enclosing this Note remarks “Enclosed is a Copy by translation of a letter Hamet Bashaw has written to me. This I think is enough to do away any insinuations concerning our intercourse with this prince injurious to the honour of the U. States”

The gallant movements of Eaton in the rear — the sample you gave them last year of what Americans could do — and the great preparations for assailing them this summer all conspired to dispose the Bashaw to come forward with overtures of peace — such as no Nation for a Century past have had made to them. All Europe is giving us National repetition for this — But our own good folks will be busy in telling the world that we are in fact a very Contemptible people — All the British Admirals and Captains that see our gun boats say they are greatly superiour to any thing of the kind they ever saw. And at home they were never mentioned by certain people but as objects of derision — But so certain worthless Editors have to act in order that they may get bread —

I have seen many of the Officers that were prisoners — all say positively that if Lear had persisted in refusing paying a ransom for them peace would not have been made and they would all have been certainly massacred — The Bashaw said again & again that having killed a father & brother he would not have any scruples in killing a few infidels —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 16, Aug. 1805–Jan. 1806.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 19 September 1805

At 2 [P. M.] weighd Made sail and stood out of the harbour [of Syracuse]

[USNA.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPT^t — 20 Sept^r 1805. —

I concur with Commodore Barron in opinion on the subject of the 3 Corn [?] Vessels detained by the American Squadron off Tripoli in Sept^r 1804 and think it would be good policy to restore the vessels & the amount of their cargoes to the Claimants but without damages, interest, or expences. —

[NDA. LB, 1799–1807.]

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

NAVY DEPT^t — 20 Sept^r 1805. —

You will send a Commissioned Officer of Marines to take command of the detachment of Marines on board of the [U. S. Brig] *Hornet* now lying at Baltimore.

[NDA. USMC, LB, 1804–1820.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Frigate Congress, Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 20 September 1805

Watering ship. The *Constellation* got underway for Tangiers at 4 o'clock P. M. It appeared while we lay at the Rock that an attack would soon be made by the Spanish and French upon Gibraltar as their forces lay encamped on the extremity of the Spanish lines in full view of Gibraltar. Their forces appeared to be very numerous. Cadiz is blockaded by 36 sail of the line under Lord Nelson, and as many Spanish and French sail of the line in the harbor waiting to see which will conquer in the next engagement. It is said that Lord Nelson intends to lay siege to the Town and has likewise sent for a number of bomb vessels and fire ships.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 20 September 1805

Tackled ship occasionally beating into the Straits of Messina
Made and took in sail as occasion required — 3/4 past 10 [A. M.] shortened sail and came to with the starboard bower anchor in 26 fathoms water found laying here the brig *Syren*

[NOTE.—This journal ended on 27 September 1805 while the *Constitution* was in Messina.]

[USNA.]

Extracts from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Frigate Congress, Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, 21 and 22 September 1805

Filled our water casks and got underway at 10 o'clock A. M. At 3 o'clock P. M. heard a very heavy cannonading supposed to be at the Rock. Came to anchor in Tangiers Bay at sun set. Found there the U. S. F. *Constellation*, 2 English 74 gun ships, 3 Frigates and other small vessels.

22 September

[Tangier Bay] The *Constellation* got underway this morning at one o'clock. We got off some wood and stock.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

To Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Argus* Syracuse, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Messina 23^d September 1805

DEAR SIR, I have this moment received a Letter from Capt^t Tingey enclosing a Bill of Lading of the Store Ship *Washington*, which I herein forward you. —

I have given the General of Marine at this place permission to have a draft of one of our Gun Boats, taken by one of their draftmen, which you will be pleased to comply with. — I arrived here on the 20th but the wind has been a head ever since, so soon as it changes, I shall depart — In case you should receive dispatches for me, during my absence, of importance, which may require my early attention — I request you will send the *Enterprize* with them to meet me at Algiers. —

[NDA. Isaac Hull LB, 1803–1806.]

[23 September 1805]

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

N^o 12

A Report to the Honorable Secretary of the Navy, of the Officers lately under my command

David Porter Let, ----- one of the best Officers, I ever knew
Jacob Jones ----- a brave good Officer and a correct man
Theodore Hunt ----- A good Officer and will do credit to the Service

- Benj Smith — Has been five years under my command — I feel confidence in recommending him to the notice of the Honorable Secretary
- Ben. F. Read — } Midshipmen and Masters Mates are fully qualified to receive their commissions as
- James Gibbon — } Lieutenants, and will add to the number of
- Danl T. Patterson — } shining characters in our Naval Service
- James Biddle — from his high sense of honor and talents must one day be conspicuous in the service of his Country I think him qualified for an acting Lieutenantcy, which, I hope the Honorable Secretary will give him
- James Renshaw — a promising Officer and is qualified to do the duty of an acting Lieutenant
- Bernard Henry — } Three very fine young men and promising
- Richard Jones — } Officers —
- Simon Smith — }
- W^m Cutbush Midshipman — a correct your man, but I do not think that he will ever shine in the service — his head is always too much engrossed (to make a good Sailor) with the works of Sir Isaac Newton — he is an excellent mathematician
- Robert Gamble — I think will make a second DECATUR
- Jonathan Cowdery — } Surgeon Mates, correct Men in their conduct
- Nicholas Harwood — } and attentive to their duty.
- W^m Anderson Cap^{tn}* Clerk — a very proper character for a purser, and should he be wanted and the Honorable Secretary appoints him — I am confident that he will give entire satisfaction.
- G. Hodge Boatswain — has been in the service from the commencement of it, and is a good Officer in his station — should there be a vacant birth in the Navy Yard for him — it would be some recompense for his long services
- R. Stephenson Gunner, knows the duties of his office but is too inactive
- W^m Godby Carpenter — the best I ever had
- Joseph Loughlass Sail Maker — a very decent good Officer

The foregoing report is made to the Honorable Secretary of the Navy with impartiality, and with a reflection how necessary it is for commanding Officers to give a correct statement to the Secretary of the abilities and merits of the Officers who may have been under their command

BALTIMORE 23^d Sep^r 1805

The Secretary of the Navy will confer a favour on Captain Bainbridge — by placing the following Officers under his command when he is again ordered on duty. Gibbon Patterson Biddle Gamble — Altho Cap^{tn} B. has selected these four yet he should feel pleasure in having any of the others —

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

To Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy, from Captain Richard Dale

PHILADELPHIA Sept. 23, 1805

DEAR BAINBRIDGE I am very sorry that business calls me to Trenton. I am under the necessity to sett off today. I am fearfull it will deprive me the pleasure of your company, while you are in Philadelphia should you arrive while I am gone — I shall be in town again on Thursday should you pass through Philadelphia before my return I hope I shall have the pleasure of seeing you before you pass Trenton

R. DALE

[Morgan Library, New York, N. Y.]

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

Copy No 13

MESSINA THE 24th Sept^r 1805 —

DEAR SIR I have now the pleasure of transmitting thee, an authenticated, copy of the sentence pronounced by the Tribunal appointed by His Sicilian Maj-

esty for trying Lt Charles L Ridgely of the accusation brought against him, as Author of the homicide committed upon the person of George Hutchinson, which sentence, declares his innocence and restores him spotless to his Country, to his friends, and to thy esteem.

Notwithstanding all the severity of the Criminal Code, of Sicily, the ability of the fiscal advocate, and the cunning made use of by him in the prosecution of this affair, not even the shadow of a proof has been brought against him; indeed his having voluntarily come forward to demand his trial redounds highly to his credit as a young man of honorable principles, and jealous of his reputation and was from the beginning was a Strong Omen of his Innocence —

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

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Frigate Congress, Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 24 September 1805

[Tangier Bay] We received wood and a few sheep. At half past 6 o'clock the U. S. F. *Essex* arrived from Gibraltar. She spoke us and informed that the firing which we heard after leaving the Rock was the Spanish gun boats attacking an English Frigate. We got underway for America at half past 7 o'clock P. M.

[From 25 September to 3 November there appear no entries except mention of speaking vessels en route.]

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

To George Dyson, U. S. Navy Agent, Syracuse, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Messina 26th September 1805

SIR The dispatches by the *Spitfire* I have received through the hands of Mr Warrington they contain nothing new being Duplicates of former advices — I have been here much longer than expected, owing to head Winds & Calms, not being able to get through the Farro — I am in hopes of leaving this to morrow, at any rate shall make the attempt I have no news worth Communicating farther than that War will most Certainly take place very soon between Austria & France if it is not already the Case —

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

To whom not indicated from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

N^o 17

U. S. FRIGATE *Essex*
Gibraltar Bay. Sept^r 29th 1805

SIR I have the honour to inform you of my Arrival here the 14th Inst from Tunis accompanied by the *Vixen*, & *Franklin* Store Ship; The *Nautilass* likewise arrived that night from Algiers, where I had sent her with Dispatches from our Consul General

You are doubtless informed of an insurrection that took place at Algiers early in August — I have now to inform you that Mr Mumford in his letter to me of the 9th inst says that on the 30th Ult^o the Dey & Minister of the Regency were murdered by the Soldiers, that a new Dey was Elected and things at present quiet —

I am stationed here with the *Essex* & *Vixen* for this Winter by Order of Commodore Rodgers and shall range the Coast of Spain and Barbary as Circumstances may require & perhaps take a look at the Rock of Lisbon — I have arrested Mr Allen late Master of the Smack *Rainger* for Ungentlemanly and Unofficerly like conduct, particulars of which is herein enclosed —

I shall inform you per the *John Adams* of any thing referring to our Situation here —

NB. Mr Allen late Master of the Smack *Ranger* having borrowed a boat for the Use of the Service; of Capt^r Chamberlaine of the Am^r Ship *Argus* of Norfolk which boat has been lost; I therefore Consider the said Allen accountable for the same — Demand being made on me for Indemnity, I have thought proper to Answer the same —

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

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

N^o 18

NEWBURY PORT Sept^r 29th 1805

SIR Being from Portland when your letter of the 18th Inst^r arrived there, I could not earlier have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of it — With pleasure I learn that Lewis & M^rNiel arrived safe — The honorable acquittal of my friend Bainbridge affords me the highest gratification, and I find gives universal satisfaction — The Ex Bashaws note and M^r Eatons remarks, must satisfy the mind of every person that no dishonorable transaction on the part of the U States has taken place.

Eatons gallantry, address, & perservance deserves the highest applause, he will be received in this quarter with every honorable & flattering mark of distinction — his very extraordinary and unprecedented movements, and the increase of our Naval forces in the Mediterranean, undoubtedly occasioned the Bashaw to sue for peace — and it is a pleasing circumstance which must be gratifying to every American, that it has been established on more honorable terms than any other Nation had been able to command.

The 13 Inch Mortar has been proved and found to be good, it will throw a shell nearly 3 miles — M^r Brown has of course only received the dimensions of one to be imported — The two Vessels at Portland are in rather more forwardness than those at this place, we shall be ready to launch in a fortnight or 3 weeks, and I flatter myself that they will be such vessels as will give satisfaction 8 locks for Cannon & 8 for Carronades will be wanted and if you should think proper to allow me to take 4 very handsome long 24 pounders at the Navy Yard Boston, for the Gun Boats, I can have the Carriages made there, suitable for the horizontal Circle on which they are to be fixed.

PS. I shall return to Portland tomorrow.

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

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

BALTIMORE Sept^r 29. 1805

DEAR SIR I am Extreamly Sorry to acknowledge that this is the first time I have Written you since your departure from the Mediterranean However my Reasons were such as will, I trust, doe away the Suspicion of Neglect My Brothers health continued so very Bad that I was continually encompassd in Gloom consequently my Letters would have afforded you no amusement and as they might have Related to news nothing could have been gatherd from them during the Winter, you have doubtless heard of the precarious State in which my Brother has Returnd and It is not Possibl yet to determine what the event will be Providence alone can only Know What we have to fear as he has allready outlived all calculation I have Spent a most Miserable time and how much more before me I left all your friends in the Mediterranean Well and as Mindfull of you as Ever, your Reception in this Country gave great satisfaction to us all and Even Comd^r R— was much Pleased at hearing of your being Secretary of the Navy, *at Least he said so*, I am now on my Way home and have nearly dropt you these few Lines as an apology for a Letter Which I Will Write you as soon as I Reach Hampton and become a Little Settled, the Navy has almost Ruined me and I am now meditating Something to bring up Leeway a *Mill* Will be my first attempt if that fails God only Knows what Land fall will bring me up the Navy Wants so many Reforms that my hopes are Sinking fast to despair, However I will not trouble you With my concerns but conclude With my Best Wishes for your Happiness Will you also present them for me to my much Esteemd friend Derby and believe me Yours with sincerity in hast

[LC. EPP, Vol. 16, Aug. 1805–Jan. 1806.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

N^o 19

U. S. SHIP *Essex* Gibraltar Bay
[about 30] Sept^r 1805

SIR My last respects to you were by the *Congress* in which I informed you of my arrival here on the 14th Inst^r accompanied by the *Vixen* & *Franklin*, the *Nautilass* joind us that night from Algiers; the two former are station'd about these Waters during Winter which circumstance I presume Commodore Rodgers has acquainted you with, —

The *Nautilus* sail'd on the 23rd for Leghorn, with dispatches for Mr Lear & the Commodore, so did the smacks *Ranger* & *Traveller* for Syracuse the same day; particulars respecting the late Commander of the *Ranger* you will be informed of in my dispatch to you by Capt^r Decatur, with the addition that between nine & ten O'clock on the night preceeding his arrest, I called on board the *Ranger* not without strong suspicion of his improper conduct, where I found Mr Allen in his bed dressed in full uniform and in such a state of intoxication that he neither knew me, nor recollected where to have seen me, nor could he be persuaded to rise from his bed —

I have now the misfortune to send home a Mr Worthington who I understand was taken on board the *Constitution* when at Lisbon, and since that period has acted as Masters Mate on board that ship & the Brig *Franklin* by order of Commodore Rodgers, for particulars respecting his conduct, I beg leave to refer you to the charges herein enclosed —

The *Vixen* is at Gibraltar procuring some necessary Supplies, particularly Bread, of which she has but seven days allowance on board, nor have we an article of public provisions at the Rock, one hundred and forty barrels of pork excepted the most of which was landed from the *Franklin*; in consequence of which I have ordered Mr Gavino to procure as much flour as will serve for two months bread, which is now at 13 doll^r and daily expected to rise; the Rock is so destitute of supplies that we find much difficulty in procuring the common necessities of life, fresh meat of any kind not to be purchased for money

The Brig *Franklin* in company with two American Vessels left this place on the 24th inst^t which I convoyed through the Straights —

A Cable is much wanted for this Ship which she must have prior to the Winter setting in; to effect which & procure other supplies will probably require my presence at Lisbon —

My situation here is both tantalizing and provoking, the British on one side the Bay, distress our Commerce partly from Necessity, while the Spaniards on the other are daily practising it in a most Wilfull manner —

Although I am order'd here to protect our Commerce, which I shall do to the utmost of my power yet I deem it necessary to keep sight of the leading features of our Treaty with those Nations when by them demanded of me — The reverse of things I sincerely wish for as I find it impossible to look with common patience on the daily depredations committed about this place, particularly by the Spanish Gun Boats, —

With respect to the Man given up by Mr Allen to the British Frigate, I have not yet, nor do I expect to receive any satisfaction, in which I flatter myself you will agree in opinion, when informed of the manner he was disposed of and the circumstance of his being a Scotchman, —

Our political situation as respects Europe & Barbary, you will doubtless be informed of by the proper authorities, — I have only to add that all necessary information touching the detachment of our Squadron under my Command, shall be duly forwarded to the Department

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

To Lieutenant David Porter, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Schooner *Enterprize*,
from Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy

U S BRIG *Argus*
Syracuse 30th Sept^r 1805

SIR I have been honored with your Letter of this date, requesting a conveyance of Mr Robertson Purser of the United States Schooner *Enterprize* under your Command to Malta, for the purpose of providing Slops for her Crew, — I have in consequence ordered Lieu^t Izard, Commanding Gun Boat N^o 2, to get his Vessel in readiness to Sail this Evening for that purpose. —

His stay at Malta will be limited at one week, for the purpose of having the Slops made, if it should be necessary. —

[LC. D. Porter P, Let. & Ord., 1805-1803.]

To Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Argus*, from
Assistant Surgeon Thomas Marshall, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES GUN BOATS
Syracuse Harbour 30th Sep^r 1805

SIR, Mr William I. McIntosh Midshipman on board United States Gun Boat N^o 2 has been a long time in very ill health. — I would recommend, as perhaps

the only means of his recovery, that he be permitted to return to the United States. —

[NDA. Isaac Hull LB, 1803-1806.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Surgeon's Mate Augustus C. W. Love, U. S. Navy

U. S. GUNBOAT N^o 1 —
Off Fort Johnson Oct^r 1st 1805

SIR, It is with sorrow I inform you that Lieu^t N. Fanning Commanding this boat died yesterday of a severe relapse of the Bilious fever, occasion'd by exposure whilst a convalescent. I think it partly my duty to inform you of this melancholly circumstance, that you may send on some Officer to take Command, as we already feel the ill effects, the want of one occasions in the licentious conduct of the Men. —

[NDA. Officers LB, 1802-1805.]

[8 October 1805]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Charles W. Goldsborough, Chief Clerk, Navy Department

DR SIR, Altho' probably the last to express my congratulations on your safe return to your native land, yet surely I was one of the first who experienced pleasure at that event. The delicate state of your health excited the sympathy of all — your recovery will create a proportionate degree of joy. As soon as I heard of your arrival I assumed the confidence of an Esculapius & ventured to pronounce that your native air & hog fish would soon restore you to health — & I rejoice that my predictions are verifying.

When you shall have entirely recovered your health, I recommend it to you to come on to this place for the purpose of settling your accounts with the navy Dep^t — Mr Denison has exhibited a general account current, but I apprehend that your account will not be entirely closed untill you shall come on. Every assistance & facility will then be furnished you.

