

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

**Volume III  
Part 1 of 3**

**Naval Operations  
including diplomatic background  
from September 1803 through  
March 1804**

**United States  
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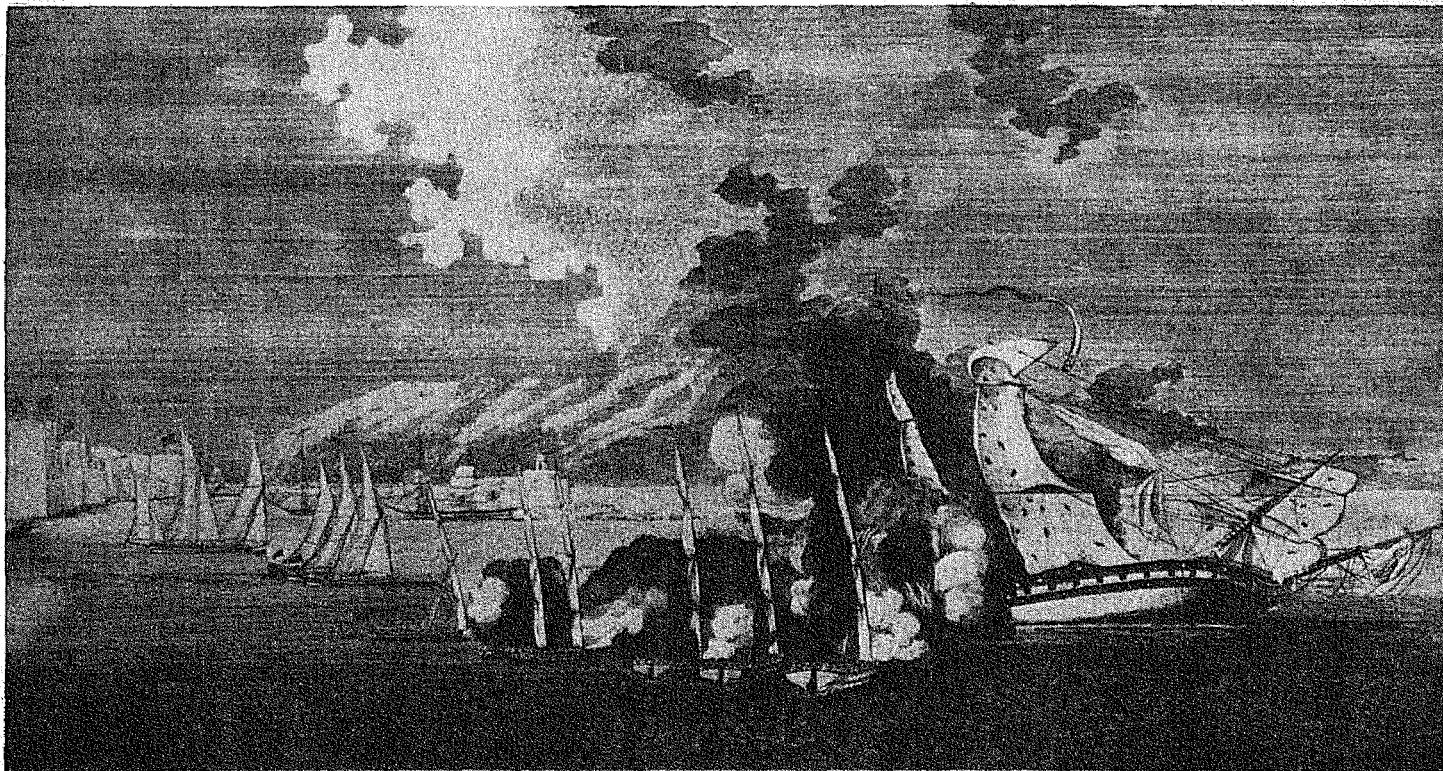
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# NAVAL OPERATIONS

FROM SEPTEMBER 1803 THROUGH MARCH 1804

WARS WITH BARBARY POWERS



*A perspective view of the U.S. Frigate Philadelphia in which is represented her relative position to the Tripolitan Gun-boats when during their pursuit, about  
noon here she was unable to get a single gun to bear upon them.*

THE LOSS OF THE U. S. FRIGATE PHILADELPHIA.

# NAVAL DOCUMENTS

RELATED TO THE

UNITED STATES WARS  
WITH THE BARBARY POWERS

VOLUME III

## NAVAL OPERATIONS

INCLUDING DIPLOMATIC BACKGROUND  
FROM SEPTEMBER 1803 THROUGH  
MARCH 1804

PUBLISHED UNDER DIRECTION OF

*The Honorable FRANK KNOX*  
*Secretary of the Navy*

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

*By Authority of Act of Congress*  
*Approved March 16, 1934*



UNITED STATES  
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE  
WASHINGTON : 1941



## PREFACE

This volume is the third of a projected series of documentary source material relating to our wars with the Barbary States (1785-1816). It covers naval operations from September 1803 through March 1804. Among the events dealt with in this volume are the declaration of war against the United States by the Emperor of Morocco and the naval demonstration before Tangier, Morocco, in conjunction with diplomatic pressure, in the hope of averting hostilities. A notable success was achieved in this very early example of American naval and diplomatic efforts working together. The Emperor was so much impressed by the naval strength concentrated within his sight that he ceased all warlike operations against our shipping and ratified and confirmed the treaty previously made in 1786. Other events also covered are the blockading of Tripoli; the grounding of the U. S. frigate *Philadelphia* and her subsequent capture by the Tripolitans; the captivity of Captain Bainbridge and the crew of the *Philadelphia*; the capture by the U. S. Schooner *Enterprize* of the Tripolitan ketch *Mastico*, which was taken into the service of the United States and renamed *Intrepid*; and finally the epic boarding and burning of the *Philadelphia* by the then Lieutenant Stephen Decatur.

The first and second volumes of the Barbary Wars series, already published, dealt with such important events as: the voyage of the *George Washington* from Algiers to Constantinople under compulsion by the Dey of Algiers; the beginning of war with Tripoli; the operations of the squadrons under Commodore Richard Dale and Commodore Richard V. Morris, against Tripoli, together with details of the captures made by the vessels of those squadrons.

Included in this third volume, as also in the first two volumes of the series, are a number of diplomatic and other state papers necessary to present an adequate political and economic background to naval operations.

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

In addition to the individuals, private organizations and government activities, mentioned in previous volumes, special acknowledgment is made to Mr. Stephen Decatur for his kindness in making available original letters written by Captain Bainbridge while in prison, and containing secret writing; and to Dr. Vernon D. Tate, National Archives, Washington, D. C., for his persistent, and remarkably successful, efforts to bring out this faded and illegible secret writing by new processes.

This volume has been prepared under the immediate supervision of Lieutenant Joe W. Boulware, U. S. Navy, and his successor, Lieutenant Commander R. S. Robertson, Jr., U. S. Navy, (ret.). The detailed preparation of the volume is largely the work of Miss Loretta I. MacCrimble. Others who have given valuable assistance are Mr. Henry F. Lunenburg, Miss Catherine M. MacDonnell, Mrs. Clara R. Collins, Miss Georgia T. Munroe, Miss Mary D. Hall and Miss Mary C. Leeman.

The publication of these documents was made possible by the Acts of Congress approved March 15, 1934, and May 25, 1939, quoted below:

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

*“For continuing the printing of historical and naval documents, including composition, clerical copying in the Navy Department, and other preparatory work, in accordance with the provisions of the appropriation made for the commencement of this work as contained in the Naval Appropriation Act for the fiscal year 1935, \$12,000, together with the unexpended balance for this purpose for the fiscal year 1939: Provided, That nothing in such Act shall preclude the Public Printer from furnishing one hundred and fifty copies of each volume to the Library of Congress.”*

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



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NOT A  
RARE  
PICTURE;  
A FAIRLY  
SCARCE  
LINE EN-  
GRAVING  
1817.

### ERRATA

Barbary Wars, Volume III  
On page V, "Illustrations"

1. Change page number "414" to "288".
2. Change page number "288" to "414".



## ABBREVIATIONS INDEX TO SOURCES

A-4	Archivist's symbol, Navy Department Archives.
Ac 3647	Accession number, Library of Congress, Manuscripts Division.
Acct	Accountant.
Aff	Affairs.
Am	American.
Appts	Appointments.
Bk	Book.
Bn <sup>1</sup> B 162 H	"The Life and Services of Commodore William Bainbridge" by Thomas Harris.
Boston PL	Boston Public Library, Boston, Mass.
CL	Consular Letters, State Department Records.
CMR	Court Martial Record.
Col	Collection.
Cong	Congress.
Cong. LB	Letter Book of letters to Congress from Secretary of the Navy, Navy Department Archives.
Dale LB	Letter Book of Captain Richard Dale, U. S. Navy, from collection of Mr. E. C. Dale.
Dana, H. W. L., Col	Collection made available by Mr. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow Dana.
Decatur, Stephen Col	Collection of Mr. Stephen Decatur.
Dip. Cor	Diplomatic Correspondence, State Department Records.
Disp	Dispatches, State Department Records.
Disp. to Con	Dispatches to Consuls, State Department Records.
Doc	Document, or Documents.
Dom. L	Domestic Letters, State Department Records.
EPP	Edward Preble Papers, Manuscripts Division, Library of Congress.
Fox, J., Papers	Josiah Fox Papers, Peabody Museum.
GLB	General Letter Book, Navy Department Archives.
Hepburn, Earle, Col	Collection of Mr. Earle Hepburn, Philadelphia, Pa.
HS of Pa	Historical Society of Pennsylvania.
H. E. Huntington L&AG	Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery, San Marino, California.
Inst. to Min	Instructions to Ministers, State Department Records.
Journal 1803	Journal of U. S. Frigate <i>John Adams</i> , written in French and translated by the Office of Naval Intelligence, July, 1939.
L&AG	Library and Art Gallery.
LB	Letter Book.
LC	Library of Congress.
Let	Letters.
LR	Letters Received, U. S. Marine Corps.
LS	Letters Sent, U. S. Marine Corps.
Maine HS	Maine Historical Society, Portland, Me.
MCA	U. S. Marine Corps Archives.
MC LB	Letters received from Master Commandants, Navy Department Archives.
Misc. LB	Miscellaneous Letter Book, Navy Department Archives.
Misc. L	Miscellaneous Letters, State Department Records.
NA	The National Archives, Washington, D. C.
NA. ND	Navy Department Records in the National Archives.
NA. SDA	State Department Records in the National Archives.
Nav	Naval.
Naval Chronicle	"United States Naval Chronicle," by Charles Washington Goldsborough, 1824.

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ND.....	Navy Department.
NDA.....	Navy Department Archives.
NHF.....	Naval Historical Foundation, Washington, D. C.
Nom.....	Nominations.
NR&L.....	Office of Naval Records & Library, Navy Department, Washington, D. C.
NYHS.....	Courtesy of The New York Historical Society, New York, N. Y.
Off. Comg. Gunboats...	Letters to Officers Commanding Gunboats, Navy De- partment Archives.
Officers LB.....	Officers Letter Book, Navy Department Archives.
OSW.....	Letters to Officers of Ships of War, Navy Department Archives.
PL.....	Public Library.
Picking, S. ....	Commander Sherwood Picking, U. S. Navy.
Roosevelt, F. D., Col....	Private Collection of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.
SDA.....	State Department Archives.
Sec.....	Secretary.
USMC.....	United States Marine Corps.
USNA.....	United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.
Wa' D 451, 14347.....	NR&L symbol; "Capture & Destruction of the Frigate <i>Philadelphia</i> at Tripoli."

# NAVAL OPERATIONS

FROM SEPTEMBER 1803 THROUGH MARCH 1804

WARS WITH BARBARY POWERS



# NAVAL OPERATIONS

FROM SEPTEMBER 1803 THROUGH MARCH 1804

## WARS WITH BARBARY POWERS

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To Secretary of the Navy from Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES BRIG *Siren*  
*New Castle Sep<sup>r</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> 1803*

SIR I have the honor to inform you that we are now ready for Sea & shall procede as soon as the severe Noath East wind that now blows, abates. I received your favor of the 24<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup> & M<sup>r</sup> Valencin the Tripolitan applied accordingly for his passage, but as he was not ready & would not be untill he got his papers he remain's — Oweing to the bad state of health of M<sup>r</sup> Clem<sup>t</sup> Biddle & Mr Brown Midshipmen which you will perceive by the enclosed certificate of Doctor Marshall I have given them permission to remain on shore —

[NDA. Misc. LB, 1802-3-4.]

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To Josef Yznardi, U. S. Consul, Cadiz, Spain, from John Gavino, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar

*Circular.*

GIBRALTAR 1<sup>st</sup> September 1803.

SIR — I have to inform you that yesterday Evening I received advice from Cap<sup>t</sup> Baimbridge of the U. S. Ship *Philadelphia* that he had taken possession of one of the Emperor of Morrocos Cruizers of 22. Guns & 100. Men off Cape de Gatt, as she [*Mirboka*] had taken the American Brig *Celia* Cap<sup>t</sup> Barns of Boston & had orders to take & send to Tangiers all American Vessels — Said Emperor has a 30 Gun Ship off Cape S<sup>t</sup> Vincent & two Roe Boats with 4 Guns & 50 Men each in the Gutt, which suppose has same orders as the Ship stoped by the *Philad<sup>a</sup>* Please do the needfull with this information that your trade may not suffer —

The above Brig & Crew was also recaptured & are expected here —

---

[NOTE.—For fuller information the following letter is included herein, as well as in Volume II of "Naval Documents related to U. S. Wars with the Barbary Powers".]

To James Simpson, U. S. Consul Tangier, Morocco, from Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy

(Copy)

U. S. FRIGATE *Philad<sup>a</sup>*  
*East of Malaga a 10 Mils*  
*Monday 29<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup> 1803*

D<sup>r</sup> SIR I wrote you from Gibraltar on the 24<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> mentioning that we should sail the next Morning for Malta —

Hearing at the Rock that two Tripolitans were off Cape de Gatt made me proceed with all Expedition to Examine that part of the Spanish Coast. On the 26<sup>th</sup> blowing very fresh at 8 P. M. being nearly up with Cape de Gatt fell in with a ship carrying only her foresail & had a Brig in Company under the same sail, it being night & her Guns housed prevented an imediate discovering her to be a Cruiser, after hailing for some time found that she was a Vessel of Warr from Barbary, on which information I caused her Boat to be sent on board the frigate *Philad<sup>a</sup>* with her Pass ports — from w<sup>ch</sup> I discovered that she was a Cruiser belonging to the Emp<sup>r</sup> of Morocco Calld *Mesboha* [*Mirboka*] Commanded by Ibrahim Lubarez Mounting 22 Guns & Mand with 100 Men, by not making ourselves known to the officer who came on board he Confessd that the Brig [*Celia*] in Company was an American & had been with them 3 or 4 days, was bound to some Port in Spain, had been boarded by them, but not detaind, the low sail in w<sup>ch</sup> the Brig was under induced me to suspect that they had Captured her notwithstanding their having your Passport which must appear from the sequel was only obtaind to protect them against the American ships of Warr —

I sent my first Lieu<sup>t</sup> on board to Examin if they had any American Prisoners, on his attempting to Execute my orders, he was prevented by the Cap<sup>n</sup> of the Cruiser, this increased my suspection and I sent a Boat with armd Men to inforce my Intentions, after they were on board they found Cap<sup>n</sup> Richard Bowen of the American Brig *Celia* Ound by M<sup>r</sup> Amasas Th[a]yer of Boston and several of his Crew, who was taken the 17<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> from Barcelona — bound to Malaga within 2 or 3 Leagues of the Spanish shore, & about 25 Miles to the Eastward of Malaga, the Cap<sup>n</sup> & the Crew they had Confined below Deck which they always did when speaking a Vessel, after Making this Discovery I instantly ordered all the Moorish Officers on board the frigate, for I made no hesitation in Capturing her after such proceedings on their part and Violation of the faith of Passports which ought to be Sacred — Owing to the high Wind and Sea it took me the greatest part of the Night to get the Prisoners on board and Man the Prize which detention Occasiond loosing sight of the Brig, the following Morning discovering many Vessels in diver directions the Day was spent by the frigate & Prize in chasing to find the Captured Brig about 4 P. M. made her coming round Cape de Gatt from the Eastward, standing close in shore for Almeria Bay, owing to the wind being very fresh we was going slow in approaching her, all the greatest Exertions was made by Lieu<sup>t</sup> Cox in Towing & Rowing the Prize, fortunately the Wind increased in the Evening and we recapturd her at 12 cClock at Night. — The Moors Confess that they came out aCruising for the sole purpose of Capturing Americans to be sent to Tanger. I have rec<sup>d</sup> a paper from them written in Moorish



w<sup>ch</sup> they say is their authority from the Gov<sup>r</sup> of Tanger for so doing — I inclose this to John Gavino Esq<sup>r</sup> with a particular request to have it safely Conveyd to you that you may be informed of the Circumstance and act accordingly. I beleive the Govenour of Tanger is much disposed for Hostilities with the U. S., the Moorish Prisoners accuse him as the sole cause of their present Cituation. I sincerely hope that this Capture may be productive of good Effects to the U. S. with the Emp<sup>r</sup> who may be assured that if he unjustly goes to Warr with the U. S. he will loose every large Cruiser he has, & God grant that it may not in the least prove a disadvantage to you. My Officers and self have made it a Markd point to treat the Prisoners not only with the lenity that is due from Humanity but with particular attention of Civility to impress on their mind a favourable Opinion of the American Character.

That you may receive this information as Early as possible I dispatch my Boat on shore at Malaga to request W. Kirkpatrick Esq<sup>r</sup> Consul to forward it by Express to Gib<sup>r</sup>. I shall be Extremely anxious to hear from you, as also for the arrival of Comodor Prible to receive his Instructions relative to the Captured ship. I am bound to Gibraltar Bay with the Prize, but am fearfull we shall be detaind for want of an Easterly wind.

[SDA. CL, Cadiz, Vol. 1, 1793-1805.]

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Extract and translation from a journal kept in French by an unknown person on board the U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 1 September 1803

At 2 P M . . . Headed for the city and made sail. The convoy astern of us followed in our course. At 3 P M one mile from the city . . . The boat went ashore. Tacked to the south to wait for the convoy. At 4.30 P M headed N E for the city. The convoy had rallied. Found three vessels in the roadstead, one Danish, one Ragusan, and the other flying no flag. At 4 P M cast anchor . . . The Lighthouse to the N W, Monjuich W N W. The most southerly point to the W . . . The entire convoy anchored in the said roadstead . . . At anchor at Barcelona.

[LC. EPP, Journal 1803.]

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Extract from journal of Midshipman Henry Wadsworth, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. S. *New York*, Captain Richard V. Morris, U. S. Navy, commanding, 1 September 1803

Off Corsica North Point. \* \* \* Once More afloat on the Ocean & bound to Gibraltar the *John Adams* sailed sometime ago with a Convoy. The *Adams* sail'd for Tunis — We shall meet at Gibraltar. This Morning we were chased by two British Frigates, hove too & spoke them the *Narcissa* & *Active*. —

[H. W. L. Dana Col.]

To Secretary of State from James L. Cathcart, giving Details of Operations at Tunis, 2 to 8 September 1803

[Mr. Cathcart left Leghorn 27 August 1803, on board U. S. Frigate *Adams*.]

FRIDAY SEPT: 2ND 1803. — Anchored in Tunis bay at 6 p. m. —

SATURDAY 3<sup>d</sup>, I went on shore, At 5 A. M. and dispatched a Courier to Tunis, to inform the Bashaw of our arrival, and sent a Copy of inclosure N<sup>o</sup> 1, to Doctor Davis. I came on board at 8 A. M., While on shore the Dutch Colonel of Engineers, mentioned in my former communication, informed me, that Doctor Davis had been at the Gouletta, last Evening, when the frigate Anchored, and had told him he had seen her flag, and that she was an American. — At 2 p.m. Doctor Davis came on board and Dined with us: on our interrogating him respecting our situation with the Regency of Tunis, he answered, that perfect tranquility existed at this moment; that he had exerted himself considerably since he resided at Tunis; and that he was happy his efforts had been crowned with success. On my expressing an impatience to land as soon as possible, as Captain Campbell's instructions limited him to Four lay Days at Tunis, he answered, the Bashaw had not granted permission for our landing, and that He had come to know our business, which he would explain to his Excellency, as soon as possible, in order that the desired permission might be granted. Captain Campbell presented him with a Letter from Commodore Morris, informing him of my appointment and suspending his functions; and I informed him of the motive of my errand. He seemed considerably agitated, and went on shore at 5 p.m., In the course of conversation, Captain Campbell declared, that he had no business to transact on shore, nor had He any desire to see Tunis; and that He would consequently remain on board. Doctor Davis said, the Bashaw would be displeased if the customary visit was not paid him; that He was extremely particular in the etiquette of his Court; that the Officers of all Ships of War paid his Excellency that compliment; and that it would be expected from us; that as no difficulty existed, there was nothing to be apprehended; and that He would forfeit his Life and reputation, if any impediment was placed in the way of his departure, when ever He pleased. I joined in Doctor Davis's request, believing what He said; and Capt: Campbell acquiesced, saying if He could be of any service, He would go, though much against His will. —

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 4TH. Captain Campbell kept a boat on shore at the Goletta nearly all day: no news whatever was sent by Doctor Davis. We consequently were not informed of the cause which prevented our landing as customary; this however, raised some unfavourable impressions, and Captain Campbell determined that if an answer did not arrive next day by Meridian, to write to Doctor Davis upon the subject, in terms expressive of his sense of the indignity offered us, and to get under way the moment his lay days expired. —

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 5TH. The Drogoman came on board with a Note from Doctor Davis, about 10 A. M. expressing, that the Bey of Tunis offered no objection to my landing with Captain Campbell and his suite: alledged, that want of a Carriage was the cause of our detention, and that a Headache must plead an excuse for his not receiving us at the Gouletta. —

We landed and proceeded to Tunis, where we arrived at 3 p. m, and found Doctor Davis very well to all appearance. Permission was requested to visit the Bashaw, and granted; and the audience was appointed next Morning, at 7 P. M.

\* \* \* \* \*

TUESDAY 6TH. Waited upon the Bashaw, in company with Captain Campbell, Mr Davis, and two of the Officers of the *Adams*; was received very politely and presented with Coffee. I delivered the Presidents Letters to the Bashaw, with literal translations in Italian: informed his Excellency, that I had some Verbal communications to make, when He would please to hear me; He desired me to make them to his Minister, when I pleased. Capt: Campbell having previously determined to go on board the next Morning, wished to take leave and asked if his Excellency had any commands. The Bashaw answered, None, only to wait his answer to the Presidents Letters. Captain Campbell said the period for his remaining at Tunis, expired next Day, and that He could not deviate from his instructions. I request you (replies the Bashaw), to wait Two Days longer, you shall have my Answer on Thursday morning precisely. In that case, (replied Captain Campbell, to oblige your Excellency) I will wait the time you desire. We retired and waited on the Sahibtappa (ie) Prime Minister and seal bearer; was received politely — common place conversation ensued. We drank Coffee and retired, the minister having appointed the next day, at the same Hour for the discussion of the points mentioned in the Presidents Letters to the Bashaw of Tunis. —

\* \* \* \* \*

WEDNESDAY 7TH. Mr Davis did not arrive at the Consular House from the Country, until 8 A. M. We waited upon the Minister at 9. He asked what language we should discourse in. I answered Italian, as I understood it best. Well then (says He), we will begin with the frigate. Have you perused the Presidents Letters? four or Five times, answered He. Then you are informed of my instructions on that head, and consequently that point needs no further discussion. What have you to offer that will be pleasing to the Bashaw? A mark of the Presidents esteem, which is calculated to perpetuate the good understanding which so happily exists between our Nations, upon a basis permanent and unequivocal. The President viewing with some regret that other Nations enjoy priviledges by Treaty with this Regency, which are refused to the Citizens of the U. S, has ordered me to offer the Bashaw of Tunis, the sum of 24,000 Milled Dollars payable every Three Years, to commence from the date of the agreement, in order to induce him to make some alterations in our Treaty, of which, that of most consequence, is to reduce the duties paid by Citizens of the U. S. to the standard of other Nations (ie) 3 p<sup>r</sup> Cent. Advalorem; for you must be sensible, that the inequality of duties militates equally against both parties, by your exacting 10 p<sup>r</sup> Cent from Citizens of the US, while other Nations pay only Three, You give them the advantage of underselling us, 7 P<sup>r</sup> Cent; consequently you exclude our Vessels from your ports, and in lieu of encreasing your Revenue, you prevent us from trading with you.

He paused a few moments, and said. He would inform the Bashaw of my proposals, and bring me his answer. —

In half an Hour the Minister returned, and declared, that his Master (the Bashaw) had ordered him to inform me, that He had not demanded an Annuity; that He had demanded a Frigate, because He knew we had given one to another of our Friends; that He did not want Cash; that Denmark, Sweden and other Nations gave him presents occasionally, of Maratime and Military Stores; that He treated all His friends alike, and hoped the President of America would do the same. And then, by way of interrogation, asked with a smile, pray what do you pay a Year to Algiers? I pleaded ignorance and the Minister continued, I likewise am ordered by my Master to inform you, that, as his policy is peace, He cannot receive you as Consul resident, in this Regency, you having been the cause of the War with Tripoli. He has wrote to the President of the United States on the Subject, and will await his answer; during which time, He desires me to inform you, that the American flag shall be treated with respect; and that He appoints Mr George Davis to remain in the same situation, that Commodore Morris left him, until the will of the President is known. You may call for the Bashaw's Letters in the Morning, at 8 O'Clock. —

\* \* \* \* \*

The American Drogoman brough[t] a message from the Bashaw to Capt: Campbell, informing Him, that He had determined not to receive me as Consul of the United States, for reasons which He would inform the President: that His Excellency had appointed Mr Davis to remain until answers came to the Bashaws Letters, which He would be ready to deliver in the Morning. —

Mr Davis \* \* \* said He would not wonder if Captain Campbell should be detained untill Hadgi Unis ben Unis was satisfied for the claims made by the Moors for prize goods sold at Malta; and asked me whether I would assume the debt or not. I informed Him, that I conceived this affair to depend entirely upon the Commodore of the Station;

\* \* \* \* \*

Capt: Campbell informs me (for I was not in the office myself,) that Mr Davis told Him candidly, that He was apprehensive, that He would be detained untill Hadgi Unis ben Unis was satisfied. Capt: Campbell answered, He may keep me to all Eternity; but the Ship Sails to-morrow; and I will write home for government never to pay the debt; I will remain here for ever, before I suffer such indignity to be offered with impunity; \* \* \*

THURSDAY 8TH. This Morning, Captain Campbell, Mr Davis and myself proceeded towards the Palace, in order to take leave of the Bashaw; while in the carriage, I asked Doctor Davis if He had settled with Hadgi Unis ben Unis. He said He had not yet. Captain Campbell then repeated nearly what He had said in the Office, and positively assured Mr Davis, that He had already sent an order for to get the Ship under Way; and that if He was detained one moment, she should sail without him. We waited at the Palace until the Arrival of Hadgi Unis ben Unis; was received by the Bashaw, in the Hall of Justice, drank Coffee and passed the customary compliments. Hadgi Unis ben Unis presented a very long list in

Arabic; which, He said, was the Note of the things, claimed by the Tunisian claimants, many of whom were present, Doctor Davis answered without hesitation, or asking their Value, that He would write to Malta and have all the things returned, that were not sold; and that He would pay for the rest as soon as possible; at which, the claimants seemed perfectly satisfied. During the whole transaction, Captain Campbell nor myself were not asked one question, nor did we, in the least interfere. — [Translation of list is in NDA.]

\* \* \* \* \*

We returned to the Consular House; and being determined to go on board immediately after surmounting some little difficulties placed in the way of our procuring a Vehicle &c We arrived at the Goletta about 3 o'Clock; found the Ship under sail, and the Boat waiting for us; We embarked immediately: \* \* \* [Mr. Davis] went on Shore at 6. pm. At 9½ p. m. the boat came on board, and Captain Campbell made sail, leaving the abode of happiness, without much regret. —

My reason for not suspending Mr Davis's functions while on shore was to prevent Captain Campbell from being detained; had I informed the Bashaw that any contract entered into by Mr Davis was non-valid, He having no power whatever vested in him, but positively was instructed by Commodore Morris to the contrary, the Bashaw would immediately have said, well then, We will detain the Captain, untill the claims made by the Moors are satisfied. I therefore thought it most prudent to wait untill We got on board, and then to Write to the Bashaw, in order that the U. S. may be exonerated from the Acts of this infatuated young man.

To what a degrading situation are we reduced! the Commanders of the very Squadron which is sent out to preserve the Honor of our Nation and dignity of our Flag cannot land as the Officers of all other Nations do, and depart unmolested; but have twice, in the small period of Six Months been subjected to arrest; and at this moment it would be the height of imprudence to land at Tunis, as certain arrest maybe imprisonment, would be the consequence. \* \* \*

JAMES LEANDER CATHER

I do certify that the above detail of our operations at Tunis is a true statement of facts, which either happen'd in my presence or came immediately to my personal knowledge; except only, the purport of the audience at the Pallace on Wednesday the 7<sup>th</sup> of September 1803 at which I was not present; and in testimony of which I have hereunto subscribed my name —

HUGH G CAMPBELL,

Commanding the United States Frigate the *Adams*

[NA. SDA. CL, Tripoli, Vol. 2, 1801-1806.]

[2 September 1803]

**Temporary Orders issued by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy**

Whenever all hands are call'd for the purpose of making or taking in sail, tacking or wearing Ship &c<sup>s</sup> The Officers are immediately to repair to the following Stations, to keep Order, and to cause the Orders from the quarter deck, to be promptly and correctly executed —

Viz<sup>t</sup>

    The first Lieutenant to take the trumpet on the quarter deck —

    Second Lieutenant to take the trumpet on the Starboard Gangway and waiste —

    Third Lieutenant to take the trumpet on the Larboard Gangway and waiste —

    Fourth Lieutenant on the Gun deck

M<sup>r</sup> Reed on the fore-castle

M<sup>r</sup> Deacon, fore and foretop sail Braces Starb<sup>d</sup> Side

M<sup>r</sup> Morris   D<sup>r</sup>           D<sup>r</sup>           D<sup>r</sup> Larb<sup>d</sup> Side

M<sup>r</sup> Izard

M<sup>r</sup> Haswell } Near the commanding Officer

M<sup>r</sup> Dexter to attend Signals

M<sup>r</sup> Burrows to attend, Main and Maintop sail Braces Starboard side  
 M<sup>r</sup> Baldwin — D<sup>o</sup> D<sup>o</sup> D<sup>o</sup> Larboard Side  
 M<sup>r</sup> Hunnewell Cross Jack braces Starb<sup>d</sup> Side  
 M<sup>r</sup> Bartell — D<sup>o</sup> D<sup>o</sup> Lar<sup>d</sup> Side  
 M<sup>r</sup> Nicholson Fore top —  
 M<sup>r</sup> Rowe Main top —  
 M<sup>r</sup> Thompson Mizzen top —

Given under my hand this 2<sup>nd</sup> of September 1803  
 on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution* at Sea  
 E P —

M<sup>r</sup> Hunt Gun deck Fore sheet, and main tack Starboard side  
 M<sup>r</sup> Laws — D<sup>o</sup> D<sup>o</sup> D<sup>o</sup> Larboard Side  
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The Officer of each division is on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of each month to make a return to the Captain of the necessary clothing wanted by the men of his division in order that it may be issued on the last day of the month; as clothing will not be delivered excepting on those days —

First division 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant his division to consist of all the men stationed at the first Division of Guns on the lower Deck, and the fore topmen —

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On board U S Frigate *Constitution*  
 at Sea 2<sup>nd</sup> Sep<sup>r</sup> 1803

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[LC. EPP, Vol. 6, 1803.]

[2 September 1803]

To the Emperor of Morocco from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco  
 Copy —

May it Please Your Majesty —

It is with great concern I find myself constrained to address Your Majesty on matters so unpleasant as will be the chief subject of this Letter. —

When Your Majestys intimation was made to the Consuls here that the Ship *Mes[h]ouda* had become Your Majestys property, I instantly granted the usual Passport for her as such\*, and she sailed from Gibraltar in the presence of the Commodore and several Ships of War of the United States, unmolested; but having been overtaken by an American Frigate when attempting to enter the Port of Tripoly after having taken on board a variety of Articles of Warlike Stores at

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Algiers, for the avowed purpose of being carried to that Port, altho' well known to the Commander to be blockaded, it became the duty of the Captain of that Frigate to conduct the *Meshouda* to a Port for examination and she was taken to Malta. — The American Commodore instantly acquainted me of this event, saying at same time if this proved to be an Act of Raiz Omars unauthorised, the Ship should be liberated as a proof of the disposition of the American Government to gratify Your Majesty on every occasion, for had this Vessel been under any other Flag than that of your Majesty, she would perfectly consistent with the Law of Nations and invariable Custom in such cases, been instantly confiscated.

I communicate all these circumstances to Alcaide Hashash who assured me Raiz Omar had acted contrary to the Orders he gave him in Your Majestys name, which I lost no time in writing to the American Commodore, but unfortunately the want of conveyance for Malta delayed that Letter a very long time at Gibraltar, insomuch that to this day I have not got the Commodores determination. — I have however always entertained good hopes the busyness of the *Mes[h]ouda* would be amicably accommodated. —

To my very great astonishment yesterday I received information that another American Frigate had fallen in with Your Majestys Ship *Mirboka* Commanded by Raiz Lubarez to the Eastward of Malaga, having the American Brig *Celia* from Barcelona for Malaga with him as Prize, and the Master and seven Mariners on board the Ship Prisoners.

Raiz Lubarez confessed he Cruized for purpose of takeing American Vessels and gave up a paper in the Arabic Language which he said was his authority for that purpose delivered to him by Alcaide Abdashaman Hashash. —

As my Passports were applied for and granted for the *Mirboka* and all the other Vessels of War sent out from Your Majestys Ports this Summer, I could not but be very much surprised to find they were authorised to capture American Vessels, as I never had received the least information that Your Majesty had seen any cause to disturb that harmony which so happily had been restored and continued to subsist, between Your Majesty and the United States of America. — Under the mentioned circumstances it became the indispensable duty of the American Captain to retake the Brig of his Nation, and also to detain the *Mirboka* as she had been sent to Sea for the purpose of making War against America. — The Naval force of the United States at this time in these Seas is such as to afford ample protection to its Commerce and for every other purpose it can be required; yet as it has ever been my steady endeavour since I have had the honour of being placed near Your Majesty by the Government of the United States, to do every thing within the compass of my power to maintain Peace and Good Friendship between the Countries, so now I beg leave to answer Your Majesty that I am highly disposed to receive such propositions as Your Majesty may be pleased to make thro' me for a re-establishment of Peace, which I will transmit to the Commanding Officer of our Squadron in these Seas who is daily expected at Gibraltar, or send them on to America as circumstances may appear to render most proper for furtherance of the Grand object in view. —

A first and very necessary measure for this will be Your Majesty withdrawing the authority the Captains of your Cruizers have for



capturing American Vessels, when that shall be done they will no longer be in any danger from the Ships of War of the United States. —

Alcayde Hashash thought proper to confine me to his house — Your Majestys known attachment to strict Justice I am fully persuaded will induce you to order that no such insult be offered to me again.

I pray the Almighty to have Your Majesty in his good keeping and beg to assure you I am

TANGIER 2<sup>d</sup> Septem<sup>r</sup> 1803

His Imperial Majesty MULEY SOLIMAN Ben Mohamet  
Ben Abdallah — Ben Ismall &<sup>cs</sup> &<sup>cs</sup> &<sup>cs</sup>

\*In the Arabic copy was added "but not to enter Ports blockaded".

[LC. EPP, Vol. 6, 1803.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 2 September 1803

Standing down the Delaware

Clear & pleasant weather with light breezes from the W<sup>d</sup> at 7 A. M. set up rigging below & aloft fore & aft. At 8 A. M. sent up top Gall<sup>ts</sup> yards At 9 unmoor'd & brought up on the stream anchor, at 11 sent on shore 5 water casks being more than could be stow'd. — at 2 P. M. hove short on the stream cable. At 1/2 past 3 P. M. hove up & got under way with the wind from the south<sup>d</sup> & W<sup>d</sup> At 1/2 past 7 P. M came too in 4 1/4 fathoms water, about 2 miles to the S<sup>d</sup> of Reedy Island, gave the ship about 20 fathoms Cable, ends with light breezes from the S<sup>d</sup> —

[NDA.]

Daniel Bedinger, Navy Agent, Norfolk, Va., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP<sup>t</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 3. 1803 —

Agreeably to your requisition of the 30<sup>th</sup> ultimo, I have this day directed you a remittance of four thousand dollars for the purpose of paying half the freight of the ship *Old Tom*, to be charged to the appropriation of "Barbary Negotiations". —

[NDA. Barbary Powers LB, 1803-1808.]

To Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy, from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco

TANGIER 3<sup>rd</sup> Septem<sup>r</sup> 1803

DEAR SIR, Your favour of the 29<sup>th</sup> past I received on thursday at noon, with news which you will have seen by my letters to M<sup>r</sup> Gavino I [space] but certainly did not expect at that moment, for our Governour on a very recent occasion assured the Consuls thro. Sir Peter Wyk that his Imperial Majesty did not authorize his cruisers then at Sea, to capture vessels belonging to any Nation West of the Straits besides Russia & Prussia, repeatedly mentioning America as one of the nations with whom they were at Peace; this contradiction does not surprise me, as I know where I am.

At receipt of your letter I immediately waited on Alcayde Hashash and acquainted him of the capture and re capture [*Mirboka* and *Celia*] you had made, when he denied in the most positive terms Raiz

Lubarez being authorized by him or any other person to capture American Vessels. I could only insist on the advice you had given me, and he was as positive on the contrary strain. At a second interview in the early part of the evening he was Civil, the subject was again canvassed without any interesting issue; — he had called me a third time to his house at eleven at night, when I was told by his people the Governour had retired (& I did not see him) but that it was his orders I should be detained until such time as the Frigates were released; they instantly shut the doors and there I was until yesterday morning at ten. My release was obtained by a demand made to that effect by all my Brother Consuls, but he insisted on their becoming answerable that I should not leave the country without previously obtaining his Majesty's permission. God knows I had no intention of going without it — the necessary representations and complaint on this violence has been laid before his Majesty by the Consuls collectively, as well as by myself. I conclude you will have had the paper delivered to you by Raiz Lubarez, as the authority he had for capturing American Vessels translated, but the question is whether you have been able to obtain a faithful translation of it be really what he said it is a most material paper, I beg to have a copy and translation of it by the earliest *direct* conveyance. — I have sent an express to the Emperour at [space] with my account of what has happened, whose return I may expect by this day week — At this time it is impossible for me to say by whose authority Raiz Lubarez acted in capturing the *Celia*, — by what him and his officers told you it appears likely to have come from Hashash in whom the Emperor has of late placed unbonded confidence, insomuch that we have seen acts of his of a most extraordinary nature sanctioned by his master. From whatever source the order came, I have not the smallest doubt but the object in view thereby, was to influence the restitution of that most unfortunate Vessel the *Mes[hou]da* In the night of thursday a Moor had escaped from that ship at Malta arrived here, & the Governour brought him before me on Friday, when he made a declaration on subject of the ill treatment he said the crew met from Captain Rodgers, in such terms as I could not possibly believe; but at that moment it suited the Governour's purpose extremely, as well as at the conference with the Consuls in the fore noon, and I am persuaded he has painted the whole as facts, and in very lively colours to the Emperor. For this reason I must particularly request that some others of that crew be examined if possible before Hamet Bigga or some other principal Moore at Gibraltar, on subject of the treatment they met with, that I may be prepared to efface from the Emperor's mind the impression this fellows story may have made with him. — In this view I beg to have in writing what those men may say, substantiated in the best manner circumstances will admit of.

You know there is an other Frigate of this country at sea, it is to be supposed her commander has similar Orders as Lubarez, but I do not know how it is possible to ascertain the fact, unless she actually makes some captures, however I doubt not but she will be looked after — it is not at all likely she is gone to the Eastward. At this time it appears impossible to say what may be the best termination to be aimed at in this most unfortunate business — some light may be thrown on it by the Emperors answer, for I have told him if he desires a restoration of Peace I will be very ready to receive his propo-

sitions, and transmit them either to the Commanding Officer of our ships of War in these seas, or to the President, as circumstances may appear to render necessary; — adding that a primary measure must be his withdrawing the authority given his Cruisers to capture American Vessels, which alone could give them security with our ships of War. I was led to hold forth this because we have security in hand for their good behaviour. War with this Country is of all others most to be avoided, but Peace must not be bought on terms incompatible with the honor & dignity of the Nation. If Commodore Morris has reached Gibraltar I persuade myself he will in the present critical state of affairs remain untill Commodore Preble arrives, or at least untill can transmit by him to Government the Emperours answer to my dispatch of yesterday. — I must not omit expressing the very great satisfaction I felt at your handsome treatment of Raiz Lubarez and his ships Company, it does yourself honor and even with these people must impress favourable opinions of us not possible to be forgotten by all of them.

JAMES SIMPSON

[LC. EPP, Vol. 6, 1803.]

Extract and translation from a journal kept in French by an unknown person on board the U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 3 September 1803

Departure from Barcelona on Saturday, 3 September 1803. At sunset signalled to the convoy to unmoor. . . Weighed anchor and set sail. The entire convoy followed. . . At sunrise. . . the convoy to leeward of us. . . At 11 A M went to rally the convoy. . .

[LC. EPP, Journal 1803.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 3 September 1803

At ½ past 1 A. M. weighed the Larboard bower & got under way with the wind W.N.W. At 6 A. M. unbent the stream cable & got the anchor in board, Likewise stow'd the sheet & Larboard bower —

At 8 A. M. the Pilot left us the light house on Cape Henlopen bore S.W. by S. distance 2 Leagues. — People employ'd on necessary duty such, as stowing the sparrs anchors, &c. &c. —

At 12 A. M. Cape Henlopen bore W. by N ½ N distance 4 Leagues from which we shall take our Departure —

Lat: of Cape Henlopen.....	38°46' N.
Long: of Cape Henlopen.....	75° 5' W.
((NB.) These remarks include but 12 hours.....)	
Lat: of Gibraltar.....	36° 5' N.
Long: of Gibraltar.....	5°16' W.

[NDA.]

[4 September 1803]

U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean

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

THE SQUADRON OF COMMODORE EDW<sup>d</sup> PREBLE:

*Constitution* [Flagship]  
*Philadelphia*

- Siren* Brig — Built at Phil<sup>a</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup> 1803. carrying 16 — 24<sup>lb</sup> Carronades.
- Argus* Brig — Built at Boston Aug<sup>t</sup> 1803. carrying 16 — 24<sup>lb</sup> Carronades.
- Vixen* Schooner — Built at Balt<sup>o</sup> July 1803. carrying 14: 6 Pounds.
- Nautilus* Schooner. Bought of Tenant: Balt<sup>o</sup> May 1803. 12. 6 Pounds.
- Enterprize* — Schooner. Part of Morris's Squadron — ordered to remain.

Commodore Preble in the *Constitution* arrived at Gibraltar 12 Sep<sup>r</sup> 1803, and was soon after joined there by Rodgers in the *J. Adams*, Morris, the *New York*, & Campbell The *Adams*. Morris then took the *Adams* and returned to the United States. Rodgers assumed Command of the *New York* and of Morris's Squadron, and Campbell took the *J. Adams*.

At this time The Emperor of Morocco was committing hostilities against the United States.

Rodgers and Preble having taken their measures, Sailed from Gibraltar for Tangier Oct<sup>r</sup> 6: and laying their Ships before the Town, on the 12<sup>th</sup> October 1803, compelled The Emperor to sign the Treaty of 1786. The *Philadelphia* was at this time off Tripoli. — Commodore Preble then proceeded aloft where he found that the *Philad<sup>o</sup>* on 31 Oct<sup>o</sup> 1803 had been taken by the Tripolitans and moored in the Harbour. The Commodore formed a plan for burning her which was executed by L<sup>t</sup> St. Decatur J<sup>r</sup> in the Ketch *Intrepid* of 4 Guns & 70 Men on the Night of the 16 Feb<sup>r</sup> 1804. April 19 The Brig *Argus* joined Company. The Brigs & Schooners continued the Blockade while the Commodore repaired to Naples where he obtained from the King a Loan of 6 Gun Boats carrying each a 24 Pounder, & 2 Bomb-Vessels carrying each a 13 Inch Sea-Mortar. July 25<sup>th</sup> He arrived off Tripoli, his whole Force consisting of the *Constitution*, *Siren*, *Argus*, *Vixen*, *Nautilus*, *Enterprize*, (*Scourge*,) 2 Bomb-Vessels & 6 Gun Boats, cont<sup>g</sup> 1060 Men. Tripoli was protected by Batteries mounting 115 pieces of Cannon — the Harbour by 19 Gun Boats, 2 Gallies, 1 Brig of 10, & 2 Schooners of 8 guns each, moored within a long range of Rocks & Shoals which form the Harbour — The Enemy's Flotilla having advanced without the Rocks.

AUG<sup>t</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> AT 2 P M, the Signal was made for Battle. The Mortar-Boats commd<sup>d</sup> by Lt. Cmm<sup>t</sup> Dent & L<sup>t</sup> Robinson attacked the Town: The 1<sup>st</sup> Division of GBoats was commanded by M. Cmm<sup>t</sup> Somers who in N<sup>o</sup> 1, attacked & drove within the Rocks 5 of the Enemy's W. division — L<sup>t</sup> J<sup>r</sup> [James] Decatur in N<sup>o</sup> 2 carried one of the Enemy's Boats but was shot dead when taking possession of her. L<sup>t</sup> Blake in N<sup>o</sup> 3 did not go into close fight. The 2<sup>d</sup> Division was commd<sup>d</sup> by Cap<sup>t</sup> Decatur who in N<sup>o</sup> 4 attacked the Enemy's E. Division, boarded & carried one which he took in tow & then boarded & carried a Second. L<sup>t</sup> Bainbridge N<sup>o</sup> 5, had early his Latteen Yard shot away w<sup>h</sup> prevented him from closing. L<sup>t</sup> Trippe in N<sup>o</sup> 6 with Mids<sup>z</sup> Jn<sup>o</sup> Henley and 9 Men boarded & carried 1 of the Enemy's Boats: L<sup>t</sup> Trippe rec<sup>d</sup> 11 Wounds. These Attacks were seconded by the Brigs, Schooners & by the *Constitution* which fired within 3 Cables' length of the Flotilla & Batteries which she always silenced as she c<sup>d</sup> bring her Guns to bear. The Action ceased at  $\frac{1}{4}$  past 4, the Enemy



LIEUTENANT EDWARD PREBLE, U. S. NAVY.



having lost 3 Boats taken, 3 sunk; much damage done to the Town & Batteries & many men killed. — The Prize-Boats under L<sup>t</sup> Caldwell, Crane, & Thorn, being ready.

AUG<sup>t</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> ½ PAST 2 P. M. the Signal was made for Battle. The Bomb Vessels attacked the Town from a small Bay to the Westward, while the Gun Boats were to silence a 7 Gun-Battery which guarded the Approach to that position. N<sup>o</sup> 3 Com<sup>d</sup> by M<sup>t</sup> Brooks Master of the *Argus*: N<sup>o</sup> 6 by L<sup>t</sup> Wadsworth. It being a Calm, the *Constitution* c<sup>d</sup> not get into Action. At ½ past 5 the Action ceased. 48 Shells & ab<sup>t</sup> 500 24<sup>lb</sup> shot were thrown into the Town & Batteries, & the 7 Gun-Battery nearly destroyed. G Boat N<sup>o</sup> 9 was blown up by a hot shot from the Enemy, & L<sup>t</sup> Caldwell who commd<sup>d</sup> with Mids<sup>z</sup> Dorsey & 10 Men, were Killed — 2 other men were killed & 4 wounded. At 8 in the Evening, the *John Adams*, Cap<sup>t</sup> Chauncey joined Company. —

AUG<sup>t</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> AT 2 A. M. Commenced Bombarding the Town & continued it till daylight

AUG<sup>t</sup> 28<sup>th</sup> AT 3 A. M. The GBoats covered by the Brigs & Schooners, attacked the Town, Shipping, Castle, & Batteries. The Mortar-Boats were not in a situation for action. At ¼ past 5 a m the Boats were towed off, & the *Constitution* which had been re-inforced by Cap<sup>t</sup> Chauncey in person, & a number of his Officers & Men, ran in within Musket-Shot of the Batteries, 2 of which with the Castle, she silenced for some time. At ¼ past 6 the Action ceased. Upwards of 700 round shot beside Grape & Cannister, were thrown into the Town & Batteries wih suffered greatly from this day's Action. N<sup>o</sup> 2 was commanded by L<sup>t</sup> Gordon & N<sup>o</sup> 5 by L<sup>t</sup> Lawrence. Our Vessels suffered in Sails & rigging.

SEPT<sup>r</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> AT ½ PAST 3 P. M. The B. Vessels bombarded the Town. The GBoats drove the Enemy's Gallies & Boats under Fort English which was then attacked by the Brigs, Schooners, & 1 division of the GBoats, while the other still continued the fight with the Gallies & Boats. The Bomb-Vessels being in great danger from the Batteries, the *Constitution* ran between, brought to within grape shot, in a position where 70 guns c<sup>d</sup> bear upon her & fired 11 Broadsides into the Batteries. At ½ past 4 the Action Ceased. One of the Enemy's Batteries was silenced & the Town & Batteries much damaged. The *Constitution* & y<sup>e</sup> other Vessels suffered much in their Sails & Rigging only. B. Vessel N<sup>o</sup> 1 Commanded by L<sup>t</sup> Robinson was disabled.

A plan being laid to destroy the Town & Shipping by a Fire-Ship filled with Powder & Shells, Sep<sup>r</sup> 4, M. Comm<sup>t</sup> Somers, & L<sup>t</sup> Wadsworth & Israel with 10 Men attempted to put it in Execution, but being boarded before they had gained their point of destination, & preferring death to Slavery, they put fire to the Magazine & blew themselves & Enemies up together.

Commodore S. Barron in the *President* arrived off Tripoli 10 Sept<sup>r</sup> 1804 & the Command of the Squadron was delivered up to him with the usual Ceremonies. —

[Résumé, presumably prepared in Navy Department about 1806 or 1807, concerning the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Flagship of Commodore Edward Preble, 14 May 1803 to 9 November 1804]

The *Constitution* Frigate

Put in Commission 14: May 1803:

Recruited. 7: June —

Sailed from Boston 14: Aug<sup>t</sup> —

Arrived at Gibraltar 12: Sep<sup>t</sup> —

The Emperor of Morocco having commenced hostilities against the United States, The *Constitution* in company with the *New York & J. Adams*, came to an Anchor before Tangier, & on the 12<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>o</sup> compelled the Emperor to sign the Peace of 1786. The *Constitution* then sailed for Cadiz from whence she returned to Gibraltar Nov<sup>r</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> & from thence sailed for Algiers to land Col<sup>o</sup> Lear, Consul General. Sailed thence 22<sup>d</sup>

Arrived at Malta 27: Nov<sup>r</sup> 1803. Appeared at different [times] off Tripoli & at Tunis rendezvousing at Syracuse.

Anchored in Naples Bay 15: May 1804, & procured from the King — 6 Gun & 2 Mortar Boats for an attack on Tripoli.

Sailed for Messina with an order for their delivery. Appeared off Tripoli with the squadron July 1804. Took part in the actions of Aug<sup>t</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> 28<sup>th</sup> & Sept<sup>t</sup> 3. — Comm<sup>rs</sup> Barron having joined, Comm<sup>rs</sup> Preble gave up the Command 10 Sep<sup>t</sup> Cap<sup>t</sup> Rodgers in consequence of Com<sup>rs</sup> Preble's Return to the United States took Command of the *Constitution* Nov<sup>r</sup> 9. 1804.

[Résumé, presumably prepared in Navy Department about 1806 or 1807, concerning the U. S. Frigate *Philadelphia*, Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy, commanding, 21 May 1803 to 31 October 1803]

The Frigate *Philadelphia*:

Put in Commission . . . . . 21: May 1803.

Recruited . . . . . 19: June —

Sailed from Philadelphia 28: July —

Arrived at Gibraltar . . . . . 24: Aug<sup>t</sup> — and repaired to her Station on the Coast of Tripoli early in October 1803. —

OCTOBER 31<sup>st</sup> 1803 chasing a Tripolitan Vessel 4 or 5 Miles to the Eastward of Tripoli, Run on Rocks 12 feet water forward and 17 abaft. After endeavouring to get her off by every means possible and a resistance of 4 hour's duration, The *Philadelphia* struck her Flag and was taken possession of by the Gun Boats. See letter of Cap<sup>t</sup> Bainbridge on file, Tripoli, Nov<sup>r</sup> 1. 1803.

NOVEMBER 2: 1803, a strong Gale of Wind raising the waters on the Coast, The Tripolitans succeeded in getting her off the Rocks, and moored her in the Harbour of Tripoli. See Letter of Cap<sup>t</sup> Bainbridge on file, Tripoli, Nov<sup>r</sup> 6, 1803.

FEBRUARY 16: 1804, Lieu<sup>t</sup> Stephen Decatur Junior in the Ketch *Intrepid* 4 Guns and 70 Men, at Night, attacked, took possession of, and set fire to, the *Philadelphia*, which in a short time, was totally consumed. The Tripolitans lost in the Attack 20 Men: Decatur had 1 Man only, slightly wounded. — The *Philadelphia* was Moored within half gunshot of the Bashaw's Castle, and the principal battery: Two of their Cruisers lay within two Cable's Length on the Starboard Quarter, and their Gun Boats within half gunshot on the Starboard Bow.



Officers present at the Attack.

Stephen Decatur j <sup>r</sup>	Commander.	} VOLUNTEERS.
James Lawrence	} Lieutenants.	
Joseph Bainbridge		
Jonathan Thorn		
Louis Heerman	Surgeon.	
Ralph Izard	} Midshipmen	
John Rowe		
Thomas Macdonough		
Tho <sup>s</sup> O. Anderson		
Charles Morris		
John Davis		
Alexander Laws.		

See Decatur's Letters to Commodore Preble. Dispatches N<sup>o</sup> 8.

Commission and Warrant Officers:—

Station	Names of Officers.	Casualties and Remarks
Comm <sup>dr</sup> .	William Bainbridge esq <sup>r</sup> .....	Returned home in the <i>New York</i>
Lieut <sup>s</sup> .	John S. H. Cox.....	
	Jacob Jones.....	
	Theodore Hunt.....	
	Benjamin Smith.....	
S <sup>v</sup> Master.	David Porter.....	From the <i>N York</i>
Surgeon.	William Knight.....	
	John Ridgely.....	
	Jonathan Cowdery.....	
Mate	Nicholas Harwood.....	
"		
Purser.	Keith Spence.....	
Boatsm.	George Hodge.....	
Gunner.	Richard Stephenson.....	
Carp <sup>tr</sup> .	William Godby.....	
S <sup>t</sup> Maker.	Joseph Douglass.....	To the <i>Enterprise</i> .
	James Gibbon.....	
	Daniel Todd Patterson.....	
	Benjamin F. Read.....	
	Thomas Macdonough.....	
	James Biddle.....	
	Barnard Henry.....	
	Wallace Wormeley.....	
	William Cutbush.....	
	Simon Smith.....	
	Robert Gamble.....	
Richard B. Jones.....		
James Renshaw.....	From the <i>John Adams</i>	
M. Officer.	William S. Osborne 1 <sup>st</sup> Lt.....	

Peace with Tripoli being effected 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1805 — The Officers and Crew of the *Philadelphia* were liberated under its Provisions. —

[Résumé, presumably prepared in Navy Department about 1806 or 1807, concerning the U. S. Brig *Siren*, Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding; 6 August 1803 to 30 September 1804]

The Brig *Siren*

Launched at Philadelphia..... 6: August 1803.  
 Sailed from Philadelphia..... 27 " "  
 Arrived at Gibraltar..... 1: Oct<sup>r</sup> " "

Sailed about 15<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> from Gibraltar to Leghorn for Money & Presents to the Dey of Algiers.

Arrived at Syracuse from Algiers early in January 1804. — then ordered on a Cruise off Cape Bonn & Tunis, then off Tripoli.

Off Tripoli March 1804 — At Syracuse early in April 1804

Off Tripoli April. Present at the Attacks on Tripoli in Aug<sup>t</sup> & Sept<sup>r</sup> Continued off Tripoli till 11<sup>th</sup> then rep<sup>d</sup> to Syracuse. Ordered off Tangier by Com<sup>rs</sup> Barron last of Sept<sup>r</sup>. \* \* \*

[Résumé, presumably prepared in Navy Department about 1806 or 1807, concerning the U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Stephen Decatur, Jr., and Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding; 21 August 1803 to 23 June 1805]

The Brig *Argus*:

Launched at Boston.....	21: Aug <sup>t</sup> 1803.
Sailed from Boston.....	8: Sep <sup>r</sup> “
Put into Newport in distress.....	18: “ “
Sailed from Newport.....	28: “ “
Arrived at Gibraltar.....	1: Nov <sup>r</sup> “

Sailed Beginning of Dec<sup>r</sup> from Gibraltar to Marseilles and Leghorn with convoy. —

Returned to Gibraltar 4 January 1804, & employed in watching the movements of the Emperor of Morocco and in Cruising along the Coast of Spain.

Convoyed up the Provision Ship *Woodrop Sims* & at Syracuse early in April — 19<sup>th</sup> Repaired off Tripoli in Company with the *Vixen*. Tunis Bay 20<sup>th</sup> June. Latter part of June off Tripoli. —

Present at the Attacks on Tripoli Aug<sup>t</sup> & Sept<sup>r</sup> Convoyed Gunboats to Messina ab<sup>t</sup> 15 Sept<sup>r</sup> — Off Tripoli 1 Oct<sup>o</sup> Ret<sup>d</sup> to Syracuse. Off Tripoli 1 Nov<sup>r</sup> Ab<sup>t</sup> 16 Nov<sup>r</sup> sailed for Alexandria in Egypt with M<sup>r</sup> Eaton. Arrived 26: — Left Alex<sup>a</sup> 19 Feb<sup>r</sup> 1805 & ret<sup>d</sup> to Malta or Syracuse. Sailed again with the provision Vessel the Sloop *Hornet* to Bomba with the ExBashaw's Secretary on board, 26 March 1805 — Off Derne Head 3 Ap<sup>r</sup> and off the coast in company with the *Hornet* Cutter L<sup>t</sup> Evans. & *Nautilus* L<sup>t</sup> Dent to 27<sup>th</sup> — April 28<sup>th</sup> with the above named Vessels came to ½ mile from the Batteries of Derne, & attacked them by Sea while Gen<sup>l</sup> Eaton with L<sup>t</sup> OBannon, & the ExBashaws Army and a few American Marines assaulted it by Land. The Action began at 2 P. M. and ended at 5, at which time OBannon and his party took possession of the Batteries. June 12. joined by the *F. Constellation*. Left Derne 13<sup>th</sup> — arrived in Syracuse Harbour 23<sup>d</sup> June.

