

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

**Volume VI  
Part 4 of 4**

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

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To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*  
*Harbor of Lisbon Oct 1<sup>st</sup> 1806*

SIR, In my dispatches of the 8<sup>th</sup> September, I had the honor to inform you of the arrival of the *Constitution* at this place, and the nature of my business here; — I beg leave now to acquaint you, that since that period fresh difficulties have appeared, which have incurred an unexpected expence and detention in this Port; the Foremast of this Ship complained of by me has proved on close examination unfit for service, and beg leave to refer you to the enclosed certificates for particulars of the same;

A new set of Courses and Topsails is required likewise, in place of one of the old suite that you were informed of in my dispatches of July 10<sup>th</sup> as being unfit for further service, for which the Sail Maker has allowed five hundred dollars; the other old suite has been constantly in use; except the Main top Sail, that blowed from the yard in the Streights of Gibraltar, although the topsails were double reefed, not on account of violence of wind but of the crippled state of the Foremast and lower rigging, that required our serious attention; —

It being intended to call the ship home next summer, I shall put the canvass of the remaining old suite to such use as the Ship may require; in hammocks, hammock cloths & C<sup>s</sup> & C<sup>s</sup> which will save the expenditure of new canvass; for those purposes, that on the ships arrival in America would be thrown into a store and rendered unfit for service when called for while the old canvass will answer that purpose, and continue of use untill the return of the ship, and not longer, — Herewith I enclose you surveys on the Sails and lower rigging; — The Ship must be caulked all over and it may not be improper to purchase an anchor prior to the Winter setting in, to replace one of those procured from the Navy yard at Gibraltar by Commodore Rodgers prior to his leaving the *Constitution*, that broke in the shank by fair heaving, in good and clear ground in the roads of Algeziras; All of which with the able assistance received from M<sup>r</sup> Jervis our Consul here, I flatter myself will be procured on the most reasonable terms, that this market can possibly afford; the Mast will detain us a considerable time, it will not be ready in less than twenty days, from this date; the expence of it will be considerable; your referring to a former account against this Ship for a Bowsprit made by the same Carpenter that has the Mast in hand will give you some idea of the price; —

I shall keep the department regularly informed of my proceedings,

[Attention is invited to surveys of 25 and 26 September 1806.]

[NDA. Captains' LB, Vol. 3, 1806.]

[4 October 1806]

Order forbidding selling of Wine or Liquors at Sphax

Copy

We James Dodge Charged with the Affairs of the U. S. of America for the City & Kingdom of Tunis —

Do Request and expressly forbid all Masters and Commanders of American Vessels that may put in at Sphax, Selling any Wine or Spiritous Liquors under pain of formal disobedience —

In Witness whereof we have hereunto Set our name and affixed the Seal of Office in Tunis this 4<sup>th</sup> day of October 1806. —

(Signed) JAMES DODGE

[SEAL]

[NA. SDA. FA, CL, Tunis, Vol. 2, (7240), 1801-1809.]

[4 October 1806]

Appointment of Rais Ahmed Damag as Agent of American Masters and Commanders of American Vessels, at Sphax

Copy

We James Dodge Charged with the Affairs of the U. States of America for the City & Kingdom of Tunis

Wishing to procure for the Masters & Commanders of American Vessels that may arrive at Sphax, the necessary assistance and aid they may stand in need of, and to prevent their being molested or deceived in their business, have to this

effect appointed Rais Ahmed Damag as their Agent in Sphax aforesaid, and in order to procure for them all Kind & quantity of provisions they may want for their Vessels, as bread, meat, firewood, Vegetables &c. (oil excepted, which must not exceed five *Maials*) without, the Said American Masters or Commanders, being obliged to pay any duty whatever on said provisions. —

We therefore Request all the said American Masters and Commanders, to acknowledge no other person, than the said Rais Ahmed Damag as their Agent at Sphax & its dependencies, and to pay him for his troubles and assistance five Tunisien piastres, (besides the usual duty of Anchorage &c.) that is to say, three piastres if the Vessel shall unload at that place, and two piastres only if Loading. —

Given under our hand and Seal of office at the Consulate of the United States of America at Tunis this 4<sup>th</sup> day of October 1806 —

(Signed) JAMES DODGE

[SEAL]

[NA. SDA. FA, CL, Tunis, Vol. 2, (7240), 1801-1809.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*  
Lisbon Harbour Oct<sup>r</sup> 15 1806

SIR, For thirteen months past has Doctor Simm been under my command, during that time the state of his health was such as to prevent him from giving common attention to his duty on board, and were in hopes that by the return of the last squadron, he would have been permitted to see his country and friends once more, but to my great surprize and his disappointment he was deprived that Privilage & I then pronounced him a lost man which has been verified, his complaint was consumption, that devolves on me the painfull task to make you acquainted with his dissolution that took place on the 11<sup>th</sup> Inst<sup>r</sup>, his body was Intered in the Church Corpo Santo, attended with all the ceremonies of the Roman Catholick persuasion and his beleaf —

Doctor McAlester continues to act in his place and appears to be an attentive and deserving young man, and the only person on board in that department, who will require an assistant that must be taken from one of the Vessels in squadron, untill I am honord with your orders on this head —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 3, 1806.]

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

NAVY DEPAR<sup>t</sup> 21 Oct<sup>r</sup> 1806.

Black gaiters made to come up to the knee instead of the calf of the leg must be in future worn by the non-comm<sup>d</sup> Officer, musicians & privates of the Marine Corps.

I have no objection to your gratifying the music in the request they have made to you of substituting the feather for the Plume — the feather to be worne on the side of the hat.

[NDA. USMC, LB 1804-1820.]

To Peter Muhlenberg, Philadelphia, Pa., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPAR<sup>t</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> Octob<sup>r</sup> 1806.

I have received your letter of the 21<sup>st</sup> ins: with a copy of the one dated 18<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>o</sup>

I am not in possession of the necessary information to enable me to give the requisite certificate relatively to the Cutter [Sloop of 10 Guns] *Hornet*. All that I officially know respecting her is, that she was purchased in the Mediterraneans by Comm<sup>re</sup> Barron on account of the United States, that after being so purchased she was put in commission and employed in the Service of the United States until she was sold at Philadelphia. I shall this day write to Commodore Barron by whose directions the *Hornet* was purchased. He may possibly be able to furnish the necessary information upon the Subject.

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 8, 1805-1807.]



To Lieutenant Philemon Charles Wederstrandt, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig  
*Franklin*, Boston, Mass., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV DEPT Oct 27, 1806,

Upon receipt of this letter you will proceed with the Brig *Franklin* to the Navy  
Yard Washington. Should you require Provisions Mr Brown will supply you.

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 7, 1805-1807.]

To Secretary of State from Stephen Cathalan, Jr., U. S. Commercial Agent,  
Marseilles, France

MARSEILLES THE 10<sup>th</sup> Novemb. 1806.

SIR!

\* \* \* \* \*

The U. S. Schooner *Enterprize* arrived in this port on the 6<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> last, where  
She performed 20 days quarantine She wanted many repairs in her Deck & New  
Gun Carriages I Supplied her with every thing She wanted, She Sailed on the  
8<sup>th</sup> inst on her Cruise to the Eastward, no man of her Crew was or has been Sick  
during her Stay, owing to the good order, Cleanness and Subordination Kept on  
board of that Vessel of war, by Cap<sup>r</sup> David Porter, & his officers, who was admired  
by many in this place who visited the *Enterprize*.

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

To Peter Muhlenberg, Philadelphia, Pa., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPART 12 Novemb<sup>r</sup> 1806.

As you have been advised, I wrote to Comm<sup>r</sup> Samuel Barron relatively to  
the *Hornet*, [Sloop of 10 Guns] I have received this answer of which the following  
is a copy. —

HAMPTON 2 Novemb 1806.

SIR I am honored with the receipt of your letter of the 24<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>o</sup> I cannot  
find the Bill of Sale of the *Hornet*, which induces me to suppose, it may have  
been left in the Navy Office by Mr Dennison during my illness. I believe,  
however, that I am correct in saying, She was called the Sloop *Traveller* of  
New Bury Port, Tho<sup>s</sup> Saville & part owner, & built somewhere to the north-  
ward of the United States.

I am &c<sup>s</sup>

SAMUEL BARRON

The Bill of Sale was not left in the Navy Office as Comm<sup>r</sup> Barron supposes,  
& we have no information relatively to the *Hornet* other, than that already com-  
municated, and that contained in the preceding copy of Comm<sup>r</sup> Barron's letter  
to me.

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 8, 1805-1807.]

To Secretary of State from George Davis, appointed U. S. Consul, Tripoli

LEGHORN 15<sup>th</sup> November 1806

N<sup>o</sup> 4 triplicate

SIR I left Gibraltar two days after I had the honor of addressing you from that  
place. We had twenty eight days of passage, and have been quarantined thirty.  
I made choice of Leghorn as the most likely place to find a speedy, and cheap  
conveyance to Tripoli: there is however no probability of succeeding 'till Spring,  
unless a Vessel should be chartered at an enormous price, at least 2500\$ — My  
unavoidable detention at this place, is a subject of real regret, being fully im-  
pressed with the necessity of my early arrival at Tripoli — we have no advices  
from Barbary other than a confirmation of war between France and Algiers —

Mr Nissen is daily expected here, who will be able to give me every information  
I could wish respecting the [remainder of this sentence in code]

I have made application to Captain Campbell to permit either the *Enterprize*  
or *Hornet* to take me to Tripoli and am disposed to believe that my request will  
not be refused.

[NA. SDA. CL, Tripoli, Vol. 3, 1806-1811.]

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

Nº 33

GIBRALTAR 15<sup>th</sup> November 1806

SIR Deprived the honor of any of your favours since my last Respects Nº 32 under date 4<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup>, since when we have arrived from England Sir Hugh Dalrymple as Commander in Chief, & in consequence of a Pition from the Merchants he has allowed for the present, the Tobacco from America lodged in the Bay to be Landed under bond to be Exported in same Casks, to evade the Danger of the Winter season. —

On the 4<sup>th</sup> Instant His Ex<sup>ty</sup> the Tunisian Ambassador in the ship [*Two*] Brothers from Boston arrived here, & was detained by Contrary Winds & bad weather untill yesterday, when Cap<sup>n</sup> Candler meant to go to Sea, but His Exce<sup>ty</sup> call on me to request of the Captain to waite four days longer at this Port, there being Warr between Alger & Tunis, & a Cruiser of the latter that put into Oran was taken possession of, the Crew sent round by Land to Alger Prisoners, & the Vessel is also sent to Alger with an Algereen Crew, the motive of his request is on account of two Algereen Cruisers being at Sea & the *Constitution* expected here every Moment, from Lisbon, as Cap<sup>n</sup> Campbell Expected his repairs would be Compleat by the first of this Month, when would come here, and His Ex<sup>ty</sup> wishes to get a Convoy from him, Cap<sup>n</sup> Candler was loath in granting his request but in the end has Complied therewith. Cap<sup>n</sup> Candler Expected to meet Coll<sup>o</sup> Lear here but he has not appeared, & I have a litter from him of 11<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup> advising his Bills on me for \$5600 acc<sup>t</sup> Gov<sup>t</sup>, one for \$4000 has been presented & is paid he says to have remitted me a Bill for £1500 st<sup>r</sup> on sir fran<sup>s</sup> Baring & Co of Lond<sup>o</sup> to cover same, but it has not yet got to hand, in said Letter he says nothing with respect to his coming this way. —

[NA. SDA. CL, Gibraltar, Vol. 3, 1805–1829.]

To the Commodore of the U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

ALGIERS November 23<sup>d</sup> 1806

SIR, On the 30<sup>th</sup> of August I received a letter from the Secretary of State of the United States, dated the 15<sup>th</sup> of May, stating, that as it was probable the Tunesian Ambassador would leave the U. States much dissatisfied, on account of his demands on behalf of the Bey having been refused, I was ordered by the President of the United States, to repair to Gibraltar, by the first conveyance, and wait there the arrival of the said ambassador from the U. States, and repair with him to Tunis with a View to an adjustment of the differences which might exist between the two Nations — And on the 14<sup>th</sup> of October I received another letter from the Secretary of State dated the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 1806 — containing a full statement of the grounds of difference between the United States and the Bey of Tunis, and repeating the former Order, that I should repair to Gibraltar to meet the Ambassador; but instead of proceeding directly to Tunis, that I should go from Gibraltar to Malta in the Vessel Containing the Ambassador; and at the latter place the Naval Commander of the United States would be instructed to furnish a Frigate to convey me to Tunis; in which the ambassador might embark Also, unless he should prefer continuing on board the same Vessel in which me might leave the United States. —

Before I received the first of the aforementioned letters, I had been for some time in a very bad state of health, and about the time of my receiving the second I was confined to my bed by a very severe and dangerous fever, which brought me to the brink of the Grave. — From the effects of this fever I am now fast recovering, and with renewed health. —

This illness has been one good and sufficient cause for my not having fulfilled the Orders of the President by going to Gibraltar; and even if this immutable cause had not existed, there was another almost equally powerful; for since the time of my receiving the first letter 'till the present moment, there has not been any Vessel sailing from this place to Gibraltar; and not an American has been here during that period. —

I have been for some time past, in daily expectations of seeing some one of our Vessels of War here from Gibraltar; presuming that as I was not there on the arrival of the Ambassador & Vessel would call here to take me up, or know the reason of my not being in Gibraltar. — I am However informed by Capt<sup>n</sup> Hillyer of H. B. M. ship *Niger*, which arrived here yesterday, that he left Gibraltar

about a fortnight ago, and that no Vessel of War of the U. States had then arrived from America. —

The *Niger* goes from this place on a short cruize and then returns to Gibraltar. — if she was going directly there, I should not hesitate to take my passage on board her; but as I am in daily expectation of seeing one of our Vessels here from that quarter, in which I may embark for Malta or Tunis, I have thought it most expedient to wait that event; or until I have the pleasure of hearing from you. — I should think it would be best, at all events, to proceed first to Malta (unless some circumstances of which I am not informed should forbid it) as it would give a better opportunity of making arrangements for any issue which might take place in the Negotiation, than could be done in the Bay of Tunis. —

Every thing is quiet here as relates to us. — The French at present have some misunderstanding with this Regency; and the English appear to stand well. — They have a New Consul here. — The Insurrection in the interior is pretty well subdued; and a few days ago the Aga or General of the Turks, who had quelled the insurrection, was strangled, on suspicion of having some designs against the Present Deys. —

A difference exists at present between this Regency and that of Tunis; and they threaten hard to go to war; but I rather think their disputes will be adjusted without that extremity. It may however, operate favourably for our affairs with the latter power. —

[Stephen Decatur Col. Book B, 1806-1807.]

To Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy, from Master Commandant David Porter, U. S. Navy

Copy

U.S. SCHOONER *Enterprise*  
*Leghorn Dec<sup>r</sup> 3. 1806*

SIR, I am sorry to inform you that we have had a tremendous gale of wind here, that out of nineteen Vessels which lay in the Roads, has drove seventeen on shore, many of which will be totally lost; The Vessel that I command has suffer'd more than any that lay in the Mole, by a large Imperial Brig which got on foul of her during the night, and stove in all her upperworks, on the larboard side from the Fore chains aft, and has injured her bends and top timbers to such a degree that I shall be compell'd to take her down to the Waters edge. I calculate on being ready for Sea in the course of three or four Weeks, and shall then proceed in search of Capt<sup>r</sup> Dent of whom I have had no intelligence since my departure from Marseilles —

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

To J. B. Corsi, Lieutenant of the Port, Keeper of the Inner Mole, from Car'ra Berneiri d'Angelo, Colonel Captain of the Port, Chamberlain of Her Majesty, Leghorn

LEGHORN 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 1806.—

His Excellency the Lieut<sup>t</sup> General Governor permits the United States Schooner *Enterprise* to enter into the Inner Mole in order to be repaired, under the following conditions, always practised with Ships of War of every Nation —

1<sup>st</sup> the Commanding Officer will understand with the Director of the Custom House for the purpose of receiving the Visit on board the Schooner at the time of her entrance into the inner Mole. —

2<sup>nd</sup> When entered she will not be allowed to beat the Drum nor to have any visible Centinel on board & much less to put any on shore — No public punishment can be inflicted on any person of her Crew — all regulations concerning Lights, Fire &c in the night time must be observed according to the existing Laws, for all Ships laying in the Inner Mole. — The Lieut<sup>t</sup> of the Port, Keeper of the Inner Mole will notify the above to the Cap<sup>t</sup> Commander of the Schooner & will receive his word of honor for his exact compliance therewith. —

(Signed) CAR'RA BERNEIRI D'ANGELO

Colonel Cap<sup>t</sup> of the Port  
Chamberlain of Her Majesty

To the Lt of the Port  
Keeper of the Inner Mole  
J B. CORSI

[LC. D. Porter P, Let. & Ord., 1805-1808.]

To Josiah Fox, Naval Constructor, from Master Commandant John Cassin, U. S. Navy

NAVY YARD 3 Decemb<sup>r</sup> 1806.

SIR As the Brig *Franklin* is ordered to take on board a company of Marines for New Orleans it becomes necessary to lay a temporary Deck for their accommodation You will please to direct the same to be Laid with all practicable dispatch say four feet in the clear — also one Fore top Sail yard

[Peabody Museum of Salem, No. 700.]

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

No. 35

GIBRALTAR 5<sup>th</sup> December 1806

SIR Deprived of the pleasure of being honourd with any of your Commands since my last respects N<sup>o</sup> 34 under [date] of 26<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup> I have now to inform you that the *Constitution* not appearing, & the Rumours of the Warr between Alger & Tunis having in a manner subsided, the Ambassador proceed<sup>d</sup> with the ship [Two] *Brothers*, & Doctor Triplett on the 3<sup>d</sup> Instant for Tunis, & as yet have heard nothing from Coll<sup>l</sup> Lear, nor have any further accounts — from Cap<sup>t</sup> Campbell, or Coll<sup>l</sup> Lears Bills

Yesterday arrived from New York the Ship *Mary*, William Lander Master with a Cargo of flower, Pitch, Tarr, Bread Beef &c<sup>r</sup> for this place, had 10 Men, was taken possession off by several Spanish Privateers off Tarifa & sent for Algueras with Seven Men belonging to said Privateer, they under the Fort of Cabrita point by Night, when the Crew of the ship rose upon them, & brought her here, In the Scuffle the Captain & two of his Men were wounded, on arrival, a British 74 took out the Spaniards, the Prize Master Excepted, who Cap<sup>t</sup> Lander wishd to keep The Surgion of said Ship has, and is attending the Wounded, who are doing well and out of Danger —

This day came thro the Lines from the Spanish Batery of Fort Barbara to the Eastward of the Rock Lerveling (?) altho Commander of the Schooner *Alexander* of Baltimore, from Triest bound to the aforesaid Baltimore, his Vessel was within Gun shott of said Batery, when several shott were fird at him, which compelld him to anchor, & to go on shore with his Papers, w<sup>ch</sup> they sent to the Commandant of the Spanish Lines w<sup>ch</sup> the Cap<sup>t</sup> (the Boat Crew being kept in Confinement) said Commandant detaind the Papers untill the Cap<sup>t</sup> paid him 30\$ for cost of the shott, after which he was let go & returnd to fort Barbara they then released the sailors, but no one could get on board, the Boat having either drifted away from the water side or stole by the Spaniards, so that they could not join the schooner untill next day by hiring a fishing Boat at a heavy Expence —

P. S. had Cap<sup>t</sup> Campbell appeard I intended to hint to him, his taking the ship [Two] *Brothers* and Ambassador for Tunis under his Convoy, to lay too with him off Algeirs and send an officer on shore in his Boat to Consult Coll<sup>l</sup> Lear on this Important Subject —

[NA. SDA. CL, Gibraltar, Vol. 3, 1805-1829.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*  
Lisbon Harbor 5<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 1806

SIR, In my dispatches Oct<sup>r</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> I had the honor to inform you of my arrival here and the repairs that were requisite to put the *Constitution* in a serviceable state;

I have now the satisfaction to advise you of her being so, likewise of my intention to leave this place tomorrow, if possible but certainly the following day; if the weather is such as to admit of our going to Sea; — Our detention here has far exceeded my expectations, occasioned by bad Weather and disappointment in procuring Supplies, the Weather for some days past has favored us much, and I should have sailed on the 30<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup> had not an unexpected circumstance taken place; the fore and Main Stays of this Ship, although strictly examined and to be sufficient for further service, were observed on the 28<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup> to be stranded in consequence of which, I thought it prudent to procure a new sett, which we, received yesterday from the rope-walk and are this day in their place;

On the 25<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup> I received advice from Mr Gavino that the Tunisian Ambassador had arrived at Gibraltar, likewise a store ship having on board two Cables

for the *Constitution*, which timely information prevented me from procuring a Cable at this place; the ship being much in want of one; Anchors being cheaper here than in any part of the Mediterranean, I thought proper to purchase one from the Kings Arsenal, which with the Cable in question will render this Ship in as good order as a ship can well be —

I here enclose the Ammt of Bills drawn by me at Lisbon, which may at first View appear great, yet flatter myself when Pursers Slops and Cash advanced to Officers & Cr are deducted the Expences will not be extravagant —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol.3, 1806.]

To Master Commandant David Porter, U. S. Navy, from Midshipmen Lewis Warrington, Winlock Clark and Richard B. Jones, U. S. Navy

LEGHORN Dec<sup>r</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> 1806

SIR, In consequence of your order to us directed; we have taken a strict and careful survey, of the damages sustained by the Schooner [*Enterprize*] in the late gale; during the night of the 2<sup>nd</sup> inst in the outer Mole of this place — By which we find that thirteen of the top timbers and eleven of the foot hooks, are broken and shattered in such a manner as to require taking out and replacing with new ones from the fore to the Main Chains on the Larboard side — That the whole of the plank-sheer with the water-way plank included in that space must be also replaced — That the whole of the bends are so much injured that they must be taken off and renewed With the bulwarks from the Fore Chains to the second port from abaft on the same side — That the Fore & Main Channels with several of the chain plates are torn off broken & rendered unserviceable — That all the hammock stamtions in the Waist with several of those on the Quarter Deck & Five of the Cranes, in which the small spars are stowed are also broken to pieces and that a spare Fore Gaff with several sweeps and Oars are in the same Condition. —

LEWIS WARRINGTON 1<sup>st</sup> Lt  
 Signed) WINLOCK CLARKE  
 RICH<sup>d</sup> B. JONES. —

[LC. D. Porter P, Let.& Ord., 1805-1808.]

To Captain Mathew Kelly of American Ship *Spartan*, Baltimore, Md., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPART 5 Decemb<sup>r</sup> 1806

As soon as you shall have received on board the *Spartan* the provisions and other Stores, which John Stricker Esq<sup>r</sup> has been directed to ship in her for the use of our Squadron in the mediterranean, you will weight anchor & proceed immediately to Gibraltar and on your arrival there call on John Gavino Esq<sup>r</sup> American Consul and follow his directions in respect to the disposal of your Cargo —

The enclosed letters you will deliver agreeably to their several directions.

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 8, 1805-1807.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Master Commandant David Porter, U. S. Navy

U S. Sc: *Enterprize*  
 Leghorn 8<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 1806.

SIR, My long absence and a variety of inducements compel me to solicit permission to return to the U. States in the course of the ensuing spring or as soon as any arrangements you can make will admit of it, provided circumstances should not render my services in this part of the world of more importance than they are at present.

[NDA. MC LB, 1806-1807.]

To Secretary of State from Second Lieutenant Charles D. Coxe, U. S. Marine Corps, acting as U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

U. S. SLOOP OF WAR [Brig] *Hornet*  
 Tunis Bay Dec<sup>r</sup> 8. 1806.

SIR, I take the earliest opportunity to inform you, that, in consequence of the recent death of Mr Dodge our Charge d'affaires at Tunis, I have been authorized

by the Commanding Officer on this Station (Capt: Dent) to act as his Successor; in consequence of which I shall proceed on shore to morrow morning. —

I do not know, that I am correct in making this communication directly to you, as I have not yet received any instructions from the Consul General, or seen those that were given as a guidance to Mr Dodge; yet (as I may not have another opportunity soon after getting on shore) I have taken the liberty to forward this, & at the same time, to assure you of my unremitting attention to the instructions, I may receive from Government or those authoriz'd to give them, & my best endeavours to perform my duty with credit to myself & to the satisfaction of the President, as long as he may be pleased to honor me with a continuance in this station. —

[NA. SDA. CL, Tunis, Vol. 4, Dec. 1806–July 1816.]

To Thomas Foley, in Algiers, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

ALGIERS, *Friday December 19<sup>th</sup> 1806.* —

SIR I heard yesterday for the first time, that you had been in Algiers for several days past; and I now take the liberty of enclosing a letter for you, which I received some time since in one from Mr Cartwright to me. — I send you this letter in the manner in which I received it; and as its contents may, I presume, be considered as coming within the cognisance of H. B. M. Consul General at this place, I do not conceive that any agency of mine would be proper in this business —

I hold the receipt of Sidi Mahomet for the six thousand dollars which I forwarded to you, by him, at your request, in August 1804, and as it may be more satisfactory for you to withdraw this receipt, and give me yours, I shall be ready to make the exchange whenever you may think proper. —

I pray you will have the goodness to let me know if you received any Authority from Mr Mountford, during my absence from this place, to act as agent or Vice Consul of the United States of America at Oran,

[Stephen Decatur Col. Book B, 1806–1807.]

To William Kirkpatrick, U. S. Consul, Malaga, Spain, from Captain  
Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

(Circular)

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*  
*Gibraltar Bay 20<sup>th</sup> Decemr 1806*

SIR, The Tunisian Ambassador left this on the 3<sup>d</sup> inst, for Tunis, carrying with him impressions not the most favorable toward our Government, which may induce the Bey to act in a hostile manner to our Flag, in consequence of which, I think it prudent to advise you of the circumstance, and recommend to the Commanders of American Vessels not to sail without first being convinced that hostilities have not commenced —

The present force under my Command are the *Constitution*, Brig *Hornet*, and Schooner *Enterprize*, with which I shall render every service in my power to the commerce of the United States. —

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

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*  
*Gibraltar Bay 20<sup>th</sup> Decr 1806*

SIR, In reply to your orders of July 25<sup>th</sup> wherein you observe that since your order of May the 15<sup>th</sup> respecting Musicians, you have been inform'd that a band had actually been shipp'd, and if so they must be immediately discharg'd,

I beg leave to observe, my presumption is that you alluded to the band engaged by Capt<sup>r</sup> Rodgers, which band he took home in the *Essex*, since that period we have found among the crew a few men that play on different instruments, which have been purchased for them at private expence; on which they play when duty of more consequence is not required of them, this I hope Sir is not an objectionable part of my conduct; if so be assured that no one will be more ready to correct it than myself —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 3, 1806.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*  
Dec<sup>r</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> 1806. Gibraltar bay

SIR, I sail'd from Lisbon on the evening of the 9<sup>th</sup> Inst<sup>d</sup> and anchor'd here on the 18<sup>th</sup> having called at Cadiz on my way to settle with Mr Mead, prior to my going aloft;

The Tunisian Ambassador left this place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> so shall I on the 22<sup>nd</sup> in pursuit of him, and call off Algiers for our Consul General who informs me by letter that he is waiting for me to take him to Tunis on business of importance;—

I have not heard from Capt<sup>r</sup> Dent since the 14<sup>th</sup> of Sept<sup>r</sup> prior to which he had passed several days at Tunis, where he was received and treated with much attention by the Bashaw and others; What his conduct toward us will be on the arrival of his Ambassador will soon appear; and flatter myself that the present station of the *Hornett* and *Enterprize* and the timely arrival of the *Constitution*, will in a great measure counteract any hostile intentions he may be inclined to practice against us; be them what they may I shall endeavour to do my duty;—

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 3, 1806.]

To Edward Carrington, U. S. Consul and Commercial Agent, Canton, from Captain Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, on furlough

Copy

SHIP *Beaver* WHOMPOA  
20<sup>th</sup> December 1806

SIR, I have to enform you that on the evening of the 19<sup>th</sup> Inst. near the Boca Tigris and within the waters of a neutral state the Boarding officer of H. B. M. Ship *Phaeton* Captain Wood — Impressed a seaman from my ship by the name of William Byrant who entered with me in New York as an american Citizen but by some accident he lost his protection — I have to request you Sir in your official Capacity as Consul and Commercial Agent for the United States to demand that my man be restored to me — For admitting the position of Captain Wood that men found without protections are considered as British subjects; yet it never can be admitted by Neutrals that a *Belligerent* has a right to stop, search or distress neutrals in anyway within their waters, — It is a principal well laid down in the Law of Nations that even Enemy's are held sacred within the waters of a Neutral —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1807.]

To Master Commandant John Shaw, U. S. Navy, or the Commanding Naval Officer, New Orleans, La., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV DEP<sup>t</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 1806,

A military Expedition formed on the Western Waters, by Col. Burr, will soon proceed down the Mississippi, and, by the time you receive this letter, will probably be near New Orleans. You will, by all the means in your power, aid the Army and Militia in suppressing this Enterprize. You will, with your Boats, take the best position to intercept and to take, and, if necessary, to destroy the Boats descending under the Command of Col. Burr, or of any person holding an appointment under him. There is great reliance on your vigilance and exertions. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 7, 1805-1807.]

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

N<sup>o</sup> 36

GIBRALTAR 22<sup>d</sup> December 1806

SIR Not being honour'd with any of yours I beg leave to refer to my last respects under 5<sup>th</sup> Instant N<sup>o</sup> 35, by which you will have seen the Departure of the Ship *Two Brothers* with the Tunis ambass<sup>r</sup> & Doct<sup>r</sup> Triplet for Tunis on the 3<sup>d</sup> of this Month. —

On the 18<sup>th</sup> Instant arrived the *Constitution* Cap<sup>r</sup> Campbell from Lisbon & Cadiz, when I deliver'd him Coll<sup>l</sup> Lears & other letters which had reach'd me for him, he was in great want of Provisions and other Stores, when every Exertion on my part was made use of to get him supply'd & ready for sea, which was compleated on the 21<sup>st</sup> —

I gave Cap<sup>r</sup> Campbell the perusal of Coll<sup>l</sup> Lears letter to me, as p<sup>t</sup> abstract inclosed dated 23<sup>d</sup> Ultimo, wherefore the *Constitution* proceeded Early on the

Morning of the 22<sup>d</sup> for Algeir to Communicate with Coll<sup>d</sup> Lear, & make no doubt will take him to Tunis. —

On the 17<sup>th</sup> Instant I was an Eye Witness to the wantonness of the Commander of the Spanish Baterys in the bottom of this Bay. One of our Merchant Briggs on working into the Bay made a long Stretch towards the Bottom of it, when got within Gun shott of the Spanish — Batterys of Punta Mala &c\* they then fired a Gunn at her, and she immediately stood on for them with her American flag flying, but this was of no use, all the other Batterys opened on her, she then hoisted the flag in the Shrouds and a Burgie at her fore top, still Continuing her Course for the Baterys finding they notwithstanding kept up the fire, she then struck her flag to them, this was of no use, she then hoisted her Colours — again, by this time being close in with the Batterys, they then fired at her with Grape shott, and Continued so doing untill anchored; they that night took her to Alguesiras, where I understand she is still detain'd & \$180 are demanded of the Master for the Expenditure of ammunition. I am told is from the Coast of Spain bound to Toningham; It is so farr lucky that none of the Crew were hurt. All those Cruel Proceedings were not Committed in the Jurisdiction of my department yet I conceive it my duty to inform the Consul General at Madrid thereof, in hopes that some order may be obtain'd for the Commanders of the Spanish Baterys to behave with more humanity towards Nutrals —

The British Gun Briggs in this Bay lately press'd three of our Men which I demanded of the Commanders of said Briggs but was refused, I immediately wrote Lord Collingwood off Cadiz for the first one that was Impress'd, & his Lordship order'd his being given up, as to the latter we had the Hon<sup>l</sup> Cap<sup>n</sup> Blackwood in Port who was a Senior Officers Commanding the *Ajax* & to whom I applied, on being refused by the Cap<sup>n</sup> of the Brig, & he order'd their being given up, & sent to their respective Vessels —

Doctor Sim having Died at Lisbon I herewith return two Letters which were address'd me from your office for him —

[NA. SDA. CL, Gibraltar, Vol. 3, 1805-1829.]

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

(Duplicate Copy)

ALGIERS December 25<sup>th</sup> 1806

DEAR SIR, The original of the enclosed was forwarded via Leghorn, by the Brig *Friendship* Cap<sup>t</sup> Clemmens, mentioned therein, who was detain'd here by bad weather till the 18<sup>th</sup>, when he took his departure for Leghorn, — On the 14 instant arriv'd 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 a Cruize, since the 28<sup>th</sup> Ultimo — The Admiral Hameda 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 and Tobacco, which he took after he got into the Atlantic — The American built Frigate [*Crescent*] came into the Bay about Ten Days ago, the Captain complaining that she was in such bad condition and made so much water, that she could not Keep, the Sea — He had taken two prizes — viz<sup>t</sup>, a Genoa Brig, which was deserted by her Crew, and a Napoletan, with 14 Persons on board, who were landed from the Frigate, put the Prizes have not yet got in — The Dey would not suffer the Frigate to enter the Port, but order'd her to Keep out for the Cruize of 40 Days — 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 decid'd in all his measures; at the same time he is mil'd 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 15 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 exertions 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 Tripoli, since I have been here, — The letters brought me from the Government by the Regalce Ship, were dated the 15<sup>th</sup> 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 others 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 —

M<sup>r</sup> Lear unites with me, in Compliments of the Season, and best wishes for yourself, and these with you

[NA. NDA. Area 4, 1806-1810.]

To Secretary of State from Second Lieutenant Charles D. Coxe, U. S. Marine Corps, acting as U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS December 26<sup>th</sup> 1806.

SIR, In consequence of the death of M<sup>r</sup> Dodge, (of which you have been inform'd by my letter of the 8<sup>th</sup> inst:) I have been authoriz'd to act as Chargé d'affaires to This Regency till the pleasure of The President shall be known relating thereto. —

I arrived here on the 10<sup>th</sup> inst: & was received & acknowledged by His Excellency The Bey in the most friendly manner. — Nothing of consequence occur'd 'till the 19<sup>th</sup> when The Ship *Two Brothers* Capt. Candler arrived here having on board H. E. Sidi Soliman Mellimelli & suite late Ambassador from This Regency to the U. States. — By her I rec<sup>d</sup> your letter of the 7<sup>th</sup> August (directed to M<sup>r</sup> Dodge) & another from James L. Cathcart Esquire enclosing Invoice, bills of lading & Charter Party with instructions to deliver the contents of said invoice as presents from The U. S. to H. E. The Bey & his Minister according to their marks &c<sup>s</sup>

I have seiz'd the first opportunity of writing to M<sup>r</sup> Lear & to inform him, according to your instructions, of the necessity of his immediate presence at Tunis. Indeed I expect his arrival hourly, as he is already appriz'd by M<sup>r</sup> Gavino who sent dispatches from you off in to him from Gibraltar before the arrival there of The Ambassador. —

The Brig *Hornet* Capt. Dent saild from hence on the 12<sup>th</sup> inst: for Algiers & I expect M<sup>r</sup> Lear will return in her. —

I waited on H. E. The Bey immediately on the rec<sup>d</sup> of your letter: He received me in his usual friendly manner, & found he was fully inform'd of the contents of the invoice by his Ambassador, with which he appear'd to be very much pleased; & I have no doubt it will have the desir'd effect from every thing I can see & hear. —

The existing state of warfare between this Regency & that of Algiers, has entirely cut off all communication by land. — I have written M<sup>r</sup> Lear by a Grecian Vessel that will sail to day direct to Algiers. —

This place is at present tolerably healthy, owing to the coolness of the weather — A few months before my arrival, there was a plague (or epidem fever) & famine, & every thing now is extremely dear in consequence. —

I shall strictly adhere to the purport of my instructions, & beg you to rest assur'd that every endeavour on my part shall be exerted to merit your approbation. — By an opportunity via Leghorn, I shall again very soon do myself the honor of addressing you,

[NA. SDA. CL, Tunis, Vol. 4, Dec. 1806-July 1816.]

To Secretary of State from George Davis, appointed U. S. Consul, Tripoli

Nº 7

LEGHORN December 27<sup>th</sup> 1806

SIR The letter with which I was charged, for Mr Nissen H: D: M: late Consul at Tripoli, was yesterday delivered in person; his being in quarantine prevented an unrestrained communication.

Mr Nissen informs me that there exists a Secret Article Signed by the *Commissioner* stating, "that we shall not have the right to demand the fulfillment (*on his part*) of the 3<sup>d</sup> Article of the treaty until the expiration of four years, and with the condition that the Ex-B[ashaw] shall remain perfectly quiet during that period". he says, that the Bashaw had constantly manifested a resolution, not to accede to any arrangement, which concerned his Brother, and that it was admitted in the Treaty under the full impression, that the demand would never be made by the Government of the U: States. Mr Ridgely is represented as being on a most friendly and respectable footing —

I have the honor to enclose you a triplicate of my last; with the original was forwarded a Gazette (Nº 6) under date of the 13<sup>th</sup> December —

[NA. SDA. CL, Tripoli, Vol. 3, 1806-1811.]

To Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Algiers, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

ALGIERS, December 31<sup>st</sup> 1806

DEAR SIR, In consequence of Instructions received from the Secretary of State, of the United States, I conceive it to be my duty to proceed to Tunis, with a view of adjusting any differences (if any exist) between the United States and that Regency; And as it may be very essential to the Interest of the United States, that some one of our Citizens should remain here during my absence, to observe the operations in this place and give due information of any thing which may relate to our affairs here; I take the liberty to request, that you would (if you can do it consistently) leave here one of the Officers of your Ship in whose prudence, discretion and steadiness a confidence may be placed, to attend to the usual course of affairs during my absence.

I know of no special Official duties which will be necessary to transact until my return; and I am happy to inform you that we appear at present to stand on very good ground with this Regency. —

[Stephen Decatur Col. Book B, 1806-1807.]

[1807]

To Secretary of the Navy from Caesar A. Rodney, Attorney General of the United States

SIR— I have read & considered your letter of the 7<sup>th</sup> inst, & the papers which accompanied it, referred to you, by a resolution of the House of Representatives.

From the best consideration, I have been able to give the subject, I concur with you in the opinion, that the Owner of the *Huntress*, has no legal claim on the Navy Department for the compensation he demands.

William Hodgson of Alexandria as the agent of the owner, chartered this vessel to your department, for the purpose of carrying provisions & naval stores to Malta & Syracuse. No stipulations are contained in the charter party, to furnish any particular or special papers. In general it is the duty of the Captain to procure all the usual documents for the protection of his ship & cargo; nor should he set sail without them.

It is stated by Mr Abbot in his treatise on shipping, a work of uncommon merit & established reputation — "The master must also take on board, no false "or colourable papers, that may subject the ship to capture or detention: and he "must procure & keep on board, all the papers & documents required, for the man- "festation of the ship & cargo, by the law of the country from & to which the Ship "is bound, & by the law of nations in general" — Had the U. States shipped in conjunction with others goods on board this vessel for the accustomed freight without any charter party, the rule of law would seem perfectly clear. Whether the charter party varies the case & constitutes the person who charters a ship *pro hac vice* the Owner of the vessel & makes the Captain of course his agent, I do not conceive is material to be decided. Because it does not appear in this instance that any of the usual papers were omitted. In fact certificates from the President, as well as from the British & French ministers were obtained to prove

that the cargo belonged to the U. States, & that it was destined to supply our squadron in the Mediterranean. The reason why a similar certificate was not obtained from the Spanish Minister as correctly stated in your letter, was because all official communication between him & our government had ceased.

However I do not consider the certificates of Foreign Ministers as composing a part of the regular papers with which a Ship is usually furnished for the protection of herself & cargo. They are a species of *extra* documents seldom procured, & which tho' sometimes of advantage, are at others injurious. The freight was to compensate for the risk of capture or detention, to which all neutral vessels are subject *flagrante bello*. The freight however was not due or rather 1/3 of it, according to the express contract, untill the delivery of the goods at Malta; unless some person duly authorized by the Navy Department had released the Captain from the further prosecution of the voyage, or the vessel's discharge in England. The Consul, you state expressly, had no such authority. The owner therefore without performing his part of the contract, has not only received all the freight due by the charter party, but has actually been paid \$444.44/100 more than was due to him.

It is true from one of the papers it appears that the officer of the Spanish privateer made the want of a certificate from the Spanish Minister similar to those from the French & English Ministers, a part of the pretext for capture, but as this is a paper not really required, nor constituting a part of the regular documents to be exhibited by neutrals, it cannot vary the case. The principal & real ground of capture was that the vessel was carrying naval stores to a port of an enemy of Spain. The voyage in this case was settled & the cargo fixed by the charter party. The freight must therefore have been in proportion to all risks & hazards on such a voyage, with such a cargo. No fault can be attributed to the Navy Department for not procuring a paper, which if there had been a Spanish Minister corresponding with the government, must have been asked as a matter of favor & not of right, a paper which he could grant or refuse at his pleasure. Hence such documents as protections from Foreign Ministers are not required of neutrals by belligerents according to the law of nations. The regular papers are those alone which the constituted authorities of the country are competent to give.

I think the Owner must bear the loss under the existing circumstances.

C. A. RODNEY

[NA. NDA. Attorney General, Vol. 1, 1807-1825.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Master Commandant David Porter, U. S. Navy

U S SCHOONER *Enterprise*  
*Leghorn 1 Jan'y 1807.*

*Duplicate*

SIR, The monument to be erected to the memory of our brother Officers who fell off Tripoli will be completed and ready for transportation by the latter part of this month or the commencement of the next; If it should so happen that one of our Vessels of War, of a suitable size, should be on the point of returning to America, and the service should admit of her stopping at this place to take it in, it will save to the subscribers a very considerable expence, and the risque attending the transportation of course would be less —

It will be contained in forty five cases the whole weighing together about 15 tons, the length of time necessary to take it on board would be about 3 or 4 days

[Note: A list of the subscribers to this monument is too long for inclusion herewith but is printed in full in Navy Department Archives, Master Commandants' Letter Book, 1806-1807. It indicates that there were the following contributions: 8 officers \$20. each, 84 at \$10. and 49 at \$5.00 each, totalling \$1245.]

[NDA. MC LB, 1806-1807.]

To Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Hornet*, from Second Lieutenant Charles D. Coxe, U. S. Marine Corps, acting as U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS *January 5<sup>th</sup> 1807.*

DEAR SIR, I have to thank you for your favor of 18<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>o</sup> dated at Malta, which reached me on the 30<sup>th</sup> — H. Ex<sup>or</sup> Sidi Soliman Mellimelli & suite arriv'd here on the 19<sup>th</sup> Decr in the Ship *Two Brothers* Capt. John Candler, about three months from Boston & 17 days from Gibraltar with a Cargo consisting of Coffee, Cochineal, China, chocolate, furniture, Ginger, Logwood, Rum, pepper, Poligraphs &c. with four Brass field pieces & their carriages complete; a part belonging to the said

Ambassador & a part to the U. States intended as a present to the Bey & his Minister. —

I rec<sup>d</sup> a letter from the Dep<sup>t</sup> of State (directed to Mr Dodge) dated 7<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup>, referring to another rec<sup>d</sup> from James L. Cathcart Esq. Agent for Gov<sup>t</sup> in the Shipment of said Cargo dated Boston 6<sup>th</sup> Sept. enclosing Invoice, Bills of lading, Charter-party &c. with Instructions to deliver the contents as presents from, & in the name of the U. States to the Bey & his Minister the Sapatapa; — Doctor Triplett who came passenger in this Ship on his way to Algiers as Physician to the Bey, delivered me these letters — he is now with me & will await some favourable opportunity of proceeding on his destination.