I have observed in Mr Eaton's letters to Cap^t Hull, which have passed through your hands, some observations in relation to Mr R. W. G. which have given me great concern. — powerful indeed must the evidence be to convince me of the correctness of the charges — the offences stated are very foreign to the character he had theretofore sustained — Let me ask it of you as a particular favor to give me your opinion of Mr R. W. G. — his general conduct while with you &^e &^s.

Be pleased to make my most respectful compliments to Mr^s Barron — & accept for yourself the sentiments of esteem, with which I remain,

8th OCT^r '05

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

To Lieutenant David Porter, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Schooner *Enterprise*, from William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta

MALTA Oct^r 9th 1805

SIR, I am favoured with your letter of the 30th Ult^{mo} ordering me to me to hold at Mr^s Robertsons disposal, two Thousand Dollars, against Slops to be purchased by him, for the use of the United States Schooner *Enterprise*, which will be attended to, altho' contrary to my Orders from Commodore Rodgers, directing me to answer no requisitions for money, unless countersigned by himself or Cap^t Hull. —

[LC. D. Porter P, Let. & Ord., 1805-1808.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t 12 Oct^r 1805. —

If we should not be at war with Tunis, or any other of the Barbary Powers, it is the command of the President that the Frigates *Constellation*, *Congress*, *Essex*, and *John Adams*, and three of the five small vessels of war under your command, be immediately ordered home, and you will without any unnecessary delay order them to the Eastern Branch. The Frigate *Constitution*, and such two of the small vessels as may be in the best condition to remain, are to continue in

the Mediterranean till further orders, for the obviously necessary purpose of watching the movements of the different Barbary Powers, & protecting our lawful commerce. It will be agreeable to me that the *Argus* should be one of the three small vessels to be sent home, but I give you no positive orders upon this point.

If you should not have acted upon my letter of the 5 August 1805, you will order all the gun boats and bombs to proceed immediately to Charleston South Carolina, if in your opinion they can at such season safely cross the Atlantic. But if you should think that they cannot safely cross the Atlantic during the winter months, detain them until they can cross with safety, and then order them to Charleston. Direct the Commanding Officers to report their arrival at Charleston to me, without delay.

Let me hear from you frequently upon Mediterranean Affairs.

[NDA. LB, 1799-1807.]

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

NAV DEP^t 14 Oct^o 1805. —

I enclose an order describing the Uniform of the Marine Corps more particularly than it has heretofore been described.



Promulgate this order and have it observed.

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

[Enclosure]

Uniform Regulations of U. S. Marine Corps

Ordered, That the following Dress be the Uniform of the Marine Corps. —

Officers — Navy blue coat, buttoned across the breast, with two rows of navy Buttons, 8 on each side, the button holes laced, brought to a point in the center thus  3 buttons on the sleeves, laced in the same manner, the Pockets with 3 buttons, placed, and with lace, similar to the sleeve. The collar of scarlet hooked before with 2 Buttons on each side, laced cuffs scarlet. The Skirts turned up with Scarlet, and two foul Anchors worked with gold thread on each skirt; the skirts lined with scarlet & 3 button holes laced (on the lappels of the Coat) on scarlet: This however not to be seen when on duty in winter. Vest & Pantaloon white. Hat cocked in winter, with a gold laced loop, and Navy Button under the Cockade. The Cockade of Leather thus described,  : the hat to be worn over the right Eye, the range of the cock of the Hat of course over the left eye, with tassels from the sides of the Hat. Round Hat in summer with a gold band and Tassel, the Band diagonally fixed, the tassel over the right eye. Hats with scarlet Plume. The hair to be queued. —

Officers when in full uniform are to wear a scarlet Sash round the waist, outside the Coat, and black boots to the Knee, with black silk tassels. Sash tyed on the left side, falling over the left Thigh. Black leather Stock when on duty. —

Officers Grades are to be designated in the following manner, viz^t —

A Colonel — two gold Epaulets — 1 on each shoulder.


A Captain — a gold Epaulet on the right shoulder & a gold strap on the left. —

A First Lieut^t — a gold Epaulet on the right shoulder.

A Second Lieut^t — a gold Epaulet on the left shoulder.

The Staff to wear a gold Epaulet and a Counterstrap embroidered on blue cloth. —

Side-Arms — yellow mounted Sabres and with gilt Scabbards worn over the Sash, black belts, with yellow mounting. —

Marines — Uniform to be a Coatee single breasted, one row of buttons, yellow worsted binding on each side, the extreme ends of which represent a half diamond thus  white cloth pantaloons, black cloth or linen gaiters, to come up to the calf of the leg, and linen over-alls in Summer. High crowned hats without a Brim, and a plume of red plush on the front of the Hat with a brass eagle and plate, and Hat-Band of blue, yellow, and red cord with a Tassel of the same Colours. Sergeants to wear leather Cockades on the left side of the Hat, with their plumes.

NDA. USMC, LB, 1804-1820.]

ROB^t SMITH. —
Secretary of the Navy —

To Lieutenant David Porter, U. S. Navy, U. S. Schooner *Enterprize*, from Lieutenant Benjamin Smith, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES BOMB KETCH *Vengeance*
Harbour of Syracuse Oct^r 15th 1805

SIR I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Order of this day in compliance with which I have examined the United States Sloop *Traveller* and find that she has been injured in her hull and rigging by the U S Schooner *Nautilus*, running foul of her off Cape De Gatt while she had her in tow; I shall make every exertion in my power to put her in such a state of repairs as your Order directs as soon as possible. — The following articles will be necessary for her repairs for which I have directed her commander to indent. (Viz^t as follows)

- 2 three inch Planks
- 2 two inch do
- 3 one inch — do
- 10^{ll} 10^{oz} Nails
- 4 fathoms 4 inch rope
- 4 Oars
- 28^{ll} White Paint
- 17^{ll} black D^o
- 6^{ll} Green D^o
- 20 Rotlo of Oil
- 3 Quarts of Sp^{ts} Turpentine

[LC. D. Porter P, Let. & Ord., 1805-1808.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Leghorn Roads Oct^r 16th 1805

SIR I have this day drawn on you in favor of Mess^{rs} Degen Purviance & C^o a sett of Exchange at Thirty days sight for Dollars 28531.4/100, say Twenty eight Thousand five Hundred, and thirty one Dollars four Cents, being for the use of the Squadron, under my Command —

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805-July 1806.]

To Lieutenant Samuel Evans, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Schooner *Nautilus*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Leghorn Road 16 Oct^r 1805

SIR With the U S Schooner *Nautilus* under your command, you are desired to proceed with all practicable dispatch to Syracuse, holding the 10,000\$ for which you have receipted, subject to the orders of the Senior Officer, at that place — I shall leave this in a Week at farthest, for *Algiers*: you therefore may calculate on seeing me at Syracuse, shortly after your arrival, there —

The repairs of the *Nautilus* you are desired to make at Syracuse, our principal deposits being there — Wish^t you a pleasant passage —

[LC. JRP, Order Book, No. 2, 1805-1806.]

To Lieutenant David Porter, U. S. Navy, U. S. Schooner *Enterprize*, from Assistant Surgeon Thomas Marshall, U. S. Navy

U. S. GUN BOAT N^o 8
Syracuse 16th Oct^r 1805

SIR I this morning discovered a Man on board of Gun Boat N^o 8, to have the Small Pox. — There are five or Six on board the same Boat who have been so much exposed before it was discovered, that I have reason to believe they have taken the infection. — As the danger from inoculation is much less than by natural infection, I would beg leave to inoculate them. —

If You think proper to permit their inoculation, I would recommend their removal to the Bombard under the Command of Lieut^t Higinbothom, one of which can be fitted, with little expence for their accommodation.—

[LC. D. Porter P, Let. & Ord., 1805-1808.]

To Lieutenant David Porter, U. S. Navy, from Surgeon Edward Cutbush, U. S. Navy

Syracuse 18th Oct^r 1805.

SIR, I rec^d Your letter of the 16th Inst, and have pursuant to your request, taken the opinion of the Surgeons of the Squadron, on D^r Marshals proposal, to inoculate those persons, who have been most exposed to the variolous contagion, on board Gun Boat N^o 8, And beg leave to inform You, that the plan is approved of—
(Signed) E CUTBUSH, Hospital Surgeon

[LC. D. Porter P, Let. & Ord., 1805-1808.]

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, 18 October 1805

At 4 PM Got Underweigh and sailed from Baltimore at ½ past 7 brought too in 7 f^m water abreast of Curtiss Creek At 6 A m Got underweigh people employ^d taking in and setting sail as required At Merid^o Anapolis bore W B S Dist 3 Miles

[NA. NDA. original, 1805-1810.]

To Gaetano Marceano, British Consul, Catania, from Midshipman Ralph Izard, Jr., U. S. Navy

Copy of a letter to the British Consul

AT CATANIA 19th Oct^r 1805

SIR When the U S Schooner *Enterprize* was here she left a Boy on shore by the Name of Francis Vessels. From information that has been received at Syracuse the boy wished to return to the said Schooner in Syracuse but was detained by you. Be pleased to inform me as soon as possible with respect to the veracity of this information.—

(Signed) R. A. IZARD L^t
Comanding U, S, G, B, N^o 2

[LC. D. Porter P, Let. & Ord., 1805-1808.]

To Lieutenant David Porter, U. S. Navy, from Midshipman Daniel McNeill, Jr., U. S. Navy

Syracuse 19th Oct^r 1805.

SIR I am sorry to inform you that I have but four Men on board able to do duty, except the Marines, after they are inoculated, with the small pox neither an Of-
ficer when the Midshipmen are inoculated. — If you will please give me an Order, for ten men; (Seamen) I will do my best endeavours to be ready for Sea by Sunday Week, you will please to inform me, what length of time You want the provisions lay'd in for

[LC. D. Porter P, Let. & Ord., 1805-1808.]

To Lieutenant David Porter, U. S. Navy, from Midshipman Ralph Izard, Jr., U. S. Navy

SYRACUSE Oct^r 20th 1805
U S GUN BOAT N^o 2—6 PM.—

SIR In pursuance of your Orders of the 18th Inst I got under way on the evening of the same day & proceeded to Catania where I arrived at noon on the following day.

After obtaining pratique I enquired for the British Consul. He was out of Town but was expected to return that evening I wrote him a letter, a copy of which I now inclose to you. The next Morning at 10 OClock the British Consul waited on me and I informed him that the object of my coming to Catania was to apprehend a boy who had been left there by the U S Sch^r *Enterprize* and from every information that could be obtained the boy had been detained by him contrary to the Boy's wish of returning to Syracuse as soon as possible.— After many evasive answers he (the British Consul) confess'd that he had seen the boy and had, had him in his house; that the boy said he was afraid to return to the Schooner

for fear of punishment and when he heard that there was an America Vessel in port had left his house. —

I immediately made a demand of the boy and in case of a noncompliance with my request to have him delivered on board was determined to request the Governours interference He then acknowledged the boy was in his house and said he would deliver him to me if I would accompany him thither I went and found the boy. I immediately ordered him to get his hat and follow me He went out of the room and while I was conversing with the Consul the boy made his escape. A Mr Bonano an Italian Gentleman who has lately been in the U S Service as a Midshipman accompanied me to the Consul's and pursued the boy, He after some difficulty apprehended him, I went in Company with the Consul two or three Streets towards the Marine with the Boy. The Consul then gave me his word of honor (of his own accord) that the boy should be delivered On board which was done.

I immediately got underway and proceeded to this port. —

[LC. D. Porter P, Let. & Ord., 1805–1808.]

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

U. STATES SLOOP OF WAR [BRIG] *Hornet*
Hampton roads 20th Oct^r 1805

Sir, I arrived here this day it blowing a hard Gale from the North East — and as far as I am able to judge in coming down the Bay the *Hornet* will answer my most sanguine expectations; — She sails fast, works well, is remarkably stiff, and I presume will prove an excellent Sea Boat.

I have ordered Lieutenant Leonard to Norfolk to recruit twenty Seamen if possible, but if he should not succeed in procuring that number in four days, I shall proceed for New York to complete the Compliment — In the mean time we shall be employed in setting the Rigging up, and getting otherwise ready to encounter a Gale of Wind if we should meet one. —

[NDA. MC LB, 1804–5.]

Extracts from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*. of 18 Guns, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, 20 and 21 October 1805

First part these 24 hours light brezes with thick hazey weather All sail set to the best advantage, wind N W at 7 PM came to an anchor in 7 f^m water abreast of Newport Comfort at Midnight came on strong brezes from the N E^d Veered out the long service At 6 AM got underweigh with the wind at NE At 10 A m brought up in Hampton Roads in 6 & ½ f^m water, Sewils point bearing E B S Dist about 2 miles, Moored Ship with 100 f^m on the Small bower and 35 on the best bower, same time Struck Royal yards ends with brisk Gales attend^d with small rain and thick hazey weather

21 October 1805

First part Strong gales with heavy rain At 4 PM Sent the Pilot boat to Norfolk with Lieut^t Leonard & M^t Walpole Midshipⁿ to open rendezvous At 5 PM Struck Top G^t yards At 4 A m the wind Shifted to the NW At 9 A m clear pleas^t weather Cross^d Top G^t & Royal yards and loosed all sails to Dry ends with Serene pleasant weather all hands employ^d in Necessary work on board At Merid^v the Pilot return^d from Norfolk with fresh provision for the Crew

[NA. NDA. original, 1805–1810.]

To Secretary of State from Levett Harris, U. S. Consul General, St. Petersburg, Russia

St PETERSBURG, 18/22 October, 1805.

Sir, Since I had the honor to address you under date of 23 Aug. 4. September p^r Ship *Severn* via Baltimore Copy via Amsterdam I have received a letter of which the inclosed A is Copy from Commodore Rogers, advising that a peace had been concluded with the Tripolitans, and that the Russian Vessel *St Michael*, which had been captured by a part of the Squadron in September last year in an attempt to enter Tripoli in defiance of its blockade, together with the amount of the Sales of her Cargo in Malta, he had taken upon himself to restore to the original owners

[NA. SDA. CD, St. Petersburg, Vol. 1, 1794–1809.]

To James Dodge, acting as U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis, from Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy

Argus 23^d Oct^r 1805

SIR This will be handed you by Lieut Obannon who comes to Tunis To take charge of any Communications you may have to the Commodore or the government if you can come onboard I should be happy to see you

I shall leave the bay this evening unless you should have business to detain me as the season is getting late and my Cables Very bad —

I have no news but what M^r Obannon will communicate to you

[NA. SDA. FA, CL, Tunis, Vol. 2 (7240) 1801-1809.]

To Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Argus*, from James Dodge, acting as U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

GOLETTA TUNIS BAY 23^d October 1805

SIR, I received your favour p^t Lieutenant O'Bannon and am extremely happy to hear of your good health. I regret that I cannot visit you without communicating with the Bey and getting a Tiskar from him for the purpose, this would consume much time and is of less moment, as I have nothing of an unfavourable nature to advise you of, every thing remains tranquil & the Bey has on occasion of my visiting him, shewn me several marks of particular attention, whether this arises from his natural Politeness to a stranger or is a mark of his particular respect for the United States I know not, but I am well certified he is in no way changed from those sentiments expressed while the Squadron lay here. —

I imagine the Commodore will call here on his return from Algiers, therefore shall not detain you by writing to him, as M^r O'Bannon expresses great anxiety to return to the Brig. —

[NDA. Isaac Hull LB, 1803-1806.]

To Captain Alexander Murray, U. S. Navy, U. S. S. *Adams*, New York, N. Y., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV DEPT — 25 Oct^r 1805. —

The following is an extract of a letter this morning received from the Navy Agent at Charleston S. C. —

"The *Adams* Frigate left our Bar on the 5th inst & the very next day a French Privateer of 12 Guns took her station, who boarded almost every Vessel going out or coming in. on the 12th ins. the Ship *Two Friends* Capⁿ M^rNiell that was captured some time since came to the Bar in company with the British Sloop of War *Petterell*, which the Privateer saw & endeavoured to board, supposing her to be a Guineaman, but after a contest of 20 Minutes hauled off with the loss, it is said of a number of men, and her Hull much injured.

"I have not understood where the Privateer has gone, but I am in hopes the injury she has sustained will prevent her interrupting us for some time." —

Having committed to you the protection of our commerce on our Coast, and given you particular instructions for the government of your conduct, the present case does not require any further instructions from me. I give you the above information, with the confidence that you will improve it by every measure in your power consistently with the general object of your cruise. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 7, 1805-1807.]

To Lieutenant David Porter, U. S. Navy, U. S. Schooner *Enterprise*, from Midshipman James S. Higinbotham, U. S. Navy

US BOMBARDS 25th Oct^r 1805.

SIR It will be necessary for the present, that I should have ten Men, for the purpose of clearing N^o 1, for the reception of such sick Officers, & Men, that may be ordered on board, by Doctor Marshall. —

[LC. D. Porter P, Let. & Ord., 1805-1808.]

To Master Commandant John Smith, U. S. Navy, commanding the U. S. Brig
Siren, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Leghorn Road 26th Oct 1805

SIR As none of our public Vessels have been at Genoa, and having a desire that our Officers should acquire a general Knowledge of the principal Ports in the Mediterranean — I have to desire that you proceed from hence to that port, and after Communicating with our Consul, and informing yourself of the properties of the Port, and the Consequence of the American Trade thereto — you will proceed to Naples, at which, you being in bad health, and your conceiving that you can be benefitted by the Waters of Ischia — you in consequence have my permission to remain with the *Syren* at Naples to a period leaving yourself time to join the Squadron by the 15th of Decr next — you are desired to afford our Commerce all the lawful protection in your power during your absence, and Communicate with me at Syracuse, as often as opportunities offer —

[LC. JRP, Order Book No. 2, 1805–1806.]

To William Eaton from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Duplicate

PORTLAND Oct 28th 1805

DEAR SIR It has been announced that you were to sail for the U S. with our Gallant friend Decatur, in the *Congress*, and expected to arrive, in all this month; I presume ere this, that you are safely landed, and beg leave most heartily, & sincerely, to congratulate you on your return, to your Native country, after having rendered it such essential services.