[Résumé, presumably prepared in Navy Department about 1806 or 1807, concerning the U. S. Schooner *Vixen*, Master Commandant John Smith, U. S. Navy commanding; 25 June 1803 to 22 May 1805]

The Schooner *Vixen*:

Launched at Baltimore.....	25 <sup>th</sup> June 1803.
Sailed from Baltimore.....	3: Aug <sup>t</sup>
“ “ Capes.....	11. “
Arrived at Gibraltar.....	14: Sep <sup>r</sup>

Repaired off Tripoli early in Oct<sup>r</sup> in Company with the *Philadelphia* and in the latter part of Oct<sup>r</sup> was dispatched by Cap<sup>t</sup> Bainbridge on a Cruise off Cape Bonn. —

Dispatched Beg<sup>g</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> to Gibraltar with Bainbridge's dispatches giving account of Loss of his Ship. Returned to Syracuse middle of Dec<sup>r</sup> —

Beg<sup>g</sup> Feb<sup>r</sup> 1804 — Ord<sup>d</sup> to Tunis Bay & to Algiers. At Malta from Algiers 1<sup>st</sup> April. Ord<sup>d</sup> off Tripoli with the *Argus* 19<sup>th</sup> —

Present in the attacks on Tripoli in August & Sept<sup>r</sup>. Returned to port ab<sup>t</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> — Off Tripoli 1 Oct<sup>r</sup>. Returned to Syracuse. Off

Tripoli 27 Nov<sup>r</sup> Betwixt the Islands & Barbary Shore 9 March 1805. Arrived at Malta 21 April. Syracuse 23<sup>d</sup> Sailed May 11<sup>th</sup> Tunis Bay May 22<sup>d</sup> — One of Com. Rodgers's Squadron from this date.

[Résumé, presumably prepared in Navy Department about 1806 or 1807, concerning the U. S. Schooner *Nautilus*, Lieutenant Richard Somers, U. S. Navy, commanding; 5 May 1803 to 31 May 1805]

The Schooner *Nautilus*:

Purchased of M<sup>r</sup> Tenant of Baltimore.

Put in Commission.....	5: May. 1803.
Sailed from Baltimore.....	24: June “
“ “ Capes.....	30: “ “
Arrived at Gibraltar.....	27: July “

Beg<sup>d</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> sailed with the *Constitution* to Algiers and then off Tripoli. Beg<sup>d</sup> Feb<sup>r</sup> 1804 in Tunis Bay — then to Syracuse. —

Middle of March off Tripoli. Latter part of April at Messina repairing: until July 5<sup>th</sup>, then Repaired off Tripoli in company with the *Constitution*. Present at the Attacks on Tripoli in August and Sept<sup>r</sup> Syracuse 11 Sep<sup>r</sup> Off Tripoli 28: Off Tripoli 24 Oct<sup>r</sup> with *Constellation* in Vicinity of Tunis Bay 9 March (1805) in Company with the *Constellation*. Returned 26 March. M. Cmd<sup>r</sup> Dent took command Sep<sup>r</sup> 16. 1804. — Malta March 27. 1805. Syracuse Ap<sup>r</sup> 1. Sailed Ap<sup>r</sup> 8. Malta 10. Sailed 18. Bomba Ap<sup>r</sup> 25. Off Derne 27. One of the Vessels that attacked Derne on 28. Off Derne & the Coast until May 13<sup>th</sup> then engaged in covering Hamet's Army while in Action Off Malta 25. Tripoli 31. —

[Résumé, presumably prepared in Navy Department about 1806 or 1807, concerning the U. S. Brig *Scourge*, April 1804 to 11 February 1805]

The Brig *Scourge*:

This Vessel was present at the several Attacks of the 3<sup>d</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> 28<sup>th</sup> of August, & 3<sup>d</sup> of Sept<sup>r</sup> 1804, made by Commodore Preble on the Town, Shipping and Batteries of Tripoli, being Commanded by Lieut<sup>t</sup> Wadsworth and Izard. —

The above statement is incorrect. — The *Scourge* was not present in the attacks but assisted the *Boats* of the Squadron & was Commanded by M<sup>r</sup> Rowe. — The other officers were employed in other vessels of the Squadron —

Left the Coast of Tripoli under command of L<sup>t</sup> Izard 4 Sep<sup>r</sup> 1804, Arrived at Syracuse 10<sup>th</sup> — Left Syracuse 17 Nov<sup>r</sup> Arrived at Messina 19<sup>th</sup> Left Messina 22<sup>d</sup> — Arrived at Palermo 27<sup>th</sup> — Left Palermo 29<sup>th</sup> — Arrived at Norfolk V<sup>s</sup> 11 Feb<sup>r</sup> 1805, was dismantled & placed under charge of the Boatswain and 3 or 4 Seamen. —

The *Scourge* a Tripolitan Vessel [the *Transfer*] of 16: 6 Pounds, Captured by M. Cmd<sup>r</sup> Charles Stewart of the *Siren* under the Guns of the Castle of Tripoli: Valued by three Gentlemen at 5,000\$: taken into the Service of the United States and Officered by Commodore Preble from the Officers of his Squadron April 1804.

## Commission and Warrant Officers. —

Station	Names.	From what Vessel —	Casualties and Remarks
Commr	John H. Dent Esqr. ....	<i>Constitution</i>	To the <i>Nauticus</i> . —
	Ralph Izard. ....	<i>do</i> . ....	
Master	Henry Wadsworth. ....	<i>do</i> . ....	Killed Sept 4, 1804 with Somers Aur. 8 to <i>Argus</i> as Lieutenant. Promoted to Command to bring her [ <i>Scourge</i> ] home
	Charles Morris. ....	<i>do</i> . ....	
	Ralph Izard. ....	<i>do</i> . ....	
Lieut	G <sup>v</sup> A. Marcellin. ....	<i>do</i> . ....	
	J. M. Haswell. ....	<i>do</i> . ....	
S <sup>r</sup> Master	Seth Cartee. ....	<i>Enterprise</i>	
Surgeon	Thomas Marshall. ....		
	Patrick Sim. ....		
	John Rowe. ....	<i>Constitution</i>	
	John Davis. ....	<i>do</i> . ....	
	George S. Hackley. ....	<i>J. Adams</i> . —	

[NDA. Ships' Service, 1801-1809.]

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

UNITED STATES Ship *Constitution* 4<sup>th</sup> Sep<sup>t</sup> 1803*Cape St Vincent bearing N. b. E 6 Leagues distant* —

SIR, I have the honor to inform you that the *Constitution* is thus far on her passage, we are now in sight of the land, and I hope by the day after tomorrow to Anchor in Gibraltar Bay— I detain the Brig *Jack* of Cape Ann, Captain Haskell a few moments to give you this information — Cap<sup>t</sup> H. informs me, that the *Philadelphia* left Gibraltar 10 days since, in pursuit of two, three masted Tripolitan's, which had touch'd at Algiers — but were cruising off Allicant, when Cap<sup>t</sup> B went in pursuit, I hope he will be fortunate enough to fall in with them. The length of our passage has been owing to light and unfavorable winds the whole of the Ships Company are in health and the Officers have given me satisfaction

[LC. EPP, LB, 1803.]

Extract and translation from a journal kept in French by an unknown person on board the U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, from Sunday, 4 to Monday, 5 September 1803

Afternoon . . . five convoyed vessels. At 4 PM signalled to rally. Fired a shot. At sunset observed Cape Salou to the N W, Point [word illegible] to the west . . . under way . . . At sunrise . . . the convoy astern of us. At 8 A M fired a shot at a vessel of the convoy which was proceeding ahead . . . standing on to the west . . .

Latitude observed 40° 17' N.

[LC. EPP, Journal 1803.]

To Captain Billups, Master of the American Ship *Traveller*, from Secretary of the NavyNAV. DEP<sup>t</sup> Septem<sup>r</sup> 5. 1803

As soon as you are prepared for sea you will weigh anchor and proceed to Gibraltar and there deposit agreeable to bill of lading the public property committed to your care with John Gavino Esq<sup>r</sup> the American Consul to whom you will also deliver the accompanying letter — Should you meet on your passage any of the Public Ships

in want of Provisions you will supply them therewith taking the captains duplicate receipt therefor one of which you will transmit to this Department the other you will present to M<sup>r</sup> Gavino who thereupon will duly consider such supply in the Bill of lading and no interruption with respect to the settlement of freight will be experienced

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 6, 1802-1803.]

To Captain Thomas Tingey, Superintendent, Navy Yard, Washington, D. C., from  
Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP<sup>t</sup> *Septem 5. 1803*

One hundred Gun Carriages are to be sent as soon as possible to the Emperor of Morocco — You will therefore caused to be repaired in the completest manner and with the utmost dispatch 100 of the Gun Carriages of the navy with suitable coins & handspikes — The wooden axeltrees must be taken out and Iron axeltrees substituted in their place. These must be not of wrought but of Cast Iron, and you will contract with M<sup>r</sup> Foxall for the casting of them. If the present wheels should not suit the Iron axel trees new wheels must be made, and in such case the wheels must be made somewhat larger. — But upon the proper size of such enlarged wheels you will communicate with the Secretary at War who will cheerfully afford you any counsel you may need — In selecting the 100 Carriages to be repaired for this object let there be a due proportion of the largest we have in the navy yard from 12 pounders upwards — the greatest exertions must be made to accomplish this business soon all other engagements must yield to this — as soon as you shall form an opinion of the time when this business can to a certainty be executed you will inform me. It is important that I be possessed of information upon this subject so precise, that absolute reliance may be placed on it.

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 6, 1802-1803.]

To Secretary of State from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco  
N<sup>o</sup> 62. — Triplicate. — TANGIER *5<sup>th</sup> September 1803*

SIR I had the honour of addressing to you N<sup>o</sup> 61 on the 15<sup>th</sup> last Month in triplicate by the way of Lisbon & Gibraltar. —

It was extremely distressing to me to find by advice from Captain Bainbridge of the United States Frigate *Philadelphia* dated off Malaga 29<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup> that the suspicions I had entertained of hostile intentions on the part of this Country against our Flag, appear to have been but too well founded, altho' they were on such slight grounds as justified no more than my recommending measures of precaution. —

At receipt of Captain Bainbridges Letter thursday last I went to Alcajde Hashash who denied in the most positive terms either having given Raiz Lubarez authority, or that he knew of such coming from any other quarter for his capturing American Vessels: this assurance he extended to all His Majestys Cruizers, but I confess I cannot have full reliance on all that Man says, as by subterfuge it is not uncommon with him to evade declaring facts. — I was with him a second time same Evening on the busyness, without any Interesting or decisive issue, his complaints on detention of the *Mesouda* were unceasing at both interviews. —

At eleven at night he again sent and desired to see me at his House, as it is no uncommon thing to do busyness with Ministers and sometimes with Governours even at that hour in this Country I readily went, when to my great astonishment the doors were immediately shut, and I was informed by a relation of the Governours that it was his Orders I should be detained — he was gone to Bed and I did not see him so there was no remedy but submit to that gross insult, which none but a person of his rude manners would have been guilty of. — The only answer I received to the messages I sent was that I must remain untill both the Frigates should be set at liberty. — I will not detain you at present farther on this subject, than to say I remained in the same situation untill Friday at ten O'Clock, when my Brother Consuls came in a Body to demand my enlargement, on the principle of the person of a Consul in this Country as representative of his Nation being exempt from all Arrest.

The Governour at last consented to release me, on condition that they became Security I did not quit the Country without the Emperours permission. — A complaint has been made to His Majesty by the Consuls collectively, on the occasion besides what I have mentioned to him on the subject. —

With this you will find copy of a Letter I dispatched on Saturday for the Emperour at Fez, untill we receive his answer I do not see that any thing can be determined upon with respect to the *Mirboha*. — I have in the mean time written Captain Bainbridge fully on the busyness, and pointed out to him what steps in my oppinion are best to be taken to ascertain unequivocally the fact whether the Commander was authorised or not to Capture American Vessels, which is the grand point essential to be known. —

From the sense I have always in view of the great utility of an uninterrupted Peace with this Country, I was induced to say to the Emperour I was ready to receive such propositions as he might be pleased to make for an accommodation, holding forth as an encouragement security to his Cruizers on his withdrawing the orders for takeing American Vessels. —

To take upon me this measure (which I hope will meet approbation) I had strong inducements, the first that Commerce might not meet interruption or be burthen'd with heavy Insurance beyond the actual Risque, the next to bring on a Negotiation with security in our hands for their good behaviour in the course of which we may be able to obtain a farther Ratification of the existing Treaty, and lastly because if an open Rupture takes place it will be a most tedious and expensive busyness to make a new Treaty and very doubtfull if will be obtained on such good terms as the present. —

The first of next Moon is the time now fixed upon for the Emperour setting out on his tour to Tetuan and Tangier — I should not be surprised if this affair brings him sooner. —

[NA. SDA. CL, Tangier, Vol. 2, 1803-1810.]

To John Gavino, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar, from William Court & Co., Mogador

MOGADORE 5<sup>th</sup> Sep<sup>r</sup> 1803

SIR, As several American Vessels may be expected here shortly, it would probably prevent their entering this port if a Sloop of War could run down and cruise off this Port for 20 or 30 days, standing

off and on, and keeping the Land in sight during the day — We don't know how affairs stand, or if they are likely to be arranged — We have no news from M<sup>r</sup> Simpson — The American Brig *Hannah* Captain Williams of Salem is detained. The Cap<sup>t</sup> & Crew are in liberty on shore; the whole of his cargo deposited in the King's wareh<sup>se</sup> but under our Locks —

[See letter to Captain Preble from John Gavino, 20 September 1803.]

[LC. EPP, LB, 1803.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 5 September 1803

Saw Cape St. Vincent.

[LC, original.]

Extract and translation from a journal kept in French by an unknown person on board the U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, from Monday, 5 to Tuesday, 6 September 1803

Afternoon . . . Heading WSW . . . The small boat went alongside the *Mesaouda* [*Meshouda*]. The convoy astern of us. At sunset hoisted in the small boat. Sighted Colibre to the west distance about 10 miles [?] . . . all the convoy astern of us. Heading for Cape San Martin . . . At sunrise sighted several vessels to the south of us. Sighted the island of Iviza to the SSE . . . At 8 A M sighted a frigate to the south heading west. At 10 A M bore down on Cape San Martin about 15 miles distant. Sighted a very white square rigged vessel [?] . . . Cape San Martin to the NNW. At noon . . . the convoy astern. Heading SW. Cape San Martin to the NE. . . Cape Benidorm west distance 3 or 4 leagues.

Latitude observed 38°38' N.

[LC. EPP, Journal 1803.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Lieutenant Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Argus*

NANTASKET ROADS Sept<sup>r</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> 1803

SIR I have the honor to inform you I am at last in a preparation for sea, at the time I informed you I would sail in ten days, I had not discovered that the Commodore had contracted with the riggers & other workmen that they should have fourteen days after launching to compleat their work in, I have found it impossible to urge them to finish their work before the time they contracted for, I dropt down yesterday with an intention to proceede to sea but the wind failing was compelled to come to an anchor, & am now waiting for a wind — Agreeable to your directions I have the honor to inclose you William Moshier's warrant, also a letter to D<sup>r</sup> Bullas inclosing an invoice of Medicines received, which he requested me to inclose to you; we are now compleating our muster roll which shall be forwarded as soon as compleated, —

[NDA. Officers LB, 1802-1805.]

To John Gavino, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar, from Sir Thomas Trigge, Lieutenant Governor of Gibraltar

(Copy)

HEAD QUARTERS Gibraltar 6<sup>th</sup> Septemb<sup>r</sup> 1803

SIR In Consequence of your wish that the *Mishoba* [*Mirboka*] Prize to the *Philadelphia* should be admitted to Prattick, I have to acquaint

you that I am ready to order her to be admitted on your assuring me that it is not intended to Sell, or in any manner to dispose of the ship or any part of her stores in this Port —

I also hope that she may not long remain in this Port as it will tend to embroil us with the Emp<sup>t</sup> of Morrocco; the Mischivious consequences of which you are well acquainted with —

[SDA. CL, Gibraltar, Vol. II, April 1796–Nov. 1804.]

To Sir Thomas Trigge, Lieutenant Governor of Gibraltar, from John Gavino, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar

(Copy)

GIBRALTAR 6<sup>th</sup> Sep<sup>r</sup> 1803

SIR I have the honor of owning Rec<sup>t</sup> of your Ex<sup>ty</sup>s Letter of this date on the subject of my request in admitting the Ship *Marboha* (Detaind by the U. S. Ship *Philad<sup>a</sup>* W<sup>m</sup> Baimbridge Esq<sup>r</sup> Comm<sup>t</sup>) to Prattick which observe y<sup>t</sup> Exc<sup>t</sup> is ready to grant on my assurance that neither the ship or stores will be sold in this Port, and altho I am Convinced that neither will be the case yet I cannot take upon myself to enter into stipulations of the kind, particularly as Cap<sup>n</sup> Baimbridge will soon be in, and Comodor Prible every moment Expected from America, also Comodor Morris from Malta, who I am fully persuaded will act in every respect so as to prevent any Embroils, and at same time keep up the good Harmony which subsists between His Maj<sup>ty</sup> the King of the United Kingdoms and the Government of the U. S. of America, in the inter[im] I still hope your Ex<sup>ty</sup> will be pleased to Direct the *Marboha* being admitted to Prattick. —

[SDA. CL, Gibraltar, Vol. II, April 1796–Nov. 1804.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Tuesday, 6 September 1803

Light breezes and hazy Weather — Bent Cables — at ½ past 2 P.M. saw the land about Cape S<sup>t</sup> Vincents, at sun set Cape S<sup>t</sup> Vincents bore NbW dis<sup>t</sup> 6 or 7 Leagues — Several Vessels in sight the wind too light to speak them — at noon Cape S<sup>t</sup> Maries bore EbS by Compass 6 Leagues dis<sup>t</sup> and Cape S<sup>t</sup> Vincents WNW 10 Leagues — Several Vessels and fishing boats in Sight —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

Extract and translation from a journal kept in French by an unknown person on board the U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, from Tuesday, 6 to Wednesday, 7 September 1803

. . . The convoy astern of us. Sighted a frigate to the south of us. Made the distinguishing signal. Answered. Unable to recognize . . . At 3 P M sighted the Citadel of Alicante to the west distance about 15 miles. Lay to in order to wait for the convoy . . . The convoy went ahead, one convoyed vessel remaining astern. Fired two shots. She came at once. At 5 P M cast anchor in the roadstead of Alicante . . . The boat then left for the shore to arrange for entry and notify the convoyed vessels. The Citadel of Alicante to the north distance one mile. The island of St. Paul [Santa Pola?] to the SW distance about 15 miles. Found several vessels, mostly Swedish . . . The point east of Alicante to the east.

[LC. EPP, Journal 1803.]



To Secretary of State from William Willis, U. S. Consul, Barcelona, Spain

BARCELONA September 7<sup>th</sup> 1803

RESPECTED SIR

\* \* \* \* \*

Captain Ro[d]gers of the United States frigate *John Adams* Sailed from this place four days ago for the Strieghts with Six Sail of American Merchant Vessells and the next day a large frigate pass'd in Sight of this Port Suppos'd to be the Commodore Morris and Yesterday the *Nautilus* Schooner pass'd here in Search of Captain Rogers: Captain Rogers had with him the Tripoline Ship *Meshouda* that had been so long Blockaded in Gibraltar.

• • • • •

[NA. SDA. CL, Barcelona, Vol. 1, 1797-1809.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

On Board the U STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*

at Sea, near the COAST OF SPAIN, between

*Cape S<sup>t</sup> Vincents & Cape S<sup>t</sup> Mary's* September 7<sup>th</sup> 1803 —

SIR, Agreeably to your request that I would go on board the Moorish Ship, now laying near us, to examine the passport and signature of James Simpson Esq<sup>r</sup>, the United States Consul at Tangier, with whose hand writing I am acquainted, I have the honor to inform you, that I accordingly repaired on board said Ship, where the Captain shewed me the Passport of M<sup>r</sup> Simpson, dated at Tangier, the twenty third of July 1803, addressed to the Commanders of All United States Armed Vessels; stating that the Ship *Maimona*, belonging to the Emperor of Morocco, mounting 30 Guns, and carrying 150 men, Commanded by Hadge Tacher Aumed [?], was bound on a cruize, and request<sup>d</sup> all Commanders of United States Armed Vessels to treat him as a friendly Vessel, he conducting himself accordingly. —

The Consular Seal was affixed to said Passport, the impression made on Wax, very clear & fair.

The said Captain Also shewed me the top of a Parchment Passport, with a certificate thereon, signed J. Simpson, stating that it was the true top of an American Passport. — From the Knowledge I have of M<sup>r</sup> Simpson's signature, having often seen it in the Office of the Secretary of State, I really beleive these signatures to be genuine. The number of Guns & men appeared to correspond with M<sup>r</sup> Simpson's Passport.

The Captain informed me, through an Interpreter, that he had been from Sallee 23 days — that he was bound to Lisbon, on business for his King, and that the Emperor of Morocco was at present at peace with all nations. —

I demanded a sight of his Commission from the Emperor of Morocco; in consequence of which, he shewed me a paper written in Arabic, with a Seal made with an impression from ink, which he said was his Commission, & the royal seal; but as there was no one who could translate the Arabic, I was obliged to be satisfied with his own declaration on this point.

The Ship appeared to be quite new, was clean and in good order about the Hull; but appeared to be very deficient & slovenly in her sails & rigging. She mounted 22 six pounders on her Gun deck & eight four pounders on her quarter deck

The reason which the Captain gave for having been so long from Sallee was, that he had met with contrary winds, which obliged him to put back several times.

Upon the whole, his Passports appear so clear & correct that, according to our Treaty with the Emperor of Morocco, I should not conceive it adviseable to Detain the Ship, or give her any undue molestation.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 6, 1803.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board  
U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 7 September 1803

Boarded the Moorish frigate *Maimona* of 30 guns from Sallee bound to Lisbon, Cape S. Maria in sight.

[LC, original.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 7 September 1803

Light airs and Variable. three strange sail in sight to the Eastw<sup>d</sup> one of which a Frigate under french Colours/ at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 1 P. m. Tack<sup>d</sup> to the North<sup>d</sup> and cleard ship for action/ The Sail i mentioned at noon standing towards us hoisted Red colours/ at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 2 shortned sail and Boarded her/ a frigate belonging to the Emperor of Morocco Mounting 30 Guns and carry<sup>e</sup> 150 Men. Capt<sup>n</sup> Hadge Tacker arrived, 23 days from Sallee on a Cruise with the American Mediteranian pass Top, and Consular pasport dated at Tanger 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1803, and Signed by James Simpson with the Consular Seal — Shee was examined By the Boarding officer. after this By Col<sup>o</sup> Lear, who is a passenger on Board of the *Constitution*/ as Counsil general to the Barbary powers/ at 8 in the Evening fier'd a Gun at a Brig in shore/ which we boarded Shee was a Spanish Brig from Malaga bound to le Vowe [?]/ the wind was light all the afternoon and at sundown/ the Eastern part of Cape S<sup>t</sup> Vincent Bore NW b W  $\frac{1}{2}$  W 7 leagues Latitude ob<sup>d</sup>, 36. 03 N<sup>o</sup>

[NA. ND original.]

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

At Sea off BOSTON LIGHT  
U. S. BRIG *Argus* Sept<sup>r</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> 1803

SIR, I had the honor of addressing you the fifth stateing my readiness for sea, on the evening of that day a gale commenced from the Eastward which continued untill this morning, when the wind shifted & we got underway, — I feel pleasure at having it in my power to inform you the *Argus* sails well — I have forwarded to the office a compleat muster roll of the Crew of the *Argus* —

[NDA. Officers LB, 1802–1805.]

[8 September 1803]

To the Bey of Tunis from James Leander Cathcart, appointed U. S. Consul, Tunis

James Leander Cathcart Consul for the United States of America in the Regency of Tunis unto his Excellency Hamuda Bashaw, Bey of Tunis —

Health Peace & Prosperity

Whereas Doctor George Davis the person who now is appointed by Your Excellency to remain in the American Consular house at Tunis was merely appointed by Comodore Morris to sign Passports of the Vessels belonging to the Regency of Tunis & to perform the functions of the Consulate until the will of the President of the United States was known relative to the appointment of a Consul, And whereas said Comodore Morris has suspended the functions of said George Davis, I have the honor to inform Your Excellency that the United States of America their Agents & Officers consider themselves by no means bound to fullfill any contract publick or private made by said George Davis & conceive themselves exonerated from the payment of all debts that he has or may contract, until the will of the President of the U S of America is known.

In testimony of which I have hereunto subscribed my name & affix'd the Consular Seal of the United States of America

Done onboard the United States Frigate *Adams* Tunis Bay this 8<sup>th</sup> day of September in the year of our Lord 1803 —

JAMES LEA<sup>r</sup> CATHCART

[Boston PL. NDA photostat.] \_\_\_\_\_

[9 September 1803]

To James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco, from the Emperor of Morocco  
Translation of Letter from His Imperial Majesty—Muley Soliman.

Praise be given to God alone. —

There is no Power or Strength but that proceeding from the Great and Almighty God. —

Imperial  
Seal

To Our Servant James Simpson the American Consul — Health. —

We have recieved your Letter and understood its Contents respecting what has happened with Raiz Ibrahim Lubarez and your Frigate. —

So soon as this Our order shall reach you, send for the said Lubarez that he may bring those papers which you suppose he had in his possession and let the Captain of your Frigate come also to Tangier and there we will examine and see those papers, and what has happened will then be seen in its true light. —

With regard to any offence being given you, there is no cause for it; for in truth you enjoy Our Friendship and are under Our protection therefore nothing disagreeable shall happen to you. —

What has happened at Sea must be considered and enquired into, and when the truth shall be made manifest affairs shall go in their proper Channel. —

Nothing more can be said untill they come to the Port of Tangier. —

Dated 21<sup>st</sup> Chemadi (the first) 1218 (Corresponding to the 9<sup>th</sup> September 1803. —

Original of the foregoing was translated from the Arabic to Spanish by D<sup>r</sup> Manuel de Baccas, and from Spanish to English by

JAMES SIMPSON  
TANGIER 14<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1803 —

Extract and translation from a journal kept in French by an unknown person on board the U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding

*Friday, 9 September 1803*

Departure from Alicante on Friday, 9 September. At noon signalled to the convoy to unmoor . . . At 1 P M weighed anchor and got under sail . . . the convoy unmoored, composed of five vessels. At 2 P M headed for Cape Palos . . . At 6 P M Cape Palos to the S W, Cape Santa Pola to the N E. The entire convoy rejoined . . . At sunrise saw two convoyed vessels astern . . . At 8 A M sighted two brigs heading east. When close to us they hoisted the Swedish flag and continued on their course. At 11 A M sighted Cape del Gate to the west distance about 25 miles . . . At noon abeam of Cape del Gate to the NE distance about 15 miles.

Latitude observed 36°36' N.

*From Saturday, 10 to Sunday, 11 September 1803*

Afternoon . . . the convoy rejoined us . . . At sunset heading WNW . . . At sunrise . . . the convoy astern of us, only 4 vessels. At 8 A M sighted the city of Malaga to the NE distance 18 miles . . . heading for Malaga . . . At 10 A M sighted the city of Malaga ahead of us and two frigates moored in the roadstead . . . the city to the NW of us distance about 12 miles. Malaga to the NW distance 10 miles. on Sunday, 11 at 3 P M we anchored in the roadstead of Malaga . . . The city of Malaga to the NW distance about 2 miles. Found the Commodore and the schooner [*Enterprize*].

Latitude observed 36°37' N.

[LC. EPP, Journal 1803.]

[11 September 1803]

To all the Consuls resident at Tangier, Morocco, from the Emperor of Morocco

In the name of the Most Merciful God. —

There is no Power or Strength but in the Most High and Great God. —

Imperial  
Seal.

To all the Consuls Resident at Tangier — Health. —

Your Letter has reached Our presence exalted by God, in which you represent to us the Act of Our Servant Hashash in Arresting the American Consul when he received advice of the taking Our Ship the fighter for the Islam. — We neither ordered nor will we Order the Consul to be Arrested, should War ensue between Us and his Nation he shall be sent to his Country in Security both with respect to his person and property. — In truth what has happened with our Ship, perhaps it may have been occasioned by our Servant Ashash having sent a Tripoline Ship was under his direction with our Flag, after having taken all your Signatures and that of the American also, and they have acted unjustly and taken that Vessel when under our Flag without any War being between Us and them; — for this reason perhaps Our said Servant may have ordered the Arraez to take some Vessel of theirs to detain her until the Tripoline should be restored, — but that War should happen without Our order certainly that cannot be. — And now let the American send for Our Ship that she

may be brought to Tangier with his Ship and we will see that affair from its beginning, — if he will do that which is just and right in this, he will obey it and execute it, then we will continue as we have been in Peace and Friendship. — And if he will have War it shall be so and we will send the Consul to his Country.

In God alone is aid and in him we have put our trust. —

Written 25<sup>th</sup> Chemadi the first 1218 corresponding to the 11<sup>th</sup> September 1803. —

A Faithful copy of the translation in possession of the Consuls. —  
TANGIER 26<sup>th</sup> Septem<sup>r</sup> 1803. —

JAMES SIMPSON

[NA. SDA. CL, Tangier, Vol. 2, 1803-1810.]

To William Jonas Keen from Lieutenant Richard Somers, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SCHOONER *Nautilus*  
Sept 11<sup>th</sup> 1803 *Malaga Roads Sunday*

DEAR BROTHER I arrived here from up aloft on the Ninth. I write you this to [be] prepared against an opportunity may offer of sending it to you. I will give you a small description of my travels since my arrival in the Straits

I left Gibraltar after laying forty eight hours. Got my provisions and water in. Made sail with a head wind and it so continued 17 days out of twenty to which time I arrived at Malta. I chased every thing that had appearance of Tripolitan. I found none of our ships at Malta and but little information could I get of them only that they had sail[ed] about forty days before. From thence I proceed'd to Tripoli, saw none of our ships there — and but only two small Tripolitan boats close in. I went close in to the Batteries & fired a shot at them. I hove to for a short time, but I saw no Gunboats make any appearance. I then boar away for Malta again. The batteries at Tripoli are much improved — by their appearance they might mount 300 pieces of Cannon, if they had them. On my return to Malta I found that the *Enterprise* had been there the day before in pursuit[?] of men; by Commodore Morris' orders. I found that the Squadron had all been together at Leghorn — My anchor was down but one half hour. I proceed toward Leghorn in pursuit of Capt. Ro[d]gers — in passing round the West end of Sicily I exchanged signals with the *Adams*, Capt Camble. I then went in chase of a Latteen boat that hove in sight. The fellow, when he found I stood for him, fired a gun to windward in defiance of me, but in 3 hour chase he fired one to leeward and hoisted English Colors. I just drop two close alongside & he hove directly and was very glad to find we were Americans. He mounted 8 guns. I left him immediately and went down and spoke the *Adams*, who was from her hull in sight only top Gal't sail above water. Capt. Cambell inform'd me that Capt. Ro[d]gers had gone down with a Convoy that I should find him at Barcellona to which place I proced'd. — but wind never hid'd [?] any vessel equal to this, for let me alter the course any where I was sure to have a head in the course of a couple of hours. On my arrival there, I sent the boat in. Capt. Ro[d]gers had sail'd 2 days before. I then made sail with a fair wind for the first time for a month at the U. S. N [?] at 12 next day was within 20 miles of Allecad [?] when it came on to blow very severe from the

south east, then had to haul my wind to keep off the land. I expected that he had left there that day, supposing he would not loose the Levant that had blown all that morning and the day before. That night was very squally but the next day they hauld round to Eastw'd. I arrived here in thirty six hours, I was much surprised to see Comodore's ship here — as I had no despatches for him and he had heard that I had. I would not for one hundred Dollars been so disagreeably situated but I had to obey the orders of a superior officer — at the moment Mr Decatur tells me there is a square Rig'd vessel to windward. It must be the convoy, and I shall this day get off the despatches — my anxiety mind has engross'd all my time since I have had them in possession.

The Schooner has not got no paint on her. The rigging is bleatch'd as white as a sheet, and one suit of sails better than half worn. This thing would wear the devil out in a short time if he was anywhere forward of the main mast.

I hear that Capt Bainbridge has arriv'd & captured a Moorish Cruiser of twenty guns & took an American brig & now in pursuit of a thirty gun ship to the [ms illegible] So you can tell Sally I will renig from the prize money — for I now expect to make prizes or be a prize but I think but little about the latter. I bid you adieu God bless you all. I shall write often — I yesterday dined with Mr Kirkpatrick who treat'd me as he formerly had which was very politely

[From a copy in pencil received from the Earle Hepburn Col.]

Extract and translation from a journal kept in French by an unknown person on board the U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 11 September 1803

At sunset the Commodore signalled to set sail . . . the entire convoy got under way, there being only four vessels . . . At sunrise . . . the Commodore ahead of us, the schooner astern . . . At 8 A M . . . the Captain of the schooner [*Enterprize*] came on board . . . At noon . . . rejoined . . . in sight of Malaga distance about 18 miles to the W S W.

[LC. EPP, Journal 1803.]

Statement concerning Bowsprit of U. S. Brig *Argus*

UNITED STATES BRIG *Argus*

*At Sea, Sept<sup>r</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> 1803*

Persuant to an Order of the above date, from Stephen Decatur Esquire Commander, to us directed, We have examined the Bowsprit, and give it as our decided Opinion, that it is by no means fit to perform the passage Across the Atlantic, or even safe to bring the Ship by the Wind, in a Common Wind & Sea; And further, that it is so badly Sprung as to make it Utterly impossible to Secure it in any way for the Safety of the Fore Mast. —

JOS BLAKE

H. MAGRATH *Sailing Master*

GEORGE NICHOLSON *Bos<sup>r</sup>*

STEPHEN HURLY *Carpenter*

[NDA. Officers LB, 1802-1805.]

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

Translation of Letter from Sidy Mehammed Selawy dated 12<sup>th</sup> September 1803. —

Praise be given to God alone. —

There is no Power or Strength but in the Great and Almighty God. —

To Consul Simpson the American. —

Receive the paper herewith — pay attention to it, and see what you have done to the Flag of Our Master whom God preserve. —

A Ship of Our Masters intending to bring a Vessel of yours and detain her until the Tripoline should be returned, and you know what happen'd. — If you wish that Peace and Friendship should subsist as heretofore, let Our Masters Ship be brought back to Tangier and Justice shall be done with regard to the Tripoline; — if this was taken justly and with reason keep it, and Our Master whom God preserve will provide a Recompence for the proprietors; if it was not taken with Justice but that you have acted wrongfully in taking it let it be restored. —

If you desire War and will not listen to what we have here said to you, we will put Our trust in God, whose name be praised.

We admonish and advise you on this occasion, because of the Friendship we have for you, but if you neglect it and matters remain as they are, or Our Masters Ship be not sent before his arrival at Tangier we cannot say what he may then do, for this reason we have admonished and advised you. —

MEHAMMED BEN ABD E SALEM SELAWY. —

[NA. SDA. CL, Tangier, Vol. 2, 1803–1810.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 12 September 1803

At  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 12 a light Breeze sprung up from the Westw<sup>d</sup>/ Made all plain sail and set the starboard studdingsails/ in order to proceed from off[f] Cadiz to the Straits of Gibraltar we steerd along the coast with an offing of nearly 5 leagues/ we unstowed the Tow Bowers and Bitted a long Raing on the Best bower Cable/ at sundown the south Extreme of Cape Trafalgar Bore by compas ESE. nearly five leagues/ at the same time we saw the land on the Barbarie Coast bearing ESE[?], which we suppose to be Cape Spartel.

\* \* \* We saw Cape Spartel bearing WbS  $\frac{1}{2}$  S, nearly 7 or 8 miles/ and the land on the Spanish shore Bore from NEbN to NEbE at 10 AM. fired a gun and hosted our colours off[f] the town of Tanger/ the Swedish colours was the only colours, we saw in the Town of Tanger/ We continued off[f] the Town nearly one Hour/ and Repeated the gun/ at 11 AM. bore up and Run through the Straits/ We spoke a Spanish Brig from the Havannah bound to Malaga at noon the Town of Tariffe on the Spanish side bore NE 6 miles/ the weather clear. Winds from the WNW

[NA. ND original.]

Extract and translation from a journal kept in French by an unknown person on board the U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, from Monday, 12 to Tuesday, 13 September 1803

Afternoon . . . quite close to the coast of Spain. The convoy astern of us. The Commodore ahead of us. To windward of us several strange vessels proceeding east ahead of us. At sunset quite close to Fuengirola to the N E distance about 10 miles. At 8 P M fired a shot at a Swedish brig. Spoke with her. She proved to be from Gibraltar and bound for Alicante. Passed several other vessels. At sunrise sighted the Commodore ahead of us and several convoyed vessels. At 10 A M . . . sighted several strange vessels. Signalled to the schooner [*Enterprize*] to give chase. She carried away her [word mutilated] mast. Came up to aid her.

[LC. EPP, Journal 1803.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Henry Wadsworth, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. S. *New York*, Captain Richard V. Morris, U. S. Navy, commanding, 12 September 1803

At Sea off Malaga \* \* \* On the 9<sup>th</sup> inst we arriv'd at Malaga. On our passage we fell in with the British Fleet to the Northward of Minorca, consisting of 6 sail of the line & one or two Frigates, under command of Nelson, we passed close under the stern of the *Victory* & while the Com<sup>d</sup> & his Lordship were conversing we had a full view of him.

Off Cape de Gate we fell in with the *Enterprize*; she had not seen the *Nautilus* & was cruising off Cape de Gate in quest of two Tripolines of 10 guns each, agreeable to the orders of the Com<sup>d</sup> she had chased a Tripoline of superior force into Tunis Bay. we left her cruising on her station.

The next day after our arrival [10 Sept.] the *Nautilus* Capt Summers came in. We have learnt of War with Morocco that the *Philadelphia* Capt Bainbridge has arriv'd at Gibraltar, that he has taken the Moorish commodore (Capt. Ibrahim Louberais in the *Merboka*) of 22 guns & retaken an American Brig (the *Celia* of Boston) her prize that the *Constitution* Com<sup>d</sup> Prible, with 2 Brigs & one Schooner of War are expected soon. We learn! strange to tell!! we learn that the Commodore is order'd home: \* \* \*

[H. W. L. Dana Col.]

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

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*  
*Gibraltar 13<sup>th</sup> Sep<sup>r</sup> 1803*

SIR, I have the honor to inform you, that the United States Frigate *Constitution* of 44 Guns under my command arrived here this day she is one of a squadron of seven men of war (independant of those under the command of Commodore Morris) which the President of The United States, has been pleased to place under my command for the protection of our commerce

I have perused the letter from Commodore Morris to you, on the subject of the Capture of the Ship *Mishauda* by Captain Ro[d]gers: and your Ans<sup>rs</sup> thereto; from the late conduct of the Emperors cruisers it cannot be doubted, but that Ship was intended to be convey'd to



Tripoly, under the protection of the Emperors Flag, with a quantity, of Naval, and Warlike stores, in Order to enable her, and the other cruisers of the Bashaw of Tripoly to act more efficiently against our commerce, for it cannot be doubted, but that she belonged to the Bashaw at the time she was captured: but admitting she did not; the Emperor knew of the Blockade of Tripoly by our cruisers, and that she would be captured if met by them. If he had not been acquainted with the Blockade, it would have been proper, for Cap<sup>t</sup> Ro[d]gers to have Ordered her away on her making the first attempt; and to have captured her, if the Captain should have made a second attempt —

Commodore Morris has the Controul of that business, and must act as he pleases, but if she came within my command, I should most certainly send her to the United States. The Captains and Officers of the Emperor, dare not act without his Orders —

On my passage hither I met with his Imperial Majesties Frigate *Maimona* of 30 Guns and 150 men admiral Hadge Tacher, [word illegible] 22 days from Sallee, on a cruise, I boarded & very closely examined her papers, and finding she had your passports, I treated her as a friendly vessel, & left her The Admiral told me, that the Emperor was at peace with all nations; But from the number of Guns, and men, he had on board, and the length of time he had been out, I was doubtfull; and had I not most sacredly regarded our treaty, with his Imperial Majesty I should have detained the *Maimona*, until my doubts could have been satisfied: and I have now good reason to wish I had, as I have no doubt, but she has Orders to Capture American vessels, and may do much Mischief unless the wind favors my sailing to the westward, with the Squadron —

The Emperors late gross Violation of our treaty in issuing Orders to his Cruisers, to Capture American Vessels, and one of his ships the *Mirboka*, Captain Abraham Lubarez actually having taken one, will justify my giving Orders to the Captains of the Squadron under my command, to capture and bring into port all vessels belonging to the Emperor of Morocco, or armed vessels belonging to his subjects, as I must consider them as acting under the Authority of the Emperor in capturing our vessels, knowing that they dare not act without such Authority, and if I can ascertain that the *Maimona* or any other Moorish Cruiser has captured a single American vessel, & should meet with her; you may acquaint the Emperor from me, that it is my intention in future to sink every such vessel as a Pirate, as he denies having given Orders to justify their conduct,

The United States are known for their good faith, and sacred observance of Treaties, and expect it from other nations — The President is extremely desirous that the United States should have peace, and free commercial intercourse with all the States of Barbary, more particularly with Morocco but is determined, neither to purchase or maintain that peace and intercourse by submitting to treatment dishonorable to our Country — The Ship Captured by Captain Bainbridge, I think it probable I shall send to America, together with all the Crew, but before I come to any positive determination I shall wait until the Emperor's answer to your letter arrives —

I feel for your unpleasant situation, and hope you may soon be relieved from it; the Emperors Answer I suppose will determine you how to act, with regard to yourself and family —

**Internal Rules and Regulations for U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 1803-1804, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Mediterranean Squadron**

1<sup>st</sup> Strict attention must be observed to the printed instructions issued by the President of the United States.

2<sup>nd</sup> The time by glass, must be regularly attended to, by night and by day; and the bell, at the call of the quarter master from the lee gangway, must be struck every half hour, and rung every four hours.

3<sup>rd</sup> The log is to be hove at sea every hour, and the rate of going, courses, winds and occurrences instantly marked on the board, and at noon each day, the same are to be entered on the log-book by the master.

4 — A good look out to be kept, night and day, and the officers are always to cause to be kept clear, the cannon, and ropes of every description, and to have every man in his Station.

5 — The pumps are to be sounded by the carpenter or one of his mates every two hours, or oftener, if necessary, and the ship pumped out, whenever there are three inches more water in the well than the ship sucks at.

6 — On seeing a vessel or vessels of any description whatsoever, as also on a change of the wind by night or by day, I must be immediately informed thereof, in order to determine on the line of conduct I may judge proper.

7 — Every superior officer is to inform and check those under him, of every impropriety he may see, or hear of their committing, either wilfully or ignorantly, and to notify me of the same if it is of any magnitude.

8 — The officer of the watch will be ever attentive in seeing the sails neatly trimmed, and that no ropes are towing overboard; at day light in the morning, the stock are to be fed, and every evening before sun set, previous to the decks being swept and wetting the ship inside and out, which is to be done every morning & evening.

9 — A sea lieutenant is always to be on the quarter-deck, together with a midshipman and quarter-master.

10 — The honors due the quarter deck, can not be dispensed with on entering, either from below or a boat, and a polite address, and decent deportment from one officer to another is expected at all times thereon, for the character of a gentleman and an Officer can never be Separated.

11 — The weather side of the quarter-deck is reserved for the walk of the captain, or in his absence, the commanding Officer of the watch.

12 — The time glass is to be regulated every evening by the watch; and the quarter-deck is always to be kept clear of cloaths, lumber and dirt, the ropes flemished, coil'd and hung up on the pins.

13 — No person is to be struck on the quarter-deck, or improper language used thereon; good usage is directed to be strictly observed to those who merit it, and those who do not, shall be punished as I may hereafter direct.

14 — No duty to be done on Sunday, except on extraordinary occasions, or such as washing and wetting the ship, trimming the sails, or what may be required by the general instructions.

15 — The warra[n]t and petty Officers, together with the seamen, ordinary seamen, and marines, are to breakfast at eight oclock, and have their dinners regular at noon; one hour is allowed them for each meal. The common duty which all hands are employed in, is to be concluded at four P. M. every day.

16 — When the time allowed the ship's company at their meals is expired, the commanding officer on deck, will send a midshipman to the Boatswain, and desire him to call all hands immediately, and set them to the work ordered, which the said officer will see executed without the loss of time.

17 — The salt meats, agreeable to the acts of Congress, are to be delivered out every evening before sundown, to the cook, who is to be accountable, and to have the same well washed and soaked, by changing the water in steep tubs every four hours.

18 — The flour, peas, and other provisions are to be served out every morning in due time for the cook, the rum is to be served out twice a day at twelve oClock and at Four; a scuttle butt of water is to be kept filled and lashed near the main-mast, for the use of ship's company; special care is to [be] taken to prevent any sort of waste of this precious article.

19 — All sorts of slops and cloathing, must be issued only on a Special Order from me.

20 — Whenever we are near a coast, or a situation where the anchors may be wanting, the two bowers are to be bent, the cables kept clear for running; same time, must be bitted, and the stoppers and ring ropes in readiness, also canvass and cable plats.

21 — The sails are always to be neatly handed, in the order directed at the time, the yards squared, stay, back stays, and every rope hauled taught, and the decks and sides kept clear of dirt.

22 — Commissioned Officers are requested to exact upon all occasions of duty from the warrant and petty officers, and they also from their inferiors, the most ready, unequivocal and respectable compliance with their orders, and it is expected of all inferiors that they do not neglect any exterior mark of respect whenever they address or are addressed by a superior upon duty.

23 — Officers of every denomination are expected when the duty requires them at quarters on their different stations, to be particularly attentive to preserve silence amongst the men, and see that the orders issued from the quarter-deck are executed with celerity and without any noise and confusion.

24 — It is my particular request that officers will upon all occasions, encourage and pointedly distinguish, those persons who are particularly cleanly, alert and obedient from those of different characters, in order that the deserving may see their merits are not disregarded, as well as the underserving be made sensible of the vigilance of the officers, and the advantages resulting from good and respectable conduct.

25 — Discipline (as it respects alertness) can only be preserved by a constant and steady attention to whatever is carrying on; it is requested, the officers of the ship will not suffer the most trifling thing under them to be executed with indifference.

26 — Blasphemy, profaneness, and all species of obscenity or immorality are peremptorily forbid and it is hoped the officers of every denomination will upon all occasions, discountenance and discourage such disorderly and despicable practices amongst the men.

27 — The officers and petty officers are required to make themselves personally acquainted with the ships company, in order to their being able to address them by their own names [sic] whenever they have occasion to call to them aloft or elsewhere.

In port in the United States, women will be permitted to come on board, but this indulgence is to be granted (as indeed all others) in proportion to the merits of the men who require them and upon their being accountable for the conduct of the women with them.

28 — The commanding officer in port in the united States, will therefore permit such men to have women on board as he may choose, and he will direct the master at arms to keep a list agreeable to the following form, which he will carry to the commanding officer every morning for his inspection

WOMENS LIST

Womens names	with whom	married or single	when rec <sup>d</sup> on board	Conduct
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29 — Every seaman belonging to the ship is expected to supply himself with the following list of cloaths

Jackets	Waist coats or inside jackets	pairs of Trowsers		Shirts	pairs of stockings	Black silk Handk'fs. or neck cloths	Hats	pairs of	
		Blue	white					Gloves	drawers
2	2	2	2	4	2	2	1 hat or 1 hat & 1 cap	2	2

In addition to the list of cloaths above named the ships company are expected to supply themselves with a white outside jacket and waist coat to be worn occasionally in Summer or a warm climate, with long white trowsers.

30 — Whenever all hands are called, no person is to go below from his station upon pretence of the work being finished, before the people are piped down.

31 — The captains of the fore-castle, tops, after-guard and waist, having command over the men of those Stations are expected to Keep them clear and clean, the rigging & C neatly coiled, the captains of the Starb<sup>d</sup> watch are considered as particularly responsible for the Starb<sup>d</sup> side in harbour — the captains of the Larb<sup>d</sup> watch for the Larb<sup>d</sup> side, and the captains of the 3<sup>d</sup> watch or auxiliary captains to be responsible in the absence or illness of either the others for their Stations.

32 — Two Lieut<sup>s</sup> only can be absent from the ship on leave, but not the first and second at the same time.

33 — At Sea and in harbour, a commissioned officer is to have charge of the watch

34 — The first Lieut<sup>s</sup> is not to keep watch, the Jun<sup>r</sup> Lieut[en]ants are to be in three watches.

35 — The mates and midshipmen are to be at three watches at sea and in port, one third of which may be absent on leave at a time

36 — The decks are to be washed in the morning watch when the gun carriages, port sills, quick work, head and head rails, chains, sides & C, & C, are to be wash'd and great care taken that the water ways are well dried. In port the necessary boats to be hoisted out either before or after the washing of decks, as circumstances of weather and duty may make requisite, yards neatly squared, ropes hauled taught — and hammocks stowed to admit of piping to breakfast precisely at 8 oClock

37 — After setting the watch, great attention is expected from all ranks, not to disturb the tranquillity of the men.

38 — In like manner, great care is to be had that the duty of the service be either completed or suspended at 7 bells in order that decks may be swept, and nothing prevent piping to dinner at 12 oClock.

39 — The first Lieut<sup>s</sup> or commanding officer, whether at sea or in harbour, is to visit the ship throughout every forenoon, to see that the tiers, cockpits, wings store-rooms, passages & C are clear, clean and in proper condition, and report is to be made to the captain when ready for his visitation.

40 — The between decks are to be cleaned every forenoon, to be washed twice a week, and fires shall be made, over which centinels are to be placed and the people not permitted below until the decks are dry, the cockpit is to be cleaned whenever the between decks are as are all ladders, gratings, port cills, combings, hatchways, store-rooms & magazines passages & wings.

41 — The officers are requested to see that the men do not work in their best cloaths, and when employed washing decks, they are desired to make them pull off their shoes and stockings and tuck their trowsers up.

42 — Every day after dinner and just before the hammocks are piped down in the afternoon, the decks are to be swept.

43 — The cockpit and birth deck are to be visited occasionally by the master at arms and corporal during the day, and once at least each watch by a midshipman who are to report any deviation from the general Orders, and if any lights are discovered out of lanthorns or improper persons found there

44 — Warrant and petty Officers lights to be put out at eight oClock at sea — at 9 oC. in port.

45 — No lights on any account whether at Sea or in harbour, are to be allowed to remain unattended in any birth or Cabin, and none but in lanthorns elsewhere in the tiers. No smoking tobacco is to be allowed but in the established place, under the fore-castle

[46 — This number has been skipped in the original manuscript.]

47 — The commanding officer and officer of the watch will remember that spirits are always directed to be drawn off upon deck, and never by candle light.

48 — The main deck is to be constantly kept as clear as possible and no chests, empty casks, or lumber of any kind suffered to remain on it — a great object, being the health of the men. Dry air should be admitted especially in Summer or warm climates, but rain and the wash of the Sea should be avoided, and air that is damp admitted with great caution, a thorough draft of air in the channel is not necessary for any length of time, and should be introduced in preference at such times as the men are employed on deck

49 — The ventilation is to be constantly worked by day in winter, and by night and by day in summer or a warm climate, the wind sails should be used at all times in the summer when the air is dry and at times in the winter when the weather is fine.

50 — In port, the commanding officer is required to have all parties sent on duty or elsewhere, on board rather before 12 o'clock; the boats (except on very particular service) are not to be absent during meal times, nor in any roadstead after Sun Set, or in port after gun fire.

51 — No alteration is ever to be made in the ships company's provisions, or allowance but by the captains order.

52 — The men are to mess in messes of 8 each, the Boatswains mates and petty officers by themselves, or with some other petty officers

53 — The Boatswains, Gunners and Carpenters mates, Quarter masters, captains of the forecastle, Tops, and masts, armourer, Sergeants and corporals of marines are allowed to have chests and one to every mess.

54 — The men of the different messes are every Sunday to appoint one of their mess mates to keep the birth and mess utensils clean and in proper order for the following week, such men are to be responsible to the officer for any neglect that they may discover and none but men belonging to boats when in harbour are to be exempted from this duty.

55 — Any person finding himself ill, is to make his complaint without loss of time to the Surgeons mates, as no excuse for neglect of duty on the score of illness will be received but through the Surgeon.

56 — Washing days will be appointed as the weather, and duty of the ship will admit and then things are to be dried on lines stretched from shroud to shroud forward, or in such other places as the commanding officer shall direct.

57 — Mates and midshipmen being acquainted with the established orders and regulations are expected zealously to enforce them and report any slackness or deviation they may observe in particular persons.

58 — The mates and midshipmen are ordered to sleep in hammocks, which are to be brought upon deck and taken down the same time the ships company.

59 — Mates and midshipmen are to keep log books, a public order book, cloaths list of their subdivisions, Watch, Quarter and Station bills clean and well written all of which are to be brought to the captain the last Sunday in every month for his inspection.

60 — Twelve minutes and no more will be allowed from the time of piping hammocks up, till they are completely stowed, the same time also will be allowed to take them down and hang them up

61 — The hammocks belonging to people absent on duty, are to be lashed and taken up by the men birthed next without them, but if an outside man should be absent, then the men next within him is to preform that service.

62 — The cloathing and bedding of all run [deserted] men, or men suspected to be run, is to be ordered by the commanding officer into the Boatswains store room, a list of which is to be taken by the Petty (Warrant) officer of the division to which they belong

63 — Foremast men going out of the ship on leave are to leave their cloaths and bedding with one of their mess mates, the Petty Officers of the division to which such men belong is to satisfy himself that every thing they do not wear is left behind, and that the mess-mate considers himself responsible for its safety and forth coming.

64 — When the weather is so bad that the hammocks cannot be stowed in the nettings, they are to be taken down and piled up in such places as the commanding officer shall appoint.

65 — Officers answering signals are to carry the public order book with them, and all officers of every denomination going out of the ship on duty are expected to be dressed in their uniform with swords

66 — No seaman or marine will be suffered to go out of the ship on leave, who shall not upon examination of his divisional Officer be found clean and decently dressed.

67 — No body is allowed to lounge in ports, and it is strictly forbidden to throw any bones, dirt, or dirty water out of them, but dirt of all sorts is to be taken to the head, and lowere'd well down before it is started.

68 — It is forbid to enter the ship or get into boats through the ports, or down the side, or any other way than the gangway steps or stern ladders.

69 — No men are to be allowed to lounge in the chains or in the boats, or on the booms, nor are cloaths of any sort to be hung below the hammocks, nettings, or in other than the established places.

70 — Upon the loss of any money, cloaths, bedding, or other articles, the looser is immediately to make it known to the Officer of the Watch or commanding Officer, who will take such measures as appear requisite to discover the thief. No man is permitted to appropriate to himself any cloaths or other articles that

he may at any time find about the ship, and if he cannot find the owner he is commanded to take it to the Officer on the Quarter deck.

71 — The Officers of the different divisions will order the petty officers under their command occasionally to examine into the state of the peoples mess utensils of their division, to see that they have a sufficiency of those Articles and that they are kept wholesome and clean.

72 — Boats crews are commanded to obey with as much alacrity and punctuality the orders of the cockswains as those of any other officer on board, no excuse will therefore be received for a boat being left on shore, or for any thing lost or damaged belonging to a boat unless previously reported to the commanding officer.

73 — Cockswains are strictly forbidden to take any thing whatever in their boats to carry on shore without permission from the Quarter deck.

74 — Boats are not at any time to be left without boat keepers; they are not allowed to lye at the gangways, nor indeed ever along side of the ship when they can lye a stern.

75 — In port, a boat to be sent on shore every evening to bring off whoever may be on shore, which boat is to put off at sun set.

76 — The ships company are to be mustered every evening at sun set, at quarters or divisions, all absentees or men found in liquor to be reported and proper notice to be taken at such times of men that are dirty or slovenly. No long untied hair to be allowed and cloaths however old should not be ragged: the people are all expected to be clean, shaved and dressed by 10 oClock every Sunday morning (when they will be mustered in divisions by the different officers commanding them, and) the last thursday and Sunday of every month is appointed as days of general review or muster of cloaths, when the officers are expected to examine very particularly into the peoples cloathing and bedding and are to report to the captain any deficiency that may appear.

77 — On thursdays as well as Sundays the ships Company is expected to be shav'd, to put on clean shirts and to shift their trowsers.

78 — No man is to be confined by night or day when I am on board without representation having been made to me of his crime or offence and my orders having been given to that purpose.

79 — The master at arms is to keep a list of the boys and their cloaths and to have an especial eye to their conduct, Cleanliness and behavior; every morning at 7 oClock he is to take care that they are assembled on the quarter deck attend[ed] by himself or one of his corporals, and after having been examined report them to the Officer of the Watch whose orders he is to receive to dismiss them.

80 — The Commissioned, Warrant and Petty Officers having boys attending on them as servants, are expected to take care they are properly cloathed and kept clean and neat

81 — The Boatswain & his mates conformable to the old custom of the service, are to carry rattans, but they are to be used with discretion.

82 — The different warrant officers are to report every morning before 8 oClock, and every evening the state of their several departments, to the officer of the watch in the morning and to the captain or commanding officer at quarters in the evening.

83 — When an alarm of fire the boarders, engine & fire men with their respective officers, are to repair to the Quarter-deck, the boarders are to be ranged on the Starb<sup>d</sup> side, and the fire men with their buckets on the Larb<sup>d</sup> side, the marines with their Officers are to appear under arms on the quarter-deck, the first & third Lieut<sup>s</sup> are to repair immediately to the place from whence the alarm has arose, the surgeon and his mates and the purser to their Store rooms, each to examine those places and to report with all haste to the quarter-deck; the day mate, the master at arms & his corporals are to proceed to examine & report the tiers, the pumpers with their Officers are immediately to rig & fetch the pumps, and fix & fill the long hose, and water (by the carpenters stationed in the wings in action) is immediately to be let into the cistern & well, the other carpenters with their axes and mauls are to assemble on the Larboard Gangway, the remaining Officers and men are to repair to their different stations as watched (unless the drum should beat to divisions) and wait further order from the Quarter deck.