I have not rec<sup>d</sup> a single line from Mr Lear, since my arrival here, nor have I been able to get one to him. He ought to have been here before this period, having rec<sup>d</sup> orders to that purpose from Gov<sup>t</sup>; I am directed to dispatch a Courier (in case of his not being here) to inform him of the necessity of his presence. By the information I rec<sup>d</sup> from Doct<sup>r</sup> Triplett, Capt. Campbell was to go to Algiers to convey him hither, but from his long delay I fear he has no such intentions. — The Ship *Two Brothers* is now nearly discharged at the Gouletta, but I cannot dispatch her till Mr Lear's arrival, as it appears (likely) from the Charter party that she is to be purchased by him of the Captain & presented to the Bey in lieu of the Brig *Franklin*, which was rejected by the Ambassador. — There is now a Demurrage of 35, days @ \$40. P<sup>r</sup> day due to Captain Candler. —

I wrote to Mr Lear by a vessel that left this place ten days ago bound for Algiers; unfortunately she has been forced back by headwinds & bad weather into the Bay and driven on shore the day after her return. — I have now no other alternative than to dispatch a Courier from hence to Bona & trust to chance for an opportunity from thence to Algiers, for the existing state of warfare between that Regency & this, renders it impossible to send one direct — I have in fact been endeavouring to procure a Courier as far as Bona since the day of the Ship's arrival without effect, it being a dangerous undertaking — one has to day however made an offer to go for a large consideration, which I shall be constrain'd to give. —

The Bey, seems much pleased with his presents and continues to treat me with the most cordial politeness; & from existing circumstances all appearance of hostility seems entirely to be done away. —

Capt. Candler had some letters to you with several to myself & some other officers of the *Hornet*, which he has left in the hands of Mr Gavino at Gibraltar. — I presume you have rec<sup>d</sup> news by Mr Winn later from Washington than any I can communicate. — Mr & Mrs Tulin desire to be remember'd to you; they have been very Kind & attentive to me. —

I beg to be remember'd to the Gentlemen of the Wardroom & that you will accept the assurance of the respect & Esteem with which I remain, Dear Sir, &c.  
Ch<sup>r</sup> D. Coxe

P. S.

TUNIS Jan<sup>y</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> 1807.

DR SIR, I have found it impossible to dispose of a draft on Mr Lear — Bills on Marseilles or Leghorn would meet with ready sale; but as I have no authority to draw on either, I find myself totally at a loss what steps to take, unless I can borrow to discharge the rent of the house & several other smaller debts that ought to be discharged, but they in aggregate w<sup>d</sup> amount to a larger Sum than any one would be willing or perhaps able to accommodate me with — I have been obliged to borrow 1000, Tunisien piastres of Mr Holck Danish Consul in addition to 1000, borrowed of him before my arrival — all of which I shall appropriate to the use of Captain Candler for necessary disbursements, taking his receipt for the same. —

[L.C. Chas. D. Coxe LB, Ac. 2951, 1806-1809.]

To William Kirkpatrick, U. S. Consul, Malaga, Spain, from Second Lieutenant Charles D. Coxe, U. S. Marine Corps, acting as U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS January 5<sup>th</sup> 1807.

MY DEAR SIR, Since my arrival here, I have not been so fortunate as to meet with an opportunity of informing you of the Death of our late Charge d' Affairs at this place (the late Mr Dodge) whom I have been appointed to succeed. — I arrived here on the 10<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>o</sup> — on the 19<sup>th</sup> following, the American Ship *Two Brothers* Capt. Candler, arrived, having on board H. E. Sidi Soliman Mellimelli late Ambassador from this Regency near the U. S. with a Cargo consisting of different Articles, which I have rec<sup>d</sup> direction to present to H. E. the Bey from & in the name of the U. States. —

The Ambassador has returned much pleased with his treatment & reception in America — the Bey seems perfectly satisfied, & from existing circumstances all appearances of hostility between the U. S. & this Regency are likely to be entirely done away. — In a few days I will have an opportunity, via Barcelona, of writing you — in the mean time I request you will present my respectful remembrances to M<sup>r</sup> Kirkpatrick, & accept the assurances of the esteem & regard with which I remain (in haste) —

P. S. I rec<sup>d</sup> a letter from Capt. Dent a few days ago—the *Hornet* is at Syracuse.—  
[LC. Chas. D. Coxe LB, Ac. 2951, 1806–1809.]

To Daniel Dodge, New York, N. Y., brother of James Dodge, from Second Lieutenant Charles D. Coxe, U. S. Marine Corps, acting as U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS Jan<sup>y</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> 1807.

DEAR SIR, It is with the most sincere grief & reluctance that in compliance with my duty I am obliged to communicate to you the distressing information of the death of your most worthy brother James Dodge Esq. late Charge D'Affaires for the U. States at this Regency. He was attacked with a violent cough & spitting of blood on the 13<sup>th</sup> & departed this life the 22<sup>d</sup> October at three o'clock in the morning without the least struggle or pain. — He often spoke of his relations during his last illness with the warmest affection. I was not here at the time, but the Secretary to the Consulate M<sup>r</sup> Amb<sup>ro</sup> Allegro attended him most faithfully to the last & he was interred in the Protestant burial ground attended by all the foreign Consuls &c. with every honor due him as an officer & Representative of his Country. — I am employed in making out his account Current with the U. States, by which there is a balance of \$1000 & up<sup>d</sup>e as due him: — As this will take some time to accomplish, I fear I shall not be able to forward it to you P<sup>r</sup> this opportunity, but rest assured that every thing that depends on me to enable you to get this money from Government, shall be done as soon as possible. I am also making an Inventory of his Effects & wearing apparel which shall be faithfully & regularly transmitted by first safe conveyance. —

[LC. Chas. D. Coxe LB, Ac. 2951, 1806–1809.]

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

NAVY DEPART. OF THE UNITED STATES

10 January 1807.

Capt Davey of the Ship *Minerva* will deliver to you a quantity of provisions agreeably to Bill lading & Invoice which John Stricker Esq<sup>t</sup> will forward to you, which provisions you will hold for the use of our publick Vessels of war in the Mediterranean. The provisions must be landed from the *Minerva* at Gibraltar, where you will retain them or send them aloft as future occasions may demand. The freight of these provisions has been paid in this Country.

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 8, 1805–1807.]

To Secretary of State from Charles D. Coxe, acting as U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS Jan<sup>y</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> 1807.

SIR, I beg leave to refer you to my letter of 26<sup>th</sup> ult. since which nothing has occur'd of an extraordinary nature. — The Ship *Two Brothers* has nearly finished discharging her cargo, which has necessarily proceeded very slowly, owing to the great distance of transporting it from the Ship to the Town in Sandals across the Lake, which is about nine miles. —

M<sup>r</sup> Lear has not yet made his appearance here nor have I rec<sup>d</sup> a single line from him since the arrival of the Ambassador. — I wrote him P<sup>r</sup> a Grecian vessel on the 26<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>e</sup> & have also with much difficulty & unavoidable delay, dispatched a Courier to Bona, from whence I have taken measures to have a coasting Sandal sent to Algiers; a communication direct from hence being totally impracticable, & even that by Bona dangerous. —

I am now occupied in taking an Inventory of the property of the U. States in the Consular house, & another of the effects belonging to the late M<sup>r</sup> Dodge — I will transmit you his a/c with the U. States after it is revised by M<sup>r</sup> Lear, together with the Inventory &c. —

[LC. Chas. D. Coxe LB, Ac. 2951, 1806–1809.]

To Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy, from Nicholas C. Nissen, Danish Consul, Tripoli

THE LAZARETTO ST<sup>t</sup> ROCK AT LEGHORN

January 13<sup>th</sup> 1807. —

DEAR SIR, At my arrival at Leghorn I found a dispatch from His Majesty's Department for Barbary Affairs including the letter dated Gibraltar July 27<sup>th</sup> 1805, which was sent by you to His Majesty's Minister at London accompanied by a Silver Urn as a present to me from you and Officers of the US late Frigate *Philadelphia*.

Accept yourself Dear Sir my most sincere acknowledgments and please in my name to thank the Officers, for this distinguished mark of your and their friendship. I know nothing that could have given me a greater pleasure than this present; not for the Nominal Value; the materials were indifferent to me, I dont doubt but that you are persuaded thereof; But I consider it as a constant recollection of friends I respect, who probably never again all will meet together with me at one place or at one time, and who collectively have given me this pledge of their friendship, as a remembrance; and so it shall be to me. —

I can only repeat here what I often as well verbally as in writing have declared; that you and Officers have overvalued the few services I have so happy to render you during your captivity at Tripoli, and for which I have been fully paid by the satisfaction my endeavours to serve you always gave me; but the very limited power I had was the cause that I could not follow in every circumstance the dictates of my heart or my desires in this respect.

Finding at Leghorn Cap<sup>tn</sup> D Porter I have thought it incumbent upon me to avail myself of the opportunity to deliver this letter to him, he will transmit it to you, and at the same time he has accepted my verbal thanks for his share in the above mentioned present as one of those friends whose recollection shall be dear to me and whose constant health and happiness my invariable wish. —

With these sentiments and with the greatest respect I have the honor to remain  
(Signed) N NISSEN.

[LC. D. Porter P, Let. & Ord., 1805-1808.]

To President Thomas Jefferson from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPARTMENT

13 Jan<sup>y</sup> 1807.

The President of the United States. —

By the act of Congress passed the 21st April 1806 it is provided, that the whole number of able seamen, ordinary Seamen, and Boys, to be employed in the Navy shall not exceed.....	925
We have at this time in actual service about.....	700
The <i>Chesapeake</i> requires.....	292
The <i>Wasp</i> .....	120
	<u>1112</u>
Exceeding the limited number.....	187
	<u>1112</u>

You will hence perceive the impracticability of sending to the Mediterranean as has been proposed the *Chesapeake* and *Wasp*, for the purpose of relieving the frigate and the schooner *Enterprize* now on that station. We may besides from the letter of Cap<sup>t</sup> Shaw dated 29<sup>th</sup> November 1806 presume that he has entered 400 additional seamen in order that he might be the better enabled to aid in defending the city of New-orleans against an apprehended attack. —

The terms of service of the crews of the frigate *Constitution* and the Schooner *Enterprize* now in the Mediterranean will expire in the month of April next.

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

To Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, Hampton, Va., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP<sup>t</sup> 17 January 1807

You will make all necessary arrangements with respect to the Gun boats which you have been superintending and repair to this place prepared for actual service. You are to have the command of the frigate *Chesapeake*, & to proceed with her

to the Mediterranean: the *Wasp* is also fitting for the same service, to relieve the frigate *Constitution* & sch<sup>t</sup> *Enterprize*.

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 7, 1805-1807.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*  
*Tunis Bay Jan<sup>y</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> 1807*

SIR, Agreeable to my last advice from Gibraltar Dec<sup>r</sup> the 20<sup>th</sup> I left that place on the 22<sup>nd</sup> for algiers, where I arrived on the 29<sup>th</sup> and waited for our Consul General until the 4<sup>th</sup> Inst<sup>t</sup> with whom I sailed and anchor'd on the night of the 11<sup>th</sup> near the Goletta of Tunis; at day break sent a boat on shore with a letter to the Consulate and observed an American Ship laying within the Mole head, by the return of the boat I was inform'd that the Ambassador had arriv'd about eighteen days before us in the ship above mentioned; and that Lieut<sup>t</sup> Cox of Marines had been left at Tunis by Captain Dent, as charged with our affairs in place of Doctor Dodge, whose dissolution took place in October last; about two OClock Lieut<sup>t</sup> Cox and Doctor Tripplett came on board, passed the night and left the Ship next morning with Colonel Lear; since that period I have been at anchor waiting the result of Colonel Lears mission, which he informs me is likely to have a favorable termination for our Country, likewise that the Presents are accepted without further explanations of consequence from our Government, yet will require a few days to compleat the whole, and insure Peace for *perhaps* a few years;

The Ambassado has no limits to his encomiums on the People and Country of the United States; indeed if we were to judge from exteriors, *which by the bye I am not disposed to do*, the conclusion would readily be that their greatest desire is friendship in its present shape with the United States; Their conduct towards us at Algiers was similar to the present; and I am happy to inform you that a similar conduct prevails from Tripoli to Mogadore;

On my way from Gibraltar to Algiers I fell in with the Ship *Betsy* of Plymouth, from Leghorn, bound to New York by which Vessel I received a letter from Capt<sup>t</sup> Porter dated Leghorn December the 3<sup>rd</sup> informing me of a serious disaster that had happened to the *Enterprize*, in the mole of that place, by a large Imperial Vessel that broke from her moorings, and drifted on board the Schooner and stove in her larboard side down to the bends; by which Vessel I had the honor to address you and enclose for your perusal a copy of Captain Porter's letter on that subject; —

I presume ere this, Captain Porter has left Leghorn, Captain Dent left this place the 10<sup>th</sup> of December and on the 18<sup>th</sup> he was at Malta, intending for Syracuse to arrange the business of the Store Ships,

The Tunisian Army has marched to meet that of Algiers, since our arrival here; so has the Algerine Squadron appear'd on this Coast about the 15<sup>th</sup> Inst<sup>t</sup>, and captured a Danish Vessel from this to Leghorn, having on board the Danish Consul of Tunis; on board of which Vessel the algerines put twenty men who with the Vessel were forc'd into this Bay, by a strong Northwardly gale; and run on shore between Cape Carthage and Port Ferrino, consequently the Algerines made slaves;

The Danish Consul was left on board the captur'd Vessel whose only chance of leaving this Country, was by that conveyance, the Algerines being determined to carry in for adjudication, all Vessels from Tunis having cargoes on board; In consequence of which M<sup>r</sup> Holt [Holck] the Danish Consul has requested of me to take him on board and land him at any Port or place from whence he might procure a passage to Leghorn, where his Wife and family are waiting his arrival; — My personal knowledge of that Gentleman would be a sufficient inducement for me to grant his request, if publick reasons did not make it doubly so; and hope it will meet your approbation

It is currently reported and generally believ'd that France has declared War against Algiers —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 1, 1807.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*  
*Tunis Bay Jan<sup>y</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> 1807*

SIR, The great deficiency of Surgeons and Medical aid in the Squadron compels me to make you acquainted with our present unfavorable situation, since the

death of Doctor Sims, who unfortunately was but of little use the last ten months of his life; Doctor M<sup>r</sup>Alister has been our only dependance, although incapable of exerting himself since November last, and is at this moment much worse than he has hitherto been, which leaves us without any person capable of performing any Surgical operation where the least judgement is required, while near thirty of our Crew are confined with different diseases, without any person to give them common attention, except a loblolly-boy who has acquired some skill and judgement in drawing of teeth and applying the Launceet to a well filled Vein, add to this by last accounts from Doctor Heap, he lay dangerously ill at Messina, without a prospect of recovering, which render'd it necessary to furnish the *Enterprize* with a Surgeons Mate from the *Hornett*:

In fact this Ships crew are suffering for want of proper assistance which will oblige me to employ temporary aid, if such can be found, untill your pleasure is known; indeed the Crisis has become alarming which obliges me to leave Colonel Lear here for a few days, untill I can run over to Malta or Syracuse for such assistance as is absolutely necessary. —

NB. The left arm of Doctor M<sup>r</sup>Alester is rendered useless by the Rheumatism  
[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 1, 1807.]

To Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Constitution*,  
from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

TUNIS, January 26<sup>th</sup> 1807  
½ past 10 A. M.—

DEAR SIR, Mr Coxe has this moment arrived, and handed me your letter of yesterday, mentioning your intention of proceeding to Malta for the purpose of making some necessary arrangements in the Medical department of your ship, and to get a supply of water &c

Our business stands so far arranged that two or three days more would be sufficient for me to complete every thing, and embark with you, when you could proceed to Malta, or to the westward, as circumstances might lead you to decide. — You know my anxiety, as well as the duty incumbent upon me to return to Algiers as soon as possible; but you must judge of the necessity and expediency of departing immediately on account the circumstances mentioned in your Letter; and I shall not say any thing which could alter your arrangements for my personal accomodation. —

Mr Coxe's great desire of remaining here has been strongly expressed to me, and I have with truth assured him that I considered his talents and abilities to manage our affairs fully adequate to any thing he would probably meet with here; and had not Dr Triplett been sent out with the idea expressed by the Secretary of State, that besides his agency as Phisician, he might be found useful in our affairs in this quarter, I should not have hesitated a moment about his, (Mr. Coxe's) remaining here untill the pleasure of the President could be known; but from the letters which Dr Triplett brought me, I doubt whether I should fulfill my duty and comply with the wishes of Government did I not offer to him the Residence here until ordered otherwise. — I had however, made no decision.

I dispatch this letter to the Goletta by land, and it will be put into the hands of Mr Candler, Mate of the ship *Two Brothers*, to forward on board, if your boat should not be on shore; and he will be requested to send by land, immediately, any letter which may come from you, if it should be necessary. —

The Consuls as well as myself regret very much that we could not have the pleasure of seeing you on shore. — I hope to hear from you tomorrow. — James behaves very well, and send his respects to you. — He is much pleased with being on shore in this bad weather. —

[Stephen Decatur Col. Book B, 1806-1807.]

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding, 3 February 1807

At 1/2 past [2] saw a large Ship to windward tack'd to the S: E. at 1/2 past 3 tack'd to the N W. and made the private signal bore away and spoke the U: S: Frigate *Constitution*. At 4 got the Anchors off the Bows. at 1/2 past



5 came to an Anchor in Syracuse in company with the *Constitution* At 8 A M calm and cloudy. — at noon light airs from the S: E. with rain

[NOTE.—From 31 August 1806 to 3 February 1807 the *Hornet's* log records routine cruising and calls at Malta, Syracuse, Tunis and other ports. Nothing of a sufficiently unusual nature to warrant copying is recorded.]

[NA. NDA original, 1805-1810.]

To Secretary of the Navy from William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta

MALTA febr 12<sup>th</sup> 1807

SIR, I have the honour of informing you of the safe arrival of the *Spartan*, Store Ship Capt<sup>a</sup> Kelly, at this place on the 11<sup>th</sup> Inst having been sent me from Gibraltar by order of Mr Gavino, & by which I have your favour of the 5 Decr Ult.

As the *Commerce* which went to Syracuse, has discharged her cargo there, I intend doing the same by the *Spartan* at this place, Noting the frieght is paid in America,

P S. I expected to have had the pleasure of hearing from you on money matters.

[NDA. Misc. Letters, Vol. 1, 1807.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

U. S SHIP *Constitution*  
Harbour of Syracuse 15<sup>th</sup> Febr 1807.

SIR, The British have garrison'd Syracuse and all the principal ports in Sicily, which renders our Situation at the former place not so convenient as it has been, they claiming an equal share of accomodation with us and probably more, The British flag is not yet hoisted on the fortifications of Sicily but it is expected they soon will be, in fact the British or French will have the Island, and in whosoever power it falls, Cagliari must follow the Example, which will ultimately leave us beholden to one or the other, for a rendezvous in these Seas against the Barbary Powers; — Mr Drummond the British Minister at Palermo has left that place in consequence of a misunderstanding between him and the Sicilian Court; and arrived at Messina about four days since;

Admiral Duckworth has gone to Constantinople with ten sail of the Line join'd by six Russian from Corfu making Sixteen sail of the Line, accompanied by all the large Bomb Vessels that were employ'd against Boulounghe he must now be near the scene of action;

An Expedition of Troops is likewise fitting out at Messina, conjecture says they are to follow Admiral Duckworth;

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 1, 1807.]

To Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Hornet*, from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*  
Syracuse Harbour 15<sup>th</sup> Febr 1807.

SIR, The United States Brig *Hornet* under your Command being ready for Sea, I have to desire that you proceed with all possible dispatch to Palermo, and call on Mr Abraham Gibbs who will deliver to you a bill of Exchange on Grant Webb & Co of Leghorn which you will be pleased to present for payment on your arrival at that place, receive the ammount in cash and bring the same to Syracuse, subject to my order; A good bill on Palermo or Messina, will probably be the most convenient way of doing the business; bearing in mind that Government will not submit to a loss in the Business, but should the bill be negotiated at Palermo, you are then to furnish Mr Gibbs with the second of Exchange which is here enclosed;

As the standing rigging of the *Hornet* requires refitting and her Bowsprit so far without the knight heads as to render it dangerous, you are desired to remedy those defects while at Leghorn, taking care not to make the Bowsprit shorter without the knight heads than the extreme breadth of the *Hornet*, and when you have compleated her outfits (which I presume will not require more than eighteen or twenty days) it is my order that you receive on board Mr Davis with his family, and convey them to Syracuse, where you will find the *Constitution* or farther orders; Should Mr Davis not be ready to embark when you are ready

for sea, nor a prospect of his being so, in less than six or seven days, you are in that case to proceed without him for this place,

I herein enclose you an order on Mess<sup>rs</sup> Degen Purviance & C<sup>o</sup> for ten thousand dollars which you will receive in Specie, and hold the same to my order;  
(Copy)

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 1, 1807.]

To George Davis, appointed U. S. Consul, Tripoli, from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

(Extract)

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*,  
*Harbor of Syracuse Feb<sup>r</sup> 15. 1807.*

DEAR SIR, Presuming that you will be ready to embark with Cap<sup>t</sup> Dent I have ordered him to receive you on board when ready for sea and convey you to this place or Malta where I promise myself the pleasure of seeing you prior to your going to Tripoli. Cap<sup>t</sup> Dent has orders not to wait longer than six or seven days, in consequence of his services being wanted in another quarter, that time I hope will be sufficient for your accomodation.

[NA. SDA. CL, Tripoli, Vol. 3, 1806-1811.]

To Master Commandant David Porter, U. S. Navy, U. S. Schooner *Enterprize*, from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

US. SHIP *Constitution*  
*Syracuse 15<sup>th</sup> Feb: 1807. —*

SIR, When the US Sc: *Enterprize* under your command is ready for sea I have to desire that you proceed to Tunis Bay, where if you do not find the *Constitution*, you must not Anchor but proceed for Algiers with all possible dispatch where further orders will await you. —

[LC. D. Porter P, Let. & Ord., 1805-1808.]

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding, 16 February 1807

Commences Calm, at 5 P. M. in 2<sup>d</sup> Cutter middle part moderate breezes from the N<sup>d</sup> at 6 A. M. hove short. at ½ past 7. got underweigh, in purchasing the Anchor carried away the Messenger, one man hurt. got the Viol on it and Pendant full. on the Buoy rope, still the strain was so great as to nearly part the Cable, before the Anchor broke its hold, — At 8 sailed out of the Harbor [Syracuse] with the wind at north at 9 stowed the Anchors — At ½ past 9 the *Constitution* came out. At Meridian set lower, topmast, and top gallant Stud-sails and went by the *Constitution* with ease, though she had more sail set. Cape Moro D. Pork bore N N E. — 4 leagues — Survey'd the larboard Cable and condemned 9 fathoms

[NA. NDA original, 1805-1810.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

U S. SHIP CONSTITUTION  
*At Sea 17<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>r</sup> 1807*

SIR, You will observe in Captain Dents orders that I have drawn on Degen Purviance & C<sup>o</sup> for ten thousand dollars on account of the Squadron, out of the deposit recently made by you, with them for that purpose; my reason for so doing proceeds from the demand of M<sup>r</sup> Higgins and M<sup>r</sup> Dysen against the *Enterprize* amounting to near six thousand dollars exclusive of the expence that has attended the Boats procured in the Adriatic, which will amount to about two thousand dollars more, all of which I should have paid out of the money brought up from Gibraltar, that I advised you of in my dispatches from that place Dec<sup>r</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> but unfortunately prior to my arrival, the Governor of Malta and Military Commander of the British forces in the Mediterranean issued a proclamation wherein they order that Doubloons should not pass for more than fifteen and one half dollars; which prevents me from passing them in large sums; however

there can be no loss on them as they will always pass current in Gibraltar and Spain; —

On my arrival at Syracuse I found that the Hospital had been given for use of the British Troops on condition that it should be restored when demanded, in consequence of which and not having occasion for it, I have order'd some of the articles to be sold, that will never be fit for use again, likewise a considerable quantity of salt fish that was purchased by Commodore Rodgers, that I found in store in bad condition, particulars you shall be inform'd of in my next; and if I thought myself authorized I certainly would dispose of the two Gun boats and those ungainly Vessels that were procured up the Adriatic, it being probable that they never will be of future Consequence to us;

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 1, 1807.]

To John Bullus, appointed U. S. Navy Agent in the Mediterranean, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPART<sup>t</sup> 18 Febr 1807.

You will herewith receive an appointment as Navy Agent for our publick Ships stationed in the Mediterranean.

It is intended that there shall not, if it can be avoided, be more than one place of Deposit in the Mediterranean, for all necessary Supplies — & our present intention is that Port Mahon in the Island of Minorca shall be that place of Deposit. But if any circumstances should arise to render it inexpedient in the opinion of the Commanding Officer of our Squadron in the Mediterranean on his arrival there or afterwards, to deposit the Supplies of the Squadron at Port Mahon, he will select such other place as in his opinion will be more suitable — Your residence must therefore be, wherever the place of Deposit may be and your general duties will be to procure all supplies wanted for our vessels, & safely to keep all supplies sent from this Country, or elsewhere & to issue all necessary supplies upon the requisitions of the respective Commanding Officers. as occasions may arise, you will receive further instructions from this department. The Accountant of the Navy will furnish you with all necessary instructions in relation to accounts.

With respect to the manner of procuring money to procure supplies, I shall before your Departure from this Country give you particular instructions.

Your allowances will be as follows, that is to say

For your responsibility and trouble in receiving taking care of & issuing out Supplies, you will be allowed an annual Salary of 1200\$ & you will also be allowed the Sum of \$800 in lieu of Clerk hire. Two porters, if you should find two necessary, at not exceeding 30\$ each p<sup>r</sup> month — store rent & all expences of transportation, drayage, cartage &c of such supplies.

For all purchases of supplies wanted for our Ships you will be allowed 5 p<sup>r</sup> Cent upon the amount of each Purchases.

On all sales of publick property by you you will be allowed a Commission of 2½ per Cent

On all publick moneys received by you and paid over by you to officers of the Navy for wages, recruiting, & the like Services, you will be allowed a Commission of 1 p<sup>r</sup> Cent.

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 8, 1805-1807.]

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

PORTLAND febr 18<sup>th</sup> 1807

SIR I am hon<sup>d</sup> with your letter of the 7 Ins<sup>t</sup> and conformable to your direction shall proceed to answer the questions therein proposed —

The act<sup>s</sup> Lieu<sup>t</sup> on Board the respective vessels under my Command, exclusive of those appointed by me were L<sup>ts</sup> J. Lawrence, Joseph Bainbridge of the *Enterprise*, L<sup>t</sup> Van Schaick of the *Argus*, L<sup>t</sup> Maxwell of the *Syren*, L<sup>t</sup> Trip, & Crane of *Y<sup>e</sup> Vixen* & L<sup>t</sup> Thorn of the *Enterprise* M<sup>r</sup> Thorn had been act<sup>s</sup> Lt without warrant for some time previous to my arrival in the Med<sup>a</sup> but rec<sup>d</sup> a written warrant from me Nov<sup>r</sup> 7. 1803 — I believe those officers took rank agreeable to the date of their Act<sup>s</sup> L<sup>ts</sup> warrants, I subjoin a list of the Lieu<sup>ts</sup> appointed by me, with the date of their appointment, and who took rank from that time without regard to their Midshipman Warrants excepting where they were appointed L<sup>ts</sup> on the same day then the date of the warrant as Midshipmen governd —

If any instances of dissatisfaction arose in consequence of Junior Midshipmen being appointed Lt previous to their seniors in original appointment they did not come to my knowledge —

Jonathan Thorn	appointed Ac <sup>t</sup> Lt	Novr	7. 1803
Henry Wadsworth	— D <sup>o</sup>	Aprl	17. 1804
Ralph Izard	D <sup>o</sup>	Aprl	17. 1804
Charles Morris	— D <sup>o</sup>	Aug	8. 1804
Charles L Ridgley	D <sup>o</sup>	Aug.	19. 1804
Joseph Israel	D <sup>o</sup>	Aug	20. 1804
Tho <sup>s</sup> M <sup>c</sup> Donough	D <sup>o</sup>	Sep <sup>r</sup>	6. 1804
Dan <sup>l</sup> S Dexter	D <sup>o</sup>	Sep	12. 1804
John M Haswell	D <sup>o</sup>	Oct <sup>r</sup>	27. 1804
Geo. Marcellin	D <sup>o</sup>	Oct <sup>r</sup>	27. 1804

[LC. EPP, Vol. 19, 1806-1807.]

[19 February 1807]

To the Bey of Tunis from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

TOBIAS LEAR,

*Consul General, and Agent of the United States of America, for the Regencies of Barbary.* —

To. —

His Excellency HAMUDA BASSA

*The Most Illustrious and Most Magnificent Prince, the Bey of Tunis, the Abode of Happiness.* —

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY. — Referring to the letter which your Excellency's Ambassador, Sidi Soliman Melimelli, had the honor of delivering to your Excellency from my Master, the President of the United States of America; and to what has passed in the Interviews which I had the honor of holding with your Excellency on my first arrival here, as well as since with your Excellency's Prime Minister Sidi Jossuf, Hoggia, Guarda Sigilli, I earnestly hope that the desire of my Nation to continue in harmony and friendship with your Excellency, is fully Manifested; and that I shall have the honor of communicating to the President my Master the good disposition of Your Excellency towards our Nation, by giving renewed assurances, that we are to expect a continuance of that friendship, which has heretofore existed, according to our Treaty, with Your Excellency; and that our Commercial intercourse with Your Excellency's dominions will receive every facility and security which is experienced by those Nations with whom your Excellency is in habits of Friendship. —

I also flatter myself that your Excellency will honor me with a letter to the President, my Master, to be conveyed to the United States, by a vessel which will shortly sail for that part. —

I pray God may have your Excellency in his Holy Keeping — and preserve your life for many years. —

Accept the Assurances of my highest respect and most perfect Consideration

TOBIAS LEAR. —

TUNIS February 19<sup>th</sup> 1807. —

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. 7, Part II, Jan. 1806-Sept. 1807.]

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding, 19 February 1807

The whole of these 24 hours strong gales from the S. W. with dark gloomy weather —

At ½ past 1 took the 3<sup>d</sup> reef in the Topsails and struck Top gallant yards. — At 2 Tack'd to the westward

At Sunset Cape Gallo bore West. Cape Pellegrino S W B W. the eastern cape of the Bay. S B W. and the City of Palermo. S W ½ W. distant 6 leagues — At 7 set the Jib at 8. tack'd to the E<sup>d</sup> Continued working into the Bay until ½ past 2. when we came too in 3 f<sup>m</sup> water and veered out 80 f<sup>m</sup> Cable. the light house bore W B N. dist 2 miles — 2 line of battle Ships, 1 frigate and 1 Sloop of War. british lying in the Bay and one Neapolitan Frigate — At 8 A M bent the Sheet Cable. — At 9 A M out 2<sup>d</sup> Cutter. Ends fresh breezes from S. W. with small rain [Sailed again 20 February.]

[NA. NDA original, 1805-1810.]

To John Ridgely, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tripoli, from Charles D. Coxe, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS Febr<sup>y</sup> 20. 1807.

Dr SIR, I had the pleasure to receive your letter of 21<sup>st</sup> ult<sup>o</sup> three days ago, for which I thank you. — The Tunisian Ambassador arrived here on 19<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> in the American Ship *Two Brothers*'s Capt. Candler from Boston, with a present from the U. States to the Bey. In this Vessel came Doctor Triplet as passenger on his way to Algiers as Physician to the Dey. —

The *Constitution* Frigate Capt Campbell arrived here from Algiers on the 13<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>o</sup> with Col: Lear on board who came in consequence of the arrival of the Ambassador with orders from Government, & with a view finally to arrange & settle our existing differences with this Regency — They are now happily terminated on grounds honorable & advantageous to our Country — He has confirm'd my appointment here & will depart with the Frigate in three or four days at farthest. — I have no news worth communicating but by The *Hornet* I have no doubt you will receive a large Budget. — Be good enough to let me hear from you p<sup>r</sup> return of the Courier

[LC. Chas. D. Coxe LB, Ac. 2951, 1806-1809.]

[20 February 1807]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from William Eaton

Burr is taken! He surrendered his whole party, at Bayou Piere, about the 20<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>o</sup> to a detachment of militia commanded by a Major Claibourne, and is given into the hands of the civil Authority — B. accuses Gen. W—— with deep duplicity and dark frauds — I expect a developement of this conspiracy will expose to view, if not to conviction, a great deal of iniquity —

The Decree of the Emperor and King, which blockades every thing English, excited a momentary alarm here — Some of our old war horses began to *snuff the wind!* But every thing is neutralized by Aunt Armstrong's explanation, that the Emperor & King *did not mean US.*

While the Potomac was open Congress were employed in projecting facilities to get from the Capitol to Gadsby's tavern — as soon as the river was closed and the ice would bear a footman this subject was postponed — They have since been occupied in devising prohibitions and penalties to prevent white skins from importing black ones — This has ended in darkness —

The capitulation of the combined forces of the Emperor Aaron and the Marquis of the red house has superceded the necessity of fleets and armies — You will therefore have leisure to finish your house and I to build a barrack —

The Barrons have been at moorings here about a fortnight; but they are anchored so far, off in the stream, that they are out of speaking distance — A friend of the elder Barron called the other day and requested me to sign a certificate, which he produced, purporting that in my letter of 9<sup>th</sup> Aug. 1805 to the Sec. of the Navy I did not mean to derogate from his character of a Gentleman and a soldier — I could not prevail on myself to sign any thing which savored of concession — He ta[sk]ed of *disagreeable consequences.* I assured him that a hint at coercing me would put even *explanation* out of view —

He declared this not to be his intention — But said the Commodore felt himself implicated before the public in a delinquency of duty, and requested I would remove the impression as his feelings were much wounded — I had no objection to say, that it was not my intention, in that letter, to inculpate Barron, but Lear; but this I would declare in a letter to him, not in a certificate. I will show you our correspondence when we meet — My appeal is to the Log-books of the squadron for the truth of my statements concerning the late Commodore — I doubt whether he will meet me on that ground — And am not very apprehensive of his making war against me by way of *healing his* wounded feelings — I never felt unfriendly to Com<sup>d</sup> Barron — On the contrary I think him a man of an amiable disposition — that's all

I have rec<sup>d</sup> but one note from you since my arrival here — And shall leave the city before an exchange of this can reach — I request you will write me at N York — Where, if I can be useful to you, beg you will command me.

The Committee of Claims reported a bill in favor yesterday — I believe it will go through both houses without opposition — If so I shall recover, at least 8 or 10 thousand dollars — A trifling sun, indeed if at sea; but inland, as I am, it will be useful to me — If I meet with no disappointment I will positively offer you my my

respects at your seat in Portland in all next summer — How does our Midshipman, Danielson, merit your consideration?

WASH. CIT. Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> 1807

[LC. EPP, Vol. 19, 1806-1807.]

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding, 23 February 1807

The whole of these 24 hours light airs from the Eastward at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 3 P M came too in the Bay of Naples in 19 f<sup>m</sup> water, veered out 50 f<sup>m</sup> Cable. the light house bore N W. distant 2 or 3 miles — Mount Vesuvius E. S. E. and the Barracks N E. B E. — at 4 obtained Prattique at sunset struck top gallant yards — At  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 7. a Turk swam on board from the Shore deserter from a french Brig of War. confined by the Captain at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 9 hove up and towed into the Mole. at 10 landed the Powder by order of the French King. At Meridian let go the Anchor in the mouth of the Mole to wait permission to enter. 10 or 12 American Merchant Ships lying in the Mole.

[NA. NDA. original, 1805-1810.]

[27 February 1807]

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 the Most Illustrious Mr. THOMAS JEFFERSON

*President of the United States of America.*

MY GREAT AND GOOD FRIEND — My Ambassador Soliman Melemelli, who reached here in safety in the middle of the month of December 1806 last, on his return from your happy and prosperous States, delivered to me faithfully your ever welcome and responsive letter of the twentieth of June last, entrusted to his care and diligence.

Shortly thereafter, that is on the 12th of January, the most worthy and always estimable Mr. Tobias Lear, your agent and Consul General on the Southern Coast of the Mediterranean, likewise arrived from Algiers.

Thanks to his reasonableness and his tact, a few conferences have sufficed to explain the misunderstandings mutually existing between us, and to consolidate the good amity and good understanding which I am equally desirous with you to cultivate and to maintain undisturbed between the two Nations.

Referring in consequence to what your Consul General aforesaid will have to communicate to you on the matter, I shall limit myself to transmitting to you directly my solemn assurance that henceforward as heretofore, our previous treaty will serve as a law to be fulfilled, that commerce and communication between our nations will be cultivated, and that all our relations will be founded on principles of entire and perfect reciprocity.

The kindnesses and polite reception which you have deigned to show and confer upon My Ambassador Melemelli aforesaid merit my most sincere thanks, as also the gracious marks of your Friendship which you sent with him for me, which I shall esteem an honor to preserve as a most courteous remembrance of You.

And finally, offering prayers for your prosperity, I wish you from Heaven, my Great and Good Friend, the most complete felicity.

At the Palace of my Residence of the Bardo, the 19th of the Moon Aggi, A.H. 1221, and the 27th of February 1807 A.D.

HAMUDA BASHAW BEY  
*of Tunis*  
(SEAL)

[NA. SDA. CD, Algiers, Vol. 7, Pt. II, January 1806-September 29, 1807.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*  
*Tunis Bay [27 February 1807?]*

SIR, I arrived here on the 18<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup> from Syracuse and on the 24<sup>th</sup> received information from Colonel Lear, that our affairs with this Regency would be amicably and honorably adjusted in two or three days which induced me to visit

Tunis on the 26<sup>th</sup> for the purpose of paying my respects to the Bey, and called at Bardo on the morning of the following day, accompanied by Colonel Lear, Mr Cox, and several of our Officers, he received us in his hall of Justice, with much apparent satisfaction, took coffee, and withdrew after passing the usual compliments. On the 6<sup>th</sup> Inst<sup>r</sup> our business being finally closed we called at Bardo and took leave of the Bey, he received us in his Hall of Justice and after the usual ceremonies, he gave us a cordial shake of the hand accompanied with his best wishes for our health and happiness — during my stay on shore the Bey requested as a favor that Melli Melli might be landed in some port of Spain, where he was going on business of importance for the Bey to which I readily consented and have order'd Captain Porter to receive him on board and land him at Gibraltar, to which place I have order'd the *Enterprize* for the purpose of carrying dispatches from Colonel Lear and myself. — then to collect all the news possible and return to Syracuse by way of Algiers

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 1, 1807.]

To John Ridgely, U. S. Charge d'Affaires, Tripoli, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

Circular

TUNIS 1<sup>st</sup> March 1807 —

SIR, I have the honor and satisfaction to inform you, that the differences which existed between the United States of America, and the Regency of Tunis, and which, on the departure of the Tunisian Ambassador from the U. States, threatened to terminate in a Rupture between the two Nations; are now happily and honorably settled; And the Commercial intercourse between the Citizens of the U. States and this Regency, may be carried on with as much security and advantage, as that of any other Nation with whom the Bey is in friendship —

And the several consuls of the U. States in the Mediterranean, and to William Jarvis Esq Consul at Lisbon, and Joseph Iznadi Esq Consul at Cadiz —

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

[3 March 1807]

Act pertaining to the U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES STATUTES AT LARGE. NINTH CONGRESS. SESS. II

*An Act in addition to an act intituled "An act in addition to an act entitled An act supplementary to the act providing for a naval peace establishment, and for other purposes."*

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby authorized, in addition to the present naval peace establishment, to employ a number of able seamen, ordinary seamen and boys, not exceeding five hundred, should the exigency of the public service require the same.

APPROVED, *March 3, 1807.*

[See Act of 21 April 1806.]

[Statutes Vol. II, p. 443.]

To Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Hornet*, from Charles D. Coxe, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

AMERICAN CONSULATE TUNIS  
3<sup>d</sup> March 1807.

DR SIR, I wrote you very fully under date of 5<sup>th</sup> January via Palermo of which you make no mention in yours of 13<sup>th</sup> febr<sup>y</sup> which I had the pleasure to receive by Capt. Campbell, consequently I must conclude it has not yet come to hand. — The *Constitution* after leaving Mr Lear & his Secretary at Tunis proceeded to Malta & Syracuse, & Capt. Campbell I have no doubt has communicated all the particulars within his knowledge with respect to the situation of our affairs here. —

Doctor Triplett came in the same vessel with the Tunisian ambassador on his way to Algiers as Physician to the Dey, — He brought letters to Mr Lear from the Sec: of State, & from some expression contained in them, Mr Lear concluded he ought to leave the Doctor here as Chargé D'affaires, & about three weeks ago

he took him to Bardo to introduce him to the Bey as such. & invited me to accompany them. — The Bey asked why I was removed & said he had calculated on my staying; that I had been left by you & accepted by him. Mr Lear said I was an officer destined for another service, — it was true. I had been left by you but that you were not the Commodore. The Bey replied that he must refer him to his Minister who had received his orders on the Subject. — When the minister was ready to receive us, we were desired to come to his audience Chamber & requested to sit down. — The Minister began through his enterpreter by declaring that Bey his master had order'd him to say that he (Mr Lear) would by this step be allways seeing new faces, that I had been sent by you & accepted by them; that my peaceable deportment since my arrival, had given them a favorable opinion of me & that they wish'd me to remain. — As for the Doctor he declared they could not receive him as the ambassador had informed them he was appointed to Algiers, & that the Bey of Tunis would not receive the Physician of the Dey of Algiers as a Consul or Chargé D'affaires to reside in his Dominions. Mr Lear made the same remarks with respect to you & myself as he had done to the Bey. — The Sapatapa remark'd if I was destined for another service, the Doctor was also. — Mr L. declared he had nothing against me, but on the contrary approved of my character & abilities; that he did not want to force on them any one who was disagreeable to them — that he would consider on the subject & consult with the Commodore on his return from Malta to this place; & we took our leave. — This turn of the affair surpriz'd me not a little; as it was quite unexpected, & I had all pack'd up for my departure. — A few days after this Col: Lear informed me that he had attempted to get the Doctor acknowledged without success — That he thought it his duty to go thus far in consequence of his letters from the Secretary of State, but that he was now free to make choice of me, & gave me the appointment & my instructions accordingly, with the permission of the Commodore, which I not only obtain'd, but his recommendation also previously to his departure — Your having sent me was looked on as a sufficient proof of yours —

On the 18<sup>th</sup> instant The Frigate return'd having the *Enterprize* in Company, & Captains Campbell & Porter with as many officers as can be spared from on board are now at the Consular house with the band. — The day before yesterday we gave a grand dinner to all the foreign consuls in return for the many civilities we have received from them — Tomorrow we give a concert & ball to the Consular ladies & gentlemen — The next we are to have another at the Spanish Consuls — However I must refer you to Capt Campbell for a further detail of our amusements as I would take up too much of your time in recounting them all. — I shall experience a *sad* reverse when they leave me. —

I have paid particular attention to your orders as expressed in yours of 13<sup>th</sup> — Faroud has with a good deal of difficulty procur'd the Sheep & I think at a high price — I send the finest Bernousses that can be procur'd at Tunis, also the otto of Roses, of all which I will enclose a list with their cost. —

Miss Comor's portrait is begun but not finished & when I see you again I shall have the pleasure of introducing her to you. — We hear you are to proceed to Leghorn & from thence to Tripoli, & I have already formed some hopes that you will call this way. —

I was disappointed in not having rec'd letters from America by the Store Ship & the other that brought the Ambassador. — If you meet with any for me be kind enough to take them in charge & forward them P<sup>r</sup> first opportunity. —

I sent the sheep three days ago on board the American Ship *Two Brothers* laying in the Canal of the Goletta to remain there till the Departure of the Frigate under the care of the Capt. — I am sorry to inform you that I have to day received a letter from him telling me of the death of one of the rams — he was very well the evening before. Old Faroud is much alarmed about it, & has sent a fine lamb ( a ram) which he says he is willing to lose I am informed you could procure as fine Sheep at Tripoli & much cheaper. — Commodore Campbell has offered as I am short of cash to advance me the amo<sup>t</sup> of the articles I forward to you by him (say 143 dollars 75/100 which you will be kind enough to reimburse to him. You have the account inclosed

Give my respects to the gentlemen of the wardroom & rest assured Dear Sir of the sentiments of friendship & esteem with which I allways remain

C. D: COXE



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

NAVY DEPT<sup>t</sup> March 5, 1807 —

SIR, I have rec<sup>d</sup> your letter of the 4<sup>th</sup> inst — You will be pleased to inform Mr O'Bannon that the resignation of his Commission as a Lieut<sup>t</sup> in the Marine Corps is accepted.