I have the honor to acknowledge the rec^d of your duplicate dated 25th Jan^y Village of Dimanhour, this is the only letter I have rec^d since we parted, altho I have written several to you — I thank you for your obliging attention in making this very Interesting communication, which I could not in justice to yourself, withhold from the public, through the medium of a News paper, as it places your Intrepidity, Address, Enterprize, & perseverance in a correct point of view — The arduous and dangerous services you have performed has justly Immortalised your name, and astonished, not only your country, but the world. If pecuniary resources, & naval strength had been at your command, what would you not have done! The opinion expressed of my services, in your Pamphlet, detailing operations of the Squadron under my command, cannot but be extremely flattering. I have often regretted that you did not leave the U States with me, an earlier acquaintance might have given greater reputation to our arms, *while I was on the station*, but could not have increased your Glory beyond its present Zenith, for you have acquired Immortal honor, and established the fame of your country in the East. I hope you will meet a recompence, such as you deserve.

I arrived at Washington the 4th March last, the day of Presidential Inauguration, and was favorably received — on my return I took passage by water from New York to Newport, of course had not the honor of seeing your Lady, but your letters were carefully forwarded. I have lately been employed in building Bomb Ketches, & Gun Boats, a business I am pretty well tired of — if no Nobler game offers I shall soon give up the chase.

The public are anxiously expecting details from you of the most interesting nature, respecting your expedition, and the Tripolitan peace; and I can assure you, it will afford me much pleasure, to receive a letter from you, should you find leisure to drop me a few lines. I hope soon to see you in this State where your countrymen stand ready to receive, & pay you distinguished honors due to your merit. I presume you will be received at every place you visit, with a welcome that cannot but be highly gratifying. Not long since I rec^d a letter from Dyson with your seal. You cannot conceive how mortified & disappointed I was on opening it to find it wanted your signature. as it is not certain that you have yet arrived, I shall close, and wait until I hear from you.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 16, Aug. 1805–Jan. 1806.]

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

PORTLAND Oct 28. 1805

D^r SIR Your much esteemed favor forwarded by Mr Dennison, I have been hon^d with, it is the only letter I have rec^d from you altho I have written several I cannot but be gratified by the favorable opinion you are pleased to express of

my talents for the Office it was supposed I was appointed to. altho I have not the vanity to imagine myself possessed of the necessary qualifications to discharge the duties of that important station [Secretary of the Navy] with reputation either to myself or Country, of course had I been actually appointed I should not have accepted. I regret that envy mallice or any uncharitable disposition, should have led the *Magnanimous* Com^d or Col^l so far from the line of correct conduct as to endeavour to build their reputations on detraction — They ought to consider that such foundations are of short duration, and cannot fail eventually to involve them in difficulty, if not ruin. it cannot be a matter of much consequence to the meritorious Officers & Seamen I had the honor to command what the opinion of those man may be so long as their Country acknowledges their gallant services I am not astonished at the singular enquiry the Com^d is making respecting Blakes conduct, nor at the new and singular mode of enquiry, as I Know the man — I however believe that if M^r B. had a proper investigation of his conduct, by the officers who had an opportunity to witness it. unless their opinion is very much changed he would not be very well satisfied with the result — It appears to me that the conduct of the Comm^d is not calculated to stimulate the officers to great exertions or heroic actions — what his opinion is respecting me is of very little consequence — that my signal for action was premature for M^r B. is pretty well understood.

Your friend Dennis enclosed your letter in one from himself. altho I am not personally acquainted his character is known & admired by me, and if ever opportunity offers to render him service I shall do it with the same pleasure that I should cultivate a personal acquaintance. It was cruel and indicative of little minds in those two *great men* the moment they [ms. mutilated] to treat the worthy Comm^d Barron his amiable Brother your friend D and in fact all our friends in the manner they have done.

I thank you for your friendly congratulation on the honorable reception I met with from our Government. I shall always feel deeply indebted to your Gallantry, for a large proportion of my Consels — you have immortalised your name by actions which your Country & the World know how to estimate, your reception will convince you of it.

I am anxious to hear from you, be assured a long letter will be most acceptable & gratifying to my friendship.

P S. that a Col [Tobias Lear] should command our Squadron as you inform me must be matter most of surprise to abroad as well as at home —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 16, Aug. 1805–Jan. 1806.]

To James Dodge, acting as U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

LEGHORN Oct^r 29th 1805.—

DEAR SIR. — On the 4th of Sept^r we left Tunis Bay, and to avoid the quarantine of 40 days, to which we should have been subjected here, had we come direct from Barbary, we went round by Sicily and Naples. — We arrived at Syracuse on the 9th remained there till the 18th when we sailed for Messina, where we passed 3 or 4 days and sailed for Naples. From the latter place the *Constitution* sailed for Leghorn on the 6th of the present month. — The next day M^r Lear and myself set off by land, and after a pleasant and most interesting Journey, reached this place on the 19th where we found the *Constitution* & Brig *Syren*, which had arrived in 4 days from Naples —

I have established for you here, a Credit of Two Thousand Spanish dollars, on the House of Mess^{rs} Degan, Purviance & C^o Navy Agents of the U. States, for which you may draw in such sums as you may have occasion for —

I rec^d a letter from M^r Gavino, our Consul at Gibraltar dated Sept. 18th saying that the U. S F^r Congress, with the Ambassador, would sail from that place the next day for the U. S.

The War between the Emperors of France & Germany has commenced, and threatens to be a very serious & bloody business, particularly if Russia should take a part in it; of which there appears no doubt. — The French are said to have gained great advantages on the Rhine; and it is reported that the Austrians have been successful against the Army of Italy, Commanded by Messenia. But altho' we are so near the scene of Action; we can place but little reliance on reports which are very contradictory. The French Troops left this place about 6 weeks ago, and it now enjoys a perfect Neutrality. How long it may remain in this

happy state is uncertain. We have no late news from the U. States. I enclose some papers of the latest date, which may afford you some amusement. —

I expect to sail for Algiers in a few days; where I shall find a great change in affairs; but I think nothing unfavourable to us — On the 1st of Sept^r after the Massacre and extepateur of the Jews, the Dey and his prime Minister were killed by the Soldiers, and another Dey chosen who is said to be popular with the Soldiers & people. His name is Hamet, and was some time since principal Secretary to the late Dey. — The internal disturbances still continue; but the City is at present tranquil & safe. —

I enclose you a letter for Mr Ridgely at Tripoli which I pray you to forward by the first good conveyance, either by Sea or Land. —

I shall hope for the pleasure of hearing from you soon and have no doubt but all will remain well in your quarter.

I pray you to present my respectful Compliments to the Consuls in Tunis, whose attentions I remember with pleasure, and also to Mr Allegro, as well as to such of the great men of Tunis who may enquire after me. I write by this Opportunity to Mr. Tulin the Swedish Consul. —

P. S Mr^s Lear & Commodore Rodgers desire their Compliments to you. —

[NA. SDA. FA, CL, Tunis, Vol. 2 (7240) 1801-1809.]

[29 October 1805]

To Lieutenant David Porter, U. S. Navy, U. S. Schooner *Enterprize*, from Sailing Master Alexander C. Harrison, U. S. Navy

SIR I have had the honor of receiving Your Orders by Lieut Smith, The Corporal and one of the privates has been inoculated for the Small Pox, therefore I have only three to stand Centry, nevertheless if you think proper your orders shall be obeyed

Oct^r 29th 1805

[LC. D. Porter P, Let. & Ord., 1805-1808.]

[29 October 1805]

To Lieutenant David Porter, U. S. Navy, U. S. Schooner *Enterprize*, from Midshipman Daniel McNeill, Jr., U. S. Navy

SIR, I am sorry to inform you that I have but four men to do duty; they are not seamen, I therefore think we should be a disgrace to the Squadron. —

(Signed) DAN^l M^oNEILL. —

Oct^r 29th 1805

[LC. D. Porter P, Let. & Ord., 1805-1808.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

N^o 32

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Leghorn Road 30th Oct^r 1805

SIR I have the honor to acquaint you, that I arrived here on the 10th Instant from Syracuse, having called at Messina and Naples, in my passage, and shall leave this the day after to morrow for Algiers, to land Col^l Lear, whom I brought to this place, as mentiond in my former advices by the *Congress*— for the purpose of procuring the Biennial present — After landing Col^l Lear, I shall return to Syracuse to Join the Squadron again — The Regency of Algiers, has experienced such Convulsions, within those last four Months, that it is almost impossible to make any Calculations respecting its fate, on the conduct of its Government, altho the result, cannot effect the Interest of the U States — They are much weaken'd by their late domestic broils, not only in the City of *Algiers itself* on account of the Assassination of the late Dey, and the Usurpation of his Successor, (who it appears was his own private Secretary) but in consequence of nearly one half of the Regency, bordering on Tunis, and Morocco, having renounced their Alliance to Algiers, and proclaimed the Emperor and Bey their Sovereigns and attach'd themselves accordingly, to the local situations of their Country — As I have made: no Changes of any Consequence, in the disposition of the Squadron, since my last communications by the *Congress*, I feel it not necessary to say more, than, that since that period, I have received advices from Doctor Ridgely, Charge

des Affairs at Tripoli, expressive of the friendship, and good faith of that Regency, and from M^r Simpson, Consul for Morocco, *not Expressive of any alarm*, Copies of both of which, I enclose you — Since the separation of the *Essex & Vixen* from the Squadron to the Gibraltar Station, I have received letters from Cap^t Campbell, and M^r Gavino, but they mention nothing worth communicating — In fine our affaires at present, so far as relates to the different Barbary States, appear to be perfectly at rest, and indeed quite so, on this side the Atlantic, farther than what is occasioned by British and Spanish depredations on our Commerce, *particularly in passing Gibraltar* It appears at this moment that the fate of Europe depends upon the success of the French Arms — Bounaparte, at the head of the French Army, in Eight Days after the commencement of the War with Austria and Russia has besides, making himself Master of several Austrian Garrisons, taken the famous City of Ulma, and upwards of 45,000 of the flower of the Austrian Army among which are 25 General Officers, the Russian Army had not yet arrived at the Theater of War, from the part that Prussia, at present, is acting, she appears to be a Barrier, to a Junction between Russia and Austria —

After a passive War between England and France, of near Three Years the Dogs of War, are now, on a sudden let loose, and it is impossible to say what will be the result — England and her new Confederates, appear not to have understood one, another, their plans have been badly concerted — This new change in the affairs of Europe, appears already to present, a favorable opening for the Extension of our Commerce, into Russia and Turkey, as the American Flag, at this period Stands alone, where it is necessary to connect the security of the Merchant with the pride of the Government, and honor and General Interest of the Nation —

The Trade of the Black Sea would be of immense importance to the U States, and their remains no doubt, but that the Ottoman Port, would very gladly enter into any Commercial Intercourse, that our Government would propose —

The Squadron I shall hold in readiness to meet the execution of your orders in 24 Hours after their reception, and should the results of the Tunisian Embassy not prove satisfactory to the U States, permit me to suggest to you, the necessity of the *Essex* and *Vixens* being ordered to join me in, company with the Ship that Conducts the Ambassador back again to Tunis — If War is the consequence I will agree to forfit my Head, if I do not make the result, the Interest of the United States, without a single Item more force than what remains in the Mediterranean —

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

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

N^o 31

U.S. SHIP *Essex*.

Harbor of Malaga Oct^r 30th 1805.

SIR I beg leave to inform you that since the departure of the *John Adams* our commerce has experienced a severe check, in consequence of a recent order from the British Government; to detain for adjudication, all American Vessels having on board the produce of French or Spanish Colonies, which has been acted upon in the most prompt and energetick manner, much to the prejudice of our trade;

On my first arrival on this station, the conduct of Spanish Cruizers appeared to me unjust in the extreme, and now find that of the British equally so, particulars of which I presume will be made known by our Consuls to the department of State; —

The Upper Works of the *Essex* have not been corked since she left America, consequently they are rendered very leaky insomuch as to make every thing uncomfortable below, which defect and approach of the rainy season induced me to avail myself of this Port, it being most convenient for the repairs of the ship; leaving Cap^t Cox in the *Vixen* to convoy a few American Vessels to the Westward clear of Cape Spartell, likewise to inform such American Vessels as he might fall in with of their embarrass'd situation, and protect them from Insult as far as the nature of their case would admit. —

I arrived here on the 14th Inst^t since that period we have had seven days of heavy rain, which has so much retarded our progress, that ten days of good weather are yet required to prepare the Ship for Sea; —

I have no accounts of our Squadron aloft since I left them in Tunis Bay; to the Commander of which I give regular advice of my proceedings, here, nor shall I be unmindful of the Navy department, when any thing of consequence transpires, — This comes by one of the Ships under convoy of the *Vixen*, that left Gibraltar on the 23rd but meeting with baffling Winds before they could clear the Straits,

were forced by the Current West of the Road that prevented them from regaining Gibraltar, and with difficulty get in here — The Bends and upper works of the *Vixen* are very open, and in bad Weather makes much Water, which will oblige me to order her into Port to refit as soon as the *Essex* is ready for Sea, and prior to the inclemency of the Season setting in —

Letters from Madrid by this days post, mention the capture of fifteen thousand Austrian troops with two thousand Horse in Bavaria, by forc'd marches of the French that compleatly surrounded them, — You will probably hear ere' this can reach you of the desperate action between the English and combin'd Fleets on the 20th Inst^t in sight of Cadiz, particulars of which as respects the latter I here enclose for your perusal, which can be depended on, they being carefully collected, by a Gentleman in Cadiz and a particular correspondent, with the house of Gravinga and Kirkpatrick of this place. —

When ready for sea my intention is to run down the Coast to Cadiz taking in my way Gibraltar, Algeziras, Tangiers & C^a. —

Admiral Nelson and Collingwood are Killed, likewise Six British Captains * * * Since writing the above I have received a second account from Cadiz by this days post Collingwood is yet living

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

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

GIB^t 30th Oct^r 1805

D^r SIR I wrote you P^r the *Natilus* since then have none of your fav^{rs}. Our affair with Barbary without Novelty. Publick health has kept well this season in this quarter. No News from the U. S. The *Essex* was at Malaga, & the *Vixen* gone to the West with the Trade — a Great action took place the 21st Inst^t off Cadiz between the Brit^h fleet & the Combined one of France & Spain as p^r the inclosed Paper, but a Gale of Wind from S. W. since has Ocasiond the loss of some of the Prizes. —

[LC. JRP, Series Two, Vol. 3, 1805-1807.]

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

U. S. SLOOP OF WAR [BRIG] *Hornet*

New York 31st Oct^r 1805

SIR I arived here this day after a pleasant passage — The *Hornet* answers my fulest and most sanguine expectations, She Sails fast, works well and I think the stiffest Vessel I ever was on Board of, She certainly does credit to the Country that she belongs to — and to her constructure and I hope will not loose it by her Commander —

Commodore Murray is here in the *Adams*, I therefore shall make all my future communications through him

[NDA. MC LB, 1804-5.]

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, kept by Sailing Master Charles Fitzherbert Grandison,* U. S. Navy, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy commanding, 31 October 1805

At 1 A m the British frigate *Cambrian*, Captⁿ Beresford Sent her boat on board at 2 the Boat return^d same time took in sail and hove too, at 3 bore up with a light breeze At 8 A m the high land of neversink bore N B W Dist about 4 leag^r At 9 A M his Magestys Frigate sopke [sic] us again same time Sandy Hook bore N W B N Dist about 4 leag^r At 1/2 past 11 the light house on S hook bore South Dist about 2 miles At the same time a Pilot came on board, ends with Moderate breezes and hazey weather several sail in Comp^y Stand^s in Diff^t Directions

*Unless otherwise indicated all subsequent extracts from this log, included in this volume of *Naval Records*, were by Sailing Master Grandison.]

[NA. NDA. original, 1805-1810.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

HAMPTON Nov^r 1st 1805 —

SIR Your communication of the 18th Ult^o should have been sooner replied to but the weak state to which I am reduced by long illness, has rendered me incapable

of writing & it is with much difficulty that I can at this moment, *See* sufficiently to commit my Sentiments to paper —

It is my opinion that when an Officer (holding a Commission in the Service of his Country) is ordered on any particular service, he should Obey Such Order, & if he thinks it of a nature either *dishonourable* or *disagreeable*, and declines it *without the Consent of the Authority* which invests him with such Command, it indubitably may be considered, a Resignation of his Commission —

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

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, 1 November 1805

First and Middle part of these 24 hours fresh breezes with small rain latter part pleasant weather — At 2 PM passed the U S Frigate *Adams* lying at Staten Island and Cheered her as we passed At ½ past 2 Came to an Anchor in 7 f^m water abreast of Governors Island and about ½ a mile to the south^d of New York At 5 PM Struck Royal & Top G^t Yards at ½ past 10 Confined Rob^t Berry a Marine for Denial of Duty and insolence, At 10 A m Unbent Royals T G^t sails & St^r sail

[NA. NDA. original, 1805-1810.]

To Lieutenant David Porter, U. S. Navy, U. S. Schooner *Enterprize*, from Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy

U S BRIG *Argus* 2nd Nov^r 1805. —

SIR I have been this day informed, that four men have deserted from the U.S. Ketch *Spitfire*, one from the *Nautilus*, and one from Gun Boat N^o. 8 — And from the best information I can get, I have every reason to believe, that they have gone towards Messina. —

I have in consequence to request, that you lose no time in getting a description of the above men, and proceed with the U, S, Schooner *Enterprize*, under your Command, to that port, and should they have arrived there, you will use every means in your power, to apprehend them, and return to this port with all convenient dispatch. —

I have likewise been informed by M^r Dyson, that a small vessel, laden with Brandy, and Bread, for the use of the Squadron, has been out from Palermo, a long time, bound to this place, Should she have arrived, at Messina, and afraid to proceed, which, I think is the case, you will take her under Convoy on your return, but should she not be there, you will endeavour to inform yourself, if any such Vessel has been heard of, along the Coast to the Westward. —

[LC. D. Porter P, Let. & Ord., 1805-1808.]