84 — Upon the return of men to the ship that may have been absent any time, and upon the receipt of men, whether as part of the crew, Supernumeraries or prisoners, they are to be mustered, and examined by the surgeon and his mates, and any found ailing are to be reported immediately their cloaths and bedding are also to be aired and smoaked (if at all necessary) before they are allowed to mix with the ships company and frequent musters and examinations to be observed for a week after their receipt or untill the Surgeon shall be satisfied that no injury can accrue to the health of the ships company from their mixing with them.

85 — No midshipmen is allowed to quit the Deck at the expiration of the watch, under pretence that there is no one to relieve him, without having made such representation to the officer of the watch, and obtained his permission for so doing.

86 — Each Officer[r] is to take for his division the men quartered at the guns of which he has the command and direction. The first Lieut is to consider as his division the men who are quarter'd at the Quarter deck and fore-castle guns; the carpenters stationed in the well and wings, the men quartered in magazine passage & hatchways. Each Officer is to keep a list of his division, and to be respectively responsible for the good order, cleanliness and sobriety of his division.

87 — All boats are to quit the shore & return to the Ship on or before sun set; They are to be searched by the master at arms or corporal, and liquor found in them without permission having been obtained, to be thrown overboard.

88 — That the boats, their sails, oars & C — may be kept clean and in good order the Lieutenants (except the first) are to take care of the following

2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieut	-----	Barge
3 <sup>rd</sup> D <sup>y</sup>	-----	Pinnace & Jolly boat
4 <sup>th</sup> D <sup>y</sup>	-----	Lanch

to see they are kept clean and in complete order for their respective Service.

89 — A book is to be kept on the Quarter deck, in which each mans name who has leave of absence, is to be inserted, — the day of leave, the term of it, and the day he returned; and no blottings are to be made in it.

90 — Seamen having leave of absence to go on Shore are to be review'd by the Officer of the division, previous to their going; and no man who is not clean in his person, and decent in his appearance, is to go on Shore. All returns of leave are to be before Gun fire; and no shore boat is to be admitted a long side after the setting of the watch, and the capt to be informed

91 — The Store rooms are to be as seldom opened as possible, and never without every care, and precaution to prevent accidents by fire. The keys are to be kept in possession of the 1<sup>st</sup> Lieut, and not to be taken from his cabin but by his Orders or that of the Officer of the Watch, who, on the occasion, appearing to him necessary, is to send a midshipman with them, and also to direct the master at arms or corporal to attend, till all the stores wanted are taken out, and the door again locked.

92 — The keys of the stewards room are also to be kept by the first or Sent Lieut — they may be delivered to the purser from 7 to 10 oC. in the morning, and from 4 to 7 in the afternoon for the purpose of serving provisions.

93 — The keys of the after hold, spirit & fish rooms are to be kept in the masters care, but are not to be opened without the first Lieut's permission, and at all such times the master is to take care that one of his mates attend, who is to be the last person in the hold or room, in order that no accident may accrue from lights and that they may be carefully locked afterwards.

94 — No cloaths to be left neglectfully about the decks, but all packed in the Hammocks or bags, nor are such cloaths which may be found [by] sweepers or others, on any pretence to be appropriated to their own use, but to be brought on the Quarter-deck to the officer of the watch who will direct a proper enquiry to be made for the owners.

95 — After setting the night watch, at gun fire, the centinels are to pass the word "all's well" the centinel on the Quarter Deck beginning, repeated to him on the Starboard gangway, the fore-castle and larboard gangway in turn. In case of not being answered, the last centinel who gives the word is to inform the officer of the watch.

96 — The centinels are to inform the officer of the watch, of all boats he observes approaching, or passing near the ship, and is not to suffer any person to enter or go from the ship between sunset and sunrise, without leave & permission of the Officer of the Watch.

97 — The centinels are not to Suffer any noise or irregular behavior on their post and when ever they observe any improper conduct in any person, they are immediately to send for the sergeant of the guard and inform him, that it may be reported to the officer of the guard, & by him to the officer of the watch.

98 — In case of neglect of duty, or misdemeanor in a centinel, he is to be relieved and not punished or questioned concerning his crime till regularly relieved from his post.

99 — That one day in every week a Lieut and the surgeon do visit the hospital and make a strict enquiry into the state of the sick belonging to the *Philad* and report to the captain (agreeable to the form annexed.)

100 — In tacking, wearing or reefing the topsails, getting up or down top gallant masts or yards in the daytime the first Lieut<sup>t</sup> or day Officer is to take the direction on the quarter deck altho' all hands are not called, and the Officer of the watch to take such station as is necessary to the ready execution of the duty to be done, but the Officer of the watch will not understand this as precluding him from tacking, wearing or reefing topsails or getting down top gall. masts or yards, when the occasion requires immediate execution

101 — Sunday, ships company to be dressed & mustered at half past 9 oClock; to be considered as the hour of general muster, previous to which the officers are to examine their respective divisions, at what time after 8 oClock may be most convenient to themselves.

102 — The strictest silence is to be observed by the men at their guns, and the Officers are to prevent any unnecessary noise and all confusion. Particular orders will be given in sufficient time for the manner of shott<sup>g</sup> the guns; It is most likely that 2 round shot will be ordered for the two first rounds on the Gun-deck, one round shot & one load grape for the two first rounds on the upper-deck. The cap<sup>t</sup> of the guns are ordered not to attempt to put any other charge into their guns, than that which is expressly ordered, as the fatal consequence of loading the gun improperly has been too often experienced with the loss of their lives. The greatest attention is ordered to be paid in pointing and elevating the guns, as it is most necessary & essential to fire a well directed shot and to fire often. When order for the gun locks is given, the first captains are to go for their locks and place them on the Starb<sup>d</sup> Guns, — the second captains in the same manner are to place their locks on the Larb<sup>d</sup> guns and they are to have their respective guns cast loose and ready for action on either side of the ship or on both as the order may be given for that purpose, and the captains of the guns are to take charge of the powder-horn and see that every necessary article is supplied to his gun on coming to action; by night the lanthorn-men at each gun must immediately upon the drum-beating, go for his lanthorn & secure it midships at the place appointed. The powder men at such time take care to guard the salt boxes from sparks of fire. There being a fire bucket appointed for each gun on each deck and its opposite gun in the ship, the bucket men are to bring their respective buckets opposite to their guns on coming to action, and they are to be in readiness to break off from their guns to supply water at any part of the ship it is called for. The officers commanding at their different quarters, are directed to see the Decks wetted and sand or ashes strewed upon them, whenever the ship is going into action also that water in the proper casks is supplied for the people in action, and it is my directions that they make known immediately at all times any articles deficient at their quarters that may be either delayed or missing and to caution the people when coming to action to have vents and a Seizing of Spun yarn about them. The boarders who may be called upon either to board the enemy is [or] to repel the enemy who may attempt to board the Ship are to be attentive to the drum, & upon the call of the long roll they are immediately to assemble on both gangways according to their Stations, from which place their Officers will lead them on.

103 — The colors, in port, are always to be hoisted at 8 oC. A. M. from 1<sup>st</sup> April to first Nov<sup>r</sup> & from the 1<sup>st</sup> of novem<sup>r</sup> to 1<sup>st</sup> April at 9 oC. A.M. and hauled down at sun rise; they are never to be kept aloft in blowing or stormy weather

104 — On tuesdays & thursdays general exercise of cannon, small arms & Sails. On each day (Sunday excepted) Officers having charge of a division of Guns are to exercise their men alternately one hour; at such times in the day as will least interfere with the duty carrying on, they are requested to see that the men pay particular attention in pointing and elevating the pieces, and go through all the manœuvres with alertness

105 — On tuesday, thursday & Saturday the Jun<sup>t</sup> Lieut is to have the division of small arms exercised by the master at arms

106 — In going into ports or coming out of ports, all Lieutenants & midshipmen are requested to be on deck in their respective stations to preserve silence and carry the Orders of evolution in execution with celerity and without confusion; immediately after the sails are furled the Boatswain is to go in a boat and square the yards, the ropes on the Quarter deck to be immediately flemished & coiled, and all decks made clear and swept; after the anchor or anchors are let gone, the master is directed to sound round the Ship two cables length distance to note the depth of water with the kind of bottom, and clearness of anchorage place; the Lieut<sup>t</sup> of Marines is to place the centries on the gangway immediately after coming too with the ship in port, and are to take them from that part directly after the ship is got under way.



107 — The Lieut<sup>t</sup> of Marines is to exercise his men twice a day at sea when the weather permits he is charged with placing all centinels, and no centry is to be relieved but by his order; he is required to pay strict attention to the cleanliness of the centinels; he is to command the marines in time of action; he is to direct them in ceremonial honors in receiving company agreeable to the regulations directed in the "harbor rules". The marines in the rotine [?] of duty in a watch is under the direction of the Officer of the watch in the same manner as any other part of the crew except in being sent aloft; the Lieut<sup>t</sup> of marine, will pay particular attention in seeing his men's arms kept clean and in perfect order for action — the Officer of the watch is directed to spare the marines for cleaning their arms when the duty of the ship will admit of it; but should any evolution for the ship require their immediate attention, the marines are directed to repair instantly to their station in the watch.

ORDERS PARTICULARLY ADDRESSED TO THE MASTER

He is required to pay great attention to the preservation of the rigging and cables, and to control the expenditure and conversion of all Boatswains & Carpenters Stores and at the expiration of each week, to demand from the Boatswain & Carpenter an account of their expenditure & conversion, which after having examined and approved, he will present to the Captain

2 — He is required to have the cables and hawser tiers kept clean & clear, at anchor to be studious that the hawse be kept clear, and to examine frequently (especially when the ship rides a strain) the hawse and cables, that no chafing or injury may arise from a foul hawse, or want of proper service

3 — He is required to see that there are always a sufficient number and a good store of nippers, points, robands, gaskets, chafing mats and platts for the Cables

4 — When at anchor in any road, two ship buoys with a sufficient length of buoy rope (according to the depth of water) are to be kept ready, the buoys to be stopped without the head, and the ropes neatly coiled on them.

5 — When moored, the sheet anchor is to be got over the side, the tier to be kept clear, & if at single anchor a second bower anchor and cable are always to be clear and ready.

6 — He will never suffer any spirits to be drawn off but upon deck, and never by candle light.

7 — He will attend very particularly to the expenditure of the water and suffer no waste thereof — On the Ships arrival in port he will expedite as much as in him lies the completing the hold with provisions and water, which is always to be kept clean & he is never to suffer any empty casks to remain upon the upper deck

8 — On the Ships arrival in port as also when she is complete for sea, he will mark in the log book her draught of water, both forward & aft, also the hight of the lower Wale from the water

9 — When at Single Anchor, he is to attend the ship at the turnings of the tide and be careful that in little winds the cable be shortened in and requisite precaution taken to prevent the anchor being fouled.

10 — The keys of the after hold, spirit & fish rooms are to be in the Masters care, but are not to be opened without the first Lieutenants permission and at all times the Master is to take care that one of his Mates attend, who is to be the last person in the hold or room, in order that no accidents may arise from lights, and that they may be carefully locked afterwards.

11 — The log, deep sea & hand lead lines; half and quarter minute glasses are to be frequently measured and tried by him. The log line is to be marked at the rate of 47 feet to 28 Seconds with a large proportion of stray line.

12 — He will wait upon the Captain or, Commanding Officer every day at One oClock with the log book, and a written account of the expenditures & remainder of water

13 — He will occasionally visit the galley with the Surgeon, and examine into the state of the coppers, provisions & boiling utensils &C in order that no injury may accrue to the health of the ships company from any neglect or improper provisions being served

14 — He is considered as particularly responsible for the placing of the masts, & is therefore required to examine their position every day at sea, in order that they may not be subject to be crippled or liable to be sprung or carried away, should it become necessary to carry a press of sail, and as no alteration will be made in the stays or standing rigging without his knowledge. He is required to

be present whether at sea or in harbor, whenever it becomes necessary to take in or slacken the stays, or set up rigging.

15 — He will every Saturday morning, take with him the Carpenter and visit with the different warrant Officers their respective Store rooms, bread room, wings, tiers, sail room, pumps, bulk heads, &C and examine nicely into the state of the different stores, to discover if there are any suffering from leaks, damp, vermin, improper storage or any other cause; and make his report accordingly to the Captain or Commanding Officer.

16 — He is directed to examine into the state of provisions when received on board, and frequently into its stowage, and state when on board, and on the discovery of any leakage or injury to make immediate report thereof to the Captain.

#### ORDERS PARTICULARLY ADDRESSED TO THE PURSER

He is required on the Ships arrival in port to take early measures and be particularly careful to supply the Ship with fuel & necessaries of every sort sufficient at least to last the time for which she is to be stored and victualled, and in case of any material difficulty or impediment arising to prevent the execution of this order, he is directed to state them in writing to me before the ship is supposed to be ready for sea, and at all events before she proceeds

2 — He is required to see that his steward and attendant keep the stewards & bread room & passage clean, & neatly arranged.

3 — The key of the Stewards room is to be in the possession of the first Lieut<sup>r</sup> or Commanding Officer, who will deliver it to him for the purpose of preparing & serving provisions, from 7 O'Clock in the morning till 10 and from 4 in the afternoon till 7 O'Clock and at such other times as circumstances of particular duty may render necessary

4 — Upon receiving slops he is required to be particularly careful to examine if they are of the proper size and quality & to report to the Captain any that may prove different in size or inferior in quality

5 — Great attention is expected to the part of the instructions which directs the oldest provisions to be served first and unceasing attention is requisite to prevent vast and unnecessary surveys by taking care that provisions (especially in the article of cheese) the most likely to suffer by keeping, is served in preference.

6 — No change or alteration whatever is to be made in the Ships company's provisions without my particular direction.

7 — He is required to visit every Saturday with the master & carpenter, the bread room, stewards room and slop room, and point out to him any leaks, damp, or injuries his stores or provisions may be suffering from those or any other causes whatever.

\* \* \* \* \*

"Particular attention is to be paid to the regulations relating to the cutting up of fresh beef, that "choice pieces be never purposely selected for the Officers from that which is cut up for the Ships Company, and that choice pieces of Salt meat be never taken for the Officers out of the tub or vessel "from which it may be served to the Ships Company."

"That Officers do not select casks of the best wine or spirits for their own use from those intended "for the Ships Company, nor exchange any wine or spirits of their own for that which has been sent "on board for the use of the Ship."

8 — Immediate notice in writing is to be made to the Captain on the discovery of any provisions which may be found unwholesome or unfit for men to eat; and if at any time, any part of the crew shall refuse to receive the provisions which may be serving, or murmur at, or complain of the quality, he is directed to make report thereof without delay to the Captain or Commanding Officer.

#### CEREMONY AND RESPECT

A Commodore of a Squadron to be received on board with a guard under arms and a march; the number of the guard to consist of as many marines as can be made to appear decent; the side to be piped by the Boatswain and manned by Six Sidesmen.

Captains of the Navy to be received on board with a guard without beat of drum, the guard to consist of 15; the side to be piped by Boatswain, and 4 sidesmen.

On the Commodores visiting the Ship, all Officers are to be on the Quarter deck.

On Captains coming on board, two Lieut<sup>ts</sup> with the Midshipmen are to be on the Quarter-deck; the first Lieut, if on board, if not, the next in rank is to be one of the two. The same ceremony to be observed on their leaving the Ship as in receiving them.

On my coming on board or going out of the Ship, the etequette for a captain must be observed.

The Officer of the Watch is to particularly observe that attention of politeness is paid to all gentlemen coming on board, to have the Side piped by a Boatswain's Mate and manned by two Sides men, and himself to receive them at the break of the Quarter-deck.

HARBOR REGULATIONS

At the begining of the break, the reveille is to be beat, all hands are to be turned out, hammocks piped up and neatly stowed in the nettings; decks washed as early as possible; the Ship wetted outside, yards squared; at 7 bells the Officer of Marines will have the Marines turned out and exercised; ten minutes before 8 oClock, the hands to stand by trieing lines, colors & bell, the Boatswain & his mates to be ready with their calls; five minutes before 8 oClock, the drummers call to be beat, in order to call the attention to the following execution. Precisely at 8 A. M., with the roll of the drum, colors hoisted, tacles triced up, bell rung, all as expeditiously as possible, after these manouvres, the Marines dismissed and the troop beat. When top gallt yards are exercised they are to go up with the roll of the drum, and crossed with a flam, in exercising top gallt yards, the order for the Colors, tacles & bell must be carried into execution at the time of crossing the yards; the evening execution of this Order is precisely the same as the morning except in time, the distance from sunset, instead of 8 oClock must be observed, & the retreat beat, instead of the troop at 9 P. M. the tattoo to be beat, the bell rung and all lights put out. The Marines in harbour are to be exempted from standing watches, and when not urgent business is to be carried into execution; they are to be exempted from doing Ships duty by day; but by no means this order is meant to prevent the Sea Officer from calling on them to do ships duty when necessary, the intention is, that the Marines may have an opportunity of having themselves and arms clean & decent.

[H. E. Huntington L&AG. NDA photostat.]

To William Jarvis, U. S. Consul, Lisbon, from Robert Montgomery, U. S. Consul, Alicante

Copy

ALICANTE 13<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1803.

DEAR SIR, My last respects were under the [space] I am since deprived of your favors and have only to advise that the *John Adams* Frigate, Cap<sup>t</sup> Ro[d]gers arrived here a few days ago and sailed with a small Convoy to the Westward, he brought with him a Tripolin Frigate of 28 Guns captured in the Bay of Tripoli near which place he also forced on shore and blew up another of 22 Guns, great part of the Crew perished.

[NA. SDA. CL, Lisbon, Vol. 2, 1803-1805.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 13 September 1803

Arrived at Gibraltar and found the U. S. Ship *Philadelphia*, Captain Bainbridge with a Moorish man of war of 22 guns his prize and the brig *Celia* of Boston Capt<sup>d</sup> by the Moor and recaptured by the *Philadelphia*.

[LC, original.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Tuesday, 13 September 1803

Light winds from the Westward and hazy weather steering through the Straits of Gibraltar, at 1 P M saw the Rock bearing NEbN, Steered into the Bay at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 3 Anchored in 23 fathoms water soft bottom. The New Mole S. S. E. 2 Miles dis<sup>t</sup> Algeziras W  $\frac{1}{2}$  S. Saluted the Garrison with 15 Guns, which was returned by an equal number. I found the United States Frigate *Philadelphia* Captain

Bainbridge at anchor, with the Moorish Ship of War the *Mirboka* of 22 Guns and 98 Men — Captain Ibrahim Lubarez her prize. Captain Bainbridge fell in with her off Cape De Gat and took possession of her in consequence of finding on board orders to capture all American vessels, and property of Americans; whether found on board American vessels or the Vessels of any other Nation, and of her having under those orders actually captured the Brig *Celia* of Boston, Captain Richard Bowen, which Brig, Captain Bainbridge recaptured and brought into this Bay — and delivered her up to the Master. I received the usual compliments of respect & ceremony from the Governour and the Porteguese Admiral — Captain Bainbridge delivered me copies of his correspondence with Consul Simpson on the Capture of the *Mirboka*, and all the papers relative to that Ship

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

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 13 September 1803

Steering through the Straits of Gibraltar wind from the WNW/ at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 1 P. M. we saw the Rock of Gibra bearing NEbN, at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 3 PM came to with the Best Bower in 27 fath<sup>s</sup> soft Bottom in Gibraltar Bay/ Veerd to a cable/ The New Mole/ SSE nearly two miles/ algisiras/ on the West side of the Bay Bore WbS  $\frac{1}{2}$  S, we found here the United States Frigate *Philadelphia*/ Captain Bainbridge/ with a Moorish arm<sup>d</sup> ship detain'd on suspicion/ we also found here three portugeas namely/ one ship of the line and two Frigates/ the portugea admiral/ sent an officer on board the *Constitution*/ who waited on Commodore Preble/ offering his serveces if Required/ Captain Bainbredge waited on Commodore Preble/ we found here no English man of war/ at 8 PM. mustered the Larboard watch/ as an anchor watch/ and made the necessary arraignments for mooring ship at day light/ i forgot to mention it above on our anchoring/ we saluted fifteen guns/ an Equal number was Returnd from the English Garrison/ at day light Veedr away on the Best Bower and moored ship a cable Each way/ Best bower WNW in 27 fath<sup>s</sup> the small Bower SEbS in 25 fath<sup>s</sup>/ out Barge/ the Commodore/ waited on the commanding officer/ at Gibraltar/ the ships company Emp<sup>d</sup> painting the two Bower cables/ fleeting the Topmast Rigging and setting up the Bobstays/ at 11 AM. anchored here the united States Schooner *Vixen* Lieutenant Smith/ who Brought dispatches for Commodore Preble/ from the Honorable Secretary of the Navy, at noon winds from the westw<sup>d</sup>

[NA. ND original.]

Extract and translation of a journal\* kept in French by an unknown person on board the U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, from Tuesday, 13 to Wednesday, 14 September 1803

Afternoon . . . sighted several vessels. Delivered the convoy to the schooner [*Enterprize*] . . . Close to the coast of Spain . . . At sunset the Rock of Gibraltar to the N W distance 8 miles. Mons Limi [?]  
to the S W distance 18 miles. At 8 P M abeam of Gibraltar . . .  
At 1 P M entered the Bay . . . At sunrise saw three American frigates the *Constitution*, the *Philadelphia* and the *New York*. On Wednesday, 14th at 8 A M came to anchor in the roadstead of Gibralt-

tar . . . Europa Point to the south, Ceuta to the S W, San Roque to the N W, the battery of San Felipe [Castle] to the north . . .

Disembarked Friday, 16 September 1803.

[\*This journal was written in French, by someone on board the *John Adams*, until 16 September, 1803. It is continued, in French and in the same handwriting, on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, beginning 22 October, 1803.]

[LC. EPP, Journal 1803.]

[14 September 1803]

To Captain Richard V. Morris, U. S. Navy, from the Bey of Tunis

HAMUDA Bassa, Prince of Princes and the well defended city of tunis,  
the abode of Felicity

To commodore MORRIS, commanding the naval force of the U S, of  
America in the Mediteranean.

SIR by superior reasons, I had beg'd the President of the U S, To exuse me for not explaining to you my reasons, concerning the conduct of M<sup>r</sup> Cathcart. as I thought it improper, that he should remain by me as consul for the U S. In this letter I affirm that the same cathcart Wrote me from onboard, and set out without waiting for my answer. you will see that I had very good reasons for not accepting a subject Of this kind for a consul, as your acting consul M<sup>r</sup> Davis will Write you, and you will juge my moderation in this circumstance. I wait with impatiance the friendship and Justice of The President, and the satisfaction that may be Agreeable to you Sir, the exact declaration if I can consider myself in good friendship with your nation. whilst that without my consent you Left M<sup>r</sup> Davis to act as consul untill the Government should appoint another. and if M<sup>r</sup> Cathcart had foreseen, that as not being accepted M<sup>r</sup> Davis could not also have been. it would have been indifferent to me who should have Been appointed. Desiring to hear what as Been decided between M<sup>r</sup> cathcart and the U S. So that I may know how to conduct myself. I remind your estime with pleasure. and wish you the greatest felicity —

DAL BARDO OR CASTLE OF TUNIS Sep<sup>r</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> 1803  
HAMUDA Bassa Bay.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 6, 1803.]

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

TANGIER 14<sup>th</sup> Septem<sup>r</sup> 1803. —

SIR Fully satisfied it was the *Constitution* I saw pass to the Eastward on Monday I dont hesitate at addressing you, to congratulate you on your arrival in these Seas and to assure you of my respect. — Having been informed you were expected at Gibraltar I lodged with M<sup>r</sup> Gavino such details on the actual state of the Public concerns under my care, as I trust will have given you ample information regarding them. — It is matter of great consolation to me that you are so near me at this critical moment. — It is not necessary for me to repeat to you on Captain Bainbridges operations — we must view that Gentleman meeting the Emperours Ship with the captured Brig in company as a very fortunate event, for thereby a most deceitfull and criminal conduct towards the United States has been detected,

and I trust will be so fully substantiated by the papers found on board the Cruizer and the Captain's declaration, as to put the matter past all doubt. — As it is proper you should be fully acquainted with every particular respecting this very interesting affair I enclose with this copy of the Letter I wrote His Majesty the 2<sup>d</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup>, also an Arabic copy and translation of the answer thereto received this morning. — By the Latter you will see His Majesty may be supposed ignorant of Alcayde Hashash having directed the Captains of his Cruizers to seize American Vessels, — however extraordinary this may appear it is not impossible, for we have seen the Emperour place the most unbounded confidence in that Man, nay we have it from good authority he is possessed of a Letter from His Majesty containing these words "do by Land and Sea as you see fit and I will support you." — You will see the mode of proceeding the Emperour desires for investigating the matter, which certainly cannot be precisely followed, nor is the propriety of Captain Bainbridges conduct to be submitted to his determination. — In my Letter of the 3<sup>d</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> to Captain Bainbridge I requested he would send me copy & translation of the paper delivered to him as the authority Raiz Lubarez had for taking American Vessels, the Emperours demand shews the necessity of that measure & I trust the *Philadelphia* may have returned to Gibraltar that it may be done without delay. — I would not advise the original being sent, but it ought to be lodged so as to be within my reach should the validity of the copy be denied, that reference may be had to it. — With this is a Letter from the Emperour for Lubarez desiring him to come to Tangier, before it be delivered or that he be told of the Emperours request, it will be highly necessary that he give a declaration stating the time when he was authorised to capture American Vessels, where and from whom he received that authority, the time he sailed from Larach and when he captured the *Celia*. — If he can be brought to state these particulars with the assistance of one of the Jews of Gibraltar acquainted with the Arabic Language it will be essentially usefull; — if he of himself will not state such a declaration then in my opinion the best way will be to bring him on board the Flag Ship and propose questions to him to the effect of what I have mentioned, if not inconsistent with your established Interrogations; and the like with one or two more of the principal persons of the Ship, without allowing either any opportunity of knowing what has passed with the others. — After this has been gone through the Letter may be delivered Lubarez, and if you find that facts only have been stated in such declaration as he may make, then I hope you will not see any inconveniency to complying with the Emperours wish of his being sent over here by any opportunity may offer. — Such papers as may be necessary to send me respecting this busyness M<sup>r</sup> Gavino will be good enough to enclose and put under cover to D<sup>s</sup> Ant<sup>o</sup> Salmon Spanish Consul here, and they will reach me in safety. —

15<sup>th</sup> September Noon. —

What precedes I had written yesterday to be in readiness for any opportunity might offer — I have just now had the honour of receiving your Letter of the 13<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> and must admit that the observations you make on hostile intentions of the Emperour of Morocco against the United States stand strongly justified by actual occur-

rences. — In the instance of the *Meshouda* I was instructed by Commodore Morris to say if the Act was that of the Master, and unauthorized by the Emperour the Ship would be liberated. — he will now determine her fate, which certainly must be influenced by what has recently happened. — M<sup>r</sup> Gavino has sent me a translation of the Orders given Raiz Lubarez, which appear to be from Hashash — after having seen this paper I am fully satisfied the Emperour will positively deny having authorised any such being given his Captains, — from the thorough knowledge I have of these people I perfectly believe that Muley Soliman did not know the particular Orders Hashash gave Lubarez, but that he confided in him & has been led into the situation he now is with the United States unintentionally. — This even admitted I will fully allow in no Justification of what has happened, but if you find that the Emperour should be inclined to an accommodation I submit to you whether it would not be very adviseable to close with him on such terms as you may consider honorable, rather than press a continuation of hostilities.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 6, 1803.]

[14 September 1803]

To Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Philadelphia*,  
from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

The Captains and Commanders of the Ships and Vessels composing the Squadron, under my command, are not to allow their Boats to land at any other place, excepting at Ragged Staff after 5. oClock P M —

Given on board the United States Frigate  
*Constitution* at Anchor in Gibraltar Bay  
14<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1803 — E. P.

[Same to: Lieutenant Richard Somers, commanding U. S. Schooner *Nautilus* and Lieutenant John Smith, commanding U. S. Schooner *Vixen*]

[LC. EPP, Order Book, 1803–1805.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board  
U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 14 September 1803

The *John Adams* and *Adams*, U. States Frigates arrived from the eastward on their way to the U. States.

[LC, original.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 14 September 1803

Moored in Gibraltar Bay. deliverd to the united States Frigate *Philadelphia* Elevin gang casks/ nearly 60 gallons Each/ at 3 anchor<sup>d</sup> here the united States Frigate *New York*/ Commodore Morris/ Commodore Preble waited on Commodore Morris/ \* \* \* at 9 AM. anchored here the united States Ship/ *John Adams*/ Captain Ro[d]gers/ and the united States Schooner *Nautilus* Lieutenant/ Summers/ Captain Ro[d]gers of the *John Adams*, and Lieutenant of the *Nautilus* waited on Commodore Preble Lieutenant Smith of the Schooner *Vixen* waited on Commodore Preble/ the ships company Employ<sup>d</sup> cleansing ship and Squaring the Ratling of the Topmast Rigging/ the united States Frigate *John Adams*, had in company a amerd ship which she

captured under Tropicale Colours at Noon Moderate Breezes from the Westw<sup>d</sup>

[NA. ND original.]

Circular to the Consuls in the Straits of Gibraltar, from William Jarvis, U. S. Consul, Lisbon

LISBON 15<sup>th</sup> September 1803.

SIR, Understanding by a recent arrival that Hostilities have been commenced against us by the Crusiers of the Emperor of Morocco, I embrace the earliest opportunity to inform you that on the Night of the 13<sup>th</sup> Instant, arrived here the Moroquin Cruiser fitted out at Salleé, it is said without having made a capture; she is Ship rigged and taunt masted, both her Bottom & sides are black excepting a pretty narrow bright streak round the latter, her stern is painted Dove Colour, but not ornamented with carved work, has a prow head resembling a fiddle head, carries 24 long sixes on the Main and 6 or 8 two or three pounders on the Quarter Deck, manned with 150 Men and is a round sided Ship somewhat after the Greek model. What she is after or how long she will stay is not known, the moment either comes to my knowledge I shall immediately communicate it. You will have the goodness to give this information to the Commodore or to the Commanders of our Ships of War, leaving to their better judgment to act thereupon as they shall conceive most conducive to the Protection and safety of our flag.

N. B. Since the foregoing I have learnt that one of her Mast is sprung which she came in to repair, if this Government allows her to do it she will probably lay here some time. She is now under Quarantine, but it is likely will be cleared Tomorrow or next Day. —

[NA. SDA. CL, Lisbon, Vol. 2, 1803-1805.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES FRIGATE  
*Constitution* GIBRALTER BAY 15<sup>th</sup> Sept 1803

Captain Bainbridge has observed to me that your sensibility as an Officer, has been very deeply affected by observing a Commodore's Pendant on board the United States Frigate *Constitution* under my command, I have only to observe Sir, that it is not hoisted for the purpose of injuring your feelings or those of any other Officer but to designate that I command a Squadron of the United States Ships of War (independent of any other Squadron) and that the Officers commanding the Ships and Vessels composing that Squadron, may know where to apply for Orders, and from whence to receive Signals for their Government &c<sup>s</sup> — and for further satisfaction (as I conceive that the success of our negotiations with Morocco, in a great measure depend on unanimity of sentiments, and good understanding among the commanders of our Ships of War) I take the liberty to quote to you part of my instructions from the President of the United States —

“The Squadron under your command will consist of the *Constitution*—the *Philadelphia* Captain Bainbridge—the *Siren* Lieutenant Stewart the *Argus* Lieutenant Hull, the *Vixen* Lt Smith the *Nautilus* Lieutenant Somers, and the *Enterprize* Lieutenant Stephen Decatur —



This force is committed to your direction, for the purpose of protecting effectually the Commerce and Seamen of the United States against Tripolitan Cruisers, on the Atlantic Ocean the Mediterranean and adjoining Seas" —

After this explanation, I presume you will rest perfectly satisfied with the propriety of my conduct — I have no disposition to be on such terms with any officer of either the United States squadrons now in these Seas, as to injure the interests of our Country, if it possibly can be avoided I shall with pleasure meet you, to consult what measures may be best calculated to keep peace with the Barbary Powers that we are now at peace with and what measures it will be proper to pursue to bring those powers to terms, which are at war with us —

[LC. EPP, LB, 1803.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *John Adams*,  
Gibraltar September 15<sup>th</sup> 1803.

SIR, I have this moment received your letter of this Date, and in Reply to your observations, permit me to observe, this is not an affair between private individuals, and that my feelings as an officer has been most sensibly injured, and I do (also) insist that if the Date of your Commission is subsequent to mine, that it is not in the power (Even) of the Government, to place you or any other Officer in a situation which could afford an opportunity of treating me with Disrespect. — It would give me pain to leave the Mediterranean on unfriendly terms with you, but there are certain points of Etiquette which I can not in justice to myself pass over and which you havenot explained — however to prevent our feelings acting in a manner that can in any [way] effect the Interest of our Country I drop the subject until we have more leisure to Define what has past. — I propose going to Tituan with the *John Adams* immediately in order to know the Emperors Determination which Business I wish to consult you on, and would thank you to inform me whether you will be on Board at 2 o'Clock If you are I will call for that purpose.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 6, 1803.]

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

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Philadelphia* Gibraltar Bay  
15<sup>th</sup> September 1803

SIR, This moment my Carpenter has reported to me, that the main pintel of the Rudder of the United States Frigate *Philadelphia* is broke off.

[LC. EPP, LB, 1803.]

To Captain Richard V. Morris, U. S. Navy, from Surgeon George Davis, U. S. Navy,  
U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

Duplicate

CONSULAR HOUSE.  
Tunis Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> 1803.

SIR, By the enclosed extract from my present Dispatch to the Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Sec<sup>y</sup> of State — The letter I had the honor to address to you by Capt. Campbell — And the one now forwarded you from his

Exc<sup>t</sup> Hamuda Bashaw Bey of Tunis, You will learn that the extravagant passions of M<sup>r</sup> Cathcart, his *folly*, and ill Judged communication to the Bey, has hurried us to the brink of a war — Your early answer to the Bey's letter, will not only calm my extreme anxiety; but I trust reduce our Affairs with this Regency, to their former friendly posture —

I feel it, unnecessary to make any remarks, on the conduct of M<sup>r</sup> Cathcart towards me; (And which will be cancell'd when we are alike free'd from public responsibility) You Sir, are too well acquainted with my character, and principles not to be satisfied, that I am incapable of abusing in any way the confidence you have reposed in me — And I feel satisfied that the decision of my Gov<sup>t</sup> will be as honorable to me, as agreeable to yourself. I have this day drawn on Mess<sup>rs</sup> Degen Purviance & C<sup>o</sup> on the faith of your Credit, (as p<sup>r</sup> advice from Malta) for Two thousand Pezzes de Otto Reali—in order to defray the public expences annexed, to the Visit M<sup>r</sup> Cathcart &c &c. I also enclose You the Acc<sup>t</sup> of Hadgeunis-Ben Unis; on which Subject You will be pleased to give your orders — I must again repeat the extreme necessity for Y<sup>r</sup> forwarding an immediate Reply to the Bey unsealed; as I must make the translation in Italian —

RICHARD V. MORRIS Esq<sup>r</sup>

*Comod<sup>o</sup> & Commander in Chief  
of the U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean*

Original with the Bey's letter, is forwarded to the care of Mess<sup>rs</sup> Degen Purviance & C<sup>o</sup> Leghorn.

[Stephen Decatur Col.]

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To Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Philadelphia*,  
from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution* Gibraltar Bay

16<sup>th</sup> September 1803

SIR, The Emperor of Morocco appears (from recent hostile conduct, such as the detention of an American Merchant Vessel in the Port of Moggadore) to evince a determination on war; you will therefore detain and send to this place for examination *all* vessels belonging to him or, his subjects until this Order is countermanded — you will write me often & keep me regularly informed from time to time of your proceedings —

[Similar letter sent to Lieutenant John Smith, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Schooner *Vizen*, 18 September, 1803.]

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

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To Lieutenant John S. H. Cox, U. S. Navy, of U. S. Frigate *Philadelphia*, from  
Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*

*Gibraltar Bay 16<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1803*

SIR, you are to take charge of the Ship *Mirboka* Prize to the United States Ship *Philadelphia*, and to keep her in your possession safely moored at anchor where she now lies, untill further Orders from me; and to be extremely carefull that not any part of her stores are embezzled — You may make such requisitions, for provisions and necessaries, on John Gavino Esquire our Consul as may be wanted by yourself, the Midshipman and four Men, attached to her — You will

also receive on board the *Mirboka* such invalids as Captain Bainbridge sends on board from the *Philadelphia* and provide for them in such manner as may be suitable for their state of health —

I shall send a Surgeons Mate on board to give them the necessary medical aid —

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

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, from Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Philad<sup>a</sup>*  
*Gibraltar Bay 16<sup>th</sup> Sep<sup>r</sup> 1803*

SIR Is Lieut<sup>t</sup> John Cox to remain on board the prize *Mirboka* or does he receive your orders to join the *New York*.

In what manner am I to proceed, to send the Invalids on board the Frigate *Philadelphia* to America. could I not send them for the present on board the Prize, are the Midshipmen and four people now on board that Vessel to remain there.

Will you be pleased to give orders respecting the Prisoners on board the *Phila<sup>a</sup>* I should wish to be clear of them one day, prior to Sailing, to enable us to clean Ship

I enclose you a Letter for M<sup>r</sup> William Lynch of Philadelphia in case of your sending the *Ship* to America appointing him our Agent in the Affair

[LC. EPP, Vol. 6, 1803.]

To Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Philadelphia*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*  
*at Anchor Gibraltar Bay 16<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1803*

SIR, Lieutenant Cox, the Midshipman and four Men on board the Prize Ship *Mirboka*, are to be continued on board, and you may send the invalids agreeable to your request to that ship together with their Baggage and accounts — You will please to send on board this Ship all the principle Officers of the prize and the remainder you will send on board the prize ship the *Messuda* captured by Captain Ro[d]gers

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

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

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution* GIBRALTER BAY  
*16<sup>th</sup> September 1803*

SIR, you will sail immediately for Malaga and take under Convoy all the American Merchant Vessels bound to the Westward and bring them into this Bay, you are not to stay at Malaga longer than 24 hours — Should you fall in with any armed vessels of the Emperor of Morocco, or, of his subjects, you are to bring them into this place for examination

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

To Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Philadelphia*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean

UNITED STATES FRIGATE  
*Constitution* 16<sup>th</sup> Sept 1803

Sir, You will please to proceed to sea as soon as you can possibly get ready, and take such American Merchant Vessels, as are bound from this place to the Eastward under your Convoy, and stop at Malaga 24 hours, to take our trade from thence, and proceed up the Mediterranean, with them as far as in your opinion you may think adviseable, for the good of the service, agreeable to circumstances and events, that may take place, the *Vixen* Lieutenant Smith will accompany you, and you may make such use of her as may to you appear most proper—

Pass near cape de Gatt, Cape Palos and Cape Martin — it will be well to send the *Vixen* well in shore to look into the Bays, and snug places, along the Coast, if you do not see or hear, any thing of Tripoline Cruisers by the time you reach Cape Martin, you will proceed to Malta taking that track, most likely to fall in with them you will land at Malta all your unnecessary spars & lumber, but are not to stay there more than 24 hours, unless necessity should require it; but proceed off Tripoli, and maintain (during the season, in which it may be safely done) an effectual Blockade of that place as can be done with the force you have with you; and annoy the enemy by all the means in your power —

You will detain all the Cruisers of the Emperor of Morocco, that you may meet with, and send them to this place until further Orders, You are not to suffer the vessels of any nation to enter, or have commerce with Tripoli, but you have a right to treat as an enemy, whoever attempts to enter that place, or carry any thing to it, without your leave, while it is blockaded by you — you are to respect the right of all Nations with whom we are at peace, and not to capture Vessels within the Jurisdictional limits, or under the protection of such nations, you are at all times so far as may be in your power, to succour, aid, relieve and free any American Vessel attacked by the enemy, or in their possession —

The Officers of your Ship, may receive payments of money from time to time, but no advance beyond what may be due to them, in all your bills (should you have Occasion to draw any) you are to be carefull to mention the purpose for which they are drawn, and when it can be done, you are to draw on the Secretary of the Navy, with letters of advice to him, but when that cannot be done, you are to draw on Mess<sup>rs</sup> M<sup>r</sup>Kenzie and Glenni London, or Mess<sup>rs</sup> Degen and Perviance Leghorn, when you cannot receive a supply from me in consequence of our seperation —

On the arrival here of the rest of my Squadron I shall send you more force, and further Orders and directions —

As soon as the Season makes it dangerous to cruise on the Coast of Tripoli you may harbor at Malta until you hear from me, or until it is proper weather for cruising —

It will be well for you to shew yourself, off Tunis occasionally, as soon as force enough arrives off Tripoli to keep their cruisers in check.

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, from  
 Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Philad<sup>a</sup>*  
*Gibraltar Bay 16<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1803*

D<sup>r</sup> SIR. You will much oblige me by sending the Chart back, and the Italian Servant: and I assure you that it would be rendering an assistance to the Service by turning over some of your Men whose times have not expired, to the Frigate *Philadelphia*

[LC. John Rodgers & others, Let. & Doc., 1799-1848, Ac. 3647.]

To Captain Otway, R. N., Commissioner at Gibraltar, from Captain Edward Preble,  
 U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*  
*Gibraltar Bay 16<sup>th</sup> Sep<sup>r</sup> 1803*

SIR, The Rudder of the United States Frigate *Philadelphia* one of the Squadron under my command has received damage you will oblige me by allowing it to be repair'd in the dock yard, and furnishing the necessaries for such repairs as it may require

[LC. EPP, LB, 1803.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate  
*Constitution*, Friday, 16 September 1803

Waiting for dispatches from Tanger — Wind Westward — Sailed the Schooner *Nautilus* L<sup>t</sup> Somers for Malaga, with orders to convoy the Trade from thence to this Bay, and capture Moorish Vessels — Gave Sailing Orders to Captain Bainbridge of the Frigate *Philadelphia* — and Lieutenant Smith of the *Vixen* —

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

Extract from journal of Midshipman Henry Wadsworth, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. S. *New York*, Captain Richard V. Morris, U. S. Navy, commanding, 16 September 1803

Gibraltar On our arrival here we found Com<sup>r</sup> Preble in the *Constitution* Capt Bainbridge in the *Philadelphia* the Schooner *Vixen* & the Moorish Prize The *Constitution* fell in with a Moor of 30 guns but not knowing of War let her escape, the *Vixen* fell in with a privateer & let her go — unfortunate.

I have reciev'd orders from the Secretary of the Navy to join the *Constitution*: today I put them in execution, & I have gotten up very early this morning to bring my journal to a close.

They received me \* \* \* on board the *Constitution*.

[H. W. L. Dana Col.]

To James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco, from Captains Edward Preble and John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

On board the U. S. FRIGATE *Constitution*  
*Tanger Road Sep<sup>r</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> 1803*

SIR We have the honor to inform you that we yesterday rec<sup>d</sup> your letter of the 15<sup>th</sup> [14] Ins<sup>t</sup> with its enclosures, in consequence of which, the U. S. Ships *Constitution* under my command, and *John Adams*, under the command of Comm<sup>r</sup> Ro[d]gers have come to this place, with a view of having an interview with you, and of pursuing pacific

measures, and accomodating our present differences with the Emperor of Morrocco, if he should be inclined to promote them, as his letter to you declares it to be his wish; and provided it can be done with honor and propriety on the part of the United States.

We have on board the Moorish & Tripoline captains, of the *Massuad* [*Meshouda*] and the captain and Six Off<sup>rs</sup> of the *Marboka*, and as it may be necessary that these Officers should give a full explanation of their orders, and conduct, it is our wish that some proper person may be sent off, on the part of the Emperor, to make this examination. It will also be necessary, that a good interpreter should come off with the person who may be sent for this purpose.

As an interview with you, appears to be indispensable towards a proper understanding, and accomodation of this business, we have no doubt but you will be permitted to come off. if it is the sincere wish of the Emperor to settle this business amicably. We shall, therefore, forbear entering into any details, untill we have the pleasure of seeing you on board, or receiving an answer to this. We have a translation of the Original order given to Rais Lubarez to capture American Vessels certified in his own hand writing to be a true copy of the order he rec<sup>d</sup> from Hashash and the original also which may be examined by any person sent on board for that purpose. Any Officer belonging to the Emperor who may come on board, shall be at liberty to go on shore the moment he pleases we shall first know if you are permitted to come off before we send the certified copy on shore. We made a proposal to the Officers of *Marboka*, that one of them should accompany this letter. this they did not relish unless the whole could be liberated.

Col. Tobias Lear is on board the *Constitution* and will assist in the negotiations

[L.C. EPP, Vol. 6, 1803.]

To Captains Edward Preble and John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco

TANGIER 17<sup>th</sup> Septem<sup>r</sup> 1803 —

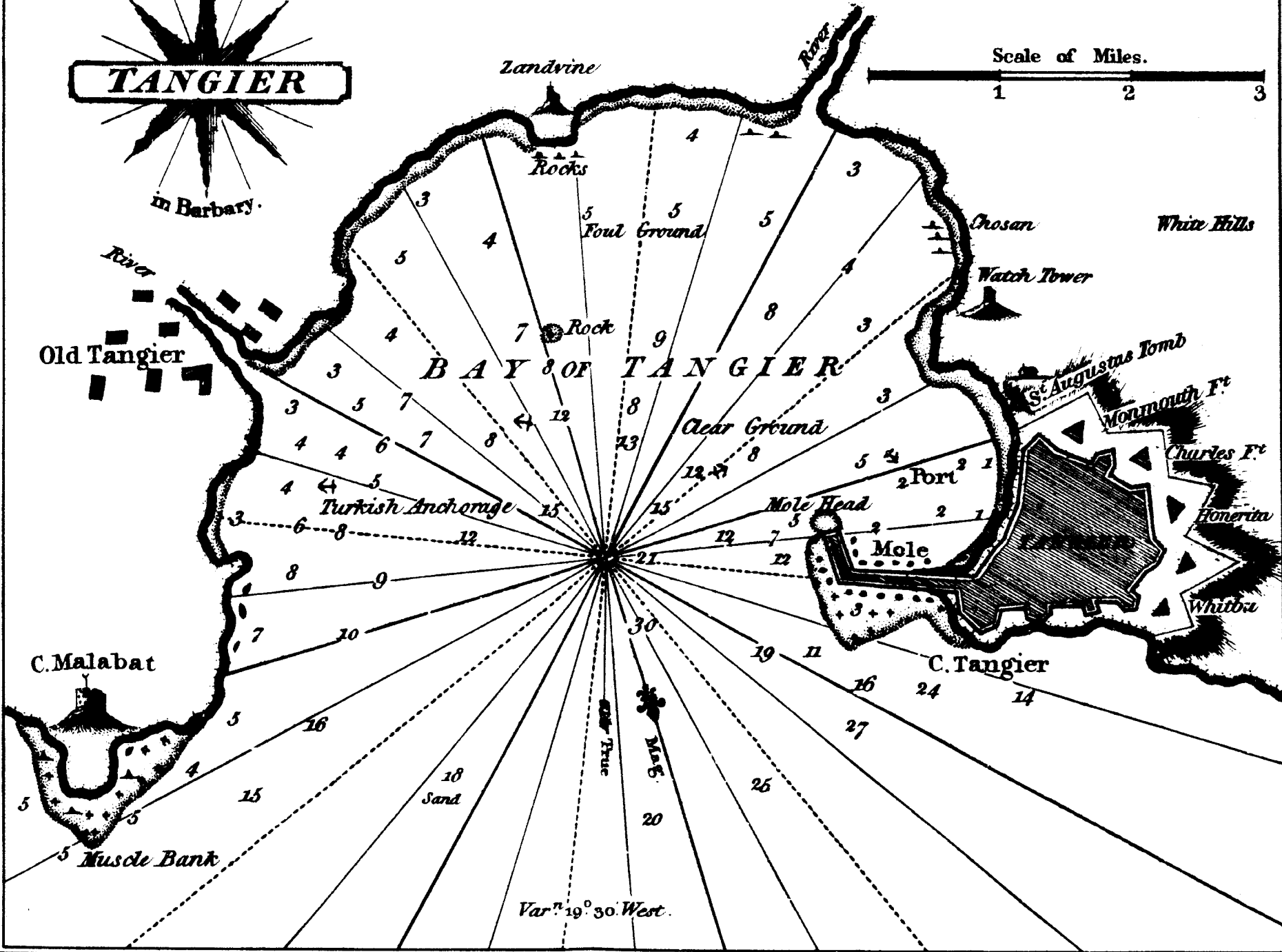
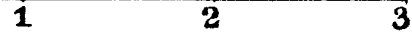
GENTLEMEN — At receipt of your Letter of this morning I sent for the person who commands in the absence of our Governour and communicated to him the object of your coming to this Bay — he is not provided with any authority on the subject, therefore is to send off an Express to Tetuan to give Alcayde Hashash the necessary information and take his orders, which will be here tomorrow evening or Monday morning. — This step was indispensable or I would not have taken it, as you will believe I have but too well founded reason to throw every objection in the way of that Man having any thing to do with our Negotiations and if possible it must be avoided. — As the expression in the Emperours Letter may be taken to apply to himself "we will examine" — some Tabbs translate it as carrying his intention to have the busyness investigated under his own immediate inspection. — by the answer Alcayde Hashash may give that matter will be cleared up. — Monday is the last time fixed for His Majestys leaving Mequinez, if he comes here direct he may be with us on Friday, but if he goes by way of Tetuan it will be at least three days latter. —

If you stand into the Bay on Monday I shall then be able to hand you the answer from the Governour, and speak with more precision than now on the Emperours motions —

The Bay of  
**TANGIER**

in Barbary.

Scale of Miles.







By the enclosed you will see a Novelty of no small consequence, as it appears to throw back the source of our present situation to the Emperour himself — be that as it may I fully hope the Capture of the *Mirboka* will incline him much to Peace, and if the *Maimona* could be added to the list of Captures, we might I very much believe dictate our own terms. — I do not know that by the Laws of War your errand here to day should in any shape barr your pursuing those who are in search of opportunities of acting hostilely against our Country. —

I shall ask the Governour by Express to allow me to go off to you on Monday which I very much wish he may consent to. — I would not advise any Boat being sent on shore yet, we cannot have reliance on these people —

Commodore Rodgers will have the goodness to excuse my not replying to his favour of the 9<sup>th</sup> — it shall be ready for Monday — in the mean time I consider his arguments in support of detention of the *Meshouda* very conclusive —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 6, 1803.]

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Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Saturday, 17 September 1803

Unmoored and got ready for Sea — Ordered Captain Bainbridge to send the Moorish Captain and Six of the principal Off<sup>rs</sup> of the *Mirboka* on board — ordered the other Officers & Crew consisting of 92 Men on board the *New York's* prize, as a prison Ship, I consulted with Col: Lear & Commodore Rodgers, and concluded to go to Tanger with the *Constitution* & *John Adams* to endeavour to settle the present existing difference between the United States and Emperor. At 7 P M Col: Lear came on board to assist at the negotiation — Commodore Rogers hoisted a Broad Pendant — Commodore Morris hauled down his — at 9 the *John Adams* sailed — at Midnight weighed and sailed with the *Constitution* — stood out of the Bay, and run along the Barbary Coast to the Westward at 6 AM saw the *John Adams* to the westward, at 7 Anchored in Tanger Bay, the *John Adams* in company — our depth of water 16 fathoms hard bottom Cape Tanger WNW — the town of Tanger SWbS 2 miles dis<sup>t</sup> Eastern part of the Bay ESE 2 miles. In this situation we had a fair view of the whole Bay and of the Town. I have a very contemptible opinion of the Strength of the place from its appearance, The English, French, Swedish, Danish, & Spanish Colours were flying at the Flagstuffs of the Consuls of those Nations. At 10 AM a boat came from the shore with 4 Spaniards to receive letters. Commodore Rogers came on board — we wrote to Consul Simpson assuring him of our pacific dispositions towards the Emperor.

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

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Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 17 September 1803

Went to Tanger to demand satisfaction for the insult offered our flag in the capture of the *Celia*.

[LC, original.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 17 September 1803

Moored in Gibraltar Bay, Running from Gibraltar to Tanger/ and laying at single anchor in Tanger Bay, winds from the Eastw<sup>d</sup>

we recie'd from the Frigate *Philedelphia*, the Moorish Captain and six of the officers that was Taken in the arm<sup>d</sup> ship Belonging to the Emperor of Morocco/ Con<sup>l</sup> Lear who disambark<sup>d</sup> from the *Constitution*, with his Family/ came on board at 8 in the Evening in Boats/ we wiegh<sup>d</sup> at Midnight and came to sail/ *John Adams*/ in company/ we let in Gibraltar Bay/ the united States Frigate *New York*, Commodore/ Morris, without a Broad pendant/ the Frigate *Philadelpha*/ Captain Bainbredge/ and the Schooner/ *Vixen*/ Lieutenant/ all left three portugees man of war/ namely the *Arabella*/ *Malgrate* and the *Tossa*/ we had a leading wind from the Eastw<sup>d</sup> and Run along the Barbary shore in order to anchor in Tanger Bay/ at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 7 in the morning, we came to in Tanger Bay in company with, the *John Adams* Commodore Roggers/ Commodore Preble waited on Commodore Morris/ i belive Commodore Ro[d]gers is the seinor officer for the time being out depth of water is 16 fath<sup>s</sup> heard Bottom/ Cape Spartel WNW. Cape Tanger, which is the North Extreme to the Eastw<sup>d</sup> the Town of Tanger SWbS nearly three miles/ the Eastern part of the Bay, ESE, nearly two miles/ in this situation we had a fair View of the Town of Tanger. we saw flying in the Town of Tanger/ English Colours/ Swedesh, French Spanish/ and Hambourgh Colours/ at noon Moderate Breezes and clear weather winds from the Westw<sup>d</sup> several letter past and Repas<sup>d</sup> Between, Commodore Ro[d]gers/ Commodore Preble and M<sup>r</sup> Simpson, the American Counsil at Tanger Tobias lear Esq<sup>r</sup> Counsil General to the Barbary powers/ accompany<sup>d</sup>/ the two Commodores from Gibraltar to Tanger/ there was not any Boat Belonging to Either of the ships Went on shore at Tanger

[NA. ND original.]