[NA. MCA. LR, 1807.]

To Master Commandant David Porter, U. S. Navy, U. S. Schooner *Enterprize*, from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*  
Tunis Bay March 7<sup>th</sup> 1807.—

SIR, You are hereby directed to receive on board the United States Schooner *Enterprize* under your command Soliman Mili Mili who goes to Gibraltar on business for his Excellency the Bey of Tunis: It is expected that he will embark on the 9<sup>th</sup> Inst; but should he not be ready at that time a further indulgence of forty-eight hours may be granted him, but a farther period is inadmissible, as the services required of the Sch<sup>r</sup> will not admit of longer delay that having accomplished you will proceed to Algiers and lay off and on until you receive such communication as our Consul General may have to make to our Government which with those from me for the Navy Department you will be pleased to deliver on your arrival at Gibraltar to John Gavino Esquire, our Consul at that place, then take in such supplies as the *Enterprize* may require, communicate with Mr Simpson our Consul at Tangiers by letter or otherwise and return to Syracuse, but previously touch at Algiers for any communication that our Consul General may have to make —

[LC. D. Porter P, Let. & Ord., 1805-1808.]

To Secretary of State from Charles D. Coxe, acting as U. S. Charge d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS March 8<sup>th</sup> 1807.

SIR, Mr Lear, sailed yesterday in the *Constitution* Frigate Commodore Campbell for Algiers; — He has appointed me as Chargé D'Affairs for the U: S: near this Regency till the pleasure of the President shall be known, and handed me Instructions accordingly, to which I shall punctually adhere. — He will no doubt give you a strict & minute detail of all the circumstances of the progression & termination of his negociations with the Bey, & the grounds on which our relations at present stand, with respect to this Regency. They are as advantageous as those of the most favor'd nations & I believe, I may safely say the impressions made on them generally are more favorable to us than those they have rec<sup>d</sup> from any other nation whatever. — Mr Lear, has taken our Acc<sup>t</sup> Book of Expences, including all incur'd by Mr Dodge & myself, up to the day of his departure, as he has taken the original, it is now out of my power to forward you a Copy; but he will do it no doubt, after a revisal. — I have open'd another which I shall keep from henceforward with exactness, & furnish both your office & the Consul General with precise Copies occasionally, as opportunities may offer. — Sidi Soliman Mellimelli, has been appointed by H: E: the Bey, as his Ambassador to Spain — He will take his passage on board the Schooner *Enterprize* Capt: Porter, (who sails tomorrow, for Gibraltar) on his way to Madrid.

Having nothing of consequence to communicate but what you will receive from the Consul General, I beg leave to conclude with reiterating the assurances of my attention to the duties of my office & the exertion to the best of my ability to promote the harmony & good faith, which at present exist between the U: States & this Regency. —

[LC. Chas. D. Coxe LB, Ac. 2951, 1806-1809.]

[9 March 1807]

Controversy between Captains John Rodgers and James Barron

We, the subscribers, the friends of commodore John Rodgers, and captain James Barron, of the United States navy, do certify, that the personal difference, which has for some time past unfortunately subsisted between those gentlemen,

has been amicably settled, on terms, in our decided opinion, highly honorable to both parties; and upon the grounds set forth in the letter hereunto annexed.

THOMAS TINGEY,  
FRANKLIN WHARTON.

WASHINGTON, 9th March, 1807.

[Enclosure]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from John Stricker

HAVRE DE GRACE,  
January 31st, 1807.

DEAR SIR, Your affair with captain James Barron, has been a matter of concern to many of your friends: some of them are of opinion that it might be settled without resorting to arms. Being myself of this opinion, the sole object of my visit to this neighbourhood, is, in conjunction with our mutual friend colonel Hughes, to effect this desirable purpose.

It has been intimated to me, from authority that cannot be doubted, that captain Barron does not now perceive the necessity of calling on you, on the ground of the message by capt. Bainbridge; but feels himself injured by the style of your reply. As I am sure that neither you nor any other person can entertain a suspicion dishonorable to captain Barron, it is the opinion of your friends, that you have only to say, that your reply was the hasty suggestion of the moment, the effect of an instantaneous irritation, that was excited by so unexpected a notification. They think that you may say this with honor; and that by so doing you will put an end to an affair of much concern to your friends, and particularly so to the secretary of the Navy. I flatter myself that you will do me the justice to believe, that I would not recommend to you a measure, that I thought you could not adopt with honor;

[LC. JRP, Let. & Doc., Ac. 3647, 1799-1848.]

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

*Triplicate. (Private and Confidential)*  
*At Algiers, all well*

ON BOARD THE U. S. FRIGATE *Constitution*,  
*At Sea, Off Algiers, March 15<sup>th</sup> 1807*

MY DEAR SIR, The public dispatches which accompany this, will give a full detail of all my transactions and negotiations at Tunis; and I shall feel peculiarly happy if the issue thereof meets the approbation of the President and yourself. — The base and false aspersions which have been cast upon my conduct in the Tripoli business, in some of our unworthy public prints, gave me some pain; but I was conscious that what I had done was for the honor and best interest of my Country, and the effects thereof would be acknowledged, when the contemptible aspersors sh<sup>d</sup> be in merited oblivion. —

The more I see of Barbary affairs, the more I am convinced that Government has been grossly imposed upon, by representations made from prejudice, resentment, vanity, or ignorance; and I confess I feel a little mortified to see some carressed who deserve more than censure. —

I have not perhaps fulfilled the expectations of some of my friends, by sending from Barbary accounts of the Country which might be new and wonderful; nor of its curiosities and productions. — Altho' my time has been strictly devoted to my public duties, I have not been inattentive to those things: But I wish to send nothing but facts, and things of real utility; in which I hope, at some time or another, to be able to gratify my friends. — I have a pleasing hope that Dr Triplett will be of great use in those things. — He has received some impressions I find, from my predecessor, which can be of no use to him; but serve to mislead, as some other impressions made by him have done. — I shall guard the Dr against them as much as possible, and his own observations will be of use in removing them.

We sailed from Tunis Bay on the 7<sup>th</sup>, and in the same night a most furious gale from North, attacked us, which cost the U. States some sails and rigging, and the ship was in no small danger of going on shore; and I now write this in a heavy Gale, which has kept us from running for the land for two days past, altho' we suppose we are only a few leagues from Algiers, as the weather is so dark and rainy that we dare not approach the coast. —

I have not received a line from Dr Davis since he has been in this sea. — I saw a letter from him to Mr Ambrose Allegro, the Consular Secretary in Tunis,

dated at Leghorn the 19<sup>th</sup> of January, in which he says he is going to Tripoli on special business for the U. States, with Mr Paine, as Secretary of Legation, who will be left as consul in Tripoli, when he shall go to Tunis, as he knows nothing can be done there without him; and from thence he goes to Paris and London before he returns to the U. States; unless he should be ordered to Constantinople, of which he has some expectation.

I cannot feel too grateful to yourself and the President for the confidence placed in me to negociate the Tunis business, while I was so severely handled about the Tripoli Peace. — My friends shall never have reason to blush for my conduct, while I am able to perform the duties imposed upon me. —

I pray you to present my best respects to your good M<sup>r</sup> Madison, and beleave me to be, with unalterable attachment and friendship,

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

To Secretary of the Navy from Lieutenant P. C. Wederstrandt, U. S. Navy

NEW ORLEANS, March 23<sup>d</sup> 1807

SIR, I had the pleasure to address you on the 23<sup>d</sup> ultimo from Natchez, informing you that I was about to leave that place & that I should on my arrival here turn the Brig *Franklin* as directed over to Mr Spence — which I have done and on the 21<sup>st</sup> inst she was sold for the sum of 5,300 Dollars.

I shall this day leave here for Baltimore, on my way to Washington.

[NDA. Officers LB, Vol. 1, Jan.–Apr. 1807.]

To Midshipman William Lewis, U. S. Navy, U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

ALGIERS March 23<sup>d</sup> 1807. —

DEAR SIR, I beg you will accept of my sincere thanks for the very proper and pleasing manner in which you have executed such business as occurred here during my late absence, on the Service of the U. States to Tunis, which I shall not fail to represent to the President. —

I only regret that your duty calls you so soon to your Station, and deprives us of the pleasure of your Company; but if I can at any time render you any service I beg you will command me, and let me hear from you by every occasion which may offer. —

[Stephen Decatur Col. Book B, 1806–1807.]

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding, 28 March 1807

[Routine cruising and Port calls since 23 February 1807] These 24 hours commences with moderate and variable winds — At 1/2 past 2. p m came too in Leghorn Roads in 5 f<sup>m</sup> water. & veered out 40 f<sup>m</sup> Cable —

[NA. NDA original, 1805–1810.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Master Commandant David Porter, U. S. Navy

U S Sc: *Enterprize*  
Gibraltar Bay 29<sup>th</sup> March 1807. —

SIR, I arrived here on the 27<sup>th</sup> inst<sup>d</sup> from Tunis via Algiers where (at the latter place) I left Com<sup>d<sup>r</sup></sup> Campbell who brought down Mr Lear from Tunis. our affairs at the two places I beleave stand perfectly well as pre-existing differences appear to be arranged to the satisfaction of all parties, and the same good understanding exists with Tripoli. —

By orders from Com<sup>d<sup>r</sup></sup> Campbell I brought to this place Sidi Soliman Mili Mili & suite, who appears in capacity of Ambassador to the Court of Spain, but circumstances induces me to beleave that he is destin'd to the Court of Portugal, or that his object is to solicit the Commander in Chief of the Portugese forces stationed here to co-operate with the Tunisian forces against Algiers. — As War between the two places is now carried on with the utmost rancour, and the measures used by the Regency of Algiers are not only calculated to create serious alarms to Tunis but to endanger the subversion of that Power — The same plan of Blockade is pursued by them that was put in practice by us in our late

difference with Tripoli, and a large force has marched to invest the City of Tunis taking with them nearly two hundred pieces of Artillery, they are increasing their Marine with a number of deck'd Gun Boats, and speak confidently of having possession of Tunis in a few Months.

Tunis appears to act on the defensive, her large Vessels are laid up in their docks, and their Gun Boats ready for service, considerable bodies of Men have gone on the frontiers, and some late skirmishes have taken place in Constantine, (a revolted Providence,) which have rather been to the advantage of Algiers. — The large Algerine cruisers anchor frequently in the Bay of Tunis and send in all vessels bound to or from any Port in the Regency. — The Apprehension of falling in with some of them gave no little alarm to Sidi Soliman notwithstanding every assurance I gave him of safety.

I shall proceed up the Mediterranean for Syracuse immediately on receiving on board the requisite supplies, from whence I hope (from the repeated applications I have made) to obtain permission to return to America as I find my services are no ways essential in the present state of affairs, and many private circumstances make my return necessary

[NDA. MC LB, 1806-1807.]

To William Kirkpatrick, U. S. Consul and U. S. Navy Agent, Malaga, Spain, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPARTMENT OF THE UNITED STATES

31 March 1807.

You will consider yourself as hereby appointed Agent for the Navy of the United States for the Port of Malaga.

For your trouble in executing the duties arising out of this appointment you will be allowed a Commission of two per Cent on the amount of all supplies purchased and furnished by you to our publick Vessels; One per Cent on the amount on the amount of all articles sold by you and one half per Cent on all monies advanced by you for recruiting and such like purposes.

Thomas Turner Esq<sup>r</sup> Accountant of the Navy will give you instructions relatively to the forms to be observed in keeping your accounts.

You will be pleased to render to our publick Vessels every attention & assistance which they may require.

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 8, 1805-1807.]

To James L. Cathcart appointed U. S. Navy Agent, Madeira, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPARTMENT 1 April 1807.

You will consider yourself as hereby appointed agent for the Navy of the United States for the Island Madeira. For your trouble &c the rest vide letter 31 March. W<sup>m</sup> Kirkpatrick.

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 8, 1805-1807.]

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding, 6 April 1807

Commences moderate breezes from the N W. with pleasant weather At 2 rec<sup>d</sup> on board 10 boxes containing 10,000 dollars. — and one marked G. Davis marked. 508. dollars. — also. sundry boxes and Trunks of Presents. for the Bashaw of Tripoli and Mr Davis's Baggage — At ½ past 9. got under weigh with a light breeze. from the East<sup>l</sup> Midnight Gorgona bore. W B N. and the west<sup>l</sup> point from Leghorn S E.

Mr Davis Consul for Tripoli with his family on board

Lat<sup>h</sup> by Obs<sup>r</sup> 42°21'

[NA. NDA original, 1805-1810.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*  
Cagliari Bay 8<sup>th</sup> April 1807 —

SIR My dispatches up to the 27<sup>th</sup> of February will make you acquainted with the proceedings of the Squadron to that period. — I now beg leave to represent, that I anchor'd on the 18<sup>th</sup> near the Goletta of Tunis, the *Enterprise* in company —

On the 25<sup>th</sup> being informed by Col. Lear, that our affairs had met with a favorable termination, I thought it both proper and polite to pay my personal respects to the Bey, that took place on the 27<sup>th</sup> by appointment, accompanied by Col. Lear and several of my Officers

The Bey received us in a very friendly manner, and after some conversation observed, that his letter for the President would be ready in a few days, The usual ceremonies having past we rose and took leave — On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March Col. Lear and myself took leave of the Bey — on the 4<sup>th</sup> he sent his letter for the President — the 6<sup>th</sup> we got on board, and sailed on the 7<sup>th</sup> for Algiers, leaving the *Enterprise* to take on board Mellemaley, who the Bey had requested a passage for to Gibraltar — With orders to Cap Porter to call at Algiers for any farther communications Col. Lear might have to make; Then proceed to Gibraltar, confer with Simpson and return to Syracuse with all the information he could collect respecting our affairs —

I arrived at Algiers the 20<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup> Sailed the 23<sup>rd</sup> and anchored here the 30<sup>th</sup> for the convenience of performing a reasonable quarantine, and refresh the Crew with fresh provisions, which at present is very reasonable, Likewise to inform myself of the Natural resources of the Island, which I find to be greater than any part of Sicily affords — The Present King has resided here about fourteen Months, who with the Queen appear desirous of cultivating a better understanding between them and our Government —

I shall proceed for Malta when the Wind permits which now blows strong from E. S. E. —

The British fleet under Admiral Duckworth has passed the Dardanel, in which they have been roughly handled, the *Windsor Castle* has return'd to Malta much damaged — the *Ajax* Cap. Blackwood accidentally took fire a few days before and blew up; the Cap<sup>n</sup> and a small part of the Crew are saved. —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. I, 1807.]

Extracts from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding

[14 April 1807]

The whole of these 24 hours moderate breezes from the Southward with pleasant weather. At 1 P M tack'd to the South<sup>d</sup> At 2 Tack'd to the N E. At ½ past 2 up Courses. — At 3 P M came to an anchor in Syracuse — the *Royal George* 110 Guns with Admiral Duckworth's flag, — the *Pompey*. 80 Guns with Sir Sydney Smiths Flag flying and the *Repulse* 74 Guns were in the harbor. At Sunset struck Royal Yards. At 4 a m out 1<sup>st</sup> Cutter — At 6 A M the above British Men of War sailed for Malta. At 7 sent 1<sup>st</sup> Cutter watering.

[17 April 1807]

[Syracuse] Commences fresh breezes from the W S. W. and pleasant weather — Middle part calm latter part fresh breezes from W S W. with pleasant weather — people painting Ship and employed in sundry Jobs about the rigging — Carpenters repairing the *Eagle* to replaced during the summer and the billet to be preserved for winter

[19 April 1807]

[Syracuse] The whole of these 24 hours strong gales with severe squalls from the W N W. — At 8. A. M. the U: S. Sch<sup>r</sup> *Enterprise* came to an anchor in the Harbor. — 6 day from Gibraltar — At 10 made the Signal 920. which was answered in the affirmative

[23 April 1807]

[Syracuse] The whole of these 24 hours moderate breezes with pleasant weather — At 4 P M furled Sails — At 9. A M Dennis Fonderhider was punished with 24 lashes for neglect of duty and Insolence — At 10. an English Packet came in from Malta informed the U: S. Frigate *Constitution* was there — Prepared for Sailing — Sent Daniel Maloy on Shore to the Hospital — Draft of water — Aft. 13<sup>ts</sup> 2<sup>rs</sup> —

[24 April 1807]

[Syracuse] The whole of these 24 hours moderate breezes from the W<sup>d</sup> with pleasant weather At 5 A M unmoored: & hove short. — Rec<sup>d</sup> 114 Canta's wood, 35 Barrels Pork, 7 Barrels flour, 1 Tierce rice, 40 Barrels Beef and 30 Gallons

Rum. Lt Trippe went on shore to the Hospital sick, fired a Gun and hoisted the Cornet. — Dft water Aft. 13. 10. — Forw<sup>d</sup> 13. 11.

[25 April 1807]

The whole of these 24 hours moderate breezes with pleasant weather — At 4 P M took in the 1<sup>st</sup> Cutter — At 9. took in the 2<sup>d</sup> Cutter — this day drafted Joseph Williams Carpenters Mate to the U: S: Sch<sup>r</sup> *Enterprize* — At 4 A M. got underweigh and sailed from Syracuse — At 10. set Skysails, Royal & Top gallant Studsails stowed the Anchors. — at 11 took in all Studsails — At Meridian Cape Moro de Porco. bore N N E  $\frac{1}{2}$  E. and Cape Passeiro S W  $\frac{1}{2}$  W. Latt<sup>ds</sup> by Obs<sup>r</sup> 36°51'.

[NA. NDA original, 1805-1810.]

[24 April 1807]

To Hamet Caramanli, Rightful Bashaw of Tripoli, from George Davis, appointed U. S. Consul, Tripoli

(Copy)

GEORGE DAVIS,

*Consul of the United States of America for the Regency of Tripoli*

To his Excellency AHMET BASHAW CARAMANLI.

The two letters which your Excellency did me the honor to write on the 23. Instant were duly received from the hands of your Chouous Laird. Not understanding the Arabic I can only reply to that written in the Italian, which, I am told, is a faithful translation of the former.

In the conversations which I had with your Excellency on the 15. and 18. Instant you were informed that I had no authority to enter into any engagements on the part of the United States. As far as my friendly services could further your views they were offered, and if successful, they would meet the approbation of my Government, but that it would disclaim all acts of mine which bound it in any manner, as to the fulfilment of the claims or expectations of your Excellency excepting those which have been recognised by our existing treaty with Jussuph reigning Bashaw of Tripoli.

A reconciliation with your brother was proposed by me from the conviction of it's being such a measure (if cordially received on the part of Jussuph Bashaw) as would not only tend to your personal interest and happiness, but would also be the most probable means of rejoining all the members of your family.

The expectation of receiving the provinces of Derne & Bengasa, you say, are founded on a promise or offer of that kind made you by Commodore Rogers. On this subject I can only observe, that should the offer be made, on the part of your brother, it would give me infinite pleasure to be the happy medium of communication.

I must, however, decline making the demand that your family should repair to Sicily with their women, slaves, &c &c as also with the sum of sixty thousand dollars, as your Excellency must be convinced that such language does not become the Agent of a friendly nation. This subject was fully discussed on the 18<sup>th</sup> instant when your Excellency agreed with me in opinion that neither the laws nor customs of Tripoli would sanction the demand of separating the wife from the husband by force; and as all the females of your family were married they were no longer subject to the control of any individual but their husbands.

Altho' your Excellency informed me that the religion of Musselmen did not allow the child to emancipate itself at any period from the authority of the parent, still it was not expected that any force should be used to bring the males of your family to you. You only required that they should be placed in an independent situation when their wishes were declared and if their choice should be in favor of remaining at Tripoli, that the Christian Consuls residing at the Court should join in witnessing a declaration to that effect. I can assure you that full attention shall be paid to your wishes in this respect, and I feel no doubt whatever may be their decision, that your Excellency will be satisfied of the determination of my Government to fulfil it's engagements and of my own wishes to contribute to your happiness.

A copy of your letter will be forwarded without delay to the Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Secretary of the State and I shall embrace the earliest opportunity of acquainting you with his decision relative to the amelioration of your pecuniary situation.

From the impression that your Excellency has hitherto received, as pledges of public faith, the promises of individual friends, I have been thus frank in my communication, which I am sure you will rather view as a mark of friendship than of coldness towards your interests.

This will be handed you by Mr J. Payne, secretary to the American legation. Be pleased to accept the assurances of the profound respect and consideration of your Excellency's Mo: ob<sup>t</sup> serv<sup>t</sup>  
 SYRACUSE 24. April 1807

[NA. SDA. CL, Tripoli, Vol. 3, 1806-1811.]

[26 April 1807]

To George Davis, appointed U. S. Consul, Tripoli, from Hamet Caramanli, Rightful Bashaw of Tripoli

having received the letter you wrote me in answer to mine, I perceive that my wishes have not been well explained; and for which reason I have caused another translation to be made, which is herewith enclosed, to manifest in a clearer manner that which I desire to be effected through your kind mediation — Wherefore I beg you to regulate yourself wholly by this my second communication, under this present date — Convinced of your good disposition to aid me I salute you

AHMET BASHAW

SYRACUSE 26<sup>th</sup> April 1807.

[NA. SDA. CL, Tripoli, Vol. 3, 1806-1811.]

[Enclosure]

[26 April 1807]

To George Davis, appointed U. S. Consul, Tripoli, from Hamet Caramanli,

Knowing that the most serene Republic of the United States of America ought in justice to compensate for the losses of his Excellency Ahmet Bashaw Caramanli, son of Ali Caramanli [late] Bashaw of Tripoli, occasioned by the precipitate peace, made by the Representatives of the aforesaid serene Republic, without the intervention or knowledge of his Excellency, — and as George Davis is charged as he himself has assured him to go to Tripoli, and offered there to treat and establish by agreement, in the best manner possible for the interest of the abovementioned Prince Ahmet Caramanli, perfect peace and harmony with his brother — His Excellency grateful for such an offer, and considering the difficulty of again acquiring his lost Kingdom, has determined to accept of the proposition formerly made him by Commodore Rogers — to wit — that there should be ceded to him the provinces of Derne & Bengasa with all their appurtenances and revenues and perfectly independent of every other power, His Excellency remaining full and absolute sovereign and master forever, and reserving to himself the right and faculty of disposing of them at his pleasure.

He requires that there should be fulfilled the unexecuted agreement specified in the treaty of peace already made — viz<sup>t</sup> — that all the family of his Excellency, with their property, except the females who are married and may wish to remain with their husbands, should be sent to Syracuse, — that there should accompany the said family a sufficient number of black slaves for their service. That the Male children of his Excellency should repair to Syracuse to learn from themselves, in person, whether they would follow their father or go elsewhere, but that their determination should be made in that place.

That the females and the families of individuals who are in Syracuse, in the service of his Excellency, and who wish to come there, shall be sent with all their effects.

After the arrival of the family of his Excellency he is to be conducted to such place as may be resolved on.

In consideration of the spoils of his Excellency's kingdom and loss which he has suffered in palaces, gardens, slaves, houses &c<sup>t</sup>, in short, which has reduced him to his present miserable state, it is but a duty that the Usurper of his wealth should restore to him a part of that which he has taken, or, at least give him an equivalent in money, to enable his Excellency to live with decency and support his family and the persons of his suit until he shall be established in the possession of the above mentioned provinces, and revenues thereunto belonging — Wherefore there should be established a fixed sum equivalent to his necessary expenses.

The long exile of his Excellency from his Country, and the want of means to support himself and the people in his service, obliged him to accept of the offers of several individuals to supply him with money, and which he is compelled to return previous to his departure — wherefore he throws himself on the gener-

osity of the most serene Republic, which well knows, that by the ill conduct of it's representatives, this Prince has been betrayed and robbed of that City which with the blood of his Subjects he had again obtained, and finally compelled to fly his Country and in a foreign land to seek a miserable and wretched asylum.

His Excellency hopes when the above conditions shall be fulfilled, that he need not fear to be again molested, but, on the contrary to be supported in the quiet possession of this small part of his Kingdom — and by which the representatives of the serene republic will have found the best means of ensuring the strict observance of any compact which they may wish to establish.

In testimony of which I have caused two copies to be written and signed in the presence of witnesses.

(Signed) **AHMET BASHAW CARAMANLI**  
son of *Ali Bashaw of Tripoli.*

SYRACUSE *April 26, 1807.*

[NA. SDA. CL, Tripoli, Vol. 3, 1806-1811.]

To Secretary of State from George Davis, appointed U. S. Consul, Tripoli

MALTA *29<sup>th</sup> April 1807.*

SIR: Immediately after my arrival at Syracuse, which was on the 14. Instant I waited on his Excellency Ahmet Bashaw Caramanli, who, without any reserve introduced the subject of his residence in Sicily which he said was for the sole purpose of obtaining his family and learning the decision of the Government of the United States, relative to himself.

He complained much of the manner in which he had been placed and detained in Syracuse, of his pecuniary distresses, of the illusive promises made him by the Agents and Officers of Government and of the inexecution of our treaty.

His Excellency is involved in debt and kept in a state of beggary by a few nobles who devour his allowance as soon as received. He has the appearance and reputation of being a good man but better calculated for the Mosque than the field.

I proposed to him a reconciliation with his brother, which I am satisfied can only be obtained by his consenting to reside in Tripoli, his person would certainly be respected because he would not possess the means, if he had the enterprize (which I doubt) to make any attempt to regain the throne.

I have the honor to enclose you (N<sup>os</sup> 1, 2, 3, & 4) a copy of our correspondence.

It would have given me much satisfaction to have confined the Consular present to the sum of three thousand Dollars, but this I found impossible; all the articles of the Regalia of which a list is enclosed have been purchased by myself and certainly for one third less than they could be procured in any part of Barbary.

I regret much that Captain Campbell does not feel himself at liberty to leave at my disposal the Tripolitan Gun boats; — they are of very little value, in a perishable state and most probably will never be employed to the same advantage.

The *Hornet* sails for Tripoli on the 1. of May.

[NA. SDA. CL, Tripoli, Vol. 3, 1806-1811.]

[29 April 1807]

To Hamet Caramanli, from George Davis, appointed U. S. Consul, Tripoli

(Copy)

GEORGE DAVIS

*Consul of the United States of America for the Regency of Tripoli —*

To his Excellency **AHMET BASHAW CARAMANLI**

Your Excellency's note under date of the 26. instant, enclosing a second communication, reached me at this place in the 28<sup>th</sup> — Its contents so nearly correspond with what you did me the honor to state on the 23<sup>d</sup>, that little can be observed in reply.

It is my sincere desire to be useful to your Excellency and to promote your interest by all the good offices in my power. To accomplish which it is necessary that your Excellency should make a distinction (which I have laboured to impress on your mind) between my private acts and those which the Government of the United States will recognise.

A reconciliation with your brother, indemnification for the loss of your Kingdom & the manner (that is accompanied by their slaves, property &c &c) in which the



*Males* of your family who are *desirous* to be placed under your protection, shall join you at Syracuse, are left in a great measure to the discretion of the Bashaw Jussuph.

I shall not fail to urge the justice of your pretensions in the strongest manner and use every Means of obtaining them, excepting that of holding out the idea that the United States will resort to compulsory measures to obtain them, so long as the stipulations contained in the existing treaty with the Reigning Bashaw shall be faithfully complied with on his part.

Accept of the assurances of the profound respect & high consideration of

MALTA April 29<sup>th</sup> 1807.

[NA. SDA. CL, Tripoli, Vol. 3, 1806-1811.]

To Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, Norfolk, Va., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPT<sup>t</sup> 30 April 1807.

I have received from Cap<sup>t</sup> Porter the enclosed letter, in which he requests a conveyance on board one of our publick Vessels for "the Monument to be erected to the memory of the Officers who fell off Tripoli". If the service should admit of one of the public Vessels stopping on her return to America, at Leghorn, to take it in, I willingly consent to affording a conveyance to the monument agreeably to Cap<sup>t</sup> Porter's request. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 7, 1805-1807.]

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

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*  
May 2<sup>d</sup> 1807. Malta Harbour.

SIR, Mr Davis will be ready to embark tomorrow with whom you will proceed to Tripoli and wait six days for such dispatches as Mr Davis may have for the United States or myself, with which you will proceed to Syracuse for further orders. — Being at Peace with the Barbary Regencies and having reasons to believe that the existing harmony between those Regencies and the United States will continue for some time, I have to desire that you permit their Vessels to pass freely and unmolested, unless you have reason to suspect they are not furnished with the necessary Documents as specified in the treaty between the Government of the United States and those Regencies, the want of which will render it necessary to detain them for further explanation, all other orders Null and Void. —

[NHF. Dent's LB, 1803-1810.]

Extracts from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding

[2 May 1807]

[At Malta since 26 April 1807.] These 24 hours moderate breezes with pleasant weather — At A M unmoored Ship, At 9 A M got underweigh & went into the outer harbor [Malta] where the *Constitution* lay. — People variously employed.

[3 May 1807]

The whole of these 24 hours moderate breezes from the E<sup>d</sup> and pleasant weather, At 4 P M the U: S: Frigate *Constitution* sailed for Syracuse — At 9 A M loosed & refurled Sails

[4 May 1807]

First part moderate breezes from the E<sup>d</sup> middle part Calm — At 1/2 past 5. A M. unmoored. — At 6 hove up and towed out with the boats — At 10 a breeze sprung up from the S<sup>d</sup> & E<sup>d</sup> — Mr Davis came on board. — At 11 made sail to the E<sup>d</sup> and stowed the Anchors found a strange man on board supposed to be a Deserter from a British Man of War — At noon the S: E. point of Malta bore S W B S. dist 6 leagues Tack'd to the S W<sup>d</sup> — Draft of water aft. 14<sup>ft</sup> 2<sup>in</sup> forward. 13<sup>ft</sup> 9<sup>in</sup>.

Latt<sup>d</sup> by Obs<sup>n</sup> 36°20'.

[NA. NDA original, 1805-1810.]

To Charles D. Coxe, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

ALGIERS, May 6<sup>th</sup> 1807.

DEAR SIR, This is the first opportunity which has occurred for writing to you since my arrival here from Tunis. — The *Enterprize* went on to Gibraltar; and I expected she would have returned here before this time.

I had the happiness to find Mr Lear in good health; and our affairs here, standing on the same good footing I had left them. —

There were two American Merchantmen in this port on my arrival: viz<sup>t</sup> the Brig *Sophia*, of and from Philadelphia, Robert Arundel Master, with an assorted Cargo well suited to the Market; — and the Ship *Traveller*, of and from Salem, with a Cargo of Coffee, Sugar and India Goods, to a very large amount. — Both have sold well, and received payment in Cash. — The former sailed on the 4<sup>th</sup> of April, and the latter, on the 29<sup>th</sup>, having been detained here about 20 days by an Embargo, which was laid in consequence of the Vessels of the Regency having gone to Bona, with Troops and Stores, from which place they returned on the 28<sup>th</sup> ultimo. — At present all their Cruizers are in port. —

I have not heard a syllable from the U. States since my arrival here, and we have not a word of news from Europe, more than is brought by Capt Hillyer, of H.B.M. Ship *Niger*, who takes this to Tunis, and to whom I pray you will be so good as to pay attention, as you will find him an excellent man, as I have known from a long acquaintance with him.

The Spanish Consul has requested me to put the enclosed letter under my cover, as he could not request Capt<sup>s</sup> Hillyer to take charge of it.

I have heard nothing of the *Two Brothers*. If she gets to Marseilles, she will make a great Voyage. —

To Mr Allegro I beg you will present my best regards; and my respects and kind remembrance to all the Consular families, from whom I received so many civilities when in Tunis. and also to others of our acquaintances who may regard us —

Dr Triplett has not yet benefitted by the climate, as he expected; but indeed the Spring has been remarkably unpleasant.

I am very anxious to hear from you, and know how we stand in your quarters; but I think while the two Regencies keep up hostilities, other nations will remain quiet with respect to them. — They talk here, as if they were confident of success; but I think they will hardly attempt the City of Tunis. —

The dispatches which you sent to me by the Courier to Bona, have never got to hand. — The Spanish Consul here tells me he has received frequent dispatches from his Vice Consul in Bona; but not a word about my letters. —

Mr Lear unites with me in best wishes for your health and happiness; and I pray you will believe me to be, with very great esteem & regard

P.S. The Spanish Consul has this moment been here, and met Capt<sup>s</sup> Hillyer, who offering to take letter for him. — I have given them accordingly. —

[Stephen Decatur Col. Book B, 1806-1807.]

Extracts from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet* of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding

[7 May 1807]

½ past 7. fired a Gun, hoisted the Jack, and shortned Sail — At 8 came too with the larboard Anchor in 17 f<sup>m</sup> water, Tripoli bearing S B E. distant 3 miles — N. Battery. South and a cluster of trees separate from any thing else. S W B S. — at 1/2 past 8. Consul Ridgely came on board. and was rec<sup>d</sup> with a salute of 5. Guns. — At 11 Consul Davis went on shore when 9 Guns were fired

[8 May 1807]

[Tripoli] Commences moderate breezes from the N W. — At 1. P M the Castle on shore fired a Salute of 21 Guns the same number were returned by the Brig. At 6. the Capt<sup>s</sup> returned from shore, sent the Consuls Baggage on shore. — at 1/2 past 6 got underweigh. — left Mr Green the Purser on shore. —

[10 May 1807]

Commences light breezes and clear pleasant weather — at 1 Tack'd Ship to the N<sup>d</sup> & E<sup>d</sup> at 1/2 past 2 hauled up the foresail and set Main Royal Staysail — At 5 took in Top gallant Sails, Staysails and flying Jib

At 7 Tripoli bore S: E: distant 9 or 10 miles sounded in 30 fathoms at 1/2 past 7 Calm current setting to N W. let go the Anchor in 30 fms

Calm during the Night with a heavy swell. from the N E. Vessel laboring considerably — At 7 A M a light breeze sprung up from the S<sup>d</sup> at 8 got underweigh and hoisted out 2<sup>d</sup> Cutter — at 1/2 past 9 fidded Royal Masts. at 10 sent Royal yards up.

Ends light airs and clear pleasant weather

Sent the 2<sup>d</sup> Cutter on shore with the Cases of Presents for the Bashaw,

At 11 A M Mustered the People.

[NA. NDA original, 1805-1810.]

To John Taylor, Norfolk, Va., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPART<sup>t</sup> 11 May 1807.

I this day received from Mr Blount a letter dated on the 2<sup>d</sup> inst<sup>t</sup> in which he requests for you a passage in the Ship *Wasp* to England, and I with pleasure give my assent to this request and have written to Cap<sup>t</sup> Smith upon the Subject.

It may be acceptable to you to know that the tables of our Officers are furnished entirely at their own expence & altho' we can afford a passage to any Gentleman in the publick Vessels, yet we cannot say that they shall be accomodated at the Commander's table— Upon this point however you will find no difficulty in making an arrangement with Cap<sup>t</sup> Smith, as he will certainly with pleasure receive so respectable a guest — Cap<sup>t</sup> Decatur at Norfolk will I have no doubt cheerfully assist you in making every necessary arrangement.

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 8, 1805-1807.]

To Master Commandant David Porter, U. S. Navy, U. S. Schooner *Enterprise*, from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

US SHIP *Constitution* HARBOR OF SYRACUSE

11 May 1807.

SIR, The United States Schooner *Enterprise* under your command being ready for sea, I have to desire and request that you receive on board Mr Holck Consul of his Majesty the King of Denmark for Tunis, and take him to Leghorn where you will land that gentleman.

From Leghorn you will be pleased to proceed to Algiers, receive such communication as our Consul General may have for me or the State Department and make the best of your way to Gibraltar, there remain until the intended relief for the present Squadron in those seas arrives from America —

It being my intention to leave Syracuse on the 25<sup>th</sup> instant, taking Palermo and Leghorn in my way down the Mediterranean, and expect to be in Gibraltar early in July which you will be pleased to communicate to the Commander of the Squadron that may arrive from the United States.

Should you on your arrival at Gibraltar receive official information from the Navy Department that the Secretary of the Navy has given orders for the *Enterprise* to return to the United States, you may proceed with all possible dispatch for the River Potomac and as far up as the Eastern branch where you will receive further orders from the Honble Secretary of the Navy.

[LC. D. Porter P, Let. & Ord., 1805-1808.]

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding, 11 May 1807

These 24 hours commences light breezes and pleasant Wt At 5 wore Ship, At 1/2 past 5 took 2 reefs in the Topsails and sent the 2<sup>d</sup> Cutter on shore — At 7. the 2<sup>d</sup> Cutter returned, took her in and wore to the N<sup>d</sup> Tripoli bearing S B E. distant one mile

At 9 A M the Captain went on Shore —

At noon fired 7 Guns

Tripoli bore S B W. distant 2 Cables lengths.

[NA. NDA original, 1805-1810.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*,  
HARBOUR OF SYRACUSE 12<sup>th</sup> May 1807

SIR, My dispatches of February the 27<sup>th</sup> and April 9<sup>th</sup> will make you acquainted with the particulars of my proceedings, I now beg leave to represent that I arrived at Malta the 13<sup>th</sup> of April for the purpose of securing the head of this Ship, and repairing the Bulk heads of the Cabin & C<sup>o</sup> & C<sup>o</sup> which received much damage on our passage from Algiers to Cagliari, the head rails and Bumpkins were entirely washed away, on the night of March the 7<sup>th</sup> in the Gulph of Tunis, where we experienced the most severe gale, that I have seen for many years, the Gale came on about seven in the evening at N W, and blew so violent that it was with the greatest difficulty we saved our Topsails though double reefed, a new mainsail made in Lisbon blew from the yard, a new Mizzen Storm staysail blew out of the bolt rope, and fore top mast Stay Sail rendered useless, nor was it in the power of the ablest men on board to send down top gallant yards, untill near midnight that favoured us with a few moments lull, and commenced again with its former violence; I was at first in hopes of regaining the anchorage within Cape Carthage in which I found myself disappointed, and left to the alternative of Keeping sea room till day light, at which time we weathered away and run under the lee of Cape Bon; — I left Malta on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Instant and intend leaving Syracuse about the 25<sup>th</sup> taking Leghorn in my way down the Mediterranean, as far as Gibraltar, where I expect to be superceded in the Command; With that impression and having little duty of consequence for the *Enterprize*, I have dispatched Captain Porter to Leghorn, from thence to Algiers, receive such communication as our Consul General may have for Government or myself, and proceed to Gibraltar and wait the arrival of the intended relief, which is probably on their way to these Seas; I likewise ordered Captain Porter to proceed home in the *Enterprize*, should he on the arrival of the Squadron receive official information of your having ordered the *Enterprize* home, I am prompted to this premature measure, in consequence of the time for which the Crew of that Vessel entered, having expired, and hope it will meet your approbation.

Mr. Davis arrived at Malta the 26<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup> where I left him the 2<sup>nd</sup> Instant with orders to Captain Dent to proceed with him on the 4<sup>th</sup> to Tripoli, there wait four or five days and join me at Syracuse with such information as Mr Davis may think proper to communicate; Mr Cox of the Marines continues charged with our Affairs at Tunis. —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 1, 1807.]

To Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy, from George Davis, U. S. Consul, Tripoli

TRIPOLI 12. May 1807.

SIR. I have the pleasure to inform you that our affairs with this regency are terminated in the most amicable and honorable manner; and that all our claims however *unjust* have been accorded us.

The family of the Ex-Bashaw with their slaves, &c<sup>o</sup> &c<sup>o</sup> will be ready to embark in twelve days from this date, and I have promised that the American vessel of war, which is to come for my dispatches, shall take them to Syracuse. As I did not receive the definitive answer until this morning and Cap<sup>t</sup> Dent gets under weigh immediately I have not time to write a line to Government. Mr Ridgely will detail to you the particular circumstances attending the discussion.

I shall wait with impatience the arrival of the vessel which you promised to send me.

[NA. SDA. CL, Tripoli, Vol. 3, 1806-1811.]

[12 May 1807]

To Hamet Caramanli, from George Davis, U. S. Consul, Tripoli

To his Excellency AHMET BASHAW CARAMANLI.

I have the honor to inform your Excellency that all the members of your family detained at Tripoli by Jussuph Bashaw, which you have demanded agreeable to the 3. article of our existing treaty with this Regency, will be ready to embark for Syracuse in twelve days from this date, excepting your married daughters who are desirous of remaining with their husbands. They will be accompanied by a suitable number of slaves, with their apparel &c<sup>o</sup> &c<sup>o</sup>

I profit of this occasion to renew my assurances of profound respect & consideration.

TRIPOLI 12. May 1807.

[NA. SDA. CL, Tripoli, Vol. 3, 1806-1811.]

Extracts from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding, 13 May 1807

[Off Tripoli] The whole of these 24 hours pleasant weather, still laying too off and on Tripoli — At 2 A M discovered a Sail in the S: E, quarter

At 4 fired 3 Guns on receiving on board the Bashaw's regalia consisting of Two bullocks, 6 Sheep, a quantity of Vegetables, Oranges & Lemons

Tack'd and wore occasionally to keep in close with the Town Calm from midnight until 2 oClock, when there sprung up a light breeze from the N<sup>d</sup> — Set Top gallant Sails — Calm again — Sprung up a breeze from the N N W. —

Tacked Ship — At ¼ before 3 sounded in 17 f<sup>m</sup> water — At Meridian Tripoli bore S. S: E distant 2 miles

14 May 1807

At 5 [PM] wore Ship — At 6 the Cutter returned and brought on board. Dr Ridgely, and the English Consul and his Lady, — Passengers — At ¼ past 7. Tripoli bore S B E distant 4 miles

Latt<sup>d</sup> by Obs<sup>n</sup> 34° 16'

[NA. NDA original, 1805-1810.]

To Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, Commanding Officer of the U. S. Vessels of War destined for the Mediterranean, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPT<sup>t</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> May 1807

As soon as the *Chesapeak* shall be prepared for sea, you will weigh Anchor and proceed direct to the Mediterranean.