To General LaVillette, Governor of Leghorn, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Leghorn Road 3^d Nov^r 1805

SIR I am sorry that absolute necessity should oblige me to address you on a subject, as equally painful to my pride as the result is insulting to my Country — My Conduct towards you Sir, and your Government has ever been marked with respect, & I most sincerely regret that such conduct has not met a due return. Last night at 25 minutes past 6 O'clock on attempting to land, I was Insulted in the most Grose, and unprecedented manner by the Guard at the entrance of the Port, and to aggravate the Indignity I had the mortification to be told that your orders sanctioned this abuse — This I disbelieved, but as the outrageous and Indignant manner in which the Insult was offered, leaves me no room for farther explanation, without rehearsing to my wounded a circumstance which my Insulted feeling forbid — farthan than to request that you immediately take the necessary measures to repair the injury I have sustained, that you treat the Gentleman who hands you this (who is Chaplain of this Ship) with the respect that is due to his Character, and that you do not detain him, by force one Single moment, for if you do, I shall immediately put into execution the necessary measures to convince you have Pacific & respectful, not only my Intentions but my Conduct have hitherto been, by demonstratively convincing to yourself, and the Respect-

able Inhabitants of the City of Leghorn, that an American Commodore possesses the power of opening Gates, with as much facility as Governor Vilette —

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Frigate Congress, Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 3 November 1805

Saw the land at 9 o'clock A. M. At half past 12 o'clock took a pilot. Saw Smith's Island at the same time bearing W. N. W. at 4 o'clock P. M. saw Cape Henry Light House, and came to anchor at half past 11 o'clock P. M.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

To Lieutenant General LaVillette, Governor of Leghorn, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

N^o 36

U S SHIP Constitution
Leghorn Roads 4 Nov^r 1805

SIR I regret that the representations made to you, through the American Consul, have not proved sufficient to save me the necessity of addressing you personally, on a subject as painful to my pride, as the result is Insulting to my Country and to my own Person, and I now Sir inform you, that if you do not immediately render me that just satisfaction, which my demands require; that I shall feel myself bound immediately to exhibit the whole affair to higher authority than yourself —

As the Consul has in person represented to you, the Grose and unprecedented manner in which the Insult (by the Guard at the entrance of the Port, at 25 Minutes past 6 OClock on the Evening of the 2^d Instant) was offered — I beg that you will not require of me, to repeat over again, a Circumstance, the rehearsal of which, my Insulted feelings forbid — Be pleased to inform the Officer who hands you this, when I may expect an answer — In the mean time I regret that any Circumstance should oblige me, to inform you, that I shall use the necessary measures to repel similar abuse, not only to myself, but every Individual under my Command —

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

Presumably to Secretary of the Navy from Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES [FRIGATE] Congress
Hampton Road Novem^r 4, 1805

N^o 40

SIR I have the honor to inform you I arrived here yesterday after a passage of forty days from Tangier, having on board an Ambassador from the Bey of Tunis to the Government of the United States, —

My object in coming here was to procure a supply of provisions which were nearly expended

My orders from Commodore Rodgers were to forward the dispatches from the first port of America I might arrive in — In compliance of which I have engaged a boat in which I send Lieut Tripp[e] who will have the honor of delivering them, the merits of this deserving Officer being so well known renders it unnecessary for me to say any thing in his behalf

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

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Frigate Congress, Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 4 November 1805

At half past 3 A. M. got underway and anchored in Hampton Roads at 10 o'clock A. M.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

To Lieutenant General LaVillette, Governor of Leghorn, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Leghorn Roads 6 Nov^r 1805

SIR I have received your letter of yesterday, in reply to mine of the proceeding day, wherein you not only refuse to give me that satisfaction, which I had a right to expect, but have augmented the injury by informing me, that you approve the Conduct of your Guard; without even Confronting me, or using any thing like Impartial measures, to inform yourself whether that Guard told you truth or not — Let me ask you Sir, if you could reasonably suppose, that a guard, who had without any just cause, offered violence to an Officer of my Rank, or even to a private Individual, acknowledge the fact? — Or is it likely that I should demand redress, when no injury had been done me? —

Even admit that I felt inclined to Insult your Guard, (which is in itself Insulting you) can it be supposed by any reasonable Man, that I should have taken such an abstract method of developing my intentions, when at this moment I have under my Command in these Seas, Twenty three Sail of different descriptions —

In matters of dispute, between Parties, even in Civil Law, it is customary I believe, for the Impartial Judge to hear the evidence of both Parties —

This is placing the affair on its plainest basis; — But Sir, I do not mean it to be understood, that I wish you to act contrary to the System, which you have thus adopted in rendering Justice, farther than merely to exhibit in faint Colours, *to your Imagination*, what claims I have on your Government, and to which I shall exhibit the whole affair, for redress; when I assert that the representations made to you, by the Guard, are as utterly untrue, As your Conduct to me has been unjust, and Indignant —

If I had not a sincere respect and regard, for the Rights and happiness of the Tuscan Nation, and particularly that of the Inhabitants of Leghorn, as also the most perfect respect for the Sovereign Rights of your Government, you may be assured General, that I should have devised other means to have obtained redress, for the Indignities which you have been pleased to sanction, at the expence of my Pride, and the Rights of my Nation —

When I appealed to you Sir, it was in expectation, that you would impartially investigate the matter, and as impartially render me that Justice, which my Injured feelings demanded —

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

To Lieutenant David Porter, U. S. Navy, U. S. Schooner *Enterprise*, from William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta

MALTA 6th Nov^r 1805

DEAR SIR The Stores which have been left on board the Smacks remain there at the request of Sir Alex^r Ball & of course such as are not belonging to them must be hereafter accounted for by him, this arrangment took place from our not knowing exactly what was or what was not included with the Account to be rendered his Excellency. —

[LC. D. Porter P, Let. & Ord., 1805-1808.]

[7 November 1805]

To Mr. Mozzi, First Minister to Her Majesty the Queen Regent of Etruria, Florence, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

SIR It is not without pain, equal to the Importance of the Subject that I presume to address your Excellency on a matter of Complaint against any Individual of a Nation, in whose Interests and honor, you bear so Conspicuous a part; and more particularly so, that it should be in opposition to one so respectable in Rank and Society as the present Governor (General La Villette) of the City of Leghorn —

Whenever disputes arise between the Individuals of Nations, which can Serve in any way to disturb the Friendship and Good understanding, existing between their respective Governments, it is but just that the Party agrieved should be redressed and the Aggressor punished In proportion to the Consequence resulting, or that may result there from —

Without trespassing farther on your Excellency's patience permit me to

Exhibit through you, for the Consideration of your Government, the motive of this address —

I came to this Port on the 10th Ultimo, having business of Importance to transact, with the Navy Agents of my Nation, concerning the Squadron, which I have the honor to Command in these Seas; and Immediately on my arrival waited on the Governor (General La Villette) and in a manner at the same time, to have flattered myself that I had, at least, a Claim to the ordinary Civilities of the Port; This I was induced to believe from the adduced reasons —

Not only that the Government of Tuscany from the Considerable Commercial Intercourse, existing between its Subjects, and the Citizens of the United States, but from its Magnanimity, and Friendly disposition towards all Nations, and that the first Executive Officer too, so important a trust, as the representation of a place of such consequence as Leghorn, would feel a Disposition to promote the Interest of his Government (and for which I feel the most disinterested regard) by treating the Men of War of my Nation, with due respects; But I am sorry to say, that I have not been so fortunate, as to have experienced, the smallest Proof of General La Villette's friendly intentions — No on the Contrary I have experienced the reverse, and in a manner as painful to my feelings, as the nature of the Indignity is Insulting to my Country — I have been twice Insulted by a Guard of Soldiers, in the most Grose and unprecedented manner, at the entrance of the port, and have been refused redress, by the General, in terms as unworthy the Rank I bear, as its Nature is degrading to my Country, and to myself —

Enormous falsities have been represented by the same Guards, to the General, wherein they accuse me, of having been the first Aggressor; and he has suffered his understanding to be so far imposed on, as to believe, or effect to believe, all that has been told him, to the prejudice of my Pride, and the honor of my Nation —

As it would be imposing on your patience, to recite in detail, all that has passed; I shall content myself for the present by requesting, that your Government will do me the Justice to Investigate impartially the Circumstance, which gave rise to my thus troubling you —

I was here about Two Years ago, at a time when this place was Garison'd by French Troops, and the Conduct of the Military part of the Community, was then so very different, to what it now is, that I know not how to account for the Change —

I have by General La Villette, been refused Entrance, into the City, at the early hour of 25 Minutes past 6 O'clock in the Evening, under a pretence, that I had attempted to force the Chain, and other ways insulted the Guard —

Such an offer of violence I can assure your Excellency, was the most distant from my Intentions, and it can, (if my own word is not sufficient) be incontestably proved, by some of the most respectable Inhabitants of this City, that no such thing ever happend.

Is it likely that I would require redress, when I had sustained no Injury?

Is it reasonable that I would attempt to violate, the Sovereign Rights, and Peace, of a whole City, with my own hands, when I have in these Seas, Twenty three Sail of vessels of War, of different discriptions, under my Command? Or can it be supposed by any Impartial Community, that I should have thus pacifically required redress, If my disposition towards your Sovereign rights, were not the most unequivocally respectful? —

My stay here is so limited, as to oblige me, to make the American Consul Resident here, the Medium of Conveyance, in the place, of doing myself the honor of waiting on your Excellency in Person.

I therefore beg, that the answer, you may think proper to honor me with, may be Conveyed to me, through him, in order that I may explain the same to my Government —

Trusting that your Government will render me, the most Ample satisfaction. I content myself for the present by adding that, * * *

U S SHIP *Constitution*

Leghorn Road 7th Nov^r 1805

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

To Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Hampton Roads, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t 9 Nov^r 1805. —

With respect to the Tunisian Ambassador, you may either land him at Hampton or take him with you to New York, as may be the most agreeable to him. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 7, 1805–1807.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Frigate Congress, Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 9 November 1805

Sailed for Washington City.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

To Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, from Lieutenant David Porter, U. S. Navy

ON BOARD THE U. S. SHIP *Enterprise*
10th November 1805

SIR, Agreeable to your Orders of the 2^d Inst I procured a discription of the deserters mentioned therein, and proceeded for Messina, where I arrived the next day. — In compliance with your Orders I made the necessary enquiries respecting the deserters, and could obtain no information of them, but on enquiring for the Vessel was informed by M^r Broadbent our agent, that a Vessel from Palermo bound to Syracuse, with Spirits for the American Squadron was lost, a short time since on the coast of Sicily between Syracuse and Messina — Supposing this to be the Vessel I was sent in search of, and knowing the great want of Spirits in the Squadron, I concluded it for the good of the service to make a purchase of as much Brandy as I could conveniently stow on the Schooners decks, and accordingly purchased eight Pipes, for the use of the Squadron generally, a statement of the cost and quantity of which I herewith Enclose you. — I left with our Agent at Messina a copy of the discription of deserters, and took on board of my Vessel from Prison, a man who had deserted from the U. States Ship *Constitution*, when last at that place. —

A considerable quantity of Brandy such as I have on board is to be had at Messina at the same price, and as it is very cheap, and very good, permit me to suggest the propriety of sending a Vessel round to Messina, to purchase a large quantity for the use of the Squadron — I could not but regret, while there, that I did not feel myself authorised to Charter a Vessel and load her with it, on Account of the U. States. — Permit me also to state to you, that Wines can be had there, at a much more moderate price, and of a far superior quality to the Sour Wines, we have been using at Syracuse, so much to the prejudice of the health of the Crews of our Vessels, and which-ever you may prefer, Wine or Brandy, will bein my opinion cheaper, to send a Vessel to Messina, to bring it to Syracuse, then to purchase at this place at the extravagant price, we have been in the habit of giving for them. —

[NDA. Isaac Hull LB, 1803–1806.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Frigate Congress, Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 11 November 1805

Put back into Hampton Roads. On account of having orders to proceed to New York before the men were discharged.

[No more entries until 18 November.]

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

To Secretary of State from Peter Kuhn, Jr., U. S. Consul, Genoa

GENOA 12 Nov^r 1805.

SIR I have the honour to inform you that on the 28 U^r in the evening came to anchor in this harbour the United States Armed Brig *Syren* Capt^r John Smith from Leghorn and was admitted to immediate pratique

Upon the entrence of the Brig into port she was visited according to custom by an Officer from the Frigate Commanding in the harbour, who I am Sorry to say, put very uncommon questions to Capt^r Smith; some of which he did not think proper to satisfy; such as, "what brings you here, how long do you intend to stay," &c &c — It is but seldom, I believe that our Ships of War are seen in French ports in the Mediterranean, and the *Syren* the only one that has ever appeared in Genoa; which induced the Commandant Afloat (as I have since been informed) to suspect her to have been an English Vessel under the disguise of American Colours — I presented Cap^r Smith the next day to His Serene Highness The Arch Treas-

urer of the Empire, as also to the Prefect & Mayor who were there present; they recieved him with every mark of respect — in the course of conversation Cap^r Smith mentioned the questions which were put to him on his arrival — H. S. H. express'd his displeasure at the Officers Conduct; and promised an explanation from the Commandant —

At an early hour the following Morning I recieved a note from the Arch Treasurer requesting me to send Cap^r Smith to him as soon as possible — Cap^r Smith waited immediately upon him — “I am informed by the Commandant, said the Arch Treasurer to Cap^r Smith, that you did not conform to regulations established in the Ports of France with respect to Armed Vessels on your enterece here”. Cap^r Smith replied that he observed the same rules in coming into the port of Genoa as he had been accustomed to in entering other Ports; it was his care to respect them equally with Government and Officers in every place he came to; that if there were different regulations established in the ports of France from what were general elsewhere, he requested to be informed what they were and he should conform to them as far as was practicable; he had however to complain to his Highness of an Order he had that morning recieved from the Commandant to take down his Colours and not to hoist them until those of the Frigate were hoisted; he did not think proper to attend to the order, nor could he accord to any regulation of that nature

His Serene Highness demanded if he Saluted the Port on entering — Cap^r Smith said it was not a general custom, more especially for small vessels, — he had not: H. S. H. replied it was always the custom in the Ports of France, & his want of observing it was the cause of what had happened —

A fair wind Offering on the 1st the *Syren* was about to leave Genoa but an unlucky accident threw her upon a French Corvette and carried away her Jib: boom — the *Syren* had some of her sails torn, her fore yard Carried away, and much rigging cut by the french crew she was consequently obliged to remain in Port to repair the damage recieved — This accident produced another note from the Arch Treasurer demanding my presence — I went immediately to him — “The object of his calling me, he said, was to mention that Cap^r Smith had been insulting anew the Imperial Navy that he had run his Vessel against one of their Corvetts and broken her &c — all done with premeditated intention — that it was a matter of high impotence and could only be settled by the Governments” — Knowing well the disposition of his Serene Highness, I regulated my Answers so as to obtain from him all the different charges which the Commandant had made against Cap^r Smith — I then told him he was much misinformed and the charges not just — that I accompanied Cap^r Smith on board of the *Syren* at his expected departure, was an eye witness to the accident and should relate to him the occurrences precisely as they occurred — The Harbour of Genoa as H. S. H. was acquainted, is of Circular form, and Surrounded by Mountains, when the Wind blew from the Land (excepting gales) it was never settled but subject to instantaneous shifts from one point of the port to the other, which was the unfortunate case that morning at the moment the *Syren* was getting under way; her Anchors from the ground, a Sudden flaw from the eastward filled her head Sails and turned her upon the Corvette, doing her some little damage which Cap^r Smith immediately offered to repair — accidents of the like were not uncommon in the port of Genoa altho' they might not come under the notice of his S. H. —

I could not forbear expressing that I thought H. S. H's informant a Very jelous or a Very Malicious Man, as I could not for a moment suppose from the post he held in the Imperial Navy that he was wanting in a Knowledge of Sea affairs, by which he would be acquainted that the occurence was altogether accide[n]t

His Serene Highness appeared well Satisfied with my explanation in the interim however Cap^r Smith receiv'd a Messuage that he could not leave the port without permission from the Prince; greatly astonished he came to the Consulate where I found him on my return from the Palace — The Arch Treasurer had not communicated a word to me of this order — I immediately requested an interview in Company with Cap^r Smith which was soon granted — he assured that the *Syren* was not detained but could depart when ever Cap^r Smith should think proper — that it had been a misunderstanding —

The next morning at day break Cap^r Smith called upon me to inform that he had recieved a new order not to leave the Port I address'd H. S. H. a note upon the subject, to which an answer was returned (Copy inclosed) repeating that the *Syren* was not detained in the port of Genoa, and the sole cause of what had arrived, was the want of adhearence to the general established rules —

Cap^r Smith left this the following day for Naples —

I have thought it my duty Sir to communicate these particulars to you, & to express my Opinion in favor of the conduct of Capⁿ Smith which did not deviate from proper consistency during these proceedings whose origin were entirely owing to the Misrepresentations made by the Commandant to his Serene Highness the Arch Treasurer

CORNIGLIANO 5 MILES FROM GENOA
12th Novem^r 1805.