To Secretary of State from James Leander Cathcart, appointed U. S. Consul, Tunis N<sup>o</sup> 13

U S FRIGATE *Adams*  
off *Almeria bay Sep<sup>tr</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> 1803*

SIR The enclosed detail will inform you of our actual position at Tunis, in addition to which I have the honor to inform you that I was creditably inform'd that the Bashaws political reason for not receiving me at Tunis, is no other than in consequence of a request from the Dey of Algiers to that purport, in compliance with the will of the Sanhedrim & their most righteous Secretary; I am consequently consider'd by them as no longer encharged with the affairs of the United States in either of those Regencys, & when I have offer'd to the Regency of Tripoli the terms of peace prescribed by my instructions & deliver'd the Jewels & property of the United States in my possession to any person appointed to receive them, who I presume will either be the Commander of the Station or whoever is appointed Consul general at Algiers my functions will cease, unless the President should think proper to send me fresh instructions — If the interests of the United States should dictate the necessity of appointing an Agent to superceed me at Tunis, I request Sir that it may be done in as delicate a manner as possible, that my reputation may not suffer in the estimation of my fellow Citizens, and in order that I may not

be subject to the animadversions of the ignorant & malicious of whom we have too many in the United States, I request Sir that this may be consider'd by government as my resignation —

I am now in quest of the Comodore who I expect to find either at Gibraltar or Malaga & shall proceed to the execution of my instructions at Tripoli as soon as he may find it convenient to take me there, the result of which I will take the earliest opportunity to inform you of & will from thence proceed to Leghorn to hold myself in readiness to return to the United States on receiving the Presidents orders —

I should have dispatch'd a courier from Tunis but in consequence of the Bashaws refusing our offer of an annuity at that place I was apprehensive that the Bashaw of Tripoli would be very exorbitant in his demands unless our offers are accompanied with force, making propositions in any other way would look as if we were tired of the war

I hope the manner I open'd the negotiation at Tunis will meet the Presidents approbation, I offer'd a premium to be allow'd a commercial privilege which we do not enjoy that privilege was denied us, consequently we are exonerated from the promise of the premium —

I most sincerely congratulate the President and all those particularly concern'd in the negotiation for the cession of Louisiana as well as my country; this event has form'd an epoch in our national history second to none but the declaration of Independence, & while it opens an ample field for commercial enterprize, it consolidates the Union so far as the western territories are concern'd & prevents our being subject to the devices of an intriguing ambitious & restless neighbor which at some future period might produce incalculable consequences —

As a number of appointments must necessarily take place previous to our taking possession of Louisiana I should conceive that refraining from petitioning government in due season to be inserted as an applicant for one of said appointments would be acting enimical to the interests of my family, more especially as contrary to the example of some Barbary Consuls I shall return home five thousand dollars at least poorer than I was the day I was appointed Consul for Tripoli, I therefore request you to mention me to the President & Senate in such a manner as you may think I merit, & should I be so happy as to succeed both the President & yourself Sir may depend upon my gratitude for the preference shewn me & my country may depend upon my faithful services according to the best of my abilities — Whether my services gives me any claim to public employ in common with my fellow Citizens the President and yourself are the proper judges: my knowledge of the languages used in that country probably would render me as useful and I hope my character at this period of my life is not doubtful —

In whatever way the wisdom of government may determine you would render me a singular service by informing me of my fate as soon as possible, M<sup>r</sup> Gavino at Gibraltar will know where to find me, I shall either be onboard our Squadron or at Leghorn —

As Cap<sup>tn</sup> Campbell will be at Washington when you receive these dispatches I refer you to him for any additional information he being perfectly acquainted with all my operations for some time past, in the mean time I have the honor to subscribe myself with the most respectful esteem —

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

U. STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*  
Gibraltar Bay 18<sup>th</sup> September 1803 —

SIR, I have the honor to inform you, that the United States Ship *Constitution* under my Command arrived here the 12<sup>th</sup> inst<sup>t</sup> on my passage off Cape S<sup>t</sup> Vincent, I fell in with the Ship *Maimona* with 30 Guns and 150 Men, Admiral Hadge Tacher [word illegible] belonging to the Emperor of Morocco, bound to Lisbon on business for his Master, I boarded and made three several examinations of her papers and found them, all fair, as far as we could understand them, she had the passport of our Consul at Morocco, dated at Tangier 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1803 addressed to all the commanders of the U. States armed Vessels stating that the Ship *Maimona*, belonging to the Emperor of Morocco mounting 30 Guns and carrying 150 Men commanded by Hadge Tacher [word illegible] was bound on cruise, and requesting all commanders of the United States armed vessels, to treat him as a friendly vessel, he conducting himself accordingly the Consular seal was affixed to the said passport, the Captain had likewise the top of a parchment passport, with a certificate thereon, signed James Simpson, stating that it was the true top of an American Passport her papers were so fair, and clear that I could not detain her — Indeed I should as soon have thought of detaining a British Vessel — Altho I must own, I felt uneasy at parting with her but should have felt more so, had not Col<sup>o</sup> Lear, (who was acquainted with M<sup>r</sup> Simpsons hand writing) volunteer'd his services to go on board and examine the papers himself he did so, and pronounced them correct, I enclose you his report to me after the Examination —

I found here the *Philadelphia* Captain Bainbridge with the Morocco Ship of War *Mirboka* of 22 Guns and 98 men Captain Ibrahim Raiz Lubarez her prize. Captain Bainbridge fell in with the *Mirboka* off Cape De Gatt with an American Vessel which she had captured in company, this circumstance was sufficient Justification for Cap<sup>t</sup> Bainbridge to take possession of her, to prevent her doing more mischief — Captain Bainbridge was also so fortunate, as to recapture the prize [*Cebra*] —

On translating her papers one was found to be an Order to capture American Vessels which the Captain said he received from the Governor of Tangier, sealed, with Directions not to be opened until he was at Sea — I suppose the Ship which I met off Cape S<sup>t</sup> Vincent has Orders to do the same, on her return from Lisbon, but do not suppose she will Capture before as she has gone there to receive a present and be well fitted in order to act more efficiently against our Commerce — Captain Bainbridge deserves much credit for his vigilance, and active exertions in re-capturing the prize, as well as capturing the cruiser, and for the humane and very proper treatment, the Officers and crew of his prize have received, since they fell into his hands —

14<sup>th</sup> Schooner *Nautilus* L<sup>t</sup> Comd<sup>t</sup> Somers, arrived from a Cruise up the Mediterranean — The Schooner *Vixen* arrived from Baltimore — The Frigates *New York* and *John Adams* arrived from Leghorn with the prize Ship *Messuada* — taken by Captain Rodgers in attempting to enter Tripoli — The Circumstances of that affair, I presume you are acquainted with —

16<sup>th</sup> sent the *Nautilus* to Malaga to bring down a Convoy of 18 sail of Merchant Vessels waiting there, and gave sailing Orders to the *Philadelphia* and *Vixen* to go Eastward

17<sup>th</sup> I unmoored, and got ready for Sea, and directed Captain Bainbridge to send the Moorish Captain, and the Six principal officers on board the *Constitution* and the other Moorish Officers, and the Crew by permission of Captain Ro[d]gers I sent on board the *Missuada* his prize in Consequence of the Suspension of Commodore Morris from the Command of the former Squadron, it devolv'd on Captain Ro[d]gers, of course Morris hauled down his broad pendant, and Ro[d]gers hoisted his as Commodore of that Squadron — I felt the Necessity or propriety of proposing to Com<sup>re</sup> Rodgers (Notwithstanding his Orders to return home) that he should remain a few days longer on the Station with the *New York* and *John Adams*, and that we should sail together for Tangier, to assist M<sup>r</sup> Simpson in bringing about an accommodation of our affairs with the Emperor of Morocco, which Commodore readily assented to — And I requested Colonel Lear to accompany us, that we might have the advantage of his able advice and Assistance in any negociation that might take place —

This Gentlemans Zeal for the public service insured a ready compliance on his part, he immediately embarked and at Midnight we weighed Anchor, and sailed, and at 7 o'Clock next morning, anchored in Tangier Bay, with a white Flag at the fore, as pacifically inclined — a boat was sent off by M<sup>r</sup> Simpson with an open slip of paper, purporting that he only was allowed to send a Boat to receive letters — I wrote in behalf of Com<sup>re</sup> Rodgers and myself, and received Answer<sup>rs</sup> thereto which were apparently written under restraint, but M<sup>r</sup> Simpson found an Opportunity to slip a letter into the packet, which confirms me in my first opinion that the Governor of Tangier has not acted without higher Authority, he states that he has a scene of the deepest treachery to unfold as soon as a personal interview can take place, and that the Emperor has been guilty of another act of hostility at Mogadore by seizing on the Brig *Hannah* of Salem Joseph W. Williams Master (who was there on a trading voyage) and making prisoners of the crew — The Governor was at Tetuan, and no person at Tangier that had Authority to permit M<sup>r</sup> Simpson to come off to us, he stated that he was confined to his house with two centinels at the door this being the case, and the Emperor not expected until Thursday we made the following arrangement that Commodore Rodgers should go to the westward and cruise off Larache, Sallee and Mogadore and myself to return to Gibraltar to give additional Orders to Captain Bainbridge and Lieut Command<sup>t</sup> Smith, and to leave Orders for a new disposition of the force under my command — I accordingly weighed at 8 in the evening and Sailed for Gibraltar at 10 AM entered the Bay — found the *Philadelphia* and *Vixen* under way — I made Signal for the Captains, gave them additional Orders and they left the Bay, wind westward — I anch<sup>d</sup> with an intention to get under way, and be at Tangier the next night, but the wind from the Westward has prevented us — I shall weigh this evening and proceed to Tangier and endeavor by every honorable means to bring about an accommodation, but if that cannot be done, I shall make them feel that we are sensible of the injury & injustice they have done us, but shall take no hasty steps, you will at once discover my opinion of

this business by a perusal of N<sup>o</sup> 1 of my dispatches which accompanies this; that letter was not wrote in warmth, but you may rest assured that cringing to those Barbarians will not Answer I am fully aware, that it is for our interest to have peace with Morocco but it is not necessary, or proper that we should be so over anxious, as to induce them to believe we must have it, on any terms they choose to dictate — I have an ardent desire to do right I hope I shall — You will have all the information in my power to give you by a perusal of my dispatches as they are arranged, you will there be made acquainted with every transaction since I came on this Station, and with some transactions before I arrived — some of the numbers are important documents, particularly the translation of the Order to capture American Vessels which discovers the deep designing treachery of those Barbarians, who could give such an Order and withhold a signature in order to deny it if discovered — If their vessels of War had been successfull they would not have denied but on the contrary would have justified the Order by some pretext or other; I cannot hear of their having captured any American at Sea except the one re-captured by Captain Bainbridge

I am weighing anchor for Tangier — L<sup>t</sup> Gordon and the Midshipmen ordered to this Ship have joined her —

The *Adams* is momentarily expected here, and the *Enterprize* now in sight standing into the Bay, I shall want her services for a few days previous to her carrying the Orders N<sup>o</sup> 27 into effect — It is some time, I believe since any of the old squadron were off Tripoli, & fearful that the Tripolines would be induced to think we neglected them, I thought prudent notwithstanding our Morocco business to dispatch the *Philadelphia* and *Vixen* to pay them a Visit, I had not time to give L<sup>t</sup> Comd<sup>t</sup> Smith such full Orders as I wished therefore directed him to Sail in Company with Captain Bainbridge and follow his directions until further Orders — I shall give him full instructions by the first of the Squadron that goes to the Eastward —

You will discover the disposition I have made of the force under my command by the orders each Commander has received, copies of which, are among my dispatches; I hope the President will approve of the Orders I have given to the Commanders of the Vessels of my squadron to capture the vessels of the Emperor of Morocco I conceived it was my duty, as he had given Orders to his cruisers to Capture ours — the greater the number of his Vessels and subjects we can get into our possession the easier we can make peace with him I have no doubt, but this business will be soon settled, and enable me to bend my whole force against Tripoli, should I be wrong in my conjectures, I think it will be necessary to keep a small Frigate a Brig & a Schooner to rendezvous at this place, and cruise along the Morocco shore — I find it necessary to remain here myself at present — and hope the liberal instructions which you were pleased to give me, for my Government, in allowing me to exercise my Judgment without restraint for the good of the service, and our situation with Morocco will justify my conduct — I think with the addition of a 32 Gun Frigate, a Brig of 16 — 32 pound Carronades, and a Schooner of 14 — 24 pound Carronades I can effectually Blockade Morocco, and Tripoly, and by hiring a few Gun boats bring them both to any terms we please —

It is absolutely necessary that every Article which composes our nation's should be sent out from the United States as they cannot, in consequence of the War between England and France be purchased at Gibraltar and even if they could the prices at present are 50 p<sup>t</sup> Cent higher than in time of peace; Candles and Molasses have heretofore been much wanted by the other squadron, they are articles that cannot be procured, on any terms in this Country

I shall be able to give you further information on my return from Tangier, which will not be for some time hence unless our affairs with Morocco are amicably settled, as I shall cruise for Ship *Maimona* soon expected to be ready to sail from Lisbon

[LC. EPP, LB, 1803.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from William Kirkpatrick, U. S. Consul, Malaga, Spain

MALAGA 18 Sept 1803

DEAR SIR I have learnt from Lieu<sup>t</sup> Somers with great Satisfaction your safe arrival at Gibraltar, and that you were in better Health than you had lately enjoyed in America, I shall have much pleasure in seeing you in this Quarter, and beg you may not think of going aloft without paying us a Visit, — Some untimely rains, the beginning of this month has retarded materially the Shipment of Fruit, it only was permitted yesterday, and not One of the Vessels now loading for America are in readiness, or can be made so, at the expiration of the 24 Hours Capt Somers has allowed, He consequently returns, but I beg you may have the Goodness to send him, or some other immediately back, the Whole of the Americans now here 14 in number will be ready for Sea on Thursday should the Weather permit Shipping, on this you may depend, I mentioned this day Week to Capt. Rodgers that in 10 or 12 days they would be ready. — I hope you will find it Convenient to attend to the Solicitation of so many Americans who anxiously wait for a Protection from you. — \* \* \*

[LC. EPP, Vol. 6, 1803.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

GIBRALTER, September 18<sup>th</sup> 1803

SIR, The unexpected disposition and evidences of hostility which have been recently given by the Emperor of Morocco towards the United States, making it necessary to guard, as much as possible, against the evils which may result to the Commerce of the U. States in consequence of such an event; I am convinced that you will not consider it prudent to leave this station until some measures can be taken to place our commerce in the best security that the nature of the case will permit; I therefore conceive that I shall be fulfilling the duty which I owe to my Country to remain here, until the *Constitution*, or some other proper Vessel can proceed with me to Algiers, without too much endangering the interest of our Commerce by leaving this important Coast unguarded: And I am the more especially induced to this, from the instructions of my Government to have an interview or communication with M<sup>r</sup> Cathcart previous to making any dispositions relative to our Affairs with Tripoli and Tunis, and as the

arrival of the U. S. Frigate *Adams*, which is daily expected here, will probably produce this desirable event.

Knowing your anxious wish to pursue such measures as, in the unlooked for and critical state of our Affairs with Morocco, may be most conducive to the interest of our Country, I am persuaded that the President of the United States will cordially approve of any steps which may be taken to effect this object, altho' it may cause a delay in executing your original intentions of proceeding immediately to Algiers.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 6, 1803.]

[18 September 1803]

To James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco, from the Governor of the Emperor of Morocco

Translation of Letter from Alcayde Abde-Rahaman Ashash. —

Praise be Given to God. —

There is no Power or Strength but that proceeding from God. —

From the Servant of his Master and the Servant of [His] Majesty exalted by God — Hadge Abde-Rahman [H]Ashash whom God assist, to the American Consul Simpson. — Peace be with those who follow the right way. —

We have received your Letter and read and understood its Contents.— Know that we continue in the Friendship established between Our Master (whom God preserve) and your people without any change or alteration. — What you say regarding your two Frigates that were near the Port of Tangier but do not come in, nor did any person go to speak with them, now we give you liberty to send and bid them come into the Port under the Security of God, — and if any of them chuse to land for transacting the busyness they come upon they shall be wellcome and if they chuse to come to Tetuan they shall be wellcome there also — every thing they desire to do for the good of both Nations I am ready to carry into effect with the greatest attention; therefore our deputy Sidy Ahmed el Metigui and the Director of Customs Hadge Alarbi Fecurt are there and will treat with them, informing us what may happen. — But you cannot be with them alone on board, and on shore only in company with our Deputy. —

We have been told here that you dont hoist your Colours as usual— We have not forbid you — then hoist them as you have always done for in truth there is no motive why you should not as Freindship still continues between us. — Peace be with you —

date should be 18<sup>th</sup> Septem<sup>r</sup> 1803 —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 6, 1803.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 18 September 1803

Laying at single anchor in Tanger Bay with the Frigate *John Adams* in company in the cours of the afternoon, we recie'd different despatches/ by the conveyence of shore Boats/ from the American Conunsil the Moorish Captain/ and six of his officers, who accompany<sup>d</sup> us from Gibraltar/ to Tanger/ some of them had permission to proceed



on shore But they declined to offer/ there plea for not going a shore is this/ all officers serving under the Emperor of Morocco/ after being made Captives/ must first have liberty. granted them from there government/ before they can land at 7 in the Evening we saw fiers on all the high Hill and Mountain along shore/ which we suppose to be there alarm signal/ at 1/2 past 7 in the Evening Commodore Preble waited on Commodore Roggers/ at 8 Comm<sup>d</sup> Preble/ come on board/ we weigh<sup>d</sup> with a light airs off[f] shore/ made sail and steerd over for Gibraltar Bay/ we parted Company with the *John Adams*/ Commodore Roggers/ who is belive cruises a short time off[f] Cape Spartel

[NA. ND original.]

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To Richard O'Brien, U. S. ex-Consul General, Algiers, from Surgeon George Davis,  
U. S. Navy, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> 1803.

DEAR SIR, Your favour of the 10<sup>th</sup> Aug. was received on the 12<sup>th</sup> Inst. — the Affair of Eaton, on which I begged your advise must remain in Statuquo, untill I can receive some intelligence from the Gov<sup>t</sup>

On the 2<sup>d</sup> Inst. arrived the U. S. frigate *Adams*, with James L<sup>t</sup> Cathcart Esq<sup>r</sup> Consul for the Regency of Tunis — The Bey after learning the Powers this Gentleman was possessed of, as also his Instructions from Gov<sup>t</sup>, refused to accept him as Consul for the U. S. — his extreme mortification, not only hurried him into many extravagancies, but nearly precipitated, his Country into an immediate war — I enclose you an Extract from my present Dispatch to the Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Sec<sup>y</sup> of State — without any further remarks, Indisposition must plead my apology for not writing you more fully — I also forward you by this occasion a number of letters, long since received (from M<sup>r</sup> Cathcart) —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 6, 1803.]

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To James L. Cathcart, appointed U. S. Consul, Tunis, from Nicholas C. Nissen,  
Danish Consul, Tripoli

TRIPOLI Sept<sup>r</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> 1803

SIR Two days ago arrived the Cruiser commanded by Raiz Halifa after an absence of two months during which she cruised on the Coast of Spain & Algiers and made no captures —

The Bashaw has terminated the trouble at Guerrian partly by Negotiation and partly by force of Arms, the Inhabitants have agreed to pay him an Indemnification of 100,000 dollars and to permit him to build a Castle & place a Garrison on their Mountain; the Bashaw is now sending an army to Derna to subdue his brother Hamet, who is in possession of half that Town, but the Coast & Harbour is in the hands of the Bashaw of Tripoli who has two Cruisers there one of 10 & the other of 12 Guns, to prevent his brother from having any communication with the Island of Malta. lately was captured at Derna and sent here a vessel belonging to Malta, which had gone there, notwithstanding the prohibition published by the British Government at Malta on the 4<sup>th</sup> of April in consequence of the Bashaws demand — The actual force of Tripoli is as follows —

A Zebeck of	10 Guns	Comm <sup>d</sup> by Raiz Hash	} Station'd at Derna
A do.....	12 do...	Saci[?] by Raiz Mohammed	
		Suai	
A New Brig of	14 d <sup>o</sup> ....	built at Tripoli said to be bound to Derna with Murad Raiz on board — who is Peter Lisle the infamous English Renegado —	
A Galliot of	8 Guns	which it is said will likewise be sent to Derna	
A do.....	6 do....		
A do.....	4 do....		
A do.....	2 do....		
Building a kind of Schooner to mount 10 or 12 Guns			
6 Gunboats mounting each one long 18 pounder			
2 do..... do... each one long 24 do			
2 do..... do... one 12 pounder & the other an 8 pounder			

The above is an exact statement of the Maratime force of Tripoli, there not being any of their Cruisers at Sea

We have not seen during the last 3 months any of your vessels of War, we are informed that they keep up a vigilant Cruise between Cape Bon, Malta & Sicily, with Schooners, this plan is well conceiv'd and I presume more useful than a Blockade.

On the point of Girgash 3 or 4 miles to the Westw<sup>d</sup> of Tripoli the Bashaw has erected a Fortification to protect his Cruisers as they run along shore — The Merch<sup>t</sup> vessels in this port are

viz<sup>t</sup> One under the Ionian Flag bound to Leghorn  
One under the Imperial do bound to Trieste  
Two vessels bound to Malta

Two do..... to the Levant and one expected from Leghorn in a few weeks — This is all I have to communicate to you worthy your attention — Should any thing interesting occur, you may depend upon receiving information by the earliest opportunity

[Stephen Decatur Col.]

To John Gavino, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar, from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco

TANGIER 19<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1803

DEAR SIR Since my last to you of 15<sup>th</sup> I have received your Esteemed favours of the 13<sup>th</sup> (2) 14<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> for which I thank you. — The declaration of the Moorish Captains on subject of the treatment they received on board the *John Adams* & *Philadelphia* is very satisfactory, to men of sense it certainly could not be necessary, but to the generality in this Country, and to stop the malignant reports most industriously propagated by Alcayde Hashash on the Occasion, — they were indispensibly requisite, and I trust they have had their full force. —

Yesterday I had occasion to send an Express to the Minister, to whom I gave full information on the subject that he might acquaint His Majesty. —

Commodore Preble & Commodore Rodgers have been here, the latter gives me very ample information respecting the *Meshouda*, & such as if I had been possessed before, matters respecting her, would

have been in a Very different State, to what they are; I dont write, either of these Gentlemen as I conclude they are not with you, besides we have not had the least novelty, worthy of imparting since my last letter to them of Saturday, save that by one I received yesterday from a private friend near the Emperor, I find His Majesty does not leave Mequinez untill Friday next, so that probably, it will be fourteen days from this day [before we shall see him. Hashash has orders, to meet him at the River Ayesha, a day & a half from hence. —

I advised Commodore Preble of orders having reached Mogador on the 4<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> for Seizing all American Vessels and Property, might be at that Port, and the Brig *Hannah* of Salem Cap<sup>n</sup> Williams lately arrived from thence, was taken possession of with her Cargo consisting of 75 Bales Cotton 10 Chests Tea some Iron, & a few Bales of Piece goods. — The Cap<sup>n</sup> & Crew were given up to M<sup>r</sup> Court on his Security to be Answerable for their appearance. This has been a deep laid Schem, but I trust they will yet pay dearly for it. —

Two guards continue at my door and altho, the Justice of my cause, and the Emperors favourable disposition manifested on more than one occasion lately towards myself, gives me hopes no further Violence will be offered me, yet as there is no dependence on any thing in this Country, I have thought best to send back the forty Loaves Sugar, as I have not been able to find a purchaiser for them at any price — they are Shipt but whether on *Athalaya* or the *Misticoi*, Very fine has not come to tell me, and our friend is about to Seal his letter; I will write you two lines by M<sup>r</sup> Miller and tell you. — I thank God M<sup>r</sup> Simpson keeps up better than I expected what may be attributed to her having by the merest chance met a satisfactory nurse, for her Child

[LC. EPP, Vol. 6, 1803.]

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

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*  
*Gibraltar Bay 19<sup>th</sup> Sep<sup>r</sup> 1803*

SIR Immediately on your arrival in this Bay, you will Victual, and Water your Vessel (making your requisitions on John Gavino Esquire for that purpose with whom I have left orders to supply you) and sail without delay to the Westward. Look into Tanger Bay, and if you do not find me there, proceed off Larach, Sallee & Moggadore. and cruise off Moggadore three weeks — speak every American Vessel you meet with, and inform them, the Emperor of Morocco's Cruisers have orders to capture American Vessels; and that *He* has detained a Brig in Moggadore and made prisoners of the crew belonging to Salem — You will send into this Bay all the Vessels you may meet with belonging to the Bashaw of Tripoli, the Emperor of Morocco or their subjects at the expiration of three weeks you are to return to this Bay, and wait my further orders.

You are at all times as far as may be in your power to succour, aid, relieve, and free, any American Vessel attacked by the Enemy, or in their possession; but always to respect the rights of Nations, with whom we are at Peace, and not to capture Vessels within the Jurisdictional limits, or under the protection of such Nations.

The Officers of your Vessel may receive payments of money from time to time, but no advance beyond what is due them.

In all your Bills, should you have occasion to draw any, you are to be careful to mention the purpose for which they were drawn and to forward letters of advice with them. You are to draw on the Secretary of the Navy, when it can be done, and when it cannot, you may draw on Mess<sup>rs</sup> M<sup>r</sup>Kenzie & Glenni of London, or on Mess<sup>rs</sup> Degan & Perviance of Leghorn —

Write me by every Opportunity (care of John Gavino Esquire Gibraltar) and keep me informed of all your proceedings

[LC. EPP, Order Book, 1803–1805.]

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

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*  
Gibraltar Bay 19th Sep<sup>r</sup> 1803

SIR I have directed this to be hand'd you immediately on your arrival in this Bay, and you are in 12 hours after the receipt of it, to sail to the Westward, if your vessel is in a situation to do so. You will look into Tanger Bay, and if you do not find me there, proceed with all possible dispatch off Larach, Sallee, and as far South as Moggadore, and stretch from thence to Cape Spartel Keep a good look out for a ship of 30 Guns and 150 Men called the *Momona* [*Maimona*], Admiral Hach Tacher [word illegible] belonging to the Emperor of Morocco. She is out for the purpose of capturing American Vessels, and if you meet with her bring her into this Bay for examination. She is about 350 or 400 Tons, Mounts 11 six pounders on a side on the Gun-deck, and 4 four pounders on her Quarter Deck — has very poor quarters is slovenly about the rigging & sails, has a Billet-Head Turpentine Waist (very dirty) Black Bends & Bottom — Stern rather high, with two large plain mouldings, one about two feet below the other. No fore top gallant-mast up, her Fore & Main Topsails a great hoist and square by the head with only two reefs in them — A Mizzen Topmast with a very short pole head, and three reefs in the Mizzen Top Sail — a small storm Mizzen — no Spanker-boom — Yards all the colour of the wood — I met her off Cape S<sup>t</sup> Vincent on my passage hither. examined her passports, which were fair and proper; and not knowing the Emperor of Morocco had made War on us, let her proceed to Lisbon whither she was bound She is, I understand, soon expected to return to Sallee. It is probable some alterations will be made in the appearance of the ship at Lisbon, that she may not answer the above description. It will be a glorious thing for you, to take her; You can easily do it, if you meet with her; and, my orders are, that you make the attempt.

You will inform all the American Vessels you meet with, of the hostile disposition of the Emperor of Morocco. — Cruise between Cape Spartel and Moggadore ten days, and if you do not meet with me, return to this Bay, and prepare your vessel for a cruise with all possible expedition and sail to the Eastward. Cruise from Cape de Gat, to Cape Martin 10 days, and if you do not meet with any Tripoline or Morocco Vessels, you will proceed to Malta, and may stay there 24 hours to Water, and gain information from thence proceed off Tripoli to assist the *Philadelphia* and *Vixen* in the blockade of that place. You are to capture all Vessels of the Bashaw of Tripoli and his Subjects, and to annoy them by all the means in your power.

You are also to capture any vessels attempting to enter that place while we are Blockading it — and should you meet with any of the Vessels of the Emperor of Morocco, or of his subjects, you will send them to this place for examination — Cruise off Tripoli as long as the Season will allow you to do with safety and then Harbour at Malta — but I do expect that you do go out occasionally and shew yourself off Tripoli even in that season when the Weather is most severe, as it will have a good effect.

If you have occasion for money, for the necessary expences and supplies of your Vessel you will draw on the Secretary of the Navy, when it can be done, and when it cannot you are to draw on Mess<sup>rs</sup> M<sup>r</sup>Kenzie & Glenni of London or on Mess<sup>rs</sup> Degan & Purviance of Leghorn. And always forward your letters of advice, with your Bills mentioning therein, the purpose for which they were drawn.

You will respect the rights of all Nations with whom we are at Peace. and not capture Vessels within the Jurisdictional limits, or under the protection of such Nations.

The Officers of your Vessel, may receive payments of money from time to time, as it becomes due, but not any in advance.

Make your requisitions for Provisions at this place on John Gavino Esquire, and he will supply you.

You will as often as opportunity offers inform me of all your proceedings.

[LC. EPP, Order Book, 1803–1805.]

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To Lieutenant Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Argus*,  
from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*, GIBRALTER BAY  
19<sup>th</sup> September 1803

SIR On your arrival in this Bay, you will prepare the *Argus* for Sea with all possible expedition make your requisitions on John Gavino Esquire for what provisions &c you can find room for, and if the *Enterprize* should arrive before you are ready to Sail, you are to exchange commands with Lieutenant Hull; but if she does not, you are to proceed with all possible dispatch to the Eastw<sup>d</sup> pass near Cape de Gatt, Cape Palos, and Cape Martin, and proceed from thence to the Blockade of Tripoli. You will cruise off that place, untill the season makes it dangerous; and you may then Harbour in Malta. But you must even in the very worst Season, go out and shew yourself off Tripoli occasionally if only for a day or two at a time, as it will have a good effect, by convincing those Barbarians that their Vessels are not safe in leaving Port at any season of the Year — You are to Capture all Vessels belonging to the Bashaw of Tripoli, or his subjects and to annoy the Enemy by all the means in your power. You will detain and send to this place for examination all the Vessels of the Emperor of Morocco, or of his Subjects, which you may fall in with untill further orders. You are not to suffer the Vessels of any Nation to enter or to have commerce with Tripoli but have a right to treat as an Enemy whoever may endeavour to enter that place or carry anything to it whilst Blockaded by us — You are to respect the rights of Nations with whom we are at peace, and not to capture Vessels within the Jurisdictional limits, or under the protection of such Nations: You are at all times as far as may be in your

power, to succour, aid, relieve, and free, any American Vessel attacked by the Enemy or in their possession

The Officers of the *Argus* may receive payments of Money from time to time, but no advance beyond what may be due them —

Should you want Money for the necessary expences of the *Argus*, you will draw on the Secretary of the Navy when it can be done, expressing in the Bills the purpose for which they are drawn — When you cannot draw on him, You may draw on Mess<sup>rs</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie & Glenni of London, or on Mess<sup>rs</sup> Degan & Perviance of Leghorn, and letters of advice must accompany your Bills —

You will write me by every opportunity care of John Gavino Esquire Gibraltar and keep me informed of all your proceedings.

L<sup>t</sup> Commandant S. DECATUR[\*]

[Substituting “*Enterprize*” for “*Argus*” and “*Hull*” for “*Decatur*”, similar instructions were sent to Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, on 19 September. On 22 September 1803, these orders to Lieutenants Decatur and Hull were countermanded, and new ones issued.]

[\*An officer commissioned Lieutenant in the U. S. Navy, when in command of a Ship of War, was often addressed as Lieutenant Commandant.]

[LC. EPP, Order Book, 1803–1805.]

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

NEW PORT, U. S. BRIG *Argus* Sept<sup>r</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> 1803

SIR, You will perceive by the letter I had the honor of wrt<sup>e</sup> you on the ninth. I left president Roads on that day, for the first two days after leaving the port we had fresh breezes increas<sup>d</sup> from the Northward & Eastward, on the 3<sup>d</sup> day we entered the Gulph in Lat. 40° 40 the gale becomeing heavy from the N E with a remarkable heavy sea going, I hove to under a close reefed main topsail, reefed fore sail, & storm main staysail, at this time we had got the top gallantmast, flying Jibboom, & spritsail yard on deck, with the Jibboom rigged in, at 8 A M sprung our bowsprit & got her before it to secure our foremast, after securing the fore mast had the bowsprit surveyed by the 1<sup>st</sup> Lieu<sup>t</sup> Master, Boatswain & Carpenter, the result of which survey I enclose you, the opinion of those gentlemen agreeing with my own, the short distance we had progressed, the certainty of loosing our fore mast should we meet with another blow, & knowing the difficulty of procureing spars in the Medeteranian, induced me to put back for the first port we could fetch, I arrived here last night and am informed by the agent he will be able to get me a new bowsprit in four days. —

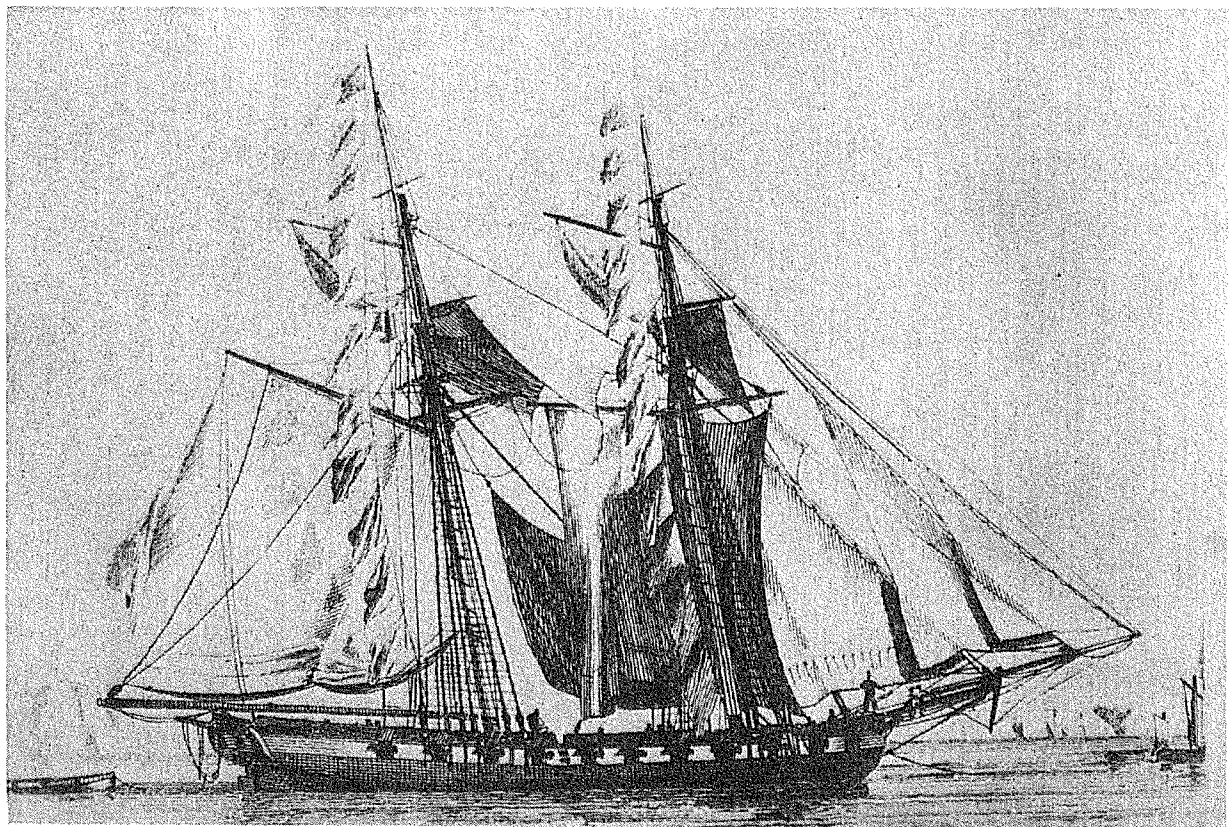
The *Argus* sails fast. is very stiff & scuds well, but in lying to she pitches remarkably heavy. —

[NDA. Officers LB, 1802–1805.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 19 September 1803

Sent the *Philadelphia* and *Vixen* to blockade Tripoli and placed both vessels under immediate orders of Captain Bainbridge.

[LC, original.]



THE U. S. SCHOONER ENTERPRIZE.





Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 19 September 1803

Laying to in Gibraltar Bay, at 2 fill'd and stood in for the anchorage/ parted company with the *Philadelphia* and the *Vixen*/ at 3 came too with the small bower/ in 20 fath<sup>s</sup> Veerd to a cable Europa point/ SbE, the North Extreme of the old Mole EbN. nearly two miles/ in this situation we was about one mile from the Rock/ and three cable lengths, with in us. ther was 10 fath<sup>s</sup> sandy bottom Captain Otway of the Royal Navy, now Commissioner at Gibraltar waited on Commodore Preble. \* \* \* on our anchoring here [Gibraltar] yesterday we found here the United States Ship *New York*, Commodore Morris who has Hauld down his Broad pendant/ the two prizes i mentioned on our first arrival belonging to the *Philadelphia* and *John Adams* still continue here/ we sent an officer and a party of men on board/ the *Philadelphias* prize, to strike Lower yards and Topmasts.

[NA. ND original.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, from William Kirkpatrick, U. S. Consul, Malaga, Spain

MALAGA 20 Sept 1803

DEAR SIR I wrote to you on the 18 Inst, by the Schooner *Nautilus*, that as Capt Somers did not find himself Authorised to remain for the Vessels then loading for the United States, He had determined to return, and I consequently requested you would have the goodness to either send him, or another back to arrive on the Thursday when I expected if the Weather kept favorable, they might be in readiness; This I now Confirm, altho' some of the Captains have come to tell me that Untill Friday or Saturday they will not be despatched by their Consignees, if you could therefore allow the Schooner to remain 48 Hours to take the whole at once, it would prove more agreeable, in the Event of her getting back on Thursday as I expect.

Yesterday at Midday Capt Bainbridge, & Smith gave us a call, they proceeded on, in the afternoon, as no Vessel offered for the Eastw<sup>d</sup>

I repeat my best Wishes for your Health, and Success in your undertakings, and in hopes of your giving us a call on your way up I remain very truly

[LC. EPP, Vol. 6, 1803.]

[20 September 1803]

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

Translation of a Letter from Sidy Mahammed Ben Abd-Salem Selawy. —

Praise be given to God alone. —

There is no Power or Strength but in the Great and Almighty God.—

To Consul Simpson the American — Health. —

We have received your Letter and we see Hashash had sent for you but that you were unwell, and that he wished to compell you. — Our Master whom God preserve orders that you shall not go to Hashash, but that you remain in your House quiet, respected and honoured as the other Consuls, for you are still respected by him, and Peace

remains as before untill the affair of these Vessels shall be determined, when things will be as they were.

Here you have what His Majesty whom God preserve writes you on your concerns — and he leaves you the same as the other Consuls: — If you should hear of one of your Vessels being detained at Mogadore — it is perhaps they have detained her because of the Tripoline Ship — she will be in perfect security untill that matter be finished and then she shall be sent to her destination — there shall not be the pairing of a Nail lost of her, therefore you have nothing to fear respecting that Vessel.

2<sup>d</sup> of Chemade (the second) 1218 — 20<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1803

MUHAMMED BEN ABD-SALEM SELAWY —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 6, 1803.]

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

GIBRALTER 20<sup>th</sup> September 1803

DEAR SIR This day arrived a boat from Tanger that left it last night — With her some of M<sup>r</sup> Simpson's Servants who have been expected some days ago. — I understand the Emperor had left Tetz [sic] and that 150 Soldiers had gone from Tanger to meet him on the road so that he must be near at hand — The Boat goes tomorrow at Midday for Tanger should you have anything to say. — As yet I have no letter from M<sup>r</sup> Simpson —

I herewith annex you copy of a letter from Mogadore [5 September] received by the Boat from Tanger. If any Vessel could be spared for that service, I think would be usefull The Cargoes they bring in general are valuable, as they chiefly consist of India Goods

[LC. EPP, LB, 1803.]

Correspondence between Hadge Alcayde Abde-Rhaman Hashash, Governor or Minister of the Emperor of Morocco, and James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco

My Answer to the foregoing Letter Dated 21<sup>st</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1803  
HADGE ABDE-RHAMAN HASHASH.

I have received Your Excell<sup>ty</sup> Letter and I have seen Sidy Mohamet Emfadal. — The American Commodore came to this Bay for purpose of treating on the affairs of his Nation with whosoever might be authorised to that effect by His Majesty Muley Soliman (whom God preserve) but when we received the news of the Governour of Mogadore having seized an American Brig at anchor in that Port, together with all her Cargo and made the Master and Seamen prisoners, he put to Sea and has not since returned. — The said Governour declared he had orders to do the same by every American Vessel might arrive at Mogadore. — I submit to Your Exc<sup>ty</sup> consideration whether these be Acts of Peace or War. —

signed JAMES SIMPSON —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 6, 1803.]

To James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco, from the Governor or Minister of the Emperor of Morocco

Hadge Abd-e-Rahman Hashash's answer to my Letter of 21<sup>st</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> [1803]

In the Name of the only God. —

HADGE ABDE-RAHMAN H[ASHASH] to J SIMPSON *American Consul*. —

This is the same as the Letter I sent you by Mohamet Emfadal who will be a Cheif Assistant in this busyness. — Your Letter we recieved by the Express in which you tell me the Governour of Mogadore had stopt an American Vessel — Whatever may be stopt at Mogadore or any of the Emperours Ports you will not lose any thing of. — I shall be answerable for the whole. — Whatever I do with any Consul the Emperour will approve of. — When the Commodore arrives he may come on shore to talk on the Public busyness, or if he chuses to come to Tetuan he will be very wellcome, as in Tetuan he also will be very safe. — We are in Peace the same as before this busyness. — Let those matters remain between us untill all be settled. — You tell me the Christians are Prisoners at Magodore — They will not be kept Prisoners, they are only stopt — If you know certainly the people are in Jail let me know and I will send a Letter to get them out. —

4 *Chemade* (2<sup>d</sup>) 22<sup>d</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1803 —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 6, 1803.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 21 September 1803

Laying at single anchor in Gibraltar Bay and cruising Between the Barbary Coast and Gibraltar winds Vble from the Westw<sup>d</sup>

\* \* \* at 3 anchored Here the united States Schooner *Enterprize*/ Lieutenant Hull/ who waited on Commodore Preble/ Lieutenant Hull came a long side of the *Constitution* but he did not come on board/ at 5 PM. we weigh<sup>d</sup> and made Sail in order to work out of Gibraltar Bay/ \* \* \* We was becalm<sup>d</sup> off] uropa point till 10 in the Evening at which time a which time a breeze sprung up from the WSW we fill'd and stood over for Ceuta/

[NA. ND original.]

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

(1) U S SHIP *Cons<sup>t</sup>* at Sea off the Coast of Barbary near  
CEUTA. — Sep<sup>r</sup> 22<sup>d</sup> 1803. —

SIR I had the honor to write you the 20<sup>th</sup> and inclose you various dispatches as p<sup>t</sup> list since which in consequence of information from Moggadore that several valuable American Vessels were expected there and that two Gallies which the Emperor of Morocco has at Tanger were about moving, I have thought proper to countermand the orders for the *Argus* and *Enterprize*, the latter Vessel is now along side taking in Provisions for a cruize off Maggadore to prevent our Vessels from entering that Port, & falling to the hands of the Moors and to watch the Moorish Crussers the *Enterprize* will have to touch at Gibraltar for a few hours for additional stores I am in great want of the *Argus* & *Siren*, at the present moment & hope they may soon arrive, the *Nautilus* has not yet returned from Mallaga the winds have been contratry which has prevented her from coming down with the convoy, I want her to watch the two Galleys and a ship loaded with Moorish property at Tanger & prevent them from escapeing, until I can learn the emperors determination, I understood that the Vessels at Malaga were all ready to sail & had been waiting some time

before I sent the *Nautilus*, of course I gave Lt Somers orders to wait at Mallaga only 24 hours, & return to Gibraltar with what vessels he could find ready by that time. I have been endeavoring to reach Tanger Bay since the 20<sup>th</sup> but find it impossible to beat through the Straits with a Westerly wind. however I am still striving and shall not anchor until I reach it. Col<sup>o</sup> Lear agrees with me that it would be imprudent for me to leave this Station for Algiers, Tunis or Tripoly at present and has written me a letter to that effect which you will find among my dispatches,

As the winter is fast approaching I conceive there will soon be very little danger from the Tripolines until the spring opens in the mean time Cap<sup>t</sup> Bainbridge will be able to keep them in check with the *Philadelphia*, and *Vixen*, I shall send another vessel up as soon she can be spared from this station, to convoy a vessel to Malta with provisions of which by the way there is no great stock at Gibraltar, I enclose you a list of all the Consul has on hand. —

Sep<sup>t</sup> 23<sup>d</sup> —

Last evening I fell in with the *Adams* from Tunis with Consul Cathcart on board, Cap<sup>t</sup> Cammel and M<sup>r</sup> C. came on board the *Constitution*, The Bey of Tunis has refused to receive M<sup>r</sup> Catchcart, and positively demands a frigate, should that demand be acceded to, it will require another Frigate on our own account to watch her motions. I suspect the demands of the Barbary Powers will increase, and will be of such a nature as to make it imprudent for our Government to comply with, all of them excepting Algiers appear to have a disposition to quarrel with us unless we tamely accede to any propositions they chuse to make, I believe a firm and decided conduct in the first instance towards those of them who make war against us would have a good effect

The Emperor of Morocco has no doubt long been meditating War with the U S. he has only been waiting for some pretext, and the Capture of the *Messuda* by Cap<sup>t</sup> Ro[d]gers I suppose he will alledge to be a sufficient one altho I think he has no cause of complaint on that score, the Christian powers will have no chance with these people until they determine never to pay tribute or supply them with military or naval stores or ships but[?] to destroy every thing they can belonging to them. — They send out their Cruisers, and if they prove successfull, it is war, and we must purchase peace, — suffering them to keep all they have taken, but if they are unfortunate and we capture their Cruizers before they have taken any thing valuable it is not war altho the orders for Capturing our vessels are found on board, and we must restore all we take from them, which enables them to commence again. I know not how long we shall be obliged to submit to this sort of treatment, the Moors are a deep designing artfull treacherous sett of Villains and nothing will keep them so quiet as a respectable naval force near them. I think Gibraltar should never be left without a frigate and two Brigs or schooners, as they can effectually prevent any cruisers from aloft passing into the Atlantic and at the same time keep the Moors in check —

The wind has the appearance of changing in favour of reaching Tanger, and I must for the present conclude, M<sup>r</sup> Cathcart will forward dispatches to the Sec<sup>ry</sup> of State by the *Adams* and inform him of his proceedings at Tunis.

I have been very much engaged since I came on the station & have only written a few lines to M<sup>r</sup> Maddison refering him to my dispatches to you for such information or documents as belong to the State department.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 6, 1803.]

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

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*  
at sea off the rock of Gibraltar —  
September 22nd 1803

SIR Adverse winds keeps me from Tanger Bay. I am endeavouring to reach it, but I find it hard striving against wind & Current. however I shall keep a good look out, and not go into Port before I visit it, I feel disposed to accomodate our differences with the Emperor on fair and honorable terms, and if he arrives at Tanger before I do, you may so inform him — I have sent three vessels off Mogadore, Sallee, and Larach, and one off Tetuan —

[LC. EPP, LB, 1803.]

To Lieutenant Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Argus*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. FRIGATE *Constitution* cruising off the Rock of  
Gibraltar 22<sup>nd</sup> Sep<sup>r</sup> 1803

SIR, I find it necessary from the information I have this day received from John Gavino Esquire Consul at Gibraltar to countermand my Orders to you of the 19 instant —

You are immediately on your Arrival in Gibraltar Bay, to prepare the *Argus* for Sea, making your requisitions on Consul Gavino at that place for what provision &c<sup>s</sup> you may want; and sail without delay, to the westward, look into Tangier Bay, pass cape Spartel, and stand to the Southward look into Larach, Sallee, and Moggadore, Cruise off the latter place three weeks unless sooner relieved by some of the Squadron under my command —

Speak with every American Vessel you may meet with, and inform them that the Emperor of Morocco's cruisers, have Orders to Capture American Vessels; and that he has detained a Brig in Moggadore, and made prisoners of the Crew, belonging to Salem —

You will send into this Bay, all the Vessels you may meet with, belonging to the Bashaw of Tripoli, the Emperor of Morocco or their Subjects and at the expiration of 3 weeks you are to return to this Bay, and wait my further Orders

\* \* \* \* \*

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

To Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Schooner *Enterprize*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution* cruising off  
the rock of Gibraltar 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1803 —

SIR, I find it necessary from the information I have this day received from John Gavino Esquire Consul at Gibraltar to countermand the Orders I gave you the 19<sup>th</sup> inst you will immediately proceed to Gibraltar, and prepare the *Enterprize* for Sea, with all possible

expedition — making your requisitions on Consul Gavino at that place for what provision &c\* you may want, and sail without delay to the westward, look into Tangier Bay, pass Cape Spartel, and stand to the southward, look into Larach, Sallee and Moggadore cruise off the latter place 15 days unless sooner relieved by some of the Squadron under my command — speak with every American vessel you meet with, and inform them that the Emperor of Morocco's cruisers have Orders to Capture American Vessels; and that he has detained a Brig in Moggadore, and made Prisoners of the crew, belonging to Salem —

You will send into Gibraltar Bay all the Vessels you may meet with, belonging to the Bashaw of Tripoli, the Emperor of Morocco or their subjects, and at the expiration of 15 days you are to return to this Bay, and wait my further Orders —

\* \* \* \* \*

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

To Lieutenant John Smith, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Schooner *Vixen*, from  
Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy

Copy

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Philadelphia*  
at sea 22<sup>nd</sup> Septem. 1803  
Alicant bearing N. N. W. 15 leag

SIR Should we unavoidably be separated, you will be pleased to proceed with all expedition to Malta, taking the Island Lapidosa in your way, to examine the harbour for Tripolitan cruisers. On your arrival at Malta, if the Frigate *Philadelphia* has not been there, you will fill your water as soon as possible to be ready for a cruise; and after waiting six days, and receiving no news of me, you will proceed on a cruise off Tripoli, where I shall join you.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 6, 1803.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 22 September 1803

Employ<sup>d</sup> working to the Westw<sup>d</sup> Between Gibraltar and the Barbary shore/ at  $\frac{1}{4}$  past 12 we had a squall from the Northw<sup>d</sup>/ at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 12 the weather cleared up/ we saw a strange sail in shore with her Topmast, carried away/ we Bore up and Boarded her/ Shee was an English manawar Brig, Lieutenant Bolton/ who sent an officer to waite on Commodore Preble/ Requesting assistance for His Majestys Brig the *Childres*/ we Took her in Tow/ about 5 or 6 leagus to the Eastw<sup>d</sup> of Europa point, and made sail over for the Barbary Shore/ we continu<sup>d</sup> Running over for the Harbour of Tetuan with fresh breezes/ till 5 P. M. at which time it fell a dead calm/ We cast her off, Lieutenant Bolton/ who is the commandin officer/ of the *Childres*/ waited on Commodore Preble/ at sundown laying becalmd between Ceuta and Tetuan nearly three leagues to the Eastw<sup>d</sup> of the land

[NA. ND original.]

Presumably to Secretary of State from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U S. F *C[onstitution]* Cruising off the  
Coast Barbary 23<sup>rd</sup> SEPT<sup>r</sup> 1803

SIR I have been very much hurried in preparing my dispatches for the Navy department — and, altho several of the papers apper-

tain more immediately to the Department of State I have not had time to make duplicates to forward by this conveyance and beg leave to refer you to the Sec<sup>y</sup> of the Navy for such papers relative to our situation with Morocco as more immediately concerns your Office. I have issued orders to all the Captains under my command to capture Moorish vessels & bring send [sic] them to Gibraltar for Examination, in consequence of the Emperors having given orders to his cruisers to capture American property and one of them having actually captured the Brig *Celia* of Boston Cap<sup>t</sup> Bowen and of his having detained the Brig *Hannah* of Salem Joseph W Williams Master, at Mogadore for the whole of which Transactions I must refer you to the documents enclosed to the Sec<sup>y</sup> of the Navy. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 6, 1803.]

To John Gavino, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar, from Anthony Terry, U. S. Vice Consul, Cadiz, Spain

(Copy)

CADIZ, 23<sup>d</sup> September 1803.

SIR, I have now to inform you with the utmost sorrow, the information given in the Consular Office by Capt. John Appleton, [of Schooner *Columbia*] arrived here yesterday evening from Oporto, and declared —

“That on the 21<sup>st</sup> inst. at 11 o’Clock, he fell in with the U. S. Frigate *\*Adams*, the Commander informed that he had spoke an English vessel, who advised him of having met a Moorish Frigate, “with four American Vessels, prizes, of which 3 were Brigs, & that “agreeable to the course he gave him, the *\*Adams* was in search of “the Moor & expected to be up with him the same evening; The “Pilot that brought Cap<sup>t</sup> Appleton in told him that he had seen “2 Galleys off Cape Trafalgar & was most certain they were Moors.”

I request you will make this as public as possible, that your trade may not suffer —

(\* meaning the *John Adams*.)

[Similar letter sent to William Jarvis, U. S. Consul, Lisbon, Portugal.]

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. 6, Jan. 1801–Dec. 1803.]

To Lieutenant John Smith, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Schooner *Vixen*, from Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Philadelphia*

At Sea latitude 38°40' N long 3°20' E

Septem. 24<sup>th</sup> 1803

SIR By our parting company we shall be more likely to intercept any Tripolitan Cruisers that may be in our rout; you will therefore make the best of your way to Malta Via Lapidosa, and attend to the Orders you received from me on the 22<sup>nd</sup> inst.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 6, 1803.]

[24 September 1803]

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

Translation. —

Praise be given to the only God. —

There is no Power or Strength but that proceeding from the Almighty and Great God. —

*To Consul Simpson — the American — Health. —*

We have received your Letter and understood what you say therein. — His Majesty whom God preserve now orders that you may cease to speak with Hadge Abd-e Rahman Hashash on these affairs and altho' he should write you Letters on any subject dont answer them. — The conclusion of these affairs will be when His Majesty shall be at Tangier. — What I encharge and recommend to you is, if it be necessary for you that your Treaties of Peace and Friendship remain as they were, with Our Master whom God preserve, that you dont allow Our Master to reach Tangier before that the Ship of Arraiz Ibrahim Lubarez be there with your two Frigates — let them keep at Sea untill Our Master arrives. — There will be nothing for your people but what is good if you do this, and if you can make them bring also the Tripoline Ship it will be a proof of disposition to fulfil the engagement you made, let them come soon, — and then His Majesty will see your word fulfilled, and you will have a testimony in aid of what you may ask, and it will altogether be a great support for you with His Majesty, whom God preserve. — If His Majesty does not find there the Arraiz with his Ship, I dont know what he may not do. — I have advised you of this of myself by way of admonition — beware of delays for this will be a great matter for you and for all those who support you and speak well of you here — dont be slack or deficient in this matter of consequence for yourself. —

Written the 6<sup>th</sup> Chemadi the second 1218 — 24<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1803.

The departure of Our Master whom God preserve will be after the day of the date hereof —

MAHAMMED BEN ABD E SALEM SELAWY

[LC. EPP, Vol. 6, 1803.]

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

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution* GIBRALTER BAY

24<sup>th</sup> Sep<sup>r</sup> 1803 —

SIR, M<sup>r</sup> Gavino will deliver you my Orders to proceed to the westward and Southward and cruise off Moggadore for the purposes therein mentioned. — While you are in this Bay victualing and watering, you will Anchor the *Nautilus* very close to the prize Ship *Messuada* to protect her, as she has a great number of prisoners on board, and it is to be apprehended they may if opportunity offers endeavor to rise upon our Men, and run the Ship on shore —

This Order I expect you will particularly attend to —

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

Extract from letter to Zilpah Wadsworth, from Midshipman Henry Wadsworth,  
U. S. Navy

[Sept] 24<sup>th</sup> 1803 Gibraltar.

[Written to Zilpah Wadsworth]

The *Adams* has arriv'd & Com<sup>rs</sup> Morris sails for America tomorrow Adieu I am just going on board the *New York*—to deliver my packet & bid adieu to M<sup>rs</sup> Morris &c — — —

HENRY WADSWORTH

[Copied by S. Picking from H. W. L. Dana Col.]



Extract from letter to Nancy Doane, from Midshipman Henry Wadsworth, U. S. Navy

. Constitution 44 Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> 1803

Gibraltar Bay

DEAR COUSIN [Written to Nancy Doane]

\* \* \* \* \*

I can't leave you without giving you the News of the Morning: The *Enterprize* was order'd to get under way & chase a ship which appear'd in the Straits. We suspected her to be the Danish Ship laden with valuable Moorish property, which we saw two days ago under the guns of Tangier: & if it does not prove to be the same, we are going to Tangier to cut her out, this very day. The Active Capt Hull was under way in 8 minutes after the Signal was made. They are now both becalm'd in the Gut about 5 miles from us & two miles apart. We have 12 Moorish Officers on board. The Capt named IBRAHIM LOUVERAIS a princely fellow invites me (after the War) to go home to Sallee with him & says he will give me four wives. —

Com<sup>r</sup> Morris told me he should sail this eve<sup>r</sup> for America. I am very agreeably situated in this ship & meet many acquaintances . . .

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. Warrington a Mid. of the *Vixen* 14 told me he saw Samuel in Richmond . . .

\* \* \* \* \*

Your cheerful Cousin

HENRY WADSWORTH

MISS NANCY DOANE.

[Copied by S. Picking from H. W. L. Dana Col.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 24 September 1803

at ½ past 12 shortened sail and Brought to with the main Topsail to the mast/ in Gibraltar Bay/ we saild from here on wednesday last/ in order to proceed over to Tanger Bay/ after Beating in the Straits for three days, we was well convinced that a passage from Gibraltar to Tanger Bay cannot Be made Except with a leading wind in consequenc of which we bore up and Run into Gibraltar Bay/ we found here the united State Frigate *New York*/ the late Commodore Morris/ the *Enterprize*/ Lieutenant Hull/ Lieutenant Chuncy of the *New York* and Lieutenant Hull of the *Enterprize*/ waited on Commodore Preble M<sup>r</sup> Cathcarth/ who was appointed Consul at Tunis/ also waited on Commodore Preble at 3 anch<sup>d</sup> here the united States Frigate *Adams* Captain Campbell/ who waited on Commodore Preble at 4 we came to of[f] the old Mole/ Gibraltar side in 18 fath<sup>s</sup> heard Bottom/ \* \* \* Joined the *Constitution* Lieutenant Dent/ Lieutenant Jenckes, was this day Removed from the *Constitution*/ to the *Adams*

[NA. ND original.]

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

AGAIN 25 Sept<sup>r</sup> 1803 —

DEAR SIR The enclosed Sheet was begun this morning when a Schooner, was in the offing at day break, brought to — but the Moors were so tardy in geting a Boat ready she bore away.

After the Emperours Freindly assurances it can scarce be supposed there would now be danger in your landing, but as I said before we cannot have full reliance on these people, and as the return of my mentioned Express must be near at hand I think it is as well excuse it untill he comes — if this answer be such as to render it perfectly safe for you to land with a Flag, or rather say send one, I will shew the blue American Jack, — which you will be pleased to direct being answered by the same Flag at either of the Top Gallant Mast heads; for after the insults our Flag has met here, I do not see it consistent to hoist it for any other purpose than I have mentioned, untill matters be accommodated, or that the Emperour desires it.

The Emperour we have every reason to believe left Fez on Friday Afternoon — if so he may be here tomorrow week — at present I think it highly proba[b]le the Minister will not go to Tetuan but come here direct to treat with us, that the busyness may be finished before His Majestys arrival, — by the Express we shall know the precise. —

I beg my best respects to Coll Lear if with you, and that you will be assured I am with great respect

[LC. EPP, Vol. 6, 1803.]

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

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*

Tangier Bay 25 September 1803

SIR I am hon<sup>d</sup> with your dispatches of this date and shall particularly attend to them. I shall have no hesitation in giving up the *Mirboka*, and releasing all the Moors in our possession upon our being assured from proper authority that the Emperor did not himself Issue the order to capture American vessels at Sea, or to detain the vessel at Mogadore but we shall expect that he will punish those who did, and release the property which he has sequestrated.

I have given orders to the Ships of my squadron to capture Moorish Vessels, but will withdraw those Orders, and restore to the Emperor everything that may fall into our hands, he doing the same by us, and consenting to ratify the treaty of 1786. I shall be off Tangier again in two or three days, and will att<sup>d</sup> to your Signal.

We ought not to consent on our part, that Hashash shall be the person with whom we are to treat; it will be more satisfactory to our Government if the Emperor should appoint some other person.

Peace, and a good understanding between the United States and His Imperial Majesty is the wish of our Government, and I sincerely hope it will soon be permanently established —

The Capture of the *Mishouda*, I presume the Emperor will allow to be just, and of course will make no demand of her without a proper compensation —

All the Moorish officers are on board the *Constitution*, and are well in Health and well treated. The Captain and Priest live with me in the Cabin —

P S: I have enclosed the certified Paper you wish Col: Lear is not on Board —

[LC. EPP, LB, 1803.]

[25 September 1803]

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

Translation. —

Praise be given to God alone. —

To Consul SIMPSON the American — Health. —

Take care — take care that you be not tardy in what I have beforehand told you of in writing, on subject of Lubarez Vessel being brought, and that Our Master whom God preserve may find her in the Port; for truly such would be for your good and for Ours. — I am with you, — take care take care that you be neither tardy nor deficient in this. —

Written 7<sup>th</sup> Chemadi the second 1218—25<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1803

MAHAMED BEN ABD-E SALEM SELAWY —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 6, 1803.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 25 September 1803

Laying at single anchor/ in Gibraltar Bay, and Running through the Straits to the Westw<sup>d</sup>/ winds Variable from NW to ENE

Leeutenant Elbortt, [Samuel Elbert] was this day orderd from the *Constitution* on board the Moorish Ship/ prize to the Frigate *Philedelphia*/ and to Take charge of her/ M<sup>r</sup> Reed/ Mate/ and M<sup>r</sup> Morris Midshipn was also orderd on board with him/ the sail in the offing/ which the *Enterprize* was orderd this morning to chace/ anch<sup>d</sup> here this afternoon/ She is an american Ship from Baltimore put in here of Convoy/ Toward the Evening we weigh<sup>d</sup> the kedg and Hove short in order to proced to sea/ at 9 a Breezes sprung up from the Eastw<sup>d</sup> Veerd to a half a cable/ Commodore Preble/ whent on board of the two prizes/ belonging to the Frigate *Philedelphia*/ and the *John Adams* the Moorish Ship/ *Missuada* [Meshouda]/ was captured by the *John Adams*/ the Moorish/ Ship/ *Mirboka*/ was captured by the *Philedelphia*/ we Recied from the *Missuda*/ five Moorish officers/ Colonel Lear/ did not come to sea with us this time/ He was left at Gibraltar/ at 5 in the morning weigh<sup>d</sup> and came to sail/ We left at Gibraltar the Frigate *John Adams* and the *Newyork* We Run from Gibraltar over for Ceuta

[NA. ND original.]