We have now in that sea,

the frigate <i>Constitution</i> .....	Cap <sup>t</sup> Campbell,
the <i>Hornet</i> .....	Cap <sup>t</sup> Dent, &
the <i>Enterprize</i> .....	Cap <sup>t</sup> Porter. —

On your arrival in the Mediterranean. the *Constitution* and the *Enterprize* are to be immediately ordered by you to proceed to this place unless, contrary to our expectations, their further services in the Mediterranean should by any recent event be imperiously required for the protection of our commerce. And the *Hornet* is to be ordered to return to this place early in the ensuing year, unless her services should be required in the same way.

Being at peace with all the world, our principal objects in sending publick Vessels of war into the Mediterranean are: to protect our commerce and seamen against the predatory dispositions of the Barbary Powers: to keep them at peace with us, by a conciliatory deportment, and by displaying a force at all times prepared to protect our commerce; and to exercise our young officers in the practical duties of their profession. These are justly considered interesting national objects, and to your vigilance, patriotism and skill, they are with confidence committed.

Our interest as well as good faith requires that we should strictly preserve our neutral relations, and that we should cautiously avoid whatever may have a tendency to bring us into collision with any other Power. If, contrary to our expectations, any of the Barbary Powers should commit hostilities against the United States, you will, in such an event, employ your force in such a manner, as will in your judgment the most effectually protect the commerce and seamen of the United States.

It will be your peculiar duty to ascertain from time to time by all correct means the dispositions of each of the Barbary Powers towards the United States. And for this purpose you will communicate often and freely with the several American consuls on that Coast. An early knowledge of a hostile intention on the part of either of them will enable you to pursue in season the measures which will tend to convince them that our Commerce is not to be attacked with impunity & cannot be done with effect. —

I am extremely anxious to introduce into our service a regular system of economy equal to that of the British Navy. Without such regular system of economy, and a rigid attention to the publick Interest in preserving the publick property,

and in the expenditure of publick monies on the part of those who are entrusted with them, we never can support, and we never shall have, a Navy to any extent. This idea cannot be too strongly impressed upon the minds of the Officers. They are all personally and individually interested, & every friend to the Navy is interested in promoting a system of rigid economy. —

The 21st article "of the duties of a Captain or Commander" as prescribed in the "Naval Regulations issued by command of the President of the United States" declares "that he (the Captain or Commander) shall make no alteration in any part of the Ship". This rule must be preserved inviolate, and further there must never be any repair made without your previous written sanction when such sanction can be conveniently obtained; and in cases of urgent necessity when any vessel shall be compelled to put into Port for the purpose of making repairs and your previous written sanction cannot be obtained in consequence of your absence from such Port, you will order the Commanding Officers in such cases to make no repairs that shall not be indispensably necessary and to report to you in detail the repairs actually so made. A regular account of every repair made, discriminating those made with from those made without your previous written sanction, must be kept by you, and copies thereof transmitted by you to me from time to time. —

The requisite Instructions relatively to supplies for the Squadron are given to you in another letter accompanying this. —

I give to the Officers Commanding Vessels under you, no other instructions than to place themselves under your command. Their further instructions you will give to them, in conformity to those given to yourself.

You will write to me by every opportunity — inform me of all your operations, and send duplicates and triplicates of your letters, and returns of supplies, repairs &c by different conveyances.

[NA. NDA. LB, May 1799–July 1807.]

**To Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, Commanding Officer of U. S. Vessels of War destined for the Mediterranean, from Secretary of the Navy**

NAVY DEPT<sup>t</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> May 1807.

I have deemed it proper to give to you instructions relatively to the Supplies of the Squadron in a letter distinct from that containing your general Instructions, to draw your attention to them the more particularly, and you will here find nothing irrelative to that subject. —

Hitherto the vessels which we have had in the Mediterranean have been maintained at an expense so enormous as to induce strong suspicions of an utter disregard to economy in the expenditure of publick money. Hence the idea of changing fundamentally the system with respect to supplies and of introducing Checks which it is hoped will be found salutary. —

When you shall arrive in the Mediterranean, you will fix upon one place of general deposit for all supplies. Such place should not be too far from the mouth of the Mediterranean. The Port of Mahon in the Island of Minorca has been mentioned, and it appears to me to be an eligible situation as a place of resort for our vessels under existing circumstances. However you will be better able to judge correctly upon this point on your arrival in the Mediterranean, and you will fix upon such port as may, under all circumstances appear to you the best calculated to answer our purposes, and it must be the only place of general deposit for the supplies of the Squadron. —

You will have all the Navy Stores at the different places of deposit in the Mediterranean, brought, by the publick Vessels, to the Port of General Deposit, and placed in the charge of John Bullus esquire, who will reside at such Port of General Deposit, and whose receipt for such supplies must be taken and transmitted to the Accountant of the Navy. —

John Bullus esquire, the Navy Agent will furnish all supplies that may be wanted upon proper requisitions. —

When you shall be in Port, no requisition whatever must be made upon the Navy Agent without your previous written sanction.

In your absence, the respective Commanding Officers may make requisitions for supplies upon John Bullus esquire, and may receive from him such supplies, without your previous written sanction. But you will give special orders to the Commanding Officers, in such cases, to procure no supplies that shall not be indispensably necessary, and to forward to you an account of such supplies so

obtained in your absence, that you may judge whether they shall have been indispensably necessary or otherwise. —

You will keep a regular account of all supplies furnished to the respective vessels, discriminating those furnished with from those furnished without your previous written sanction, and transmit copies of such accounts to me from time to time. —

The Vessels of the Squadron must exclusively resort to the place of General Deposit for the purpose of obtaining supplies, and making necessary repairs, except in cases of the most imperious necessity, such as distress & the like.

The Agents in London and Leghorn will be instructed to pay no drafts but those drawn by John Bullus esq<sup>r</sup> —

The Commanders may draw upon John Bullus esq<sup>r</sup> only, and their drafts upon him must be accompanied by letters of advice and by the bills of purchase or supplies occasioning such Drafts: otherwise they will not be honored. The Agent is instructed to pay no drafts, that shall not be accompanied by letters of advice and the bills of purchase or supplies. —

There will but seldom arise a necessity to draw upon John Bullus esq<sup>r</sup>, as the vessels are to get their supplies at the place of General Deposit, excepting as before stated, in cases of distress and the like, which may compel them to put into some other Port. The Commanders are to inform you of all bills drawn by them, of which, you will keep a regular account, and transmit information to me from time to time. —

John Bullus esq<sup>r</sup> will from time to time place in the hands of the pursers, such small sums of money as may, in your judgment, be required to defray small contingent expences &c<sup>r</sup> —

These are the general instructions which I have deemed it proper to give to you, at this time, relatively to supplies. You will give corresponding instructions to all the Officers Commanding under you, and I enjoin upon you in the most earnest manner, to observe yourself on all occasions, and to cause the Officers commanding under you, to observe the most regular and exact economy, and the most particular attention to these orders, which I confidently hope will produce a favorable result. —

[NA. NDA. LB, May 1799—July 1807.]

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

ON BOARD THE U. S. SCH<sup>r</sup> *Enterprize*  
*Algiers Bay 17<sup>th</sup> May 1806. —*

SIR, During the time that I lay in Naples Mole I became acquainted with Cap<sup>ts</sup> Pierce of His Britanic Majesty's Brig *Halcyon*, who informed me, that John P Lovel now a Sailing Master in our Service, had been first Lieut<sup>t</sup> of a British Ship of War in the West Indies, and that the Ship being on the point of Sailing the Cap<sup>ts</sup> sent Lovel on shore to the Agent to receive the Prize Money due the Crew, in order to have it distributed on board, that he (Lovel) received the money, put it on board an American Vessel then laying in the Roads and went off in her to America.

He also informed me, that the British Government had sent orders to Lord Nelson, a short time previous to his death, (which Orders Cap<sup>ts</sup> Pierce informed me he brought from England) to demand Lovel from the American Commodore as a deserter &c. —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1806.]

To Sir Alexander John Ball, Governor of Malta, from George Davis, U. S. Consul,  
Tripoli

TRIPOLI 18. May 1807.

SIR, I have the honor to inform your Excellency that his Brittanic Majesty's Consul General for this Regency, sailed for Syracuse on the 13. instant, on board the United States Brig *Hornet*, and that during his absence I have engaged to watch over the interests of his nation in this quarter.

The letter which your Excellency addressed to the Bashaw was delivered yesterday, and as Lt<sup>t</sup> Commandant Skinner, has engaged to proceed direct to Malta, he will communicate to your Excellency, in person, the result of the audience with the Bashaw.

Until the return of Consul Gen<sup>l</sup> Langford I shall feel it my duty, to make known to your Excellency every occurrence which can in any way interest the British Government.

[NA. SDA. CL, Tripoli, Vol. 3, 1806-1811.]

To James Mackenzie & A. Glennie, London, England, and S. & W. Y. Purviance & Co., Leghorn, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPAR<sup>t</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> May 1807.

Weighty considerations have induced me to prohibit the practice of the Commanders of our Publick Vessels in the Mediterranean of Drawing Bills upon you —

Two vessels of war are now about sailing for the Mediterranean, the *Chesapeake* Comm<sup>o</sup> Jas<sup>o</sup> Barron & the *Wasp* Cap<sup>t</sup> Smith.

And the Commanding Officer of these Vessels sent as relief to those now in the Mediterranean has been forbid to draw himself or to allow any Officer Commanding under him to draw Bills upon you.

Instead of allowing this practice as heretofore I have appointed an agent, John Bullus Esq<sup>r</sup> who alone is authorized to draw upon you. whose Bills for the Supplies of the Squadron you will duly honor.

It is uncertain at this time where M<sup>r</sup> Bullus will reside. The Commodore on his arrival in the Mediterranean will fix his residence, & you will be duly informed of it

The enclosed is the Signature of John Bullus Esq<sup>r</sup>

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 8, 1805-1807.]

To S. & W. Y. Purviance & Co., U. S. Navy Agents, Leghorn, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPAR<sup>t</sup> 18 May 1807.

Having been informed that the late House of Degen Purviance & C<sup>o</sup> has changed its firm to that of S & W Y Purviance & C<sup>o</sup> I herewith enclose to you an appointment under the Seal of this Department as Navy Agents for the Port of Leghorn and you will be allowed the same Commission as Mess<sup>rs</sup> Degen, Purviance & C<sup>o</sup> have heretofore received.

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 8, 1805-1807.]

To Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, Commanding Officer of U. S. Vessels of War destined for the Mediterranean, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM<sup>t</sup> 18 May 1807. —

It has been intimated to me that the *Wasp*, contrary to my intention, has received all the fresh Powder lately ordered from Baltimore. My intention was that this fresh Powder should be distributed between the *Chesapeake* and the *Wasp*, and that each Vessel should take to the Mediterranean, a proportion of the Powder of inferior quality, and there if necessary, have it remanufactured. And this arrangement must still be made. Let the *Chesapeake* receive her proportion of the fresh powder, and the *Wasp* her proportion of inferior quality, in Hampton prior to your sailing. —

On your arrival in the Mediterranean you may find, that some of the Officers now there may wish to continue there, and that some now going out, may wish to return in the *Constitution* and the *Enterprise*. Under such circumstances you may make any arrangement that the good of the service will permit. —

Keep me at all times informed of the Officers Commissioned and Warrant, on board the respective Vessels under your command, & inform me of every change made, and of every death or other casualty. — No Detachment of Marines must ever be left without a Commanding Officer. —

The injunction that "no Detachment of Marines must ever be left without a Commanding Officer" is given to you in consequence of information I have received that Lieu<sup>t</sup> Cox has been transferred from his command of the marines on board the *Hornet*, to the Consulate at Tunis; and that the Marines on board the *Hornet* have consequently, been left without an officer competent to their command. R. S.

[NA. NDA. LB, May 1799-July 1807.]



To George Davis, U. S. Consul, Tripoli, from Charles D. Coxe, U. S. Chargé  
d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS May 20<sup>th</sup> 1807.

SIR, I am informed by Captain Quarles that you left Leghorn in the U. States Brig *Hornet* for Tripoly, & I presume Captain Dent has already informed you of my being placed here by the Consul General Mr Lear. —

The Bey has requested of me as a favour to procure a passage for the Copigi Basha & suite to Tripoly in the *Mohawk*; which Capt. Quarles has been good enough to comply with. — We found this morning (to our surprize) that they amount to twenty in number. — Remuneration I suppose from these people is out of the question. — I think The Captain ought to be paid, but I do not see any chance he has for it now except from Government. — You will be good enough to let me know your opinion on this head by his return to Susa. —

The Beys army has returned from before Constantine after having been (as they say) always victorious in the different affairs they have had with The Algerines. — The Commander in Chief Hameida Benayet has been imprisoned by The Bey and all his property confiscated, for having made a retreat in the midst of victory. He is now embodying a larger Camp than the former, consisting of The Sphaves, Useletis & Tunisians. — They begin their march to day, and The Sapatapa is to follow in a few days as Commander in Chief. —

I received a letter from Mr Lear p<sup>r</sup> H. B. M. Frigate *Niger* Captain Hillyer informing of his safe arrival at Algiers on the 20<sup>th</sup> March in The *Constitution*. — They talk there as if they were confident of success, but I think they will hardly attempt The City of Tunis. —

It will allways give me the greatest satisfaction to hear from you by every opportunity, as on my part, I shall omit none to keep you advised of every thing worth communicating. —

Original p<sup>r</sup> The Schooner *Mohawk* Capt. Quarles.

[LC. Chas. D. Coxe LB, Ac. 2951, 1806-1809.]

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding, 20 May 1807

Commences with gentle breezes and pleasant weather — At ½ past 3 [PM] came to an anchor in Syracuse in 5 f<sup>m</sup> water a stern of the U: S: Frigate *Constitution* and received Pratique — At Sunset sent down Royal yards — At 4 hoisted out the 1<sup>st</sup> Cutter and moored with the Stream — All hands employed staying the Masts setting up Rigging &c<sup>t</sup> At noon moderate breezes from the E<sup>d</sup>

[NA. NDA original, 1805-1810.]

To Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, Hampton, Va., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPARTMENT —

May 21. 1807. —

I have understood that Col. Lear has procured 2 or 3 remarkably fine Arabian Horses the breed of which it is desirable to introduce into this Country.

Should Col. Lear ask permission to send these Horses to this Country in one of the publick vessels of War returning from the Mediterranean, you will grant such permission if the publick service will conveniently admit it.

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 7, 1805-1807.]

[26 May 1807]

To George Davis, U. S. Consul, Tripoli, from Hamet Caramanli, Rightful Bashaw  
of Tripoli

[Translation]

Copy

Your Lordship's letter of the Twelfth of the month of May current has been delivered to me, from which I perceive that the Bashaw, my Brother, has permitted my Family to come to join me, with the exception of my Daughters who wish to remain with their Husbands, and that they will be accompanied by a sufficient number of slaves and their belongings. I confess myself very much obliged for the zeal with which Your Lordship has achieved the fulfillment of this agreement,

which had already been made in the treaty of peace concluded in the name of the Most Serene Republic of the United States of America with the Regency of Tripoli. I trust that Your Lordship will undertake with the same efficacy to obtain agreement to the other points which I ask. Everything which you do on my behalf, though it is for the honor of your nation, which holds itself obliged to compensate me for the injuries which I have suffered, nevertheless will be greatly appreciated and I shall be grateful for your good offices in discharging this commission, and I shall always preserve the memory of how much you have assisted me. And placing myself at Your Lordship's service and paying my devoted respects

IN SYRACUSE, the 26th day of May, 1807

Your Lordship's (seal)

Your Lordship will receive another letter signed by me, but since it was written in the English language and I do not understand it, I have therefore executed this other in the language which I know.

[NA. SDA. CD, Tripoli, Vol. 3, Jan'y-June 1811.]

To Master Commandant John Smith, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Sloop *Wasp*, Hampton Roads, Va., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP<sup>t</sup> 26 May 1807.

After Mr Purviance with his baggage shall have joined you, you will weigh anchor and proceed with the *Wasp* to Portsmouth in England, at which place Mr Purviance will land and proceed thence to London. —

You will wait at Portsmouth, until you shall receive dispatches from our Ministers at London for our Minister at Paris, or until you shall hear from them that they have no such dispatches to send. You will then proceed to L'orient, and there deliver the dispatches which you will receive from the Department of State, and the dispatches which you may receive from our Ministers at London, agreeably to the directions of the Secretary of State. After you shall have performed this service you will proceed to the Mediterranean and place yourself under the command of the Officer Commanding the American Vessels of War in that sea, who will give you your further instructions. —

[NA. NDA. LB, May 1799-July 1807.]

To George Davis, U. S. Consul, Tripoli, from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy  
Copy

U S SHIP *Constitution*  
Harbour Syracuse May 27. 1807.

SIR, The arrival of the *Hornet* on the 18<sup>th</sup> Inst. favor'd me with your communication of the 12<sup>th</sup> informing of your friendly reception at Tripoli and the Honorable & amicable adjustment of our affairs with that Regency —

I regret that you have promised The Family of the Bashaw a passage in the Vessel that calls for your dispatches which is now the Event of the *Hornet* — with orders to Capt<sup>n</sup> Dent to join me with them at some port between this & Alicante I mention this for your Government. it being the only safe conveyance that may offer for America these many months to come. I shall leave this place in a few days for Leghorn from thence to Gibraltar where I expect to be Succeeded in the Command but by whom I am ignorant not having one word of news from home — Capt<sup>n</sup> Dent will return to this Station after delivering me your dispatches who will assist in the Transportation of the Bashaws Family, which I am of opinion will be in sufficient time as the Bashaw finds it impossible at present to procure suitable accommodations for them. When your Letter was read to him he appear'd much gratified and seriously affected observing at the same time he was fully convinced of American sincerity

[NA. SDA. CL, Tripoli, Vol. 3, 1806-1811.]

[27 May 1807]

To Sidi Mohamet Dghies, Minister of Foreign Affaires and Prime Minister of the Bashaw of Tripoli, from George Davis, U. S. Consul, Tripoli

[Translation]

The undersigned Consul General of the United States of America and Chargé d'Affaires for [the Regency] of His Excellency the Bashaw of Tripoli in Barbary, to Sidi Mahomed Dghies, Minister of Foreign Affairs, &c. &c.

SIR, I had the honor yesterday to inform you concerning the unbecoming conduct of two officials of this Regency, who refused to accept the consular gifts sent to them through my Dragoman. I should not have wished to communicate such an affront to His Excellency the Bashaw, but after due reflection I am expressly determined that he shall be informed, without however naming the individuals who have behaved so ill toward me. In order, therefore, that I may not be obliged to undergo another such unpleasantness, I have determined not to send any present to any other persons who may be entitled thereto unless I first receive His Excellency's assurance that it will not cause me further trouble.

I therefore beg you, Mr. Minister, to inform His Excellency of what occurred yesterday, without mentioning the individuals.

TRIPOLI, 27 May 1807

[NA. SDA, CD, Tripoli, Vol. 3, Jan'y 1806-June 1811.]

[27 May 1807]

To George Davis, U. S. Consul, Tripoli, from Sidi Mohamet Dghies, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Prime Minister of the Bashaw of Tripoli

[Translation]

MAHOMED DGHIES, Minister of His Excellency The Bashaw of Tripoli in Barbary — to MR. GEORGE DAVIS, Consul General of the United States of America [for the Regency of] His Excellency the Bashaw.

SIR, In reply to your favor of this day, I may assure you that, in conformity with your wish, I shall not fail to inform His Excellency the Bashaw of what is contained in your letter, and so soon as I have his answer I shall communicate it to you without any delay; permit me to take the liberty of herewith sending my respects to Madame, and to your charming daughter.

(Signed in Arabic) SIDI MAHOMET DGHIES

TRIPOLI 27 May 1807

[NA. SDA. CD, Tripoli, Vol. 3, Jan'y 1806-June 1811.]

To Captain John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Hornet*, 18 Guns, from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

U.S. SHIP *Constitution*  
Harbour of Syracuse 28<sup>th</sup> May 1807.

SIR, The United States Sloop *Hornet* under your Command being ready for Sea; I have to request and desire that you proceed with all possible dispatch to Malta, where you are not to Anchor, but send in your boat and inform yourself from our Consul and Agent, whether there are any recent arrivals from the United States or letters for me, from the Navy Department likewise of all political matter worthy of remark — On leaving Malta you will proceed to Tripoli and take such dispatches as Mr Davis our Consul may have for Government, then run to Tunis, confer with Mr Cox, charged with our Affairs at that place, collect all necessary information, receive his communications for the State Department and join the *Constitution* at Alicant as soon as in your power — Should any unforeseen accident prevent you from remaining at Alicant until the arrival of the *Constitution* you will in that case leave the Dispatches and any other information you may have for me, in charge of Mr Montgomery our Consul at that place —

N.B. In case you should leave Alicant without seeing me or hearing again from me, I request you to call at Tripoli and assist Mr Davis in forwarding the Bashaw's family to Syracuse — The *Hornet* I presume can accomodate the most of them, that having accomplished you may act as circumstances and the service require untill you receive further orders from me or my Successor to the Command of our forces in these Seas. —

[NHF. Dent's LB, 1803-1810.]

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding, 29 May 1807

[Syracuse] At ½ past 4 [PM] got underweigh light breezes. *Constitutions* boats took us in Tow — At 5 the boats cast off. —

Latt<sup>ds</sup> by Obs<sup>s</sup> 36°46'.

[NA. NDA original, 1805-1810.]

To Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, Commanding Officer of U. S. Ships of War destined for the Mediterranean, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPT—30 May 1807.—

I am informed by Cap<sup>t</sup> Campbell in his last dispatches to this office, that there are remaining at this time in the Mediterranean two Gun Boats and some small vessels which were purchased by you up the Adriatic in the year 1804.

You will be pleased to direct the Navy Agent to sell the Gun Boats and Vessels above mentioned at such place and upon such terms as may be judged best, passing the proceeds thereof to the credit of this Department. —

[NA. NDA. LB, May 1799–July 1807.]

Extracts from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding

31 May 1807

Commences light airs and calms at intervals — At ¼ past 1 [PM] took in the Staysails flying Jib & Jib Topsail — At ½ past 3 in Royals up Foresail, tack'd ship and back'd the Main Topsail — Malta bearing W S W. distant 2 miles Sent the 3<sup>d</sup> Cutter on shore with Lt Morris

At 11 in Studsails — At Meridian the South point of Malta bore W B S ½ S distant 6 miles —

Lat<sup>d</sup> by Obs<sup>s</sup> 35°56'.

2 June 1807

At ½ past 11 [AM] spoke the American Schooner *Mohawk* from Tripoli — At noon Tripoli bore S.E.B.E. distant 5 or 6 miles

Lat<sup>d</sup> Obs<sup>d</sup> 33°58'.

[NA. NDA original, 1805–1810.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Chesapeake*, Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 6 June 1807

Commences with Clear W<sup>t</sup> Wind from the South<sup>d</sup> and East<sup>d</sup>. — people Employed on Various Ships duty at ½ past 10.—A. M. Commodore [James] Barron Came on board, hoisted the Broad Pendant. — The U. S. — Sloop of War *Wasp* came down from Craney Island, and Anchored Near the Ship. — the latter part Squally with rain, Sent down T.G. Yards. —

[LC. USN, Ac. 540, 1807–1809.]

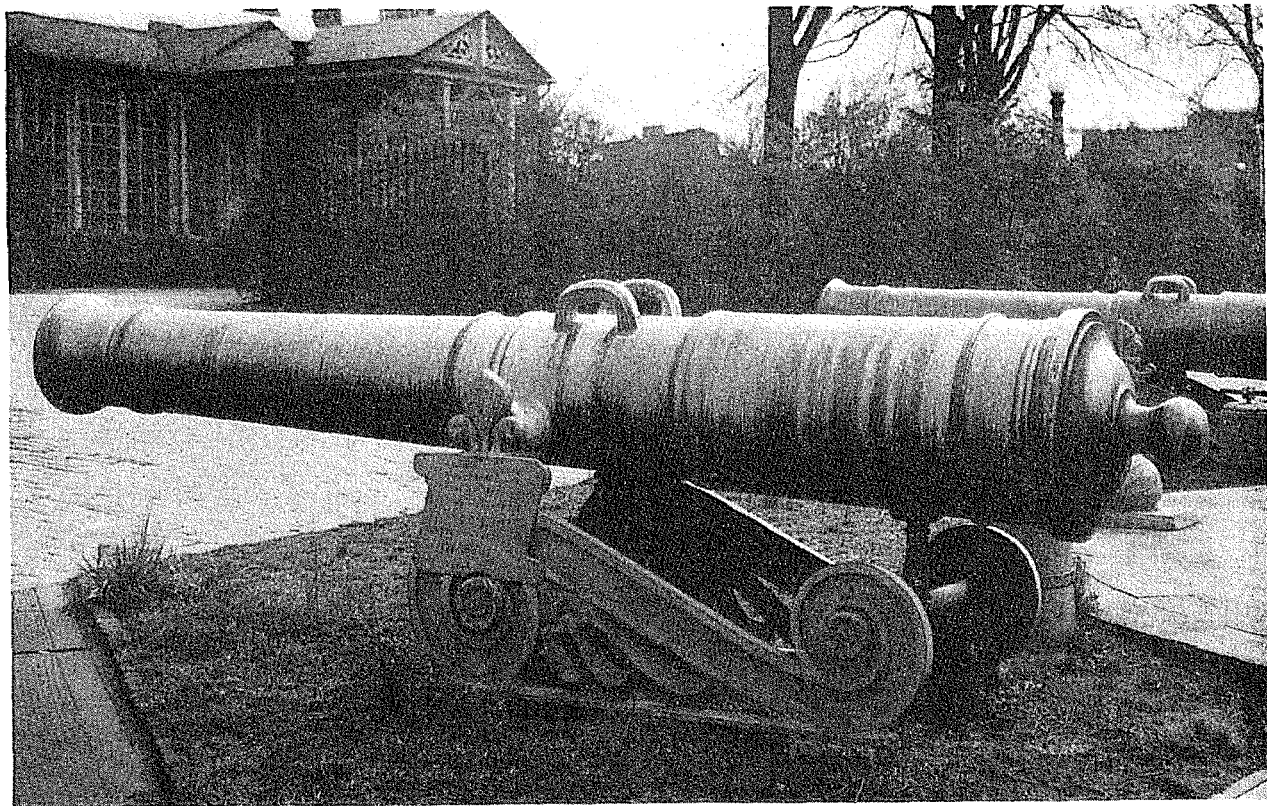
Presumably to Vice Admiral Edward Thornbrough, R. N., from Captain Jahleel Brenton, R. N.

HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Spartan*

7<sup>th</sup> June 1807

SIR, The violent and unjust clamour which has been so industriously raised against Great Britian during the present War, for her conduct towards neutrals, and the virulent paragraphs which have appeared particularly in the American papers, tending so much to exasperate and indispose the Public mind in that Country. — against His Majesty's Government, induces me to state to you a circumstance that occurred during our present Cruize. — which if made Public will I trust considerably invalidate the kind of testimony from which alone the complaints of the American Government have been founded. — Viz<sup>t</sup> the reports of the Masters of their Merchant Vessels respecting their vexatious treatment they declare to have received from the British Cruizers. —

On the 27<sup>th</sup> Ultimo we fell in with the American Ship *Urania* of [space], Hector Coffin Master, and [space] Green, of Rhodes Island, Supercargo — she had sailed from America with a Cargo of Cod-fish for a Market, and put into Alicant, where not being able to dispose of her fish to advantage, she cleared out for Leghorn, but when off Genoa, bore up for that Port, knowing it at the same time to be in a state of blockade, as is proved by the Masters thinking it necessary to make a protest upon the subject. — he sailed from Genoa shortly after for Leghorn, where he took on board 18,000 dollars, 14,000 of which were said to be the produce of his Cargo, and the remaining 4,000 are Bills upon America, with which and a few bale goods he left Leghorn, and was on his passage to Souze on the Coast of Africa, — from the suspicious nature of the former part of his



CANNON FROM A TRIPOLITAN GUNBOAT CAPTURED BY CAPTAIN STEPHEN DECATUR, JR., 1804.



Voyage, I was induced to send for the Master on board with his Log Book & papers, and upon his appearance I explained to him the necessity of my acting as I did, of which he expressed himself perfectly satisfied, and sensible of the delicacy with which he was treated. It was at the same time nearly Calm, in a few minutes he was discharged, — upon a breeze springing up he voluntarily steered for some time the same course that we did. —

On the 8<sup>th</sup> Instant we fell in with the same ship again between Sardinia and the Island of Ponzo — and the extraordinary circumstance of her being within forty Leagues of the place where we had before seen her, led me again to examine her log book, in which I found a detail of her being boarded by us before, worked up to the most rancorous pitch of exaggeration, stating that on such a day, they were boarded by an English Frigate (the *Spartan*,) that there Ship was forced out of her course, that the Master was forced on board with his Papers, that their hatches were broke open &c — upon my remonstrating with the Master & Super-cargo, upon the unmanliness of inserting falsehoods in their log-Book for no other purpose than that of creating enmity between two Countries, whose neutral interests, led them to the Cultivation of peace, they both acknowleged the justice of my observations, that they had been treated with the politest attention not only by myself, but by my Officers, assured me that the log-Book should not be made public in America, and that they would instantly make out a counter report, contradicting the former, — they appeared at the same time overwhelmed with shame and confusion at the detection. —

I submit to you Sir the propriety of this Circumstance being made known to the Commander in Chief. —

(Signed) JAH<sup>l</sup> BRENTON

(A Copy)

EDW<sup>d</sup> THORNBROUGH

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 3, 1807.]

[7 June 1807 to 15 February 1808]

Statement of the Account of Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

Department of State of the U. S.

To HUGH G CAMPBELL D<sup>r</sup>

1807

June 7 <sup>th</sup>	To Cash paid Hamet Caramella late Bashaw of Tripoli per his receipt herewith.....	\$2, 400.
Feb <sup>r</sup> 15 <sup>th</sup>	By net proceeds of Robert Gilmor & Sons' draught on Mess <sup>rs</sup> Grant Webb & C <sup>o</sup> of Leghorn, in fav <sup>r</sup> of W <sup>m</sup> Patterson & Sons, for 2651.18.8 in Silver, as negotiated by Ab <sup>m</sup> Gibbs of Palermo p <sup>r</sup> his letter herewith to Geo Dyson.....	2, 223. 73
		due \$ 176. 27

Errours Excepted

WASHINGTON, April 28<sup>th</sup> 1808

The above balance of 176 27/100 is to be paid out of the appropriation for Barbary Intercourse

S. PLEASANTON

DEP<sup>t</sup> OF STATE }  
29<sup>th</sup> Apl 1808 }

[GAO. No. 20,429.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Master Commandant John Smith, U. S. Navy

U S. SLOOP *Wasp*  
Hampton Roads June 8<sup>th</sup> 1807 —

SIR, I have the honour to acquaint you that the arrival of M<sup>r</sup> Purviance on the 5<sup>th</sup> enables us to proceed to this place from which we shall repair to sea the moment the tide admits,

Herewith, I have the honour to transmit to you the *Wasp* muster Roll consonant with your directions I have attached Midshipman Wilkinson to the *Wasp* —

[NDA. MC LB, 1806-1807.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, on furlough,  
Master of American Ship *Beaver*, of New York, N. Y.

NEW YORK June 9<sup>th</sup> 1807

SIR! Being under the impression that as long as I have the honour of holding a Commission from the Department over which you preside, that I am accountable to that Department for all my official acts I therefor have the honour of enclosing to you Copy's of two letters to Mr Maddison with their accompaniments

[Enclosure]

To Secretary of State from Captain Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy

Copy

NEW YORK June 9<sup>th</sup> 1807

SIR, I am mortified that I am again under the necessity of Complaining to you of the base treatment received from a people that we are at peace with and profess a wish to continue so, yet in the very face of those professions are guilty of the most unwarrantable and insulting conduct towards the Flag and Citizen's of a Nation whom they Hypocritically pretend to respect —

I had the honour of informing you on the 30<sup>th</sup> of December last of a seaman being impressed from my ship by the boarding officer of H, B, M, Ship *Phaeton* on the 19<sup>th</sup> of that month then laying at Cheunpee near the Boca Tigris and also of forwarding Copy's of the Correspondence passed on the occasion — I have now to record a more outrageous act than is generally committed by the officers of any civilized nation I left Whampoa on the 3<sup>d</sup> of February in the Ship *Beaver* belonging to John Jacob Astor & John Wheetten Esq<sup>rs</sup> of New York, with a full load of Tea's, Nankeenes and China ware Loaded on the sale account of the Owners and myself all citizens of the United States — On the 5<sup>th</sup> I dropped down the river in company with the Ships *Swift* and *Projector* both belonging and bound to New York at about half past 4 o'Clock in the afternoon. three miles below the Boca Tigris I was boarded by an officer from H. B. M. Ship *Lyon* Captain [space] Roles laying at Cheunpee. the boarding officer after asking the usual questions such as the ships & Masters Name's cargo &c (which was all answered politely) he ordered the ship hove too to examine the people this order I refused to obey as not acknowledging any power that had a right to detain my ship for search within the waters of a Neutral and at least 50 miles from the sea. the officer then ordered his Boats crew onboard in order to force me to a compliance which I resisted with my officers and succeeded in driving them from the wheel and quarter deck — but not being more than pistol shot from the *Lyon* the officer hailed her and asked for assistance, and immediately three other Boats was mane'd from the *Lyon* and in a few minutes my ship was boarded by upwards of fifty armed men who forceably took possession of the ship, struck the Couloers drove the pilot out of the ship threatened his life if he came alongside without his (the officers) orders —

Finding the ship in this situation I abandoned her to the Captors for I could consider them in no other light — and after being very near getting her onshore twice they anchored with the stream anchor not far from a reef of rocks — about this time the *Swift* Captain Eldridge passed within hail I asked him to send his boat for me as I was determine'd to leave the Ship but was not permitted to make use of my own boat Captain Eldridge came himself in his boat but as he approached the Ship he was ordered off with very abusive Language and threatened to sink him and his boat if he came alongside — in about an hour after he sent his boat with his chief officer in her but he met with no better success than Captain Eldridge had done, and was ordered off in the same manner

The officer after bringing the ship to an anchor demanded my papers which I refused to deliver or even shew him he then threatened to impress every man out of the ship that was worth taking if I did not submit to have my papers and men's protections examine'd. I however persisted in my first determination — I was then sent onboard of the *Lyon* to see whether the Commanding officer there could not have better success with me. But there where one might have expected to have found gentlemen I experienced a Mortification not to be described and was insulted with Language better suiting a *Billings gate fish woman* than a person wearing the Livery of his country Language too indecent to be recorded here but degrading to me as a man and an American — But finding that I was not to be frightened into their view's after a detention of about half an hour I was again sent onboard of my own ship where an officer from the *Lyon*, soon followed me and used milder Language to induce me to show my papers and mens protections I still resisted on the principal that they had no



right to detain me for search within the waters of a Neutral that their conduct was arbitrary & tyrannical that they could never make it good to their own government About 9 o'Clock in the evening finding me still obstinate (as they termed it) I was told I might proceed that *my conduct should be represented to my government and they would have me turned out of my ship* I at this time was determined not to take charge of the ship but to proceed to Canton and there enter a protest, but on more advice I resumed the command again and proceeded on my Voyage under the impression that it would have all the effect to enter a protest in the first port of the United States I arrived at and forward to you a statement of the case It was evident to me as well as all the gentlemen on board of my ship that from the extreme anxiety of the officer after I abandoned her to him that he was conscious of having exceeded his authority moreover they giving up their point and permitting me to proceed without seeing my papers or all my mens protections (for some of them shewed theirs Voluntarily) was a circumstance that weigh's strongly in my mind that they where convinced that they could not establish the principal of searching and distressing Neutrals by taking their men within the waters of a Neutral State particularly if a proper resistance was made to such outrage's —

The american Trade to China has suffered considerable interruptions from H. B. M. Ship's laying near the Boca Tigris — There was scarcely a ship at Canton this year but had one or more men impressed This is a serious injury for those men cannot be replaced in that Country — They have not only distressed ships by taking their men but many have been detained several day's on some frivolous pretext or other after they was ready for sea and dropped down to where the men of war lay —

To show at what pains the officers on that station take to anoy the Americans, I will relate a circumstance that happened about the time that I arrived at Canton — The Carpenter of a ship belonging to Philadelphia was impressed onboard of the *Phaeton* — Captain Wood acknowledged that he knew him to be an american but would keep him until he was ready for sea to punish some other americans that he was *Vezed* with —

Trusting that you will not consider this information impertinent on my part —

[Enclosure]

To Captain Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, Master of American Ship *Beaver*, Whampoa, from Captain John Wood, R. N.

Copy

HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S SHIP *Phaeton*  
*Cheunpee 26<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 1806*

SIR, I have this moment received your letter of the 20<sup>th</sup> Instant. respecting the Seaman James Briant — I have to observe he was recognized the moment he came on board by a Townsman from Ayr in Scotland which he dose not deny and that he left the Slave Ship *George* at Charlestown in May 1806

Therfor under these circumstances it is Intirely out of my power to give him up

[Enclosure]

To Secretary of State from Captain Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, Master of American Ship *Beaver* of New York

Copy

CANTON 30<sup>th</sup> December 1806

SIR, On the evening of the 19<sup>th</sup> Inst. I had the mortification to be brought too and boarded by an officer from H. B. M. Ship *Phaeton* laying at Cheunpee near the Boca Tigris — who after examineing my papers and men's protections, he took with him a Seaman by the name of William Bryant who entered with me in July last at New York as an american Citizen but by some accident lost his protection — I remonstrated with the officer as to the propriety of taking men from me within the Harbour of a Neutral. he told me that he was only executing his orders. I therefor thought it most prudent to submit to what I could not prevent and to write to the Captain of the *Phaeton* and to the Consul on the subject — and when the business was properly represented I had no doubt but my man would be restored to me. However I was deceived in my conjecture for you will perceive by Captain Woods answer to my letter that the man was *recognized as a British subject*. I should not have submitted tamely to search and detention within the waters of a Neutral had it not been for the interest of my employer's, for if Captain Wood had thought proper to take six instead of one man the ship must have lain at Whampoa until accident could have suplyed the deficiency of the crew

I enclose for your information copy's of my letter's to Captain Wood and Mr Carrington together with Captain Wood's answer —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1807.]

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

NAVY DEPT<sup>t</sup> June 9<sup>th</sup> 1807

I with very great pleasure grant you the permission you ask in your letter of the 1<sup>st</sup> inst—Yes! use "one of the Gun Boats to go occasionally into the Bay for three or four days at a time during the hot weather in July and August" and I most sincerely hope that you will find such excursions of service to your health. —

Favor me if you please with the result of your observations upon the Shoals &<sup>v</sup> of your Bay.—

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 7, 1805–1807.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Lieutenant Samuel Elbert, U. S. Navy

CHARLESTON 11<sup>th</sup> June 1807

SIR, Agreeable to your orders I have dismantled N<sup>o</sup> 2, 3, & 9 & moored them in their old birth in Ashley River, all the Hands are discharged except the Gunner & Boatswain & two Men to each Boat —

[NDA. Officers LB, Vol. 2, May–July 1807.]

To Captain Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, Master of American Ship *Beaver* of New York, N. Y., from Secretary of State

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
June 15<sup>th</sup> 1807.

SIR, I have rec<sup>d</sup> your letter of the 9<sup>th</sup> The circumstances which it states have, as you judged, a just claim to the attention of the government; that the statement may be clothed with the due formality, I must request that your oath may be affixed to it. A protest in the usual form before a Notary may be best suited to the case. Had your letter been written in your official character, this formality would have been unnecessary; but coming from you in another character, it might without the ordinary sanction, encounter evasive attempts for which it will be best to leave no room.

It gives me pleasure to find your own conduct on the occasion which gave rise to your communication, presenting so honorable a contrast to that of which you complain in the Officers of a foreign government. As a just combination of manliness and prudence, it is equally a reproach to them, and a praise worthy example to your fellow citizens thrown into like situations.

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

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding, 15 June 1807

Commences moderate breezes and pleasant weather At 2 saw Alicant bearing N W. distant 6 or 7 leagues — At 3 Two Spanish Gun boats stood out of Alicant towards us — At ½ past 4 they commenced firing on the Brig with round and Grape — At ¾ past 4 fired one shot at them when she hove too while Cap<sup>t</sup> Dent sent a boat on board to inform them it was a U. S. Vessell they were firing into and to enquire the reason of their firing they said they supposed us English — At 5 filled and made sail

At 7 came too in Alicant Roads with the Starboard Bower in 8 fathoms water the Easternmost part of the Bay bearing East the South point S: S: W. the Castle on the Hill North and the Mole head N B W — At 4 A M out 2<sup>d</sup> Cutter and called all hands to scrub Hammacks and cloaths — Ends pleasant weather Brig in Quarantine — Weigh'd a Barrel Pork. Philips and M<sup>r</sup>Clennan weighing 208 Pounds

[NA. NDA original, 1805–1810.]

[19 June 1807]

To Vice Admiral Edward Thornbrough, R. N., from Captain Peter Parker, R. N.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> of June being in Company with H M Ship *Endymion* Off the Lipari Islands Capt<sup>e</sup> Capel directed me by Signal to examine a strange sail S, E, b E, on my coming up with her she proved to be the American Ship *Aurora*, from Leghorn, bound to Tenedos, but from her having no Charter Party and her Papers being altogether very irregular & from other Circumstances I detained her & put on board Mr Henry Bourne Midshipman with three Men to carry her to Malta for the purpose of undergoing legal adjudication; & left all the Americans on board their Ship, At Midnight Mr Bourne came on board and acquainted me that the Master had in a fit of Rage shot one of his Men through the body and Wounded another with a Sabre; I instantly sent the Surgeon with Mr Bourne to attend the Wounded Men, & directed the detained Ship should be kept close to us during the night, at 6 OClock in the Morning of the 20<sup>th</sup> the Surgeon returned on board & reported to me, the Mans wound who was shot through the body to be mortal, & the other cut over the hand with a Sabre. — Mr Bourne also informed me that one of the American Seamen brought up the Sabre from the Cabin on the quarter Deck & swore he would cut the first Man down that came near him. I then sent for all the American Seamen on board the *Melpomene* & took some of them out, sending Six Men in addition on board the *Aurora* with orders to confine the Master to his Cabin until their arrival at Malta, a Copy of which order I enclose for your information. The American Seamen cannot account for the Masters conduct any more than they say, he has lately been very unfortunate in his affairs which they suppose drove him to this act of desperation. — The detained Ship parted from the *Melpomene* at 11 OClock on the Morning of the 20<sup>th</sup> and the Surgeon reported to me it was utterly impossible the man could live until evening after having received every possible medical aid

(Signed) PETER PARKER,  
Captain of H M Ship *Melpomene*. —

To Vice Adm<sup>l</sup> THORNBROUGH  
N. B. The Master of the *Aurora* was not drunk —

P PARKER.

(A Copy)  
EDW<sup>d</sup> THORNBROUGH  
[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 3, 1807.]

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

UNITED STATES SHIP *Chesapeake*  
Hampton Roads. June 21<sup>st</sup> 1807

SIR, On Tuesday the 16<sup>th</sup> Inst Capt<sup>e</sup> Gordon reported this Ship ready for Sea, and I have been daily expecting to address you from Cape Henry, Since that time nothing but a strong gale from the North East has prevented our sailing. the Wind is still adverse; but has the appearance of a change

The Moment it takes place we shall depart, and apprise you of our movements by the return of the Pilot Boat, which will also bring you an abstract of our Log which will inform you how we have been employ'd —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1807.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Chesapeake*, 40 Guns, Captain James Barron,  
U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 21 June 1807

First part pleasant W<sup>r</sup> Wind from North<sup>d</sup> & East<sup>d</sup> At 7. A. M. sent up T. G. Yards, loosed Sails to dry. At 5 P. M. got under Way and moved higher up the River. — Commodore Came on board. — this day Ends with pleasant W<sup>r</sup> —

[LC. USN, Ac. 540, 1807-1809.]