[NA. SDA. CL, Genoa, Vol.1, March, 1799—Oct.1836.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Alexander Murray, U. S. Navy

U/S FRIGATE *Adams*
Off *Charles^r Bar Nov^r 12th 1805*

SIR After a pleasant passage of Six days fine weather, I arrived here, but as yet have had no communication with the N: Agent, we have bro^t too many Vessels off this coast, none of which hath heard or seen any privateers, we shall however keep a Vigilant look out, and as far as my Authority extends, endeavour to execute your orders with punctuality. — I have since my last respects to you, on the eve of my departure from Sandy Hook, been Inform^d that the *Hornet* is destined for another Service, I shall of course continue here, as long as my stores, & the state of the *Adams*, will admit of — In my communications with Capt^r Beresford of the *Cambrian* off Sandy Hook, he informed me that he intends taking this station in Dec^r so that Charleston will be well guarded in future, or in other words, *Blockad^d* by him, as N York hath been & against whom I can afford no Relief to our commerce, it must rest with the wisdom of Congress to determine upon the Legality of his late proceedings in capturing the Vessels he hath of late done off the Hook —

The Pilot tells me there hath not been any french privateers off this coast, since the battle with the *Petrel*, Sloop of war —

[NDA. A. Murray's LB, 1799—1805.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Essex*
Harbor of Malaga Nov^r 13th 1805

SIR I beg leave to inform you that I sailed from Gibraltar the 24th of Sept^r having charge of the *Franklin* and two Schooners, the *Harmony* of Boston and *Mary Maryland* of Norfolk which cleared the Streights by Sunset, at which time I stood for Tangiers Bay, where I found the *Congress* in the act of sailing for America, the *Constellation* having left that place the preceeding evening — On the 28th I run over to the Rock & on the 11th of Oct^r anchor'd off Algeziras, called on the Commander in chief who appeared much disposed to serve us I took this opportunity of mentioning the conduct of his Batteries toward us, having three different times been fired at by them; he regretted that it could not be otherwise for reason that the British had frequently deceived and insulted them under American Colours, that the only satisfaction he could give me on that head was to Keep clear of Gun shot, or send a Boat and declare ourselves friends —

The *John Adams* clear'd the Streights on the 30th Sept^r by which conveyance I was under the necessity of sending Mr Worthington home in arrest on charges exhibited against him by Midshipman Charles Robinson, particulars of which I here enclose for your information —

Mr Pinckney has left Spain, Mr Bodwin supercedes him who is now in London, and soon expected at Madrid, Mr Irwin has already been presented as charged with our affairs at that Court untill the Minister arrived; —

I see no prospect of a War with Spain, nor can I find any person that thinks there will be: — The combined fleets left Cadiz on the 19th & 20th Ult^o consisting of thirty three sail of the line, whom the British engaged on the 21st with twenty seven sail, the result is that ten sail *only* have return'd to Cadiz and but four of them worth repairing two of which had struck to the British which were mann'd with a Prize Master and crew, and unfortunately were drove into Cadiz in consequence of their crippled state and severity of weather. —

The Upper works of the *Essex* being very leaky insomuch as to render every thing uncomfortable below, induced me to avail myself of this port to remedy that defect prior to the inclemency of the approaching Season, having left the *Vizen* at Algeziras to take charge of two American Ships through the Streights —

In consequence of a recent order from the British Government to detain for adjudication all Neutrals having on board the produce of French, Spanish or Dutch Colonies our Commerce has experienced a severe check & several Vessel's have been carried into Gibraltar, for particulars of which I refer you to Mr Gavino.

The *Vixen* left Gibraltar with her convoy on the 24th but meeting with adverse Winds attempted to regain the Rock but was oblig'd to anchor off this place the 26th from which place she sail'd again for the Westward on the 4th Inst —

N B. By an arrival of an American Schooner at this place We learn of the arrival of the *President* at Washington with Com^o Barron, in better health, & we may expect daily to hear from the Department. —

[LC. JRP, Vol. 1, March 1791–Dec. 1814.]

[13 November 1805]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Thomas Turner, Accountant of the Navy

DEAR SIR This morning I received yours of the 1st the Contents shall be duly attended to.

The *Congress* is at Hampton. The *Constitution* at St Mary's. Captain Stewart has Just arrived at the Office. and the *Constellation* I suppose will be up the first fair wind — and the *Congress* will probably follow in a few days. on first understanding she had arrived it was intended to send her to New York, and orders were dispatched accordingly. but that intention I believe has been changed and the orders Countermanded, and she will of Course if the latter orders reach her in time come also to the Eastern branch.

Genl Eaton is in the Brig *Franklin* not yet arrived — the *Congress* has a Tunisien Embassador on board and he has according to the custom of his Country, a number of presents intended for the President of the U. S. one Item of which is four Arabian Horses

Nov. 18. 1805

[LC. EPP, Vol. 16, Aug. 1805–Jan. 1806.]

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

HAMPTON ROADS

U: S: Frigate *Congress* Nov^r 14th 1805

SIR On my first stopping at this place, I had resolved not to address any of my friends, untill my arrival at Washington; but the different orders which Capt: Decatur has received occasions a longer delay than I could have wished — I therefore profit of the present moment to offer my thanks for your friendly interference, in endeavouring to secure for me, the appointment at Tunis; and with the assurance, that I shall ever be Zealous, to merit your friendship and patronage — The movements of *Comodore Rodgers* at Tunis, has hurried the Bey into a measure he had long anticipated that of sending an ambassador to the U. States; and has also forced me to accompany him — I do not know how far it will meet the approbation of Govt; but it has been enforced by a high sense of duty to my country; and proper respect for myself.

I was recalled by the Commander in Chief on the 9th of August, with the solemn assurance that hostilities would commence in less than twenty four hours, & with instructions to make the same known to the Bey — I had no sooner acted on these orders than a new negotiation was set on foot by Col Lear, without my knowledge, and in a degree carried into effect, without my being permitted to accompany him on shore — after such a degradation, I could not return to the duties of my office, without acknowledging the propriety of *his conduct*, which had only been marked with *inconsistency and indecision* — I shall communicate to you more fully the state of our affairs in that quarter, after having made my respects to the Dep^t of State —

I am charged with some memento's, from Hull, for yourself and M^{rs} P. to which I beg leave to add; some Trifles; be pleased to inform me how I shall forward them —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 16, Aug. 1805–Jan. 1806.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Master Commandant John Shaw, U. S. Navy

U. S. FRIGATE *John Adams*
Hampion Roads 18 Nov^r 1805

SIR As soon as our Affairs were settled with the Regency of Tunis I received sailing Orders [dated 21 August 1805] from Commodore Rogers to proceed Home-wards, a Copy of which I have the Honor of enclosing to you. I got down on the 23rd September to Gibraltar where I filled the greater Part of my Water; but the Ship's Stores being deficient in Bread to carry me Home, and not being able to procure any of this Article there, I embraced the first Wind that offered and pushed out into the Gut, where I met a heavy Westerly Wind which compelled me to come to an Anchor in Tituan Bay

The 30th Sept. the Wind coming from the Eastward I weighed Anchor, and on the 1st October, got clear of the Gut; On the 9th I made the Island of Madeira where I anchored in search of Bread and to fill up my Water; but was still unsuccessful in procuring Bread, I therefore proceeded to Sea with Dispatch. On the 19th of October I found myself obliged to place all Hands on an Allowance of 7 Ounces of Bread Per Day, and when I anchored here I found that we had but 3 Days Bread on board on that Allowance; I have therefore dispatched my Purser to Norfolk, and as soon as he joins the Ship with supplys I shall trip my Anchor, if the Weather will permit and proceed for Washington

[NDA. MC LB, 1804-5.]

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

ALGIERS, November 18th 1805 2 oclk P. M.

DEAR SIR, I have this moment returned from visiting the Dey, and as it is too late to have my things brought on Shore this evening, I shall postpone my going on board 'till tomorrow morning, when I will be ready to go off by nine oclock, if you will have the goodness to let the Gigg come on shore. At the same time I shall Send off a Launch to take my things on shore; as all appears to be fair weather here. — The Dey received me with much satisfaction, and was very far from saying any thing on the subject which was conjectured. He had not the least hesitation about confirming the Treaty on the face of it, which he observed was customary & just; and should have been done before if it had been here. — Tomorrow forenoon it will be sent to the Palace for that purpose.

The Consuls all make their enquiries for you, and send many Compliments. — M^{rs} Lear sends her best regards. —

[LC. JRP, Series Two, Vol. 3, 1805-1807.]

To Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Argus*, Syracuse, from William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta

(Duplicate)

MALTA 18th Nov^r 1805

DEAR SIR, I am very sorry to inform you, that one of the first Bills drawn by Commodore Rodgers, has been refused acceptance to by the Agents in London, and the Protist is now laying before me, what the fate of the remainder may therefore be, is doubtful, but I feel myself very uncomfortably situated, as the whole Amount Paper now running against those Gentlemen is nearly £30,000 & which bearing my Endorsement I *must* pay, with all the accumulation of charges, if it comes back, which there is but too much reason to fear it will. —

I feel no sort of uneasiness as to my eventual safity, tho' it were twenty times the sum, but how to meet and pay here so large a sum, throws me into the greatest embarrassment & distress, for my own funds at the present moment would be far unequal to it. — If the Commodore should be at Syracuse, represent to him I pray, in the strongest manner, the urgent necessity there is for assisting me by sending to Palermo, Leghorn and Naples, and getting money wherever it is to be raised upon the Credit of the United States, for I repeat the ruin perhaps of my House would follow my being unable to meet this demand; And what future indemnification from America could I expect to recompence me for such a Misfortune. — This Letter will rest between ourselves, You Know the readiness I have always evinced to assist the wants of the Squadron, and that when these Bills were given, the whole or nearly so of our Capital was absorbed in our advances to it. — The Commodore must therefore use every means within his Power to save me from Consequences, which if my fears are fulfill'd I shudder to think of, every

thing demands it, the Credit of Government & my Personal safety. — Until I see my Dear Sir my way through this cloud, I earnestly entreat of you to make no more demands upon me for the Squadron,

[LC. JRP, Series Two, Vol. 3, 1805–1807.]

Concerning Blockade of Cadiz and San Lucar

QUEEN, GIBRALTAR BAY, 19 Nov^{br} 1805

MY LORD MARQUIS His Majesty having been pleased to order that the Ships of Neutral Nations trading to the Ports of Cadiz and San Lucar with such cargoes as are not contraband of War, shall be permitted freely to pass without interruption from his Blockading squadron. I have to request your Excellency will be pleased to order this, His Majesty's concession to be signified to the Consuls of the Neutral Nations residing in Cadiz.

CUTHB^t COLLINGWOOD

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE MARQUIS DE SOLONA
Capit^o General of Andalucia, Governour: &c^o Cadiz

[NA. SDA. CL, Lisbon, Vol. 2, 1803–1805.]

Extract from log of U. S. Brig Hornet, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, 20 November 1805

Commences calm and hazey weather attend^d with small rain at 1 PM took in sail and Anch^d in f^m water to wait for wind & Tide at 3 weigh^d and Made sail with a light breeze from the South^d at 5 came too in 5 & ½ f^m at Midnight came on strong gales with heavy Rain veered out the long service at 6 Moderate & Clear at ½ past 6 AM got underweigh with the wind at SE and ran into Hampton Roads at 8 brought too in 5 f^m water the United States Frigates *Congress* & *Jn^o Adams* were in the Roads from the Mediteranien ends with fresh breezes & pleasant weather wind West

[NA. NDA. original, 1805–1810.]

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

PORTLAND Nov^r [23^r] 1805

SIR I enclose you an acc^t of sales of the Cargo of the *S^t Tissimo Crucifiso* captured by the *Nautilus* (while under command of the gallant & worthy Capt Somers) for breach of Blockade — the vessels was restored to the former Owners for 300 Doll^r about the Am^t of Charges — As the Officers & Crew of the *Nautilus* will probably soon arrive in this Country & want their prize money I have written to W. J. Keene the prize Agent of that Vessel at Philadelphia, that he may draw on me for half the am^t the other half belonging to the U S I shall wait your Instructions respecting it, I am desirous of relinquishing my share of all prizes to the Widows or Orphans of those who lost their lives while under my Command.—

[LC. EPP, Vol. 16, Aug. 1805–Jan. 1806.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 23 November 1805

[18 November in Hampton Roads, no entries until 23 November.]

Sailed for the City at half past 4 P. M. and came to anchor at half past 5 P. M.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

To Lieutenant David Porter, U. S. Navy, U. S. Schooner *Enterprize*, from Surgeon Edward Cutbush, U. S. Navy

U. S. HOSPITAL Nov^r 25th 1805

SIR, I Am sorry any remarks of yesterday should induce you to Order lodgings for your wounded Man; the Hospital, I conceived, was the most proper place for an Operation.—

Beds are in readiness whenever you think proper to send Patients on shore; it is not in my power, neither is it my wish, to make choice of patients or to refuse

them, when sent with the Necessary documents. If you think proper to send your wounded Man, a bed is in readiness to receive him.

[LC. D. Porter P, Let. & Ord., 1805-1808.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 25 November 1805

At half past 1 P. M. weighed and beat up the Potomac abreast of St. Mary's and came to at half past 6 P. M.

[No entries until 29 November.]

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Salvadore Catalano, Pilot

U. S. FRIGATE *Constellation*

Nov: 26th 1805

The memorial of Silvado Catalana — humbly sheweth, that having been taken into the service of the United States by Commodore Prebble as Pilot of the Ketch *Intrepid* at the burning of the of the frigate *Philadelphia* in the Port of Tripoli and having rendered all the services in my power in carrying into effect all plans proposed by the Commodore when my Knowledge and abilities was required, I take this opportunity of Petitioning to you and the Government — trusting to your benevolence, and pray that you will make me some compensation according to Commodore Prebble's promise to me, I have in my possession a certificate from him and Captain Decatur I have a family in Palermo and my situation in life compells me to work hard for a support of them and myself I now consider myself a Citizen of the U, S, and trust I shall be protected as Such as I shall always hold myself ready to assist in protecting the government against any nation whatever, I trust Sir that you will take my case into consideration and make me such compensation as you think proper —

[NDA. Misc. LB, Vol. 6, 1805.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Captain John Hall, U. S. Marine Corps

MARINE GARRISON

Washington 27th Nov: 1805

Dr SIR As there has been some little difficulty in settling my accounts at the Navy Office respecting the Band I enlisted in Catania, will thank you to write me word if it was not your Orders for me to obtain one in Sicily — by your doing this I shall be able to settle my Accts: directly & save me a great many Dollars —

I was extremely happy (to hear from Genl: Eaton) that you had recovered from your late indisposition, & sincerely hope you may continue in health — I beg Sir you will make my respects to your own, & Brothers Family & beleive me sincerely —

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

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, 28 November 1805

The whole of these 24 hours Moderate breezes with extreem pleasant weather all sail set to the best Advantage at 4 PM pass^d the Narrows same time took in st^r sails St^r sails Gaft & Gaft Top G^r sails and flying Jib At 9 Pass^d the US Frigate *Congress* Lying off Stump Neck At 10 Came too in 5 f^m water in Washingtons Reach abreast of Mount Vernon U. S. Frigate *Jn^o Adams* Lying in the same place, the Anch^r being foul when want^d to be Let go M^r Cha^r F Grandison Sailing Master was ordered to his Cabin by Capt^o Chauncey, at 8 A m loosed & refurled the sails, at 9 hoisted the Boats out at 10 the *Jn^o Adams* & *Hornet* each fired a Salute of 17 Guns

[NA. NDA. original, 1805-1810.]

To William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 29th November 1805

SIR I have to acquaint you that I arrived here the Day before yesterday last from Algiers, after landing Col Lear there, who was received by the New Dey with great Respect, and friendship —

I have some Money. on board for you, received from Mess^{rs} Degen Purviance & C^o of Leghorn, which I will forward to you, in a few days, by One of the Vessels of the Squadron —

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

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

NAVY DEP^t 29 Nov^r 1805.

I am exceedingly mortified to see that the *Constellation* is still at the mouth of the Eastern Branch. What can be the reason?

If she cannot be got up to the Yard in her present state, her Topmast must instantly be struck, and she must be lightened by every other possible means. I shall be much disappointed, if she should remain where she is four hours longer.

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 7, 1805–1807.]

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

NAVY DEP^t 29 Nov^r 1805 —

The Brig *Hornet* is now in sight.

Have every thing in readiness to dispatch her.

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 7, 1805–1807.]

To Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, Washington, D. C., from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

PORTLAND Nov^r 29th 1805

DEAR SIR, Accept my hearty congratulations on your return to your native country after long and faithful services perform^d with patriotic zeal. I am much gratified at your promotion & Command — and hope shortly to have the pleasure of meeting you at Washington.

The private letter from Malta which you did me the honor to write soon after your return from Gibraltar was received — please to accept my thanks for your friendly and polite attention.

Mr Higgins writes me that you have a pipe of wine & 20 flour pots for me, you will increase my obligations to you by depositing them with some confidential person who will take care of them for me for the present, and inform me of the name. it will afford me pleasure to hear from you.

P S. any expence you may be at for Wine & Flour Pots I shall repay with pleasure

[LC. EPP, Vol. 16, Aug. 1805–Jan. 1806.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 29 November 1805

Passed Mount Vernon and fired a salute. At 10 o'clock A. M. passed Alexandria and saluted. At half past 11 A. M. we were grounded on Greenleaf Point City of Washington.

“While cruising Barbary’s pirate Coast
And hopes and wishes almost lost
I there to paper did commit
What in this book you see is writ
But if the critic censure this
Excuse what in it is amiss
With intentions pure and heart upright
I tried true friendship to unite.”

HEZEKIAH LOOMIS
England—Tripoli—Tunis—Alicante

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, 29 November 1805

First part Moderate breezes with pleasant W^r: this Day the sails were taken out of the sail Room in order to Air them, and a Number were found to be Damaged owing to the room sweating and allso by water running Down in the wake of the Topsail sheet Bitts, Middle part Calm at 8 A m Got underweigh with a light Air from the S E the Boats were sent ahead to tow the Brig, at 10 fired a Gun and at ½ past 10 returned a salute of 5 Guns off Alexandria, at 11 pass^d the U S Frigate *Constellation* Lying at the Entrance of the Branch, same time a Pilot came on board from the Navy yard at Merid^r: Came too at the Navy yard between the *President* & *New York* Frigates same time Fired a Salute of 17 Guns this Day M^r Grandison Sailing Master was restored to Duty Started 20 casks of water in order to Lighten the Brig Forward ends Serene pleasant Weather

[NA. NDA. original, 1805-1810.]