To Secretary of State from Anthony Terry, U. S. Vice Consul, Cadiz, Spain

CADIZ 26<sup>th</sup> Sep<sup>r</sup> 1803 —

SIR. I have the honour of confirming what I had the pleasure of addressing you p<sup>r</sup> Duplicate on the 4<sup>th</sup> July, 20<sup>th</sup> & 31. August & 10<sup>th</sup> instant; and at same time to advise you with the utmost regret of the Declaration given in this Consular Office by John Appleton Master of the American Schooner *Columbia* arrived in this Bay on the 22 inst<sup>r</sup> from Oporto & which is as follows — [See 23 September 1803]

In consequence of the foregoing the Masters of Vessels ready in this Bay fearing to Sail, requested I should forward a petition (Copy herewith) to Commodore Morris requesting Convoy, & which was

forwarded this very day to Gibraltar; the results I shall have the honour of acquainting you in due time.

In absence of M<sup>r</sup> J. YZWARDY  
ANTHONY TERRY

[SDA. CL, Cadiz, Vol. 1, 1793-1805.]

[Enclosure]

To Captain Richard V. Morris, U. S. Navy, from Joseph Yzwardi, U. S. Consul, Cadiz, Spain

CADIZ 26. September 1803.

We the undersigned Masters of Vessels in this Bay ready for Sea, but fearing to Sail on account of the Declaration given by Cap<sup>t</sup> John Appleton of the Amer<sup>n</sup> Schooner *Columbia* arrived on the 22 ins<sup>t</sup> from Oporto Copy inclosed — We request that you will be so good & obliging as to order one of the U. S. Frigates under your Command to come round to give us Convoy as far as you may think convenient — Relying on your protection to our just request — We have the honour to be with the most profound respect — Sir —

Your most ob<sup>t</sup> hble Serv<sup>ts</sup>

BENJAMIN MASON	Master of the American Brig <i>Concord</i> —
JOHN APPLETON	..... Schoon <sup>r</sup> <i>Columbia</i>
JAMES BUFFINGTON	..... Schooner — <i>Eliza</i>
NATH <sup>t</sup> BISSEL	..... Ship — <i>Eliza</i>
ALEXANDER WOOD	..... Brig — <i>Mary</i>
PHILIP KEAN	..... Brig — <i>Ann &amp; Mary</i>

[SDA. CL, Cadiz, Vol. 1, 1793-1805.]

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

GIBRALTAR 26<sup>th</sup> September 1803

N<sup>o</sup> 132

SIR I beg leave to Confirm my last N<sup>o</sup> 131 under date 9<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> — since then arrived Comodors Morris & Prible, with the latter Colonel Lear to all whom have made every Communication. and as said Gentlemen now fully informs you & the Hon<sup>l</sup> Secretary of the Navy of every Occurrence I think it needless to enter into Repititions, and only trouble you with an annexd Copy of a Letter from M<sup>r</sup> Ant<sup>y</sup> Terry the Vice Consul at Cadiz dated 23<sup>d</sup> Instant which is truly displeasing, and it is to be hoped Cap<sup>n</sup> Rodgers may fall in with the Vessels in question —

Consul Simpson Continues arrested in his house with Sentries over him —

[SDA. CL, Gibraltar, Vol. II, April 1796-Nov. 1804.]

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

GIBRALTAR Sept<sup>r</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> 1803

DEAR SIR, The communications which you will receive by this conveyance from Commodore Preble, are so full and complete that I can add nothing to them that is interesting excepting the enclosed copy of a letter received here yesterday after (after Com<sup>e</sup> Preble's

departure for Tangier) by M<sup>r</sup> Gavino, from the consular house at Cadiz.—the information contained in this letter is of a very disagreeable nature; but even if it sh<sup>d</sup> prove true, I think the measures which have been taken to guard the Coast of Morocco, on the Atlantic, will prevent either the prizes or cruizer from getting in. — The *New York* sails this day to relieve the *John Adams*, and will probably remain on that Station, until the arrival of the Brigs, which is anxiously & hourly expected—I presume that Com<sup>e</sup> Preble informed you of his intention to touch at Tangier Bay merely to see if M<sup>r</sup> Simpson had any thing new to communicate, and proceed from thence out of the St[r]aits, and run along the affrican coast for a few days, untill the Emperor's arrival at Tangier, which is expected on the 3<sup>d</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> when he will return to this place to see if this unpleasant business cannot be settled by negotiation. He went out yesterday morning with a fine wind from the Eastw<sup>d</sup>

I should have gone out again in the *Constitution*, as I have already been out twice in her since my arrival; but the arrival of M<sup>r</sup> Cathcart in the *Adams*, From Tunis makes it necessary for me to remain here to receive from him such communications as he has to make respecting our affairs with Tunis & Tripoli. — Our first trip to Tangier was on the 16<sup>th</sup> inst. the second day after the arrival of the *John Adams* in the Bay — The zeal of Commodore Ro[d]gers to do every thing in his power either to settle this disagreeable affair with the Emperor &<sup>e</sup> or to take the best possible measures to protect our commerce, did not allow him to hesitate a moment about going down to Tangier with his ship in company with the *Constitution*; altho he was not prepared for being out but a few days, and had had no oppertunity of writing to the Navy Dep<sup>t</sup> after his arrival here. — Indeed when we went down we had no expectation of being gone more than two days; but the information rec<sup>d</sup> there from M<sup>r</sup> Simpson (the full of which you will have with Com<sup>e</sup> Preble's dispatches) made it necessary to guard the Atlantic Ports of Morocco without a moments delay; and as Com<sup>e</sup> Preble was obliged to return here to give additional orders to the *Philad<sup>a</sup>* & *Vixen* previous to their going up the Mediterranean, Com<sup>e</sup> Ro[d]gers with a zeal & alacrity which must do him credit, determined to go into the Atlantic & cruize as long as his provisions and water lasted, of which he had not more than 12 or 15 days allowance. — Before we parted he requested I would state to you his reasons for not having written to you; which were, that he recv<sup>d</sup> his instructions to take charge of the Ships returning home, only two days previous to his arrival in this Bay — and that the short time he continued here, was occupied without the loss of a moment, in making the necessary despositions in consequence of the charge in the homeward bound ships — and in concerting measures to guard against the evils which might result from our unexpected difference with the Emperor, or terminate them by a negotiation.—And his going into the Atlantic instead of returning here immediately from Tangier, as he expected, must totally deprive him of the oppertunity of writing by the *Adams*. — The full communications from Com<sup>e</sup> Preble will inform you of every event which has taken place with respect to Morocco, and the return of the *Adams* will, undoubtedly give, full information of the operations of the other Squadron previous to their arrival here; so that Commodore Ro[d]gers will have the satisfaction of knowing that you will receive all the intelligence on these points that his letters could have

given and he feels fully persuaded that the part which he has taken in this unexpected and critical state of our affairs with Morocco, will be more approved by the President than if he should have complied with the strict letter of his instructions & returned immediately to the U. S., when it is probable that the continuance of his ships for a short time on the coast will be attended with very happy effects.— Indeed nothing but Patriotism and a deep sence of the duty which he owed to the interest of the U. States could have prevailed upon him to take the part he has in this business when the term of service and his instructions directed him homewards and under these impressions he has entered into it with his usual ardour and alacrity. —

The Zeal activity and intelligence of Com<sup>e</sup> Preble must afford satisfaction to our Government. — and I flatter myself the President will have good cause to be pleased with the conduct of this Officer who so far as I can observe, seems actuated only by a wish to render the best services to his country, and make them acceptable as well as useful. — He has undoubtedly stated his ideas of the necessity of an additional force in these seas, even if we should make peace with Morocco, for it would not be strange if Tunis should break out, upon hearing of our differences with the Emperor, and knowing that we were not expecting it, & of course, not provided against it. —

I hope on the return of the *Constitution* she will be able to proceed with me to Algiers, whither I am anxious to go; but I trust the present state of our affairs here will be a sufficient justification of my delay. — We have not heard any thing of the store ships sent to Algiers. — M<sup>r</sup> Cathcart informs that he heard from Algiers when he was at Tunis, and that all was well there as it respected the United States. — M<sup>rs</sup> Lear desires her best respects and regards may be given to your good Lady, to which I beg leave to join mine.

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

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

N<sup>o</sup> 1.

GIBRALTER, *September 13<sup>th</sup> 1803.* —  
to *September 26<sup>th</sup>* —

SIR, I had the honor of writing a few line to you on the 5<sup>th</sup> ins<sup>t</sup> which was put on board the Brig *Jack*, Capt<sup>n</sup> Hashill, from Cadiz to Cape Ann, off Cape S<sup>t</sup> Vincents. — We then flattered ourselves with being in this Bay two days afterwards; but the easterly winds and unfavourable weather baffled all calculations, so that we did not reach this place 'till the 12<sup>th</sup>

As the information which we received on our arrival here of the hostile disposition and conduct of the Emperor of Morocco towards the U. States, has opened a new & unlooked for scene of operation for the Squadron under Commodore Preble, and has caused a pretty active succession of events, I shall take the liberty of stating those things which occurred to myself, or within my knowledge, from day to day, as noted in my diary. —

On the 6<sup>th</sup> of Sept<sup>r</sup> between Cape S<sup>t</sup> Vincents & Cape S<sup>t</sup> Mary's, we fell in with a Frigate [*Maimona*] belonging to the Emperor of Morocco, mounting 30 Guns & carrying 150 men; bound, as the Com- mander said, from Sallee to Lisbon. Neither her appearance nor conduct discovered anything hostile towards us: indeed so little did she appear like a suspicious Vessel, that the Commodore would not

have thought it worth while to notice her particularly, had she not discovered a wish to speak with us; & finding she was a moorish ship, he then sent his boat along side, with an Officer to make every requisite examination and enquiry respecting her. On his return and reporting to the Commodore that her passport &<sup>r</sup> from our Consul, M<sup>r</sup> Simpson, was correct, and nothing appeared suspicious about her, the Commodore, who was anxious that we should be placed upon as much certainty as possible respecting her, requested, that, as I was acquainted with M<sup>r</sup> Simpson's handwriting & signature, I would go on board with the Officer, and examine the passport &<sup>r</sup> — This I most readily consented to, and accordingly repaired on board with the first Lieutenant and a Midshipman, when I found everything as stated in my report to the Commodore, on my return on board, a Copy of which I have the honor to enclose, (N<sup>o</sup> 1). Altho' everything appeared so clear & correct on board this Vessel, that there could be no pretext for detaining her, and the Commodore was fully satisfied that he could not do it with propriety; yet such was his anxiety & uneasiness lest there should be some deception, that might operate against the Am. Commerce, that I really believe, had she been in sight next morning, he would have ventured to detain her.

From this time 'till the 12<sup>th</sup>, we had strong easterly winds, or calms, which prevented our reaching the Straits. —

On the morning of the 12<sup>th</sup>, we entered the Straits, and stood into the Bay of Tangier, with a light breeze from the westw<sup>d</sup>, hoisting the colours and firing a signal for the Am. Consul to send or come off, if he had any communications to make, and the Commodore being very desirous of seeing him, to know, if possible, the destination of the frigate before mentioned. — Upon standing in near the Town of Tangier, we saw the Consular flags of other nations hoisted; but not that of the U. States; and no boat coming off, we then felt a pretty strong assurance that all was not right with the Emperor. Seeing no probability of a communication with the shore, we stood over to Gibraltar Bay, where we came to Anchor about 3 o'clk P. M. — Upon our arrival here the business with Morocco was explained; for we found the U. States Frigate *Philadelphia*, with her prize, a cruiser, belonging to the Emperor, called the *Mirboka*, commanded by Ibrahim Raiz Lubarez, one of his principal Captains. — Capt<sup>n</sup> Baimbridge immediately came on board the *Constitution*, and communicated to Commodore Preble the particulars of the Capture.

It appears that, on Capt<sup>n</sup> Baimbridge's arrival here from the U. States, he rec<sup>d</sup> intelligence that two Tripoline Cruizers had been seen off Cape De Gata and he immediately went in search of them. — That in looking for them, he fell in with this Moorish Ship of 22 Guns & 90 men. After examining her papers & passport from the Am. Consul, and finding them correct, he was about to let him depart; but seeing an Am. Brig, which appeared to be in company with the Cruiser, he was led to some enquires respecting her, and their answers creating suspicion, he had her examined, and found she had been captured by the Cruiser, and was then in her possession; the Am. Capt<sup>n</sup> & Crew having been put below. Capt<sup>n</sup> B. then took possession of the Cruiser & her prize and brought them in here. — The prize was delivered up to the Master to proceed on his voyage, and the Cruiser detained. — The Moorish Captain produced his Orders from

Alcady Hashash, the Governor of Tangier & that coast, to capture am. vessels and send them into the Ports of Morocco; and also to capture Sweeds, Danes, Dutch, Russians, Prussians &c — These orders, written in the Arabic language, were not signed; but the Captain affirmed and certified, that they were the same which he rec<sup>d</sup> from Hashash; under a sealed cover, with directions not to open it until he sh<sup>d</sup> be at sea; and that, when he came out, he had no idea that he was to cruize ag<sup>t</sup> the Americans. — These orders were faithfully translated into English here, and the Moorish Consul, Hammet, of this place, saw the Original, and declared it was the handwriting of Hashash, or his Secretary, as he had letters from him written in the same hand.

The Moors had been remarkably well treated since their capture, and acknowledged it with gratitude. — The Capt<sup>n</sup> of the Am. Brig which had been taken by the Moors, said he and his crew had been very well treated by them, and were only obliged to go below when any vessel appeared in sight which was suspected to be an Am. Ship of War.

A Salute was fired by the *Constitution*, and returned from the Garrison, with an equal number of Guns. —

TUESDAY SEPT<sup>r</sup> 13<sup>th</sup>

In the forenoon I went, with Commodore Preble, on board the *Philadelphia*, and from thence on shore, where we paid our respects to the Governor, Sir Thomas Trigge, who received us with great cordiality & politeness. He expressed some anxiety on the subject of our rupture with Morocco, as he said the Garrison of Gibraltar was wholly dependent upon the Moors for supplies of fresh provisions in time of war, and he was very apprehensive lest they should refuse those supplies, when they found we were permitted to bring their Vessels in here as prizes. — This, however, was conveyed in a delicate manner, and without intimating that we should meet with any obstruction contrary to our Treaty with Great Britain.

The U. States Frigate, *New York*, arrived here from a Cruize up the Mediterranean — And the Schooner *Vizen*, from Baltimore.

Dispatches were prepared by Commodore Preble to send over to M<sup>r</sup> Simpson, by a dispatch boat this evening. I wrote to M<sup>r</sup> Simpson by the same conveyance (Enclosure N<sup>o</sup> 2)

I prepared Lodgings on shore for M<sup>rs</sup> Lear & myself, and in the afternoon we took up our quarters on shore.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT<sup>r</sup> 14<sup>th</sup>

Last night the U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, and the Schooner *Nautulus* arrived from a cruize, They brought several Am. Vessels under their convoy from Malaga, Alicant &c &c — The *John Adams* also bro<sup>t</sup> in a prize; the Ship *Mishouda*, Capt Raiz Amaz [Omar], which she had captured attempting to enter the port of Tripol, under the flag of the Emperor of Morocco, altho' in her passport from M<sup>r</sup> Simpson, blockaded ports were excepted, and she had on board a quantity of naval & military stores, which she took in after she left Gibraltar, and had on board a Tripoline Captain, and a number of Tripolines more than she took from Gibraltar. (This is the same ship which had been the Tripoline Admiral, and had been so long blockaded in Gibraltar by our Vessels)



THURSDAY SEPT<sup>r</sup> 15<sup>th</sup>

Dined at the Governor's, with the Commodore and Commanders of the Am. Ships of War. The *Nautulus* sailed for Malaga, to bring down a CONVOY of 18 sail of Am. Vessels, laying there, bound down.

FRIDAY SEPT<sup>r</sup> 16<sup>th</sup>

This forenoon the dispatch boat sent to Tangier, arrived with letters from M<sup>r</sup> Simpson, which I immediately carried on board the Commodore, in which our apprehensions of a serious rupture with the Emperor, are confirmed; but still a *hope* of accommodation remains. — After perusing, and considering these dispatches, it was determined by Commodores Preble & Rodgers, that they would sail immediately with the *Constitution* & *John Adams* for Tangier Bay, to have further communications with M<sup>r</sup> Simpson, and endeavour to terminate this disagreeable business by negotiation. — They both express a strong wish and desire that I would go over to assist at this negotiation (if it should take place) to which I consented, after stating to these Gentlemen, that I had no powers vested in me to interfere in any affairs with the Emperor of Morocco; but that my wish to be useful to my Country, would lead me to give any aid I could in this business. And as this unexpected event w<sup>d</sup> make it necessary for Commodore Preble to remain on this station until something could be done to give Security to our Commerce, I wrote him a letter (Enclosure N<sup>o</sup> 3.) on the subject of my going to Algiers.

I went on shore, made my *Congé* to the Governor, and after placing M<sup>rs</sup> Lear under the kind care of Miss Gavino (Sister to our Consul) I returned on board the *Constitution* at 7 P. M. — At midnight weighed Anchor & stood out of the Bay.

SATURDAY SEPT<sup>r</sup> 17<sup>th</sup>

At day light the *John Adams* was to leeward, standing over for Tangier and we, being to windward, stood in, under easy sail, and about half past seven, both Ships came to Anchor in the Bay, about two miles from the Town; with a White flag at the F. T. G. mast head of each ship.

There were on board the *Constitution* the Capt<sup>n</sup> & six officers of the *Mirboka*, and on board the *John Adams*, the Moorish & Tripoline Captains of the *Mushouda*.

Soon after the Ships came to Anchor, a boat came from the Town rowed by 4 Spaniards, who brought an open slip of paper from M<sup>r</sup> Simpson, saying, the boat was permitted to come off to bring on shore any letters the Flag of Truce might have to send.

Commodore Rodgers came on board the *Constitution*, where a joint letter was written by him & Commodore Preble to M<sup>r</sup> Simpson, stating that they had come here to see if the differences could be settled by a negotiation. — That the Captains &<sup>s</sup> of the two prizes were on board, and the papers so certified and established as to place everything in its true light — requesting that a proper person might be sent off to examine the Officers &<sup>s</sup> engaging him security, — and urging the necessity of a personal interview with M<sup>r</sup> Simpson himself, if possible. —

I also wrote a few lines to M<sup>r</sup> Simpson, expressive of my feelings for his situation, and of my desire to be useful; but telling him I was not instructed by Gov<sup>t</sup> to do anything in the affairs of Morocco, and therefore could not act officially in them. —

About 4 o'clk P. M. another boat, rowed by Spaniards (not the same which had been off before) came on board from the Town. and brought

answers from M<sup>r</sup> Simpson, stating that he could not come off, as he had guards set over him in his own house; and as the Gov<sup>r</sup> of Tangier was then at Tituan, the Officer commanding at Tangier, would not, or could not, permit him to go off. He had sent an Express to the Emperor immediately on receiving the Commodores' letter, expected an answer from him on Monday, and that the Emperor was expected at Tangier on Friday next. — Desired that the *Constitution* might be off Tangier on Monday or Tuesday, when he expected the Emperor's Answer, and would endeavour himself to come off to the Ship. He recommended not to send any boat on shore from the Ship. — The foregoing is the purport of the letter which was subject to the examination of those having power over him; but he slip'd under the same cover, another letter, stating that we must look to a higher source than Hashash, for the orders given to the Moorish Cruizers — That an Am. Brig, the *Hannah* of Salem, Jos<sup>h</sup> W. Williams master, which was in the Port of Mogodore, on a trading Voyage, had been seized on the night of the 4<sup>th</sup> instant, the Cargo taken from the Consignee's, and lodged in the Custom House, and the Capt<sup>n</sup> & Crew delivered to the Consignee upon his responsibility for their appearance. M<sup>r</sup> S. still hoped matters might be accommodated; but those hopes were faint. —

In his letter to me (Inclosure N<sup>o</sup> 4) he says he will open to me, when we meet, a scene of deep deceit — which will astonish me. —

After perusing these letters, and writing a short answer to M<sup>r</sup> S. informing him that the *John Adams* w<sup>d</sup> go on a Cruize, and the *Constitution* return to Gibraltar, to be back again to Tangier on Monday or Tuesday; it was determin'd that the *John Adams* should proceed along the Western Coast of Morocco, as far down as Mogodore, to intercept cruizers and warn any Am. Vessels she might meet with, of their danger; and that the *Constitution* should proceed to Gibraltar, for Commodore Preble to give some additional Orders to Capt<sup>n</sup> Bambridge, in consequence of the late information obtained at Tangier, previous to his going up the Mediterranean.

Commodore Rodgers left the *Constitution* about sunset, and at 8 o'clk, both Ships got under way, for their respective destinations, with a light air.

Commodore Preble offer'd permission to any of the Moorish Officers on board his ship to go on shore & relate the circumstances of their Capture & treatment; but they all declined; saying they did not dare go while their men remained prisoners. — They all appeared very sad, when the[y] found there was no probability of an accommodation at present.

After dark large fires were made on all the Mountains along the coast, to give the alarm, and prevent a landing being effected from the Ships, as the Moors on board said. —

The Fort above the Town, and the Batteries in front, appear formidable; but it is said they are in a bad condition as to their guns, and not furnished with Engineers or Gunners. — There was in the Bay a Ship with Danish Colours, said, by the Boats which came off, to be a prize to a French privateer which lay along side of her, recaptured from the English, who had taken her going into a French Port. — All the Moorish Gallies & boats were hauled close in shore, under the Guns of the Battery. — The Flags of the English, French, Spanish,

Danish, Sweedish & Portuguese Consuls were kept up during our continuance in the Bay.

SUNDAY SEPT<sup>r</sup> 18<sup>th</sup>

Having had little or no wind all night, we were not far from Tangier Bay in the morning; but having got into the Current we went fast to the Eastward. — The *John Adams* was at a distance standing out of the Straits.

A breeze springing up we got into Gibraltar Bay about 11 o'clk, where we met the Ship *Philadelphia* & Schooner *Vixen* standing out, bound up the Mediterranean. Upon signal from the Commodore, Capt<sup>s</sup> Banbridge & Lt Comd<sup>t</sup> Smith came on board the *Constitution*, where they rec<sup>d</sup> orders from the Commodore. The Ship *Port Mary*, Capt<sup>s</sup> John Collins, of Charleston S. C. from Hull, bound to Messina, was under their convoy. — At 2 P. M. we came to Anchor in the Bay, just above the New Mole. In the afternoon I went on Shore. —

MONDAY SEPT<sup>r</sup> 19<sup>th</sup>

The Commodore having determined to go down to Tangier this evening, or in the morning, to meet M<sup>r</sup> Simpson's further Communications, as he had desired; he requested me to go with him; and in the Evening, I accordingly accompanied him on board; but the wind being too light to get under way, we waited until morning. —

The Commodore brought from Gibraltar, a Jew Interpreter of the name of Manna, who speaks the Moorish & English languages well, to facilitate any communications we may have with the Moors. —

In the evening the Commodore & myself had a long conversation with the Moors on board; particularly with Ibrahim Rais Lubarez, who appears to be a sensible, considerate and well informed man. — He is personally well known at Gibraltar, has been two years Ambassador from the Emperor to Madrid, and is a person of consideration at home.

We endeavoured to impress them with the injustice, as well as the impolicy of the Emperor's making war upon us, particularly in the insidious manner in which it has now been done, where the passport of the Consul was obtained, which sh<sup>d</sup> be held sacred, and never violated — That, altho' we wished for peace, yet, if forced into a war, we should be found formidable & terrible to the Moors, as they might well know, from what they have seen of our force — That the kind treatment which they had rec<sup>d</sup> was not the effect of fear; but proceeded from principles of humanity and manliness which the Americans always exercised towards their enemies when they had them in their power — That the Emperor w<sup>d</sup> be much more benefitted by our Commerce, than he could by a war with us — That our Commerce extended to all nations, which would enable us to carry to the Moors every thing they could want; besides what was produced in our own Country; and that we should take from them such things as they had to dispose of, which w<sup>d</sup> be very profitable to the Merchants, as well as productive to the Revenue of the Emperor — That our Shipping was very numerous & powerful — That we w<sup>d</sup> strive all in our power to keep peace with them upon proper & honorable terms; but if we were obliged to go to war, we should not only destroy all their Vessels, which w<sup>d</sup> not require much of our force to do; but we should send ships and batter down every Sea Port Town in the Empire

These observations appeared to make a deep impression upon them, and brought tears into their eyes. — They acknowledged it was all just and true, and Capt<sup>n</sup> Lubarez observed, that the present Emperor was one of the best Princes they ever had, that he was just and considerate; but that he was surrounded by bad advisers, particularly by Hashash, who had given Orders for capturing Am. Vessels. — He also declared, that if ever he got to his own country again, he would see the Emperor, face to face, (to whom he was personally known) and would tell him those solid truths, let the consequences to himself be what they might. That he was fully persuaded the Emperor only wanted to be justly informed of the disposition of the Americans to agree to every thing that was right; — and that the kind and generous treatment they had experienced since their capture, would make a lasting impression on their minds, and they would, on their return home, endeavour to inculcate the same feelings on their Countrymen. —

We told him the conduct of Hashash had been so outrageous & wicked towards us, as well as unjust towards the Emperor, that we would never treat with him; nor with the Emperor, unless he inflicted condeign punishment upon him, if he had acted without his orders. — They acknowledged this would be right. —

The Commodore proposed to send four of the Moors on board the *New York*, until his return from Tangier, as the captain and two others were as many as was necessary to carry over, and such a number in his Cabin & at his Table, were inconvenient to him. — They received this with submission; but when the four had collected their things, and were preparing to depart, they were found in Tears, at the idea of leaving the Ship, and the Commodore humanely permitted them to remain on board. —

#### TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 20<sup>th</sup>

The light airs of wind and calms, did not permit us to get under way 'till about dark, when we weighed with a light breeze from the S. W. to beat out of the Bay. —

In the Afternoon the Schooner *Enterprize*, arrived from a cruize, when the Commodore ordered Lieu<sup>t</sup> Comd<sup>t</sup> Hull, to follow him tomorrow to Tangier —

#### WEDNESDAY SEPT 21<sup>st</sup>

In the morning we found the current had set us above the Rock of Gibraltar, the wind having been light & variable through the night. — Stretched over under the African Shore. — About 11 Oclk A. M. off Cuta, a sudden squall came on, which struck an English Brig near us, standing up the Mediterranean, with all her sails set, and carried away both her Topmasts. — The Commodore immediately hauled up for her to give her assistance. She sent her boat on board, with an Officer, who informed that she was His B. M. Brig the *Childers*, commanded by Sir George Bolton, from Eng<sup>d</sup> with dispatches for Lord Nelson. She had touched at Gibraltar, to leave letters for the Governor, and came out this morning. — The Commodore offered every assistance in his power, and as the Officer said Sir George wished to go into Tituan, where there was an English Frigate which would take his dispatches up immediately, the Commodore sent his boat on board with a hauser to take him in tow, & carry him into Tituan, which was then in sight. The wind freshening, we towed her at the rate of ten knots per hour: but soon after falling calm, Sir G. B. came

on board, and after expressing his warm acknowledgements for the assistance he had met with, said, as the weather would now permit him to get up other Topmasts and make sail, he would do it in preference to going into Tituan, and proceed on his way. The Commodore offered him spars, rigging or anything he might want; but he said he had everything on board he stood in need of. — About sun-set we left him, with one Topmast on end, and the other going up, and stood with a light wind from the Westward, over to the Spanish Shore.

THURSDAY SEPT<sup>r</sup> 22<sup>nd</sup>

The wind still continuing to blow from the Westward, and the current setting strong to the East, we could make no progress through the Straits. — In the forenoon the U. S. Schooner *Enterprize* came out of Gibraltar Bay and stood for us. — Capt<sup>n</sup> Hull came on board the *Constitution*, when the Commodore gave him Orders for his immediate Government, and she returned to Gibraltar to take in water &<sup>c</sup> for a cruise of a few weeks off Larache, Sallee & Mogodore.

In the afternoon saw a Ship coming from the Eastward, which proved to be the U. S. Frigate *Adams*, Capt<sup>n</sup> Campbell, from Tunis, which place he left on the 9<sup>th</sup> instant. — In the evening the two Ships having stretched in back of the Rock of Gibraltar, Capt<sup>n</sup> Campbell came on board with M<sup>r</sup> Cathcart, whom he had taken from Leghorn to Tunis, by order of Commodore Morris: But M<sup>r</sup> Cathcart not having been received by the Bey of Tunis, as Consul from the U. States, he was proceeding to Gibraltar in the *Adams*.

I delivered to M<sup>r</sup> Cathcart a letter I had for him from the Sec<sup>y</sup> of State; and Commodore Preble also delivered to him some dispatches with which he was charged. — M<sup>r</sup> Cathcart del<sup>g</sup> to Commodore Preble, for his and my perusal, a copy of his proceedings at Tunis, which he had prepared for the Sec<sup>y</sup> of State; which states his arrival & reception — the Bey's reason for not receiving him as Consul, and his dispute w<sup>th</sup> D<sup>r</sup> Davis, left at Tunis by Commodore Morris, in charge of our Affairs. —

M<sup>r</sup> Cathcart informed me that he had laid out about eleven thousand doll<sup>s</sup> of the money he had rec<sup>d</sup> for the Consular presents at Algiers, in watches, Jewelry &<sup>c</sup> — which were at Leghorn, where was also the balance of said cash, ready to be vested in other Articles for the present; — and that he had there also a large sum (I understood him 24,000 dollars) which he had obtained on his own credits, for the U. States, to negotiate affairs with Tunis, and which he should account for to me. — He had left M<sup>r</sup> Cathcart at Leghorn, which would oblige him to return thither, as well to bring her away, as to take up, and deliver to me the Present & Cash deposited there. —

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 23<sup>d</sup>

We were this morning near the Rock of Gibraltar, with a light wind, which soon left us, and we lay becalmed 'till near 12 o'clk, when a breeze sprung up, and the Commodore stood into Gibraltar Bay, to put his dispatches on board the *Adams*

The foregoing detail of events, as they took place, will fully inform you of my proceedings since our arrival at Gibraltar; and also give a general idea of the operations which have taken place with respect to Morocco. — Commodore Preble writes so fully to the Secretary of the Navy on this subject, and everything else which relates to the Navy Department, that it would be totally unnecessary, even if it were

proper, for me to add anything thereto. His communications will undoubtedly be made known to you, that you will be enabled to see more fully the particulars of this business.

Permit me to add, that the Zeal of Commodore Preble to promote the interest of our Country, can be equalled only by his activity and diligence to carry into effect such measures as appear best calculated to restore a good understanding; or, in the event of a decided rupture, to best protect our Commerce and injure our Enemy. — I flatter myself the President will find in this Officer prudence & good judgement, joined with firmness, activity and a real wish to promote, all in his power, the best interests of the U. States.

At any rate it may be highly proper to have some force on this Station, even if we should terminate this affair amicably, as the late deceitful conduct of these people proves that they are not to be trusted to the obligation of Treaties. — The addition of one Ship and two Brigs or Schooners, would be the least that could Keep a watchful eye over the Coasts of Morocco on the Atlantic & Mediterranean; but on this subject I must submit to the opinion of more competent Judges.

I presume that M<sup>r</sup> Cathcart will send by this Opportunity, his dispatches relative to the Business at Tunis. — He will remain here until an opportunity offers of his going to Leghorn in one of the U. States Vessels, so that I shall have full opportunity of communicating with him on the subject of our affairs at Tunis & Tripoli.

I have not heard a word from Algiers since my arrival here; it is not known whether the Store Ships have arrived there or not; They have not touched here; and the communication between this place & Algiers is not very frequent, particularly at this moment, when the Dey has sent off the English Consul, on account of some personal difference with him. — He is now at Gibraltar, and having had several opportunities of being in Company with him, I understand he expects to return to his Post again, as he says he has received an order from his Court to repair to Lord Nelson, now before Toulon, who will receive orders to take him to Algiers and oblige the Dey to receive him. Whether this will take place or not is, I confess, uncertain to me. — M<sup>r</sup> Cathcart says he heard from Algiers while he was at Tunis, and that all was well there with respect to the U. States; but he could not tell if the Store Ships had arrived. —

SUNDAY SEPT<sup>r</sup> 25<sup>th</sup>

This morning the *Constitution* went out with a fine wind from the East, for Tangier, to touch there for intelligence from M<sup>r</sup> Simpson, and then proceed to the Atlantic, and run down the Coast as far as Mogodore, and return again into the Straits in 7 or 8 days, when the Emperor is expected at Tangier. The *Enterprise* will keep a look out along shore for the gallies to prevent their taking any Am. Vessels in the Straits. —

The enclosed copy of a letter from the Consular office in Cadiz to M<sup>r</sup> Gavino (N<sup>o</sup> 5) rec<sup>d</sup> this day, brings unpleasant intelligence — But I have strong hopes, that if the Vessels there mentioned have been captured, they will be retaken before they reach their ports of destination, and that the Frigate also (which is undoubtedly the *Maimona*) will be taken; for besides the *John Adams*, there will be the *Constitution* out this day — and tomorrow the *New York* takes the same course.

SEPT 26<sup>th</sup>

I must now close my long, and I fear tedious, narrative, as Commodore Morris informs me he shall get under way in an hour. — I hope the President will approve of the step I have taken to remain here until something can be determined, with certainty as to this business with the Emperor, rather than to take one of our Vessels from the coast at this moment. — Whether this affair be speedily & amicably concluded with the Emperor will depend upon his success or our's. — No doubt remains on my mind, of the Orders for capturing Am. Vessels having proceeded from him; and if his Cruizers sh<sup>d</sup> be successful, he will avow it; if otherwise he may deny it, and readily place things upon the footing they were before. But another evil may spring from this. — It is not unlikely but Tunis, hearing of our differences with Morocco, may break out upon us, either with or without a pretext. — When the *Adams* left that place, there was nothing indicating this disposition; but we know that these people only wait a favourable opportunity of making heavy captures without regard to treaties or promises.

The return of the Frigates *New York* & *John Adams* will afford another Opportunity of writing in a short time, when I pray we may have something more pleasing to communicate

Accept the Assurance of high respect and Sincere attachment, with which

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your obliged & Obnt Serv<sup>t</sup>

TOBIAS LEAR.

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. 6, Jan. 1801–Dec. 1803.]

To Secretary of State from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco  
N<sup>o</sup> 64. — Triplicate. — TANGIER 26<sup>th</sup> Septem<sup>r</sup> 1803. —  
SIR

\* \* \* \* \*

It was very fortunate Captain Bainbridge met his Cruizer with the captured Vessel in actual possession, as that put the question of their intention out of all doubt. — Be that as it may the Emperor is now most undoubtedly much disposed for Peace, as I foresaw that I recommended to Commodore Preble to meet him on that ground, which he has readily assented to inasmuch as it can be done on honourable terms. — That Gentleman came to this Bay on the 17<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> for purpose of entering upon a Negotiation, but as there was not any person here sufficiently authorised to that effect by the Emperor he returned same Evening to Gibraltar. — The day following I sent a Messenger to the Minister to notify our having closed with the wishes expressed in His Majestys Letter of the 9<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> whose return I expect tomorrow. — Commodore Preble called in this Bay yesterday and is now run to Leeward of Cape Spartel as the Wind blows hard at East. —

I trust my next will hand you intelligence of matters being at least far advanced toward a re-establishment of Peace with this Country, in the mean time entreat you will excuse my writing in such haste, but not to lose so favourable an opportunity of conveying my Letter speedily to Lisbon is the motive of it. —

[NA. SDA. CL, Tangier, Vol. 2, 1803–1810.]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from Captain Richard V. Morris,  
U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Adams*  
*Gibraltar Bay 26<sup>th</sup> Sept: 1803*

SIR, M<sup>r</sup> Henley has just presented your letter of yesterday expressing a desire of M<sup>r</sup> Henley's procuring my permission to join the Frigate *Constitution* with an enclosed Letter from Commander Preble consenting to receive him under his command, provided he could gain my consent to leave the *Adams*; I think it will be of advantage to M<sup>r</sup> Henley to be in active service, and he has my leave to remain in the Mediterranean —

[Stephen Decatur Col.]

To William Jonas Keen from Lieutenant Richard Somers, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SCHOONER *Nautilus*  
*Gibraltar Bay Sept 26<sup>th</sup> 1803*

DEAR BROTHER I have just arrived from Malaga, to which place I went for to convoy all American vessels that were ready to come to the Westw'd, having only one, & with her a tedious time. Head wind, calm, & a current setting two nots per hour. On the seventh day out was five leagues to the Eastw'd of Malaga — & in twelve hours tow'd him into the rocks— the *Phoenix* of Phila — Capt. Parterson.

I have just receiv'd orders, soon as provision'd and water'd, to take a transon[?] station for this occasion of the year to cruise off Magadore on the Western coast of Barbaria against the Emperor Morrocco. He has commened hostilities, & taken four of our American vessels — he has got one thirty gun ship. What small vessels, I do not know. I hope I shall have the pleasure when I write you again to inform you of bringing some of his vessels in to port. I should be much pleased with the station if summer time for drawing the strong gales from the Westw'd begin to set in. I have but little time to write. Commodore Morris sails for American in the *Adams*. Commodore Preble is on a cruise. Commodore Ro[d]gers likewise is on a cruise. Commodore Bainbridge is on a cruise of[f] Tripoli. The rest I cant say when not knowing. Capt Bainbridge has a separate command having the Schooner *Vixen* Capt. Smith, under him; so must be stiled at present. We have no less than three Broad pendants flying in the Straits — Morris, Ro[d]gers Preble. Capt Rogers was to [have] been the Command until Preble arrived of Commodore Morris' Squadron, but the Emperor of Morrocco committing depredations on our commerce is the cause of the Capt. Rogers, for so I must stile him, never assuming the command what few hours I was under him in the presence of Commodore Preble, though an older officer remaining out here. I am now going on shore and will bid you adieu. I [space] regret the time I have lost in convoying this ship down. Give my best respects to all friends. I expect'd to have receiv'd a line from you by Capt. Benbridge of the *Philadelphia*

Mr W<sup>m</sup> JONAS KEEN

*Merchant Phila North Water St No 38*

[From a copy in pencil received from the Earle Hepburn Col.]



Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 26 September 1803

Stanging [sic] off [f] and on in Tanger Bay/ We saw flying at Tangier/ seven different National flags/ the Americans/ was not Hoisted/ at 1 PM a dispatch Boat come along side with dispatches for Commodore Preble/ from Tangier/ the Boat continued a long side till three P M/ at which time the Boat was orde<sup>d</sup> away/ we then Bore up and Run along the Coast to the westw<sup>d</sup>/ at 5 P M we came by Cape Spartel nearly one mile from the shore/ in Hauling Round the SW side of Cape Spartel we saw two/ Ketches at anchor in a small Bay/ we saw Breakers/ from the North Extreme of the Cape/ nearly two cable length from the shore/ and white water some distance from the shore/ We hauld in Towards the two sail at anchor/ and sent an armd Boat to Examine them/ they were two Spanish Vessels Employ<sup>d</sup> in the Coasting Business Between Cadiz and Malaga we then bore up to the southw<sup>d</sup> and Boarded the Spanish Brig *Rosetta*/ Emp<sup>d</sup> in the same Business

[NA. ND original.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Lieutenant Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy  
U. S. BRIG *Argus* at sea — off RHODE ISLAND light.

Sept<sup>r</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> 1803

SIR, I have the honor to inform you that the repairs of the *Argus* was yesterday compleated, & have also to inform you we found the old bowsprit very defective; there were four large knots in the wake of the spring that extended nearly to the heart of the stick, & two of those knots we found rotten, this spar was made before I joined the *Argus* & was objected to by Comm<sup>o</sup> Prebble who afterwards concluded it might do. —

[NDA. Officers LB, 1802-1805.]

[27 September 1803]

Receipt for articles received from James L. Cathcart, appointed U. S. Consul, Tunis, by Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

(Copy)

Received from James L. Cathcart Esq. three public Seals, viz<sup>t</sup> two appertaining to the U. S. Consulate of Tripoli and one to the U. States Consulate of Algiers; also forty five Tops of Mediterranean passports, and a number of blank consular passports, and blank consular Bills of Health — and blank consular Certificates of Prizes, all appertaining to the U. States Consular Office of Tripoli. —

GIBRALTAR Sep<sup>r</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> 1803

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

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 27 September 1803

Sailing by chart/ Between Cape Spartel and the Rocks near Cape Trafalgar/ Winds Vble Between NE and ESE

[NA. ND original.]

To James Leander Cathcart, appointed U. S. Consul, Tunis, from Nicholas C. Nissen, Danish Consul, Tripoli

TRIPOLI Sept<sup>r</sup> 28<sup>th</sup> 1803.

SIR, Yesterday arrived here from Malta a fine brig of 16 Guns & another vessel under the command of Cap<sup>n</sup> Agostino loaded with timber for Ship building and Stores of that kind navigating under the *British flag* the brig is the property of the Bashaw of Tripoli and is intended for a Cruiser, the[y] were both sent from Malta by the Bashaw of Tripoli's Agent there. —

Pray Sir is Great Britain at War with the U States of America, that their flag is permitted to protect the Cruisers & maratime & military stores belonging to the enemies of the United States of America? if this is permitted we may soon expect to see the Cruisers of Tripoli, capture American vessels under english Colors & conduct them to Malta for sale. —

Make what ever use you please of this intelligence but do not implicate me nor say you receiv'd it from any person at Tripoli, it is a fact as well known at Malta as here. —

SIGN'D. N. NISSEN. —

JAMES LEA<sup>r</sup> CATHCART Esq<sup>r</sup> Leghorn. —

[Stephen Decatur Col. and LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

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

Copy —

TANGIER 28<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1803. —

SIR I have had the honour of receiving both your Letters of the 2<sup>d</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> this Moon, — translation of the first and of the papers it accompanied have been sent the American Commodore, but as he continues at Sea because of bad weather I have not yet received his answer to the particular points they treat upon. —

I will now only say respecting the *Meshouda*, that she was represented to all the Consuls here as a Ship belonging to His Imperial Majesty at the time the Passports were applied for, as you will see by the paper I send you with this.

I also enclose a copy of the Orders Arraiz Lubarez had for taking not only American Vessels but also the property of Americans on board of Neutral Vessels. —

Notwithstanding all this as a proof of the sincere desire of the American Nation to maintain Peace and Friendship with His Imperial Majesty, I am happy to tell you that the Commodore is highly disposed to gratify His Majesty in the accommodation of the differences has arisen between the Nations, and that the Restitution of the Ship *Mirboha* with all the Moors in his possession will not be a barr there-to, — when His Majesty shall be pleased to restore the American property detained at Mogadore or elsewhere and Ratify the Treaty made between the United States and his Father of Glorious Memory, that perfect Freindship may again subsist between us. — As we cannot believe His Majesty authorised the breach of Peace we have experienced, it is but Justice to both Nations that whoever has been the cause of the present differences be exemplarily punished to deter others from doing the like at any future day. —

I am happy to say the Captains and Seamen of the *Mirboha* and *Meshouda* all continue to enjoy good health.

L S

SIDY MAHAMMED BEN ABD-E SALEM SELAWY —

*Secretary of State of His Imperial Majesty*

&<sup>ra</sup> &<sup>ra</sup> &<sup>ra</sup>

[LC. EPP, Vol. 6, 1803.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 28 September 1803

Cruising Round Cape Spartel/ and Laying too Seven or Eight Leagues to the Westw<sup>d</sup> of the same Cape/ winds Variable from ESE to SW

\* \* \* at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 11 spoke with two american/ the Ship *Trent* and the Brig *Hanah* [*Rajah*?] from Salem bound to Gibraltar and Malaga/ they Req<sup>d</sup> that Commodore Preble would convoy them through the Straits/ the Commodore answered them in the affirmative/

[NA. ND original.]

To Degen, Purviance & Co., Leghorn, from James Leander Cathcart, appointed U. S. Consul, Tunis

GIBRALTAR Sept<sup>r</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> 1803.

GENTLEMEN. I arrived here on the 23<sup>th</sup> ins<sup>t</sup> & found the *Constitution* Comodore Prebble, & Col<sup>l</sup> Lear who is appointed Consul gen<sup>l</sup> for Algiers, he proceeds to that place as soon as circumstances will permit, & I am awaiting the arm'd brig *Argus* to proceed to Leghorn in order to ship on board of said brig the jewels & cash which I am in possession of, or responsible for. — I therefore take this opportunity to inform you that the cash belonging to the United States in your possession will be demanded on her arrival & in order to prevent inconvenience to you in procuring it, I have judged it expedient to give you this timely notice.

According to my prediction the Emperor of Morocco has declared War against us, & captured a brig which was recaptured by Cap<sup>tn</sup> Bainbridge with the Cruiser which took her mounting 20 Guns & 180 men she is now here, Comodore Prebble on his passage out fell in with the Emperor of Morocco's Admirals Ship, but she having M<sup>r</sup> Simpsons passport he immediately let her go, since which she has taken \*four Sail of Americans & Cap<sup>tn</sup> Rodgers is in quest of her & the Prizes in the western Ocean it is supposed they were bound to Lisbon I hope he may fall in with them. —

\*This report was forwarded officially from M<sup>r</sup> Anthony Terry American Vice Consul at Cadiz to M<sup>r</sup> Gavino at Gibraltar but was afterwards contradicted.

[NA. SDA. CL, Tripoli, Vol. 2, 1801-1805.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 29 September 1803

\* \* \* at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 12 we bore up for Cape Spartel/ with the Ship *Trent*/ Captain Nath Kimble and the Brig *Rajah*/ Emneul Ward/ Master/ under Convoy/ from noon till  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 3 P M we had frequent squalls and showers of Rain/ at 4 we parted company with the Convoy and Hauld on a wind into Tangier Bay/ at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 4 we Tack<sup>d</sup> nearly in the center of the Bay/ and filld to the WNW/ we sounded in stays 33

fath<sup>a</sup> we saw at anch in Tangier Bay/ one arm<sup>d</sup> Brig and Schooner/ they Hoisted french colours/ one clump ship/ deanish colours/ at 5 we saw a strange sail to the westw<sup>d</sup> of Cape Spartel/ out two Reef from the Topsails and stood Towards her/ at 6 Joined company the united States Frigate *John Adams*/ Commodore Roggers who we parted company with ten days ago/ the *John Adams*/ has been cruizing to the Westw<sup>d</sup> of Cape Spartel this nine or ten days/ for the Moorish Admiral/ which was Boarded by the *Constitution* on the 7 September last at 7 in the Evening we stood into Tangier Bay/ in company with the *John Adams* and made the necessary arrangements for anchoring

[NA. ND original.]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. F *Constitution* GIBRALTAR BAY

Sep<sup>r</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> 1803 —

DEAR SIR After a short and most uncomfortable cruise I am again at Anchor in this Bay, a slight indisposition deprives of the honor of personally paying my respects at Gibraltar to day, I hope tomorrow better weather & better health will enable me to see you on shore,

I have had correspondence with M<sup>r</sup> Simpson shall make you fully acquainted with the present state of affairs with our Morocco friends as soon as I see you, present me respectfully to your Lady & to M<sup>r</sup> & Miss Gavino.

[Stephen Decatur Col.]

[30 September 1803]

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

Translation. —

Praise be given to God alone. —

There is no Power or Strength but in the Almighty and Great God. —

To Consul SIMPSON the American — Health. —

We have received your Letter with a copy of His Majestys Order was on board the Tripoline Ship and copy of a Letter from Ashash to Lubarez, and we have understood the whole. — His Majesty whom God preserve will be at Tangier, and he will only do all that is good with your Nation. —

The Vessel detained at Mogadore is in all security, you have nothing to fear and you may be perfectly easy respecting her. — What I have to encharge you is what I have written you before, which is that you make all haste to have the Vessel at Tangier readily, for if His Majesty finds you delay he will suppose you are inclined for War and then he may do something but if he meets the Vessel he will be certain you desire to remain in Peace.

He who has been the cause of all this you will see his punishment, and you will hear how His Majesty in his great Wisdom will act with him. —

Make haste that the Vessel come in order you may secure the good will of and give satisfaction to His Majesty. —

Written the 12<sup>th</sup> Chemadi the second (30<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1803)

MAHAMED BEN ABD-E SALEM SELAWY —

To Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Schooner *Enterprize*, from  
Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U S. SHIP *Constitution*, at Anchor in GIBRALTER BAY  
30<sup>th</sup> September 1803

SIR, I have just received information by a Vessel from Salem that several Vessels were to sail about a Month since from that place for Moggadore of course it will be necessary for you to keep a good look out in sight of the land off that port, and to continue on that Station the 15 days mentioned in your Orders, Notwithstanding the Arrival of the *Nautilus* —

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

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 30 September 1803

Cruising Between the Rock of Cape Trafalgar and Cape Spartel/  
Running through the Straits of Gibraltar and laying with two anchors  
a head in gibraltar Bay

[NA. ND original.]

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

U S. SHIP *Constitution*  
*Gibraltar Bay Oct<sup>r</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> 1803* —

SIR I had the honor to enclose you by the U S Ship *Adams Cap<sup>t</sup>* Morris, two letters — a monthly Muster Book, and 34 other dispatches relative to the Squadron and our affairs with Morocco, and also a letter to the Sec<sup>ry</sup> of State. I now enclose you a copy of the arrangement of dispatches, together with Copies of sundry letters that have passed between the Emperor of Morocco, his Ministers, M<sup>t</sup> Simpson & myself, since that period after a perusal of these papers you will be convinced that the Ship [*Meshouda*] Captured by Cap<sup>t</sup> Rodgers was a Tripoline and ought not to be given up, and that the Emperor is very desirous of Peace as his cruizers have been unsuccessful, I have no doubt but he would have discovered a different disposition if they had been otherwise our squadron arriving so opportunely has disconcerted their plans & prevented a great mischief to our commerce,

I arrived here last night from a cruise along their coast was in Tanger Bay three times in the course of a week, they find themselves so closely watched that it will be for their interest to have peace, which I have no doubt will be established in a very few days. but to prevent any of our vessels falling into their hands which would render it more difficult to make terms with them, I have sent the *Enterprize* & *Nautilus* off [f] Moggadore, where several of our merch<sup>t</sup> vessels are momentarily expected to arrive & the *Siren* which arrived this day will sail for the Western coast in 48 hours, several vessels are here waiting for Convoy for Leghorn & other Ports aloft, the moment the *Argus* arrives she shall sail with them but it would not be prudent for me to send a vessel up until then, The Emperor with his Court are expected at Tanger next Tuesday, I shall endeavour to be there & shall cooperate with M<sup>t</sup> Simpson in all such measures as are necessary & proper to the reestablishment of peace, the Cruiser [*Mirboka*] taken by Cap<sup>t</sup> Bainbridge is such a miserable piece of naval architecture that

I do not believe we have an Officer in our service that would be willing to attempt to cross the Atlantic in her for ten times her Value. I have concluded to restore her to the Emperor together with all his subjects in our possession and to withdraw the orders I have given for Capturing Moorish Vessels, on certain conditions which my letter of the 25<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup> to M<sup>r</sup> Simpson (a copy of which is inclosed) will explain to you, the Emperor of Morocco has such an extensive sea coast on the Atlantic, and is so advantageously situated on the Straits for annoying our commerce that it is very much for our interest to be on good terms with him, His 30 gun ship [*Maimona*] which I met on my passage here arrived at Lisbon has not taken any thing and is ordered to remain there until peace is restored. The threat I made on my arrival to sink that ship or any other of his cruisers, that I might meet with & the active Vigilance of our squadron has had a good effect on the Moors. I have no doubt but this quarrel will eventually be for our advantage, as I do not believe his Imperial Majesty will be disposed to War with us again, & we shall get clear of having any thing to do with Ashash the former Governor of Tanger who has ever been opposed to our Interest. — The *John Adams* & *New York* will remain a few days longer until all is settled & I hope by the last of this week to transmit to you by those ships satisfactory accounts of our situation relative to Morocco. —

Doctor Boy'd is very much out of health & not expected to recover, of course I have ordered Doctor Weems to the *Argus* on her arrival. L<sup>t</sup> Dent is with me, L<sup>t</sup> Jenks is in the *Adams*, & L<sup>t</sup> Cox in the *New York*.

The *Enterprize* has been new coppered at Malta, & I shall new Rigg her here as soon as she returns from off Moggadore. —

I am watering at present & expect to sail tomorrow evening, — for Tanger. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

To Captain Benjamin Mason and others from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy  
UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*  
1st October 1803. GIBRALTAR BAY.

GENTLEMEN — A letter directed to Commodore Morris has come to my hand, and as Commodore of the Mediterranean Squadron I beg leave to observe that there can be little danger in your proceeding to the United States, as there is two of my Squadron cruising off Moggadore, Salleo, & Larache, will prevent their cruisers from putting to Sea. The Moorish Frigate is now at Lisbon, & has orders not to go out until peace is established between us & the Emperor. A sloop of War, however, I have ordered to take a Convoy from this Bay, & pass near Cadiz that you may take advantage of her Convoy. She will sail the first East Wind. There is no truth in the report the Moorish Frigates having taken four American Vessels.

To Capt. BENJAMIN MASON & Others.

[NDA. A-4, Seville Consulate Archives.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKraft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 1 October 1803

Light winds & pleasant, saw a ship ahead at 2. At ½ past 2 bent the larboard bower anchor. at 5 shortened sail and spoke the above

ship, proved to be his Britanic Majesty's frigate *Amphion*, At  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 5 made sail & stood on our course. At  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 6 call'd all hands to quarters & loadened the great guns fore & aft with grape; run them out & secured them. Midnight pleasant with a fine breeze from the W<sup>d</sup>. At 2 saw land ahead to the northward of Cape Trifalgar, At 8 Cape Trif bore N. N. E distant 3 leagues. At 9 bent the larboard cable & prepar'd for coming too, At  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 10 saw the rock of Gibraltar, At 11 discover'd several American vessels lying in the bay. At 1 came too with the larboard bower. S<sup>t</sup> Roque, bearing N by E. Europa point S  $\frac{1}{2}$  W. The above vessels proved to be the U. S. Frigates *Constitution*, *John Adams* & Schooner *Nautilus*. —

3564 miles Distance run by Log from cape Henlopen to cape Spartell. —

[NDA.]

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

TANGIER 2<sup>d</sup> October 1803. —

DEAR SIR The accompanying Letter for you was put up on thursday in hopes I might have found means of conveying it to you — but the Weather has been such since then I conclude this will meet you in Gibraltar Bay. —

Enclosed you have the Ministers answer to what I wrote him on Wednesday last — in order you may receive all these papers before an Easterly Wind, I send this Boat on purpose with them, that you may determine how far you may consider it proper to meet His Majestys earnest desire of having his Ship brought to this Bay. —

The excessive bad Weather has delayed his Journey exceedingly, on Friday my Express found him encamped at a short distance on the other side of Alcazar River, and Hashash on this side of it, but their communication perfectly cut off the River being impassable, but on Rafts supported by Goat Skins filled with Wind. — My Man passed and was brought back in that way. —

As we had very little Rain after Friday at Sunsett I conclude the Emperour will have been able to pass the River yesterday Afternoon and that we shall see him on Tuesday. — I wish him to be here before you whether you bring the *Mirboha* with you or not — if you come without her we shall have a violent dust with him, for His Majesty is allowed to be as positive a Gentleman & strong headed as any Man can be. — However on this occasion we must not be an atom less strenuous for securing a permanent Peace to the United States, so far as any engagements of these people can be deemed security. — By the enclosure with this, you will see the Minister threatens vengeance on the author of these troubles, and he well deserves it; — most probably tomorrow we shall know his fate —

As you will now meet his Majesty here, I submit to you whether it will not be well to shew him all your force; and as he has disavowed any intervention of War with the United States, you will be the best judge how far it will or not be consistent to pay him honours at your first arrival in the Bay; — perhaps it might be well to send in a Brig or Schooner first with a Flag of truce & let her Boat bring me a Letter from you in answer to which I shall immediately acquaint you what farther may have occurred, which will be some guide to you. — I

hasten to send the Boat off that she may if possible reach you to-night —

The Emperour does not go to Tetuan, he comes here direct. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

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

*Constitution* [2] Oct<sup>r</sup> 1803

SIR, It is my orders that you sail from this Bay tomorrow P<sup>r</sup> Signal and take under your Convoy all the American Vessels ready by that time to proceed to the Eastward It will be proper for you to see them safe, into the ports to which they are bound as far as Leghorn which port you are to stop at a few days. M<sup>r</sup> Cathcart will embark on board the *Syren* for Leghorn and on his arrival there, will deliver into your charge, money and other property of the United States, which property you are to proceed to Algiers with, and deliver it to the order of Tobias Lear Esq<sup>r</sup> Consul General residing at that place — You will then proceed to join the Squadron off Tripoly — If you do not fall in with any of our Ships after remaining 6 days on that Station, You will proceed to Malta for orders —

It is expected that you do not make any unnecessary delay at any port you may touch at

P. S. I shall make the Signal for you to make the Signal for the Merch<sup>t</sup> Ships to get underweigh about 8 o'clock tomorrow morning —

E P.

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

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 2 October 1803

Riding with the Two bowers a head in Gibraltar Bay/ winds from the WNW/ at 3 anchored here the united States Brig *Syren*/ Lieutenant Stewart

[NA. ND original.]

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

GIBRALTAR October 3<sup>d</sup> 1803

SIR, I have the honor to inform you that I arrived at this place on the 12<sup>th</sup> Ultimo in the U. States Frigate *Constitution* bound to Algiers; for w<sup>h</sup> Regency, you have undoubtedly been informed, I am appointed to succeed you as Consul Gen<sup>l</sup> of the U. States in compliance with your repeated applications for permission to return home

Our unexpected differences with Morocco has prevented the *Constitution* from proceeding to Algiers for the present; but I hope they are now in a train of adjustment, as the Emperor has expressed a readiness to settle them upon proper & equitable grounds.—I shall proceed to Tangier this evening with Commodore Preble, where the Emperor is expected tomorrow, and I flatter myself we shall terminate this disagreeable affair satisfactorily.