[22 June 1807]

To Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, from Captain Salisbury Pryce Humphries,  
R. N., commanding H. B. M. S. *Leopard*

N<sup>o</sup> 1

The Captain of His Britannick Majestys Ship *Leopard* has the honor to enclose the Captain of the United States Ship *Chesapeake* an order from the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Vice

Adm<sup>l</sup> Berkely Commander in Cheif of His Majesty's Ships on the North American Station respecting some deserters from the Ships (therein mentioned) under his Command and supposed to be now serving as part of the Crew of the *Chesapeake* The Cap<sup>t</sup> of the *Leopard* will not presume to say anything in addition to what the Commander in Cheif has stated, more than to Express an hope that every circumstance respecting them may be adjusted in a manner that the harmony subsisting between the two Countries may remain undisturbed —

H M SHIP *Leopard*  
at Sea June 22<sup>nd</sup> 1807

[Concerning Admiral Berkeley's Order.]

The purport of the general order said to be issued by Admiral Buckley was, "that each and every vessel of his squadron should take by force, if they could not be obtained by other means, any British deserters that could be found onboard the *Chesapeake*, and that on the part of the Commanders of the Ships of his squadron, a search should be admitted for american deserters" —

This, as well as my memory serves me, was the tenor of the paper handed me by the visiting officer of his Britannic majesty's ship the *Leopard*, and stated to have been orders recently issued by Admiral Buckley. —

There were several names mentioned in the body of the demand, neither of which were known to us. —

[22 June 1807]

To Captain Salisbury Pryce Humphries, R. N., from Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy  
N<sup>o</sup> 2

I know of no such men as you describe the officers that were on the recruiting service for this ship was pa[r]ticularly instructed by the Government, through me not to enter any Deserters from his B. M. Ships, nor do I know of any being here. I am also instructed never to permit the Crew of any Ship that I command, to be muster'd by any other but their own Officers it is my disposition to preserve harmony and I hope this answer to your dispatch will prove satisfactory

Signed JAMES BARRON

AT SEA June 22<sup>nd</sup> 1807 —  
To the Commander of his B M Ship *Leopard*

[22 June 1807]

To Captain S. P. Humphries, R. N., from Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy  
N<sup>o</sup> 3

SIR, I consider the Frigate *Chesapeake* your prize, and am ready to deliver her to any Officer authoriz'd to receive her, by the return of the Boat I shall expect your answer —

Signed JAMES BARRON

*Chesapeake* AT SEA  
June 22<sup>nd</sup> 1807  
To the Commander of his B M. Ship *Leopard* —

[22 June 1807]

To Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, from Captain S. P. Humphries, R. N., commanding H. B. M. S. *Leopard*

N<sup>o</sup> 4

SIR, Having to the utmost of my power fulfilled the instructions of my Commander in Cheif I have nothing more to desire and must in consequence proceed to join the remainder of the Squadron, repeating that I am ready to give you every assistance in my power, and do most sincerely deplore that any lives should have been lost in the execution of a service which might have been adjusted more amicably not only with respect to ourselves but the Nantions to which we respectively belong —

I have the Honor to be Sir  
Your obedient Hble Sev<sup>t</sup>

S. P. HUMPHREYS

*Leopard* At Sea June 22 1807

[22 June 1807]

**Deposition of Master Commandant Charles Gordon, U. S. Navy**

Personally appeared before me William Thornton one of the Justices assigned to keep the peace in and for the District of Columbia, duly appointed & commissioned by the President of the United States, Charles Gordon esquire, Master Commandant in the Navy of the United States and Captain on board of the frigate *Chesapeake*, who being duly sworn on the holy Evangels of almighty God, does depose & say, That he was on board the United States frigate *Chesapeake*, on Monday last the 22nd day of this present month (June) when the British 50 gun ship *Leopard* fired into her four or five broadsides. That after the *Chesapeake* struck her colors, several officers from the *Leopard* came onboard of her. That this Deponent informed the Senior British Officer, that the Seamen he was taking from the *Chesapeake*, were Native American Citizens. That one of them, in particular, he knew himself to be a native Citizen of the State of Maryland, from his own neighbourhood. The British Officer then replied, if they were native American Citizens, they had received the King's bounty.

CHA<sup>s</sup> GORDON

Sworn before me at the City of Washington, in the District of Columbia, this 27<sup>th</sup> day of June, in the year 1807.

WILLIAM THORNTON

[22 June 1807]

**Deposition of Surgeon John Bullus, U. S. Navy**

Personally appeared before me William Thornton one of the Justices assigned to keep the peace in & for the District of Columbia duly appointed & commissioned by the President of the United States; Doctor John Bullus, Consul of the United States for the Islands of Minorca Majorca, & Ivica, & navy agent to the United States' Squadron, in the Mediterranean: who being solemnly sworn on the holy Evangels of Almighty God, does depose & say: that he was on board the United States frigate *Chesapeake* on Monday last the 22nd day of this present month (June) then laying too three leagues distant from Cape Henry, or thereabouts. That about 4 o'clock in the afternoon of that day she was hailed from the British fifty gun ship, *Leopard*, the flag ship of Admiral Berkley, by Cap<sup>t</sup> H. Humphreys who informed commodore Barron that he had a dispatch to deliver to him from Admiral Berkley. Very soon after a Lieutenant from the *Leopard* came on board of the *Chesapeake* and delivered to Commodore Barron a letter from cap<sup>t</sup> Humphreys enclosing an order of Admiral Berkley on the subject of some seamen, said to have deserted from on board the British frigate *Melampus* & to be then in the *Chesapeake*. Commodore Barron, in the presence & hearing of this Deponent, then stated to the Lieutenant of the *Leopard* that a fair & full enquiry had been made into the case of the Seamen whom he demanded and that after a minute investigation into all the circumstances the British Minister Mr Erskine was perfectly satisfied on the subject, inasmuch as they were Native American Citizens impressed by the officers of the *Melampus*. Commodore Barron then pointed to this Deponent and stated further to the Lieutenant of the *Leopard*, that this Deponent was particularly acquainted with all the facts and circumstances relative to the transaction, and that he had received his information from the honorable Robert Smith Secretary of the Navy of the United States. This Deponent then informed the British officer that he was ready to go on board of the *Leopard* and to give to Cap<sup>t</sup> Humphreys all the information he possessed, but the lieutenant replied that they did not know Mr Erskine in the business. All this conversation was had and explanation given before a gun was fired from the *Leopard*.

JOHN BULLUS.

Sworn before me at the city of Washington in the District of Columbia, this 27<sup>th</sup> day of June, in the year 1807.

WILLIAM THORNTON —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1807.]

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

[Original]

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Chesapeake*  
*Chesapeak Bay June 25<sup>th</sup> 1807* —

SIR, Ye[s]terday at 6 A M the Wind became favorable and knowing your anxiety that the ship should sail with all possible despatch, we weighd from our station in Hampton Roads and stood to sea, in Lin Haven Bay we pass'd two

British Men of War, one of them the *Bellona*, the other the *Melampus*. their Colours flying and their appearance friendly some time afterwards we observ'd one of the two line of Battle Ships that lay off Cape Henry to get under way and stand to Sea, at this time the Wind became light and it was not until near four in afternoon that the ship under way came within hail. Cape Henry then bearing N. W. by W. distance three leagues. the communication which appear'd to be her commanders object for speaking the *Chesapeak*, he said he wou'd send on board on which I order'd the *Chesapeak* to be hove too for his convenience, on the arrival of the Officer he presented me with the enclosed paper N<sup>o</sup> 1. from the Captain of the *Leopard*. and a copy of an order from Admiral Berkley which which another officer afterwards took back. to which. I gave the enclosed answer N<sup>o</sup> 2, and was waiting for his reply-about this time I observ'd some appearance of an hostile Nature, and said to Captain Gordon, that it was possible they were serious. and, requested him to have his Men sent to their quarters with as little noise as possible not using those ceremonies which we shou'd have done with an avow'd enemy as I fully supposed their arrangements were more menace than any thing serious. Capt<sup>a</sup> Gordon immediately gave the orders to the officers and men to go to quarters and have all things in readiness, but before a match cou'd be lighted, or the Quarter Bill of any division examin'd, or the lumber on the Gun Deck such as Sails Cables &c cou'd be clear'd, the Commander of the *Leopard* hail'd. I cou'd not hear what he said and was talking to him as I supposed, when she commenc'd a heavy fire, which did great execution it is distressing to me to acknowledge that I found from the advantage they had gain'd, over our unprepared and unsuspecting state did not Warrant a longer opposition. nor shou'd I have exposed this Ship and Crew to so galling a fire. had it not been with a hope of getting the Gun Deck clear so as to have made a more formidable defence. Consequently our resistance was but feeble — in about 20 minutes after I order'd the Colours to be struck and sent Lieut<sup>t</sup> Smith on board the *Leopard* to inform her Commander that I consider'd the *Chesapeak* her prize, to this Message I receiv'd no answer. the *Leopards* Boat soon after came on board, and the officer who came in her demanded the Muster Book. I reply'd the Ship and Books were theirs, and if he expected to see the Men he must find them. they call'd on the Purser who delivered his Book, and the men were examin'd and the three men demanded at Washington, and one man more were taken away, on their departure from the Ship I wrote the Commander of the *Leopard*, the enclosed N<sup>o</sup> 3. to which I receiv'd the answer, N<sup>o</sup> 4 on finding that the men were his only object, and that he refused to consider the ship his prize, and the Officers and Crew his prisoners. I call'd a Council of our Officers, and requested their opinion relative to the conduct it was now our duty to pursue the result was that the Ship shou'd return to Hampton Roads and their wait your further orders —

Enclosed you have a list of the unfortunate Kill'd, and Wounded, as also a Statement of the damage sustained in the Hull, Spars, and Rigging of the Ship —

I have sent this Letter to you by Capt<sup>a</sup> Gordon in order that you may have an opportunity of getting such information as you may wish —

[signed] JAMES BARRON

[Enclosure]

Casualty List, U. S. Frigate *Chesapeake*

Return of Dead and Wounded on board the Frigate *Chesapeake* — Commodore James Barron

June the 23<sup>rd</sup> 1807

KILLED

John Lawrenc  
James Arnold —  
John Sheckly —

BADLY WOUNDED

John Haden —  
Cotton Brown —  
John Parker  
George Percival  
Peter Simmons  
Robert M<sup>o</sup>Donald  
Francis Cownoven —  
James Epps —

SLIGHTLY WOUNDED

Commodore James Barron —  
Mid<sup>a</sup> — James Broom —  
Peter Ellison —  
W<sup>m</sup> Hendricks  
Tho<sup>s</sup> Short  
W<sup>m</sup> Moody  
David Creighton  
Jn<sup>o</sup> Marter  
Emanuel Fernandes  
John Wilson —

J G T HUNT — Surgeon  
to the *Chesapeake*

[Enclosure]

[23 June 1807]

Survey of Damage sustained by U. S. Frigate *Chesapeake*

Agreeable to yr requisition of this date to us directed,

We have taken a strict and careful survey on the Sails Spare Spars & Boats of the late U. S. Frigate *Chesapeake*, and find them in the following state — In the Foresail, four round shot holes, — Twelve Grape Shot holes, & the Starb<sup>d</sup> Leech cut away — In the Main Sail three Round shot holes, full of Grape ditto, & the foot rope cut away —

Main Topsail, one Round shot hole, Fore Topmast Staysail much injured by Grape Shot. — In the spare Fore Topmast, Two Twelve pound Shot holes, which have rendered it entirely unfit for service

Main Skysailmast cut in too — The 2nd Cutter much injured by a shot hole, which went through and through her, cut both of her Masts & three of her oars in too.

1st Cutter slightly injured —

Given under our hands on board the late  
U. S. Frigate *Chesapeake* June 23rd 1807

BEN SMITH *Lieut*<sup>t</sup>  
SIDNEY SMITH *Lieut*<sup>vt</sup>  
SAM<sup>l</sup> BROOKE *Master*

[Enclosure]

[23 June 1807]

Survey of Damage Sustained by U. S. Frigate *Chesapeake*

Agreeable to yr requisition of this date to us directed,

We have taken a strict and careful survey on the Masts and standing Rigging of the late U. S. Frigate *Chesapeake* & find them in the following state —

The Fore & Main Masts are incapable of being made Sea worthy, the Mizzen Mast badly Wounded but not incapable of being repaired on shore — Three starboard & two larboard main shrouds, two Starboard fore shrouds, two Starb<sup>d</sup> Mizzen Shrouds, Main Topmast Stay, Cap Bostay & starb<sup>d</sup> Main lift. — cut away. likewise the Middle staysail Stay —

Given under our hands on board the late  
U. S. Frigate *Chesapeake* 23rd June 1807

BEN SMITH *1<sup>st</sup> Lieut*<sup>t</sup>  
SIDNEY SMITH *5<sup>th</sup> Lieut*<sup>vt</sup>  
SAM<sup>l</sup> BROOKE *Master*

[Enclosure]

[23 June 1807]

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

FRIGATE *Chesapeak*  
*Hampton Roads. June 29<sup>th</sup> 1807—*

SIR, Enclosed I have the Honor to forward you an Exact Copy of this Ships Log Book

A true Copy taken from the United States Frigate *Chesapeak's* Log Book. James Barron Esq<sup>r</sup> Commander. Charles Gordon Esq<sup>r</sup> Captain, and Samuel Brook, Sailing Master —

Monday June 22<sup>nd</sup> Commences with light Breezes from the S<sup>d</sup> & W<sup>d</sup> and clear Weather. At 7. A M hoisted out the Jolly Boat, and hoisted in the second Cutter, run the Jolly Boat up a stern, at ¼. past 7 — Weighed anchor made sail with a pleasant Breeze from W. S. W. and stood out for sea. at 9. pass'd 2 of H. B. Majesty's Ships at Anchor. Stow'd the larboard Anchor and secured the Boats. at Meridian the light on Cape Henry, bore S. W. by S. people employ'd in clearing Ship for Sea —

This Day ends at Meridian and contains 17. hours

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> Commences with light Breezes from the South and West, and clear Weather. a Ship in sight apparently standing for us, at 1 P M. the Wind

haul'd to the N<sup>d</sup> & E<sup>d</sup>, in Studding Sails. and haul'd upon a Wind and at ½ past 3 the Ship came up with us, back'd the main Top Sail and spoke her, was boarded by her, She proved to be the British Ship *Leopard* of 50 Guns She came on board to demand some Men who had deserted from the English Navy. the Commodore refusing to give them up, the Boat return'd. they ranged along side of us. and commenc'd a heavy fire — We being unprepared and the Ship much lumber'd — it was impossible to clear Ship for Action in proper time tho every possible exertion was made, and not suspecting an enemy so near. did not begin to clear the Deck untill the enemy had commenc'd firing — In about thirty minutes after receiving much Damage, in our Hull. Rigging and Spars, and having three Men Killed, Viz, Joseph Arnold, Peter Shakely and John Lawrence, and 16 Wounded. Viz<sup>t</sup> Commodore Barron M<sup>r</sup> Broom, John Hadden, Cotton Brown, Peter Ellison John Parker, Geo. Perseval, Peter Summers W<sup>m</sup> Hendrick Rob<sup>t</sup> Mc Donald, Francis Conhoven, Thomas Short W<sup>m</sup> Moody, David Creighton, John Martyr, James Epps Emanuel Hendricks, John Wilson, William Warren and John Bates — And having one Gun ready fired and haul'd down our Colours. the *Leopard* ceased firing and sent her Boat on board. Muster'd the Ships company. At Sun down, they left the Ship taking with [them] 4 Men. Viz<sup>t</sup> John Shaun, Daniel Martin, W<sup>m</sup> Ware and John Wilson, who had deserted from their Service at the same time Lieu<sup>t</sup> Allen went on board and returned at 8 O'clock — The *Leopard* left us and stood —

We then made sail and stood in shore having 3½ feet Water in our Hold — Crew employ'd in pumping and Working Ship in for Hampton Roads, got the Anchors clear for coming too. At 6. A M took the 3<sup>d</sup> reef in — The Main Topsail, and set Top Gallant Sails, Held a a Survey on the Masts & Rigging. At 8 Cape Henry bore S. W. Dis<sup>t</sup> 4 or 5 miles, Employ'd Ship in for Hampton Roads. at ½ past Meridian came too with the star board Anchor in 7. fathom Water in Hampton Roads

[Enclosure]

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

FRIGATE *Chesapeake*  
Hampton Roads June 23<sup>rd</sup> 1807

SIR, The enclosed is a Copy of a Letter which I am inform'd has this day been address'd to you. it Contains two Charges against me. both of which I trust I shall confute, I will not presume to dictate to you the line of Conduct you are to pursue on this occasion, an investigation is, I suppose a thing of course and what every thinking Officer wou'd expect on an occasion of such importance as the present Captain Gordon is charg'd with a Message from me to you relative to my wish on this ground but was directed not to deliver it untill he knew your determination. the object of the present is to forward you the charges which those Gentlemen wish to prefer against me, and to inform you that I am perfectly ready to meet them —

It is however probable that I may not for some time be able to travel any distance as my wounds are becoming very sore

[Enclosure]

To Secretary of the Navy from certain Officers of U. S. Frigate *Chesapeake*

LATE U. S. S. *Chesapeake* HAMPTON ROADS  
June 23<sup>rd</sup> 1807

The undersigned Officers of the late U. S. Ship *Chesapeake*, feeling deeply sensible of the disgrace which must be attached to the late (*in their opinion*) premature surrender of the U. S. Ship *Chesapeake* of 40 Guns to the English Ship of War *Leopard* of 50 Guns, without their previous Knowledge or consent, and desirous of proving to their country and the World, that it was the wish of all the undersigned, to have rendered themselves, worthy of the Flag under which they had the honor to serve, by a determined resistance, to an unjust demand, do request the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Secretary of the Navy to order a Court of enquiry into their conduct. —

At the same time they are compelled by imperious duty, the honour of their Flag, the honour of their Countrymen, and by all that is dear to themselves, to request an order may be issued for the arrest of Commodore James Barron, on the charges herewith exhibited, which the undersigned pledge themselves to prove true, Viz<sup>t</sup>



1st On the probability of an Engagement, for Neglecting to clear his ship for action. —

2ndly For not doing his utmost to take or destroy a Vessel which we conceive it his duty to have done —

[Signed] BEN SMITH 1<sup>st</sup> Lieut  
 WILLIAM CRANE Lt  
 W<sup>m</sup> H. ALLEN 3<sup>d</sup> Leut  
 JN<sup>o</sup> ORDE CREIGHTON Lt  
 SIDNEY SMITH 5<sup>th</sup> Lieut<sup>nt</sup>  
 SAM<sup>l</sup> BROOKE Master

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1807.]

To Josiah Fox, Naval Constructor, from William Hall

NORFOLK 23<sup>d</sup> June 1807.

DEAR SIR As dispatches is forwarded to Government there is no doubt you heard of the Engagement that took place between the *Chesapeake* and the British Ship *Leopard* of 50 Guns off Cape Henry, as all the Public Papers will be exasperated against the British I shall give you the best information I could Collect, Some deserters from the British Ships of War at this place had entered on board the *Chesapeake* one in particular who was Gunner on board the *Chichester* who had Embassled his Stores had left the ship while lying at Gosport last winter Entered at Norfolk to go on board the *Chesapeake* he had by the Consul been formally Demanded and refused an Officer was sent to Commodore J<sup>s</sup> Barron in Hampton Roads to Demand him and some others, which was also refused the officer inform<sup>d</sup> him they would take them at sea by force, Yesterday morning at 9 A M the *Chesapeake* got under way; Signals were seen passing from the *Belona* to the *Triumph* and from the *Triumph* to the *Leopard* who immediatly got under way and stood out to sea and hove to about 20 miles from Cape Henry waited the Coming up of the *Chesapeake*; when a Officer was sent on board her Demanding the men, which was refused, the officer and Boats crew returned on Board, when the *Leopard* fired a gun to Leeward as did the *Chesapeake*, which was returned by a full Broadside, which Continued Some time how long I am uncertain however the *Chesapeake* Struck and was boarded by the *Leopard* and their men taken out. — the *Chesapeake* is returned to Hampton Roads the Wounded men has Just arived here 3 OClock there is 4 Killed & 15 Wounded in the *Chesapeake* it has caused a bustle at this place, Please let me know how the Government is pleased with it it is expected there will be war with G Britain, Please to inform me if you hear of any Contracts to give out in the War or Navy Departments I can undertake any thing in the War Department but my getting Sick before has injured me I Expect however my health is recovered perfectly I wrote by M<sup>r</sup> Hall a few Days ago respecting the Timber M<sup>r</sup> Teakle is contracting for, Jn<sup>o</sup> Cornall has contracted for \$6500 worth of the Mast Pieces agreeing to deliver them at Washington Chas<sup>s</sup> Smith has Contracted for some Beams I much doubt they will not deliver them at Washington

P S Commodore Barron is wounded in both legs

[Peabody Museum of Salem, No. 735.]

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding, 23 June 1807

[Alicante] Commences fresh breezes from the E N E. and pleasant weather At Sunset struck Royal yards — middle part Calm — At  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 7 A M obtained Prattique — At 8 sent Royal yards up. Received fresh provisions and vegetables for the Crew. 10 men sick — Ends light breezes with hot sultry weather

[NA. NDA original, 1805-1810.]

To Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, Norfolk, Va., to command of U. S. Frigate *Chesapeake*, from the Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM<sup>t</sup> 26 June 1807. —

You will immediately take the command of the Frigate *Chesapeak* and prepare her for sea. Make your requisitions upon Dan<sup>l</sup> Bedinger esquire the Navy Agent at Norfolk for every thing necessary.

Cap<sup>t</sup> Barron will deliver to you all the Letters he has received from me, which you will consider as directed to yourself and govern yourself accordingly, but you are not to sail until you shall be so directed by me.

You will state to me the condition of the Ship, and from time to time communicate the progress you may be making in her refitment. —

P. S. This is intended to place you in the same situation as Cap<sup>t</sup> Barron lately was, with Mr Gordon as Captain of the *Chesapeake* under you.— R S. —  
[NA. NDA. LB, May 1799–July 1807.]

To Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, Hampton, Va., from Secretary of the Navy  
NAVY DEPM<sup>t</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> June 1807. —

I have ordered Cap<sup>t</sup> Decatur to take the command of the Frigate *Chesapeake* — You will deliver to him all the Letters you have received from this Department, since you had the command of the *Chesapeake*, and remain at Hampton, until you shall again hear from me. —

[NA. NDA LB, May 1799–July 1807.]

To Officers of U. S. Frigate *Chesapeake* from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM<sup>t</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> June 1807.

To  
Lieu<sup>t</sup> BENJ. SMITH  
Lieu<sup>t</sup> WILL<sup>m</sup> CRANE,  
Lieu<sup>t</sup> W<sup>m</sup> H. ALLEN,  
Lieu<sup>t</sup> J. O. CREIGHTON  
Lieu<sup>t</sup> SIDNEY SMITH  
S<sup>t</sup> Master SAM<sup>l</sup> BROOKE. } of the Frigate *Chesapeake*.  
*Hampton V<sup>s</sup>*

Your communication of the 23<sup>rd</sup> instant which I received yesterday does you honor. It will be properly attended to. —

I have ordered Cap<sup>t</sup> Stephen Decatur, jr to take the command of the Frigate *Chesapeake*.

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 7, 1805–1807.]

To Officers of U. S. Frigate *Chesapeake* from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM<sup>t</sup> — June 27, 1807. —

Lieu<sup>t</sup> BENJ. SMITH  
Lieu<sup>t</sup> WILLIAM CRANE,  
Lieu<sup>t</sup> W<sup>m</sup> H. ALLEN,  
Lieu<sup>t</sup> J. O. CREIGHTON,  
Lieu<sup>t</sup> SIDNEY SMITH,  
S<sup>t</sup> Master SAM<sup>l</sup> BROOKE, } Of the Frigate *Chesapeake*. —  
*Hampton — V<sup>s</sup>*

I enclose to you herewith a copy of my letter to you of yesterday's date. —

I have ordered Com. Preble, Cap<sup>t</sup> Hull, & Cap<sup>t</sup> Chauncey to repair to Hampton. When they shall arrive at Hampton, they will be constituted a Court of Enquiry with orders to declare their opinions upon the late circumstances between the *Chesapeake* and the *Leopard*. The Court will be held on board of the *Chesapeake*. —  
(by M. C. Gordon.)

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 7, 1805–1807.]

To Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, Hampton, Va., from Secretary of the Navy  
NAVY DEPM<sup>t</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> June 1807. —

I have ordered Com. Preble, Cap<sup>t</sup> Hull and Cap<sup>t</sup> Chauncey to repair to Hampton. When they shall arrive at Hampton, they will be constituted a Court of Enquiry, with orders to declare their opinions upon the late circumstances between the *Chesapeake* and the *Leopard*. The Court will be held on board of the *Chesapeake*.

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 7, 1805–1807.]

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

NAVY DEPM<sup>t</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> June 1807. —

Cap<sup>t</sup> Gordon will leave this tomorrow to join the *Chesapeake*. He can give the necessary attendance and directions with respect to her repairs so that you can

comply with your engagements with Mr Hay the District Attorney. At all events I wish you to comply with those engagements.

It is scarcely necessary to express to you the solicitude I feel that all the wounded from the *Chesapeake* should have every comfort they require. You will take care that they want for nothing that may be necessary. —

Com. Preble, Cap<sup>t</sup> Hull, and Cap<sup>t</sup> Chauncey have been ordered to Hampton. When they shall arrive there they will be constituted a Court of Enquiry, with orders to declare their opinions upon the late circumstances between the *Chesapeake* & the *Leopard*. The Court will be held on board of the *Chesapeake*.

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 7, 1805-1807.]

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

NORFOLK June 29<sup>th</sup> 1807

Sir, The enclosed papers N<sup>o</sup> 1 & 2, you will perceive are from the committee of the people of Norfolk, calling on me for aid with the gun boats under my command, to prevent an Invasion which has been threaten'd by the commanding officer of the British squadron, lying in the vicinity of this place; You will see Sir by N<sup>o</sup> 3 my reply — The British Commander has also threatened, that he will again take possession of the *Chesapeake* — I have it also from the most unquestionable authority, that they have asserted positively, that, in case the President should issue a similar order to that issued respecting the *Leander*, that they will consider it as an act of Hostility, & will commence hostile operations immediately — under an impression that they will do as they say, I hope, I feel satisfied my preparing to act on the defensive will meet the approbation of the President, & your self; If however it should be thought I have been precipitate, I beg it may be attributed to my extreme desire not to omit any service I might render my country — The four old gun boats are all that can be immediately equip'd for service, those we commenced fitting this morning, they are now entirely ready for the reception of the men, who I trust will come forward in sufficient numbers to authorize our proceeding to Hampton tomorrow — Sir, as I have no doubt, from the threats the British have made, we shall have to fight, I shall not leave this until the boats are manned to my satisfaction, to do which it will take one hundred & fifty men— The British if they attempt anything against us, it will be in the night with row boats, or other boats that they may press, the row boats belonging to their squadron are capable of carrying 500 men with ease, this number if we are full manned, I feel confident of being able to oppose, I beg you Sir, however, to bear in mind that our crews will be composed of volunteers, who notwithstanding their great zeal, will not possess all the skill we could wish — I should however be mortified, if it were under stood I wished to convey an Idea, that as much should not be expected from us, as ought to be expected from any four gun boats, more, I hope will not be expected —

The new boats at this place can be in readiness in a short time should you chuse to order it — Altho Sir I shall always be ready to serve my country in any way I can be useful, I hope Sir if the Frigates are to be fitted out, I shall not be continued in Gun Boats — The Gentlemen who have volunteered their services have agree'd to stay with us only until such time as we shall hear from Washington, what steps will be taken — which will be on Thursday —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1807.]

Extracts from log book of U. S. Frigate *Chesapeake*, Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., commanding

Tuesday, 30 June 1807

Commences with pleasant W<sup>r</sup> At 1 P. M. got under Way and stood up to Craney Island. — At ½ past 1. — Came too & Moored off the Island. — ships Company Variouslly Employed. —

Wednesday, 1 July 1807

Moderate and pleasant, Employed getting Guns in order & C<sup>o</sup> At 12. A. M. Cap<sup>t</sup> Stephen Decatur Jr Came on board and took Command of the Ship, at the same time hoisted the Ensign and Broad Pendant. — At 4 P.M. Commodore Barron left the Ship and proceeded to Hampton. — At Sundown. — All hands to Quarters. —

[LC. USN, Ac. 540, 1807-1809.]

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

U. S. FRIGATE *Chesapeake*

July 4<sup>th</sup> 1807

SIR, On the receipt of your order of the 26<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup> I repair'd on board the *Chesapeake* and reliev'd Comm<sup>o</sup> Barron in his Command. I have receipted to him for all papers delivered me copies of which I shall transmit to you by the next post — On an examination of the damage sustain'd by the Ship, I find it to be as follows, the Hull has received fourteen Shot, which can be repaired in four days by six Carpenters. The Main Mast three and the Mizzen Mast one Shot, which has irreparably injured them. the Fore Mast one shot it can be repaired. the bowsprit Cap one shot, the sails many of them injured but all capable of repair, seven of the fore and main Shrouds, together with the Main & Spring Stays out, capable of repair — the Mizzen Rigging very old, much cut and incapable of repair —

Those Sir are the only damages of any consequence that the Ship has sustain'd, all of which I feel confident we shall be able to repair in three weeks —

When I was honored with your orders I was on board the Gun Boats, four of them are only wanting Men to place them in a complete state of readiness for immediate service — The *Chesapeake* when I took command of her had been brought up into the bite of Crany Island, in consequence of the threats of the British, their movements Sir are extremely suspicious, since the affair of the *Leopard* and *Chesapeake*, they have been at Anchor inside the Capes, and have brought too by firing, at every vessel that has pass'd in, or out the Capes, they have sent many insolent and menacing Messages to Norfolk, such as, if the people did not supply them with articles they might want, they would come up and retake the *Chesapeake* and cut out the French Frigate *Sybell*. This Sir from their Movements it is my opinion they intend to attempt. Yesterday afternoon the four British Ships came in and Anchord in Hampton Roads, this Morning they sent their Tenders, and sounded quite through the Narrows, the present position of the *Chesapeake* & *Sybell* are such, in consequence of the narrowness of the Channel, that if an attempt was made on either of them by the Ships they coul'd not render to each other that support which would be necessary; in consequence of this I have determined to move up nearer the Town where we shall be able to take such position as will enable us with the assistance of the Fort to make such a Defence as may render abortive any attempt that may be made on us —

Accept Sir my gratitude for the high trust you have reposed in me, and I beg you Sir to rely most Confidently on my doing my duty to the last extremity — Conceiving it necessary Sir that you should have the earliest information of this movement of the British I have dispatched this by the S<sup>t</sup> Marys Pilot whom I have discharged —

The *Chesapeake* is now lying with her masts out and I am sorry to add our powder is bad —

P. S. Sir I have just learnt that the depth of Water from Hampton Roads to Norfolk will admit of three of the British Squadron coming up —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1807.]

Extracts from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding

[4 July 1807]

[Alicante] Commences pleasant breezes from S. E. — At 5. P M. loosed & refurled Sails — At 8 John Merritt Marine died of a fever — Middle part Calm — At 8. A M being 4<sup>th</sup> July dress'd the Brig with Signals and national flags and at Meridian fired a Salute of 17 Guns — Rec<sup>d</sup> fresh provisions for the crew Ends pleasant breezes from E S. E — 8 men sick

[8 July 1807]

[Alicante] Commences moderate breezes from the E<sup>4</sup> — At 1/2 past 10 in boats. — At 11 got underweigh with a light air from the South<sup>d</sup> —

At Meridian Cape S<sup>t</sup> Martin's bore N E distant 3 leagues — Ends pleasant weather wind E N E. —

Lat<sup>ds</sup> Obs<sup>d</sup> 38°25'.

[NA. NDA original, 1805-1810.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Master Commandant John Smith, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Wasp*  
Falmouth 9<sup>th</sup> July 1807

HONOURED SIR, The Vessel which affords this Conveyance is the regular British Packett from this to New York, her departure is arranged for the ensuing Wednesday — After taking our departure from Cape Henry on the 10<sup>th</sup> Ute we were benefitted by a twelve days succession of favourable winds which enabled us to effect three fourths of the passage; subsequent to the 22<sup>d</sup> a tedious Continuance of Calms and adverse winds have much deranged our prospect of making a short passage —

Through the variety of weather and Winds we experienced the *Wasp* afforded us every evidence of her many good properties, such as staunchness, stiffness, and fleetness, our beating up the Channel with some English Men of War has established the latter in a most gratifying degree —

My inducements for anchoring here (which I effected yesterday) were the blowing of the winds strong from the East and anxiety to have immediate Communication by mail with London and an opportunity to refresh the Crew —

Falmouth's being so immediately in the Channel Way, and having an excellent harbour makes it much resorted to by Vessels under the above Consideration —

I shall leave this tomorrow for Portsmouth owing to quarantine We are denied the privilege of going on shore untill a return of post from London; the dread of our autumnal fevers and the information of our having lost six men on the passage have induced them to the measure, the difficul[t]y will be removed on our arrival at Portsmouth

The Crew are and have been in perfect health with an exception of the six deaths, three of which of Consumption, one of apoplexy, one of rheumatism, and one of intermitting fever

[NDA. MC LB, 1806-1807.]

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding, 9 July 1807

Commences fresh breezes and squally — At 1 P M tack'd to the N<sup>d</sup> At 1/2 past 2 tack'd to the S<sup>d</sup> and took in Top gallant Sails — At 3 tack'd to the N<sup>d</sup> At 1/2 past 5 came to an anchor in Altea Bay in 14 f<sup>m</sup> water and veered out 60 f<sup>m</sup> Cable the East point of the Bay bore E. B N. the west point S. W. and the Castle of the Town N W. distant 1 1/2 miles — At 4 A M commenced watering with 11 boats hired from the shore — it is a very fine place to water provided the shore boats are engaged — Ships boats being entirely too weak. — I think it the best water in the Mediterranean, by noon 4,000 Gallons was rec<sup>d</sup> on board. —

[NA. NDA original, 1805-1810.]

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

PORTLAND July 10 1807

SIR, Being absent when your letter of the 3<sup>d</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> arrived, I could not reply to it sooner —

\* \* \* \* \*

I have just returned from a four days cruise in the Bay, and find my health somewhat improved by it, but am still very low, altho I have blood enough left in my veins to boil with indignation at the recent Insult and degradation which our flag has suffered — Should the late events lead to War, I pray you to order me early into actual service at sea, and I will cheerfully obey, even if my health should be such that I must be carried on shipboard in my cot — The Cause, and the occasion would soon restore me to health. —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1807.]

Extracts from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding

[10 July 1807]

At 1/2 past 5 sent Royal yards up and hove short — At 7 got underweigh with a light air off the land. — At Midnight the westernmost head land of Altea

bore N W distant 3 leagues — At Meridian Alicant bore N W B W. distant 6 or 7 miles

Lat<sup>d</sup> Obs<sup>d</sup> 38°21'.

[11 July 1807]

Commences fresh breezes from the E<sup>d</sup> — At 1/2 past 1 [PM] came too in Alicant & moored Ship with 80 f<sup>m</sup> on each Bower. —

[NA. NDA original, 1805-1810.]

To Captain Hull of American Schooner *Bald Eagle* of New York, N. Y., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPART<sup>t</sup> 14 July 1807.

You will immediately proceed to Sea and after you shall have discharged your Pilot, not before you will open the enclosed letter addressed to you, and act as you will find you are therein instructed.

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 8, 1805-1807.]

[Enclosure]

To Captain Hull of American Schooner *Bald Eagle*, New York, N. Y., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPART. 14 July 1807.

You will proceed direct to the Mediterranean and deliver this enclosed letter, directed to Capt: Hugh G: Campbell or the Commanding Officer of the American Publick Vessels of war in the Mediterranean, to the Commander of the first American Vessel of War you may fall in with. — If you should not fall in with either of the Publick Vessels of War befor your Arrival at Gibraltar, & should not have gained certain undoubted official information of the Port, where Cap<sup>t</sup> Campbell may be, you will call at Gibraltar & enquire of John Gavino Esq<sup>t</sup> the Navy Agent at that place, who will inform you — and you will then proceed for the Port or place, where you will be informed, Cap<sup>t</sup> Campbell may be, and deliver to him the letter directed to him — Or if on your way to such port or place, you would fall in with any of the other Publick Vessels of war, than the *Constitution*, you will deliver the dispatches to the Commander of such Publick Vessel of war. With the dispatches you will deliver the accompanying letter directed to the Commanding Officer of any of the Publick Vessels of war in the Mediterranean. —

After you shall have delivered the dispatches agreeably to your instructions, the object for which you are at this time engaged, will be effected, and your further Services may not be wanted — But if they should Cap<sup>t</sup> Campell will inform you.

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 8, 1805-1807.]

To Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

*Confidential*,

NAVY DEPARTMENT, 14 July 1807

SIR, Hostile intentions on the part of Great Britain have been manifested towards us, and in consequence, the President of the United States has determined to call home immediately all our Publick Vessels of War, and I dispatch a fast sailing Schooner from New York for the express purpose of conveying to you these orders.

Prior to your leaving the Mediterranean you will draw out of the hands of our Agents at Leghorn all the funds in their possession belonging to this Department — this you will do either by going to Leghorn yourself with the *Constitution*, or by dispatching one of the small Vessels under your Command with the requisite order upon the Agents who are in the enclosed Letter directed to pay such funds to you or to your order, and if possible I wish that these funds may be received in specie. —

All the Provisions and Stores in the hands of William Higgins at Malta, that may be perfectly sound and of good quality, are to be brought home. The Publick Vessels can I presume, bring them, without being overburthened. I prefer that they should be brought in the publick Vessels, but if they cannot bring them without being overloaded, you will bring in them such portion as can conveniently be brought, selecting those of most value, and employ a merchant Vessel to bring the residue in case you should think it more proper to bring them

than to sell them. All other provisions and stores in the hands of the Agent at Malta, that is, all such stores in his hands as may not be perfectly sound and of good quality, are to be sold, and I must, though unwillingly, trust to the Agent to sell them, if you cannot without inconvenience and without delay sell them while you may be at Malta. — The Agent will not it is to be presumed, make any difficulty in delivering up these stores to you. To provide as far as is in my power against any such objection on the part of the Agent, I have written to him the enclosed letter N<sup>o</sup> 1, which however you will not deliver to him unless such objection should be made by him. The letter N<sup>o</sup> 2 addressed to him is not to be delivered until after you shall have received from him all the provisions and stores that may be sound and of good quality. The Agents at Leghorn, at Syracuse, and at Gibraltar, are ordered to sell on the best terms in their power, all the provisions and Naval Stores of whatever kind that may remain in their possession, and to employ the best means that may be in their power to forward to me the proceeds thereof. The enclosed letters addressed to them respectively contain instructions to that effect. You will cause them to be forwarded.

These orders you will execute without one moment's delay. Disclose these orders to no one, not even to your most confidential officer, and you will manage so to execute them that no one shall suspect your object. I send a duplicate of my letter to you of the 16<sup>th</sup> July 1806, for the sole purpose of affording you a mean to allay any suspicion that may be excited on the part of those immediately near your person from the circumstance of your receiving these Dispatches. You will naturally be asked by your Officers for the news and you can tell them that you received my letter of the 16<sup>th</sup> July 1806. And it will be well if it can be done without occasioning delay, to call all the Publick Vessels to one point and to be prepared to sail immediately for America without touching at any Port before your arrival previous to your issuing the orders to return to America. And indeed it may be well for all the Publick Vessels to return in Squadron; but this will depend upon circumstances, on which you are required to exercise your soundest judgment and you will act agreeably to it's dictates. —

The *Wasp*, Cap<sup>t</sup> Smith, will probably have arrived in the Mediterranean before you leave that Sea; but if she should not, you will leave with the Agent at Gibraltar, & with the Agents at Leghorn, sealed orders, directed to Cap<sup>t</sup> Smith, or to the Commanding Officer of the *Wasp*, to return immediately to America. —

All the Publick Vessels under your command are to return to the Port of Boston. Immediately on your arrival there, you will report your arrival to me, and inform me of the exact state and condition of the Frigate *Constitution* — what repairs or equipments, if any, she will require to put her in readiness for actual service & & & And you will order each of the other Commanders to make to me a similar communication and report as to the Vessels respectively commanded by them. I mention the Port of Boston from the impression that there will be less risk in going to that than to any other Port in the United States. If however on your arrival off the Coast, you should find that you can *safely* make either this Port or New York, you may, if in your opinion it should be advisable, make either of those ports, or if, contrary to our expectation you should find it unsafe to enter the Port of Boston, you may make any other safe and convenient Port you can. —

I enclose for your information copy of my Letter to James Barron esq<sup>t</sup> (who was intended to have been sent to the Mediterranean as Commanding Officer) dated 29 May 1807, relatively to certain Bills drawn by William Higgins — &c

[NA. NDA. LB, May 1799–July 1807.]

To William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPAR<sup>t</sup> 14 July 1807

I have ordered Cap<sup>t</sup> H. G. Campbell or the Commanding Officer of the American Vessels of war in the Mediterranean to transport from Malta all the provisions and other Naval Stores of every description in your possession. That may be in good order & of good quality. You will deliver such provisions & Stores agreeably to the requisitions that may be made upon you.

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 8, 1805–1807.]

To S. & W. Y. Purviance & Co., Leghorn, John Gavino, Gibraltar, and George Dyson, Syracuse, U. S. Navy Agents, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPAR<sup>t</sup> 14 July 1807

You will sell on the best terms in your power all the property of whatever description, belonging to the Navy Department in your possession, the nett

proceeds of which you will forward to me in the best way and by the earliest opportunity that may offer. You will sell for cash & upon the shortest notice either at private or public sale, as in your judgment may be the best.

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 8, 1805-1807.]

To Secretary of State from Charles D. Coxe, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS July 16<sup>th</sup> 1807.

SIR, I had the honor to address you on the 21<sup>st</sup> ult<sup>o</sup> p<sup>r</sup> the Schooner *Mohawk* Captain Quarles, via Leghorn, duplicate of which I forwarded to Marseilles. —

I was in hopes to have had it in my power to write by the U: S: Brig *Hornet* Captain Dent, who, I was informed, intended to call in this Bay on this return to the U: States; but as he has not yet made his appearance, and a considerable time having elapsed since I rec<sup>d</sup> this information, I presume he has already taken his departure without the intention of putting into this port. —

Yesterday H: E. the Bey, sent his messenger to all the Consular houses, announcing a signal victory gain'd by his Troops (under the command of the Sapatapa or first Minister) over the Algerines & Constantines, who have lost 300. Killed, 300. taken prisoners & six pieces of cannon, with a large proportion of their camp equipage — The Tunisians are advancing rapidly in order to invest Constantine, which will no doubt fall into their hands, unless the Algerines receive very promptly a considerable reinforcement: This in the present situation of their affairs, is hardly probable. —

[LC. Chas. D. Coxe LB, Ac. 2951, 1806-1809.]

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding, 19 July 1807

[Alicante] This day commences light breezes from the East<sup>d</sup> and pleasant weather At 9 P: M. came to an Anchor in the Bay the U: S: Frigate *Constitution* — Captain Campbell At 10 sent the 2<sup>d</sup> cutter on board of her —

[NA. NDA original, 1805-1810.]