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

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 30th November 1805

SIR Since my absence from this port, I find that the Two Fishing Smacks built for you by order of the U States Government; you have received; and hope you find them such, as will answer the purposes for which you intended them. In delivering those Vessels I was directed by letter from The Hon^{ble}: the Secretary of the Navy of the U S (Rob^t Smith Esq^r) to inform you of the high consideration, in which our Government, hold your friendly Civilities, & in which I sincerely participate in terms that are worthy of you —

My absence on the arrival of the Smacks I beg you will consider as sufficient apology for not expressing to you the sense of my Government before this —

I pray you to accept the high consideration with which I have the honor to subscribe myself —

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805-July 1806.]

To Lieutenant Theodore Hunt, U. S. Navy, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 30 Nov^r 1806 [1805?]

SIR As I consider you Rank, a Lt in Command, you are authorised by me, to wear your Epaulet agreeable to said Rank — J R

[LC. JRP, Order Book, No. 2, 1805-1806.]

To Lieutenant Theodore Hunt, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Argus*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 30th November 1805

SIR I have to direct that you assume the Command of the U States Bomb *Spitfire*; and that you receive from Lieut^t Daniel M^rNeil, her present Commander, all the papers, Documents Stores &^r &^r belonging to her, giving him the necessary Receipts for the same —

[LC. JRP, Order Book, No. 2, 1805-1806.]

To Midshipman Daniel McNeill, Jr., U. S. Navy, U. S. Bomb Ketch *Spitfire*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 30th November 1805

SIR I have appointed Lieutenant Theodore Hunt, to the Command of the U S Bomb *Spitfire*, at present under your Command — You are therefore hereby desired to take Triplicate receipts from him for all the Stores &^r belonging to the Vessell for your own Exoneration after which you will report yourself to me —

[LC. JRP, Order Book, No. 2, 1805-1806.]

To Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Argus*, from
Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 1 December 1805

SIR Circumstances make it necessary that I should go to Malta, on public business of importance — I therefore have to desire that you Continue in force, the orders, I invested you with, on my last leaving this port —

[LC. JRP, Order Book, No. 2, 1805–1806.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Alexander Murray, U. S. Navy

U/S FRIGATE *Adams*
Off Charleston Bar. Dec^r 1st 1805.

SIR Since my last respects to you of the 12th Ult^o nothing of moment hath occurred with us to arrest your attention, & this is nearly to advise you that we still remain here, having been constantly favoured with fine pleasant weather & the crew in good health.

A few days ago his Britainick Majestys Sloop of War, the *Indian* Capt^o Austin arrived here to cruise on this Station for a while, the capture & Inhuman treatment of the crew of their Ship, the *Esther*, hath convinced them of the necessity of guarding their own Vessels on this coast, & I presume they will generally keep a Ship here, as it appears the river St^t Mary^s hath become the place of rendezvous for the french privateers & that the one that hath captured the *Esther* is still there with her prize & is expect^d here every day, I shall keep a good look out, to observe her motions, & as far as my powers extend, shall not fail in the execution of my duty, I have to lament that cogent circumstances circumscribes my will,

Mr Biddle is very attentive with his gun boat, keeps out whenever the weather will admit, & when she goes in returns with a Supply of water, & refreshments for us, by which means, our present cruise is rendered *with the difference of the weather to what it was last cruise*, much more to our satisfaction & shall continue here as long as my provisions will hold out, if not otherwise direct^d, I know not where we can be of more service unless the Spanish Court chaulks us out something to do, we are all ready for them —

[NDA. A. Murray's LB, 1799–1805.]

To Lieutenant David Porter, U. S. Navy, from Purser Samuel Robertson, U. S. Navy

U. S. SCH^r *Enterprize* 1st Dec^r 1805. —

SIR Doctor Heap has got his bedding in the Birth I have occupied for Nearly three years & refuses to give it up to me, I have many reasons for wishing to have this Birth, One is I have no other place to take care of my Desk, Books & Papers; and should these get Injured the consequence would be very serious to me. — Another is that there is no other Purser in the Service; On board of Any Vessel, that has been without a Birth, therefore I feel myself intitled to one. — In consequence of which I appeal to you to determine whether I shall again have a Birth or Remain as I am without One. —

[LC. D. Porter P, Let. & Ord., 1805–1808.]

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

N^o 15

PORTLAND Dec^r 1st 1805

SIR When last at Boston I delivered the Navy agent a painting of the first Attack on the Tripolitan shipping & Batteries by the Squadron which I had the honor to Command — The view of the Town & situation of the squadron & enemies naval force is tolerably correct. I hope it may meet your approbation. —

Mr Brown was directed to ship it to Alexandria to care of Mr Deblois to be forwarded to the Navy Office where I hope it may be deemed worthy of a place. —

I shall leave this in a few days for Washington and hope soon to have the honor of personally paying you my respects.

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

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, 1 December 1805

[At Washington, D. C.] First part these 24 hours Moderate breezes with serene pleasant weather — wind S W at 8 PM came on a heavy squall from the N W Attend^d with sharp Light^s and continued strong gales Dureing the night, which caused the Brig to have so much Motion on the Bank as to break the Iron Tiller close off] by the Mortose of the Rudder head at 9 Cross Top G^t & Royal yards ends Moderate breezes with pleasant weather Discharged Jn^o Coxan as an invalid

[NA. NDA. original, 1805-1810.]

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

NAVY DEP^t 2nd Dec^r 1805. —

Col^o WHARTON, A Sergeant's Guard must be placed at the residence of the Tunisian Ambassador, with instructions to prevent intrusion.

You will without delay order a guard upon this duty for a few days.

The Guard need not be continued after 10 O'clock at night.

[Guard discontinued 24 December 1805.]

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

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

WASHINGTON CITY Dec. 5. 1805

SIR, Commodore Barron's instructions to Captain Hull of Sep. 15. 1804 and my convention with Hamet Bashaw of Feb. 23^d 1805 comprise all the obligations entered into with Hamet — Copies of both which are in the offices as are also all the correspondencies resulting therefrom — By perusing the Bashaws letters from Syracuse — and by reviewing the transactions to which they refer I cannot find that any additional observations of mine can throw more light on our transactions — It is impossible for me to undertake to say that the Bashaw has not been deceived — Nor can I by any shape in which the subject can be viewed reconcile the manner of his being abandoned with those principles of national Justice and honor which has hitherto marked our character

The term *co-operation* I always considered so nearly synonymous with *alliance* that it would require the nicest definition of diplomatic skill to discriminate the meaning — and hence supposed that an engagement to *co-operate* with Hamet Bashaw excluded the idea of using him as an instrument — This construction was more readily admitted because until after we had proceeded far in the co-operation I never heard a syllable of peace, neither from the President, nor from yourself, nor from our Commander in Chief, which did not look forward beyond an effort to chastise the enemy — and because I always felt a confidence that such an effort, well conducted, would dethrone him — I really can offer no explanations on the subject which are not to be found in my official communications; except a circumstance which, I am aware, modesty should conceal — but which was calculated to save the honor and the interest of the United States harmless — On entering the ground of war with Hamet Bashaw M^r OBannon and myself united in a resolution to perish with him before the walls of Tripoli, or to triumph with him within those walls — In the former event we should have acquitted our duty — in the latter glorified our country — We were supported by similar resolutions on the part of the commanders in the squadron — And to encourage Hamet Bashaw to perseverance, and in order to move indersstandingly with him I induced the convention which has been made the base of our treaty with his rival —

[H. E. Huntington L&AG. EA 278.]

To James Dodge, acting as U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis, from John Ridgely, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tripoli

TRIPOLI IN BARBARY Decem^r 6th 1805

DR SIR, No occasion has offered since the coming of your's, 'till the present moment.

I am happy to be informed of the tranquillity of affairs at Tunis, and have the same intelligence to offer you from here.

I hope you will not fail to give me the news of the day by every opportunity — Political intelligence is new here a month or two months after it reaches y^r City.

Captⁿ Porter was here in Sept^r and brought letters from Col^l Lear, who informed me of the situation of affairs at Tunis and y^r appointment. Since when I have not heard one word of the Squadron. Give me some news of it. What number of vessels remain? Is it supposed the present establishment will be permanent? Have you any late news from America?

We daily attend the news of a battle on the Rhine. I regard the "Empereur des Francais" as inferior to no Hero of old. Certainly fortuitous circumstances have greatly facilitated his passage to the Crown, but nothing less than vast talents and a judicious improvement of those chances could have firmly fixed him. — It would appear as if the critical moment of the fate of Europe had arrived. No person doubts either the disposition or the power of France in extending her conquests, and unless more energetic measures are adopted against her, than we have at present reason to believe there will be, there [is] no doubt that the present war will terminate to her advantage. What think ye of those affairs? —

We are now in the middle of the Ramadan and the City consequently dull, I hope we shall have a Gay Beiram.

I enclose you a letter to my father which you will infinitely oblige me by forwarding. I am inclined to think that via Tunis, letters would reach America sooner than thro' Malta or Leghorn. If you think so, I shall trouble you frequently

I shall thank you to send me the arms of the U. S. by the first conveyance.

Do you expect or wish y^r appoint^{mt} confirmed? I pray that my successor will arrive in the Spring. There is no compensation adequate to the sacrifice of an unlimited residence in Barbary.

Write to me often. I shall never let a courier leave here without saying at least "how d'ye".

[NA. SDA. FA, CL, Tunis, Vol. 2 (7240) 1801-1809.]

To Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. S. *Essex*, from Anthony Terry, U. S. Vice Consul, Cadiz

Copy

CADIZ 7th December 1805.

Owing to a late decree from Madrid, ordering that Vessels from Gibraltar shall perform Quaranteen, the Board of Health has been obliged to Consult the Governor of this City, with respect to the U: S: Frigate *Essex* under your command; the Governor being out of Town, his answer cannot be here until this evening, but I am perfectly sure that he will have no objection in ordering Pratic to be given to you.

The Cable is making & will be finished by Monday — Should you be in want of any Provisions &c (that) you will have the goodness to mention it, that they may be sent on board immediately. I have the honor to be respectfully —

[LC. JRP, Series Two, Vol. 3, 1805-1807.]

To Lieutenant Charles Gordon, U. S. Navy, U. S. Frigate *Adams*, from Captain Alexander Murray, U. S. Navy

U/S FRIGATE *Adams*

Off St Marys river, Dec^r 8th 1805.

SIR I have thought it proper under existing circumstances, that we should obtain an accurate knowledge, of our boundary line dividing our Territory from the Spanish Shore, in the St Marys river, the more especially, as that river appears, to be the Rendezvous, for a nest of pirates and have reason to believe that the laws of Neutrality, are violated there, & that there is now some unjustifiable proceedings going on with respect to the prize, Ship *Esther* —

I now request you will proceed with Lieu^t Biddle in the Gun Boat, up to the town of St Marys, & take particular notice of the Soundings, & situation of that river, on your way up, and also procure every information you can, from some of the respectable, Inhabitants of that District, as to the proceedings of the privateersmen, & as soon as you have satisfied yourself, as to these particulars, you will return on board, without delay —

I recommend to you, to have no unnecessary communication, with the privateers. Civility is due to them, as long as they Merit it, by an honest, & peaceable demeanour. —

With reliance on your Zeal for the good of the public service, as well as Industry —
[NDA. A. Murray's LB, 1799-1805.]

To Anthony Terry, U. S. Vice Consul, Cadiz, from Captain Hugh G. Campbell,
U. S. Navy

U. S. FRIGATE *Essex*. CADIZ ROAD
Dec^r 8th 1805 —

SIR In answer to yours of yesterday I have only to observe, that the Governor or board of health cannot in my opinion hesitate for one moment to grant us pratique when they consider the daily communication between Algeziras and Gibraltar, & from the former place to this City, likewise that we have not had further communication with Gibraltar than we now have with Cadiz, in sending a boat on shore for Information.

The Cable we are much in want of, which be pleased to send off with all possible dispatch presuming it of the best quality. It is true we are in want of sundry Articles but unless we are admitted to Pratique, I shall be under the necessity of going to some other port for a supply — Your Services I shall avail myself of as occasion may require —

[LC. JRP, Series Two, Vol. 3, 1805-1807.]

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

U. S. FRIGATE *Constitution*
Syracuse 9th Dec^r 1805

SIR I have the pleasure to inform you that I returned to this Port on the 27th Ult^o after landing Col Lear at Algiers where he was received by the New Dey in a manner compatible with the respect that is due to his Country and to himself. —

The *Nautilus* I have directed to Messina to procure a Main mast *provided* one can be had on reasonable terms, and to obtain four Peices of Oak Timber — 19 feet long, 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ Inch by 20. and 10 Barrels of Tar — the Anchor which you was so good as to borrow from the Arsenal for the *Constitution*, when she was last at Messina, I should be glad to Purchase, but if it cannot be effected will return it so soon as I again hear from you.

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May, 1805-July 1806.]

To Lieutenant William Montgomery Crane, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Sloop of 10 Guns, *Hornet*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 9th December 1805

SIR I have to direct that you proceed to Malta, with the Cutter *Hornet*, under your Command, for the Purpose of transporting to this Port, sundry Articles of Stores, which Mr Higgins, Navy Agent, will have put on board of you, — In addition to which you will be pleased to take in, as many Barrels of Pork as you can Conveniently Stow, and return to this place, with all practicable dispatch —

PS You will get under way as soon as the Weather will admit —

[LC. JRP, Order Book, No. 2, 1805-1806.]

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, 9 December 1805

at 10 [A. M.] pass^d Alexandria and at Merid^z fired a Salute of 17 Guns off Mount Vernon.

[NA. NDA. original, 1805-1810.]

To Lieutenant Samuel Evans, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Schooner *Nautilus*,
from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. FRIGATE *Constitution*
Syracuse 10 Dec^r 1805

SIR You are hereby desired to proceed to Messina, with the U States Schooner *Nautilus*, under your Command, and there endeavour to procure a Main Mast, if it can be got, on terms that are not so exorbitant, as to outweigh it's necessity In this case I submit to your Judgment. —

After having procured the Mast (if one you can provide as specified) and receiving the Articles which I have Indented for to Mr Broadbrent our Agent, you are directed to return to this Port, with all Practicable dispatch. —

If any Circumstance should detain You, longer than is at present expected, you will be pleased to inform me by Post.

[LC. JRP, Order Book, No. 2, 1805-1806.]

To Midshipman Oliver Hazard Perry, U. S. Navy, U. S. Schooner *Nautilus*, from
Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 10th Dec^r 1805

SIR You are hereby directed to join the U S. Ship *Constitution* as one of her Lieutenants —

[LC. JRP, Order Book No. 2, 1805-1806.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Master Commandant Isaac Hull,
U. S. Navy

U. STATES BRIG *Argus*
Syracuse 11th Dec^r 1805

SIR, Agreeable to your Order of Yesterday, I have directed the Commanders of Gun Boats to furnish the *Spitfire* with Twenty Men, and to see that they are furnished with their Accounts. —

The Selection is made as follows Vz^t

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| From Gun Boat N ^o 2—2 | Seamen & 3 | Ord ^r |
| “ “ “ N ^o 4—2 | d ^o & 2 | d ^o |
| “ “ “ N ^o 5—1 | d ^o & 2 | d ^o |
| “ “ “ N ^o 8—1 | d ^o & 3 | d ^o |
| “ “ “ N ^o 9—1 | d ^o & 3 | d ^o |

7 13

[LC. JRP, Series Two, Vol. 3, 1805-1807.]

To Hon. John C. Smith, Chairman of Committee of Claims, United States Congress,
from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t 12 Dec^r 1805. —

I have received your letter of the 10th instant accompanied by a memorial to Congress from James Hog and others, being part of the Crew of the late Frigate *Philadelphia*, praying compensation for clothing and other allowances.

The Petitioners have in virtue of the 4th Sec: of the Act entitled “An Act for the better government of the Navy of the United States” been paid the full amount of pay and of undrawn rations due to them from the time they entered the service to the day of their discharge at the City of Washington. There was no intermission of pay for the period of their captivity: they received for that period as well as for the periods antecedent and subsequent thereto, their full pay and full compensation for rations not drawn. The Navy Department is not authorized by Law to make any other compensation. Paper A is an exhibit of the sums of money respectively paid to the Petitioners on their discharge at the City of Washington.

With respect to the evidence which you have requested me to furnish in relation to the claim set forth in their petition, I have to inform you that no such evidence exists in the Department, and in fact their claim having no foundation in Law is only to be considered an appeal to the bounty of Government. And when I advert to the generous provision made by the above mentioned Act of Congress,

I cannot consider their claim entitled to any kind of countenance. The Petition is herewith returned.

A

An Account of the final balances paid to the following persons being a part of the Crew of the late United States Frigate *Philadelphia* for pay & undrawn rations on their discharge at Washⁿ—

| | | |
|--|--------------------------|---------|
| James Hog..... | Qr Master..... | 502. 73 |
| William Jones..... | Seaman..... | 312. 05 |
| Chr Simmons..... | Seaman..... | 297. 19 |
| Jacob Farmer..... | Seaman..... | 216. 89 |
| H ^y M ^c Claskev..... | O. Seaman..... | 251. 86 |
| Jn ^s Butler..... | Seaman..... | 227. 80 |
| | T. TURNER A ^y | |

12 Dec^r 1805

[NDA. Cong. LB, No. 1, 1798-1811.]

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

GIBRALTAR 13th Dec^r 1805

DR SIR I wrote you the 30th Oct^r & 3^d Ult^o since when have none of yours, or any thing new from the U. S. indeed we have had no arrivals — The *Vixin* is repairing at Malaga, & the *Essex* past this a few days ago I beleive her now at Cadiz, where intended going for a Cable; All is well wth the Empr^r of Morrocco, his Cruisers have lately Captured 3 Italian Vessels. The Algereens have a frigate & a Brig to the Westward in quest of Portuguese, several ships of Warr of the latter are Cruising in the Gutt — Sir Rich^d Straughans Squadron have Captured after an action of 3 hours, the four french Line of Battle Ships that got off the 21st of October. —

[LC. JRP, Series Two, Vol. 3, 1805-1807.]