I have been peculiarly anxious to reach Algiers as soon as possible on your account that you might have taken advantage of our Ships going to the U. States for your return; but it w<sup>d</sup> have been committing



the peace of our Country with Morocco, if Commodore Preble had left this Coast before an adjustment of the differences with the Emperor. —

I have dispatches for you from the Departm<sup>t</sup> of State, which I must retain untill I can have the pleasure of seeing you; as there is no direct, or safe conveyance from this place to Algiers, and I commit this letter, by post to the care of Rob<sup>t</sup> Montgomery Esq<sup>r</sup> our Consul at Alicant — to take a chance of a conveyance from thence. —

I have my wife with me, who desires her best respects may be presented to M<sup>r</sup> OBrien to which I beg leave to add mine — As we shall wish to get settled as soon as may be after our arrival, I must depend much on your frie[ndly] advice & aid to put us in the best way of accomplishing that object. —

We have brought no furniture except some Beds, Bedding &c — we have some stores necessary for house keeping; but as we were totally ignorant of what we might be able to procure in that way at Algiers, we did not know exactly what to lay in. —

I hope the store ships with the two Years Annuity have arrived before this time, and I shall come provided with the means of furnishing the consular & Biennial presents and such parts of them as have been procured by M<sup>r</sup> Cathcart — at Leghorn, will be sent over to meet me at Algiers. —

We are happily now very strong in these seas, there are the Frigates, *Constitution Philadelphia N. York & John Adams*, two Brigs of 18 twenty four pounders, cannonades, and three Schooners of 16 and 18 Guns. —

Hoping to have the pleasure of meeting you soon. I have the honor to be

RICH<sup>d</sup> OBRIEN Esq<sup>r</sup>  
*Consul Gen<sup>l</sup> of the U. S. Algiers*

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

Circular to U. S. Consuls from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

GIBRALTAR Oct<sup>r</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> 1803

SIR, I have the honor to inform you that I arrived at this place, on the 12<sup>th</sup> Ultimo in the U. States Frigate *Constitution*, bound to Algiers; for which Regency I am appointed Consul Gen<sup>l</sup> with a superintending power in the Affairs of the U. States over the other Barbary States. —

Our unexpected differences with the Emperor of Morocco has prevented the *Constitution* from proceeding to Algiers for the present, but I hope they are now in a train of adjustment, as the Emperor has expressed a readiness to settle them upon reasonable grounds, and I shall proceed this evening to Tangier, with Com<sup>d</sup> Preble, where the Emperor is expected tomorrow, and I flatter myself we shall terminate this disagreeable affair satisfactorily

I have the happiness to inform you that M<sup>r</sup> Simpson is liberated from the guard set over him, and has the strongest assurances from the Emperor, of protection & friendship. — It will afford me great pleasure to hear from you at Algiers, and I will feel peculiarly happy if it should be in my power to render you, or your friends, any Service

(Circular To.)

W<sup>m</sup> KIRKPATRICK Esq  
*U. S. Consul at Malaga*JOHN JARVIS Esq  
*U. S. Consul at Lisbon &*Jos<sup>h</sup> IZARDI Esq  
*U. S. Consul at Cadiz*ROB<sup>t</sup> MONTGOMERY Esq  
*U. S. Consul at Alicant*P. S. to M<sup>r</sup> Montgomery's letter.

I take the liberty of committing a letter to your charge for M<sup>r</sup> O'Brien, as there is no opportunity of writing from this place directly to Algiers, & I am informed a Packet sails from Alicant for that place. —

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

To Captain C. M. Schomberg, Royal Navy, H. B. M. S. *Madras*, from Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Philadelphia*  
*Malta Harbour 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct. 1803*

SIR Having several spare spars on board the US: Frigate *Philadelphia* which I wish to land at Malta, I shall esteem it as a particular favour if you will give permission to receive them in His Majesty's Yard at this place —

[LC. EPP, LB, 1803.]

[3 October 1803]

To Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy, from Captain C. M. Schomberg, Royal Navy, H. B. M. S. *Madras*

SIR Immediate orders shall be given for the reception of any Stores belonging to the United States at His Majesty's Arsenal, as also to render the *Philadelphia* any assistance she may stand in need of  
*Madras 10 AM 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct 1803*

[LC. EPP, LB, 1803.]

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

U. STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*  
*3<sup>rd</sup> October 1803 Gibraltar Bay*

SIR, You will sail from this Bay at 6 o'Clock, and convoy the American Vessels ready to sail by that time 20 leagues west of Cape Spartel, and return to join me in Tangier Bay as soon as possible

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

To Lieutenant Joseph Tarbell, U. S. Navy, on board Prize *Mirboka*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution* 3<sup>rd</sup> OCT<sup>r</sup> 1803  
*Gibraltar Bay*

SIR, You will get the *Mirboka*, prize to the U. S. Frigate *Philadelphia* under way tomorrow morning, and follow me with all possible speed to Tangier Bay —

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

[3 October 1803]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from Captain Edward Preble,  
U. S. Navy

[U. S. FRIGATE] *Constitution*

DEAR SIR I have rec<sup>d</sup> dispatches from M<sup>r</sup> Simpson, & wish to consult you immediately. be so good as to come in the Boat which brings you this, as I cannot leave the ship at present. I shall sail this afternoon. —

Sep<sup>r</sup> [October] 3<sup>d</sup> 1803

[Stephen Decatur Col.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate  
*Constitution*, Monday, 3 October 1803

Two of the Watering Party deserted — rec<sup>d</sup> dispatches from Tanger on Public Service and answered them — ordered the *Mirboka* to be rigged and sails bent ready for Sea. The *Nautilus* sailed on a cruise, ordered the *Siren* to convoy the *American Trade* 20 Leagues to the Westward of Cape Spartel and to return and join me in Tanger Bay. Ordered L<sup>t</sup> Tarbell and 10 Men on board the *Mirboka* to sail her to Tanger Bay —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 3 October 1803

\* \* \* laying in gibraltar Bay watering ship/ the Twelve Moorish prisoners/ who Joined the *Constitution* the 18 and 25 September last/ was Rec[e]ived on board as Gentlemen/ and for some time mess<sup>d</sup> at the Commodores Table/ after this they mess<sup>d</sup> under the half deck and had the Commodores Servants to attend them/ \* \* \* the Commodore/ i am Told Reciv<sup>d</sup> despatches this morning from the Emperoure of Morrocco/ a Lieutenant and 20 men was sent from the *Constitution* on board the *Merboko*/ to sway up her topmasts and bend her sails

[NA. ND original.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 3 October 1803

Pleasant weather, wind from the N<sup>o</sup> Hands employ'd stowing the Hold & getting ready for sea. — Sent on shore a number of sails, an anchor & cable, a number of sparrs & kentledge, chests of tea & boxes of sugar. —

At 3 P. M. the Captains of 6 American vessels (which were to sail under our Convoy) came on board for their Instructions. At 4 the U. S. Frigate *Constitution* got under way & stood out of the harbour to the W<sup>d</sup> At ½ past 5 we fired a gun for the convoy to prepare to get under way, hoisted in our boats brought too & prepar'd for heaving up. At 6 hoisted up our jolly boat astern — At ½ past 6 hoisted 3 lights at the Peak & fired a gun for the convoy to weigh & stand out of the bay, hove up our larboard bower & stood out of the bay in Company with 6 American vessels under a convoy, Light winds & pleasant.

At 10 P. M lower'd down our jolly boat & sent her on board the Commodore with dispatches. At day light little or no wind, convoy all in sight — At 9 AM about 3 Leagues to the W<sup>d</sup> of the bay, saw a Galley firing at an American Schooner, made sail in chase of the galley, on the discovery of which she hove about, mann'd her Sweeps, & pull'd in under the Spanish shore which render'd our getting at Her ineffectual. Call'd all hands took in sail for the convoy to come up. —

Meridian light winds & pleasant weather. —

[NDA.]

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

U. S. SHIP *Constitution* Oct<sup>r</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> 1803

6 oClock p m, Tang<sup>r</sup> Bay

SIR I am hon<sup>d</sup> with your communication of this evening I shall not send a Boat on shore until I have the Emperors permission, but shall wait your communications by a shore Boat.

As you think it will gratify his Imperial Majesty, I shall salute him & dress ship, and if he is not disposed to be pacific *I will salute him again.*

P. S. I shall attend to the Sig<sup>r</sup>

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

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

U S. S. *C[onstitution]*. Oct<sup>r</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> 1803

Tangier Bay

SIR I yesterday had the *Mirboka's* sails bent, & put on board an Officer & men to bring her here, a Change of Wind will prevent her arrival for the present as she is but an indifferent sailer, indeed I cannot conceive what advantage to us or to the Emperor it can be to have her here previous to settlement of our affairs and a re-establishment of Peace, as immediately on that event taking place, I shall deliver her up in as good or better order than when detained by us, together with all the Moors in our possession — & I certainly shall not deliver up either vessel or people previous to a renewal & ratification of our Treaty. I wish exceedingly to see you on board if only for a few minutes neither his Imperial Majesty or his Ministers can have any objection to your visiting me for the purpose of our consulting on the best means of bringing about a speedy & happy termination of all our differences.

With the charge of the squadron resting on me, I cannot think of leaving my ship at present particularly as they have not themselves the liberality to allow you to come on board, if the[y] wish a hostage the Officer who brings this will remain on shore, until your return, but I should presume that they can not require any other security than your family.

Please inform me when the Emperor may be Expected —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

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

TANGIER 4<sup>th</sup> October 1803 —

DEAR SIR I have both your Letters of this date. — Before His Majesty can arrive here tomorrow I shall acquaint him of your having anchored, and I have every hope he will direct your being well received, — the moment I have his answer you shall be acquainted with the particulars. —

Untill I can either have an interview with him, or receive such assurances of his Freindly disposition continuing, I think its just as well you excuse landing yourself, but I sincerely think there can be no sort of danger in your sending a Flag, with injunctions however to the Officer not to land, or approach the Gallies. — At His Majestys arrival tomorrow I cannot excuse hoisting the Flag of the United States, and if you think well to Salute and dress Ship it will be a good time after the Garrison has finished fring, as then His Majesty will be up in the Castle and in view of the Ship —

I understand the Garrison fires a triple Salute — when the Emperour reaches the Castle I will besides the Flag, *shew the blue Jack*, for your information. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, from Captain  
William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Philadelphia*  
Malta Harbor 4<sup>th</sup> October 1803

SIR I have the honor of informing you that we arrived in this port on the 3<sup>rd</sup> inst, after a passage of 14 days from Gibraltar; in conformity to your orders, I called at Malaga to take our trade under convoy, but found no American Vessels bound to the eastward; after remaining there five hours to water the *Vixen*, we proceeded along the Spanish Coast as far as Cape St Martins speaking all Vessels we saw, but learnt no news of any Tripolitan cruizers; between the Cape and the Island of Ivica [Iviza], on the 22<sup>d</sup> ult<sup>o</sup> we parted with the Ship *Port Mary*, and passed to the southward of Majorca & Minorca. On the 27<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>o</sup> made the Island of Galitta, on the African coast; and the same day passed the Bay of Tunis, saw no Vessels but the Schooner *Vixen* who I ordered to separate on the 24<sup>th</sup> the copy of my orders for her separation, as also to pass by the Island Pedusa I herewith enclose.

On the 29<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>o</sup> abreast of Girgintas, in the Island of Sicily, gave chase, brought to and examined a Tunissian cruiser of 22 Guns & 120 men; she had George Davis's Esq<sup>r</sup> *Charge des affaires* passport dated the 21<sup>st</sup> August 1803 — from that day to the 2<sup>nd</sup> inst. experienced a very heavy blow from the eastward.

Immediately on my arrival here I made application to the Commander afloat for permission to land my spare spars, which was politely granted. My letter of soliciting and his reply I have the honor of enclosing. I have landed a quantity of Boatswains, Carpenters & Gunners stores in the Magazine of Joseph Pulos Esq<sup>r</sup>, and under whose charge they are placed. Having from 20 to 30 sick on board, this number with 13 left at Gibraltar has reduced the force of our ship considerably, was a powerful reason for me to clear my ship as much as possible before I attempted the bad coast & ill climate of

Tripoli; this measure I hope will meet your approbation. I transmit you the state & condition of our ship [Page 1778, of below-mentioned source].

Your Orders ran to remain but twenty four hours in this Port; I find with every exertion, my spars & stores cannot all be landed before this evening, when, if the wind permits, I shall proceed immediately on the Coast of Tripoli.

By the return made to you of provisions on hand, you will find them nearly expended in December.

The Schooner *Vixen*, Commandant Smith, this morning arrived, who will proceed with the *Philadel<sup>a</sup>*.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

[Enclosure 1]

To Captain C. M. Schomberg, Royal Navy, from Captain William Bainbridge,  
U. S. Navy

Copy

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Philadelphia*  
Malta Harbor 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1803

SIR Having several spare spars on board the United States Frigate *Philadelphia*, which I wish to land at Malta, I shall esteem it a particular favor if you will give permission to receive them in his Majesty's Yard at this place.

Cap<sup>t</sup> SCHOMBERG

of His Britanick Majestys Ship *Madrass*.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

[Enclosure 2]

[3 October 1803]

To Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy, from Captain C. M. Schomberg, Royal  
Navy

Copy

SIR Immediate orders shall be given for the reception of any stores belonging to the United States, at His Majesty's Arsenal, as also to render the *Philadelphia* any assistance she may stand in need of.

Sign<sup>d</sup> — C. M. SCHOMBERG  
*Madrass* — 10 A. M. 3<sup>rd</sup> Oc<sup>r</sup> 1803

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble,  
U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 4 October 1803

Laying at single anchor in gibraltar Bay/ Running through the Straits to the Westw<sup>d</sup> and working into Tangier Bay/ Winds Variable from NW to E b S \* \* \* The Schoone[r] *Nautilus* Leiutenant Smith saild from here on a cruse/ the second of October in the afternoon/ the Frigate *John Adams* Commodore Roggers saild yesterday in the afternoon at 4 PM. we hove short/ at 5 we wiegh<sup>d</sup> and came to sail/ Leiutenant Tarbell of the *Constitution* is order<sup>d</sup> with 8 seaman on Boarde the prize *Merbocka* Luitenant Elbert/ who has had charge of the *Merbocka*/ for this ten or twelve days/ is orderd on Board the *Constitution*/ M<sup>r</sup> Reed/ Mate/ and M<sup>r</sup> Morris/ midshipman/ Both belonging to the *Constitution*/ are orderd to Remain on board the *Merbocka*/ Tobias Lear Esqr/ the american counsel general/ came on Board/ from Gibraltar/ the *Constitution* this afternoon/ he accompanyes

Commodore Preble over to Tangier i mentioned in the fore noon/ of sending an officer and a party of men on board the *Merbocko*/ in order to Rigg her for sea/ we leave her here at anchor with the united States Brig *Siren*/ they Both will weigh to morrow morning/ and proceed from Gibraltar over to Tangier Bay/ w[h]ere the *Constitution* is now Bound/ the *Merssuda*/ the Tripoleten ship Taken By the *John Adams*/ we leave at gibraltar/ as a prison ship/ and the Moores Taken in the *Merbocka*/ is on board of her/ all Except the officers who are devided amongst the Squadron Names of the Officers and Men sent to the *Merbocka*/ Lieutenant Joseph Tarbell/ M<sup>r</sup> Reed Master Mate and M<sup>r</sup> Morris Midshipmen/ was sent the 24 September [word illegible] Penneg/ Joseph Dunbevarre. Thomas Jackson/ Joseph Marlett/ James Allen/ James Rayason/ James Percey/ Will<sup>m</sup> Sinclear and two Marines/ namely Semin Wyman/ Gidden Goold at 8 in the Evening shew a light over the stern as a signal to the united States Brig *Siren*/ we lay becalmnd drifting about Gibraltar Bay till 10 PM/ at which time a Breezes sprung up from the Eastw<sup>d</sup>/ we steerd over for the Barbary Shore/ in order to proceed to Tangier Bay/ at 7 in the Morning we lay becalm<sup>d</sup>/ about two miles/ to the Eastw<sup>d</sup> of Cape Malabut/ and about one mile from the shore/ punished/ George Summers/ Robert Liddy/ James Carling/ Jam<sup>s</sup> Willison/ and Hugh M<sup>r</sup> Cormack/ Seaman with Twelve lashes Each for Negligence and a perfect neglect of duty/ Between seven and Eight in the morning we was becalm<sup>d</sup> under Cape Malabat/ with a swell setting on shore/ out all Boats and Tow<sup>d</sup> off/ we saw a sail to the Northw<sup>d</sup> with the Schooner *Nautibus*/ distinguishing flag out/ we we made her signal to come within hail/ at 9 in Boats and and spoke with His B/ T/ Majestys Sloop *Termagant*/ Captain Stewart/ a little after nine a fresh breezes sprung up from the WSW/ in Top gallant sails/ the ships company Employ<sup>d</sup> working ship Round Cape Malabat in order to Enter Tangier Bay Between nine and ten in the morning there was in sight 21 sail on different Bearing/ passing and Repassing the strights

[NA. ND original.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 4 October 1803

Commences with warm & sultry weather, light breezes from the Eastward. Ceuta bearing S by E Europa point bearing E by N  $\frac{1}{2}$  N. At  $\frac{1}{2}$  past Meridian wind hauled round to the W<sup>d</sup> the convoy being unable to stem the current, with contrary winds, the signal for making a harbour was made, when all made the best of their way into Gibraltar bay again. At 2 P. M. came too with the larboard Bower to the S<sup>d</sup> & W<sup>d</sup> & the stream to the N<sup>d</sup> & E<sup>d</sup> in  $6\frac{1}{2}$  fathoms water. St. Rocque bearing N by E Europa point South. A Schooner from Salem anchored in the bay, the Cap<sup>t</sup> of which inform'd us that the U. S. Brig *Argus* was to have sail'd 1 day previous to his Departure from Salem, but did not & was expected to sail in a day or two. —

[NDA.]

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

TANGIER 5<sup>th</sup> October 1803 4 P M —

SIR I received this morning the favour of your 3<sup>d</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> from Gibraltar and that of last Evening. —

His Majesty at coming in took a different Route to what was mentioned yesterday — he was expected by the Beach and came on the West side of the Town and entered the Castle by a back Gate — his Brother Muley Absolam, and a favourite Queen arrived late last night. —

The minister Sidy Muhammed Selawy has been dispatched to Tetuan two days ago, to bring from thence some money and Effects Alcayde Hashash acquainted His Majesty was there belonging to His Majesty — this is unexpected, it remains to be seen if such public property will be found. —

Yesterday the Friends of Hashash circulated a Report that the Command of all the Army with the Emperour had been conferred on him — but we have seen His Majesty arrive & Hashash follow some time after and go to his House in Town where he Remains —

The Letter I wrote Muley Soliman met him on the Road, and was not delivered, the Messenger erroneously thinking it must pass thro' the Ministers hands — however that is of little consequence. — Most probably I shall hear from His Majesty in the course of this night, if I do not I shall tomorrow morning find some mode of communicating with him, and send you notice of what may be the Result — my first application will be to Represent your being here, and for what purpose, but as he must be fatigued I would not wish to hasten the matter this Afternoon —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

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

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*  
Tanger Bay Oct: 5<sup>th</sup> 1803 6 p m

DEAR SIR I am hon<sup>d</sup> with yours of this afternoon, and shall wait, until tomorrow to hear the result of your communication with the Emperor, If Hashash is continued in favour with additional honors conferred on him, we cannot have any thing friendly to expect, of course I shall be under the necessity of employing my whole force in the best possible way for the protection of our commerce, & to revenge the Insult and indignity offered our flag. I however still hope that every thing will be amicably adjusted

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

To Miss Hash Tash, from Midshipman Henry Wadsworth, U. S. Navy

TANGIER BAY, point Nam-shot[?] from the  
*Batteries* October 5<sup>th</sup> [1803]

DEAR HASH You undoubtedly wish to hear the particulars of the Moorish War of 1803: to begin then, when in the *Newyork* we arriv'd at Gibraltar from the eastward on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of last month, we found there the *Philadelphia* 44 [guns] Capt Bainbridge; he had taken some time before the Moorish ship *Merboka* of 22 guns, Capt



Ibrahim Louberais off Cape di Gatt & retaken the *Celia* Brig of Boston a prize to the Moors. The *Constitution* was likewise at Gibraltar with the schooner *Vixen* just from America. Com<sup>r</sup> Preble off Cape St Vincent fell in with the Moorish Admiral[?] of 32 guns, the passport being regular & not knowing of the War she was permitted to proceed, being as they said bound to Lisbon, to receive a promised present from Portugal: we have since heard of their arrival via the Portugese Admiral stationed at Gibraltar. The Emperor finding that his cruisers sent in no prizes, & losing the *Merboka*, & the *Constitution* *Newyork* & *John Adams* with the *Nautilus* *Enterprise* & Brig *Siren* constantly on his coast which not only would endanger his remaining cruizer, but prevent any prizes getting to his ports: again considering all this he is desirous of Making Peace, & disavows making War at all, or giving his Corsairs orders to go out, laying it all on Hash Hash Gov. of Tangier. Hash denies giving the Captains orders to go out, & the Captains declare that Hash did give the orders, but it is thus Hash gave the Capts Sealed orders, & when they arrived at the place where they were to be opened, there was no signature to the orders Why then did they obey the orders by taking the Brig? I think we may conclude them all to be in Plot, & not meeting with success — they wish to clear off, knowing our Frigates all to be aloft & our trade in this Quarter unprotected, the dam'd rascals sent their damn'd rascally cruisers out, but the fortunate arrival of Com Preble's Squadron prevented the sequel they expected M<sup>r</sup> Simpson our Consul here was at first confined, he is now released & the Com<sup>r</sup> invited to Tangier, where the Emperor is to meet him to conclude a Solid Peace. An American Brig from Salem, being at Mogadore when the War began, became a bon[?] prize & the crew Slaves, but they were treated very well indeed. —

Com<sup>r</sup> Morris sailed for America about the 20th inst. The *Philadelphia* & *Vixen* have been dispatched to watch the State Affairs in the Levant. — The *Argus* expected daily from America. *Siren* just arrived. — Com<sup>r</sup> Roldjgers is removed to the *Newyork* & has the command which Com<sup>r</sup> Morris had before his recall. —

[H. W. L. Dana Col.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 5 October 1803

Employ<sup>d</sup> working Ship to windw<sup>d</sup>/ to the Eastw<sup>d</sup> of Cape Tangier/ at ½ past 12 spoke with the Schooner *Nautilus* Leu<sup>t</sup> Smith/ in working into Tangier Bay/ we saw seven flags/ flying in different parts of the Town/ which we suppos<sup>d</sup>/ hoisted by the forighen Counsels/ distinguishing there different Nation/ the American flag was flying among them at ½ past 1 P M, came too with the Best bower in Tangier Bay in 13 fath<sup>s</sup> over a Sandy Bottom/ Veerd to two thirds of a cable and furld sails/ the following Bearing are Taken by compass/ under the imedately inspections of Commodore Preble/ the Town of Tangier/ Bore W ½ S/ about two miles distance/ the Tower E/ ¼ N/ the walls of old Tangier SbE/ the white forte at the Bottom of the Bay SE/ Cape Tangier NWbW/ Lower<sup>d</sup> down the Jolly Boat/ the Schooner *Nautilus*/ anchored in company/ Lieutenant Summers waited on Commodore Preble/ on our leaving Gibraltar Bay last Evening i Mentioned/ of our leaving the united States Brig *Siren* there/ i was mistaken/ for

shee sail the same Evening with a number of American/ in order to convoy them through the Straits of Gibraltar and clear of the Barbary Coast/ as we are to continue at anchor all night in Tangier Bay/ and within gun shott of the forte/ the Commodore orderd the ship cleard for action and the guns all primed/ the ships company to be kept at Quarters during the night/ after 8 P M/ till day light the ships company was order<sup>d</sup> to sleep at Quarters in sub divisions the Night was plesent with light Breezes from the Westw<sup>d</sup>/in the course of the afternoon yesterday Commodore Preble Recv<sup>d</sup> different despatches from the shore How frendly they might bee i know nothing off/ but the Commo<sup>dre</sup> was very attentive to there Manoeuvring on shore and kept the ship all night in a perfect state of Readiness for action/ from daylight till noon/ we saw more then ten Thousand of the Moorish inhabittance marching in from different parts of the Country/ they formed in different detachments on the sandy beach which is a little to the Eastw<sup>d</sup> of the Town/ We suppose them to be waiting/ in order to recive there Moorish Magesty/ which is momentarily Expected to arrive from the Country/ there manoeuvring there different Squadrons of Hors/ was Very pleasing/ Commodore Preble orderd the *Constitution* compleately dr[es]sd with colours and flags/ but not to be Hoisted/ till the arrival of the Emperour was announced which was to be by a Salute from the fortes/

[NA. ND original.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Thursday, 6 October 1803

At Anchor in Tanger Bay, wind from the Eastward — Light breezes and pleasant Weather, a Body of about 5000 Troops consisting of Horse & Foot encamped opposite the Ship — preparing to dress ship, at 2 P M the American, and other consular Flags were hoisted on shore as a Signal that the Emperor had arrived and was in view of the Ship. I ordered the Ship dressed and a Salute of 21 Guns fired in compliment to the Emperor which was returned — I rec<sup>d</sup> despatches from the Consul and returned Answers — All hands Slept at quarters — At 4 AM. the Frigates *New York* & *John Adams* arrived, and anchored in a line of bearing to the Southward — At 8 AM I fired the Signal for the other two ships to Salute the Emperor, which was done with 21 Guns from each Ship, and returned with an equal Number — at 11 Consul Simpson came on board by permission of the King. He informed me, that the Emperor's Minister had not yet arrived, but that he was momentarily expected, and as soon as he appeared we could open a Negotiation for Peace, and that the Emperor was Pacifically inclined, at noon the Consul returned, Saluted him with 3 Guns —

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

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 6 October 1803

The Emperor of Morocco with 2500 troops arrived at Tangier.

[LC, original.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 6 October 1803

Moderate Breezes from the Westw<sup>d</sup>/ Laying in Tangier Bay/ Moored a half a cable Each way with the Best bower and stream/ a

little after one P M/ the different detachments form<sup>d</sup>/ collectively/ they Extended from one End of the Beach to the Other/ which is at the least two and a half miles they were all mounted on Horse/ at ½ past one P M. they Commenced there march/ with innumerable Volleys of small arms/ Towar[d]s the Town and Castle/ a few minutes after two P M the American Colours was hoisted in the Town of Tangier/ they then saluted from the lower Battary Eighteen guns/ we immediately dress<sup>d</sup> ship and Retur<sup>d</sup> them an Eaqel number/ Toward the Evening the Commodore Reiv<sup>d</sup> dispatches from the shore at 7 in the Evening Musterd at Quarters/ and cleard ship for action/ at 8 Musterd the starboard Watch/ and fired the Evening Gun/ the ships company slept<sup>d</sup> at Quarters in Sub div[i]sions during the night at three A M/ the weather was Very clear and plesent we saw two ships standing in To the Bay/ at 4 we answerd the united States Frigate/ *John Adams* private signal Towards daylight anchored here in Tangier Bay the united States Frigate/ *John Adams*/ Commodore Roggers and the united States Frigate *Newyork*/ Cap<sup>t</sup> Campbell imeadately after the *John Adams* came to an anchor/ Comm<sup>re</sup> Prebble waited on Commodore Roggers/ at Eight in the morning we fierd a Gun/ imeadately after the *John Adams*/ and *Newyork* saluted the Moorish Garrison with sixteen guns Each/ the salute was Returnd from the Moorish Garrison with 33 Guns/ in the cours of the fore noon Commodore Roggers waited on Commodore Preble/ after which he Hof[i]sted his Broad pendant on board the *Newyork* Captain Campbell/ was Removed from the *Newyork*/ to the command of the *John Adams* the Emperour of Morrocco continus in Tangier M<sup>r</sup> Simpson the American Consul/ at Tangiers this forenoon/ waited on Commodore Preble he came on board by the convayance of a Shore Boat/ he went away a little after a 11 A M and was saluted with three guns/

[NA. ND original.]

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

TANGIER 7<sup>th</sup> October 1803. —

DEAR SIR That your Boat might not meet detention, I had a few lines ready to put in the Officers hand when I went to receive that expected from you. — By that you will have seen the reason I do not find myself at liberty to go afloat this morning; besides the possibility of the Consuls together being called up to the Castle, the Emperour may either send for me, or make me some communication, — in either case it would not be well in me to be absent. — The two Spanish Gentlemen who translate Arabic papers for me being attached to their Consulate, they would not like to be seen taking part so far in our concerns just at this day, as to go on board for the purposes you mention — but if the Tripoline Captain will make a written declaration of what you may tell him by your Interpreter you wish to be proven on any point, I will get it translated. — If this and any other Arabic papers can be got ready against tomorrow morning, I will then wait on you to receive them: — the earlier the better for me, so if you think well of this mode I shall be ready to step into your Boat at seven O'Clock, in order I may be on shore again by Nine. —

The mark I mentioned to you of His Majestys attention to the Squadron, may fairly be taken as a proof of his pacific disposition — he will not certainly transact busyness with us immediately himself, and as we know his Minister may be said at least not to be inimical to us, I must beg to say I am of oppinion it would not be adviseable to press the matter immediately, as we might thereby throw it into hands, we would not wish. —

I am concerned you should have given yourself so much trouble to explain on subject of the Salute — with some Nations it is customary to pay that mark of attention to Consuls — to tell you the truth I had believed it was not so with the Ships of War of the United States, as I did not see it on board the *Philadelphia* — *Essex* or *Chesapeake* —

Whatever Vegetables or other necessarys you may be in want of beyond what you will find in the intended Present, I will now feel no Difficulty in desiring permission to purchase and send you —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

[7 October 1803]

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

DEAR SIR Nothing could have been more apropos than your Salute just finished — His Majesty you no doubt saw, was on the lower Battery at the end of the Mole — he went there for the purpose of viewing the Frigates with a stand Telescope, and I am persuaded must have been gratified by the unexpected addition of the firing. —

This may yet overtake the Boat carries the Cattle. —

Friday One O'Clock  
7<sup>th</sup> October [1803]

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

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

TANGIER 7<sup>th</sup> October 1803

DEAR SIR I have satisfaction in acquainting you the Emperour was last night pleased to order a Present to be sent the Squadron this morning in his name to consist of ten Bullocks — twenty Sheep and some other lesser articles of provision. —

It is now getting ready and will be sent off in a Moor Boat — Commodore Rodgers and you will determine on the quantity for each Ship, which had better be taken in their own Boats. —

No tidings yet of the Minister — it is still very probable His Majesty will not see the Consuls untill his arrival, but as I must be in the way I am compelled [to] deny myself the intended pleasure of seeing Commodore Rodgers and Captain Campbell this forenoon. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

[7 October 1803]

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

DEAR SIR The bearer of this my Interpreter waits on you to deliver the articles of provision noted at foot, which His Imperial

Majesty has been pleased to order to be sent in his Name, as a Refreshment for the Squadron of ships of War of the United States now at Anchor in this Bay —

TANGIER 7<sup>th</sup> October 1803

10 Bullocks

20 Sheep

4 Dozen Fowles

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

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

U S. SHIP *Constitution*

Oct<sup>r</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> 1803

DEAR SIR I am honored with your favours & the Emperors presents, for which I beg you to present my thanks, The Salute I meant as a compliment of respect to His Imperial Majesty on his appearance at the Forts. I am gratified that it was received by him as such —

My Boat as I before observed will attend you tomorrow at 7 o'Clock —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

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

LEGHORN 7<sup>th</sup> of October 1803

SIR I have duly received the letter you did me the honor to write under date of the 5<sup>th</sup> of September. — Since my last no event worthy of relating respecting the war with Tripoli, has come to my knowledge. — M<sup>r</sup> Cathcart after having been rejected by the Dey of Algiers as Consul from the U. States near that regency, was named by the President as consul for Tunis, with certain powers to negotiate towards an accomodation with Tripoli, to this end he embarked on board of one of our frigates to proceed for his destination, but on his arrival, I am informed, was unconditionally refused admission, although he was the bearer of the accustomed presents on reception — we must therefore presume, that the same reasons which influenced the Dey of Algiers, have actuated likewise the Bey of Tunis. — inclosed you will find the Copy of a letter I have just received from the american Consul at Malaga, by which you will percieve Sir, how alarming is our situation with regard to Morrocco. I have been verbally advised that three american Vessels have been captured, the truth of this information I cannot vouch for. — it is in Conjecture alone I can find any cause for these outrageous acts of Violence, so I therefore attribute them to the capture of the Tripoline admiral by Com<sup>o</sup> Morris. — this Vessel was sold to the Emperor of Morrocco, and suffered to depart from Gibraltar on this express Condition, that she should proceed no farther than Tunis, but having been overtaken in the waters of Tripoli, was viewed as an infraction of the Stipulation, and therefore captured. — the principle for which we contend with Tripoli, is a principle, if established, would strike a deadly blow to the political existance of all the barbary regencies: it is for this reason, they will avowedly, or in a more concealed manner, make it a general cause. — not knowing the address of my brother, I have taken the liberty to inclose a letter for him. —

[NA. SDA. CL, Leghorn, Vol. 1, Oct. 1793–Dec. 1806.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 7 October 1803

Moderate Breezes from the Eastward/ Moored in Tangier Bay/ the *Newyork*/ *John Adams* and *Nautilus* in company/ we have nothing meteriel going on in the ship/ we mustered at Quarter at 8 P M the ships company continue to sleep at Quarters in sub divisions/ during the night/ from daylight till 7 in the morning the ships company emp<sup>d</sup> scrubbing Hammocks/ from our arrival of[f] Tangeir Bay/ Sep<sup>r</sup> 12/ 1803 we stood well in with the Town/ we hoisted the American colours/ and fierd a Gun/ this signal is well known to all the furrin Consuls of Residue in the Moorish dominions/ Commodore Preble/ and Tobias lear/ Esq<sup>t</sup> who was a passanger on board the *Constitution* as Consul general to the Barbary powers was a little surpris'd at not seeing the American colours/ Ho[f]stet with the other National Colours at Tangier/ we anchor'd in Gibraltar Bay the same day/ and soon lear[n]t that the Moorish Crusers was out against the Americans/ and Consul Simpson/ in Tangier was confin'd/ this news was Very disagreeable to Commodore Preble/ perticular as we had board'd the Moorish Admiral/ on the 7 September last/ the perticulars of wich is in that days log/ in a few days after this inttelegence we proceed from gibraltar to Tangier/ w[h]ere a correspondance was carried on by flag truce/ between Commodore Preble and Consul Simpson/ from our first arrival at Gibraltar/ September the 13/ 1803/ Commodore Preble/ has Been Very attentive in Restoring peace Between America and the Emperour of Morrocco and should Commodore Preble succeed/ it must be a pleasing Reflection/ in the Evening of his days at 7 this morning Commodore Preble sent an officer and a boats crew on shore/ this is the first Boat sent from the American Squadron/ sunce the commencement of war Between the two nations at 9 in the morning the boat Return'd with dispatches for Commodore Preble/ as the Commodore immedately whent on board the/ different ships of the squadron/ one of which wiegh<sup>d</sup> an anch<sup>d</sup> near in Towards the fort[?]/ i Exspect the Commodore did not meet that Reply which national faith and Justice demands/ the Emperour of Morrocco still continues at this place/ his incampment Extends/ from one End of the Bay of Tangeir to the other/ which is nearly three Miles/ by the survey of John Josep Allezard/ who was survarer general to the Emperour of Morrocco

[NA. ND original.]

To Captain John Gore, Royal Navy, from Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy

U. S. SLOOP OF WAR *Siren* [\*]—

*Gibraltar bay Oct<sup>r</sup> 7 1803*

Cap<sup>t</sup> JOHN GORE — Comm<sup>r</sup> of

his Majesty's Ship *Medusa*

SIR Three men named Joseph Dunbevan James Pearce and John Coxe, have deserted from the Ship *Mabockah* [*Mirboka*] prize to the United States Frigate *Philadelphia*, and as I am inform'd have claimed protection onboard his Majesty's Frigate *Medusa* under your Command — I have to request that you will deliver them to the Officer who hands you this, upon your being satisfied they are the persons above mentioned, I cannot think it is your intention to violate the laws of Hospitality, toward a Nation in Amity with his Britannic

Majesty, and contrary to the good Disposition he has Shewn and express'd in the Treaty, by detaining the above named persons, whom I demand as Fellons & Deserters —

[\*The *Siren* was a brig. It is believed "sloop of war" was used in a broad sense and not to indicate a change in the character of the brig *Siren*.]

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

To Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, from Captain John Gore, Royal Navy

*Medussa GIBRALTAR BAY October 8<sup>th</sup> 1803*

Captain STEWART Comm<sup>r</sup> of }  
 the United States Sloop of }  
 War *Siren*—

SIR, I have received your letter of yesterday's date requesting that I would deliver up the Three men named in the Margin [Ja<sup>s</sup> Dunbervan Ja<sup>s</sup> Pearce John Cox], being deserters from the United States Man of War

In reply to which I have the honor to inform you that there is no such man as Joseph Dunbervan in his Majesty's Ship under my command, and that your request is inadmissable, for those men are subjects of his Britanic Majesty and have returned to their duty and allegiance—

I beg leave to assure you that it is neither my intention or inclination to Commit any Act of violence upon the laws of Hospitality or infringe upon any treaty which may exist between the States of America and his Majesty and I hope to find the same disposition in the Officers Commanding the American Men of War, which I am fully informed have a large proportion of British Subjects on board as Seamen, who have enter'd for them during the time of Peace, the Officers knowing them to be such, and finding now that their Sovereign is engaged in a serious War with an inveterate Foe, wish to return, to their own Flag, but are detain'd by force, and as such Conduct is a violence against the laws of Nations, I must presume it Cannot be the intention of yourself and other Officers Commanding the Ships of the United States to persevere in it

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your very humble Servant

Sign'd JOHN GORE

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

To Secretary of State from Frederic Hyde Wollaston, U. S. Consul, Genoa

*GENOA 8 October 1803*

SIR On the 17<sup>th</sup> August, I had the honor to enclose a Copy of my respects of the 25 July & then suggested the Idea that this Government might be induced to pay a part of the Expences of the Squadron in these Seas against the Barbary Powers, or might purchase from the Un: States some of the Government Vessels laid up

The evident difficulty of maintaining Peace with the Barbary Powers on the one Side & the encreasing trade from the United States to these Seas & to the Levant on the other has suggested to me the Idea that a Treaty of Amity & Commerce with the Grand Signior might be effected with ease & with peculiar advantages to the trade

& navigation of the United States, especially during the present War in Europe—

Being particularly acquainted with that Country especially with its mercantile resources in the course of several Voyages & a constant Traffic there until my appointment to the Consulate in this Port, I have corresponded much on this subject with my worthy & estimable friend Mons<sup>r</sup> Anselme Roubaud De Ponteves at Constple a french Gentleman & very able Negociator who has passed his whole life in the Levant, who is intimately acquainted in the Divan & with all the Ministers & their intrigues, & who would, I am confident, by his knowledge of the Country, his abilities in Negociation & his experienced probity, be of essential service in the success of a Treaty which might very greatly contribute to make the Barbary States more faithfully observe the stipulations of the Treaties with them —

I have the honor to enclose you the result of my Correspondence, in a memorial on the subject which I request you will lay before the President for his mature Consideration — I should esteem myself really happy were I deemed trustworthy of so important a mission; I dare not make a boast of my abilities, but what would be deficient on that score, would most assuredly be most amply replaced by my exertions to do honor to the Office entrusted to me & impressed as I am with the Consequence & Importance of the subject there would be no danger of my transgressing the powers confided to me, in forming the Treaty in question, which would be modelled on those of the most favored Nations & would at all events be subject to the Ratification of Congress — \* \* \*

Nothing of any importance having occurred here since my last worth your notice, I remain with due Respect & the highest Esteem

[NA. SDA. CL, Genoa, Vol. 1, March 1799–Oct. 1836.]

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

N<sup>o</sup> 66. — duplicate —

TANGIER 8<sup>th</sup> October 1803.—

SIR I have the honour of acquainting you the Emperour reached this place on Wednesday last, but the prime Minister Sidy Muhammed Selawy having been sent to Tetuan on some busyness His Majesty has not yet given audience to the Consuls or any other Christian.— Commodore Preble anchored in this Bay on tuesday with the *Nautilus* Schooner. —

On Wednesday night the *New York* and *John Adams* Frigates also arrived and they all remain here. — This Squadron has paid every respect to His Majesty and on his part he has shewn equal marks of Friendship. — On Thursday evening His Majesty was pleased to send me notice he had ordered ten head of Cattle, twenty Sheep and some Fowles to be sent in his name for the Ships, which was done yesterday. — This morning I wrote His Majesty a Letter of acknowledgement for this mark of attention, translation of his answer I have just received you will find with this, which request you will have the goodness to lay before the President. —

You have also herewith translation of the order mentioned in that Letter for release of the Brig *Hannah* and her Cargo detained at Mogadore. — His Majesty having thus so readily given up that Vessel, is a fresh proof of his desire for Peace, for the furtherance of which it is the Commodores intention to give up the *Mirboha* and



Crew, when His Majesty shall by an Act in writing declare himself at Peace and Friendship with the United States and ratify the Treaty of 1786, all which I have not a doubt but he will readily do.—

In my oppinion no fixed determination can properly be taken respecting the *Meshouda* untill the pleasure of The President be known on the subject, which I trust will soon appear. — Monday being not only appointed for Commodore Preble and myself to have an Audience of the Emperour, but that all the Consuls shall also see him, we conclude the Minister will be here tomorrow. —

\* \* \* \* \*

[NA. SDA. CL, Tangier, Vol. 2, 1803-1810.]

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

TANGIER 8<sup>th</sup> October 1803. —

DEAR SIR The signal was made for me in consequence of His Majestys answer to my Letter of this morning having been sent to my House. — It has been read to me but not yet translated, it is very Friendly and as a proof of his sentiments being such, he sends me at same time an order under his private Seal, and signed by himself, to the Governour of Mogadore for the release of the Brig detained there, with her Cargo and Crew. —

His Majesty appoints Monday for giving us audience, the hour is not mentioned, but as he has fixed on ten that morning for seeing the Body of Consuls, its probable we shall not be with him before twelve. — I shall endeavour at geting this point settled and give you advice. —

I cannot excuse takeing the most speedy means of giving you this intelligence as it is no doubt a strong proof of what we all wish. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

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

TANGIER 8<sup>th</sup> October 1803

SIR, By the translation of papers I have had the honor of transmitting you, you will have seen the desire his Imperial Majesty has repeatedly express'd of remaining at peace with the United States, than which, I am persuaded few things of that nature can be more desirable to our Government, or more necessary for cherishing the Extensive commerce of our Country, to this quarter of the world, free from that burthen of heavy insurance, which is ever its bane —

It was on this principle I have so much recommended to you readily to meet his Majesty on this pacific disposition — for the furtherance of that desirable issue to the present misunderstanding, the restitution of all captures on both sides can only extend to deprive you of the miserable vessel the *Mirboka*, whilst you are certain of releasing a Brig with a pretty valuable Cargo to a Citizen of the United States — we have beside the chance in our favour of other vessels having arrived at Mogadore, & these his Majesty also promises to restore, to whatever extent they may be —

It is no uncommon thing amongst Nations to agree to restitution of Captures on both sides to bring about accommodations — in this instance it appears we have a prospect of the advantage being on our side, and in point of National honor, since his Majesty has so repeat-

edly disclaimed having given authority either for Captures of the *Celia*, or detaining the *Hannah* at Mogadore, he thereby endeavors at an acknowledgement of the fault —

You have Also seen the Anxiety his Majesty expresses for the restitution of the *Mishouda*; when I received in June last the first notice of that Vessel's being detained I was authorised by Commodore Morris to say to the Emperor that if the attempt to go into Tripoly, was an act of the Commanders unauthorized by his Majesty — that the ship should be released — I made that Communication immediately to quiet his mind, as we were at the eve, of his cruisers going to Sea, and the Straits totally destitute of Vessels of War of the United States for the protection of our commerce —

It has fully appeared that his Majesty left the sole direction of this Ship to that Abominable Character Alcaydi Hashash, and as his Majesty did not himself give the Orders to Arraiz Omar, or Issue the passport given in his name, stating that the Ship was his: — we may equally suppose he was Ignorant of the prohibition stated in my passport for the Ship, against her entering blockaded ports —

If Commodore Morris saw cause to release the Ship on it's being proved the fault lay with Omar, and authorized me to say so to the Emperor, he may expect an equal Friendly part from us: — on the blame's resting with the Governor —

These are arguments for the Ship's being restored; but however by no means conclusive. So it may be argued that the occasional suspension of the blockade of Tripoly takes away that consequence stamp'd on regularly maintained blockades by the Law of Nations, and the Declarations of the chief powers of Europe on that subject, in the year 1780.

What I have now most to recommend to your serious consideration is, that in every other point we have seen his Majesty disposed to a perfect reconciliation with the United States, and when I quote to you the following paragraph of a letter written to me, by the Secretary of State 21<sup>st</sup> of Oct<sup>r</sup> 1802 — you will I'm fully satisfied say with me, that the restitution of this Ship to the Emperor (under the special condition that neither the Vessel nor any part of the stores on board of her, shall be sent to Tripoly during the Continuation of the present War, between the United States and that Regency) should not be suffered to stand in the way of so desirable an event, as peace with this Country — The Paragraph is as follows

“Should money or it's equivalent be found an indispensible agent  
“in fixing the Emperors disposition to peace, you already know  
“that Commodore Morris has a small fund on which you may  
“draw; — be as sparing of expence however as possible; both from  
“a regard to Oeconomy, and to the policy of keeping down the  
“hopes, and pretensions of these mercenary powers, In no event  
“you are to exceed Twenty thousand Dollars; nor to go as far as  
“that sum, unless it shall produce a firm peace, and an express or  
“Tacit relinquishment of the claim set up to presents at stated  
“periods, which are another name only to Tribute — ”

I made no calls on the fund here alluded to; — neither have I expended a Sixpence of money in consequence of that Authority, because I saw no opening for its being done, with solid prospect of attaining the object in View

Circumstances appear to have been most happily combined for our now obtaining a ratification of the Treaty of 1786 by which all

claim to periodical presents will be most expressly relinquished; as the demand to that purpose made last year, was founded on an erroneous Idea, that an arrangement was made posterior to that period promising presents —

I beg to Submit these sentiments dictated by a sincere desire of seeing peace restored to your Consideration and to assure you I am

N<sup>o</sup> 18 A Copy N. MORRIS

EDWD PREBLE Esq<sup>r</sup> *Commodore*  
*and Commander in Chief of the*  
*Squadron of the U. S. in the Mediterranean*

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

[8 October 1803]

Concerning Order issued by the Emperor of Morocco, releasing American Ship *Hannah*, at Mogador

Translation —

Praise be given to the Only God.

May God be propitious to our Master Mohamet and to his Family —

Private  
 Seal

In his Majesty's handwriting — Soliman — may God make him happy —

To our Servant the Governor Muhammed Ben Abd el Sadak — God assist you and keep you. Peace and the Mercy of God be with you — Then we order that you set at liberty the American Vessel detain'd there, with all her Cargo, and everything else. Take care that nothing be lost was in her, and peace be with you.

P. S — Whatever you may have landed belonging to the Christians, let it be put on board again, and let them have everything they may be in need of, and send them away in a good state, and in the best manner

20<sup>th</sup> *Chemadi* (2<sup>nd</sup>) — 8<sup>th</sup> October 1803

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

[8 October 1803]

To James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco, presumably from the Emperor of Morocco

Translation

Praise be to the Only God

AMERICAN CONSUL, We have rec<sup>d</sup> your letter — There is nothing between us, but what shall be to your satisfaction in the continuance of Peace and Friendship — We have ordered the Governor of Mogadore, that he set at liberty your Vessel to her Owners — What has happened we will not attribute to your delays with us; what we will believe is, that if your Enemy had come under our protection, you would have spared him for our sake. What your Sea captain has done he is not to be blamed for; it was but what he ought to have done — You shall see nothing from us, but what is Just. On Monday please God you will bring with you your Admiral to meet with us —

You will receive with this the mentioned letter that you may send it yourself

Date should be 8<sup>th</sup> October 1803 —

The two preceding translations were made from Arabic to Spanish by D<sup>r</sup> Manuel de Baccas, and from Spanish to English by —

JAMES SIMPSON  
*Tangier 10<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1803*

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

[8 or 9 October 1803]

**Declaration of Peace between the United States and the Emperor of Morocco**

Translation

Praise be given to God Alone

May God be propitious to our Master Mohamet and to his family —

Imperial  
Seal

Know all those who shall see this noble writing, all our Governors those encharged with our affairs, and Captains of our Vessels: that the American Nation are still as they were in peace and Friendship with our person exalted by God — their Vessels are safe both sea and in port, and so are their Merchants, & you are not to disturb the peace, between us and them —

What has happened with their and our Vessels, has been an affair among the Vessels but the said Nation continues respected, as they were with us, and under all security and equally so their Vessels —

Wherefore we hereby Order that all those of our Governors, those encharged with the Command of our ports, and Captains of our Vessels who shall see this writing, that they act in all respects for the fulfillment of this Order, and that they do not deviate therefrom

Those who shall contravene it, will be punished with a severe punishment.

This Order was given on the 21<sup>st</sup> Chemadi  
(the second) in the Year 1218.

*8<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1803.*

And at last we are in peace and Freindship, with the said American Nation as our Father (to whom God be Mercifull) was, according to the Treaty made the first day of Ramadan in the year 1200 —

The foregoing translation was made from Arabic to Spanish by Doct<sup>r</sup> Mannual Baccas, and from Spanish to English by —

JAMES SIMPSON  
*Tangier 10<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1803*

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

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

8<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 3 p m [1803]

DEAR SIR I am this moment honored with your much esteemed favour of this date,

The order for the release of the Vessel [*Hannah*] at Moggadore is an act of justice on the part of the Emperor & augurs favorable things to us. —

I shall be ready to pay my respects to his Imperial Majesty the moment you give me notice that I shall be favorably received & that I shall not be detained on shore one moment contrary to my wishes.—  
I ardently wish this business may be speedily settled. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

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

UNITED STATES' FRIGATE *Constitution*,  
*Tangier Bay, October 8th, 1803.*

SIR: I am honored with your favor of this date, and have duly considered its contents, and think your arguments so far conclusive, that I shall not hesitate in giving up the *Murboka*, and am authorized by Commodore Rodgers to assure you that he will do the same by the *Meshouda*, on the emperor's renewal and acknowledgement of the treaty of peace and friendship, entered between the Emperor, Sidi Mahomet, his father, and the United States, in the year 1786, and the fulfilment of his promise to release all American property and citizens he may have in his possession.

I am fully aware of the happy combination of circumstances which has facilitated that so much desired object of our Government, without the agency of money, or even the promise of any future tribute or present, either of which must have degraded us in the eyes of these barbarians, and would only have been a prelude to greater insolence and demands.

If the arguments adduced in favor of the restoration of the *Murboka* and *Meshouda* should appear rather specious to the Secretary of State, I feel confident they will give place to the importance of the object accomplished thereby. Indeed, your extract from his instructions assures to us his approbation of the measures we have taken for the security of our large and increasing commerce to this part of the world, by the establishment of an honorable and permanent peace.

[Am. State Papers. Nav. Aff., Vol. 1.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 8 October 1803

\* \* \* the Squadron continues at anchor in Tangier Bay/ Winds from the NNE in the course of this day several letters have pass<sup>d</sup> and Repass<sup>d</sup> Between Commodore Preble and the Emperour Morocco and Consul Simpson/ in Consequence of which a sudding change has Taken place/ Between one and two this after noon the Emperour marched down on the Beach accompanied By his Court several persons of the first distinction and a Numerous crowd of spectatores/ he came down to View the american Squadron/ Commodore Preble immediatly saluted 21 Guns/ the Emperours Band immediatly play<sup>d</sup> the march of Olestor/ which signifys peace and friendship/ during this interview Between Commodore Preble and the Emperour/ the hole shore was crowd<sup>d</sup> with the inhabitance as fair as the Ey could Extend/ the Emperour immediatly sent off[f] to the *Constitution*/ as a present to Commodore Preble Ten Bullocks Twenty Sheep and four dozen of fowles/ Commodore Preble orderd on board the *Constitution* four of those Bullocks Six Sheep and one dozen of fowles/ the others was

Equally divided on board the *Newyork John Adams* and *Nautilus* the Convayer of the present was/ Captain Malamorta/ an officer in the Emperours Service/ he had with him two Moorish Boats and Twenty men/ on his going ashore he was saluted with three guns from the *Constitution*/ it is perhaps unnecessary for me to mention during our stay here which is four days the *Constitution* has been kept perfectly clear for action and the Hammocks has not been piped down till this Evening \* \* \* at 7 in this morning Commodore Preble sent his Barge ashore to Bring M<sup>r</sup> Simpson/ the Consul at this place/ at ½ past 8 A. M. he came on board the *Constitution* after this M<sup>r</sup> Simpson went on board the *New York* and *John Adams*/ the Emperour still continues at Tangeir/ his incampments, extend from one End of the Bay to the other/ his Body Guard which is now at this place/ consists of Eight thousand light Horsmen/

[NA. ND original.]

To Captain John Gore, Royal Navy, from Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Siren*

N<sup>o</sup> 2. Copy —

October 9<sup>th</sup> 1803

U. S. SLOOP OF WAR *Siren* GIBALTAR BAY

Cap<sup>t</sup> JOHN GORE Commander of  
his Majesty's Ship *Medusa*

SIR, I received yours of the 8<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> in Answer to my Note of the 7<sup>th</sup> — I have to inform you that the Officer Commanding the Prize Ship *Mabocka* saw the person named Jos<sup>h</sup> Dunbervan on board his Majesty's Ship *Medusa* — You must therefore be deceived by the Man's having changed his name

I have the honor also to inform you, that those men enter'd voluntarily in the United States to serve Two Years and at a time when they knew his Britanic Majesty was engaged in a war and not during the peace as you have been informed — All persons onboard our Vessels of War are enter'd in the same manner and we only require of them a performance of their engagements, therefore we by no means "do a violence to the law of Nations by forcibly detaining them" as you have asserted, but on the Contrary, You, by detaining those men whom I have demanded "as Deserters & Fellons" assume the Violating hand and deny us the Justice which is the basis of that Law, While Sir I assure you, that you will always find on our part a desire to render you ev'ry just claim and to give you in every instance all the satisfaction in our power that is Consistent with Reason & propriety, permit me to hope it will be reciprocated by the Commanders of his Majesty's Ships of War. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

To Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Siren*, from  
Captain John Gore, Royal Navy

*Medusa* GIBALTAR October 9<sup>th</sup> 1803

Capt. STEWART

U. S. Sloop of War *Siren*

SIR I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your 2<sup>nd</sup> letter, and am Sorry you should have thought it necessary to write it much more to adopt such a Style of recrimination, equally unworthy of us both — Whether the mens names is Joseph Dunbevan or Jos. Perry

is very immaterial — He and the other two men are subjects of his Britanic Majesty, were known to be such when they were enter'd as part of the *Philadelphia's* Crew, and having again placed themselves under the Flag of their Leige Sovereign cannot possibly be given up either to the United States or any other Foreign power, whatever engagements they may have enter'd into, whether their own Nation was at peace or whether it was at War; and as I had the Candour in the first instance to read one Maratime law upon that subject to one of your Officers, I could not have expected that you would attach such language to my Conduct as you have thought proper to do; and as a further instance of my Candour, I assure you had the three men in question been Subjects of the United States, neither myself or any other Captain of his Majesty's Ships would have hessitated restoring them

As you are the Senior Officer of the Men of War of the United States in this Bay, I have to request, that you will order the Officer Commanding the Ship *Mabokah*, prize to the *Philadelphia* to discharge into his Britanic Majesty's Ship under my command the two men named in the Margen [Tho<sup>s</sup> Graham Ja<sup>s</sup> Cox] being Subjects of his Britanic Majesty and wishing to return to their Duty and Allegiance

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

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To Captain John Gore, Royal Navy, from Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy  
N<sup>o</sup> 3 — Copy — U. S. SLOOP OF WAR *Siren* GIBRALTAR BAY  
Octob<sup>r</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> 1803

SIR In answer to yours of this date, I have the honor to inform you, that there is no Authority vested in me to discharge, or Order any Officer in the Navy of the United States to discharge, any persons belonging to our Ships of War, therefore your request cannot be Complied with

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

[9 October 1803]

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

U. S. SLOOP OF WAR *Siren*

SIR — I have the honor to inform you that during your Absence from Gibraltar, several Men belonging to the prize Ship *Mabockah* deserted and Carried with them the boat belonging to that Ship — The Officer Lieutenant Tarbell Comm<sup>d</sup> that prize hearing that they were on board his Britannic Majesty's Ship *Medusa* (after satisfying himself of the Truth thereof) made application to me to have them returned to their Duty — In consequence of which I made a demand of them as you will perceive by the Copy of my Note to Cap<sup>t</sup> Gore on that subject — Enclosed you will also receive, copies of all the Communication I had with him, by which you will perceive, that we are liable to great inconvenience and contention with the Officers of the British Navy, as, many of our men may be claim'd on the same principle — I therefore solicit your instructions on that head, that I may know in future, how to conduct in similar Cases should they occur. — My Conduct in that affair, I hope will meet your approbation, as I assure

you the only inducement was my duty to prevent as far as in me lies, any loss or injury towards my Country —

P. S. — Cap<sup>t</sup> Gore sent a verbal message by one of my officers, that he had Orders to demand all persons, subjects of his Britanic Majesty, that were on board of all foreign vessels, and that if they were not given up civilly to take them by force

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

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

*Constitution* TANGIER BAY

9<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1803

SIR, I have parted a Cable, cut off[f] by the rocks as the ground is foul I shall get under way before night and stand off and On, until morning, and return to the Bay again if the wind will allow me to —

You will get under way when I make the Signal, but only for the purpose of examining your Cable, and shifting your birth further in shore, and nearer the Dane, where you will have clear Ground — as the weather is boisterous you will lay there in safety as it respects any attack in the night; but if the weather Moderates much it will be well for you to keep under way in the night and anchor in the morning, for the purpose of receiving communications, from M<sup>r</sup> Simpson for me.

If you will come on board I will give you the marks and directions, for Anchoring — you must remain near this Bay until I return

[LC. EPP, Order Book, 1803–1805.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SLOOP OF WAR *Siren*

Octob<sup>r</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> 1803. at Sea

SIR I have the honor to inform you of our Safe Arrival at Gibraltar after a passage of 28. days from the Delaware, all hand in good health.—

We are now proceeding with a convoy as p<sup>r</sup> Inclosed.