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

PORTLAND July 20<sup>th</sup> 1807

SIR, The 17<sup>th</sup> Inst I wrote, or rather dictated a letter to you from a sick bed — I am to day somewhat better and have visited the Gun boats, the Gun-Carriages, Water-Casks & progress so rapidly that in a fortnight, I presume the whole of the Boats will be ready for service, in all respects excepting Military stores, which I suppose are to come from Washington, as I believe they cannot be procured here.

There will be required, in addition to what I have already rec<sup>d</sup> the sum of 3957 Dollars to compleat the whole of the Nine Gun boats for sea in all respects, excepting Military stores, & which sum I will thank you to forward as soon as may be convenient — Indeed I shall be in want of it by the time it can reach here as all my engagements are made for every article. —

With regard to my health; every Physician, and the best have been consulted both in Boston & here, advise me to take a Voyage of six or eight weeks, and to go as far as Madeira, stop a few days to refresh, and return — My friends here, are all desirous that I should charter a convenient Packet for the purpose, and try the experiment — they all appear to be confident that with proper Medicine, it may be the means of fully restoreing me to health, and that nothing else will have that effect — I now wait only for your approbation to make the trial of a voyage to Madeira, as a passenger on board of a vessel which I shall charter for the purpose at my own expence. —

I should not in the present state of our foreign relations, ask permission to go abroad, were I not in hopes, that in a few weeks, it may enable me to attend to any duty which may be required of me —

The service here, will not suffer by my absence, as by the time I can receive your answer, the whole of the Gun boats will be ready for sea — Lieut Edw<sup>d</sup> N Cox, appears to be an intelligent officer, and I have no doubt will take good care of the Boats, until you may think proper to appoint an officer of higher grade to command them. — As the season is passing off rapidly I will thank you to favor me with an early answer, and also for the requisition of money contained in this letter, as it will enable to compleat the equipment of the boats, & to leave home without embarrassments.

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1807.]



Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent,  
U. S. Navy, commanding, 20 July 1807

[Alicante] Lieut Trippe came on board from the *Constitution* and resumed his situation as 1<sup>st</sup> Lieut. also Jn<sup>o</sup> Brown Ward room Steward.

[NA. NDA original, 1805-1810.]

To Captain John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Hornet*, 18 Guns, from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

U.S. SHIP CONSTITUTION  
*Alicant July 28<sup>th</sup> 1807*

SIR, The U.S. Sp *Hornet* under your command being ready for Sea, I have to desire and request that you proceed to sea in company with the *Constitution* to *Malaga* and *Gibraltar*, where further instructions will be given you, should any unavoidable circumstance cause a separation of the two vessels you will in that case make the best of your way to *Malaga* and wait the arrival of this Ship the *Hornets* Station will be in the Rear and occasionally take the Larboard or Starboard line of bearing, keeping at the same time within Distinct Signal Distance

[NHf. Dent's LB, 1803-1810.]

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent,  
U. S. Navy, commanding, 24 July 1807

[Alicante] Commences fresh breezes from the S<sup>d</sup> and pleasant W<sup>r</sup> At 1 P. M a signal was made from the Commodore to prepare to get underweigh — At 3 P M got underweigh in company with the Commodore

Midnight light breezes tack'd Ship occasionally in company with the *Constitution*  
Captain Dent went on board the Commodore  
Meridian light breezes the Commodore a head

Lat<sup>d</sup> Obs<sup>d</sup> 37° 53'

[Master Commandant Dent returned on board 25 July.]

[NA. NDA original, 1805-1810.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Portland, Me., from Secretary of the Navy  
NAVY DEPM<sup>t</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> July 1807. —

I this morning received your letter of the 17<sup>th</sup> ins. — Deeply indeed do I regret the delicate state of your health. I cannot expect you in such a situation to attend to any publick Business. Lieut Lawrence if not already arrived will soon be with you. Decline attending to the Gun Boats until L<sup>t</sup> Lawrence shall arrive and then transfer them entirely to him. And let me recommend to you to pursue the course which your Physicians may prescribe for the recovery of your health. The sea-air cannot but be of service to you, and I think a trip to the Southward might greatly contribute to restore you. We shall be happy to see you at Washington. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 7, 1805-1807.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Portland, Me., from Secretary of the Navy  
NAVY DEPM<sup>t</sup> 28<sup>th</sup> July 1807.

I this morning received your letter of the 20<sup>th</sup> ins. The sum you require viz<sup>t</sup> \$3957 was sent to you on the 20<sup>th</sup> ins. —

With great pleasure I grant you the permission you ask. Go to *Madeira* or any other place for the benefit of your health, and although we want you, yet I can't expect you to return till you have recovered your health. I mention this that you may not be in too great a hurry to return. —

When you return which sincerely hope you will do, in good health, I shall be happy to see you in Washington. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 7, 1805-1807.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Master Commandant John Smith, U. S. Navy  
U. S. SHIP *Wasp*  
*Cowes Roads 29<sup>th</sup> July 1807*

SIR, I have the honour to acquaint you that we were admitted to Pratique on the 15<sup>th</sup> when after observing the accustomed respect to the Admiral Commanding at

Spithead I anchored the ship at this place, from whence we shall proceed to sea tomorrow —

We have found the facility much greater in visiting their Dock Yards than I could have imagined, in satisfying us they have been very attentive —

The Circumstance of the *Chesapeake & Leopard* as in circulation here is a source of much curious speculation, and the general sentiment appears to be regret; We lost four of our men yesterday by desertion from One of our Boats, they have been apprehended by an Officer in the impress service at ryde their delivery I have required of the Admiral his reply will be received this day; the result I shall do myself the honour to advise you of in my next —

[NDA. MC LB, 1806-1807.]

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

PORTLAND July 29<sup>th</sup> [1807]

SIR I have this day received orders from Commodore Preble to take the command of all the Gun boats at present in this port, with directions to use all dispatch in getting them to New York, was it not for the want of men I should be able to leave this in six days, as they are very scarce, it is impossible for me to say when I shall be able to leave Portland, unless I send Lt Cox to Boston, which is my only chance, the deficiency of Officers I will make up, by employing Captains of coasters who I think capable of navigating the boats to New York, and will use every precaution to prevent separation during the run, on my arrival here I found the Commodore [Preble] confined to his bed since then he is somewhat better, yet too much indisposed to attend to any kind of business he has written to the secretary for permission to make a voyage to Madiera, and is only waiting for an answer, he will in all probability sail in ten day or two weeks if he does not I am fearful it will be too late, I will inform you by post, the time I shall leave this

N. B. the officers at present in Portland are, Lieut<sup>s</sup> Lawrence, Cox, & Row, Midshipmen, Nicholson, Donaldson, Adams, & Pierpoint —

[LC. U.S.N., 1805-1811.]

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding, 29 July 1807

At 12. [Midnight] a light breeze sprung up from S. E<sup>d</sup> the *Constitution* on the larboard Bow. — At 2 sent a boat a head to tow— At 2 hoisted in the Boat. —

At 10 a light breeze sprung up from the Westw<sup>d</sup>

At 12 the *Constitution* astern.

Lat<sup>d</sup> 36°36'.

[NA. NDA original, 1805-1810.]

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

PORTLAND August 1<sup>st</sup> 1807.

SIR, I am honored with your Letters of the 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>s</sup>, the first of which has been communicated to Lieut<sup>s</sup> Lawrence for his Government, — I shall follow the advice of the latter and take the sea air, — I have however altered my plan of going to Madeira until I know what effect the late affair of the *Chesapeake* has on our relation with England

I have therefore chartered a Packet of One hundred Tons, and shall sail tomorrow on a cruise on the Atlantic, — my intentions is to return to this Port once a fortnight for the first month to hear the News, — If I recover my health nothing will afford me more pleasure than a Voyage to Washington in the Autumn, — Lieutenant Lawrence yesterday sent off a Gun Boat for Boston to procure Men, — I have furnished him with money for the recruiting Service & advances &c

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1807.]

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding, 3 August 1807

At ¼ before 8 came too in Malaga Roads with the larboard bower Anchor in 13½ fathoms

At 8. the *Constitution* made the signal N<sup>o</sup> 334

[NA. NDA original, 1805-1810.]

To Secretary of State from George Davis, U. S. Consul, Tripoli

(N<sup>o</sup> 7)

TRIPOLI 7. August 1807.

SIR. I am waiting with much impatience, the arrival of some vessel of war for the purpose of transporting the family of Hamet Caramanli. In my letter of the 2. of June I mentioned the doubts which the Minister had expressed as to the extent of my orders; the detention of the family, and more particularly the return of the Brig *Hornet* without permission to take them has renewed this suspicion; and those with whom the Bashaw communicates most freely, assure me, that he believes the measure to be disapproved of by the Commodore.

The Bashaw's character is not unknown at the seat of government. There are certain moments in which timidity marks every action, and others in which he is alike deaf to reason and blind to his own interest. When under the influence of the latter he is cruel and sanguinary, and, at such a moment, no exertion of mine could save the unfortunate children of the Ex-Bashaw.

The frequent revolts in the distant provinces by the avowed friends of Hamet, a dis-affection to his person even in the city, and the remembrance of past events, keep his suspicions awake respecting the exile; for I can assure you, Sir, with the strongest truth, that the representations which have been made of the insignificance of his friends in this Kingdom are very far from being correct.

It is these circumstances which may probably keep the Bashaw in a state of peace with all the Christian powers. Poverty would drive him to war of a sense of his weakness, and adverse circumstances at home did not check him.

The vicinity of Malta to this port, with which alone it has any commerce, and the strong maritime force of Great Britain in these seas, give her the precedence with this Regency.

France, at this moment, is not so much indebted to her own power as to the Minister Dghies, for the consequence she enjoys here. He has passed some years to advantage in that country and is unfeignedly attached to it's interests. His oracle is the French Consul.

Denmark is the only power to which the Bashaw can now turn his attention; it is very uncertain whether his demands will be accorded to the extent mentioned in my last, but I have no doubt of the affair being amicably arranged.

This Kingdom has been on the decline for many years, and the American war has given it a more severe blow than was believed. On this, the strongest of foundations, we may build our consequence, and our security for peace.

[NA. SDA. CL, Tripoli, Vol. 3, 1806-1811.]

To Master Commandant David Porter, U. S. Navy, York, Pa., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPARTMENT 13<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup> 1807.

SIR It is my intention to give you the command of the New Orleans station — You will repair to Washington for detailed information and instructions — On your way hither call on me at Baltimore.

In consideration of your long absence from your country and your meritorious services, you will consider yourself at liberty to remain two or three Weeks with your Friends, before obeying this order.

[LC. D.Porter P, Let. & Ord., 1805-1808.]

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding, 13 August 1807

[Malaga] Rec<sup>d</sup> from the *Constitution* 4 32 pounders Carronades with carriages &c<sup>t</sup> complete

[NA. NDA original, 1805-1810.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*

MALAGA ROADS 15<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup> 1807

SIR, I left Syracuse the 12<sup>th</sup> of June and anchored here the 2<sup>nd</sup> Inst<sup>t</sup> the *Hornet* in company, where I intended to fill up our Water, and proceed immediately for Gibraltar in the expectation of meeting the *Chesapeake* which Vessel I have frequently been informed was fitting out for this station, but to my great

disappointment and surprize I find on perusal of a Boston Paper, that she has been attacked by a British 50 Gun ship, and obliged to return into Port. In consequence of which I have determined to wait here for farther information by post, and shall take the liberty of sending home the *Enterprize* with every particular respecting the Squadron; I am prompted to this measure in consequence of the time of her crew having expired, likewise that of this ships Company, which has occasioned some discontent among them, M<sup>r</sup> Dyson is the Bearer of this who has resigned his agency at Syracuse; M<sup>r</sup> William Walter Barker is left in charge of our Affairs at that place untill your pleasure is known, the Trabacalos or small Vessels procured in the Adriatic are so much impaired and a prospect of their defects increasing, likewise the probability of their never being more useful to us, has induced me to order them to be sold with all the perishable articles belonging to the Hospital which I hope will meet your approbation, I expect to hear from Algeziras this evening or tomorrow, where I am informed the *Enterprize* was a few days past, M<sup>r</sup> Dyson and his lady were passengers on board the *Constitution* intending for the United States, but the present Appearance of our Political Horizon, induced me to persuade him to take passage in a Merchant Ship which offered this morning, and gave him but one hours notice, which prevents my being more explicit —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 2, 1807.]

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding, 16 August 1807

[Malaga] First part light airs from the S<sup>d</sup> & W<sup>d</sup> Sailed in an American Merchantman M<sup>r</sup> George Dyson & lady for America —

[NA. NDA original, 1805-1810.]

To Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig *Hornet*, 18 Guns, from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution* MALAGA ROADS

*Augs<sup>t</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> 1807*

SIR, You are hereby order'd and directed to proceed with all possible dispatch in the US. Sp. *Hornet* under your command to Malta where you will have all the principal articles among our public Stores immediately sold including the Barcaloes and Gun Boats, with all their Sails rigging & c<sup>e</sup> & c<sup>e</sup> the remaining Stores of good quality you will ship on board any vessel you can charter or freight an American vessel will be more proper for that businiss, as you may charter him by the ton as a Government Transport, you can with great propriety insure him employment for two months, and ample compensation made him for a longer time — Should M<sup>r</sup> Higgins refuse to give up the public stores you will in that case apply to the Govonor for redress which will be your last resource, but should you succeed in getting possession, they must be sent to the US. addressed to such Navy Agent as should reside there — Should you find it impracticable to send them to the US. you must order them to Leghorn addressed to our Navy Agents with orders to sel them to the best advantage — if the vessel you charter has much more room than required for the Stores at *Malta* it would not be improper to order her to Syracuse and take on board as many of our public Stores as will complete her lading, in doing which provisions & powder must be the articles of your consideration, that having accomplish'd I have to desire that you proceed to Syracuse and direct the agent to ship on board as much provisions and powder as will complete the lading of the Store Ship — from thence you will proceed to Leghorn and draw from our Navy agent all the public funds in their possission, which must be in Spanish Dollars, which you are to take on board the *Hornet* and proceed to the most convenient port in the US. without delay — on your return down the Mediterranean it might be advisable to call at Malaga, where you may receive further information from the US — which will enable you to judge the propriety of calling at Gibraltar —

Immediately on your arrival in the US. you must report yourself to the Navy Department, and state the particulars of your vessel, mentioning her defects and the outfits that you may think necessary to put her in a servicable state — Draw from M<sup>r</sup> Higgins as much cash as he may be disposed to advance and give him Bills on the Navy Department.

[NHF. Dent's LB, 1803-1810.]

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

N<sup>o</sup> 45

GIBRALTAR 19<sup>th</sup> August 1807.

SIR, I had the honour of addressing you the 19<sup>th</sup> June last p<sup>r</sup> N<sup>o</sup> 44 when accompanied Copy of a letter from Consul Gibbs of Palermo regarding his Sicilian Majestys Blocad of the Ports of Naples in Possession of his Enemies —

I now beg leave to hand you at foot a note of the American Vessels which have been detaind since my last by British Cruisers, & their fate —

Collonel Lear of Algeir has lately requested to know of me in case of his being able to accomplish some arrangements with the Regency for Cash in leiu of some of the stipulations, whither I would allow him to draw on me for \$20,000 to 25,000 for which he would send Bills on Government, I immediately acceded thereto, and hope will meet your approbation. —

It seems that the Algeren army has lately been Beat by the Tunisians, and in consequence the Algereens intend to attack Tunis by Water, they have signified to the Portugese that they will now treat with them for a Peace, this I conjecture is a finess to prevent the Portugese squadron molesting them. —

I now beg leave to transmit you the list of the last Six Months arrivals at this Port —

On the 10<sup>th</sup> Instant I received a letter from Comodor Campbell advising his arrival at Malaga together with the *Hornet*, that they Expected to have Completed their water by the 12<sup>th</sup> & would imediately proceed for this Port to take some Provisions but the wind continued West untill the 16<sup>th</sup> — late on the Evening of the 15<sup>th</sup> arrived from New York the schooner *Bald Agle*, when I was honourd with the Packet you were pleased to direct me with sundrys for the Consuls on the Coast which were next day Conveyd to S<sup>t</sup> Roque and put in the Post Office; it also accompanyd the Proclamation of the Honourable President on the late event which took place with the *Chesapeake* frigate; as the Comander of the Schooner told me he had dispatches for Comodor Campbell, I Early next morning (as the wind was fresh East) directed his proceeding to the Eastward in quest of the *Constitution* & *Hornet* and if did not fall in with them to go to Malaga, and if did not find them there to return here; but as none of them appeard with the Easterly Wind I Conclude he met Comodor Campbell at Malaga. I also found means to Dispatch an Express from S<sup>t</sup> Roque to Consul Kirkpatrick with the letter adressd to him from the State Department requesting at same time his informing Comodor Campbell of the directions given the Master of the schooner *Bald Agle*; I expect in the morning the return of the Express —

M<sup>r</sup> Dyson of Syracuse came Passenger in the *Constitution* on his way to the U. S. and is now in quarant<sup>e</sup> in this Bay, he says left the *Constitution* and *Hornet* yesterday in Malaga but saw nothing of the Schooner —

I beg leave to trouble you with the inclosed for the Treasury Department.

[NA. SDA. CL, Gibraltar, Vol. 3, 1805-1829.]

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding, 20 August 1807

At 1 A M got under weigh and stood to the S<sup>t</sup> & E<sup>d</sup> left the *Constitution* at Anchor in the Bay of Malaga

Lat<sup>d</sup> Obs<sup>d</sup> 36°26'

[NA. NDA original, 1805-1810.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Master Commandant John Smith, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Wasp* Aug<sup>t</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> 1807

Rock of Lisbon bearing E. by N.  $\frac{1}{4}$  N.

distance 6 Leagues —

HONOURED SIR, The difficulty of obtaining Conveyance for letters to America from any of the blockaded ports of France, as also my objections to sending them by Post to any of the other Ports, induced me to advise you of what concerns us by the first homeward bound American Vessel we should speake within our route to the Mediterranean —

We effected anchorage at the Port of L'Orient on the 9<sup>th</sup> when we arranged for a Quarantine of ten days, a circumstance that surpris'd me much as the Crew of the Ship were then in perfect health. The Maritime Prefets who has the controul of Affairs of this Nature here stated his regret to me in a letter that the decision of the board of health required my observance of quarantine, however

I conjecture that our direct coming from England must have been the sole cause, it was my intention to have got under way some days earlier had the Wind proved favourable —

On the 16<sup>th</sup> we were favor'd with a Change of wind which permitted us to proceed to Sea — Both on the days of entering & that of departure from L'Orient we were boarded by some of his H. B. Majesty's Ships, Composing the Blockade of that Port; their conduct was polite —

The first Vessel that we have discovered (since our leaving L'Orient) standing to the Westward we are now in the act of bringing too; She proves to be the Schooner *Virginia* of Norfolk bound to [space]

[NDA. MC LB, 1806-1807.]

To Charles Prentice from William Eaton, former U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies

RICHMOND Aug 25<sup>th</sup> 1807

MY DEAR SIR, I desire you will have the goodness to signify to me what sufficient inducements I can offer you to pass a few months with me at my seat in Brimfield, and to assist me in preparing for publication *A History of the Tripolitan War*. I have also in contemplation the establishment of a *News Paper* in that village — which — if the encouragement should meet your views I could wish you would edit

Write me, I pray you, at this place and duplicate at Brimfield — And, as you love me, keep these propositions secret —

[LC. E 172-A35 2d Set.]

[25 August 1807]

To Secretary of the Navy from Purser Nathaniel Lyde, U. S. Navy

SIR, A task falls on me of the most painful nature that ever occurred during my life, in announcing to you, the death of our beloved & respected Commodore — Edward Preble — who died at half past 5 O'clock this afternoon, — The gloom which this Melancholy event causes in this Town, is truly distressing, —

PORTLAND August 25 1807

[NOTE.—The stationery on which the above was written was bordered in black. The cause of Commo. Preble's death was consumption or tuberculosis.]

[NDA. Officers LB, Vol. 3, Aug.-Dec. 1807.]

[27 August 1807]

Honors shown to Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

The citizens of his native town determined to pay to his remains every possible respect; and his funeral was an imposing pageant, uniting with the solemnities of religion masonic and military pomp and show. Business and labor were entirely suspended, and the population of Portland and the neighborhood, moved by a common impulse, and forming a large assemblage, devoted Thursday the 27<sup>th</sup> to the sad duty of his burial. It was known at Boston, that the funeral services would occur on that day, and the usual mourning honors were accordingly paid by the shipping in that port. Intelligence of his death reached Washington on the 1<sup>st</sup> of September, a few minutes past noon, and, says the *National Intelligencer* of the 2<sup>d</sup> of that month, "Immediately the flags of the frigates in ordinary, and at the marine garrison, were struck half-mast; at half past noon, one gun was fired at the navy yard, which was repeated every five minutes, till seventeen minutes before sunset, at which time commenced a discharge of seventeen minute guns; when, with the departing sun, the colors were struck amidst the sincere regrets of his brother officers." The event was suitably noticed in other places, while the newspaper press, and the private letters of distinguished citizens, bewailed "the loss of so much professional talent, ardent patriotism, and civic worth, at so critical a juncture." The master spirit of our navy of that period had indeed fallen; but the young men whom he had trained, and to some of whom there is proof before me he had fulfilled the duties of a father, or of an elder brother, lived to do him honor, and to win for themselves imperishable names.

[NR&L. #20734, Bn<sup>t</sup> P 922S.2.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding Naval Force at New York, N. Y.,  
from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPT<sup>t</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup> 27, 1807.—

I have received your letter of the 24<sup>th</sup> inst<sup>t</sup> —

The law for the government of the Navy provides no punishment for duelling; but there is a punishment provided for those offences which most frequently lead to duels. The 3<sup>d</sup> Art. of the act for the better government of the Navy declares that "any officer or other person in the navy who shall be guilty of oppression, cruelty, fraud, profane swearing, drunkenness, or any other scandalous conduct, tending to the destruction of good morals, shall, if an Officer, be cashiered, or suffer such other punishment as a Court Martial shall adjudge". The 15<sup>th</sup> Art. declares that "no person in the Navy shall quarrel with any other person in the Navy, nor use provoking or reproachful words, gestures, or menaces on pain of such punishment as a Court Martial shall adjudge." —

As I am not particularly acquainted with the circumstances which led to the duel between Barrymore and Redick I cannot give any instructions at this time in the case; but if after an investigation of the circumstances you should be of the opinion that either or both parties have committed either of the offences provided for in the above recited articles of the act for the government of the Navy, you will call a Court Martial, otherwise reprimand them. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 7, 1805-1807.]

[28 August 1807]

To Secretary of the Navy from Purser Nathaniel Lyde, U. S. Navy

SIR, I wrote on the 25<sup>th</sup> instant informing you of the death of our beloved and lamented — *Commodore Edward Preble*. — His remains were yesterday interred with all the respect due to such departed worth, — and it is with satisfaction when I inform you the *Funeral* was conducted with all the honors of War, which possibly could be paid to the *Memory of Man*. — *Order of procession* you will find enclosed, — The *Escort, Military*, consisted of Three Companys of light Infantry and One Artillery, which was conducted with great decorum, and good judgement, the Committee of arrangement, chosen by the inhabitants of this Town are particularly intitled to much credit for their exertions on the solemn occasion, — The bells commenced tolling at 8 OClock continueing one hour, shipping in the harbor hoisted their colours half Mast, — at 1 — OClock all business ceased, Stores & Shops were Shut, — On moving the *Corps* minute Guns were fired, and every person's countenance was impressed with the Melancholly seen, — in fact it is not in my power to described to you the respect which was paid to the *Memory* of the deceased, a person was Appointed to pronounce an *Elegy* but the time would not allow it. —

I take the liberty of Stating to you these proceedings of the Burial of our late *Commodore*, knowing the high estimation in which he stood, presumed they would be gratifying, The Nation will feel the loss of a most valuable Officer & protector, and be assured Sir that I have met with a loss that I shall never get over, —

Portland August 28<sup>th</sup> 1807

[NOTE.—The stationery on which the above was written was bordered in black.]

[NDA. Officers LB, Vol. 3, Aug.—Dec. 1807.]

The procession will move at three OClock through the principal Streets in Town to the burial ground in the following order Viz<sup>t</sup>

FUNERAL ESCORT

Military Officers with side arms  
Seamen of the port with flags in mourning  
Justices of the peace  
Judge & Register of Probate  
Sheriff of Cumberland & Marshall of Maine  
Masonic Bretheren of two lodges

CORPSE

Mourners  
Clergy  
Slectmen  
Physicians  
Citizens four deep

The above is only a rough copy taken from recollection

[NDA. Officers LB, Vol. 3, Aug.—Dec. 1807.]

To Master Commandant John Smith, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Sloop *Wasp*,  
from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*  
*Algezeres. Aug<sup>t</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> 1807*

SIR, I am commanded by the Hon<sup>le</sup> the Secretary of the Navy to acquaint you that on your arrival at Gibraltar, you will take on board a supply of provisions and proceed with out delay to America. and if possible make the Port of Boston. but should you on your arrival off the coast find that you can safely make the Potomack. or New York. you may in that case make either of these ports as your Judgement may advise you. or if contrary to your expectations you should find it unsafe to enter any of the ports above mentioned. you may make any other safe and convenient Port you can — On your arrival in the U. S. you will report yourself to the Navy Department. giving a correct statement of the *Wasp* what repairs or equipment she may want or require To put her in readiness for actual service.

(Copy)

[NDA. MC LB, 1806-1807.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

Duplicate

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*  
*Algeziris Road. Sep<sup>t</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> 1807*

SIR — I beg leave to represent that in Consequence of the time of this Ships company Having expired with a few exceptions And in the full Expectation of meeting The *Chesapeake*, at Gibraltar, I left Syracuse the 12<sup>th</sup> of June allowing time to Call at Messena, Pilemo and Leghorn, Prior to which I dispatched Captain Dent to Tripoli for such communication As Mr Davis might have for Government With orders to Join me at Alicant, Which Was effected on the 18<sup>th</sup> of July —

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of August I arrived at Malaga the *Hornet* in company, where I received the account of Commodore Barrons misfortune and return of the *Chesapeake* into port, likewise the Proclamation of the president of the U. S. Respecting that unfortunate affair, which Determind me to wait for farther Information and put the two Vessels In as proper state for defence as the Means in our power would permit, by Mounting the 8. 32<sup>lb</sup> Carronades that Were on board the *Constitution*, two Of them I have on the forecastle and Other two in place of the after Guns on The Quarter Deck, the remaining four I spared the *Hornet* and are mounted Upon that Vessel, Likewise purchased Four Hundred round shot for them. They being as I thought reasonable, Was the cause of my purchasing so many 5. Cents Pr<sup>ts</sup>, which with other preparations Has rendered this Ship as fit for service as She can be without some alterations that Should be made to Enable her to perform Such service as would be expected of her In case of an active war — While in this Situation the return of post brought a farther account of the *Chesapeakes* disaster and of Captain Porter having saild For America, Who untill that moment I had reason to beleive was at Algezeres, A proeedure so repugnant to my orders That I hope he will be able to account For in a Satisfactory manner —

I now Sir come to the most painfull Part of my duty that has ever ocured since I have been honored with receiving Your commands, which is in not Personally executung the whole of your Orders of July the 14<sup>th</sup> which are the first I have received from the Navy Department since September the 6<sup>th</sup> 1806, Yet rest in the hope when my reasons Are explaind and maturely considered They will in a great measure paliate The crime — Your orders reached me The 18<sup>th</sup> of August their contents I mark with With attention and took a view of our Situation in these sease, likewise the Nature of your orders respecting Malta And Leghorn, to effect which nothing More appeared requisite than a little Address and Mercantile Knowledge Which with the following reasons induced Me to send Captain Dent on in the Execution of them — In your instructions I observe a great desire to get home all The publick Vessels with the greatest Secrecy and dispatch, and having at The time I received them decended the Mediterranean three Hundred leagues Below Malta, at a season when calms Are so prevalent as to render Navigation Uncommonly tedious, that might have detaind me in going up and returning clear of the Straits untill the month of November, In a season that would not only render More difficult the ships getting home But expose us much sooner and longer To the British (in case of their commencing Hostilitys) then I presume would meet Your approbation, Espe-



cially should They take a premature step as they have Done by the Deans in detaining them all, With regard to the stores they might have Been stowed in the Publick Vessels the proportion would be small, when compared With the Accompanying list, which would Render necessary the Chartering of a vessel For the remainder and probably cost as Much as if the whole were freighted, I therefore concluded that the least risk Attending the business by leaving one Vessel in place of two, in the Mediterranean would be most agreeable to you, And after a serious conversation with Captain Dent on the Subject stating the Measures I would pursue on the occasion and impressed on his mind the Necessity of Secreacy and despatch, all of which he appeared perfect master of I gave him his orders to proceed, Copy of which [August 19, 1807] accompany this for your Information, I likewise wrote to M<sup>r</sup> Higgins observing that Government had Fixed on a more Central Deposite for Our publick stores in the Mediterran[ean] And flattered myself that no exertion on His part would be wanting to effect the Object of Captain Dents Mission —

The Stores I considered the primary object and should he be prevented From receiving the funds I presume They will always be safe in the hands Of those Gentlemen and may be drawn For through different Channels —

I have other reasons of a publick nature that I wish to Explain In person and request that indulgence — Herewith I enclose for your Farther information, a list of seven Men, whose conduct has been of so atrocious a nature that I thought proper to Keep them in close confinement, untill a court Martial could be held on them suitable to Their merits —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 3, 1807.]

To Purser Nathaniel Lyde, U. S. Navy, Portland, Maine, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPAR<sup>t</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1807.

In my private as well as in my publick Character I have occasion deeply to lament the death of Commodore Edward Preble announced to me in your letter of the 25 ult<sup>r</sup>. This mournful event will be felt by the Citizens of the United States as a national misfortune, and his numerous intimate friends well knowing his personal worth will feelingly participate in the sufferings of his affected family.

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 9, 1807-1809.]

To Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, Hampton, Va., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM<sup>t</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1807. —

By the enclosed copy of a Precept you will find that a Court of Enquiry is called, to investigate your conduct, in the late affair between the *Chesapeak* and the *Leopard*, and to state an opinion thereof. You will also perceive that your attendance at Norfolk is required on the 5<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> next.

[Enclosure]

PRECEPT

To ALEXANDER MURRAY Esquire, *Captain in the Navy of the United States.* —

WHEREAS the President of the United States did give the Command of the Frigate the *Chesapeak* to James Barron Esquire a Captain in the Navy of the United States and did order him to proceed with her to the Mediterranean Sea — and WHEREAS the Frigate aforesaid was on her voyage to the Sea aforesaid attacked by a British Vessel of War, to which Vessel of War she was surrendered without that defence having been made which might have been expected from the known valour of Americans: all which by the accompanying papers, to wit,

- Paper A. being a copy of a letter from the Secretary of the Navy to James Barron Esquire dated 15<sup>th</sup> May 1807.  
 B. being a copy of a letter from James Barron Esquire to the Secretary of the Navy dated 23<sup>rd</sup> June 1807 with copies of the papers therewith transmitted by James Barron Esquire to the Secretary of the Navy. —  
 C. being the copy of another letter from Ja<sup>s</sup> Barron Esquire to the Secretary of the Navy, dated 23<sup>rd</sup> June 1807. —  
 D. being a copy of a letter from the Lieutenants & from the Sailing Master of the Frigate *Chesapeak* to the Secretary of the Navy dated 23<sup>rd</sup> June 1807. —  
 E. being a copy of a letter from James Barron Esq<sup>r</sup> to the Secretary of the Navy dated 29<sup>th</sup> June 1807 with a copy of the paper therewith transmitted by James Barron Esquire to the Secretary of the Navy, will more fully appear. Concerning the cause of which surrender we think it necessary that

Enquiry should be made in order that we may have a faithful report made to us of the causes thereof for our better information. —

The President of the United States has therefore charged me to call a Court of Enquiry for the purposes aforesaid, and you are hereby accordingly ordered to proceed to Norfolk in Virginia to act as a Member of the said Court and being the Senior Officer called, you will be the President thereof. Notifications are also transmitted to Captains Isaac Hull & Isaac Chauncey with orders to appear at Norfolk on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of October next as members of the said Court. And the Court is hereby directed and empowered to summon such Persons as may be necessary to give information touching the said matters, and is moreover authorized empowered and required strictly to examine into the matters before mentioned and to report a state thereof as it shall appear to them together with their opinion thereon. All which you are to transmit to me to be laid before the President of the United States, for his consideration. And for so doing this shall be to you and to our other said Officers and all others concerned a sufficient Warrant. —

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Navy Department of the (Seal) United States this 12th day of September Anno Domini 1807.

R<sup>t</sup> SMITH.

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 7, 1805–1807.]

To Secretary of State from George Davis, U. S. Consul, Tripoli

(N<sup>o</sup> 8)

TRIPOLI 15. September 1807.

SIR. Under other circumstances than those in which I actually find myself, the unaccountable delay in the return of the *Hornet* (as promised by Cap<sup>t</sup> Campbell) would prove to me a source of much uneasiness.

The Bashaw has been pleased to honor me with a considerable portion of his confidence, and I feel no doubt of being able to maintain the respectable and friendly footing on which I am placed. Without this, my embarrassment would be great, between the solicitations of the family of Ahmet Caramanij at Tripoli, the uneasiness and importunity of the father at Syracuse, the suspicions which are still kept alive as to the uncertainty of their departure, and, the exertions of jealous Consuls to ward off their own difficulties by involving others.

I received a few days since, three letters from the Ex-Bashaw, who, at the same time, addressed the English Consul, soliciting his interference for the recovery of his family. Copies of his Excellency's letters and my answer are enclosed.

I wrote to Consul Gen<sup>l</sup> Lear, on the 17, May and 29. of June, stating the impossibility of negotiating a bill on Algiers, and requesting him to forward me, by the way of Malta, the sum of four thousand dollars. I am still without any advices from that quarter, and have been destitute of public funds since the 1. of June.

The sum requested from the Consul Gen<sup>l</sup> was for defraying the ordinary expenses of the Consulate as well as to meet the engagements I had entered into with [code], mentioned in my letter of the 2. of June, and which should be fulfilled on the departure of the family. \* \* \*

Extracts from the Journal are herewith enclosed.

[Enclosure]

EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNAL

- August 9. 1807. Arrived the English Sloop of War the *Bittern* with the Consul W. W. Langford, Esq<sup>r</sup>
10. Accompanied the English Consul and the Commander of the Sloop at their audience with the Bashaw. He received them with much coolness, refused to communicate directly with the Consul and requested him to address me and receive my answers as from himself. The audience was too mortifying to be continued for any length of time.
  14. A private audience with the Bashaw on British affairs, when all difficulties between his Excellency & the Consul, were settled. My visit to the Bashaw was at the request of Mr Langford.
  17. The Bashaw's wife was delivered last evening of a princess. A regalo on such occasions being necessary I sent him a piece of brocade value 194 dollars as p<sup>r</sup> account.
  21. A private audience with the Bashaw.—Admiral Murat (Peter Lisle) arrived from Lisbon and brought a present to the Bashaw of velvet, silks and brocades to the value of about 4000 dollars. The Portuguese have issued an order prohibiting Barbary Cor-

sairs from cruizing on their coast. This measure is said to have been adopted in consequence of the bombastical menaces of the drunken Admiral.

24. A private audience with the Bashaw on P. and E. affairs. He gave the American Consul a female slave Maria Maroot, of Catania in Sicily.
- Aug<sup>t</sup> 25. A private audience with the Bashaw.
27. The different negotiations with Sheik Calipha have been thwarted, as much by the rashness of the Bey, as the increasing demands of the Sheik. The Camp has, in consequence, been again put in motion.
- Sept<sup>r</sup> 7. Received letters from the Ex-Bashaw &c<sup>t</sup> &c<sup>t</sup>
9. Wrote to the Ex-Bashaw &c<sup>t</sup> &c<sup>t</sup>

[NA. SDA. CL, Tripoli, Vol. 3, 1806-1811.]

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet* of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding, 14 September 1807

At 12 saw Syracuse, bearing N N W distant 4 leagues — At ½ past 12 hauled up Mainsail — At 1 hauled aboard M<sup>r</sup> Tack. — At 2 hove too off the harbor Syracuse — At 5 A M stood in for the Harbor. — At 7. Came too in Syracuse in 10 f<sup>m</sup> water light house bearing N E B E. and the South point of the Harbor. S. E ½ E.

Rec<sup>d</sup> on board 1 Topmast, 1 pair Gallowses — 2 boats Davits, 3 sweeps, 7 blocks, 4 handspikes, 1 Grapling, 2 barrels flour, the remainder of a barrel of Coffee, left by the *Constitution* and three Barrels containing Lime Juice

[NA. NDA. original, 1805-1810.]

To His Excellency D. Marcello de Gregorio, Governor of Syracuse, Royal Fortress, from W. W. Barker, acting U. S. Navy Agent, Syracuse

Translation of a paper handed His Excellency the Governor of Syracuse by W W BARKER acting Navy Agent, in Syracuse, Sept<sup>r</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> 1807.

EXCELLENCY, A Transport belonging to the United States of America having arrived in this Port; accompanied by H. L. Keene Esq<sup>r</sup> Naval Officer, for the purpose of taking away the Ammunition, and Provision belonging to the United States, deposited in this Fortress, and with positive orders, to take away the Powder, lodged in one of the Magazines of the Castle, in custody of your Excellency as representative of His Sicilian Majesty, from whom hitherto the United States of America, have had every demonstration of perfect friendship

On applying to your Excellency to send a person with the Keys, in order to embark the Powder, you informed me they had been consign'd by order of His Majesty together with the other Keys of this Fortress, to Colonel Clinton — To avoid delay, I wrote to Colonel Clinton requesting of him the Keys, and he hath replied "he could not permit the removal of any Powder from the Magazines of Syracuse without the orders of the Com<sup>t</sup> of His Britannick Majesty's Forces in this Island.

This opposition, and delay are of importance to the speedy departure of the Transport and contravene the order received by H. L. Keene Esq<sup>r</sup> from his Commander. — Besides this the United States of America, have not confided their Ammunition and Stores in Sicily, to a foreign authority, but solely to that of the Kingdom of Sicily, it therefore behoves your Excellency, to inform Colonel Clinton, that the Powder in question belongs to the Nation of America, and that under the Guarancy of the August Sovereign of the Kingdom of Sicily, it hath been confided to your charge; to be in all cases at the free and uninterrupted disposal of the Naval Agent of the U: S. of America — Your Excellency being responsible for the restitution of the Ammunition deposited in the Castle you will therefore do away every obstacle to the immediate embarkation of the Powder in question — with an offer of my services to your Excellency's Commands and the most distinct consideration

[NDA. MC LB, 1806-1807.]

To Secretary of State from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco  
N<sup>o</sup> 131 TANGIER 27<sup>th</sup> September 1807.—

SIR I have the honour to acquaint you a Messenger has this morning arrived from His Majestys Camp at Alcaassar, with advice of Hashash having been de-

prived of all command, put in Chains and delivered to the care of the Black Troops. —

Sidy Muhammed Selawy succeeds him in the Governments of Tetuan and Tangier. — This change removes from all influence with the Emperor an Enemy of the United States and brings near us one who has uniformly manifested a disposition to be useful to me as well in Public as private concerns. —

[NA. SDA. CL, Tangier, Vol. 2, 1803-1810.]

[1 October 1807]

To Sidi Mohamet Dghies, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Tripoli, from George Davis, U. S. Consul, Tripoli

The undersigned Consul Genl of the United States of America and Chargé d'Affaires near His Excellency the Bashaw of Tripoli.

To SIDI DGHIES, *Minister for foreign affairs &c\* &c\**

The undersigned presents his salutations to the Minister and requests that he will favor him with the following information.

What number of females constitute the family of Ahmet Caramanli, and what number of males? What number of slaves is proposed to accompany them on their embarkation? The undersigned is induced to make these enquiries to guide him in the preparation of a vessel for their immediate accomodation.

TRIPOLI 1. October 1807.

[NA. SDA. CL, Tripoli, Vol. 3, 1806-1811.]

[3 October 1807]

To Sidi Mohamet Dghies, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Tripoli, from George Davis, U. S. Consul, Tripoli

The undersigned George Davis, Consul of the United States of America and Chargé d'Affaires near His Excellency the Bashaw of Tripoli, has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Minister's note of last evening.

The undersigned has fully considered the objection urged by His Excellency the Bashaw to the departure of his brother's family in a merchant vessel; and he deeply regrets it's necessity. But the inconveniences attending a short voyage in a vessel of inferior accomodations, are certainly overbalanced by the prospect of speedily uniting the family with a father and husband who anxiously awaits their arrival. Much more congenial to his feelings would it have been could their conveyance have been effected in an American vessel of war; a mode more suitable to the dignity of the personages, more respectful to His Excellency, and more conformable to the wishes of his government. However pleasing this mode would have been to all parties, it cannot at present, from imperious circumstances, be adopted.

The undersigned must now advert to an erroneous assertion contained in the Minister's reply, which calls on him for prompt correction. He utterly disclaims any agreement or engagement with the Bashaw that the family of Sidi Ahmet should be transported in a vessel of war. For the reasons above recited and which are sufficiently obvious he preferred that conveyance, and certainly he did not conceal his opinion from his Excellency.

The undersigned has the honor to represent to the Minister the good faith and celerity, with which every stipulation contained in the treaty of amity between the United States and this Regency, has been fulfilled on the part of his Government. He has also to add, that they have given his Excellency every manifestation of friendship and good will, of which he had the honor of presenting a very recent proof. Under these circumstances a similar conduct on the part of the Bashaw was expected. His Excellency has agreed that the family of Ahmet Caramanli shall be delivered up to the United States for the purpose of being restored to it's head. Let him do this and his government is responsible for their safety.

With such assurances should His Excellency still continue unyielding, the undersigned must attribute his refusal to motives of a very different nature from that of consulting either the comfort or security of those individuals who are by treaty for the time being under the immediate protection of the United States

When essential engagements between nations are unfulfilled, formalities may be waved. The undersigned must therefore renew his demand, and begs, in the name of his Government, that His Excellency will reflect, that the inexecution on

his part of this important stipulation contained in our treaty, must necessarily compel him to resort to such measures as the honor of his country requires. — He is disposed to believe that a personal interview with the Bashaw, would not only shorten discussion, but might probably give a more favorable turn to his Excellency's thoughts. With this view the undersigned renews, thro' the Minister, his application for an audience and hopes for as early an answer as his convenience will permit.

TRIPOLI 3. October 1807.

[NA. SDA. CL, Tripoli, Vol. 3, 1806-1811.]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from George Davis, U. S. Consul, Tripoli

(Copy) (duplicate)

TRIPOLI 3. October 1807

SIR, The vessel by which I forwarded my letter to you of the 29<sup>th</sup> of June returned to this port on the 29 ultimo and brought me no letters; consequently I am still without any of your favors.

Recent advices from Cap<sup>t</sup> Dent inform me of the order given for all our vessels of war to leave the Mediterranean. This event will necessarily produce much embarrassment as it respects the family of Ahmet Caramanli but decisive measures must be adopted and steadily adhered to. In consequence of Mr Higgins' last communication which informs me that no funds have been placed at my disposal at Malta, I have drawn on you as pr letter of advice for the sum of five thousand dollars for the public service.