To Midshipman John Downes, U. S. Navy, U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse [15th] Dec^r 1805

SIR You are hereby appointed to act as Sailing Master on board the U States Bomb *Spitefire* at present under Command of Lieut^t T. Hunt; you are therefore hereby to consider yourself responsible for the duties thereto belonging. —

[LC. JRP, Order Book, No. 2, 1805-1806.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Alexander Murray, U. S. Navy

[U. S. FRIGATE] *Adams*
Off Charleston [S. C.] Dec^r 16th 1805.

SIR. The uncommon severity of the season on this Coast, Induced me to run down to St Mary^s with the Gun boat in tow, to make myself acquaint^d with the situation of that river, & to enquire into the proceedings of the French Privateers, none of them having appeared off this Coast, since my Arrival, & to examine into the legality of their Commissions & general deportment, to Investigate this business I sent Lieu^t Gordon with Mr Biddle & by particular request of Capt^a Austin of the *Indian* who also accompanied us, I permitt^d one of his Officers to go with them to try to redeem some of the Crew of the *Esther*, prisoners on board the *Creole*, in which he cou^d not succeed, they found the Ship regularly condemn^d in the Court of Admiralty at St Augustine and she with her Cargo sold to Capt^a M^cNeil late of our Navy for \$25,000, the cargo was entered at the Custom house, & there land^d for reexportation, the Capt^a of the *Creole* produced his commission to Mr Gordon & it was found regular, & Issued by the Governor of Gaudalooop, nothing unfair appeared in the procedure of that Capture or condemnation the greatest civility was shewn on both sides, & assurity on the part of the French Capt^a who appeared to be quite a genteel man, that he never had or intend^d to Violate the Neutrality of the U: States, it appears further that there was nothing unusual or Inhuman in that contest, but consummate bravery, it was a fair & manly action on both sides, the Privateer mount^d Eight guns 100 men, 30 of

whom were kill^d & wound^d, the Ship Mount^d 22 Guns & 36 Men, most of them kill^d & wound^d, the Captⁿ protests that there was not a man injured after they knew of the Colours being hauled down, the contest was chiefly on the Gun deck —

there hath lately sailed from thence a spanish privateer that hath been very Insolent to the Inhabitants & threatened to fire on the town, & had taken some of their Negroes, 'tis supposed she hath gone to cruise off this Station if so we shall keep a good look out for her I hope to have the pleasure of running her down, the Inhabitants wants protection against those Marauders, who treat them with much contempt Our Brigs, or Gun boats w^d be very servicable about those Bar harbours where Frigates cannot go as I cou^d not bring with me more than three Months stores, I shall be oblig^d to run for N York towards the middle of next month, so as to be there on or before the 1st of Feby, as I may have the weather, we shall have a good deal to do to the *Adams*, such as caulking, putting New Cable bitts & knees, which are rotten and her rudder, is loose, & must be examined her beams ought to be survey^d they are in bad condition, to do all this I shall run her up to the N Yard, where the work can progress with expition & be secure from the Ice

I must again reiterate my request to be permitt^d to visit my family for a few days that I find requires my personal attendance which I hope you^l be so good as to grant, the service will not sustain any Inconvenience by my short absence, as I can leave such directions with my Lieu^t as will preclude the Necessity of personal attendance for a short period, they are a Sett of remarkable fine young men, well trained & full of ambition, I can^t say so much for my midshipmen, they are generally a motley sett of drones —

We towed the Gun boat. here in 22 hours from St Marys, & on our arrival found the Brig *Dolly* here, but not yet, had an Interview with the Captⁿ I expect him on board today —

[NDA. A. Murray's LB, 1799-1805.]

Naval Peace Establishment

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, APRIL 19 AND 21, 1806

(Ex-Official.)

NAVY DEPARTMENT, December 16, 1805.

SIR: The enclosed paper, marked A, exhibits a view of the captains, masters-commandant, lieutenants, and midshipmen, at present belonging to the navy of the United States.

Paper B explains my ideas as to a Naval Peace Establishment.

Paper C exhibits the proportion of able seamen, ordinary seamen, and boys, required for a frigate of forty-four guns, a frigate of thirty-six guns, a frigate of thirty-two guns, a brig of sixteen guns, and a schooner of fourteen guns.

It is desirable that the President should be authorized to appoint five captains, in addition to the number now in the navy. The five senior masters-commandant, who would, if authority existed, be promoted to the stations of captains in the navy, are gentlemen distinguished for their services, who have by courtesy been called captains, and who are, in every respect, entitled to promotion; the greater part of whom I fear we shall lose, if they are not promoted. For similar reasons it is desirable that the President should be authorized to appoint nine masters-commandant, and one hundred lieutenants.

With respect to lieutenants, we have unavoidably been obliged to appoint midshipmen to the station of lieutenants, who were junior to others of equal merit not appointed. It is, therefore, obviously desirable that authority should be given to the President to appoint as many lieutenants as will include all the meritorious midshipmen, senior to the junior midshipmen now appointed or acting as a lieutenant, and thus give them that rank to which they are entitled, by their merit and their services.

ANDREW GREGG, Esq.

Chairman of the Committee on the Naval Peace Establishment.

[Note: Enclosures A to D inclusive and letter of Secretary of the Navy of April 21, 1806 are printed in *American State Papers, Naval Affairs*, No. 56.]

[Am. State Papers, Nav. Aff., p. 152, No. 56.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Joshua Wingate, Jr.

WASHINGTON CITY
Decr 16, 1805

SIR In addition to the articles I obligated myself to transport to Algiers in your agreement with me dated Decr 12th 1804, the following articles belonging to the United States have been, in conformity with your instructions, shipped by me on board the Ship *Raleigh*, bound to the Port aforesaid — (Viz) Five brass 18 pound Cannon with their Carriages & apparatus complete, Six boxes of Sweetmeats & one bag of Coffee — as a compensation for the freight of the Cannon & above-mentioned I will agree to receive Six hundred dollars —

[NDA. Misc. LB, Vol. 6, 1805.]

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

NAVY DEP^t 16 Decr 1805.

The Officers of the Marine Corps will in future wear white cross Belts with Gilt Plates, instead of the Black, as expressed in the order of the order of the 14th October last.

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

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta

MALTA the 18 Decr 1805.

DEAR SIR I hand you a triplicate Copy of my letter of the 11 Inst^t to prevent the possibility of miscarriage — I cannot help remarking to you a very peculiar circumstance, Capt^r Stewart of the *Constellation* drew a bill of £400 on M^r Kenzie & Glennie at the same time yours Pr £15,000 were extended it was presented to them, by the *same house in London*, and at the *same moment* with £1000 of these, his was accepted and yours were refused. — This seems as it were a marked disgrace and I must therefore once more earnestly entreat of you to shield *me* from the effects of it by providing me with funds in time to face the whole should they come back (of which I am sorry to say there is but too much probability) protested for nonpayment —

[LC. JRP, Series Two, Vol. 3, 1805-1807.]

To Degen, Purviance & Co., U. S. Navy Agents, Leghorn, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 18th Decr 1805

GENTLEMEN I have the pleasure to acquaint you that after Landing Col^l Lear at Algiers, on the 21st Ult^o, I reached this place on the 27th and found the Squadron all well. Col. Lear was received in the most respectful and friendly manner by the New Dey. — As I may perhaps have occasion to draw on you soon, you will Oblige me by letting me know to what Amount my drafts can be answered: The unaccountable conduct of Mess^{rs} Glennie and M^r Kenzie of London, induces me to believe that I shall have this occasion, as they have protested my Bills, drawn in favor of M^r Higgins our Agent at Malta, for £3,500 Sterling, and I think it not unlikely they may do the same by £20,000 more; which I drew within five days of the same date; Their proceedings I can't account for, as the only excuse they offer, is, that they received no advice of these Bills from me; (altho Quadruplicate, letters of advice has been forwarded.) The Bills were drawn with or *without* advice; of course does not admit of such an apology. — to save M^r Higgins from unpleasant consequences, I have been under the Disagreeable Necessity of drawing Bills to the Amount of \$90,000 on the Navy Department to reimburse him in Case the whole should be returned. The demur of Mess^{rs} Glennie and M^r Kenzie, I can't but View, at present as mere Subterfuge to Evade, at least, I should suppose the destruction of their House having in their own *particular concerns* out reached their *own Private resources*.

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805-July 1806.]

To Frederick Degen, U. S. Navy Agent, Naples, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. S. *Constitution*
Syracuse 18 Decr 1805

SIR The difficulty there is at present in Negotiating bills on London, has induced me to send the Brig *Argus*, to Naples with bills to the Amount of Ninety thousand Dollars at 30 days drawn in favor of yourself on the U States Government, and for ten thousand on you in favor of Capt^r Isaac Hull, making in all \$100,000. — I hope the Exchange may be so favorable at Naples as to save me the Necessity of Supplying myself with Cash for the Use of the Squadron, elsewhere.

P. S. I have no News worth communicating, farther, than what Capt^r Hull can give you.

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

To William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 19th Decr 1805

SIR Your letter of the 11th Inst. was handed me Yesterday Morning; and in compliance with it's contents I have this day dispatch'd the *Argus* Capt^r Hull to Naples for 100,000\$ dollars for the purpose of paying such of the bills to which you allude, as may return, protested. This extraordinary conduct of Mess^{rs} Glennie and M^rKenzie I can't account for in any other way than that their circumstances are extremely bad the reasons they assign are pettified indeed.

PS, the *Enterprize* has been sent for bread. — be pleased to give her dispatch.

[LC. JRP, L Bk B, May 1805–July 1806.]

To Lieutenant David Porter, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Schooner *Enterprize*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. FRIGATE *Constitution*
Syracuse 19 Decr 1805

SIR The present Scarcity of bread in the Squadron makes it necessary that I should direct the *Enterprize* to Malta to Transport to this place as much of that article as she can conveniently stow.

You are requested to use all the dispatch in your power

PS. you will please to inform yourself what bread there is in Store at Malta.

[LC. JRP, Order Book, No. 2, 1805–1806.]

Order issued by Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Decr 19th 1805

Ordered that all the Bomb Vessels and Gun Boats — have their respective Numbers painted in *White figures* on the bows of their Small boats.

[LC. JRP, Order Book, No. 2, 1805–1806.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta

MALTA the 20 Decr 1805.

SIR I have the honor to reply to your very valued favor of the 19 Inst informing me that you had sent the U S. Brig *Argus* to Naples for 100,000 Dollars — I sincerely rejoice at your having adopted so indispensable a plan which will put both me and the Service at our ease — Previous to the arrival of the *Enterprize* I had determined on returning the *Hornet* to you immediately with a prayer to this purpose. She will now go to you as soon as the Indents can be filled up but

you must recollect that all next week or nearly so is holliday I beg to assure you that no time shall be lost in dispatching her

Another £1000 is this instant presented, to me with protest

[LC. JRP, Series Two, Vol. 3, 1805-1807.]

To Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, U. S. Gunboat No. 8, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Dec^r 20th 1805

SIR I have to direct that with U States Gun Boat N^o 8 you proceed to Malta, there to take on board as much bread as you can Conveniently Stow, — and return to this Port with all practicable dispatch.

[LC. JRP, Order Book No. 2, 1805-1806.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Alexander Murray, U. S. Navy

N^o 55

U. S. FRIGATE *Adams*
Off Cape Henry Dec^r 21st 1805

SIR Herewith you have enclosed my respects of the 16th Inst^t which I expect will reach you before the original, by which you will perceive the arrangements I had made respecting the *Adams*

* * * * *
For the ensuing Winter months I am confident 'tis unnecessary to be out to run any hazards, no Privateers every think of approaching our Northern shores at this season, those that frequent the Southern Coast, mostly keep on the outer edge of the Gulf stream looking out for English Vessels, & to avoid the inclemency of the Weather, it being many degrees warmer there than on soundings, where their Crews could not stand it, they are a set of half naked Devils, so much crowded together, that they are obliged to be mostly on deck, & rarely approach our limits, nor do we find there hath been any violations to our Commerce *within our limits*, since I have been on the station

* * * * *
I hope to be favord with a good passage up the River, my Crew are all in good health, & well disposed upon this occasion to exert themselves, 'tho the short period of the Cruize will place, Officers & Men, in a pitiable situation, few of them will have Wages due to take them home —

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

To Thomas Corbett, President of the Board of Directors, South Carolina Insurance Co., from Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy

Copy

U. S. SLOOP OF WAR [BRIG] *Hornet*
Harbour of Charleston 23^d December 1805.

SIR I have been honored with your's of this date, requesting in behalf of the Board of Directors of the South Carolina Insurance Company a Convoy for a number of American Vessels with valuable Cargoe's, bonafide property of Citizens of the United States, and that said Vessels will be ready for Sea in a few day's. —

In answer to your letter I have to observe that duty as well as inclination prompts me to acquiesce in your wishes, altho' I have no instructions from my Government to afford Convoy, yet knowing their wishes to protect the Merchant in any Lawful Trade, and presuming that my acquiescing in the wishes of the Board of Directors & Merchants of Charleston, will meet with their intire approbation, I shall afford the Convoy required, that is I will protect the Vessels placed under my charge from the Search or Seizure of every private Armed Vessel; but it is proper to inform you that my instructions will not authorize me to prevent any National Vessel from Searching the Convoy without the Teritorial Jurisdiction of the U. States. —

The *Hornet* is now ready for Sea, but will wait until the 25th Inst^t on which day She will take charge of any Vessels for which Convoy has been requested and see them as far as the Gulf Stroom — in the mean time Masters of Vessels wishing Convoy will apply on board for Instructions with a Copy of their Manifest.

[NDA. MC LB, 1804-5.]

To Frederick Degen, U. S. Consul, Naples, from Master Commandant Isaac Hull,
U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES BRIG *Argus*
Naples 23^d December 1805

SIR, The weather is so extremely bad, that I fear, if it lasts long, the *Argus* will be in danger for want of Cables. —

I wish you to make application to the Government of this place for the loan of one, fourteen and $\frac{1}{4}$ Inches, and assure them that one equally good, shall be returned them, so soon as it is possible to have it made. — I wish you likewise to make interest for our coming into the Mole, as soon as the weather is fair, and if possible, without landing our Powder. — Should you not be able to procure a Cable from the Arsenal, I wish you to Order One made as soon as possible, of the best Hemp that can be purchased

[NDA. Isaac Hull LB, 1803-1806.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent,
Malta

MALTA the 23^d Decr 1805

SIR The enclosed letter was intended for the *Enterprize* but she unexpectedly went away without it and took one which in consequence of your determination to send the *Argus* to Naples, I had intended to withdraw —

Upon reflecting upon the probability of your getting the sum of 100,000 Doll^r I am almost fully persuaded that it cannot be collected at Naples and as this business is so highly important especially to your credit as Commander in chief and to the future expence of the Squadron I really think you would do right to dispatch a Vessel immediately to Col Lear who probably has very considerable funds by him or if not, he has an open Credit on London which he could make use of, if it was only for £5000 or £10,000 by giving us his bills on that City, to extricate us from our present embarrassment

I recommend this measure to Your Serious attention, it may be unnecessary, but surely in such a business as this nothing ought to be left to chance, under a persuasion that you will adopt it I hand you a letter for the Colonel recieved sometime ago from London

In consequence of the approaching holidays beginning to morrow I shall not be able to dispatch the [Sloop] *Hornet* until Saturday

[LC. JRP, Series Two, Vol. 3, 1805-1807.]

To the Seamen and Marines of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean from Captain
John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 23^d Decr 1805

General Orders

The Commodore takes this opportunity of expressing to the Seamen and Marines of the Squadron, that it is not without regret and indignation, in proportion to the detestable Crime of Desertion that he should thus find it necessary to order the infliction (Punishment) on individuals serving under his Command and that as he is determined never to suffer such an abominable crime; A crime in itself disgraceful to every principle that constitutes the Name of a Seaman, Soldier or *Man* to pass over without the infliction of such punishment, as is Justly annex'd by the laws of the Service; In consequence after having approved the Sentence of the Court Martial decree'd against John Reeson on the 16th Inst, orders that the same be executed this day on the display of Signal for Punishment, The Officer officiating as Provost Martial is desired to read the Proceedings and Sentence of the Court to the Prisoners previous to their Punishment alongside of the different Vessels of the Squadron

Sign'd JN^o RODGERS

[LC. JRP, Order Book No. 2, 1805-1806.]

To Lieutenant David Porter, U. S. Navy commanding U. S. Schooner *Enterprise*,
from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 24 Decr 1805

SIR, You are requested to make known to the different Commanding Officers of the U States Vessels, now in this Port, that it is my desire they cause the different Officers under their Commands, to conform to the Establish'd order, as it respects their Uniforms,

This order is given in consequence of many Midshipmen in the Squadron assuming Lieut^s Coats.

[LC. JRP, Order Book No. 2, 1805-1806.]

To Masters of Merchant Ships under his Convoy from Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy

U. S. BRIG *Hornet*, HARBOUR OF CHARLESTON
24th December 1805. —

SIR In placing yourself under the Convoy of the U. S. Brig *Hornet* it is expected that you will conform strictly to the following regulations. —

1st You will obey all Orders or signals made from the *Hornet*. —

2nd You are not to separate from the Convoy or alter your course without permission so to do. —

3rd You are not to shew any lights after 8 O'Clock P. M. except in answer to a signal. —

4th You will be particular in answering any signal made from the *Hornet*. —

5th You are not to impede the Convoy by any unnecessary delays or for the want of making Sail &c —

6th No Ship of the Convoy is ever to go before the beam of the *Hornet*.

7th In case of a Strange Sail coming amongst the Convoy in the night the Ship discovering her will shew two Horizontal lights

ISAAC CHAUNCEY
Captain U S B Hornet

[NDA. MC LB, 1804-5.]