This morning about 11 OClock the United States Frigate *New York* Cap<sup>t</sup> Rodgers, hove out a Sig<sup>l</sup> to speak us with which we complied, but on thier bearing down she ran Aboard of us, and carried away every thing from our bows, even to the Anchor which was broke in two, fortunately no person's was hurt on board the *Siren* except one man who I fear will loose his hand by the unfortunate circumstance — The *New York* lost her lower yards and what other damage I do not know.

[NDA. Officers LB, 1802–1805.]



[Enclosure]

A list of Merchant Ships & Vessels under the Convoy of the U. S. Sloop *Siren*  
Ch<sup>o</sup> Stewart Esq<sup>r</sup> Commander from Gibraltar

Date	Vessels Names	Masters Names	Owner's Names	Where bound	To whom Consigned	Lading &c
1803 October 10 <sup>th</sup>	Ship <i>Union</i> ....	George Hodges.	Nichols Hodges & C <sup>y</sup>	To Newyork.....		Brandies
	Shp. <i>Friendship</i> .....	Barzillai Goodrich.	O & B Goodrich of &	to Newyork.....		Wine & Fruit
	Brig <i>Hector</i> .....	John Allen.....	E & J Allen of &	to Salem.....		Fruit
	Ship <i>Monsoon</i> .....	David Nickerson.	W. Hayden J <sup>r</sup> Banter [or Baxter] & J Tate of Boston	to London.....		Wine & Fruit
	Brig <i>Celia</i> .....	Richard Bowen.	Amaze Thayer of Boston	to Alexandria.....		Wine & Fruit
	Brig <i>Betsy</i> .....	Elias Grant —	Abiah & H Wood.	to Leith.....		Fruit

CH<sup>o</sup> STEWART

[NDA. Officers LB, 1802-1805.]

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

TANGIER 10<sup>th</sup> October 1803

DEAR SIR The Weather rendered it impossible for me to make you any communication yesterday. —

At Ten the Consuls wait on His Majesty together, as there matters of general concern to be treated upon. — that cannot be of long duration, so I reckon our particular audience may be about twelve. —

I am perfectly satisfied you are in no sort of personal danger, therefore hope you will not hesitate at comeing on shore. — You will please let me know by the bearer, at what hour you will land, and who will accompany you to His Majesty as we have a short way to ride. —

M<sup>r</sup> Simpson hopes for the favour of your Company — Coll Lears, and whoever else may come with you, at dinner today. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 10 October 1803

The Squadron continues at anchor in Tangier Bay/ \* \* \* at 10 in the Morning Commodore Preble and Col<sup>o</sup> Lear went ashore at Tangeir to wait on the Emperour \* \* \* at 11 AM arriv<sup>d</sup> here the prize ship *Merboka*/

[NA. ND original.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 9 and Monday, 10 October 1803

Commences with heavy squalls of wind from the W<sup>o</sup> & rain. At 6 P. M got a range of cable on deck, 7 the wind begining to moderate. At ½ past 3 AM the wind haul'd to the N N. E blowing a fine breeze. made a signal for the convoy to get under way & stand to the westward, hove up our larboard bower & stood out under topsails. At 9 hove too for the convoy to close in with us. At 11 abreast Tangier, saw

lying in the bay the Frigates *N. York*, *John Adams* & schooner *Enterprise* Meridian pleasant weather. —

(NB) these remarks include 36 hours)

[NDA.]

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

TANGIER 11<sup>th</sup> October 1803 —

DEAR SIR I am happy to tell you I have at last overcome the many objections made to putting the addition I required to the paper sent me last Night, and that by the enclosed translation thereof you will see the Emperour has ratified the Treaty made with his Father, of consequence I hope you will now put Arraiz Lubarez in possession of his Ship, that His Majesty may see his Flag flying on her. — I am promised a Letter for the President more fully to express the Emperours resolution of maintaining Peace with the United States, but the Minister said in order that he might be able to state in it a good reason for that determination it would be expected His Majestys request of having the *Meshouda* put in his possession would be granted. — The arguments I urged yesterday to you and Collonel Lear in support of this measure have still their full force in my mind, and now we have got the Emperour in a good humour with us, assuredly it cannot be well to hazard losing what we have been for years striving to gain, for such a trifling object — but I would still advise that if this Ship be given up it shall be on the express condition that she remain in one of the Ports of this Country during continuance of the War between the United States and Tripoly. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

[11 October 1803]

To President Thomas Jefferson and to the Senate of the United States, from the  
Emperor of Morocco

Translation —

In the name of the clement, and most Merciful God,  
In him we have put our trust, and he is our best protector

There is no power or strength, but in the Great God.

From the servant of God. Prince of the Believers.

He who has put his trust in the Lord of all the  
Creation — Soliman Ben Mohamet, Ben Abd allah Ben Ismael —  
descended from the Prophet from Hassan and from Alli —

May God magnify his charge, and may his Sun and full Moon  
shine in the highest Heaven with splendour —

Imperial  
Seal

Impression — Soliman Ben Mohamet, Ben Abd-allah — May God  
be merciful to him —

In Six Angles — God, Mohamet, Abuleker, Omar, Ottaman, Alli —  
Around the Seals God alone directs me, in him I trust and to him  
I turn —

To the President of the Americans. a Prince, and to all the Senate —  
Health —

Know ye that between some of Our Vessels rendered victorious by God, and some of Yours — some enmity has happened at sea, and the affair became so serious, as that some Vessels of each party were taken

So soon as we heard of this we felt concerned at it, as we were still in peace and friendship; and we desired that all the Vessels might be brought to Tanger, which is under the protection of God. When we had seen what had happened between the Nations, we found it was a matter of little consequence, and such as demanded no great attention, we sought to accomodate it, and we succeeded — And we make known to you what has happened that you may know we continue upon that Peace and Friendship you settled with our Lord and Master, and Father (to whom God be merciful) in the Year 1200, and the same which you settled with us, (exalted by God) when we renewed that Treaty in the Year 1210.

And know Ye that all the Treaties entered into between the two nations, remain as they were, and that they shall not be altered or changed —

This you are all to understand and be assured of with all certainty, and you are to hold to this —

This has been written to you at the Port of Tanger. (which God surrounds) on the 24<sup>th</sup> Chemadi the second in the Year 1218 which corresponds to the European Date the last of September in the Year of the Messiah 1803 —

Memo)

The Moors reckon by the old Style the date corresponds to the 11<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1803

The foregoing translation was done from the Arabic (and in my presence revised) by D<sup>r</sup> Manuel di Baccas to Spanish and from Spanish to English (M<sup>r</sup> Baccas also assisting, by —

JAMES SIMPSON  
Tangier 12<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1803

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

[11 October 1803]

To the Governor and Officers of Mogador from the Emperor of Morocco

Translation —

Praise be given to the Only God. —

May God be propitious to our Master Mohamet and to his Family. —

Imperial  
Seal. —

Our Servant the Governour Ben Abd el Sadak and all the Officers of Our Port of Mogadore — May God assist you — Peace with the Mercy and Blessing of God be with you. —

Now know ye that the Almighty having reconciled what had happened with the American Nation because of the Acts of the Vessels, and that we are now as we were before with them, in Peace and Friendship as settled with Our Father to whom God be Merciful. — Take care — take care that none of you do any thing against them or shew them any disrespect or disregard, for they are as they were in Friendship and in Peace, and we have encreased our regard

for them in consequence of the Friendship they have manifested to Our person which God has exalted. — And we order that you be carefull and be diligent in all their concerns, and we order that you do well with their Vessels and with their Merchants. — Peace be with you all. —

24<sup>th</sup> Chemadi the second, 1218 (11<sup>th</sup> October 1803)

The original of the foregoing was translated from the Arabic to Spanish by D<sup>n</sup> Manuel de Baccas, and from Spanish to English by

JAMES SIMPSON

*Certified at Tangier 17<sup>th</sup> October 1803*

[NA. SDA. CL, Tangier, Vol. 2, 1803-1810.]

To Mrs. Ralph Izard, Sr., South Bay, Charleston, S. C., from Midshipman Ralph Izard, U. S. Navy

TANGIER BAY. U. S. *Constitution* —

11<sup>th</sup> October 1803. —

We have been cruising in Streights of Gibraltar for these 2 weeks without meeting with any success. We returned to Gibraltar & after remaining there two days came here for the purpose of accommodating matters with the Emperor of Morocco. Hash hash the Governor of Tangiers gave orders to his vessels to cruize against all Americans, after having procured passports for his ships from our Consul M<sup>r</sup> Simpson. By which means whenever one of his men of war fell in with one of ours they produced these certificates & of course were allowed to proceed without molestation. The *Philadelphia* fortunately fell in with an Amer<sup>n</sup> Brig [*Celia*] that had been captured by one these vessels & recaptured her. He also fell in with the captor [*Mirboka*] which he took also. Hash hash as soon as he heard of the capture of this vessel confined M<sup>r</sup> Simpson & would undoubtedly have put him to death had not the Consuls of the European powers interceded in his behalf & wrote on to Fez informing the Emperor of this outrage. He came to Tangier the other day with an army of fifteen thousand men. On the 9<sup>th</sup> instant Commodore Preble went on shore accompanied by Col. Lear, one of our midshipmen & myself. We were introduced to his Majesty with very little ceremony. I had connected with the idea of Emperor of Morocco, something grand, but what was my disappointment at seeing a small man, wrapped up in a woollen *heik* [haik] or cloak sitting upon the stone steps of an old castle in the middle of the streets, surrounded by a guard of very ill looking blacks with their arms covered with cloth to prevent them rusting. We stood before the Emperor with our Caps in hand & the conversation was carried on by means of an interpreter. The Emperor said he was very sorry that his Governor had behaved so much amiss & said he should punish him "more than to our satisfaction". That was his expression. After having assured us of his ignorance of Hash hashes proceedings, he promised not only to ratify & confirm the treaty made between the U. S. & his Father Muley Soliman [sic], but to write to the President of the U. S. that altho' the treaty made by his father was to have effect but for 50 years he will consider it as binding for ever. We then made our bow & the Com<sup>r</sup> Col [Tobias] Lear & M<sup>r</sup> Simpson had a private conference with the prime minister who is an intelligent

man & to all appearance very much our friend. — The prize is given up & the Emperor has issued an order to the Governors of the different districts of his Empire to release all vessels that may have been detained in any of his ports & henceforward to receive all American vessels as becomes a favored nation. The Com<sup>r</sup> goes on shore every day for the purpose of settling all differences. The Emperor departs to day with his army & leaves his prime minister to manage things as shall seem best to him. Hash hash goes with the Emperor, it is supposed, to be executed. Tangier is a very inconsiderable place & the natives are excessively savage. It is matter of astonishment to me that a people living so near a civilized nation as Spain should not imbibe some customs less barbarous than such as they have been accustomed to. We shall shortly go to Algiers from thence to Tripoli & then take up our quarters for the remainder of the winter at Malta. I am afraid that we shall have some difficulty with the British. Several of our men have deserted & have taken up their abode on board some of his B. M. Ships, & the Commanders have refused to deliver them up, & threaten to take from us as many British subjects as we may have on board of any of our vessels. I think they will not find it the most agreeable *job* they ever entered upon. I should have no objection to that sort of thing, if they would in return give up to us all the poor Americans they have impressed. I am afraid it will be a business not easily effected. For it appears to me a matter of impossibility to draw a proper line of distinction, by which we may know an American from a British Seaman. —

M<sup>r</sup> Smith sent the letter I gave him for you by the *Adams Comm<sup>r</sup>* Morris. You will get one I wrote you afterwards at the same time. This goes with M<sup>r</sup> Smith who will go home with the first Frigate that sails. The *New York*, & *John Adams* & schooner *Nautilus* are with us here & the natives were trembling in their shoes for fear we should batter down their town, which can very easily be done. For you can have no idea of the miserable situation their batteries are in. They have several Guns it is true but the carriages they rest upon are so rotten that three times firing will render them perfectly useless. —

I shall write to George shortly & to Harry Barclay. The *Argus* has not arrived yet. I expect several letters by her. As our cruise will be long I presume I may want a small supply of linnen. If it is not inconvenient I will be much obliged to you my dear Mother to send me a few shirts by some of our vessels that may be coming out here next Summer. Christopher is well & desires to be remembered. My best love & duty to my Father, & be assured my Dear Mother of the constant duty & affection of

Your Son

RA: IZARD jun<sup>r</sup>

[NDA. A-4.]

To Lieutenant Colonel Commandant William W. Burrows, U. S. Marine Corps,  
from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP<sup>t</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 11. 1803

It having become unnecessary to send out the *Essex* you will consider my order to you for the furnishing a detachment of marines to that Vessel as hereby countermanded

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 6, 1802-1803.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 11 October 1803

Tangier Bay. \* \* \* the Convoy we saw in the offing/ we learnt was under the united States Brig *Syren* from Gibraltar Bound to america/ the *Syren* was orderd to convoy them clear of the land/ we observed the Frigate *New York*/ which sail<sup>d</sup> from here about one Hour Before/ with her fore and main yard carried away/ the wind continued fresh from the NE all the afternoon/ Commodore Preble and Col<sup>o</sup> Lear came on board Towards Evening/ the *Newyork* Re anchored here again/ with her fore and main yard carried away/ \* \* \* at 9 A M/ Commodore Roggers waited on Commodore Preble/ the Business of yesterday/ Between the Emperour and Commodore Preble/ was not Totally settled the Commodore whent a shore this fore noon at 10 AM/ Col<sup>o</sup> Lear did not accompaniy the Commodore on shore today/

[NA. ND original.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKraft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Syren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 11 October 1803

Commences with fresh gales from the Eastward. The *New York* got under way from Tangier bay & stood out for us under her topsails & jib. at 1. A. M. the wind increased, the weather thick & unpleasant. At  $\frac{3}{4}$  past 1 the *N. York* made the signal for speaking us, we hove too with our head to the S<sup>o</sup> in a suitable situation for speaking the *N. Y.* we lay expecting she would heave too some small distance to windward of us, but she run within twice her length of our gangway, the dangerous situation in which we were plac'd required an Immediate manoevre, the *N Yorks* helm by her steerage must have been hard a starboard & then hard a port, in this manner the *N. York* came within once her length of our gangway at which time the Helm was put to Starboard with an intention if possible to shoot ahead of us, but instead of bracing the yards to the wind they were left in their original position; (Square) the rapidity of her coming too in a few moments, brought them flat to the mast, and there being a very heavy sea forc'd her broad side on our larboard bow, & brought her with a dreadful crush on board of us. In this critical moment the distruction of the brig appear'd inevitable. Orders was issued from Lieu<sup>t</sup> Stewart to put the helm up & shiver the after sails, by this well tim'd manoevre we only lost our jib boom, spritsail yard, Larboard cathead & bow anchor, the *New York* sustaind much more damage having her fore, main & spritsail yards broke in the slings, in this situation she sent her boat on board of us with a packet for L<sup>t</sup> Stewart to send by one of the convoy to America. At 4 made the signal for speaking one of the convoy, at the display of which the Ship *Friendship* hove too, we lower'd down our boat & sent it on board with our dispatches for America when the boat returnd we hoisted her up. At 6 left the convoy haul'd our wind & stood to the N. E. Td [tacked] occasionally, made & took in sail as the wind would permit.

Meridian fresh gales & squally with rain.

[NDA.]

To Captain Thomas Tingey, Superintendent, Navy Yard, Washington, D. C.,  
from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP<sup>t</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 12, 1803 —

\*You will immediately charter if practicable at this place or Alexandria a Vessel of a suitable size to carry the 100 Gun-Carriages to Morocco. You will report to me as soon as you shall have informed yourself whether you can procure a Vessel for this purpose or not. —

\*The schooner *Citizen*, Cap<sup>t</sup> Lawson, was engaged and sailed from Washington Nov<sup>r</sup> 15, 1803 —

[NDA. Barbary Powers LB, 1803-1808.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *New York*, from  
Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

TANGER 12<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1803

SIR Peace between the United States & the Emperor of Morocco is re-established I conceive the *John Adams* can leave this station without injury to the service — whenever you think proper to order her away.

[F. D. Roosevelt Col.]

To Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Schooner *Enterprize*, from  
Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

*Constitution* TANGIER BAY

12<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1803

SIR, I have the pleasure of informing you of the re-establishment of peace, between the United States and the Emperor of Morocco — You will therefore consider your Orders to Capture Moorish Vessels of no effect, and will immediately on the receipt of this, repair to Gibraltar, and wait my further Orders

You will be very carefull to treat all Moorish subjects you may meet with, in a friendly manner —

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

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

*Constitution* TANGIER BAY

12<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1803.

SIR, I have the pleasure to inform you of the re-establishment of peace between the United States and the Emperor of Morocco; you will therefore Consider the Order I gave you, to Capture Moorish Vessels as invalid, and will treat the Vessels and people of that Nation as friends —

You will proceed immediately to Gibraltar and prepare for going up the Mediterranean with a Convoy, give notice to the American Vessels bound up to prepare themselves, and you will deliver them the necessary signals and instructions

But you are not to sail until you have further Orders from me, as I expect to be at Gibraltar in a day or two —

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

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

*Constitution* TANGIER BAY

12<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1803

SIR, It is with pleasure I inform you of the re-establishment of peace, between the Emperor of Morocco, and the United States

You will immediately on the receipt of this, Sail for Mogadore, charged with a packet directed to Peter Guyn Esquire containing an Order for the release of the American Brig *Hannah*, her Cargo, and Crew, also a declaration of Peace, and many other papers of Consequence you will therefore take particular care, that they are safely delivered, you will on approaching the town of Mogadore, hoist your Colours & a white Flag, heave too, and send your boat in, as a flag, with the dispatches under charge of a Lieut<sup>t</sup>, after which they will no doubt permit you to go in with the *Nautilus*

You will wait there 48 hours for any Communication they may wish to make, either to Consul Simpson or myself; and then return to Gibraltar Bay, after stoping long enough to send your boat on shore at Tangier, to deliver such letters as you may receive for our Consul — You will be very carefull to treat all Moorish Subjects in a friendly manner —

[LC. EPP, Order Book, 1803–1805.]

To William Jarvis, U. S. Consul, Lisbon, Portugal, from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco

Copy

TANGIER 12<sup>th</sup> October 1803 —

SIR, I am happy to acquaint you, Peace is fully re-established between the United States and the Emperor of Morocco and that of consequence our Vessels are no longer in danger of meeting interruption from his Cruisers.

I pray you to make this known to all Citizens of the United States, or others within your District, to whom it may be interesting.

[NA. SDA. CL, Lisbon, Vol. 2, 1803–1805.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 12 October 1803

\* \* \* the *Newyork*, *John Adams* and *Nautilus* still continues at anchor in Tangier Bay the hour of investiture or Restoring the Ship *Merbocka* to the Moorish officers was this afternoon at 2 P M/ Liuten[ant] Tarbell and the men sent on board of her at gibraltar/ dus not leave her till tomorrow/ She is now laying at anchor alongside of the *Constitution* with Moorish colours there is Twelve Moorish officers this day sent from the *Constitution* to the *Morbocka*/ seven of them was reci<sup>d</sup> from the Frigate *Pheledelphia*/ the 17 September last/ and five of them was reci<sup>d</sup> from the *Mersuda* the 25 September last/ the *Mersuda* is a prize to the Frigate *John Adams* Captured under Tropic- iton Colours/ and is now a Prison ship at Gibraltar/ the ships company or the Prisoners Taken in the *Merbocka* is now on board the *Mersuda*/ at Gibraltar/ Commodore Preble who has been all day on shore with the Emperor did not come on board till nearly seven in the Evening at which time it blew nearly a gale/ \* \* \* this is the third day the Commodore is had interviews with the Emperour/ the General Report of this Eventful war between america and Mor-



rocco/ is that it originated by, a Governor Residing at Tangier/ by the name of Hash/ Hash/ but this Report/ i suspect/ Commodore Preble thinks will beare Questioning/ as the Commodore is on shore with no other attendance Except a private secretary/ there is but little doubt he is well convinced of there friendship Toward Him

[NA. ND original.]

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Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 13 October 1803

Peace re-established with the Emperor of Morocco and the Treaty of 1786 ratified and confirmed.

[LC, original.]

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Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 13 October 1803

Moored in Tangier Bay. Moderate Breezes from the Eastw<sup>d</sup>/ the *Newyork*/ *John Adams* and *Nautilus* in company/ this afternoon the wind shifted by degrees to the Northw<sup>d</sup>/ the Moors that was on board the *Newyork* was this afternoon sent on board the *Merbock*[a] Lieutenant Tarbell, the two officers six seaman and two Marines, Regained the *Constitution*/ when the *Constitution* left Gibraltar last for this Bay, the Commodore orderd three officers Eight seaman and two Marines/ to the *Merbocka*/ to Navigate her to this Bay/ two of the seaman deserted at Gibraltar/ namely/ Joseph Dunbeaver and James Pierce/ the Emperour this day left Tangier Commodore Preble came on board between three and four PM/ the first intelligence of war Between America and Morrocco/ was communicated to Commodore Preble the 12 September last/ from that periord to the present date Commodore Preble has Emp<sup>d</sup> the following men of war/ Either as convoys or stationed them along the Moorish Coast/ the *John Adams*/ *Syren*/ *Enterprise*/ *Vixen*, and the *Nautilus*/ the *Newyork*/ Commodore Roggers/ has been aiding and/assisting/ but he has not been a shore there is now a perfect and friendly peace between America and Morrocco/ the Examplor conduct of Commodore Preble in this undertaken/ i senciarily hope will be hearfater mentioned/ Toward the Evening the Brig *Syren* stood into the Bay and Saluted the Moorish forte Shee was immediately dispatched with the *Nautilus*/ with Commodore Prebles despatches to call in all Cruisers the *Newyork* and *John Adams* wiegh<sup>d</sup> and stood out the Bay/ the *Newyork* Re anch<sup>d</sup> per signal/ Commodore Preble waited on Commodore Roggers/ we had fresh Breezes and Variable during the night/ we Recie<sup>d</sup> from the *Merbocka*/ Twelve men belonging to the *Philadelphia* Names as followes/ Jesse Tuttle/ John Stillwell[?]/ John Morgain John M<sup>c</sup>-Craken/ John Cherry/ John Hassan/ Dav<sup>d</sup> Warren/ W<sup>m</sup> Raiden/ James Fainsworth/ W<sup>m</sup> Johnson/ and Charles M<sup>c</sup>Kinley/ this morning several of the *Constitution* officers when[t] a shore on liberty/ Commodore Preble and Com<sup>r</sup>/ Roggers/ when[t] a shore

[NA. ND original.]

Extract from journal of Midshipmen F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 13 October 1803

Fresh gales from the E<sup>d</sup> with rain, making short tacks to windward for Tangiers bay, overhaul'd a range of Starb<sup>d</sup> Cable. At 4 spoke the Commodore who sent his boat on board for L<sup>t</sup> Stewart. At ½ past 5 the *John Adams* & Schooner *Nautilus* got under way & stood out of the bay. At 6 L<sup>t</sup> Stewart returne'd: fill'd away & stood out to the N<sup>d</sup> & E<sup>d</sup>. At ½ past 6 cape Spartel bore W by S. distant 3 Leagues. At 8 double reef'd the topsails, handed square main sail & tack'd to the S<sup>d</sup> & E<sup>d</sup>. At ½ past 11 close reef'd the topsails & wore to the N<sup>d</sup> & E<sup>d</sup> saw a sail supposed to be the *John Adams*. Midnight fresh gales with thunder & lightning. At ½ past 12 double reef'd the after main sail. At 1 tack'd & sprung the main boom near the sheet blocks, Wore ship every four hours the remainder of the night. At 7 made all sail, tacking to windward for Gibraltar. At 12 the bay in sight. At 5 P. M. came too with the Starb<sup>d</sup> Anchor in 17 ½ fathoms. Europa point bearing S ½ E. S<sup>t</sup> Rocque N by E. At 10 the *John Adams* (frigate) came too in the bay. Midnight fresh breezes from the E<sup>d</sup> —

[NDA.]

[14 October 1803]

To President Thomas Jefferson from the Dey of Algiers

Copy by Translation

This letter of Mustapha Pascha dey of Algiers

To The Great of The Gov<sup>t</sup> of The Divan of America. —

If you are my friends and wish to remain so and wish to preserve your treaty with me you will send to me 10 Guns Brass 24 pounders with Carriages &<sup>s</sup> and also 5 Brass Guns 18 pounders with Carriages &<sup>s</sup> — Guns long for Batteries. I request you will not forget our friendship I have spoken to your Consul on the subject and he is not inclineable to write although I consider him as Equal to one of y<sup>r</sup> divan — and therefore request for our friendship and our treaty That you will not write me evasive to my demand — as any favour demanded on your part I shall comply therewith. whether your demand is great or small —

this letter by order of Mustapha Pascha dey of Algiers & with his great Seal. The 26<sup>th</sup> of The Moon of Grimad Alahar 1218 — Corresponding with The 14<sup>th</sup> of October 1803 —

Certified to be The substance or translation of the deys letter wrote in Moorish —

O'BRIEN

NB The dey further requires 60 Ths<sup>d</sup> Bricks for furnaces

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. 6, Jan. 1801–Dec. 1803.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Captain John Rodgers, and Lieutenant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, and Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

Copy

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Newyork*, TANGIER BAY,

October 14, 1803.

SIR; Agreeably to your request that we would examine the Moorish Ship *Mirboha* now in this Bay, prize to the United States frigate *Philadelphia*, and state to you what we consider the real value

as she now lays, we have the honor to inform you that we have examined said ship, and consider that her Hull, Masts, Spars and rigging, Cables, Anchors, Cannon, Military stores and other Articles belonging to her are worth ten thousand dollars. —

signed { JN<sup>o</sup> RODGERS  
 TOBIAS LEAR —  
 ISAAC CHAUNCEY —

Commo<sup>o</sup> PREBLE.

[NDA. Cong. LB, Vol. 1, 1798-1811.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Lieutenant Joseph Tarbell, U. S. Navy

TANGIER BAY Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> 1803

SIR. Agreeable to your order I took charge of the prize ship *Mirboka*, with ten men from the *Constitution*. found on board Messrs Reed Morris & McDonough, Midshipman, and 15 men I gave orders to the above mentioned officers to keep a regular watch on Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> Mr. McDonough having the morning watch, took the boat with 6 men went on shore to get provisions for the ship, while he was procuring it, the men left the boat, Viz. Thom<sup>o</sup> Green, W<sup>m</sup> Hughes & John Cox., on the 5. M<sup>r</sup> McDonough, again being on shore, while he was absent from the boat, John Tuck[?], left the boat. on the morning of the 6. Mr. Reed having the middle watch & Morris the morning watch, between the Hours of 4 & 5. A. M. in Morris watch, at daylight discovered the boat was gone which was moored a stern, in mustering the men, found, James Pierce & Jos Dunbevin, missing, I borrowed a boat, sent the officers on shore at the old Mole, found the boat taken up by a Spanish Latteen boat, by reason of the Centinal not suffering them to land without a permit. by information they got of the sergeant of the guard at the landing, concluded they had proceeded to Algeiras I then borrowed a boat and sent the officers to that place, who returned the same evening, without having been able to obtain any information of them. the next morning I sent Mr. McDonough, & Morris on shore at the old mole, with orders to look through the Town, & to search the shipping at the new mole and to enquire of the officers of the *Medusa* Frigate if they had received any men on board within a Few days, accordingly at the ragged staff, they enquired of a Midshipman belonging to the *Medusa* for them and found that two men had Joined her the day before, they then proceeded to the new mole to get a passage on board, on their way thither, they saw Green, Cox, & Hughes pursued and overtook Green & Cox, conducted them to the nearest centinel, requested the centery to take charge of them which he did, they could not cetch Hughes then, but got information of his having gone up to the new mole, they prosued after him, where they found him with an officer, and boats crew belonging to the *Medusa*, he claimed protection from under his flag as a british subject, from whom they demanded him as belonging to the service of the U. States which demand he refused to comply with, and requested them to go on board, with Hughes on board the *Medusa*, and demand him of the commanding officer of the ship as he should not give him up, Accordingly they went on board, & found two others, Viz. Pierce & Dunbevin, and demanded the three as belonging to the U S. Navy, the commander refused to give them up, because they had come on board and claimed the protection of his Majestys Flag as British sub-

jects. Mr. Morris & Mc. Donough, returned on shore, to take the other two, which they had placed under the care of the Centinel, on coming to the box was informed, the Cap<sup>t</sup> of the guard had liberated them, they could not be found. they then returned on board and made their report. I then went on board the *Medusa*, and again demanded them of Cap<sup>t</sup> Gore, but without affect. I then immediately reported it to Lt. Stewart commanding the Brig *Syren*. — the above is a true statement. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 14 October 1803

we continue at anchor/ in Tangeir Bay/the *Newyork* in company/ at ½ past 1 P M Commodore Preble come on board/we had fresh Breezes all the afternoon the shipes company Emp<sup>d</sup> airing and drying sails/ Towards the Evening saild the united States Frigate *Newyork*/ when she was standing out the Bay she saluted the Moorish garrison/ the garrison Return<sup>d</sup> the salute/ after the garrison saluted we cheard ship which was answered by the *Newyork*/ there is now no American ship in Tangier Except the *Constitution* the *Merbocka* stills continues here

[NA. ND original.]

[15 October 1803]

To Secretary of State from Richard O'Brien, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

Supposeing you would think it best at present to send or procure the 10 — Guns 24 pounders & 10 ditto 18 pounders Carriages — Ramers Spunges lades — & 2 Ths<sup>d</sup> Shot. — & 30 Ths<sup>d</sup> Bricks — I should suppose this Commission would be executed in London for 20 — or 25 Ths<sup>d</sup> \$ — and the dey to take these Guns, for one years Annuity — as he sayes he will pay the cost. or am<sup>t</sup> — this business could thus be managed here by the Consul — that is if the Present Dey — should exist if not & the Guns to be forwarded — The new dey might insist on them as presents — as this dey did on the Corsair tack — this would take a time of 2 y<sup>rs</sup> or 18 months — As the dey has wrote on the business of the Guns but one letter — and its fate of arriveing safe is uncertain. the Gov<sup>t</sup> might say that they did or did not receive it, and the new Consul might say that the old Consul made no mention or representation on the business of the Guns to the Gov<sup>t</sup> of the U States. — Should y<sup>r</sup> ans<sup>r</sup> be as I have presumed to sketch it will be necessary that the Consul should be apprized some months before hand in order that he should concert his Plans for his own Personal Safety & allso — y<sup>r</sup> gaarding our Citizens & their property from any sudden surprize — and allso — to have a force ready and adequate to act — in case the dey should make war — therefore you should write at least 3 different letters — differing in words & leave all three to the Judgem<sup>t</sup> of the consul which should be the most proper to give the Dey as an ans<sup>r</sup> for it will be difficult to say — that when you wrote said letter — you might consider one thing but had the same person to deliver said letter & had the power to act he perhaps would, have given them a different ans<sup>r</sup> — Those Extra Events will finally Bring us into difficulties with All Barbary — we should therefore

directly build the 74 Gun Ships — and 6 more large frigates — We shall have to do it at last — if some great Event of Europe does not Curb the pride avarice & System of Barbary —

Respectfully Sir  
Y<sup>r</sup> Most Ob<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

OBRIEN

SECRETARY OF STATE —  
[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

Letter suggested as an answer to the Dey of Algiers

SUPPOSED DEPARTMENT OF STATE

I have received and perused The letter of y<sup>r</sup> Highness dated the 26<sup>th</sup> of The Moon of [Grimad] Alahar 1218 and has to inform you in Ans<sup>t</sup> that we have not brass Guns for your use. which Ans<sup>t</sup> we gave on a former application on this Subject which our Consul personally communicated to you

We wish to preserve the friendship of your highness. agreeable to the treaty we made with your Regency. but will not admit of any extra demands. or over acts. our regard for peace made us throw a veil. over your exacting from our Consul. The largest of the three Corsairs — notwithstanding y<sup>r</sup> Predecessor. had given a document with his Seal thereto. That The amount of Said Corsairs would cost, should be paid for by y<sup>r</sup> Gov<sup>t</sup> — or regency — but after This mark of our patience and friendship you wounded our feelings by obliging our Public Ship to go on your affairs to Constantionople — we Cannot help reminding your Highness of y<sup>r</sup> gaurantee of our treaty with Tripoli — That your Highness of great influence with The states of Barbary should admit The Pascha of tripoli to infringe Said treaty. and do away y<sup>r</sup> gaurentee. and in defiance thereof declare war against The U States. and your highness make no Effort to have your gaurentee respected. The same time any Passport issued by y<sup>r</sup> Highness on any occasion is respected by The Said Pascha. of tripoli — add to this y<sup>r</sup> demand for Passports. for Sending the crews of tripoline corsairs to tripoli. y<sup>r</sup> admitting the corsairs of tripoli to Bring american Vessels and crews into your ports. and granting The corsairs of tripoli Supplies — and allso insisting on sending cargoes to tripoli. The said port being in a state of Blockade — add to this your demand for 5 — or 6 of y<sup>r</sup> supposed subjects captured in a tripoline corsair — We cannot avoid calling These Circumstances of The infringement of the treaty to The recollection and consideration of y<sup>r</sup> highness — not doubting but you will Perceive that you have thus Voilated the treaty on your part. whereas on ours for all the articles sent on The Annuities you have given or allowed for said articles the prices you thought proper — and on which we have been The sufferer — add to This that we have stipulated to pay to The amount of 12 Ths<sup>d</sup> Sequins in money or Stores and if you do not take The stores at The prices they cost. you will accept of The cash — this is The light of equity in which we view or consider The treaty Stipulation — But beyond its limits. we give consular presents. Bennial presents Extra & Extraordinary presents — therefore we wish to keep to The treaty on terms of equity & Justice. but we have too great a regard to our Honor & dignity Then to con-

descend and acquire to all The Unjust and Extra demands of your Highness —

JEFFERSON

Suposed Ans<sup>r</sup> of The PRESIDENT

*To The Meditteranian Don Quixotte*

NB The dean Swede dutch & spanish consuls has acquired to The deys demands on the business of The Guns their amount is to be deducted out of The Annuities of Powder & Cables prices no doubt  $\frac{1}{4}^{\text{th}}$  or  $\frac{1}{2}^{\text{d}}$  less then The Value of The Guns — If The gov<sup>t</sup> of The U States. should acquire to Search [?] for The guns required by the dey, it would be best. to write to London and know what Sums Said guns carriages &<sup>s</sup> would cost. and to forward said prices or Values to The consul at Algiers if The dey was content to have Them on Said terms well if not he might do as he had a mind —

OBRIEN

ALGIERS *The 15<sup>th</sup> of October 1803*

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. 6, Jan. 1801-Dec. 1803.]

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[15 October 1803]

N<sup>o</sup> 2 —Vessels Convoeyed by U. S. Sloop of War *Siren*A list of Merchant Ships & Vessels under the Convoy of the U. S. Sloop of War *Siren*, Cha<sup>t</sup> Stewart Esq<sup>r</sup> Com<sup>d</sup>r from Gibraltar

Date	Vessel's Names	Master's Names	Owner's Names	Where bound	To whom Consigned	Number of			Lading &c
						Men	Guns	Tons burden	
1803									
Oct <sup>r</sup> 15 <sup>th</sup>	Ship <i>Petapso</i> .....	Bap <sup>t</sup> Mezick .....	Smith & Buchanan .....	of Balte to Leghorn .....	Dagan & Purviance .....	12		230	Coffee Sugars Flour &c
	Brig <i>Fame</i> .....	Lew <sup>s</sup> Nicholson .....	Geo: Stile — .....	of d <sup>o</sup> to ditto .....	Jos <sup>ph</sup> Stile .....	11		130	d <sup>o</sup> d <sup>o</sup> Pepper &c
	Scht <i>Equality</i> .....	Abiel Burgiss .....	A. Burgiss — .....	of Salem to d <sup>o</sup> .....	A Burgiss .....	7	4	102	Fish & d <sup>o</sup>
	Sh <sup>p</sup> <i>Ossipee</i> .....	Benj: Hutchins .....	Loring & Curtis — .....	of Boston to Marseilles .....	Jerem <sup>h</sup> Lee .....	13	2	153	Pepper
	" <i>Hibernia</i> .....	Jn <sup>o</sup> Leach .....	Jos <sup>ph</sup> Taylor — .....	of d <sup>o</sup> to d <sup>o</sup> .....	Jn <sup>o</sup> Emery .....	13	2	185	Sugars Coffee Pepper &c
	" <i>Trent</i> .....	Nath Kinsman .....	W <sup>m</sup> Gray — .....	Salem to Leghorn .....	Nat. Kinsman .....	11	4	191	Sugars
	" <i>Genl Wayne</i> .....	Tho <sup>s</sup> Spire — .....	Jn <sup>o</sup> M. Forbes .....	New York to Zant .....	Jn <sup>o</sup> Newbold .....	10		200	Ballast

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

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

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*

*Gibraltar Bay 15<sup>th</sup> Oct: 1803*

SIR It is with pleasure I announce to you the renewal of Peace between the United States & Morocco. The enclosed documents will inform you that the Treaty of 1786 is ratified by the present Emperor I hope and trust that this important object has been effected on as favourable grounds as was anticipated by our Government. I offer for your consideration, not only the enclosed papers, but beg leave to refer you to the Secretary of the Navy whom I have advised of the most minute transactions before, and during our negotiations with His Imperial Majesty —

Enclosed is a letter from the Emperor to the President of the United States. It seems that His Majesty is very desirous of a correspondence. Indeed he appears very much hurt, that he has not rec<sup>d</sup> any letters from the President. I beg leave to suggest whether the answering this letter, and afterwards to send him one annually, might not have a good effect, for as far as I am capable of judging the native deposition of these Barbarians I think them highly susceptible to attentions of this kind — I however submit this matter to your better Judgment

[LC. EPP, LB, 1803.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Saturday, 15 October 1803

Wind ENE fresh Gales and Rain — at 5 PM weighed & Sailed for Gibraltar Saluted the Moorish Garrison with 13 Guns which was returned with an equal number at 7 AM the Wind shifted to the Westward at 10 Gibraltar Town bore NEbN. dist<sup>s</sup> 6 Miles Steering into the Bay at 11 AM anchored in 15 fathoms Water — Col: Lear landed —

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

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 15 October 1803

we continue at single anchor in Tangeir at 3 the Commodore and Conoler Lear came on board at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 4 P M. weigh<sup>d</sup> and came to sail/ under the following sail/ three Reef<sup>s</sup> in the fore and main Topsail close Reef<sup>d</sup> Mizen Topsail/ Saluted the Garrison with 13 Guns/ an equal number was Returnd from the garrison/ we set the fore sail and stood out into the Straits in order to worke up to Gibraltar/ \* \* \* by 6 in the Morning we was well up with Ceuta/ which is the Eastern land of the Straits on the Barbary side/ between 7 and 8 in the morning the wind shifted Round to the SW/ Squared away and steerd for Gibraltar Bay at which place we came to with the Best Bower at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 10 in the forenoon/ the depth of water 13 fath<sup>s</sup> hard Bottom/ Europa-point South  $\frac{1}{4}$  E. the old Mole SEbE. nearly two miles/ we found here at anchor the *Newyork John Adams* and the Brig *Syren* Commodore Roggers and Captain Campbel waited on Commodore Preble/

[NA. ND original.]



Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKraft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 15 October 1803

[Gibraltar Bay] \* \* \* \* \* At 9 the launch which had been sent on shore for the larboard Anchor, return'd, got the Anchor on board & stow'd it. Att 11 arrived & anchor'd the U. S. Frigate *Constitution* Commod<sup>o</sup> Prebble from Tangier, after affecting an honorable peace with the Emperror of Morocco. Hands employ blacking spritsail yard &c &. —

[NDA.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

(Copy)

GIBRALTAR, Oct<sup>r</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> 1803.

SIR, As Mr. Cathcart informs me that he has at Leghorn, Jewelry & Cash, to a considerable am<sup>t</sup> belonging to the U. States, which he is directed to deliver over to me, on account of the Consular present, &c. to be made to the Dey of Algiers — I beg leave to suggest, whether it might not be proper, and conducive to the interest of the U. States, that Capt. Stewart of the U. S. Brig *Syren*, which you are about to send with a convoy to Leghorn, should take on board Mr. Cathcart, who is now at this place, proceed with him to Leghorn, & there receive the cash & such other articles as he may put on board, belonging to the U. States, and from thence go to Algiers, where I may expect to be, previous to his arrival, and deliver the same to me. —

As the Consular present will be necessary for my regular establishment at Algiers, and as that, and the cash at Leghorn, is of considerable value, I conceive it would not be prudent, either as relating to time or security, to trust it to a casual conveyance; I am therefore persuaded, that you will give such orders on this subject, to Capt. Stewart, as will best effect the object & promote the interest of our Country.

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. 6, Jan. 1801–Dec. 1803.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 16 October 1803

Laying in Gibraltar Bay/ *Newyork/ John Adams* and the Brig *Syren/*

[NA. ND original.]

[5 to 17 October 1803]

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

UNITED STATES' FRIGATE *Constitution*,  
*Tangier Bay, October 5, 1803.*

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that I arrived here this day, and as the *Nautilus* was in sight to the westward, I made her signal to join me, considering it of importance to display as respectable a force to his Imperial Majesty's view as possible. Several letters passed between Mr. Simpson and myself. Among my despatches you will find arranged all my correspondence since I have been on this station.

*October 6th.* Mr. Simpson paid us a visit on board the ship; informed me that the Emperor was momentarily expected.

The *New York* and *John Adams* joined company. Our ships are constantly kept clear for action, and men sleep at quarters.

I sent a boat on shore with a letter to the Consul. The letter was delivered, and the boat returned without molestation. At 2 P. M. the Emperor arrived, and in consequence of his declaration that he was pacifically inclined, I ordered the ship dressed, and a salute of twenty-one guns, as a compliment to his majesty. The morning following he received a salute from the other ships. All our salutes were returned.

*October 7th.* The Emperor sent a present of ten bullocks, twenty sheep, and four dozen of fowls, for the squadron, as a token of his friendship.

*October 8th.* The Emperor appeared on the beach with his court and army, for the purpose of viewing the squadron. I saluted him from the ship, and was complimented with a return.

*October 9th.* The Emperor gave an order, under his seal, for the release of the brig *Hannah*, her cargo and crew, detained at Mogadore, and appointed Monday next to grant Mr. Simpson and myself an audience. The proofs which the Emperor has given of his pacific disposition, since his arrival, inclines me to believe that our differences will soon be adjusted, and peace fully restored. The weather has constantly been very stormy for several days past.

*October 10th.* The prize ship *Murboka* arrived here from Gibraltar by my orders. I gave those orders to enable me to restore her to the Emperor as soon after the adjustment of our differences as possible, to get clear of the trouble and expense of the crew.

The *Syren* passed to the westward with a convoy of seven sail of American vessels. I landed at Tangier about 11 o'clock in the forenoon, accompanied by Colonel Lear, Mr. Morris, as Secretary, and two midshipmen. At one P. M. with the addition of Mr. Simpson to our company, we were all conducted to the castle, and were soon ushered through a double file of guards, and conducted into the presence of the Emperor. Mr. Simpson and myself were desired to advance close to his majesty; the other gentlemen were kept back. We conversed with him by means of an interpreter. He expressed much regret that any differences had arisen between the two nations; disavowed having given any hostile orders, and declared he would punish those of his Governors who had. He said he was at present at peace with the United States, and wished to continue so. He promised to restore all American property, and release all our citizens that have been or may be detained in consequence of orders from any of his Governors. We assured him, on our part, that it was the wish of the President of the United States to be on terms of peace and friendship with his majesty; and I promised to deliver up to him the *Murboka*, and all other vessels of his nation that may have been detained by any of the vessels of my squadron, and to recall the orders I had given to capture Moorish vessels; and observed to him that I was authorized by Commodore Rodgers to say he would restore the *Meshouda*, but that we expected his majesty to ratify the treaty made by his father in 1786; this he promised most sacredly to do, and said his friendship for the Americans should last forever, and increase in strength in consequence of our disposition to oblige him. At two

o'clock, Colonel Lear and the other gentlemen, not admitted to the audience, returned to town. Mr. Simpson and myself finished with the Emperor, after his having assured us that whatever his prime minister should do with us, should be sanctioned by him, and receive his seal; and that he would authorize him to do whatever we pleased to ask of him, as a proof of his declarations. We were then conducted to a building in the castle, where we had a long conversation with the minister. I endeavored to impress on his mind the advantages of a free commercial intercourse which they might have with all nations; and that the revenues of the Emperor arising from that source, would be much greater than any thing they could expect if at war with us; as I should immediately blockade all his ports, and not suffer a vessel of any nation to enter or pass out; this appeared to have its full weight. He assured us every thing should be settled perfectly to our satisfaction. I ordered his majesty's colors to be hoisted on board the *Murboka* to gratify him.

*October 12th.* I received the orders of the Emperor, addressed to all his Governors and officers, for the release of the *Hannah*, at Mogadore, and all other vessels, &c. detained; his declaration, or proclamation of peace, and his ratification of the treaty, all with the imperial seal. I this day delivered up the *Murboka* to the Moors, agreeable to my promise, and Mr. Simpson and myself had an audience with the prime minister, who delivered me a letter from his Imperial Majesty to the President of the United States, expressive of his friendship for our nation, and his ratification of the treaty. The original Arabic and translation of the letter, and translations of all the other papers relative to the treaty, I shall forward to the Secretary of State, under cover to you, and shall send you copies of the whole, at the same time, in my despatches.

*October 13th.* Peace having been re-established, I despatched the *Nautilus* to Mogadore, to carry the news, and the order for the release of the brig *Hannah* and crew, and to recall the *Enterprise*, cruising off that port, and sent orders countermanding those for capturing Moors. The passage to Mogadore is fourteen days by land, and not more than forty-eight hours by water, with an easterly wind, which is now blowing a fresh gale. The *Syren* entered the bay; I immediately despatched her for Gibraltar, and sent letters to you and to our Consuls at different ports in Europe, with the news of peace, and ordered the *Syren* to prepare for convoying a number of merchant vessels from Gibraltar to Leghorn, which have been waiting several days for the settlement of our affairs with Morocco. The *John Adams* left the bay for Gibraltar.

*October 14th.* Commodore Rodgers, for the first time, landed with me, and, on our return, Colonel Lear accompanied us on board the *Murboka*, to estimate her value, and I hope the United States will make some allowance to the ship that captured her, as an encouragement to the officers and men. In the evening the *New York* left the bay for Gibraltar.

*October 15th.* Having settled every thing here, at six in the evening weighed and sailed for Gibraltar, saluted the garrison, and had an equal return. In the whole of this business, I have advised with Colonel Lear, Mr. Simpson, and Commodore Rodgers. I am confident we have all been actuated by the same motives — *the good of our country*; and I hope the President will approve our conduct.

I lost one of my heavy anchors, and a part of a bower cable, in the bay, and, as the buoy rope parted, I could not recover it, although several trials were made; I also lost half my stream cable; both were cut by the rocks.

*October 16th.* Arrived at Gibraltar, and anchored. The *Syren* getting ready for Leghorn; and the *New York* and *John Adams* for America. I shall wait here a few days for the *Enterprise*, *Nautilus*, and *Argus*; and proceed to Algiers. The *Nautilus* will go with me; the *Enterprise* will follow, as soon as she is new rigged, and has a convoy to take up: The *Argus*, Lieutenant Hull, I shall leave on this station this winter, and until she can be relieved by some vessel from the United States; as it absolutely necessary that one vessel, at least, should always rendezvous at Gibraltar, and show herself in Tangier Bay, and along the Morocco coast, occasionally. If this is done, we shall always be good friends with the Emperor. Mr. Simpson can give notice of any unfriendly appearance. I beg leave to recommend, in the strongest terms, the necessity of sending out, in addition to the present squadron, one of the small frigates and a brig or schooner, to remain on this station. I could call the frigate to my aid, if Tunis should threaten, and the schooner or brig would always be ready to come with despatches, while the frigate could remain here, if Morocco should again break with us. However, I do not believe they will; but it is best to look out for them.

While I was absent from this bay, four men, belonging to the *Philadelphia*, and two to this ship, deserted from on board the prize ship in this bay; three of them got on board the British frigate *Medusa*, Captain Gore, and were refused to the officer of the prize, who went and demanded them. The *Medusa* is now at sea, but expected in a few days. I have a letter prepared for the captain, which, I think, will bring the men back. I shall write you more of this business when it is concluded. Mr. Cathcart is here, and will proceed to Leghorn, in the *Syren*, to deliver the public property to Captain Stewart, to be transported to Algiers for Colonel Lear. I shall, agreeably to Colonel Lear's request, give Captain Stewart orders for that purposes. I expect to be able to leave this bay in eight days, for Algiers, and from thence off Tripoli. I do not expect to do much this winter, but, when the spring opens, I hope to convince the Bashaw of Tripoli that it will be for his interest to have peace with us on our own terms. I am confident that more active exertions have never been made by the same number of ships and vessels, of any nation, than have been made by the ships and vessels of the United States on this station, within these four weeks past. I have much pride and pleasure in making the assertion, as it adds reputation to our navy in the opinion of other nations. The ships sail this evening for the United States. My time is very much engaged in the various duties that call for my attention, and I hope you will excuse any want of information which I may have neglected to give you.

*October 17th.* The ships not being ready to sail, I kept my letter open, and have the pleasure to acquaint you that the ship *Betsy Walker*, which loaded at Norfolk, for Algiers, has delivered her cargo there, and arrived here this day. Every thing stands fair and friendly at that regency, but I much fear some accident has happened to the other ship loaded at Norfolk, as I have not heard any thing of her.

I have sent home, by the *New York* and *John Adams*, eight invalids, belonging to the *Philadelphia*, and eight belonging to this ship; also, the acting boatswain and gunner which I brought out, neither of which being competent to their duty; and have also taken the boatswain of the *New York*, and the gunner of the *John Adams*, to fill their stations.

It is absolutely necessary that every article of the provision, &c. composing our rations, should be sent from the United States, as well as wood and coal, as they cannot be procured in this country, in consequence of the war between France and England. I would inform you that Mr. Gavino has but a small quantity of provision on hand.

It is probable that we shall fix on Malta for our deposit of provisions; it is, however, impossible to determine on this till I go there myself; it would, therefore, be advisable to charter the provision ships to go to Gibraltar, stipulating that they should proceed to Malta, if required.

[Am. State Papers. Nav. Aff., Vol. 1.]

To Captain John Gore, Royal Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATE'S SHIP *Constitution*

17th. October 1803

SIR Captain Stewart of the United-State's Brig *Siren*, has reported to me, that Joseph Dunbeavan, Thomas Pierce, and William Hughes, deserters from the United-States' Squadron under my command, are detained on board his Britanic Majesty's Ship *Medusa*, under your command. The above named deserters, are subjects of, and have taken the oath of allegiance to the United-States; and I now demand them as such, and have a right to expect, that you will deliver them up to the Officer who will hand you this.

Your Officers committed an unjustifiable outrage, by forcibly detaining a deserter from the Service of the United States, at one of the landing places in Gibraltar; protecting him from the Midshipmen who were sent on shore to recover him, and transporting him to the *Medusa*; and I regret that I have reason to suppose, this conduct of your Officers to have met with your approbation. On your part, this is so very extraordinary, and different from anything that any of our ships have heretofore met with, on this, or any other Station, that I must confess myself at a loss to account for the sudden and inhospitable change of conduct towards us. I presume it cannot be authorised by your Government. If so, I wish to be informed of it. If you decline satisfying me on this head, I must apply to the Admiral, and at the same time, I shall make a representation to my Government.

The Officers of our Navy, have invariably given up deserters from the British Navy or Armies, on the first application; and have a right to expect the same liberality on your part.

I am not willing to believe it is your intention to encourage desertions from our Ships, by affording your protection to every one who, has an opportunity to claim it; if it should be, it will throw into your Ships, every man who, has conducted improperly, and has been treated according to his demerits, who has an opportunity to desert.

I now take the liberty to inform you, that I know of no such person as a *British Subject*, on board of any [of] the Ships of the Squadron under my command: I know them only as *Citizens* of the United States,

who have taken the Oath of Allegiance to our Government, and have volunteered their Services.

I presume this notice will induce you to give such orders, as will in future prevent any of your Officers from attempting to entice, or forcibly take from, any of the United-States' Officers, the Men placed under their charge, either in Boats or Prizes; as I shall consider every such attempt, in a National point of View. It is my duty, and that of every Officer in our Service, as carefully to avoid the commission of, as the submission to, *Injury* or *Insult*.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

To Captains Edward Preble, Hugh G. Campbell, and Lieutenant Isaac Chauncey,  
U. S. Navy, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. FRIGATE *New York*,  
*Gibraltar Bay October 17<sup>th</sup> 1803*,

Gentlemen, The *Mashouda* Tripoline Ship being ready to proceed to Tangier with the first fair Wind, and then to be Delivered up to the Emperor of Morocco, in consequence of his Ratifying the Treaty between the United States and his Empire of 1786. As the most Interested persons in this Business, and for the good of the Parties concerned, I have to request that you will appraise the *Mashouda* with her Cargo and everything belonging to her, as the Laws of the United States direct and furnish me with a Certificate of her valuation for my exoneration,

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

[17 October 1803]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Captains Edward Preble and Hugh G. Campbell, and Lieutenant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy

SIR, Agreeable to your request of this date to us directed, we have taken a survey of the Ship *Messhouda* for the purpose of estimating her value, and it is our unanimous opinion that the ship together with her guns & stores of every description and Merchandize on board as p<sup>r</sup> Inventory presented to us by you, would be worth in the United States \$17,189 agreeable to the foregoing statement. —

signed. — { ED<sup>d</sup> PREBLE  
H. G. CAMPBELL  
I. CHAUNCEY.

To Commo<sup>r</sup> JN<sup>o</sup> RODGERS  
U. S. frigate *New York* —  
*Gibraltar Bay. Oct<sup>r</sup> 17. 1803.*

[NDA. Cong. LB, Vol. 1, 1798–1811.]

Estimate of Value of Prize Ship *Meshouda*

Estimate of the value of the Ship *Messhouda* a prize to the United States frigate *John Adams* [captured 13 May 1803]

The Ship with her Boats, Masts, Spars, Cables and Anchors, Sails and Rigging, Water Casks, Colours, Compasses and other Ship Chandlery-----	\$6, 500
20 p <sup>r</sup> Cannon with Carriages, Tackles, Britchings, Worms, Ladles, Rammers & Sponges & <sup>r</sup> & <sup>r</sup> complete-----	5, 000
Muskets, Cutlasses, Pistols, & boarding pikes-----	1, 136

30 bbls powder & all the Shot on board agreeable to Inventory	1, 000
Merchandize on board estimated at <i>Prime Cost</i> to be delivered up with the Ship.....	3, 553

D<sup>r</sup> 17, 189

[NDA. Cong. LB, Vol. 1, 1798-1811.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 17 October 1803

Moored in Gibraltar Bay/ winds Variable from WNW to ESE on our arrival here the 15 of this month i was informed that the *Mesouda* was to be given up to the Emperour of Morocco/ perhaps it may be necessary to mention some of the particulars about the *Mesouda*/ Shee was Blockaded in Gibraltar sometime ago/ by Commodore Dale afterwards by Commodore Morris/ as one of the Cruisers Belonging to the Bey or the Bashaw of Tripoly/ on application from the Bey or the Bashaw of Tripoly to the Emperour of Morrocco/ Shee was permitted to sail from Gibraltar/ under the immedeatly order of the Emperour of Morrocco/ Shee not being navigated agreeable to the Emperours directions/ Shee was captured by the Frigate *John Adams*/ and is now in Gibraltar/ Agreeable to the Treaty Between Commodore Preble and the Emperour of Morrocco Shee is given up to the Emperour of Morrocco/ the *Mesouda* proceed from gibraltar with all the Men Taken on board of her/ to the port of Salle/ Shee is there to be hauld up and never to go to sea again/

[NA. ND original.]

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

NAV. DEP<sup>t</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 18. 1803

agreeably to the information given you in my letter of yesterdays date I have ordered shipments of Pork and beef to be made to you from Baltimore, Philadelphia New York and Boston, the whole of which together with what you have on hand is intended to be sent to the mediterranean for the use of our Squadron in that Sea

I wish you to provide in Season a Vessel to carry —

- 300 barrels of Beef
- 250 d<sup>o</sup>.....Pork
- 90 d<sup>o</sup>.....flour
- 75, 000 <sup>lb</sup>.....Bread
- 15, 000.....Rice
- 300 Bus beans or pease

The Beef and Pork you will have in Store — the flour, Rice, beans or pease & 45,000 <sup>lb</sup> of Bread you will provide on the best terms in your power — The Bread must be baked twice and sent out in Barrels or Hogsheads — Be pleased to be particularly attentive to this article — We shall send you 30,000 <sup>lb</sup> of Bread from Alexandria. —

The Vessel must be engaged so as to be ready to take in her cargo by the time the Beef and Pork arrives at norfolk which we presume will be about the 15<sup>th</sup> of next month — The provisions are to be sent to Gibraltar and probably thence to malta — I will thank you to ascertain as early as may be practicable the terms on which you can engage a Vessel to carry the Provisions to Gibraltar and also on what terms her owner or Owners would engage that she shall proceed thence to malta

with the cargo — It will be proper if practicable to engage her conditionally to proceed to Malta — this however must be left to the option of the Government and must be determined by John Gavino Esq<sup>r</sup> at Gibraltar on the arrival of the Vessel at that place — The cargo must be ensured Value \$14195 —

It will be agreeable to me to hear from you that you will experience no inconvenience in the Execution of these instructions —

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 6, 1802-1803.]

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

N<sup>o</sup> 2.

GIBRALTER *October 18<sup>th</sup> 1803*

SIR, My last (duplicate of which I have the honor to transmit by this conveyance) was down to the 26 of Sept<sup>r</sup> — On that day the U. S. Frigate *New York*, left this bay on a Cruize off Larache, Mogodore &<sup>e</sup> — On the 29<sup>th</sup> the U. S. Frigate *John Adams* returned from her cruize, without having met the Moorish Frigate *Maimona*, which was the object of her search — At the same time our Consul, M<sup>r</sup> Gavino, rec<sup>d</sup> a letter from M<sup>r</sup> Jarvis, our Consul at Lisbon, informing him that the said Frigate had arrived at Lisbon on the 13<sup>th</sup> ultimo, without having captured anything, so that we were happily relieved from our anxiety occasioned by the report from Cadiz of her having taken 4 Am. Vessels.