The United States will now incur the additional expence of the charter of a vessel &c for the accomodation of the family of Ahmet Caramanli provided the Bashaw will allow them to depart. They can remain here no longer without the sacrifice of a great proportion of the advantages we have gained, and should affairs assume a more serious aspect than I am disposed to believe the vessel which has been chartered for Syracuse will be dispatched to Algiers. —

SIR, The foregoing is a duplicate of my last respects. The enclosure for Government is a detail of the arrangements made here. I have left it unsealed for your perusal. The original is sent by the same conveyance to Alicante. I will thank you to chuse an early conveyance for the one addressed to your care. —

TRIPOLI 15<sup>th</sup> October 1807.

A true Copy

TOBIAS LEAR.— Dec<sup>r</sup> 31<sup>st</sup> 1807

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. 7, Part II, Jan. 1806-Sept. 1807.]

[5 October to 4 November 1807]

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

To JOHN RODGERS esq: }  
*captain in the Navy of the United States* }

WHEREAS the President of the United States did give the command of the Frigate the *Chesapeak*, to James Barron esquire a Captain in the Navy of the United States, and did order him to proceed with her to the Mediterranean sea: and WHEREAS the frigate aforesaid was on her voyage to the sea aforesaid attacked by a British Vessel of war called the *Leopard*, to which Vessel of war she was surrendered without that defence having been made which might have been expected from the known valor of Americans: and WHEREAS by Precept directed to Alexander Murray esq: a captain in the navy of the United States, issued on the 12th day of September in the year of our Lord 1807, a Court of Enquiry was convened for the purpose of enquiring and examining into the causes of such surrender, and was ordered to report a state of the matters that should be disclosed to them, with their opinion thereon: — and WHEREAS in virtue of the Precept aforesaid, the Court aforesaid did convene on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of October 1807 and did hold their sessions at Norfolk in the State of Virginia from the 5<sup>th</sup> day of October to the 4<sup>th</sup> day of November 1807, inclusively; — and WHEREAS the Court aforesaid did form and transmit to me through Littleton W. Tazewell esquire, the Judge Advocate to the Court, their opinion, (copy of which is hereunto annexed and marked A) touching the matters disclosed to them, and the causes of the surrender aforesaid: and WHEREAS by the said opinion of the said Court it appeareth,

that James Barron, a captain in the Navy of the United States and commanding officer of the aforesaid frigate the *Chespeak* at the time of the surrender aforesaid: did not visit the said frigate *Chesapeake* during the period she remained in Hampton Roads, as often as he was in duty bound to do, and that when he did visit her he did not, as he was in duty bound to do, examine particularly into her state and condition: and did, on the probability of an engagement neglect to clear his ship for action: and did fail to encourage in his own person, his inferior officers and men, to fight courageously: and did not do his utmost to take or destroy the aforesaid Vessel of War the *Leopard*, which vessel it was his duty to encounter. —

And WHEREAS by the opinion aforesaid of the Court aforesaid it doth also appear,

that the guns of the *Chesapeake* were never exercised before she proceeded to sea, that her crew were quartered but a few days previous to that time — and had never been called to quarters more than three times prior to her sailing for sea: — that some of the guns of the said frigate *Chesapeake* were not securely fitted in their carriages — that some of her sponges and wads were too large — that but few of her powder horns were filled — that her matches were not primed — and that some of her rammers were not in their proper places: that her Marines were not supplied with enough cartridges, and that none of those which they had were of the proper size:—

and WHEREAS the Court aforesaid, in the commendation they have passed upon the other officers of the Ship, have excepted those whose duty it was to have remedied the deficiencies above stated: and WHEREAS Charles Gordon esquire, a master commandant in the Navy of the United States, was, by letter dated 23rd February 1807 copy of which is hereunto annexed and marked B. attached to the said frigate *Chesapeake*, as Captain under the command of the said James Barron esquire: and WHEREAS William Hook was, by letter dated 4th March 1807, copy of which is hereunto annexed and marked C. attached to the said Frigate *Chesapeake* as Gunner: and WHEREAS John Hall esquire, a captain in the Marine Corps of the United States, was by letter dated 14<sup>th</sup> day of May 1807, copy of which is hereunto annexed and marked D, charged with the command of the Marines attached to the said frigate *Chesapeake*; and WHEREAS, the aforesaid Charles Gordon, William Hook, and John Hall, were on board the said frigate *Chesapeake* at the time of the surrender aforesaid:

NOW THEREFORE, it doth appear highly fit and proper that a General Court Martial should be assembled. [See *Proceedings of General Court Martial for the trial of James Barron, Charles Gordon, William Hook and John Hall* January 1808, published by Navy Dep't and printed by Jacob Gideon, Junior, 1822, containing 496 pages.]

John Rodgers	} Captains in the Navy.
William Bainbridge	
Hugh G. Campbell	
Stephen Decatur jr	
Charles Stewart	
John Shaw	
John Smith	} Masters in com- mand in the Navy.
John H. Dent	
David Porter	
Joseph Tarbell	} Lieuten- ants in the Navy.
Jacob Jones	
James Lawrence	
Charles Ludlow	

for the purpose of trying according to Law, the officers herein before mentioned, for the offences with which they do appear to be respectively chargeable — and accordingly a General Court Martial, to consist of the Members mentioned in the margin, or any five or more of them, are hereby ordered to assemble at Norfolk in the State of Virginia on the fourth day of January 1808, for the purpose of trying the officers whose names are hereafter mentioned, for the offences, with which they do severally stand charged, which are also hereafter mentioned.

that is to say:

The General Court Martial hereby ordered to assemble, is to try, according to Law,

**JAMES BARRON** esquire, a captain in the Navy of the United States.

1<sup>st</sup> For negligently performing the duty assigned him.

SPECIFICATION.

In that he did not visit the Frigate *Chesapeake* during the period she remained in Hampton Roads, and before she proceeded to sea, as often as he was in duty bound to do. In that when he did visit her, he did not, as it was his bounden duty to do, examine particularly into her state and condition.

2nd. For neglecting on the probability of an engagement to clear his Ship for action. —

## SPECIFICATION.

In that certain threats on the part of a commander of a British Vessel of War, that he would take by force, if he could not otherwise obtain them, certain men from on board the frigate *Chesapeake* — and that such threats were known to or heard by the said James Barron — and still he neglected to clear his ship for action. In that there were various indications of a hostile disposition towards the frigate *Chesapeake*, exhibited by the British Ship of war the *Leopard* — to wit: her putting to sea after certain signals had been seen and noticed by the said James Barron, when there was no other vessel in sight or any other object to induce her to go to sea, but the *Chesapeake* — the Ports of the said ship *Leopard* were triced up and her tompions were out a considerable time before she commenced firing upon the *Chesapeake* — and still that notwithstanding these suspicious appearances, which were seen and observed by the said James Barron, he neglected to clear his ship for action. —

In that by various manouvres, which are set forth in the opinion of the Court of Enquiry hereunto annexed, the British Ship of war *Leopard* did manifest an intention to fire upon the said frigate *Chesapeake* — and still that the said James Barron neglected to clear his ship for action.

In that the said ship *Leopard* did approach the said frigate *Chesapeake*, under all the appearances of being prepared for action — and still the said James Barron neglected to clear his ship for action.

In that the said James Barron did receive from the commanding Officer of the *Leopard*, a communication clearly intimating that if certain men were not delivered up to him, he should proceed to use force — and still the said James Barron neglected to clear his ship for action.

In that the said James Barron did verily believe, from the communication he received from the Commanding Officer of the said ship *Leopard*, that the said ship would fire upon the said frigate *Chesapeake*, or take by force if they could not be obtained by other means, any British Deserters that could be found on board the *Chesapeake* — and still the said James Barron neglected to clear his ship for action. —

3<sup>d</sup> For Failing to encourage in his own person, his Inferior Officers and Men to fight courageously —

## SPECIFICATION.

In that he did not on the first moment of an indication or suspicious appearance of a hostile intention on the part of the said ship *Leopard*, order his men to quarters. In that he did not, after he was satisfied that an attack upon his ship would be made, use prompt and officerlike measures to prepare his ship for battle. —

In that when he did order his men to quarters he did not order them as became an officer of the American Navy. —

In that he ordered that the drum should desist from beating, and that the men should be got to quarters secretly without beat of drum.

In that from the manner in which he ordered his men to quarters, he did not evince a determination bravely to defend his ship.

In that he was not at his station during the attack aforesaid, but remained a considerable part of the time at the Gangway as if imploring forbearance. —

In that he drew his men, or some of them, from their guns to lowering down a boat or boats, to send on board of the attacking ship, during her attack upon him. —

In that he ordered his first lieutenant from his quarters during the attack, to carry a message on board of the *Leopard* at that time firing upon him.

In that during the attack, he used language in the presence of his men calculated to dispirit them.

In that during the attack he ordered his men to keep down that they would all be cut to pieces. —

4<sup>th</sup> For not doing his utmost to take or destroy the *Leopard*, which Vessel it was his duty to encounter. —

## SPECIFICATION.

In that the said ship *Leopard* did fire upon the said frigate *Chesapeake*, and the said James Barron did fail suitably to repel said attack.

In that the said frigate *Chesapeake* was by order of the said James Barron surrendered to the said Ship *Leopard* at a time when the injuries sustained

either on the said frigate or her crew did not make such a surrender then necessary. —

In that the flag of the said frigate *Chesapeak* was by order of the said James Barron, struck to the said Ship *Leopard*, when the guns of the said frigate *Chesapeak* were loaded. —

In that the flag of the said frigate *Chesapeak* was by order of the said James Barron, struck to the said ship *Leopard* at a time when the main deck battery of the said frigate *Chesapeak* was in a situation which would have, enabled the return of a Broadside in a very short time. In that the flag of the said frigate *Chesapeak* was by order of the said James Barron, struck to the said Ship *Leopard*, without the said James Barron's having consulted any of his officers, as to whether the Flag ought to be struck or not. —

In that the flag of the said frigate *Chesapeak* was by order of the said James Barron struck to the said ship *Leopard* before a single gun of any kind was fired from the said frigate *Chesapeak*.

The General Court Martial hereby ordered to assemble is also to try according to Law,

CHARLES GORDON esquire, a master commandant in the Navy of the United States,

For negligently performing the duty assigned him.

#### SPECIFICATION.

In that he had the command of the said frigate *Chesapeak* from the 1<sup>st</sup> day of May 1807 to the 6<sup>th</sup> day of June 1807 & during all that time he had not the guns of the said Frigate exercised.

In that he had not the guns of the said Frigate exercised, as often as he was in duty bound to do. —

In that the crew of the said Frigate *Chesapeak* were not called to quarters more than three times prior to her sailing for sea. —

In that the crew of the said Frigate *Chesapeak* were not called to quarters as often as the said Charles Gordon was in duty bound to call them. —

In that from the 1<sup>st</sup> day of May to the 6<sup>th</sup> day of June 1807, the crew of the said frigate were not quartered. —

In that the crew of the said Frigate *Chesapeak* were quartered but a few days before she proceeded to sea.

In that the Crew of the said Frigate were not quartered as early as the said Charles Gordon was in duty bound to quarter them. —

In that he did not see that the guns of the said frigate were securely fitted in their carriages.

In that he did not take proper care to have the sponges and wads of the said Frigate of the proper size. —

In that he did not take care to have the powder horns of the said frigate filled.

In that he did not take care to have the matches of the said frigate primed.

In that he did not take care to have the matches of the said frigate in their proper places. —

In that he did not take care to have the marines on board the said Frigate supplied with enough cartridges.

In that he did not take care that the cartridges which the Marines on board the said frigate had, were of the proper size. —

In that he did not call upon the Gunner of the said frigate for a regular report of the state and condition of the guns and all other matters in his department.

In that he did not call upon the Commanding Officer of the Marines on board the said frigate for a regular report of the state and condition of the Marines and their arms and supplies of ammunition. —

In that notwithstanding some of the guns of the said Frigate were not securely fitted in their carriages — or that notwithstanding some of the sponges and wads of the said frigate were too large — or that notwithstanding but few of the powder horns of the said frigate were filled — or that notwithstanding the matches of the said frigate were not primed — or that notwithstanding some of the Matches of the said frigate were not in their proper places — or that notwithstanding the Marines of the said frigate were not supplied with cartridges enough — or that notwithstanding the cartridges which the Marines on board the said Frigate had, were not of



the proper size, He, the said Charles Gordon, did report to the said James Barron, that the said frigate *Chesapeak* was ready for sea. —

In that the said Charles Gordon did report to the said James Barron that the said frigate *Chesapeak* was ready for sea, when she was not ready for sea. —

In that he did not, upon the said James Barron's going on board the said frigate, report to him the exact and particular state and condition of the said frigate; but suffered the said James Barron to remain under the erroneous impression, excited by the report he had made to him, that the said frigate was ready for sea. —

In that notwithstanding certain indications of a hostile intention, exhibited towards the said frigate, by the said ship *Leopard*, the said Charles Gordon did not report to the said James Barron the exact state and condition of the said Frigate *Chesapeak*. —

In that the said Charles Gordon never did make to the said James Barron, a true and faithful report of the exact state and condition of the said frigate *Chesapeak*.

The General Court Martial hereby ordered to assemble is to try according to Law,  
WILLIAM HOOK — Gunner of the said frigate *Chesapeak*,  
For negligently performing the duty assigned him.

## SPECIFICATION.

In that he did not have all the guns of the said frigate securely fitted in their carriages. —

In that he did not take care to have all the sponges & wads of the said frigate of the proper size. —

In that he did not fill the powder horns of the said frigate.

In that he did not prime the matches of the said frigate.

In that he had not the matches of the said frigate in their proper places. —

In that notwithstanding certain indications of a hostile intention exhibited towards the said frigate by the said ship *Leopard*, he did not report to the said Charles Gordon the exact state and condition of the guns and other matters in his Department. —

In that he never did make to the said Charles Gordon a true and faithful report of the exact state and condition of the guns and other matters in his department. —

In that the said W<sup>m</sup> Hook did not repair to his quarters when first ordered to do so.

In that the said W<sup>m</sup> Hook did not repair to his quarters until after repeated orders to that effect were given to him. —

In that the said W<sup>m</sup> Hook did not repair to his quarters until after the said Ship *Leopard* had commenced firing upon the said frigate *Chesapeak* notwithstanding repeated orders had been given to him to that effect. —

The General Court Martial hereby ordered to assemble is also to try according to Law,

JOHN HALL esq. a captain in the Marine Corps.

For negligently performing the duty assigned him. —

## SPECIFICATION.

In that he did not take care to have the Marines on board the said frigate supplied with enough cartridges. —

In that he did not take care to have such cartridges as the Marines had of the proper size. —

In that notwithstanding certain indications of a hostile intention exhibited towards the said frigate *Chesapeak* by the said ship *Leopard*, he did not report to his commanding Officer the exact state and condition of the Marines, on board the said frigate *Chesapeak*, their arms and supplies of ammunition —

In that he never did make to his commanding officer on board the said frigate, a true and faithful report of the exact state and condition of the Marines on board the said frigate, their arms and supplies of ammunition. —

And now Littleton W. Tazewell esquire is hereby appointed Judge Advocate to the Court hereby ordered to assemble, and if he should decline acting, the said Court will appoint such other suitable gentleman, learned in the Law, to discharge

the duties of Judge Advocate to the said Court as they, or a majority of them, may, in their wisdom, deem fit and proper.

In Faith whereof I hereunto sign my name, and affix the seal of the Navy  
(SEAL) Department of the United States this seventh day of December, in the  
year of our Lord 1807. —

Rt SMITH,  
Secretary of the Navy  
of the United States of America.

A — MENTIONED IN THE PRECEPT

At a Court of Enquiry assembled on board the United States Ship *Chesapeake* in the harbor of Norfolk & State of Virginia, by order of the honorable Robert Smith Secretary of the Navy of the United States, and continued by adjournment from day to day from monday the 5<sup>th</sup> day of october 1807 until wednesday the 4<sup>th</sup> day of November 1807.

Present

Captain ALEXANDER MURRAY, *President*  
and

Captain ISAAC HULL and }  
Captain ISAAC CHAUNCEY } *members therof.*

The following opinion and report was unanimously given and directed by the Court to be transmitted to the Honorable the Secretary of the Navy of the United States.

Pursuant to an order from the honorable Robert Smith Secretary of the Navy of the United States to Captain Alexander Murray directed dated the 12<sup>th</sup> day of September in the year of our Lord 1807, the Court proceeded to enquire into the causes of the surrender of the *Chesapeake*, a frigate of the United States, then under the command of James Barron esquire, a captain in the Navy of the navy of the United States, to a British vessel of war, which surrender was made (as it is in the said order stated) without that defence having been made, which might have been expected from the known valor of Americans, and having heard all the evidence adduced before them as well by the Judge Advocate as by the said captain James Barron, and having maturely and thoroughly considered the same (captain James Barron having declined to offer any defence) REPORT to the honorable the Secretary of the navy, as by his said warrant they are required to do, a state of the matters touching the said surrender, together with their opinion thereon, as followeth, —

1. — It appears to the court that the United States ship *Chesapeake* of 38 guns then under the command of James Barron esquire, a captain in the Navy of the United States, sailed from Hampton roads, on an intended cruise in the mediterranean sea, on the morning of the 22<sup>d</sup> of June last past, having on board a crew consisting of more than 370 men, and completely equipped with every thing necessary for such a ship of war sailing on such a cruise. —

2. — It appears to the Court that captain James Barron was appointed commodore of the ships and vessels destined for the Mediterranean service on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of May last past, and hoisted his broad pendant on board the *Chesapeake* the first time he came on board of her, after her arrival in Hampton roads, to wit, on or about the 6<sup>th</sup> day of June last past.

3. — It appears to the court that commodore Barron visited the *Chesapeake* only twice during the period she remained in Hampton roads, and before he came on board to proceed to sea, on neither of which occasions did he examine particularly into her state and condition. —

4<sup>th</sup> — It appears to the court, that the guns of the *Chesapeake* were never exercised before she proceeded to sea; that her crew were quartered but a few days previous to that time, and had never been called to quarters, more than three times prior to her sailing for sea. —

5<sup>th</sup> — It appears to the Court, that the ship was reported to commodore Barron to be ready for sea on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of June, that he came on board on the 21<sup>st</sup> and that the ship sailed on the morning of the 22<sup>d</sup> of June last past. —

6<sup>th</sup> — It appears to the Court that antecedent to the sailing of the *Chesapeake* there had been received on board of her some persons, who had been claimed by the British Government as deserters from their service, but had not been ordered to be delivered up by the American Officers — that there was also a report in circulation and generally known on board the *Chesapeake* that a threat had been used by the captain of the British ship of war *Melampus* to take these men from the *Chesapeake*. That commodore Barron had full knowledge of the facts that such men were on board his ship, that they had been demanded by the

British Government, and had not been delivered up, the court are perfectly satisfied; but no *positive* evidence has been adduced to prove that the report of the threat above mentioned, was communicated to him before his ship sailed. —

7<sup>th</sup> — It appears to the court that the *Chesapeake* in proceeding from Hampton Roads to sea passed a British squadron at anchor in Lynhaven Bay, who at the time of her passing them were making signals to each other; which was not only reported to Commodore Barron by one of his officers, but actually observed by himself. —

8<sup>th</sup> — It appears to the Court, that the British ship of war *Leopard* of 50 guns, one of the squadron then at anchor within the limits of the United States, weighed immediately after these signals were thrown out, and stood to sea. —

9<sup>th</sup> — It does not appear to the Court, that at this time there was any vessel in sight, or any other object to induce her to sea but the *Chesapeake*.

10<sup>th</sup> — It appears to the Court, that at the time the *Leopard* got under weigh the wind was at S.S.W, and therefore fair for her to proceed to sea, but that instead of availing herself of this to clear the land, she hauled by the wind, close round Cape Henry, and stood to the Southward, under easy sail, thereby shewing that it was not her intention to get off the land speedily.

11<sup>th</sup>. It appears to the Court that after this the wind became light and baffling and likely to shift and come out from the Eastward, and that when this happened, the *Leopard* shortened sail and stood to the Eastward. —

12<sup>th</sup> It appears to the Court that after this the wind did come out from about S. S. E, and that the *Leopard* having thus got the weather gage preserved it by tacking in shore when the *Chesapeake* did so, in order to get off her Pilot, and after the *Chesapeake* again stood off to the Eastward, that the *Leopard* wore and bore down for her. —

13<sup>th</sup>. It appears to the Court that when the *Leopard* tacked and stood in shore on the same tack with the *Chesapeake*, her lower deck ports were all triced up. —

14<sup>th</sup>. It appears to the Court that when the *Leopard* run down for the *Chesapeake* she rounded too on her starboard quarter and to windward of her and that at this time her tompions were out of her guns. —

15<sup>th</sup>. It appears to the Court that Commodore Barron was upon deck observing the *Leopard* during the time these manœuvres were practising and appearances exhibited.

16<sup>th</sup>. The Court is of opinion, that the circumstances above stated were in themselves so suspicious as to have furnished sufficient warning to a prudent, discreet, and attentive Officer of the probable designs of a ship of war conducted in that way and ought to have induced Commodore Barron to have prepared his ship for action; especially with the information he possessed of the situation of his crew generally, of those who had been demanded by the British Government particularly and of the general state of the ship at that time. —

17<sup>th</sup> It appears to the Court that Commodore Barron nevertheless did not order his ship to be cleared for action, and that he did not call his men to quarters.

18<sup>th</sup> It appears to the Court, that when the *Leopard* came alongside the *Chesapeake*, an officer was sent from her with a communication from Captain Humphries the captain of the *Leopard* to commodore Barron, which the latter could not and did not misunderstand, but very correctly concluded to be a demand with which he ought not and could not comply, and one which if refused, would be enforced if possible.

19<sup>th</sup> It appears to the Court that although such was the situation and impressions of Commodore Barron at this time yet that he did not still order his ship to be prepared for action, although ample time was allowed for that purpose, the British officer being detained on board the *Chesapeake* from 35 to 45 minutes. —

20<sup>th</sup> The Court is of opinion that the neglect of Commodore Barron to order his ship to be prepared for action under such circumstances, is a direct breach of the 4<sup>th</sup> Article of the rules and regulations for the government of the Navy of the United States adopted by an Act of the congress of the U: S. passed on the 23<sup>d</sup> day of April 1800, and entitled "An Act for the better government of the Navy of the United States". — [See *Naval Documents, Quasi-War with France*, Vol. 7, page 462.]

21<sup>st</sup> — It appears to the court, that after the british officer left the *Chesapeake*, bearing a positive refusal from commodore Barron to the demand which had been made by captain Humphries, and after commodore Barron was himself satisfied that an attack upon his ship would be made, he did not take prompt, necessary, and efficient means to prepare his ship for battle. That his first order was merely to clear his gundeck and his second given after the lapse of some time was to get his men to quarters secretly, without beat of drum; although with such a crew as

he had on board, and in such a situation as the ship then was, it was not to be expected that such orders could be effectually accomplished.

22<sup>nd</sup> It appears to the Court that the conduct of commodore Barron during the attack of the *Leopard* manifested great indecision, and a disposition to negotiate rather than a determination bravely to defend his ship — that he repeatedly hailed the *Leopard* during her attack upon him — that he drew his men from their guns to lowering down boats to send on board of the attacking ship — and that he ordered his first lieutenant from his quarters during the attack, to carry a message on board of the *Leopard* at that time firing upon him. —

23<sup>d</sup> It appears to the Court, that during the attack, Commodore Barron used language in the presence of his men calculated to dispirit his crew by ordering them to keep down that they would all be cut to pieces. —

24<sup>th</sup> — It appears to the court that commodore Barron ordered the colours of the *Chesapeake* to be struck, and that they were struck, before a single gun of any kind was fired from her, and that at the time they were so struck, her main deck battery was in a situation which would have enabled the return of a broadside in a very short time. —

25<sup>th</sup> The court is therefore of opinion that the *Chesapeake* was prematurely surrendered, at a time when she was nearly prepared for battle and when the injuries sustained either in the ship or crew did not make such a surrender then necessary, and that for this commodore Barron falls under a part of the 6<sup>th</sup> article of the rules and regulations for the government of the Navy of the U. S. adopted by an Act of the congress of the U: S, passed on the 23<sup>d</sup> day of April 1800, entitled "an Act for the better government of the Navy of the United States". —

26<sup>th</sup> The court is of opinion that although the conduct of commodore Barron before and during the attack of the *Leopard* evinced great inattention to his duty, and want of decision, yet that during that attack he exposed his person, and did not manifest either by his orders or actions, any personal fear, or want of courage.

27<sup>th</sup> It appears to the Court that although the *Chesapeake* might and ought to have been better defended than she was, yet that she was not in a situation at the time of the attack made upon her, to have enabled so gallant a defence being made as might be expected. Some of her guns were not securely fitted on their carriages, some of her sponges & wads were too large, but few of her Powder Horns were filled, her matches were not primed, some of her rammers were not in their proper places, her marines were not supplied with enough cartridges, and none of those which they had were of the proper size. These circumstances however could not have influenced commodore Barron in striking his colours, because they were not known to him at the time. —

28<sup>th</sup> The court is of opinion, that the conduct of all the other officers of the *Chesapeake* (except those whose duty it was to have remedied the deficiencies before stated) was proper, commendable and honorable. —

29<sup>th</sup> The court is lastly of opinion that the causes of the surrender of the *Chesapeake* were, her being attacked by a ship of superior force at a time, when such an attack having not been expected by her commander, no sufficient preparation for resistance had been made. That there were abundant causes however, to have induced the expectation of such an attack, and that there was ample time to have made such preparation, the court have already stated. That the ship was prematurely surrendered even [under] such circumstances the court have also stated, and the reasons of such want of preparation and improper surrender will be found fully exhibited in former parts of this report. —

The Court having now fully performed the duties assigned to it in the warrant of the honorable Secretary of the Navy adjourned without day. —

LITT<sup>l</sup> W. TAZEWELL,  
Judge Advocate.

signed, A. MURRAY  
Capt N. U. S. —

PAPER B. MENTIONED IN THE PRECEPT

M. Commd: CHARLES GORDON,  
Present.

SIR, You will immediately place yourself under command of Com. Jas Barron under whom you are to act as Captain of the frigate *Chesapeake* to which ship you are hereby attached. —  
respectfully,

NAVY DEPT<sup>t</sup>  
Febr 23<sup>d</sup> 1807. —

R<sup>t</sup> SMITH.

## PAPER C, MENTIONED IN THE PRECEPT. —

NAVY DEP<sup>t</sup>  
March 4, 1807. —

Gunner WILLIAM HOOK,  
Navy Yard.

Upon receipt hereof you will place yourself under command of the Commanding Officer of the *Chesapeake* to which ship you are hereby attached. —

R<sup>t</sup> SMITH.

## PAPER D, MENTIONED IN THE PRECEPT. —

WASHINGTON *May 14<sup>th</sup> 1807*

Cap<sup>t</sup> JOHN HALL,

SIR, You will receive as forming your command on board of the United States frigate *Chesapeake*, one subaltern, 3 Sergeants, 2 corporals, and 45 Privates, with which you will proceed on board immediately & report yourself with it to Captain Charles Gordon at present her commander. You will receive from the Staff the returns which are necessary, and the quarter master will deliver to you with other papers an invoice of clothing, Military stores &c &c packed for your delivery to the Detachment on board, or any other which may be under your charge, as senior officer in the squadron, when such articles are by you deemed necessary for the same. It will be useless here to mention the duties, which may or may not be expected from our men while serving at sea; I may presume as they are unacquainted with the service of seamen, that they will not be ordered aloft: The commanding officer on board I am sure will, if he is desirous that the Detachment should appear military, exact of you or your command, no duty unpleasant or severe, as being unmilitary for you to perform. Written orders in preference to the verbal, whenever the occasion will permit them I must recommend to you, as they admit not misconception, they certainly when attainable ought to be expected. The fatigue dress and the intention of it you are too well acquainted with, to make necessary any remarks here, it is a part of the publick property and must be equally as well preserved as the uniform: The former you know is to be used at particular times, and under particular circumstances as an Undress, the latter equally so as the Dress of the Corps; loss of either must be made up by the Soldier suffering it to take place, in the way most eligible in your opinion. As Senior Officer on the station I shall look to you for all communications which may relate to our men there. Our officers will apply to you as such, and the regular returns for the Staff must be delivered to you by them, and by you transmitted to Head Quarters — great care with great responsibility consequently will be required from, and attached to your situation. As you know how essential to the Adjutant a correct knowledge is as to dates in the payment of the men, and as you know loss cannot be his which may arise from the errors of others, I have to request that you will urge to our officers with you, the propriety of attention to them in their Pay rolls to the Paymaster, that they may avoid the loss, if any should happen from their neglect, by men discharged in the receipt of more pay than was actually due to them. For the purpose of sending home the Italians now of the Band, at their request so to go, I have added them to your command as music; you will on reaching that home, as they have been clothed to the 15<sup>th</sup> of August next, the supposed time necessary there to reach, pay as usual to that period, and give to them the discharges, which will by the adjutant be delivered to you from me. You will receive from Lt Amory now in the Mediterranean, the clothing, military stores &c &c which he may hold beyond the quantity necessary for his Detachment when relieved, or you will receive from him the necessary papers for the procurement of them if on shore, under receipts, that he may deliver to the Quarter Master, an account of the articles so transferred, that you may be charged with them. Supplies will be regularly furnished from this, to meet any exigence which it is presumed will happen in the Quarter Master Department. You will therefore, unless it is evident that such supplies have miscarried from unavoidable accidents on the passage, or that they are with-held from causes which you could not in time be advised of, make no purchases of clothing on account of that Department. No appropriation contemplated to meet such casualties, you must ultimately if engaged in them without necessity be involved in difficulties and losses, equally so any officer on that station, so acting without information from you. By every opportunity you will report to me the state of the Detachment

in the Squadron, and you will as often as may be in your power, furnish for the Staff such returns as are required. —

signed FRANKLIN WHARTON  
L<sup>t</sup> Col<sup>e</sup> Com<sup>d</sup> M. C.

[Commodore James Barron was sentenced by Court Martial "to be suspended from all command in the navy of the United States, and this without any pay or official emoluments of any kind, for the period and term of five years, from this eighth day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eight."]

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 7, 1805-1807.]

[7 October 1807]

To Hamet Caramanli, Rightful Bashaw of Tripoli, from George Davis, U. S. Consul,  
Tripoli

GEORGE DAVIS

*Consul of the United States of America for the Regency of Tripoli —*

To His Excellency AHMET CARAMANLI.

The vessel by which you will receive this letter, conveys to you your wife, three sons and one daughter. Your other daughter, the wife of the Bey, preferring to remain with her husband, has been allowed her option.

The effects belonging to your family accompany them, together with the number of slaves fixed upon by your wife.

His Excellency Jussuph Bashaw has promised thro' my representations to make, from time to time, such remittances as he may deem necessary for your support. As he will be guided by the dictates of his own breast, both as to the time of sending you supplies and their value, it will be unnecessary, thro' any channel to solicit him upon either of those points.

Should the provisions allowed you by your brother be unequal to your expectations, or should it at any future period be totally discontinued, you are not thence to found any claim upon the American government. The United States did not feel themselves authorised to demand such a concession and they never will insist upon it's performance.

In the mean time your Excellency may rely upon my good offices and best exertions for your interest.

TRIPOLI 7. October 1807.

[NA. SDA. CL, Tripoli, Vol. 3, 1806-1811.]

To Secretary of the Navy from George Dyson, New York, N. Y.

NEW YORK 11<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1807

SIR, I have the honor to forward you the enclosed Letter from Capt<sup>a</sup> Campbell, who I left in Malaga on the 14<sup>th</sup> august with the *Constitution & Hornet*, a Schooner came into Gibraltar & landed dispatches there from Government which were forwarded by land to Malaga on the 16<sup>th</sup> I left Gibraltar on the 24<sup>th</sup> & Supposed we saw the *Constitution* stand into the Bay that Evening —

My health obliges me to remain here for a few days which prevents me from delivering the enclosed in person I hope to be able to present my accounts at the Navy office in a very short time —

[NDA. Misc. Letters, Vol. 4, 1807.]

Extract from letter to Stephen Pynchon, Postmaster, Brimfield, Massachusetts,  
from William Eaton

RICHMOND 12<sup>th</sup> Oct [1807]

Yes, My Dear Sir, I heard, too soon heard of the death of my much loved much respected friend PREBLE! and if I have not mentioned him, it is because my heart regrets the poverty of that language which cannot express its feelings — The world has lost a *man* — America a *pillar* — and I a *friend!* I would not arraign the dispositions of God — but why he should let *ordinary death* kill such a genius, dismantle such a frame, chain such a patriot, and freeze such a heart, can only be explained in his own mysterious cabinet — But that Preble is gone makes to me the terrors of the mighty king less terrible, and a futurity more wished for — If there be a heaven of the just, he is there!

[LC. Personal P. Misc, Eaton Ac. No. 2948.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Master Commandant John Smith, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Wasp*  
Boston October 14<sup>th</sup> 1807

SIR, I have the honour to acquaint you that I have this moment anchored here with the U. S. Sloop *Wasp* under my Command in Company with the U. S. Frigate *Constitution* with which Ship we left Algeziras on the 8<sup>th</sup> of last month the *Wasp's* state will admit of proceeding to sea immediately if an opportunity could be afforded to over haul her standing rigging, the rope it consists of having been laid and fitted in the Winter Season establishes the Necessity — I have Cause to regret the quality of the Crew, they are decidedly the most insufficient I ever knew, the small number of Seamen in the U. States at the period of their enlistment together with the despatch required in collecting them Can only account for it, Should an arrangement to obtain good men in this place meet your approbation the thing Can be carried with speed into effect —

A Copy of an order from Hugh G. Campbell I enclose with these [See 29 August 1807] —

[NDA. MC LB, 1806-1807.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Francis Johonnot, Navy Agent, Boston, Mass.

BOSTON 14<sup>th</sup> October 1807.

SIR, I may probably not make a requisition for money for the ordinary supplies in the Naval Department, for this month, as I expect to be otherways furnished. The Frigate *Constitution* & the *Wasp* arrived this day,

[NDA. Misc. Letters, Vol. 4, 1807.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*, BOSTON HARBOUR  
Oct 14<sup>th</sup> 1807 —

SIR, Herewith I enclose a Statement of defects, and repairs Necessary to put the *Constitution* in a Proper state for *real* service, all of which is humbly submitted for your consideration by —

[Enclosure]

Defects of the *Constitution* and Repairs necessary to put her in a State for *rea* Service.

Her copper must be examind in consequence of a defect about the fore foot That Catch the cables when winding at Anchor — A thorough Caulking of The upper works — New Mainmast, Mizemast doubtfull, 1 fore and Main topmast — 1 fore, main — and Mizem Top G<sup>t</sup> Mast — 1 Fore and Main Topsail yard — 1 Cross Jack yard And set of Studdingsail Booms — 1 Jibboom — 1 compleat set of sails — 4 Cables of 21 Inchis — A set of water Casks, at least a large proportion of them

A set of boats — A new rudder At least a new rudder Head — H, G, C,

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 3, 1807.]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from Charles D. Coxe, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS October 16<sup>th</sup> 1807.

DR SIR, I am this moment informed that Capt<sup>r</sup> Hunter, instead of going from hence to Malta, departs in a few hours for Bona — He delivered me your esteemed favours of 15<sup>th</sup> ultimo, with the package contain<sup>g</sup> Doctor Shaws' Travels, 3. vol: of the Laws of the U: S: & the Newspapers, for which I return you many thanks — The 3. Vol: unfortunately happen to be exactly the same with as those rem<sup>d</sup> in the office. — I wrote you on the 29<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>o</sup> by a Maltese Vessel chartered by the Bey to carry the Algerine Prisoners to Algiers — My time is so short, that I fear I shall not have time to give you a Duplicate: however I hope you have rec<sup>d</sup> it. —

One of the Bey's Corsairs will sail from the Goletta tomorrow — for what object remains a profound secret — She is a Xebec of 16. guns & 130. men,

commanded by Rais Ramadan Arnaout. — We have had no arrivals from Europe since my last; and we are perfectly in the dark, with respect to what is going forward on the other side of the water. —

Since writing the above lines I have rec<sup>d</sup> a letter from Mr Davis enclosing a package for the Secy of State, which I send to you, as I know of no other way to forward it — I give you an extract from Mr Davis' letter, viz<sup>t</sup> —

TRIPOLI 30<sup>th</sup> Sept 1807.

I annex an extract from a letter I rec<sup>d</sup> two days since from Capt: Dent, and also forward you the President's Proclamation. This circumstance may give me some embarrassment, as the family of the Ex-Bashaw is still here. —

Extract from a letter rec<sup>d</sup> by Mr Davis from Captain Dent, dated Malta 13<sup>th</sup> Sept 1807 —

I arrived here yesterday from Malaga & sail to day for Leghorn, from thence direct to the U: States — we are at length brought to the eye of a war with England. — All Amer<sup>n</sup> vessels are stopt and an embargo laid in the U: States. Govt has sent a New York pilot boat to Capt: Campbell with dispatches of the greatest importance. Capt: C: sailed the 19<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>o</sup> for Boston, the *Enterprize* has likewise sailed for home, but it is doubtful whether they will reach it. —

I have succeeded in withdrawing all our property from this place, contrary to my expectations.

Captain Hunter is this moment about to depart, & have only time to say, that I remain always, D<sup>r</sup> Sir, with great respect & Esteem,

[LC. Chas. D. Coxe LB, Ac. 2951, 1806-1809.]

To President Thomas Jefferson from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM<sup>t</sup> 16 Oct 1807.

The death of Com. Preble has caused a vacancy in the Corps of Captains in the Navy of the United States. To fill up this vacancy, I enclose a commission for John Shaw esquire, the senior officer in the Corps of Masters Commandant — and to fill up the vacancy in this latter Corps which will be made by the promotion of Cap<sup>t</sup> Shaw, I enclose a Commission of Master Commandant for Mr P. C. Wederstrandt the next officer on the list of Lieutenants entitled to promotion.

Should these nominations be approved of by you, the Commissions will require your signature.

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

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent,  
U. S. Navy, commanding, 18 October 1807

At 8 P M 17 October weighed and sailed from Malaga.

These 24 hours commences with light breezes & cloudy weather — At 5 took in Fore top gallant and Royal Studsails

At 1/2 past 5 took in larboard Fore topmast and Main Royal Studsails — At sunset Gibraltar bore E B N 1/2 N, Cape Spartel West and Cape Trafalgar N B W 1/2 W. — At 8 P M Cape Spartel bore S. distant 6 miles from which I take my departure [for the United States]

[NOTE.—From 20 August to this entry, routine cruising and calls were performed, with nothing of an unusual nature recorded.]

[NA. NDA original, 1805-1810.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*  
Boston harbour Oct 19<sup>th</sup> 1807.

SIR, I beg leave to inform you That while at Leghorn I took on Board the Monument intended To be erected at Washington, in Memory of those officers that fell before Tripole — the Waight I believe is about 15 Tons —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 3, 1807.]



To Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Constitution*,  
Boston, Mass., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP<sup>t</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1807.

I this day received your letter of the 3<sup>d</sup> Sept accompanied by sundry papers. The President approves the course you have taken in returning to America; and will, perhaps tomorrow, determine what order he will give relatively to the Frigate. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 7, 1805-1807.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, Commanding Officer, New York, N. Y.,  
from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP<sup>t</sup> 22 Oct<sup>r</sup> 1807.

I have received your letter of the 18<sup>th</sup>

It is to be hoped that the punishment inflicted on Abraham Bristead and James Wilson will deter others from committing similar crimes. We shall not I hope be compelled to punish such offenders to the extent of the Law, which declares that if any person in the Navy shall sleep upon his watch or negligently perform the duty assigned him, or leave his station before regularly relieved — and that that if any person in the Navy shall desert, or entice others to desert: he shall suffer death, or such other punishment as a Court Martial shall adjudge. —

[NDA OSW, Vol. 7, 1805-1807.]

To Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Constitution*,  
Boston, Mass., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP<sup>t</sup> 23 Oct<sup>r</sup> 1807. —

You will proceed with the Frigate *Constitution*, and direct Cap<sup>t</sup> Smith to proceed with the *Wasp*, to New York, and you will on your arrival there report yourself to Comm<sup>r</sup> Rodgers, under whose orders you will act, until further orders from me.

I intend that the *Constitution* shall be paid off, soon after her arrival at New York. To enable me to know how much money to remit to New York, for the purpose of paying off your Crew, you will forward to me an Estimate of the sum due to the crew. You will have the command of the *Constitution* until your crew shall be paid off. After the order for paying off shall have been received and executed, you will consider yourself at liberty, agreeably to your request, to come on to Washington, first giving up the command of the *Constitution* to Comm<sup>r</sup> Rodgers. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 7, 1805-1807.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, Commanding Officer, New York, N. Y.,  
from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP<sup>t</sup> 23 Oct<sup>r</sup> 1807. —

I have ordered the Frigate *Constitution* and the Ship *Wasp* to New York, and their Commanding Officers are directed to report themselves to you on their arrival there.

The *Constitution* will be paid off, and Cap<sup>t</sup> Campbell will retain the command of her until she shall be paid off. He will then deliver her up to you, and agreeably to his request proceed on to Washington. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 7, 1805-1807.]

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

NAVY YARD NEW YORK  
Oct. 26. 1807

SIR, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23<sup>d</sup> instant informing me that you had ordered the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, and Ship *Wasp* to this port. —

The respectability which two such vessels will add to my command, is pleasing to me in a degree equal to their importance; and I am equally gratified that you have honored me with an opportunity of again hoisting my Pendant on board of the *Constitution*. —

[LC. JRP, Let. & Ord., N. Y. Navy Yard, 1807-1808.]

To Captain Stephen Decatur Jr., U. S. Navy, Commanding Officer, Norfolk, Va.,  
from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP: 26 Oct 1807.—

The death of Lieu<sup>t</sup> Ben<sup>r</sup> Smith, is a circumstance much to be regretted. From the information possessed by the Department, he was certainly a valuable Officer.—

Act, as to your own judgment shall appear proper, in the case of Broome & Crump. I am not in possession of information to enable me to form a satisfactory decision upon their case. Probably an appropriate reprimand from you might be useful.—

I hear with great pain of duels between Officers of the Navy and *Citizens*. It exposes the Officers, *especially those of the Chesapeake*, to very unpleasant criticisms. I urge you to discountenance, and prevent this practice by all the means in your power.

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 7, 1805–1807.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Master Commandant David Porter, U. S. Navy

WASHINGTON Oct 26. 1807.

SIR In the month of January 1806. I received Orders from Commodore John Rogers to proceed to Naples with the U S Schooner *Enterprise* for the purpose of affording protection to the Americans there and their property.

On my arrival there finding the place in a state of Anarchy and that the important duty I had to execute with the small force I had under my command made it necessary to support appearances far above my rank as Lieu<sup>t</sup> Comm<sup>d</sup> I was compel'd (in order to attach respectability to my situation, the only means which could insure success and give me authority to carry my orders into execution) to support an establishment far above my means, I consequently incur'd expences to which I should not have been liable in the common routine of duty, and have in my accounts made a charge of three dollars p<sup>r</sup> day not as a full compensation for the sacrifices I was necessarily compel'd to make for the good of the service, but to relieve me from the burthen of an expence which would fall heavy on my shoulders.

[LC. D. Porter P., U .S. N., Ac. 198, 1807–1808.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Master Commandant David Porter, U. S. Navy

WASHINGTON Oct 26. 1807.