To Purser Thomas Johnston, U. S. Navy, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 24th Decr 1805

SIR You are desired to proceed to Malta, in the U S Schooner *Enterprise* to obtain from Mr Higgins the Amount of his demands against the Vessels of the U S Squadron, under my Command, respectively and severally —

As you are acquainted with my reasons for this proceeding I feel it unnecessary to say more to you on the subject — You are requested after the three Vessels which I now send for Provisions are loaded to inform yourself what quantity of Stores are remaining in Mr Higgin's's possession —

[LC. JRP, Order Book No. 2, 1805-1806.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES BRIG *Argus*
Naples 25th Decr 1805

SIR I have the honor to inform you of my arrival at this place, after a very short but rough passage, and have delivered the Letters I was charged with, from you to Mr Dagen. — The Bills drawn in my favor have been accepted and the amount comes by Capt Smith, which I hope you will receive in time, as respects the Bills drawn on the Government. — I fear Mr Dagen will not be able to dispose of them so favourably as you expected. — I find that, there is no possible sale for them, except it is to American Merch^t Captains, and as there is but four or five of them here, a part of which have already purchased Bills on England. — I fear a small part only of yours will be cashed at this market.

Mr Dagen however appears to make every possible exertion, and I am sure (if the money can be had at this place) he will get it. — He has already written to Leghorn to see if it is possible to dispose of a part of the Bills there. —

If so, and it can be done without a sacrifice to the Government, we shall do it. — I am informed by Cap^t Smith, that Mr Dagen has written to you for permission, for the *Syren* to remain here a few days, until the affairs of this Government are a little more settled, and that he had determined to wait your answer — But on the arrival of the *Argus*, he as well as myself, thought it advisable for the *Syren* to sail immediately with the money collected from Mr Dagen, and for the *Argus* to remain until your answer to Mr Dagens Letter arrives, or at least, until every means in our Power was made use of to dispose of the Bills. — Should you have given permission for the *Syren* to remain here, in your answer to Mr Dagens Letter, and it appears that you have a wish, that a Vessel should be here (as the *Syren* has sailed) I shall think it my duty to remain here, until I hear from you again, unless a part of the Bills are disposed of, in which case I shall make all possible dispatch to join you

As I have been but a short time here (the whole of which) the weather has been such, that I scarcely dare Venture out of my Vessel. — I am not able to inform you so correctly as I could wish, concerning the state of this Market for Bills on America, but from what I can learn, you cannot calculate on, only a small part of the money wanting to be raised, from the Sale of the Bills drawn by you. — Bills on England are now selling from ten to fifteen per Cent loss. — so that we have but little to hope from ours, except it is, the small sum that may be wanted by the Americans. — As Cap^t Smith has been here some time, and is perfectly acquainted with the situation of this City, I beg leave to refer you to him for any information you may want, that I have omitted to give you in this Letter. —

I hope the small deviation I am about to make, from your former Orders, will meet your approbation, And be assured sir, it is done with no other view, than that of meeting your wishes. —

[NDA. Isaac Hull LB, 1803–1806.]

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

ALGIERS, December 25th 1805

DEAR SIR, The original of the enclosed was forwarded, via Leghorn, by the Brig *Friendship*, Cap^t Clemmons, mentioned therein who was detained here by bad weather till the 18th, when he took his departure for Leghorn. — On the 14th Inst^t arrived here the Ship *Raleigh* from Kennebeck, with a Cargo of plank and spars for the Regency, On account of our Annuities. — She had a Passage of 45 days; and brings no news, not even of the arrival of the U. S. Ship *President*. — The Dey & Regency were much dissatisfied that she had not brought Powder or Cables, none of which have been sent since I have been Consul here, but as they are desirous of our good will, I found no difficulty in getting over this dissatisfaction. She brought also 5 Brass Cannon of the 15 long since desired; but there is not the same rage for Cannon now, as in the time of the last Dey. —

The three Frigates, and a Polacre Ship of 22 Guns have been out on Cruize since the 28th Ultimo. — The Admiral, Hameeda Rais, in the Algerine built Frigate, has gone into the Atlantic, and it is supposed he will go on the Coast of Brazil. He is a dashing fellow. He sent in a Portuguese Sloop, loaded with Wax & Tobacco, which he took after he got into the Atlantic. — The American built Frigate came into the Bay about ten days ago, the Captain Complaining that she was in such bad condition, and made so much water, that he could not keep the Sea. He had taken two Prizes — Vizt a Genoa Brig, which was deserted by her Crew, and a Neapolitan, with 14 persons on board, who were landed from the Frigate; but the Prizes have not yet got in — The Dey would not suffer the Frigate to enter the Port but ordered her to keep out for the Cruize of 40. The Captain hesitating, was immediately dismissed and another put in his place, and the Frigate sent to Sea. This Dey is not to be trifled with. so far he has been firm and decided in all his measures; at the same time he is mild and reasonable in his manners and Conversation. — When the Frigates return which will be in about 40 days from the time of their Sailing, the Other Cruizers will probably be sent out, at least such of them as can bear the winter weather; for they are not all in the best condition. The American built Brig will hardly be able to bear another Cruize even in Summer.

A few days ago a Small Vessel arrived from Oran with 600 heads, and a vast number of Ears of the Insurgents, Over whom the Bey of Oran had gained a

great Victory, They take off the Heads of the Slain and the Ears of the Prisoners, which they send as a proof of their Victory. —

For the last fifteen days the weather has been very bad indeed, and is still far from being settled. — When the American Ship arrived with the Annuity, the Weather was so bad that she could not enter the Port for 3 days, and lay in a Situation not very safe. Great exertion were made by the marine for her safety. They sent off 3 Anchors and Cables to her relief, when their own Prize, the Portuguese Sloop, laying in the same situation, did not get one. —

I have not heard a word from Tunis or Triple since I have been here. — The letters brought me from the Government by the Regalia Ship, were dated the 15th of August, before they had heard of our Affairs at Tripoli or Tunis, and of course, say nothing on those Subjects

I have been confined to the house, by my ankle for the last 3 weeks and find that nothing but rest and great care will cure it. — We wish very much for yourself and some other of our Countrymen to be with us to day, as we have a very good Christmas Dinner, and but few to partake of it; as it is Customary for all the Consuls to dine with their Own families on this Day. — We shall have the English Consul, who has no one but himself in family. —

Mr Lear unites with me in Compliments of the season, and best wishes for yourself and those with you.

[Stephen Decatur Col. Bk. B.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

N^o 60

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 25th Dec^r 1805

SIR The Tunisian Xebecque and her two Prizes, sent into Malta last Summer by the *Constitution*, for a Violation of the Blockade of Tripoli — have been sold, and the Money deposited in the hands of Mr Higgins, our Agent, for whomsoever the U. States Govern^t may order the same to be paid

Previous to my consenting to these Vessels being sold, as I had no orders from you respecting them, Mr Higgins, as, also the Officers charged with their care, wrote me, that to keep them from sinking in the harbour, they wou'd require infinitely greater repairs than they wou'd sell for, after they had receiv'd them

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

To Surgeon Edward Cutbush, U. S. Navy, U. S. Hospital, Syracuse, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 25th Dec^r 1805

SIR A Report being made to me by Lieut Izard Commanding Gun Boat N^o 2 that A Seaman belonging to said Boat was this Morning found dead on board. I have in consequence to desire that you Summon an Inquest of Surgeons, of the Squadron, on the body of said dead Seaman, In order to ascertain if his Death has been occasioned by Violent usage of the Boatswain of the boat to which he belong'd as has been reported to me; and report to me your opinion thereon

[LC. JRP, Order Book No. 2, 1805-1806.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

N^o 62

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 29th Dec^r 1805.

SIR In Answer to your letter of the 1st July Uto. Permit me to inform you that the two fishing Smacks, have been deliver'd to Sir Alexander Ball, agreeable to your Orders and in the manner prescribed by you; — This mark of respect he receiv'd with much *Apparent* Pleasure, and wrote me in Answer, a Very handsome letter, wherein he says —

“Whilst I express the deep sense I entertain of the honor conferr'd on me, by the Honb^{le} Secretary of the Navy, communicated through you, permit me Sir, to thank you, individually, for the Very handsome terms in which you express Yourself towards me” —

“I can only add, that to have an opportunity of shewing any attention to the Citizens of the U. States (especially so respectable a Body as the Officers of the Navy) Affords me the highest satisfaction, as in so doing I gratify my own feelings, whilst I fulfil the wishes of my Govern^t” —

I have not received as yet, the Bill of Cost of the Smack *Ranger* — Mr Prince who brought the *Traveler* out, appears to be a Gentlemanly Young Man — and I think will make a Good Officer — His Conduct has given me satisfaction
[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 3, 1805.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Lieutenant David Porter, U. S. Navy

U. S. SCHOOR *Enterprize*
Decr 30th 1805

SIR I arived here yesterday after a disagreeable passage.

Gun Boats N^o 9 and 10 have just arived and are taking in provisions, I shall fill them as full as possible and will endeavour to get them off this evening.

I shall not be able to take any thing in before the day after tomorrow owing to tomorrows being a holiday. I calculate on leaving this the same evening.

Mr Pulis will come over with me A ship has arived here from Boston she brings no intelligence that I can learn, she is quarantined but will endeavour to furnish us with papers against our departure.

I am informed that she is loaded with a cargo that will suit the Squadron and has some idea of coming to Syracuse.

I shall call along side and learn more on that subject.

P. S. The ship has just obtained Pratique, and will come to Syracuse I have collected some papers which I send you by the G Boats — I expect to get more, he has brought no letters for the Squadron —

If I can judge from the countenance of Mr Higgins, he is much alarmed — A Bill drawn in favour of Mr Dyson by Capt Decatur on Mr Kenzie and Glennie sent on with a letter of advice has been protested owing as they say to having received no advice — This clears the *pending cloud* D P

[LC. JRP, Series Two, Vol. 3, 1805-1807.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from William Eaton, former U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies

PHILADELPHIA Dec. 30th 1805

DEAR SIR, Though the weather and accommodations are good I find travelling very difficult — I am arrested here and put under keepers for trial next thursday — Arrangements are making, I am informed, at Elisabethstown, N York N Haven, Hartford and Springfield to stop me on the road — so that it is highly probable you and I may be fellow passengers before I arrive at Brimfield — It would delight me to pass in your company into my own rustic village — But should I be disappointed in this, shall nevertheless rely on the promise you half gave me of taking us in your passage northward — Besides the gratification I shall have in waiting on you in my own homely cottage I may profit of your advice whether it would be most suitable for me to go to tending mill (I have a village mill) or to preaching the Gospel

I shall leave this friday morning — We have no news — And, of course, I have nothing to add but the assurance of

[LC. EPP, Vol. 16, Aug. 1805-Jan. 1806.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

N^o 64

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 31st Decr 1805

SIR Quadruplicate of your letter of the 5th of Augt 1805 Authorizing the repairs of Vessels, not otherwise in a condition to return in safety to the U. States, as also the sending of Gun Boats under the Command of one of the Brigs or Schooners to N. Orleans being the first on it's subject, I did not receive until the 28th Ult^o however nothing has been lost by my not receiving it before as the season was too far advanced, for them to return when they left Tunis, at the commencement of Sept^r without considerable risk — As matters have conduced, conceiving it to be your wish, I shall detain the Gun Boats, as also the other Vessels until the return of the Tunisian Ambassador, without in the interim I shou'd receive instructions from you to the Contrary — After our Affairs are permanently settled with Tunis, I conceive one Frigate, two Brigs and a Schooner,

will be adequate to secure the necessary respect to our Commerce so far as relates to the Barbary States. —

The *Argus*, *Siren*, *Enterprise* & *Vixen*, if necessary, are in repairs sufficient to remain two Years longer in the Mediterranean, but the *Essex* and this Ship, will require to be reliev'd — The *Essex* will require from the representations made of her to me a thorough repair —

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

To Lieutenant Theodore Hunt, U. S. Navy commanding U. S. Bomb Ketch *Spitfire*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse 31st Dec 1805

SIR You are desired to inform the Officers Commanding the Bombs, and Gun Boats, that they are not, at the Expençe of Government, to Paint the outside of their Vessels, oftener than Once in Three Months, the insides (above the Deck) oftener than Once in Six Months, and their Cabins, or wherever Paint is required, below the Decks, Oftener than Once in Twelve Months —

[LC. JRP, Order Book No. 2, 1805-1806.]

[1805]

Statements of Expenditures of U. S. Navy

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, FEBRUARY 18, 1806.

To the House of Representatives of the United States.

I now communicate to the House of Representatives the information desired by their resolutions of January 24, relative to the fortifications erected at the several ports and harbors of the United States, and their territories, and to the navy and navy yards of the United States.

TH: JEFFERSON.

FEBRUARY 18, 1806

A statement exhibiting the amount of Money which has been drawn from the Treasury of the United States, and disbursed on account of the Navy, in each year, since the establishment of the Navy Department, viz.

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| In the year 1798, ----- | \$570, 314 24 |
| 1799, ----- | 2, 848, 187 26 |
| 1800, ----- | 3, 385, 340 48 |
| 1801, ----- | 2, 117, 420 74 |
| 1802, ----- | 946, 213 24 |
| 1803, ----- | 1, 107, 925 32½ |
| 1804, ----- | 1, 246, 502 74¾ |
| 1805, ----- | 1, 409, 949 67 |

THOMAS TURNER, Accountant.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
Accountant's Office, February 6th, 1806.

A statement exhibiting the cost of each armed ship or other vessel built or purchased on account of the United States, for the Navy, viz.

| | | |
|---------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Frigate | <i>United States</i> ----- | \$299, 336 56 |
| | <i>Constitution</i> ----- | 302, 718 84 |
| | <i>Constellation</i> ----- | 314, 212 15 |
| | <i>Congress</i> ----- | 197, 246 81 |
| | <i>President</i> ----- | 220, 910 08 |
| | <i>Chesapeake</i> ----- | 220, 677 80 |
| | <i>Philadelphia</i> ----- | 179, 349 00 |
| | <i>New York</i> ----- | 159, 639 60 |
| | <i>Essex</i> ----- | 139, 362 50 |
| | <i>John Adams</i> ----- | 113, 505 72 |
| | <i>Adams</i> ----- | 76, 622 27 |
| | <i>George Washington</i> ----- | 69, 024 92 |

| | | |
|------------|--|--------------|
| Frigate | <i>Boston</i> | \$119,570 04 |
| | <i>General Greene</i> | 105,492 32 |
| | <i>Insurgent</i> | 96,640 29 |
| Ship | <i>Ganges</i> | 80,665 21 |
| | <i>Portsmouth</i> | 59,561 52 |
| | <i>Merrimack</i> | 46,170 20 |
| | <i>Connecticut</i> | 57,260 65 |
| | <i>Baltimore</i> | 56,277 67 |
| | <i>Delaware</i> | 59,563 01 |
| | <i>Maryland</i> | 70,249 83 |
| | <i>Patapsco</i> | 73,104 40 |
| | <i>Herald</i> | 47,780 77 |
| | <i>Trumbull</i> | 58,494 91 |
| | <i>Warren</i> | 34,702 01 |
| | <i>Montezuma</i> | 55,732 13 |
| Brig | <i>Norfolk</i> | 18,720 55 |
| | <i>Richmond</i> | 27,896 87 |
| | <i>Augusta</i> | 16,294 29 |
| | <i>Pickering</i> | 32,126 06 |
| | <i>Syren</i> | 32,521 77 |
| | <i>Argus</i> | 37,428 29 |
| | <i>Hornet</i> , the accounts for the building this vessel have not been exhibited; the advances on account amount to.. | 52,603 00 |
| Schooner | <i>Enterprise</i> | 16,240 52 |
| | <i>Experiment</i> | 16,689 15 |
| | <i>Vixen</i> | 20,872 73 |
| | <i>Nautilus</i> | 18,763 51 |
| Galley | <i>South Carolina</i> | 5,146 54 |
| | <i>Charleston</i> | 5,190 04 |
| | <i>Beaufort</i> | 5,030 53 |
| | <i>St. Mary's</i> | 5,575 11 |
| | <i>Savannah</i> | 6,228 69 |
| | <i>Protector</i> | 4,443 59 |
| | <i>Mars</i> | 4,387 45 |
| | <i>Governor Davie</i> | 3,125 09 |
| | <i>Governor Williams</i> | 3,213 41 |
| | Gun Boat No. 1, built at Washington.. | 10,210 65 |
| | No. 2, Hampton..... | 11,399 95 |
| | 3, Philadelphia..... | 11,757 48 |
| | 4, Washington..... | 11,989 50 |
| | 5, Baltimore..... | 12,293 87 |
| | 6, New York..... | 13,790 00 |
| | 7, New York..... | 12,729 50 |
| | 8, Boston..... | 13,090 97 |
| | 9, Charleston, S. C..... | 12,792 64 |
| | 10, Washington..... | 12,072 46 |
| Bomb Ketch | <i>Spitfire</i> | 17,307 83 |
| | <i>Vengeance</i> | 18,443 24 |

NOTE.—The frigates *United States Constitution*, and *Constellation* were built before the establishment of the Navy Department, and their costs ascertained from data obtained from the Treasury and War Departments.

THOMAS TURNER, Accountant

NAVY DEPARTMENT,

Accountant's Office, February 6th, 1806.

A statement exhibiting the amount of money expended in the purchase and improvement of each Navy Yard belonging to the United States, viz.

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Navy Yard at Washington..... | \$180,920 15 |
| Boston..... | 80,521 94 |
| Portsmouth, New Hampshire..... | 33,249 07 |
| New York..... | 89,555 50 |
| Philadelphia..... | 41,180 84 |
| Norfolk..... | 52,748 78 |

THOMAS TURNER, Accountant.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,

Accountant's Office, February 6th 1806.

[Am. State Papers, Nav. Aff., 149, No. 52.]