SIR, In the month of May 1806 I received orders from Commodore John Rodgers to proceed to Tripoli for the purpose of taking M<sup>r</sup> Neisson his Danish M<sup>r</sup> Consul there, to Europe and received permission to touch at Malta to procure supplies for his accommodation. Considering it a compliment paid by our Government to M<sup>r</sup> Neisson or the Danish Government procured supplies sufficient to accommodate him in the manner I supposed intended but on my arrival was unhappily disappointed in my expectations of carrying him to Europe as his successor had not arrived and he unable to depart. The above mentioned stores being on hand, more than necessary for my consumption and having no other means of disposing of them, I caused many of them to be used for the Hospital department and some for my Cabin, but suppose that the quantity over and above what I should have procured or consumed for myself to have been about \$150. and have made a charge in my accounts for that Sum.

[LC. D. Porter P., U. S. N., Ac. 198, 1807–1808.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*,  
Boston Harbour Novr 1<sup>st</sup> 1807

SIR, Your orders for the *Constitution* and *Wasp* to proceed to New York, Reached me the 30<sup>th</sup> Ul<sup>t</sup> and have Taken the necessary measur[e]s to carry Them into Effect without delay, and Flatter myself with leaving this place On Tuesday the 3<sup>d</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> wind permitting Being under the necessity of filling up Our water, procuring a new Messenger And taking on board the Necessary Supplies of provision, Wood &<sup>e</sup> &<sup>e</sup> will prevent us from being ready Prior to that period — Enclosed Is an estimate of money required To pay off the crew up to the 31<sup>st</sup> Ul<sup>t</sup> —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 3, 1807.]

Extract from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent,  
U. S. Navy, commanding, 2 November 1807

[En route to the United States from the Mediterranean.]

Lat<sup>d</sup> Obs<sup>d</sup> 23°19'.

Pass'd a great quantity of Sea Weed

Neptune made his appearance on board in crossing the Line when upwards of  
60 of the Crew were Shaved agreeable to Custom.

[NA. NDA. original, 1805-1810.]

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To the Speaker of the House of Representatives from William Eaton

WASHINGTON CITY, November 3, 1807.

SIR: I beg leave, through the medium of the chair, to lay the enclosed communication before the Representatives of the United States in Congress.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, sir, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM EATON.

To the Hon. the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

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To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled:

Since the adjournment of the first session of the ninth Congress, I have received, at different times, communications from Hamet Caramalli, ex-Bashaw of Tripoli, stating his distressed situation, and imploring relief from the beneficence of the United States; which communications have been transmitted to the proper department. I have the honor to offer, for the consideration of Congress, a translated copy of the last address from him, (the original in Italian is in the office of the Department of State,) which is evidently intended for the representatives of the people of the United States, and is as follows:

SYRACUSE, February 18, 1807.

To their most Serene Highnesses:

In the depth of my miseries, my only consolation has been the reliance I placed on the powerful support of a republic so distinguished throughout the world for that justice which protects and sustains whoever confides himself to her patronage. This credulity resigned me wholly to her discretion. But I could never have thought that this my confidence should work out my individual destruction. I have sacrificed all my means, and exposed my life in the service of the United States. It was impossible for me to expect, by way of recompense, an exilement in Syracuse far from my family, and deprived of every convenience of life. I hoped to be recompensed by an equivalent to my usefulness and to my sacrifices. The promises made to me admitted no suspicion that so much time should have elapsed and that hope not yet realized; or that I should not yet have found repose. Public ships of war have repeatedly returned hither which had been bearers of my communications. Seeing myself nevertheless unnoticed, I suspect my letters have been miscarried; for it is impossible to persuade me, my circumstances and wants being known to them, that the United States would abandon me.

My situation does not enable me to undertake a long voyage for the purpose of making a personal representation of my deplorable condition. I hope the exalted republic will not require this of me, in order to awaken their feelings to my just expressions of solicitude and concern for myself: it would be unjust to neglect my complaints, and severely felt by those who occasion them.

I have lost my family; I have lost my inheritance; my acquisitions and my fair prospects are lost also. I have, indeed, sacrificed my claim to the confidence of a faithful ally (Elfi Bey), whom I abandoned through my partiality to the Americans. I had no right to apprehend that my devotion and my complacency would overwhelm me in bottomless ruin.

To my own individual sufferings I ought to annex also those of my faithful people, whose attachment to me has involved in the same wretchedness; who suffer with me the same sequestration from their country, from their families, and from their property: all which they have left through violations of those whose duty it was to sustain them.

I will not, like the world, reproach the representatives of the American nation with ingratitude. I rather implore their commiseration towards me;

at least so far as to restore to me my family, and to grant me a competence.

It is yet possible that, absent from my own country, I may become serviceable to the United States. My former subjects are ever ready to devote their lives to my service: mine with theirs I will hold ever ready to devote to that of the exalted republic,

And am, forever, most Serene Highnesses,

HAMET BASHAW CARAMALLI, *Son of Ali Bashaw, &c.*

Some expectations have been lately entertained by our Government, from the representations of Consul Davis, that provisions would be made by the ruling Bashaw of Tripoli for the subsistence of his exiled brother. But upon information directly from Syracuse, by George Dyson, Esq. navy agent of the United States, now in this city, it is rendered *certain*, that no relief can be relied on from that quarter; and *probable*, that whatever encouragement of this nature had been held out by the usurper, it had no other object than to betray his brother to destruction.

Having had myself the chief influence, as an agent of the United States, in drawing the ex-Bashaw from his situation in Upper Egypt; and having, in conformity to treaty arrangements, been instrumental in reconciling him to the unparalleled reverse of abandoning his flattering prospects; of relinquishing forever his hopes of recovering the kingdom wrested from him by treason, and now apparently within his grasp; and of receding from victory, like a prisoner, to a land of strangers. Having effected this by the assurances which I was authorized to make to him, that his wife and family should be restored to him, and that a manly respect to his future well-being would be had by our country, it may not be deemed inconsistent with the dictates of commiseration towards the supplicant, nor with my duties of respect towards the honorable body to whom his supplications are addressed, if I indulge a remark on the occasion.

It is remarkable, for it is an incontestable truth that, whether the claims of the ex-Bashaw go to the *justice* or the *generosity* of the United States, the use which was made of his services contributed much if not wholly influenced the overtures of peace on the part of the ruling Bashaw; for it was negotiated at a time when no coercion of our squadron then in the Mediterranean had as yet been attempted to be tried upon him, and when the infirmities of Commodore Barron placed such an experiment at an incalculable distance. That no serious impressions had from any quarter been made on the apprehensions of the enemy after the transfer of the squadron from Commodore Preble to Commodore Barron, except what were impressed by the capture and subjugation of his eastern province, the internal revolution of his kingdom, and the annihilation of his army through the influence and co-operation of Hamet Bashaw. That the United States alone enjoy the advantages resulting from those events, while the ex-Bashaw, as he has truly represented, reaps no other benefit from his confidence and his exertions than privation and exile, but a little better than captivity.

It cannot be contested that Hamet Bashaw has two fair claims on this nation. *To be reinstated in a situation as eligible as that from which he has been drawn, and to have his family restored to him:* the former guaranteed by honorable promises, the latter by the solemnity of treaty stipulation. And it is firmly believed the people of the United States are liberally disposed to see those obligations cancelled.

From a country blessed beyond the common lot of nations, rich in her means, and proud in the righteousness of her dispositions, does not *honor, justice, and humanity*, give the world a right to expect that the hand of charity at least will be opened to a friend whom, without his fault or free agency, and from causes so notorious, accident has thrown into misery so profound as this unfortunate prince now suffers?

It ought not to be concealed from Congress also, that there are at Malta and elsewhere sundry foreigners, Frenchmen, Greeks, and Mahometans, whose wounds received in the service of the United States in the province of Derne render them incapable of acquiring a subsistence, and to whose cases no provisions made by law can be extended.

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

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*  
Boston Harbour Nov<sup>r</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> 1807

SIR, The pilots have had charge of this ship and the *Wasp* since the 4<sup>th</sup> Inst waiting the first Favourable moment to pass over the Shoal above the Narrows—

which They have been prevented from accomplishing, The *Wasp* will Sail this Evening the wind being Fair, and her draft of water Easy.

The *Constitution* will follow In the morning should the Wind admit of her Laying Through the Narrows —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 3, 1807.]

To Stephen Cathalan, Jr., U. S. Commercial Agent, Marseilles, France, from J. B. Ducoster for Frederick Degen, U. S. Navy Agent, Naples

(Copy)

NAPLES 9<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1807

SIR I have the honor to inform you, that from the report of Captain Ichabod Shiffield of the Schooner *Mary Ann*, of New York, arrived on the 4<sup>th</sup> inst in this Port, from America, it appears that an unexpected War has taken place between the Regency of Algiers, and the United States; he has declared in this Consulate upon Oath, that on the 26<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>o</sup> he fell within the Streights with an Algerine Frigate of 44 Guns, by which he was made a Prize of, and which without hardly any examination, took three men out of his said Schooner, and ordered her into Algiers, under the charge of Nine Turks, including a Boy, he was in their possession 'till the 29<sup>th</sup> when being near the Barbary shore, he determined himself to endeavour to retake his Vessel in which he had the good fortune to succeed, having thrown four of the Turks overboard, secured four of the others by surprize, whom he embarked in a Boat, and Kept the Boy, who is now on board, he after that shaped his course for Italy, and came safe into our Mole on the 4<sup>th</sup> aforesaid

Captain S. has further declared, that the Brig *Violet* of Boston, loaded with Colonial Produce for Leghorn, was also taken within sight of him, by the said Frigate, and that he had also heard they had captured an American Ship & Schooner, a few days before —

I mention in haste these circumstances to you, in order that you may make them known to what Americans are, or may arrive, in your Port; and take such steps as you deem most-prudent for their safety

In the absence, & by the authorization of Fred<sup>k</sup> Degen Esq<sup>t</sup> Consul [Navy Agent] U. S. A.

(sign'd) J. B. DUCOSTER

A true Copy — MARSEILLES 22<sup>d</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1807

(signed) STEPH<sup>r</sup> CATHALAN

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

[11 November 1807]

To Charles W. Goldsborough, Chief Clerk, Navy Department, from George Dyson, ex-U. S. Navy Agent, Syracuse

SIR, In answer to yours of this morning by which I Understand that Congress had appropriated \$2400 — for the Releif of Hamet Caramalli Ex Bashaw of Tripoli —

permit me to state, that I have regularly paid to the said Ex Bashaw, by order of Commodore Rodgers \$200 p<sup>r</sup> Month from the twelvth of July 1805 to the twelvth of May 1807 inclusive & that the same allowance is still continued by the present acting Agent at Syracuse —

about the end of May or beginning of June last Capt Campbell requested me to pay the Ex Bashaw Two thousand four hundred Dollars & take a receipt for that sum in *his name* which I also did, consequently that transaction will not appear on the face of my accounts, the money being furnished by Him —

Navy Dep<sup>t</sup> 11 Nov. 1807

[NDA. Misc. Letters, Vol. 4, 1807.]

To the United States Senate from President Thomas Jefferson

(Confidential.)

November 11, 1807.

To the Senate of the United States:

Some time had elapsed, after the receipt of the late treaty between the United States and Tripoli, before the circumstance drew particular attention, that, although by the third article the wife and children of the ex-Bashaw were to be restored to him, this did not appear either to have been done or demanded. Still it was constantly expected that explanations on the subject would be received.

None, however, having arrived when Mr. Davis went as consul to Tripoli, he was instructed to demand the execution of the article. He did so; but was answered by the exhibition of a declaration, signed by our negotiator the day after the signature of the treaty, allowing four years for the restoration of the family. This declaration, and the letter of Mr. Davis stating what had passed on the occasion, are now communicated to the Senate. On the receipt of this letter, I caused the correspondence of Mr. Lear to be diligently re-examined, in order to ascertain whether there might have been a communication of this paper made, and overlooked or forgotten. None such, however, is found. There appears only, in a journalized account of the transaction by Mr. Lear, under date of June 3, a passage intimating that he should be disposed to give time, rather than suffer the business to be broken off, and our countrymen left in slavery: and again, that on the return of the person who passed between himself and the Bashaw, and information that the Bashaw would require time for the delivery of the family, he consented, and went ashore to consummate the treaty. This was done by the next day; and being forwarded to us as ultimately signed, and found to contain no allowance of time, nor any intimation that there was any stipulation but what was in the public treaty, it was supposed that the Bashaw had, in fine, abandoned the proposition; and the instructions, before mentioned, were consequently given to Mr. Davis. An extract of so much of Mr. Lear's communication as relates to this circumstance is now transmitted to the Senate;\* the whole of the papers having been laid before them on a former occasion. How it has happened that the declaration of June 5 has never before come to our knowledge, cannot with certainty be said; but, whether there has been a miscarriage of it, or a failure of the ordinary attention and correctness of that officer in making his communications, I have thought it due to the Senate, as well as to myself, to explain to them the circumstances which have withheld from their knowledge, as they did from my own, a modification, which, had it been placed in the public treaty, would have been relieved from objections which candor and good faith cannot but feel in its present form.

As the restoration of the family has probably been effected, a just regard to the character of the United States will require that I make to the Bashaw a candid statement of facts; and that the sacrifices of his right to the peace and friendship of the two countries, by yielding finally to the demand of Mr. Davis, be met by proper acknowledgments and reparation on our part.

TH: JEFFERSON.

\* See the letter of July 5, 1805.

[Am. State Papers, For. Rel., Vol. II, 1797-1807.]

#### Establishment of a Court of Honor

NAVY YARD, N. YORK —

Nov: 11<sup>th</sup> 1807

SIR, We have the honor to enclose for your perusal our resolutions respecting a Court of Honor, and trust they will meet with your approbation.

To establish harmony, & preserve unsullied the Honor & reputation of officers, as objects, of the most sacred & desirable nature, we whose names are hereunto annexed have thought it advisable to constitute a Court of Honor, for the attainment of those objects, and do solemnly pledge ourselves to abide by the decision of that Court whatever it may be and to protect the said court in the priviledges which we have vested in them.

For the regulation of this court therefore we establish the following articles, from which there shall be no diviation until altered by the authority from which they derive their Source.

1.<sup>st</sup> In every contest between officers of whatever nature it may be, the party aggrieved shall be oblig'd to lay the circumstances before the Court for their investigation & decision, and if the party so aggrieved should fail to state his grievance to the Court, it will then be the duty of said court, on application from any officer to investigate the conduct of the officer who has received the injury and to pass such sentence as in their judgement may appear Correct.

2.<sup>d</sup> Whoever a blow, or approbrious epithets, are unwarrantably used from one officer to another the whole circumstances relative to the affair shall be submitted to the court & the most *Humiliating apology* shall be imposed on the offender. —

3.<sup>d</sup> In every situation where the character of an officer is impeachable, it shall be the duty of officers, who may be acquainted with circumstances, to ar-

raign the offender before the Court & in default of this duty, they shall be considered, themselves, as amenable to the jurisdiction of said court.

4.<sup>th</sup> On investigating the conduct of any officer, if it shall appear that an officer has behaved in an ungentlemanlike, or unofficerlike manner it shall be the duty of the Court to represent such an officer to the commander in chief as a character unworthy of holding a commission or warrant in the service of the United States.

5.<sup>th</sup> Power shall be vested in the Court, in case of the sickness, absence or arraignment of any member, or members of said court, to appoint any officer, or officers they may think proper to act in place of said member or members, for the time being.

6.<sup>th</sup> All circumstances not embraced in the above articles are to be left to the discretion of the Court; And we do hereby appoint the following officers as members of said court, with full power to act for us, until further arrangements may be made —

JAMES LAWRENCE  
OLIVER H. PERRY  
SAM: R. MARSHAL  
JOHN JOHNSON  
JOHN DECATUR  
SAM: G. BLODGET. *Secy*

Commodore JOHN RODGERS.

[LC. JRP, Series Two, Vol. 4, 1807-1809.]

To Captain Thomas Tingey, U. S. Navy, from Naval Constructor Josiah Fox

NAVY YARD WASHINGTON 12 Nov<sup>r</sup> 1807

SIR, In answer to your letter of the 9<sup>th</sup> instant requesting a report of the State of our Frigates and other Vessels at this Yard, In compliance thereto, beg leave to communicate the following subjoined report of their several states. Viz<sup>t</sup>

Frigates — *United States*, having undergone a thorough repair, is now preparing for Coppering, and as her Masts Yards and Spars are nearly ready she can be speedily got ready for service, provided the weather continues favorable —

*John Adams* — is now undergoing repairs which are considerably advanced, and it is presumed should occasion require her services, she might be completed in a short period —

*Essex* — is also, now undergoing a thorough repair; such parts as lye under the surface of the Water have been nearly completed and Coppered, therefore great progress, may be made also on this Ship in a Short time, provided the Winter is favorable.

*President, Congress* and *New York*, will all require considerable repairs, before they can be fitted for service —

*Constellation* and *Adams*, could be immediately fitted for Temporary service on the Coast, Ports or Bays —

*Boston*. I beg leave to refer to the report of 7<sup>th</sup> February 1806, on the state of this ship —

Brigs. *Syren* is in a good state, and might be immediately equipped for service —

*Vixen*, and Schooner *Nautilus*, requiring but trifling repairs, could be speedily equipped for service —

Schooner *Enterprise*, is in good order and might be immediately equipped service

Gun Boat *N<sup>o</sup> 7* is ready for manning —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 3, 1807.]

To Hon. D. Thomas, Chairman of the Committee upon the Petition of Hamet Caramanli, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP<sup>t</sup> 16 Nov<sup>r</sup> 1807. —

I have had the honor of receiving your letter of the 13<sup>th</sup> ins. —

The sum of \$2400 appropriated by Act of Congress of 21 April 1806, for the relief of Hamet Caramalli Ex Bashaw of Tripoli, was remitted to the Officer Commanding the Naval Forces in the Mediterranean, in June 1806; and although the Navy Department does not possess any official information as to the fact of this money having been paid over to Hamet Caramalli, yet there exists good reason to

presume that it was paid to him, that in May 1807, 1000\$ part of the 2400 was paid to him, and that in June 1807 the balance, viz: 1400, was paid to him. —

The Commanding Officer to whom the remittance was made, has lately arrived in the Country, and will shortly exhibit his accounts for settlement, when full information will be afforded upon the subject of these payments. —

[NA. NDA. Cong. LB, Vol. 1, Dec. 1798–Feb. 1811.]

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

NAVY YARD NEW YORK Nov<sup>r</sup> 18. 1807

SIR, I have the honor to acquaint you that a Pilot has this moment arrived, who reports that the *Wasp* is inside, and the *Constitution* off Sandy Hook —

[LC. JRP, Let. & Ord., N.Y. Navy Yard, 1807–1808.]

To Captain Thomas Tingey, U. S. Navy, Superintendent, Navy Yard, Washington, D. C., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPART. 24 Nov<sup>r</sup> 1807

You will suspend procuring the Articles for Algiers directed by my letter of the 10 Sept<sup>r</sup> last until otherwise directed, except only for such Articles, as you may have already contracted for

[NDA. Barbary Powers LB, 1803–1808.]

To the United States Congress from Master Commandant David Porter, U. S. Navy

WASHINGTON Nov<sup>r</sup> 24. 1807

GENTLEMEN Your Petitioner states that he has imported from Italy on account of the Officers of the United States Navy A Monument to be erected in Memory of their Brother Officers who fell during the different Attacks made on the City of Tripoli in the year 1804. That said Monument has lately arrived at Boston in the United States Frigate *Constitution*, will shortly be landed at New York and from thence will be sent to this City to be erected. Your Petitioner states also that said monument is contained in Fifty one Cases, Numbered from N<sup>o</sup> 1 to 51 inclusive, weighs about fifteen Tons and cost about Two Thousand Dollars

Your Petitioner prays that he may be relieved from paying a duty on the same.

[LC. D. Porter P., U. S. N., Ac. 198, 1807–1808.]

To Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, New York, N. Y., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPT 26 Nov<sup>r</sup> 1807. —

You will order the Crew of the *Constitution* to be paid off and discharged. I send to Mr Harris your Purser, by this day's mail, the sum of D<sup>m</sup> 52,000, for the purpose of paying off the crew — If you should find that more will be required for this purpose, Mr Beekman upon your requisition, will be furnish a small sum to enable the Purser to complete the paying off. But I hope that more will not be required.

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 7, 1805–1807.]

Extracts from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding

[27 November 1807]

Lat<sup>d</sup> Obs<sup>d</sup> 32°40'.

The Pilots are very negligent off Charleston if we may judge from our situation we have been cruising all this morning from 7 to 3 f<sup>m</sup> water — fired a Signal Gun and could not fall in with a Pilot Boat.

[28 November 1807]

At 7 made Sail — At 8. A M fired a Gun and made a Signal for a pilot — At ½ past 9 received a Pilot on board from Charleston from 9 until noon working to Windward off the Bar. — At noon Came too in 7 f<sup>m</sup> the lighthouse. bearing W ½ N. about 10 mile distant, hoisted out the 2<sup>d</sup> Cutter — Ship'd the Royal Mast. and sent the Royal yards aloft. — Ends moderate breezes and clear pleasant weather, but very cold.



[29 November 1807]

Commences moderate breezes and pleasant weather — At Sunset struck the Royal yards, and launch'd the Royal masts — At 6 A M got underweigh, At 9 cross'd the Bar. At 10. when in the Narrows the Slings of the Main yard gave way and the yard came down on deck, by the Run, let go the Anchor and furled the Sails At ½ past 11 the Main Yard being got up again got underweigh with the wind at East. — Fired a Salute of 17 Guns in passing Fort Johnson

[30 November 1807]

Commences light winds with pleasant weather — At ½ past 1. A M came too in 7<sup>m</sup> water off Charleston — At Sunset struck Royal yards — Middle part light airs and thick foggy weather — At noon fresh breezes from the S. E. a pilot came on board to take the brig abreast of the Navy Yard.

[NA. NDA original, 1805–1810.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SLOOP [BRIG] *Hornet*  
Charlestown 29<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1807

SIR, I have the honor to inform you of my arrival here in forty days from Malaga encountering nothing of moment on the passage, until getting on the Coast, where I experienced very heavy Gales from the W. S. W. to N. N. W for eleven days in which I am sorry to inform you the main mast of the *Hornet* was sprung and several of the shrouds parted — the mast appears to have been green when put in, it is in consequence much warped & very defective. —

The Hull of the Brig is in good order & requi[re]s no repairs — the hold must be broken up; — the Water Casks & examined & new hooped — it will be necessary to over haul the whole of the rigging & until this is done it will be impossible to say what may be wanting — An intire new suit of Courses & topsails are absolutely necessary, as well as three new Cables, which you will discover by the report of survey herewith sent you. — The Channels are intirely too low — in their present state they afford less protection to the masts, and are continual danger of being washed away by the Sea, to prevent which I have been obliged to secure them by additional knees — when by the wind they are continually under water and injure her sailing very much. I submit it to your judgment whether they would not be much better raised, and placed as those of the other Brigs, they will then afford much greater protection to the masts, and being placed above the water, could not injure her sailing. —

The Gun Carriages are rotten & defective — and the Guns too light & trifling for a vessel of the *Hornet's* tonnage & appearance, She would with ease mount sixteen forty two pound Carronades and two long brass eighteen pounders — An English vessel of half the tonnage mounts sixteen 32<sup>a</sup> a much greater weight in proportion to their sizes. —

I shall immediately set about overhauling the rigging — brake up the hold, and get out the mast & repair it — I shall then be enabled to inform you of every thing necessary to put her in a state of complete readiness for sea

[NDA. MC LB, 1806–1807.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*  
New York Nov<sup>r</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> 1807

SIR— I forwarded to you from Boston a statement of repairs necessary for this ship, a duplicate of which I now transmit to you by this Days post—Viz—

A thorough caulking above water and bottom Examind — A new Main Mast — A Mizinmast doubtfull and Must be taken out to be strictly Examind — one full set of new sails, One fore Top Mast, one Main D<sup>r</sup>—One set of Top Gall<sup>s</sup> Masts — One fore and Main Top sail yard—One Cross Jack Yard, and Set of studdingsail Booms—One Jibb boom, a Gang of Top Mast and Top G<sup>l</sup> Rigging— Four Cables of 21 Inches, and a large proportion of new Water Casks — A set of Boats —

Some alteration should be made In the Magazine And Cockpit, the present Plan in my opinion being very inconvenient, and am of opinion that the Quarter deck and forecastle of this ship Should be furnished with heavy Carronades, in place of the long light Twelve pounders now on board—the Reason is obvious should we have a Formadable Enemy to contend with it would be Expected that

the *Constitution* would be superior to any frigate In the British Navy, when the fact Can be Easily proved to the contrary Instance the *Levena* of fifty Guns, Twenty Eight, Twenty four pounders on the Main deck, Twenty thirty two Pound Carronades, on her quarter deck and forecastle, and two long chases,

All frigates rated thirty six guns In the British Navy, carry the following Mettle, Twenty Eight Eighteen pounders On the Gun deck, and Twenty on the quarter deck and forecastle, Eighteen of which are thirty two pound carronades, and to two long Chases.

I likewise enclose a list [bound in below-mentioned source] of men Whose times are not Expired, having Ship them while at Lisbon which I shall not pay off untill your Pleasure is Known —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 3, 1807.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Nathaniel Ingraham & Son, Navy Agents,  
Charleston, S. C.

CHARLESTON 1<sup>st</sup> December 1807

SIR, Since our last Respects the U, S — Brig *Hornet*, Cap<sup>t</sup> Dent has arriv'd here, and we are sorry to add that she has sprung, her main mast, and carried away the most part of her main rigging and is otherwise damag'd. — Cap<sup>t</sup> Dent informs us, he has written you, of his Situation. — The Supplies p<sup>r</sup> Schooner *Wolf* are received, the receipt of which we have acknowledg'd to the Navy Agent at Baltimore, & are

[NDA. Misc. Letters, Vol. 5, 1807.]

Extracts from log of U. S. Brig *Hornet*, of 18 Guns, Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding

1 December 1807

Fresh breezes and hazey Weather — At 3 came too abreast of the Navy yard: and moored with the 2 Bowers — Struck top gallant yards and Masts — unbent the Sails and unrove all the running rigging — engaged a Tender and sent the Spars and Lumber on shore. — Dismiss'd 5 men who came Passengers from Leghorn

8 December 1807

[Charleston, S. C.] Commences with pleasant weather wind North, people employed overhauling the Rigging on shore. discharging the Shingle ballast to wash and clean it — the Carpenters employ'd fishing the Foremast. — At 10 A. M. took the Bowsprit out to hoop it, and woold it afresh. — Ends pleasant Weather, Wind East.

[End of remarks concerning Mediterranean crusie which commenced on October 1805.]

[NA. NDA original, 1805-1810.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

NEW YORK. Dec<sup>r</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> 1807.

SIR, I beg leave to inform you That I resigned the command of the *Constitution* to Captain Chancey, on the 8<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> prior to which I gave Furloughs to the following officers, Lieuten't and Midshipman Ludlow to Newburg state of New York for thirty days — Lieutenant Woolsey to Plattsborough State of New York, for Eight weeks — Lieutenant Burrows to Washington for one Month, with orders to report Himself — Doctor Heap to Washington With orders to report himself to the Navy Department — M<sup>r</sup> Shields to Philadelphia — Midshipman Chancey to Fairfield, state of Connecticut For Twenty days — Midshipman Anderson to Richmond Virginia for two Months, with orders to report Himself to the department on his Way through Washington — Midshipman Marshall D<sup>r</sup> — I intend to leave New York about 17<sup>th</sup> on my Way to Washington and will probably Pass a week in Philadelphia should It meet your approbation,

I wish much for some indulgence this winter for the benefeit of My health which is much impaired, and accompanied with Rheumatic Pains —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 3, 1807.]

To U. S. Consuls in the Mediterranean, Cadiz and Lisbon, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

ALGIERS December 16<sup>th</sup> 1807

Circular

SIR, You have undoubtedly before this, heard that three American Vessels had been detained by a frigate of this place, in consequence of the annuities for two years past, not having been sent from the U States in Naval and Military Stores, as stipulated by treaty; notwithstanding the amount thereof had been repeatedly offered in Cash. —

These Vessels are, the ship *Eagle* of New York, Nathaniel Shaler, Master, from Bristol to Palermo; Cargo, Glass bottles — Brig *Violet* of Boston, James Merret, Master, from Oporto to Leghorn; Cargo, Sugar, hides, Indigo &c and schooner *Mary Ann* of New York, Ichobold Sheffield, Master, from the straits of Belle Isle to Leghorn; Cargo, fish. — The two former have been in this port upwards of 40 days. —

The schooner has not arrived, and is supposed to have made some other Port. — The People on board these Vessels have been treated very well, and no pillage of any kind has been committed. —

I have now the honor to inform you that I have adjusted this business with the Dey, who has received the amount of two years annuities due, in Cash, and the Vessels are liberated; and that our commerce will receive no further molestation from the Cruizers of this Regency. —

I pray you will have the goodness to give this as much publicity as possible, for the benefit of all concerned therein. —

P. S. December 17<sup>th</sup> 1807

We have this moment heard, by an arrival from Leghorn, that the schooner before mentioned had arrived in Naples, having been retaken by the Captain and part of the Crew left on board, who threw overboard four of the Captors, and put four others into the boat to shift for themselves. —

I have myself received no advice of this; and on application to the Dey, who first sent me the information, he assures me that it shall not alter the arrangement made yesterday, and that our Vessels may navigate without fear of molestation. — At present all their Cruizers are in Port. — TOBIAS LEAR

Please to forward a copy of this letter to the Secretary of State of the U States, by the first opportunity. —

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

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

U. S. FRIGATE *Chesapeake* Dec<sup>r</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> 1807

SIR, Your letter of the 7<sup>th</sup> of Dec<sup>r</sup> appointing me a member of a court martial, for the purpose of trying Commodore James Barron & others, I have received — I cannot in justice to Comm<sup>o</sup> Barron, & my own feelings, set on this court, without stating to you my opinion of his case —

When the unfortunate affair of the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June occurred, I formed & expressed an opinion, that Comm<sup>o</sup> Barron had not done his duty — during the Court of Enquiry, I was present when the evidence of the officers was given in — I have since seen the opinion of the Court, which opinion I think lenient. — It is probable that I am prejudiced against Comm<sup>o</sup> Barron, & view his conduct in this case, with more severity than it deserves — previous to his sailing, my opinion of him as a Soldier, was not favourable — Altho Sir, I hope, & trust, I should most conscientiously decide, on Comm<sup>o</sup> Barrons case, still Sir, there is no circumstance that would occasion me so much regret, as to be compelled to serve on the court martial that tries him — I have therefore to solicit that I may be excused from this duty—

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 3, 1807.]

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

U STATES NAVY YARD

N York 26<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 1807

SIR, Yesterday about 10 O'clock the Law of Congress laying a general embargo on all American Vessels within the Jurisdictional limits of the United States, was put into my hands — I immediately dispatch<sup>d</sup> four Gun Boats to the Narrows & Hook, with Orders to stop all Vessels except coasters, Attempting to pass to Sea. I also sent three Others, above Corlears hook, with similer Orders, — I made this

Arrangement with the Gun Boats under the impression that the Law it-self Authorised me to take this Step without waiting for specific orders from the Department and under full expectation that I should receive those orders to day but as I have not received any orders on the subject I am fearful that I have been too anxious to do my duty, and have done that, which perhaps, I ought not to have done — If this should be the case I beg that you will Attribute it to too great a solicitude to meet the wishes of government and not from any intention to exceed my Authority —

As soon as I was made acquainted with the law, I waited upon Mr Gibson the collector of this port, and tendered to him, the Assistance of any part of the disposable force, under my command to assist him in carrying the law into full & complete execution he readily accepted of my offer and requested me to send such a number of Gun Boats to the Hook, as to completely prevent any Vessels from passing to sea, the Gun Boats has been of considerable service in stoping some vessels, determined to go to sea at all hazards, and which it would have been out of the power of the revenue Officers to have stopd

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol.3, 1807.]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from Charles D. Coxe, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS December 26<sup>th</sup> 1807.

DEAR SIR, By the return of the Maltese Vessel which brought the Tunisian prisoners from Algiers, I received your esteemed lines of 21<sup>st</sup> october, & have not had an opportunity of replying thereto till the present moment. — I enclose a duplicate of mine p<sup>r</sup> Captain Hunter to Bona, the original of which I hope, however you have rec<sup>d</sup> in due course. —

It is with the greatest pleasure I learn that you are satisfied with the arrangements I had made respecting the duties to be paid on merchandize imported in Vessels of the U: States, & it shall always be my constant endeavour to merit a continuance of Your approbation in all future occurrences which may fall within the Sphere of my Agency. —

In obedience to your request, I immediately seized every opportunity within my reach to communicate to our respective Consuls on the European Coast (as well as the Secy of State) the information contained in your letter concerning the threat of the Dey of Algiers — I annex an Extract of Mess<sup>rs</sup> Degen, Guebhard & C<sup>o</sup>'s letter to me, from which there remains no doubt, that advantage has been taken of the recall of our Ships of war from this Station — of this latter circumstance you were advised by mine of 16<sup>th</sup> October. — We are all under the deepest regret & concern for the disagreeable situation in which yourself and M<sup>rs</sup> Lear must now be placed, as well as our unfortunate Countrymen, who may have been captured. —

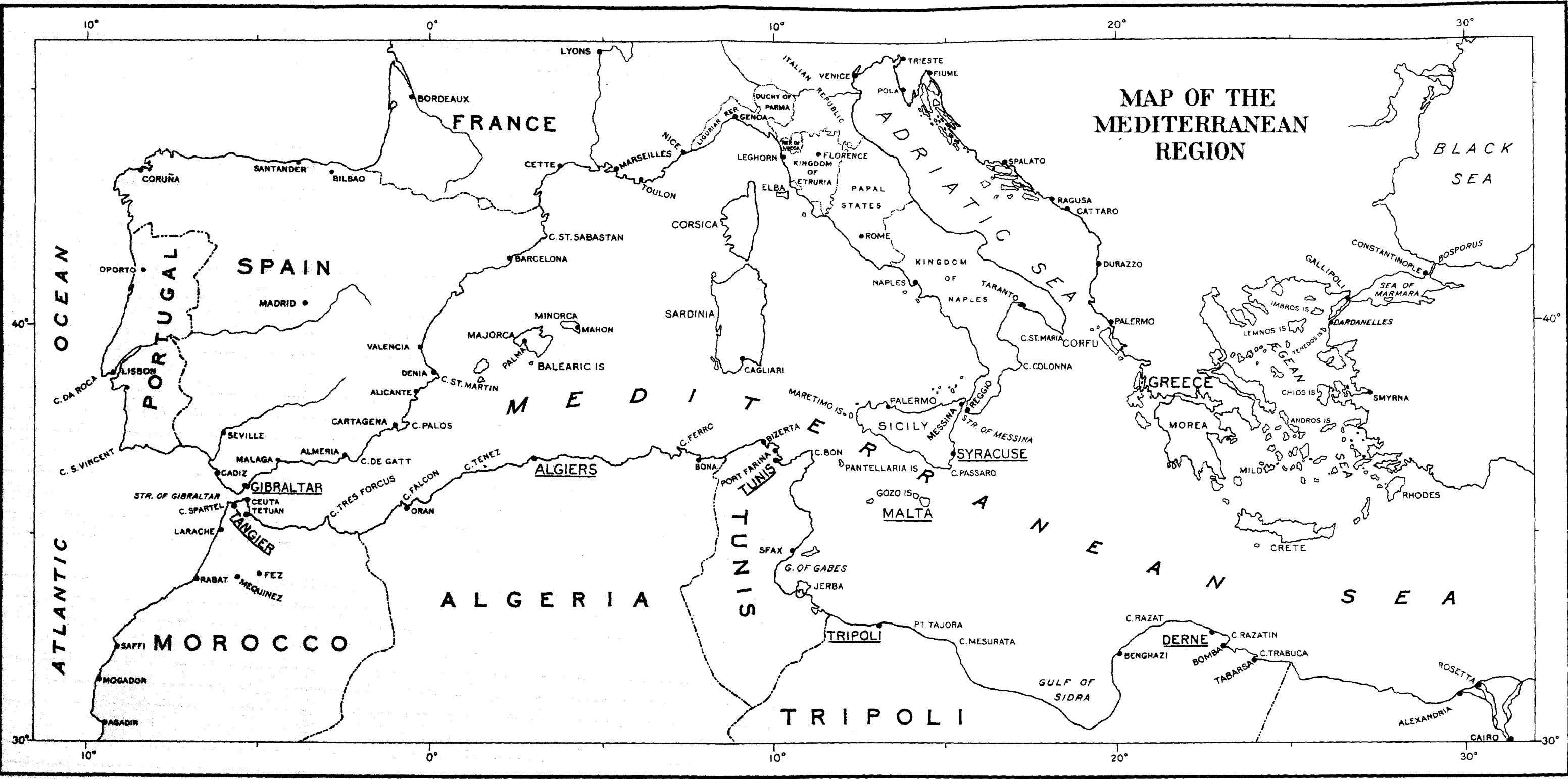
I have not rec<sup>d</sup> a single line from America, nor any news more than the present contains of sufficient importance to communicate. The Vessel by which this goes will sail immediately and leaves me only time to say, that our affairs here are *as they should be*, and as you left them. —

Mr Ambrose joins me in sincere good wishes for the health and happiness of yourself and M<sup>rs</sup> Lear, to whom you will be so good as to present our best regards. Accepting for yourself the assurance of the great esteem & respect with which I always remain,

P. S. Extract of a letter from Mess<sup>rs</sup> Degen, Guebhard & C<sup>o</sup>, dated Leghorn 21<sup>st</sup> November 1807. —

Our last advices from Naples brings us accounts, the contents of which is of the highest importance to the American trade, wherefore we embrace the first opportunity that offers, to communicate the circumstances, which have come to our knowledge — An American Schooner has lately arrived at Naples, bringing the unpleasant intelligence that she had been captured by an Algerine Frigate of 44. Guns, which had already taken another Schooner and a Brig — Nine Turks were put on board, four of which the Captain of the Schooner threw overboard by surprise, and the other four he secured, and then sett adrift in a boat, in sight of the Barbary Shore, and one he brought with him to Naples — It cannot therefore be doubted, but that the Regency of Algiers, has taken advantage of the absence of the United States forces in these seas to declare war, and there is no calculating the Evils that will follow, as if we are to believe public reports, a considerable Squadron consisting of eleven small and large Vessels, belonging to that piratical nation, were during the latter end of last month cruising off the coast of Spain.

# MAP OF THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION





Extract of a letter from Mr Davis, dated Tripoli the 12<sup>th</sup> November 1807. —

The family of His Ex<sup>cy</sup> Ahmet Caramanli, accompanied by a number of Slaves, embarked on the night of the 15<sup>th</sup> ultimo for Syracuse. They were handsomely provided with every necessary and some money by the Bashaw, who has engaged to support them decently so long as his brother remains quiet. Thus this disagreeable and protracted affair is at length honorably terminated.

[LC. Chas D. Coxe LB, Ac.2951, 1806-1809.]

To Secretary of State from George Davis, U. S. Consul, Tripoli

N<sup>o</sup> 10 (Duplicate)

TRIPOLI 29. December 1807.

SIR, I have suffered a greater length of time to elapse since the date of my last respects, because little occurred worthy of communicating, and opportunities of forwarding my dispatches are very unfrequent.

On the 21. Ultimo the Bashaw again renewed his demand for the Gun-boats. He says that the Commissioner, at the signing of the peace, promised to write to Government and exert his influence to obtain them for him. His repeated instances on this subject makes me desirous of receiving your instructions respecting them.

It is considered an object of importance and of public utility to divert, as much as possible, the resources of the Barbary Regencies from piracy, by employ[ing] them in commercial or other harmless purposes. Actuated by this motive I have made a temporary arrangement with the Bashaw to open his Barilla works and to supply him with the means of transporting it to other countries. Altho' this may ultimately be attended with private advantage, yet it's continuance is made entirely dependant upon the approbation of Government.

The *Tartan* which conveyed the family of the Ex-Bashaw to Syracuse, returned on the evening of the 24. Instant. The cause of her detention will be explained by the enclosed extracts from Mr Barker's letter.

At an interview with His Excellency on the 25<sup>th</sup> I obtained the agreement for the support of his brother's family of which the enclosed is a copy. It is written in french because the Minister is most conversant in that language.

May I be permitted to suggest, that a pension of one thousand dollars p<sup>r</sup> annum from our Government, in addition to the liberal allowance made by the Bashaw, will tend much more to the permanent comfort of the Exile, than the advance of the sum which was contemplated by Congress. From his known imprudence should his all be at once placed within his power, it would soon be squandered. If the Consul at Tangier was authorised to pay him, monthly or quarterly, the joint allowance, it would support him in opulance. I do not doubt the Bashaw's perpetual compliance with his engagement.

The enclosures N<sup>o</sup> 1 & 2 are copies of the Ex-Bashaw's letter to me and my answer. N<sup>o</sup> 3 is a copy of my letter to W. W. Barker, Esq: U. S. Naval Agent at Syracuse.

[NA. SDA. CL, Tripoli, Vol. 3, 1806-1811.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SLOOP [BRIG] *Hornet*  
Charleston — 29 Decem<sup>r</sup> 1807

SIR, I have the honor to inform you on the attempt to raise the Channels of the Brig, I find her so differently constructed from any other vessels I have before seen, that I find they cannot be raised & strengthened to afford that protection to the masts I at first expected — I have therefore defered it intirely & shall endeavor to secure them in their present situation. —

The time of the Crew having expired I find them extremely impatient for their discharge — Several have already deserted and left the place, supposing their discharges would not be granted. — A New Crew, I think might be Shipped here very easily, and without resorting to a practice which I think very injurious to the Navy, that of giving large advances and bounty — the whole of which they are robbed of by a rapacious gang of miscreants under pretence of being security for their safe reception on board, and often keeping them drunk for a day or two send them on board stripped of their clothes & money, and in a state of nakedness to be clothed by the purser at a time when they are three & four months in ad-

vance which practice keeps them in debt during the whole cruise after — were they advanced six months pay they could derive no other advantage than a day or two longer to be intoxicated — The Marines time of service has also expired — there are now on board but sixteen — and no Officer the Lt having been sent on shore at Tunis as Charge d'affaires in the place of Doct<sup>r</sup> Dodge — and the Sergeant on board the *Constitution* in irons.

Mr Grandison the Master of the Brig is a character I by no means can approve of as an Officer calculated for our Navy — He is well known in the Mediterranean by the name of Smith & has passed for a relative of Sir, Sidney Smith's. — He has refused to give any reasons for this change and whether they proceed from *prudential* or interested motives I am unable to determine. — His general conduct however on shore has been so unlike an Officer & Gentleman that it is extremely disagreeable to associate with him — a dismissal would perhaps be advisable — but should you first wish farther information, I will do myself the honor to give you all that has come to my knowledge. —

Mr Fendall a midshipman on board the *Hornet* wishes very much to leave the service — and as there is little hopes of his ever coming forward in the navy as a Seaman & Officer, I have approved of his wishes to do so — but as I am not authorised to receive his resignation — I submit the acceptance of it to yourself.

Mr Keene I have ordered to join the Brig — but as he wishes a change very much I have thought it preferable to mention the circumstances, as it is very disagreeable to keep him on board in consequence of a perpetual disagreement with all the other Midshipman, — I have ever found it necessary to separate him from them to prevent quarrelling & his injuring a number of young Midshipmen to whom I am very partial —

Mr Gadsden having represented to me that he had no person on board his boat to whom he could intrust him in his absence, I have thought proper to send him Mr Peters an experienced young man & good seaman — I have supplied his place by Mr Lockwood a promising Boy from N<sup>o</sup> 2 who had three midshipmen on board — the whole of which arrangements I hope will meet your approbation.

[NDA. MC LB, 1806-1807.]



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