On the 30<sup>th</sup> OF SEPT<sup>r</sup> the U. S. Frigate *Constitution* came into the Bay, the weather having been so bad for some days past as to make her continuing in the Straits, not only useless, but even hazardous. Commodore Preble stated to me the information he had rec<sup>d</sup> from M<sup>r</sup> Simpson relative to our affairs when the *Constitution* was off Tangier. — The Emp<sup>r</sup> of Morocco denies having given orders to capture Am. Vessels — has liberated M<sup>r</sup> Simpson from his confinement — ordered him not to have any communication with Hashash, nor attend to any directions he might give — expresses a strong wish to be at Peace with the U. S. agreeably to the Treaty of 1786 — proposes that what has been taken on both sides shall be given up — and that the affair of the *Moushouda*, taken off Tripoli, under his flag, be investigated and decided upon equitable principles. — He is expected at Tangier on Tuesday, when the commodore intends going down with the *Constitution* to meet him, and requests that I will accompany him, which I readily consented to do. —

In the afternoon of this day (Oct<sup>r</sup> 1<sup>st</sup>) the U. S. Brig *Syren*, Cap<sup>t</sup> Stewart arrived from Philad<sup>a</sup>

On the 2<sup>d</sup> the U. S. F. *John Adams* sailed from Gibraltar Bay to go off Larache &<sup>e</sup> to meet the *New York*, and return with her to Tangier Bay to join the *Constitution*, and display before the Emperor a respectable force, and be able, in the event of decided hostility, to shew him that we were able to injure him more than by capturing his Vessels. —

On the 3<sup>d</sup> Commodore Preble rec<sup>d</sup> dispatches from M<sup>r</sup> Simpson, enclosing his further correspondence with the Emperor & his Prime Minister on the subject of our Affairs; stating that the Emp<sup>r</sup> was sincerely disposed to peace, and desired that the Ship *Mirboka* sh<sup>d</sup> be bro<sup>t</sup> to Tangier to be del<sup>d</sup> up to him, in the event of an amicable adjustment of our differences — that he had given an order for the release of the Am. Brig. *Hannah*, Crew & Cargo detained at Mogodore,



w<sup>h</sup> sh<sup>d</sup> be del<sup>d</sup> up without loss — and earnestly desired the Commodore might meet him at Tangier. — M<sup>r</sup> Simpson recommended that the *Mirboka* sh<sup>d</sup> be bro<sup>t</sup> down, agreeably to the Emp<sup>r</sup>'s wishes; which the Commodore determined to comply with, and accordingly sent a Lieut. and 20 men from his own Ship to put her in order and take her over to Tangier when the *Constitution* sh<sup>d</sup> sail, w<sup>h</sup> w<sup>d</sup> be this evening. And orders were given to Cap<sup>t</sup> Stewart of the Brig *Syren* to sail at the same time, with a convoy of Am. Vessels bound to the Westward, and proceed with them 20 leagues out of the Straits. — We got under way about 7 o'clk with a light air of wind. — The *Syren* & her Convoy got under way at the same time; but without much prospect of getting out of the Bay with this light wind. — The *Mirboka* not being quite ready the Lieu<sup>t</sup> on board was ordered to follow the Commodore to Tangier as soon as possible.

On Tuesday the 4<sup>th</sup> we reached Tangier Bay, and came to anchor about 12 o'clk, within a short distance of the Forts. — At the same time the U. S. Schooner *Nautulus*, Capt Sommers, came to Anchor in the Bay — we having met him off Tangier, and the Com<sup>d</sup>e giving him orders to that effect. —

A boat was got ready to send on shore from the Ship, to bring off any communications w<sup>h</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Simpson might have to make, when her going was rendered unnecessary by a Spanish boat coming off with a letter from him to the Com<sup>d</sup>e saying that the Emp<sup>r</sup> w<sup>d</sup> be here tomorrow, and request<sup>d</sup> that the Com<sup>d</sup>e would, if agreeable to his own ideas on the subject, dress ship, and salute the Emp<sup>r</sup> on his arrival, as he conceived such a complim<sup>t</sup> w<sup>d</sup> be attended with good effects. — The Com<sup>d</sup>e readily agreed to it. —

After sun set, all hands were called to quarters, and every thing prepared for Action; which continued so through the night; the men sleeping at the Guns. (The same order was observed every night until our affairs were fully settled with the Emp<sup>r</sup>) This was a very proper and judicious measure to prevent the possibility of a surprize by an attack from the Forts, if they sh<sup>d</sup> be disposed to annoy us; and it had a most excellent effect on the Moorish Capt<sup>n</sup> & Officers on board, by convincing them that the Ams. w<sup>d</sup> never be taken by surprize or unprepared.

On Wednesday the 5<sup>th</sup> the Emp<sup>r</sup> arrived at Tangier about 2 o'clk P. M. when the Commodore saluted him with 21 Guns & dressed Ship. — In the evening a boat come off with a letter from M<sup>r</sup> Simpson to the Com<sup>d</sup>e saying that the Emp<sup>r</sup> had sent his prime Minister to Tituan on business, and that he w<sup>d</sup> not give an Audience or enter into any negociations until his arrival

Early in the Morn<sup>g</sup> of the 6<sup>th</sup> the U. S. F<sup>1</sup><sup>s</sup> *N[ew] Y[ork]* & *J<sup>s</sup> Adams* came to anchor in the Bay; and at 8 they saluted with 21 Guns each, which was returned by the Forts, with a like number of Guns for each Ship.

In the forenoon M<sup>r</sup> Simpson came on board the *Constitution* for the first time. — He observed that the Emp<sup>r</sup> had sent him word that he might either go off to our Ships, or the boats might come on shore with perfect safety, and that all things are, as they were before. — This permission was given without any application on the part of M<sup>r</sup> Simpson. — M<sup>r</sup> S. expressed a full expectation of everything being perfectly adjusted; but that nothing w<sup>d</sup> be done until the arrival of the Minister from Tituan; and indeed he expressed a wish that the

Emp<sup>r</sup> might not be pressed to an attention to our affairs until the Minister's arrival, lest he sh<sup>d</sup> authorize some other person to adjust the differences, who might not be so well disposed towards us as he knew the Prime Minister to be. —

FRIDAY OCT<sup>r</sup> 7<sup>th</sup>

In the morn<sup>g</sup> the Com<sup>de</sup> sent a boat on shore, with a flag to carry a letter to M<sup>r</sup> Simpson. — At noon the Emp<sup>r</sup> appeared on the Battery, for the purpose of having a better view of the Ships. The Com<sup>de</sup> upon seeing him there, saluted him with 21 Guns, which, it appears, had a very good effect upon him. — In the afternoon he sent off to the Ships a present of 10 Bullocks & 20 Sheep, which was considered as a strong evidence of his wishes for an accommodation, as it had never been customary heretofore to send presents of this kind to Men of War, until after the Commanders had landed and had an audience. —

SATURDAY OCT<sup>r</sup> 8<sup>th</sup>

M<sup>r</sup> Simpson came off this morn<sup>g</sup> to Breakfast, when we had much conversation with him on the subject of settl<sup>g</sup> our differences with the Emperor. — On his return on shore M<sup>r</sup> S. found a letter for him, from the Emp<sup>r</sup> enclosing an Order for the release of the Vessel, Crew & Cargo detained at Mogodore, signed by himself & sealed with his private seal, without any conditions annexed to it; and appointed 12 o'clk on Monday for an audience to be given on the subject of our affairs. —

SUNDAY OCT<sup>r</sup> 9.

The weather was too bad to admit of any communications with the shore. A strong gale of wind from W<sup>t</sup> with heavy squalls & violent rain, continued all day. The Ship's cable was cut off by the Rocks, and finding her birth very bad, the Com<sup>de</sup> got under way in the afternoon, stood out of the Bay, & ret<sup>d</sup> again to a new birth. —

MONDAY OCT<sup>r</sup> 10<sup>th</sup>

At 11 o'clk A. M. Commodore Preble & myself went on shore, having rec<sup>d</sup> satisfactory assurances of safety & permission to return on board. — On reaching M<sup>r</sup> Simpson's House, the Swedish, Danish, Dutch, French & Spanish Consuls called to pay their compliments. At 12 o'clk, a message came from the Castle that the Emperor was ready to receive us. We repaired thither, and after waiting a short time, were conducted through a narrow passage (lined with the Emperor's guards) leading to a pair of large folding doors, which appeared to open into an interior apartment of the Castle. — When we had got within 20 paces of the folding doors, the Emp<sup>r</sup> made his appearance, from a side passage, near these doors, and seated himself on the Steps of them. — The Moors bowed to the Earth, and we, as requested, uncovered our heads. — After this ceremony the Emp<sup>r</sup> sent his Prime Minister (who had arrived this morn<sup>g</sup> from Tituan) to M<sup>r</sup> Simpson and the Commodore, to assure them of his friendly dispositions towards the U. S. — his regret at what had happened, w<sup>h</sup> he declared was without his Orders, and his readiness to do whatever might be desired to restore harmony and a good understanding. — He hoped that his Ship w<sup>h</sup> had been captured by the *Phil<sup>a</sup>* w<sup>d</sup> be restored, together with his subjects in our possession, as he had given orders for the restoration of the Vessel & c<sup>t</sup> detained at Mogodore: — and he also expressed a wish that the Ship *Mishouda*, w<sup>h</sup> had been taken enter<sup>d</sup> the Port of Tripoli, with his flag, might be given to him

as a favor, declaring that if the Capt. had attempted to go to Tripoli, it was contrary to his orders, and he sh<sup>d</sup> answer it with his head. — He acknowledged that her attempt<sup>s</sup> to enter Tripoli made her a good prize to us; but he requested her restoration as a favor (and particularly as Com<sup>r</sup><sup>e</sup> Morris had, upon her being captured in May last, written to M<sup>r</sup> Simpson, saying, that if it was shown that the act of her going to Tripoli was without the Emp<sup>r</sup>'s orders, she sh<sup>d</sup> be restored to him. The purport of w<sup>b</sup> letter had been communicated to the Emp<sup>r</sup>) and declared that if she sh<sup>d</sup> be given up she sh<sup>d</sup> never go beyond the extent of his own dominions while we might be at war with Tripoli.

In answer to this the Emp<sup>r</sup> was told, that we were equally desirous of peace & friendship with him, provided it could be received on a permanent & solid foundation; — that we only wanted a Solemn & formal ratification & confirmation of the Treaty made with his Father in 1786, with the best assurances the nature of the thing w<sup>d</sup> admit, that it sh<sup>d</sup> not be violated or altered, on his part, during the term for which it is to continue — That what we had done was only in consequence of the conduct of the Commander of his Vessel, which he had disavowed — that we were perfectly ready & willing to give up his Ship *Mirboka* and his subjects, upon a ratification being made, and a certainty that all Am. Vessels w<sup>b</sup> had been, or might be detained in his Ports, or captured by his cruizers sh<sup>d</sup> be given up with their crews & cargos, without loss; but that the restoration of the *Mishouda* w<sup>d</sup> be a subject of further consideration. — To all this the Emp<sup>r</sup> readily assented, and then desired that the Com<sup>d</sup><sup>e</sup> & M<sup>r</sup> Simpson might advance nearer to him, which they did, within a few paces. — While there, they had a further conversation on the foregoing subjects; when the Emp<sup>r</sup> assured them he w<sup>d</sup> grant all we had asked, and w<sup>d</sup> empower his prime Minister to settle the business immediately, to our entire satisfaction. — M<sup>r</sup> Simpson informed the Emp<sup>r</sup> of the unworthy treatm<sup>t</sup> he had rec<sup>d</sup> from Hashash, the Gov<sup>r</sup> of Tangier, who had confined him without just cause, and contrary to our Treaty made with his father, which he considered as a high indignity offered to the Nation which he represented, as well as to himself. — The Emp<sup>r</sup> declared it was done without his order or knowledge, that it was an aggression improper & unmerited, and that it sh<sup>d</sup> never happen again. — The Com<sup>d</sup><sup>e</sup> informed him that he had his Ship *Mai[m]joma*, with his high Admiral, in his power, but had let her pass in friendship, finding she had the regular passport from our Consul; but that we could have no confidence in future in passports, or any other documents, if the late instance of them was not disavowed & corrected. — He also expressed to him, in strong language, the superior advantages which he w<sup>d</sup> receive from a full & secure commercial intercourse with the U. S. who, tho' prepared for war, and always ready to meet it, if necessary, yet preferd peace & commerce. —

The Emp<sup>r</sup> attended to these observations, again repeated his strong desire to be on the best terms with the U. S. and his readiness to ratify & confirm our treaty of 1786, in evidence of this disposition. — He said the Ship *Maimona* had no orders to capture Am. Vessels, w<sup>b</sup> was a proof that what had happened with the other Vessels was a mistake, and could never have been sanctioned by him. — He said he sh<sup>d</sup> write a letter to the President of the U. S. confirming all he had said. — After the audience was broken up, the Prime Minister took the

Com<sup>d<sup>e</sup></sup> & M<sup>r</sup> Simpson into an apartment of the castle, when he had a conversation with them on the points before stated, and promised that the letter to the Presid<sup>t</sup> of the U. S. the order for the restoration of all Vessels w<sup>b</sup> had been or might be detained or captured, and the other documents sh<sup>d</sup> be made out without delay. —

The Ship *Mirboka* arriv<sup>d</sup> in Tangier Bay while we were with the Emp<sup>r</sup> and anchored near our frigates, which afforded the Emp<sup>r</sup> an opport<sup>y</sup> of mak<sup>k</sup> a comparison between his ship & ours as to size. — At the same time the U. S. Brig *Syren* passed down the Straits, with her convoy from Gibralt<sup>r</sup> — We dined at M<sup>r</sup> Simpson's, and ret<sup>d</sup> on b<sup>d</sup> the *Constitution* after dinner. — The Moors, as we passed through the Town, expressed by their words & looks, the high satisfaction they felt on the prospect of our differences being amicably settled. —

TUESDAY OCT<sup>r</sup> 11<sup>th</sup>

Com<sup>d<sup>e</sup></sup> Preble went on shore this forenoon to have a further conference with the Prime Minister on our Affairs. — He had the letter fm. the Emp<sup>r</sup> to the Presid<sup>t</sup> of the U. S. and two orders prepared (one to go by sea and one by land) for the release of the Vessel at Mogodore, and all others w<sup>b</sup> had been, or might be taken or detained. — It was intended to have been made a point with the Com<sup>d<sup>e</sup></sup> that in future no passport for a Cruizer sh<sup>d</sup> be demanded of our Consul, but in writing, under the seal of the Emp<sup>r</sup> to prevent his Governors from obtain<sup>k</sup> them as had been lately done: But as this was a subject in w<sup>b</sup> the other Consuls were also deeply interested, and as they had determind to make a joint application to the Emp<sup>r</sup> thereon, it was tho<sup>t</sup> best to waive it, for the present, and unite with them in this business.

The subject of the restoration of the Ship *Mishouda* to the Emp<sup>r</sup> was again mentioned at this meeting; when finding it was requested as a favour, and under the restrictions before ment<sup>d</sup> — and seemd to be a thing w<sup>b</sup> w<sup>d</sup> be highly gratifying to the Emp<sup>r</sup> who had already shewn so earnest a desire of being upon the best terms with us, and especially too, as Com<sup>e</sup> Rodgers, (under whose controul she was since the departure of Com<sup>d<sup>e</sup></sup> Morris) had, this morning, very readily consented to release her, if it could be productive of good to us, particularly after the letter w<sup>b</sup> had been written to M<sup>r</sup> Simpson by Com<sup>e</sup> Morris — Com<sup>e</sup> Preble did not hesitate to say she sh<sup>d</sup> be restored. — This was rec<sup>d</sup> with strong marks of sensibility & satisfaction. —

The Emp<sup>r</sup> ordered that the U. S. Ships of War sh<sup>d</sup> be furnished with 20 Bullocks — 50 Sheep & 100 doz of fowles, which was a very extraordinary supply. —

WEDNESDAY OCT<sup>r</sup> 12<sup>th</sup>

I went on shore early this morn<sup>k</sup> with Com<sup>d<sup>e</sup></sup> Preble. — We found the Emp<sup>r</sup> on the point of departing for Fez, and his prime Minister was soon to follow him; but, previous to his going, he sent for the Com<sup>d<sup>e</sup></sup> & M<sup>r</sup> Simpson, to whom he recapitulated the Emperor's strong assurance of peace & friendship, and his readiness to evince this disposition by every means in his power; — and expressed the high satisfaction of the Emp<sup>r</sup> on being assured that he sh<sup>d</sup> have the ship *Mishouda* restored to him; and again declared that the Moorish Capt<sup>n</sup> of that Ship sh<sup>d</sup> lose his head for daring to disobey the Emp<sup>r</sup>'s orders in attempting to go into Tripoli.

We ret<sup>d</sup> on board after an early dinner, when the U. S. Brig *Syren* coming into the Bay, the Com<sup>d<sup>e</sup></sup> did not permit her to anchor; but put on board her letters to be forwarded to our Consuls at Malaga,

Cadiz, Lisbon, Bourdeaux, London & & and to the Secretaries of State & Navy Departm<sup>ts</sup> — and ordered her to Gibraltar to get ready for tak<sup>g</sup> under her convoy, such Am. Vessels as might be bound up the Mediter<sup>n</sup> — At the same time he dispatched the U. S. Schooner *Nautulus* to Mogodore, with one copy of the Emp<sup>r</sup> order for the release of the Am. Vessels & & — and directed Capt Sommers to return immediately to join him at Gibraltar. — The U. S. F. *Jn<sup>s</sup> Adams*, left Tangier Bay the same time for Gibraltar. —

THURSDAY OCT<sup>r</sup> 13<sup>th</sup>

I went on shore with Commodores Preble & Rodgers. — The letter from the Emp<sup>r</sup> to the Presid<sup>t</sup> of the U. S. was copied & translated, and the other papers prepared. — In the Even<sup>g</sup> the U. S. F. *N. Yk* got under way for Gibraltar. —

Information was rec<sup>d</sup> from our Consul at Gibraltar that a yellow fever of a very malignant nature had appeared at Malaga; in consequence of w<sup>h</sup> all communication with that place & other Ports of Spain was cut off — and adviseing against having any communication with Vessels from there. —

FRIDAY OCT<sup>r</sup> 14<sup>th</sup>

I went on shore in the forenoon with Com<sup>dr</sup> Preble, when all the business with the shore was ultimately closed. We ret<sup>d</sup> on b<sup>d</sup> in the afternoon & got under way for Gibraltar, — salut<sup>d</sup> the Fort, w<sup>h</sup> was ret<sup>d</sup> with an equal number of Guns.

SATURDAY OCT<sup>r</sup> 15<sup>th</sup>

We anchored in Gibraltar Bay about 10 o'clk A. M. where we found the U. S. F<sup>ts</sup> *N. Yk* & *Jn<sup>s</sup> Adams* & Brig *Syren*.

I have now, Sir, given you a detail of occurrences up to the 15<sup>th</sup> of Oct<sup>r</sup> and for a more full & satisfactory acc<sup>t</sup> of the transactions with the Emp<sup>r</sup> and the ultimate adjustm<sup>t</sup> of our differences with him, I must refer you to the copies of the various letters & documents of every description, w<sup>h</sup> will be transmitted to the Sec<sup>y</sup> of the Navy & yourself, by Commodore Preble, who is as indefatigable in furnish<sup>g</sup> full information of every thing w<sup>h</sup> occurs, as he is active & able in producing events, w<sup>h</sup> may render such communications necessary & agreeable.

I trust the President will receive, with full satisfaction, the news of our differences w<sup>h</sup> Morocco being settled almost as soon as he will hear of their have<sup>g</sup> assumed a serious aspect. A concurrence of fortunate events put into our hands one of the Emp<sup>r</sup>'s frigates, and about 160 of his subjects; and the juncture of the outw<sup>d</sup> & homew<sup>d</sup> bound Squadron, at this place, in a critical moment, gave an opp<sup>y</sup> of displaying a large force — effectually protecting our trade — and striking no small terror into the inhabitants of the coast. — The activity of the Squadron was equal to its unexpected appearance. — Every Seaport in the Empire, from Mogodore to Tituan, had one or more cruisers off, to prevent the entrance or departure of any Vessels. — The Emp<sup>r</sup> came to Tangier. — Our frigates were drawn up ready to destroy his town, if he sh<sup>d</sup> be determined on hostilities. — The impression was strong; — and, the Emp<sup>r</sup> not only disavowed, in the most positive manner, every thing that had been done on his part of a hostile nature; but offered anything we could ask. — A very important point with us was to obtain a full & unequivocal ratification of our Treaty made with his father in 1786. — This was at once complied with, and not a demand or intimation of the expectation of a present from us, either in a gross

sum, or by way of annuity. — Thus was that business, which threatened serious evil to the commerce of the U. S. in these Seas, happily terminated in a few days.

In giving up to the Emp<sup>t</sup> his Ships & subjects, he had an evidence of our readiness to oblige him, and to cultivate a further good understand<sup>g</sup>; at the same time it was not injuring or disoblighing ourselves in any degree; for the ships were scarcely worth tak<sup>g</sup> to the U. S. and his subjects were an expence & burthen upon us. — It is, however, presumed that, as they were acknowledged to be fair prizes, the U. S. will pay to the Captors accord<sup>g</sup> to their valuation, as a due encouragem<sup>t</sup> for exertion, and a reward for the readiness with w<sup>h</sup> they were resigned without a reservation. —

In giving up these Vessels we can only be said to give a *quid pro quo*; for we understand that the Am. Brig detained at Mogodore, had a valuable Cargo, mostly of India goods, w<sup>h</sup> w<sup>d</sup> am<sup>t</sup> to considerably more than appraisem<sup>t</sup>[?] of the ships. —

Before I close this subject, I must do justice to the active & judicious measures pursued by Com<sup>d<sup>e</sup></sup> Preble, as well as the disinterestedness with w<sup>h</sup> he appears to act on all occasions, by saying that the spirited & determined manner in w<sup>h</sup> he wrote to M<sup>t</sup> Simpson, on his first arrival, request<sup>d</sup> that the same might be communicated to the Emp<sup>t</sup> — and his subsequent conduct correspond<sup>g</sup> with that determination, has been productive of very happy events. — The disposition made at Tangier had, undoubtedly the good effect to prevent any intreagues being used to turn the Emp<sup>t</sup> from his purpose of a satisfactory accomodation of our differences; for the best Houses in the Town belonged to the Consuls individually, or nationally: and their being fully persuaded that the town w<sup>d</sup> have suffered, probably have been destroy'd, in case the business sh<sup>d</sup> issue in a complete avowal of hostilities, kept them at least quiet, perhaps might have influenced some to endeavour to promote an accomodation. — Com<sup>d<sup>e</sup></sup> Rodgers deserves great credit for the cordiality & activity w<sup>h</sup> w<sup>h</sup> he has cooperated in such measures as were intended to promote the best Interest of the U. S. — And, indeed, the conduct of the commanders of the Vessels engaged in this service, appeared to be influenced by the same desire to terminate this business speedily & happily, that actuated the person who conducted it. —

But notwithstanding this business has been bro<sup>t</sup> to this favorable issue, and has terminated in a way that astonished all persons here, acquainted with Barbary Affairs; particularly as the Emp<sup>t</sup> has lately tho<sup>t</sup> proper to increase the tribute on some nations, w<sup>h</sup> has been acceded to; Yet I still entertain the opinion I had before, viz<sup>t</sup>, that if they sh<sup>d</sup> have captured a number of Am. Vessels, before their Cruizers were stop'd, and their ports blockaded, the thing w<sup>d</sup> not have been disavowed; but if we had been solicitous for a peace, it could not have been purchased on any tolerable terms for less than 50,000 doll<sup>s</sup> — and perhaps on no terms w<sup>d</sup> our former treaty have been ratified & confirmed; for it is considered by far the most favorable that any nation has with the Emp<sup>t</sup> — And I am also fully of opinion that this Coast sh<sup>d</sup> never be left entirely destitute of armed Vessels, while it may be tho<sup>t</sup> any ways necessary to keep a force in these seas. —

I have no doubt but we are perfectly secure ag<sup>t</sup> molestation from them, for some time to come; and, in the meantime, Com<sup>d<sup>e</sup></sup> Preble will make such arrange<sup>m<sup>t</sup>s</sup> for security here, as his present force will

permit, consistent with his other objects; but if all the force now here, be wanted at Tripoli, and addition [sic] will become necessary for this coast.

In conversation with M<sup>r</sup> Simpson, he mentioned to me repeatedly, with deep regret, that the Emp<sup>r</sup> had never been noticed by our Gov<sup>t</sup> for many years past, even so much as to have written him a letter, and he has reason to think that this is considered as a pointed neglect; and that the long-promised gun carriages hav<sup>e</sup> never been furnishd, confirms the idea of our hold<sup>g</sup> him in contempt. — Our peace is now renewed & confirmed, as far as the forms of these people ever confirm anything, and not a word has been said, by them, about the Gun carriages, or an intimation of a present. — This may be considered as leav<sup>g</sup> it optional as to the fulfill<sup>t</sup> of the former promise; but w<sup>d</sup> not good policy dictate the propriety of fulfill<sup>g</sup> it now, and mak<sup>e</sup> it appear as a new obligation? — For I presume these people never forget the non-fulfill<sup>t</sup> of a promise, however justifiable a nation may be in not complying with their engagem<sup>ts</sup> to them. — M<sup>r</sup> S. also laments that he hears so seldom from the Departm<sup>t</sup> of State, as to be left almost without instructions; and at a loss to know whether his conduct be approved of or not. — He complains of the lowness of his salary, and that he has repeatedly informed Gov<sup>t</sup> that he could not continue in his place unless it sh<sup>d</sup> be increased; and particularly as he has no house furnished him as is the case with other Consuls at Tangier. He now has a few inconvenient rooms in part of a house belonging to, and occupied by the Sweedish Consul. His own House in the Country is a pleasant & convenient summer residence; but in winter it becomes necessary to reside in Town, to be at hand to receive or give information to Vessels &<sup>c</sup> —

I am persuaded, Sir, you will not consider the foregoing observations as an officious interference in matters w<sup>h</sup> do not come immediately under my cognisance; but place them, as they truly ought to be, to the acc<sup>t</sup> of my desire of giving you all the information in my power, on subjects w<sup>h</sup> relate to your departm<sup>t</sup> and w<sup>h</sup> you may not be likely to receive from another source.

The U. S. Brig *Syren* will sail immediately with a convoy for Leghorn, — M<sup>r</sup> Cathcart takes passage in her, and will send by her to Algiers, the Consular present, Cash &<sup>c</sup> — I have the honor to enclose copies of M<sup>r</sup> Cathcart's letter to me, my answer thereto, and my letter to Com<sup>dr</sup> Preble on this subject (Enclosures N<sup>o</sup> 1. 2. 3.)

The Ship *Betsy Walker* arrived her yesterday from Algiers, where she landed the stores ship<sup>d</sup> on board her. — M<sup>r</sup> Gavino has a letter from M<sup>r</sup> O'Brien (a copy of w<sup>h</sup> he will probably transmit you) by this ship; but it mentions nothing of importance relating to our affairs at Algiers. — He says the Dey wants some of his subjects w<sup>h</sup> were in the Tripoline Ship. — If there were any such we will take them up in the *Constitution*; but I have never understood there were any of that regency on board. —

We shall sail for Algiers in a few days — The Com<sup>dr</sup> merely waits the arrival of the Schooners *Enterprize* & *Nautulus*, w<sup>h</sup> may be expected every day. — The Brig *Augus* is anxiously looked for from Boston \* \* \*

To Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Philadelphia*,  
from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

*Constitution* 18<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1803

SIR, I have the pleasure to inform you of the re-establishment of peace between the United States of America, and Morocco: — this object has been effected by the restitution of all captures on both sides, and the acknowledgment and ratification of the Treaty of 1786 &c<sup>s</sup> the particulars of which, I hope to communicate Verbally in a very short time, as I shall sail from this to Algiers in 8 or 10 days, and from thence off Tripoly —

After the receipt of this, you will cease to act under that part of your Orders which extend to the Capture of Moorish Vessels: — you will take care that L<sup>t</sup> Comd<sup>t</sup> Smith is advised of this —

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

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate  
*Constitution*, Tuesday, 18 October 1803

Completed my dispatches — Sent home in the *New York & John Adams* Eight Invalids belonging to this Ship, and Eight belonging to the *Philadelphia*. Discharged the Acting Boatswain & Gunner into the *New York* to do duty before the Mast, and rec<sup>d</sup> on board the Boatswain of the *New York* & Gunner of the *John Adams* and Nine Men and a Boy — two Men, John Plover & William Brown deserted from this Ship they swam off. M<sup>r</sup> Lewis Pilot of the *Newyork* Joined this Ship —

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

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 18 October 1803

We continue at anchor in Gibraltar Bay/ the *Newyork/ John Adams* and *Syren* in Company/ we this afternoon invalided from the *Constitution* to the *Newyork/* fifteen Seaman and two Marines/ Eight of those men we Rec<sup>d</sup> from the *Merboka* Belonging to the united States ship *Philadelphia/*

[NA. ND original.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 18 October 1803

[Gibraltar Bay] \* \* \* \* \* At 4 P. M. the U. S. Frigates, *New York & John Adams* got under way & sail'd for America. Rec<sup>d</sup> on board 33 barrels of bread likewise the sails & rigging that had been landed the 3<sup>d</sup> instant, Ends with the wind from the E<sup>d</sup> & pleasant weather. —

[NDA.]

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

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*

*Gibraltar Bay* 19<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1803

SIR I am informed that two Deserters from this Ship, John Plover, & William Brown, are on board H: B: M Ship *Amphion*, under your command. I beg leave to inform you that, they are both citizens of



the United-States of America, and largely indebted to the Ship; and Plover, has left an allotment of half his Monthly pay to his sister residing in Boston. It has ever been the practice of the commanding Officers of Ships in our service to give up Deserters from the British Navy, or Army, on the first application; and I have a right to expect the same liberality on your part. You will oblige me, by ordering the men to be delivered to the Officer who will hand you this, that they may return to their duty.

EDWARD PREBLE  
Commodore of the U: S: Squadron  
in the Mediterranean

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

To Degen, Purviance & Co., Leghorn, Italy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy  
UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution* GIBRALTAR BAY  
19th October 1803

Gentlemen I have the pleasure to announce to you the restoration of Peace between the United States and Morocco. and of the renewal & ratification of the Treaty of 1786 —

I have ordered Captain Stewart of the Brig *Syren*, to take charge of a convoy for Leghorn; and James L Cathcart Esquire, takes passage with him, for the purpose of delivering certain presents the property of the United States, in his possession, for the Dey of Algiers. I have to request that, you will lend Captain Stewart your assistance in facilitating his departure from your Port in case of quarantine &c. as it is of the first importance that the Presents above mentioned should arrive at Algiers as soon after Col: Lear (the American Consul General to that Regency) as possible. Col: Lear takes passage with me in 8 or 10 days —

[LC. EPP, LB, 1803.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 19 October 1803

Moored in Gibraltar Bay. Towards the Evening saild the united States Frigates, *Newyork* and *John Adams* and the *Mesouda*/ they were to stop at Tangier Bay and give up the *Mesouda* to the Emperour of Morrocco they than will proceed for America/ \* \* \* during the night/ anchord here the united States Schooner *Interprise* Lieutenant Hull/ who waited on Commo<sup>re</sup> Preble/ the *Interprise* has returned from her station to the westw<sup>d</sup>

[NA. ND original.]

To Captain George Hart, Royal Navy, H. B. M. S. *Monmouth*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U S FRIGATE *Constitution*  
Gibraltar Bay 20<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1803

SIR Since I came to this Bay several men have deserted from the ships of the squadron under my command. They are all considerably indebted to the ships they ran from, and many of them have made an allotment of half their monthly pay for the support of their families. They are all Citizens of the United States, and have taken the oath of Allegiance to our Government: and the oath which each man has subscribed to, is lodged in the Secretary of States Office.

Three of those men are detained on board His Britanic Majesty's Ship *Medusa*. In my absence from this, they were demanded of Captain Gore by the commander of the United States Brig *Syren* and refused to be given up. If the *Medusa* arrives before I put to Sea, I shall make a further demand of the deserters previous to making a representation to the British Admiral, or to my Government.

I am informed that John Plover, and William Brown deserters from this ship are on board the *Amphion* now in this Bay. If this information is correct, you will oblige me by directing them to be given up to the Officer who will hand you this.

The Officers commanding our Ships of War have invariably given up deserters from the British Navy or Army, on the first application and hope I shall not be disappointed in expecting the same liberality on your part.

[LC. EPP, LB, 1803.]

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Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 20 October 1803

We continued at anchor in Gibraltar Bay/ the *Syrin* and *Enterpris* in Company/

[NA. ND original.]

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Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 20 October 1803

At 2 came too in 24 fathoms Europa point bearing S  $\frac{1}{2}$  E S<sup>t</sup> Rocque N  $\frac{1}{2}$  E. Hands employd in making up spare sails & stowing them below. —

[NDA.]

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To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Captain George Hart, R. N.

HIS MAJESTYS SHIP *Monmouth*  
*New Mole Gibraltar 21<sup>st</sup> October 1803*

SIR I had yesterday the honor of receiving your letter respecting the seamen therein mentioned, who you say have deserted from the ships of your Squadron; You assert "they are all Citizens of the United States of America, have taken Oaths of Allegiance &<sup>t</sup> to your Government: that three of those men are detained, on board His Majestys Ship *Medusa*, and that two more are on board the *Amphion* at present in this Bay"; after receiving your letter I went on board the *Amphion*; Cap<sup>t</sup> Sutton says that two Seamen did come on board his ship to enter as Volunteers declaring themselves Englishmen, and that he did enter them accordingly, being first convinced, from a strict enquiry that he made, of their being Englishmen; the other three you mention that are on board the *Medusa* I can say nothing of till I see Cap<sup>t</sup> Gore. —

I beg leave to inform you that it is the Orders & Instructions of our Government, on our meeting with Ships of any foreign Nation whatever to demand all such British Seamen that may happen to be on board them. I am informed there are at present several of that description on board the *Constitution*, however being well convinced that it is far from the intentions of our Government to distress yours

in the smallest degree by Obliging any of our Seamen to quit your ships when it may be of the smallest Injury to your service; If however any British Seamen (when you are convinced they are such) wish to return to their own Service I trust you will Comply as far as in your power with their request; and we on our parts are ready to deliver to you all Seamen of the United States on an Application being made and a promise on your part of a like number of British Seamen in return. —

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*  
Gibraltar Bay

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

[21 October 1803]

To Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Siren*, from Surgeon Samuel S. Marshall, U. S. Navy

SIR Influenced by a desire to erase from your mind any unfavorable impressions which might have been received of the conduct of the officers of the brig *Syren*, whilst on shore, on the 19<sup>th</sup> instant; I conceive it a duty, I owe to them and myself, to assure you, that no riot, or other improper conduct, took place in the street, or in any other situation.

We spent the evening, with some British officers, in a *private* room of Bernards tavern, and altho' some misunderstanding did occur between them and us, it was confined to the room in which it originated, and has since been amicably and honorably adjusted. — I beg leave to assure you, that I feel as warmly interested in the honor and respectability of the service, as any man, and that I shall never give countenance to improper conduct in any place or situation. —

U. S. B. *Syren* 21<sup>st</sup> Octob<sup>r</sup> 1803

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

To James Duff, His British Majesty's Consul, Cadiz, Spain, from John Hunter, Madrid

*Circular*

MADRID 21<sup>st</sup> October 1803

SIR, In Consequence of instructions which I have this day recieved from Vice Admiral Lord Nelson Commander in chief of his Majesty's Fleet in the Mediterranean; I am to acquaint you that the Ports of Genoa & Spezzia have been declared in a state of Blockade; & you are hereby requested to communicate this information to all the Consuls or Vice Consuls of Neutral Powers in the Ports of your residence or its district, in order that, they may give notice to the Vessels of their respective Flags.

All Neutral Vessels attempting to enter the Ports of Genoa & Spezzia after the receipt of this Notification or found on the Coast between Leghorn & Cape Delle Melle will be stopped by his Majesty's Squadron & sent into Port of adjudication.

(Signed) JOHN HUNTER.

JAMES DUFF Esq<sup>r</sup>  
H M Consul &<sup>t</sup> Cadiz.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

To Captain George Hart, Royal Navy, H. B. M. S. *Monmouth*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. FRIGATE *Constitution*  
Gibraltar Bay 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1803

SIR I am honored with your letter of yesterday in answer to mine of the 20th. ins<sup>t</sup> Cap<sup>n</sup> Sutton acknowledges having received two men on board who say they are Englishmen. They were seen on board the *Amphion* by an Officer I sent to that Ship to make some enquiry respecting them; their names are John Plover, and William Brown, and both belong to this ship. Plover has allotted half his monthly pay for 18 Months to come to his family resident in Boston. They are both Citizens of the United States, and as such I demand them. As you are the Sen<sup>t</sup> Officer of H:B:M Ships in this Bay, it is from you that I have a right to expect an order for them to be given up to me.

I was not willing to believe that it was the intention of the Officers of the British Navy, to encourage desertion from our Service, untill Cap<sup>n</sup> Sutton avowed to a Lieu<sup>t</sup> of the *Constitution*, his determination to afford his protection to every man who has an opportunity to claim it, and will say he is an Englishman; and that he had given orders to the Officers of his Boats to that effect. This declaration will undoubtedly throw into your Ships every man who has conducted improperly on board ours, and has been treated according to his demerits and that may find an opportunity to desert, as every such man will say whatever he finds necessary to screen him from punishment.

This treatment is so very different from anything we have heretofore met with on this or any other Station that I must confess myself at a loss to acc<sup>t</sup> for the sudden and inhospitable change of conduct towards us. "You say that it is not the intention of your Government to distress us", and yet the most direct means have been taken by Captains Gore and Sutton for that purpose. I take the liberty to inform you that I know of no such person as a British Subject on board the *Constitution*. They were all considered Citizens of the United States, when they en[g]aged with our Service, and I have not encreased my compliment by impressing Englishmen, or receiving Deserters, of course I have it not in my power to make the exchange you propose; although I am ready to receive any Americans who have not voluntarily entered your service, that you are willing to discharge into this, or any of the United [States] Ships of War.

Captain Gore has asserted, that he is convinced that if Lord Nelson was here, he would demand every man on board our Ships whom our deserters say are Englishmen, *and if not given up, would take them by force*. I am confident from the exalted opinion I have ever entertained of his Lordship from the character he has established in the world for magnanimity and justice that he would not demand them; and that he will not approve the late conduct towards us.

I enclose you Circular Orders to the Captains of our Navy, which are still in force. As they have been published in England, I presume they must be known to most of the British Commanders, who of course will not attempt to take by force our men unless they have orders from your Government to commence hostilities against us, which I presume is not, and I hope never will be the case. I am confident the U:S. as they now are so they wish to continue at peace with Great Britain and that the best possible understanding should exist between the two Nations.

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Captain George Hart, Royal Navy

H<sup>t</sup> MAJ<sup>t</sup> SHIP *Monmouth*  
new Mole Gibraltar 22 Oct<sup>r</sup> 1803

Capt<sup>n</sup> Hart presents his respectful Comp<sup>t</sup> to Commodore Preble & has y<sup>e</sup> honor of acknowledging his letter of this days date with y<sup>e</sup> enclosed Copy of his Orders signed B. Stoddart for which he is much obliged.

Capt<sup>n</sup> Hart is sorry he cannot add any thing to what he did himself the honor of stating to Commodore Preble yesterday in Answer to his of the same date respecting the Seamen he Complains of being detained by Cap<sup>t</sup> Sutton but will as soon as possible acquaint Lord Nelson (the Commander in Chief) with the circumstances & take his Lordships Orders respecting them, and in the mean time Communicate the contents of Commodore Preble's letter to Captain Sutton.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

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

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Philadelphia*  
At Sea off Tripoli 22<sup>d</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1803

SIR It being so very uncertain of Leiu<sup>t</sup> Command<sup>t</sup> Smith falling in with the *Constitution*, makes me brief in this letter to you.

The Frigate *Philadelphia* & Schooner *Vixen* left malta in the morning of the 5<sup>th</sup> ins<sup>t</sup> made the Coast of Tripoli on the 7<sup>th</sup> and have remained on this solitary station without the good fortune of seeing our enemies except under the refuge of well fortified works. I shall remain off here if the weather will permit untill the 20<sup>th</sup> of next month: after which I presume it would be dangerous Cruizing; in fact I conceive it so at present; but fervent zeal in the cause of my Country and desirous of giving you satisfaction in my conduct will induce me to perservere to the last.

To Leiu<sup>t</sup> Command<sup>t</sup> Smith I refer for particulars of our cruize.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

To Lieutenant Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Argus*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*  
Gibraltar Bay Octo<sup>r</sup> 22<sup>nd</sup> 1803

SIR On your arrival in this Bay, you will not take on board an additional Stores of any sort, excepting such, as are necessary for immediate use, and waite here for my Return, The *Enterprize* which you are to take command of sails and is to Return with me, when you will Exchange with Cap<sup>t</sup> Hull,

[HS of Pa. Mrs. F. H. Getchell Col.]

To Secretary of State from Anthony Terry, U. S. Vice Consul, Cadiz, Spain

CADIZ 22<sup>d</sup> October 1803.

SIR.

\* \* \* \* \*

You will have heard of the Sickness that has lately taken place in Malaga, which is reported to be the Black Vomit, the last accounts

mentions that it was mending as the number of Dead diminished daily; but thanks to the Almighty it has not spread out of Malaga, and in this part of the Country we enjoy the most perfect health, which you will please make publick that our trade may not suffer by ungrounded reports.

In absence of M<sup>r</sup> J. Yznardy

ANTHONY TERRY *Vice Consul.*

Governm<sup>t</sup> Notes . . 39½ a 40%.

[SDA. CL, Cadiz, Vol. 1, 1793-1805.]

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

U S: FRIGATE *Constitution*

*Gibraltar Bay Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> 1803*

DEAR SIR You may venture to reserve all the Beef & Pork on hand for this Ship. All the other provisions after the *Nautilus* is supplied, I wish you to send to Syracuse or Malta, as may be most convenient in consequence of the late inhospitable conduct of some of the British Captains towards us here. I have determined on Syracuse for a general rendezvous & deposit of Stores; but as they can easily be transported from Malta, you can ship them to that place if opportunity does not offer to the other before I return.

[LC. EPP, LB, 1803.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 22 October 1803

we continue at anchor in gibraltar Bay/ the *Syrin* and *Enterprise* in Company/ Within this Seven or Eight days, several Seaman have deserted from our Squadron/ and join<sup>d</sup> the English/ there is a fellow by the name of Bartel a Midshipmen on board the *Constitution*/ who has been detected in the most rascally correspondence with the English/ the *Monmouth* 64 Captain Sutton/ who is the Commanding officer at this port has two men belonging to the *Constitution*/ Commodore Preble demanded them/ Captain Suttons Refuses to give them up/ his plea is he has legal power for Retaining them as they are English Subjects/

[NA. ND original.]

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

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*

*Cadiz Bay 23rd October 1803*

SIR, The *New York* & *John Adams* sailed from Gibraltar Bay with a strong East Wind the 19<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> for the United States. By those ships I wrote you very fully relative to the settlement of our affairs with the Emperor of Morocco; and the disposition of the Squadron under my command. since which nothing material has taken place excepting the loss of 8 of our men by desertion at Gibraltar. Their having received 4 Months advance leaves them as yet in debt to the Ship; and every one who receives punishment for crimes, deserts if opportunity offers. This they would not dare to do if not encouraged by the declaration of some commanders of the British Men of War on the Gibraltar Station particularly Captain Sutton of the *Amphion* & Captain Gore of the *Medusa* frigates; that they would protect every

man who would claim their protection if he would say he was an Englishman. This of course every deserter will do to screen himself from punishment.

I enclose you the correspondence between Captain Hart of the *Monmouth* of 64 Guns and myself on the subject of the Men detained.

This conduct of the British in affording protection to our Deserters will at once ruin the discipline of our Ships if we frequent their Ports, as every man we punish will desert if in his power, and at Malta the Ships lay so near the shore that it will be impossible to prevent it which has determined me to make Syracuse the deposit of all our provisions & Stores and the general rendezvous of the Squadron. It is an excellent harbour, safe and easy of access: To be sure it does not offer the Public amusements & rare curiosities of many other ports; but I trust we will find amusement enough in the necessary duties of our Ships.

The wind still strong from the Eastward has prevented the *Syren* from Sailing with the convoy for Leghorn & Naples; and has prevented the arrival of the *Argus*, and return of the *Nautilus* from Mogadore. A change of wind to the Westward will I trust make everything right.

In consequence of the Yellow Fever at Malaga all communication is cut off between Gibraltar and the Spanish Territories near it. This prevents us from watering at Algeciras, or the watering place without the Rocks; and the scarcity at Gibraltar, and number of British to be supplied, rendering it impossible for us to water there, induced me to come to Cadiz with the *Constitution* & *Enterprize*; to fill up our water, and to procure a Stream Cable in lieu of the one we lost in Tanger Bay; & a Bower Cable in lieu of an old one which we have twice parted and has occasioned the irrecoverable loss of one Anchor which I shall also have to replace here. Both the Cables & Anchor can be procured on better terms here than any place in this quarter; and as the wind is still from the Eastward, we are not losing time I had one more object in view, in coming here, which was to shew ourselves in Tanger Bay, and to give M<sup>r</sup> Simpson a call on our return, to let the Moors know that we have not forgot them. Everything however appears to be quiet in that Quarter and I am still of opinion that we shall have peace with Tripoli in the Spring or ensuing Summer I wrote you that I should leave the *Argus* on the Gibraltar Station to watch the motions of Morocco untill the Spring. I have made choice of this Vessel more particularly on acc<sup>t</sup> of the judgment prudence and firmness of her Commander Lieu<sup>t</sup> Commandant Hull on whose discretion I rely with confidence. All the Provisions that the Squadron have on board, and all on hand at Gibraltar, will be expended by the first of April next. If a supply does not arrive from the United States by that time, it will distress me very much; as it will retard my operations against Tripoli, by obliging me to seek the provisions at the season most proper to act with effect on the Tripoline Coast. If our Provisions could be sent out in a good sailing Ship of about Four hundred Tons, armed with Guns & Men sufficient to protect her, and directed to proceed immediately to Syracuse, it would in my opinion reach us with more certainty in less time and at less expence to the Government than if shipped to Gibraltar; and reshiped from thence; and if I could be allowed to detain such vessel as a Store & Hospital Ship, it would be preferable to landing our provisions or men, as the men will often desert, when they recover, and no ship in

Port to receive them; and the Casks and Provisions are liable to injury by being too often transported

I forgot to inform you in my former communications that Six of the *Philadelphia's* men deserted from the Prize Ship, while in Gibraltar Bay; none of which have been recovered. I shall sail from this as soon as my Cables are made, and my stock of water compleated, which I expect will be in three or four days, and shall remain in Gibraltar not more than 24 hours just to take Col: Lear and family on Board, and sail immediately for Algiers, and from thence off Tripoli My Ship's Company are healthy. I wrote you in a former letter, that I had sent some Invalids belonging to this Ship, and some belonging to the *Philadelphia* home in the *New York* and *John Adams*; that I had dismissed the Acting Boatswain and Gunner as unfit for their Stations and that the Gunner of the *John Adams* & Boatswain of the *New York*, had taken their places in this Ship They are both good Officers. I was also supplied with 10 Men and a Boy from those Ships but the Deserters and Invalids sent home still leave me short of the number I brought out which was far short of my complement I am now 40 Able & 9 Ordinary Seamen short of the complement allowed; which makes it necessary to call all hands so often in stormy weather and we have had no other since we came on the Station that duty has been very hard and fatigueing. I shall be able to procure a few men here as several have applied already to enter.

Oct. 30. We were obliged to perform quarantine 3 days after our arrival which with the tardiness of the Spaniards in making our cables has detained me longer than I calculated on. They make their rigging in the open field; of course in rainy weather they cannot work. And as it has rained every day since our arrival, we shall be here two or three days longer.

I have not yet heard of the arrival in these Seas of the *Argus*. — hope no accident has happened to her. I shall enclose you from Gibraltar a copy of the orders I give L<sup>t</sup> Hull for his government on this Station when she arrives, and also a copy of the official declaration of the Blockade of Tripoli, in consequence of the European War.

All kind of Canvas is very high Russia-Duck 28 to 30 Dollars p<sup>t</sup> Bolt. It is probable some of the Squadron may want some within 12 Months Will it not be well to send some of different numbers out by the first Store Ship?

Our Trade to the Mediterranean is valuable and encreasing. While it has protection it will continue to encrease, if not destroyed by French prohibitions and English Blockades. The French prohibit English Manufactures, and the English have Blockaded the Ports, Toulon, Genoa, and Spezzia. and the coast between Leghorn and Cape Delle Melle; and I think it probable they will extend it to other Ports.

I shall write you again by a Vessel that is to Sail in a few days from Gibraltar.

[LC. EPP, LB, 1803.]

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Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 23 October 1803

We continue at anchor in Gibraltar Bay/ the *Syren* and *Enterprise* in company the ships Company Employ<sup>d</sup> as necessary/ at 5 in the



afternoon we weigh<sup>d</sup> and stood out the Bay we made the *Enterprises* Signal to follow/ we had fresh breezes from the Eastw<sup>d</sup>/ we continued steering out the Bay till we pass<sup>d</sup> Cabretta point we than gradually bore up and Enterd the Straits/ the Evening was clear and we could see the land on both side/ by ½ past 9 in the Evening we was up with Cape Spartel/ we than hauld to the Northw<sup>d</sup> in order to proceed to Cadiz/ by 10 P M. it blew strong close Reef<sup>d</sup> the Topsail/ by 11 the wind had Encreased to a gale, down Top gall<sup>t</sup> yards and Reef<sup>d</sup> the foresail/ at ½ past 11 spoke with the *Enterprise* at little after this wore and came to the wind on the Larboard Tacks to the SE/ parted company with the *Enterprise*

[NA. ND original.]

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Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 24 October 1803

Standing off and on Cadiz/ light House waiting for a pilot we wore and Tack<sup>d</sup> as necessary as to keep clear of the land/ at 2 P M. a pilot came along side in a sail Boat/ the laws of the Quarentine will not allow the pilot to come on Board the *Constitution* we Took the pilot Boat in Tow/ the pilot stay<sup>d</sup> in the Boat and gave the Necessary orders and direction for working in to Cadiz/ \* \* \* at ½ past 9 P M. we came to with the Best Bower/ nearly abreast of the senter of the Town/

[NA. ND original.]

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Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday and Tuesday, 24 and 25 October 1803

Light breezes from the E<sup>d</sup> At 1 A M. calm. at 8 condem<sup>d</sup> 12½ lb of bread 3 qts of rum being the bottom of a cask: calm & pleasant. At 1 P. M brought too on the starboard cable. At 3 weighed the starb<sup>d</sup> anchor. At 4 hove short on the larb<sup>d</sup> cable hoisted in our boats & made the signal for the convoy to get under way. At 7 hove up & stood out of the bay, in comp<sup>y</sup> with 7 sail of American Merchantmen under our convoy bound up the Mediterranean — At 9 light airs from the W<sup>d</sup> — M<sup>t</sup> Cathcart came on board, he going in the brig to Leghorn Midnight light airs & pleasant. At 10 AM the center of Gibraltar bore N. W. Ceuta West — At ½ past 10 made the signal for the convoy to heave too At 11 made sail & stood to the eastw<sup>d</sup> made & took in sail occasionally Meridian pleasant all the Convoy in sight. —

[NDA.]

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

TANGIER 25<sup>th</sup> October 1803. —

DEAR SIR On the morning of the 19<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> the *New York* and *John Adams* Frigates with the *Meshouda* appeared at Anchor in this Bay. — The Frigates got their supplies of firewood and stock, and sailed in the Afternoon with a most favourable Gale. — Commodore Rodgers delivered up the *Meshouda* to Arraiz Omar of Tetuan, and she went round to Larach on the 22<sup>d</sup>, leaving however that Man here; — he has been severely bastinadoed and now lays in the Castle loaded with

Irons. — Alcajde Hashash sent me notice this was done by the Emperours order in consequence of Omar having received on board the Ship Stores and Passengers at Algiers and Tunis. — I forbear comments on such conduct, as you are too well acquainted with circumstances not to see it in its true light. —

On enquiry I find there was but two Algerines among the Passengers on the *Meshouda*, and that they are gone to Salle with some Merchandize they landed from that Ship. —

I am told the Salle Ship [*Maimona*] was at Lisbon is arrived at Larach, but I have not any Letter on the subject. —

Alcajde Hashash set off for Tetuan at two OClock on Sunday Morning, it is generally believed in consequence of His Majestys Orders, and that we shall have but little of his Company here. —

There has not been any Partridges for sale since you left this, the Rainy Weather has prevented any being caught, besides these Birds after tasteing the young grass will not eat dry seed so as to feed upon it —

I shall now hourly expect the *Nautilus*, by her you will receive the Cabbags and Pumpkins you desired — I should have told you that no supplies of any sort can be sent from hence on trading Vessels for Ships of War —

At Mogadore there was not any thing new on the 30<sup>th</sup> last Month. — I beg you will be assured I am with great respect

[LC. EPP, Vol.7,1803.]

[25 October 1803]

Payment for Piloting U. S. Frigate *Constitution* into Cadiz Harbour

[Translation]

No. 2

DON JOAQUIN FIDALGO, Knight Pensioner of the Royal and distinguished Spanish Order of Carlos III, Captain of the Royal Armada and of this Port, Deputy of the Board of Health.

The pilot, Francisco Cexezo, has piloted the American frigate *Constitution* from the sea (into the) Bay.

Please order payment of 64 silver reales for one trip in accordance with the Royal Orders of 3 January 1755, 9 March 1793, and Article 36 of the Regulations of this Harbor-master's Office.

Office of Harbor-master of the Port of Cádiz, 24 October 1803.

Also 60 copper reales for the boat which came alongside.

s/ JOACHIN FIDALGO

CONSUL OF THE UNITED STATES

Paid 25 October 1803

[Maine HS. NDA photostat.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Josef Yznardi, U. S. Consul, Cadiz, Spain

CADIZ 25<sup>th</sup> October 1803.

SIR — Being Decreed to admit to Pratick the two United State Vessels under your Command this Evening; Tomorrow morning between 9. & 10. I will do myself the pleasure calling on board, to accompany you to the House of his Exc<sup>y</sup> the Governor; a Ceremony

established by this Governm<sup>t</sup> for all foreign Chiefs or Officers; when I shall have the honour of Personally congratulating you, on your Safe arrival.

JOSEF YZNARDY

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

[25 October 1803]

To Josef Yznardi, U. S. Consul, Cadiz, from Thomascee Morta, Cadiz, Spain

Not being in my power to Answer the Salute Gun for Gun that the American Vessels of War the *Constitution* & *Enterprize* (wishes to make) that arrived in this Port on the 23 ins<sup>t</sup> and having no Royal Order communicated me in which they give instructions respecting the American Republick; I can only answer the Salute with Two Guns less, in conformity of the general orders that actualy exist — I am to observe notwithstanding for your government that I have sent a Copy of your Office to Court this very Post, with the view that they should determine what his Majesty thinks proper —

Signed THOMASCEE MORTA —

CADIZ 25<sup>th</sup> October 1803.

JOSEF YZNARDY Esq<sup>t</sup>

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

To Lieutenant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

*Constitution* 25<sup>th</sup> OCT<sup>r</sup> 1803.

SIR, The Surgeons Mates are exclusively to Occupy the Cockpit, excepting they chuse to admit one or two of the Masters Mates or, Midshipmen —

You will please to attend to this Order and take care that it is carried into effect

Given on board the *Constitution*  
this 25<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1803 — E. PREBLE

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

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 26 October 1803

We continue under Quarentine with the *Enterprize* in company Cadiz Bay

\* \* \* at 11 in the forenoon the health officer came on board and gave us pratique after being in Quarentin 66 Howers/M<sup>r</sup> Yzn[a]rdi the American Consul waited on Commodore Preble and lieutenant Hull of the *Enterprize* waited on Commodore Preble/

[NA. ND original.]

To Secretary of State from Josef Yznardi, U. S. Consul, Cadiz, Spain

CADIZ 27<sup>th</sup> October 1803 —

SIR. Notwithstanding that since my arrival from Madrid, I generally keep at my Country Seat on account of my bad state of health; immediately on advice of having arrived to this Bay the United State Vessels *Constitit]ution* Commodore Edw<sup>d</sup> Preble, & Schooner *Enterprize* Cap<sup>t</sup> Isaac Hull; I cam over without loss of time to assist them with

every thing they might be in want of; which is Sea Stores & Cables, and expect to have every article in readiness in the course of Eight or Ten days, when they intend to go to Sea immediately. —

Agreeable to what I promised you respecting the instructions you called for, I am only waiting for those I called for, from the agents under my district, which when received I will with out loss of time forward you in the most correct manner possible.

As I had the honour to mention to you, that I had made to this Court a representation regarding the Salute due to our Flag on arrival of our State Ships, and as nothing is determin'd on this point; I have presented to this Governor an Official Letter \* \* \* respecting the Salute to be made to Commodore Preble, to which he answer'd as you will be informed by the annex'd Copy [25 October]; in consequence of which Commodore Preble has determined before he salutes to wait for the results from Court.

Authentic Letters from Malaga of the 22<sup>d</sup> ins<sup>t</sup> mentions that the Sickness was daily encreasing, and the Yellow Fever had penetrated thro all Malaga, the number of Dead were as follows. On the

19 <sup>th</sup> -----	51 Persons
20-----	46 D <sup>o</sup>
21-----	71 D <sup>o</sup> The Rich Merchants

chiefly had retired to their Country Houses & shut up their Stores.

The Last Letters from Madrid dated the 21<sup>st</sup> mentions that this Country will remain perfect neutral in the actual contest between France & England; and a sign that it is generally believed, is that Paper Money which last week was loosing from 42. to 44%. are now down to 34%.

\* \* \* \* \*

[SDA. CL, Cadiz, Vol. 1, 1793-1805.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Thursday, 27 October 1803

Strong Gales from the Eastward, and clear weather — Went on shore and rode to Point-all to view the making of our Cables & Hawsers and to give directions. All the Ship's Crew engaged taking on board Water, repairing & refitting rigging & Blocks &c<sup>s</sup> &c<sup>s</sup> — Our Ship's Company remarkably healthy.

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

[28 October 1803]

To Secretary of State from Eiselen & Horne, Alexander Webster & Co., and Mayer & Brantz, Baltimore, Md.

SIR The Owners of the private armed Ship *Warren*, commanded by Lewis Brantz, intending to send that ship on a Voyage into the Mediterranean, beg the favor of you to request the President of the united States to grant a Commission to said ship under the act of congress of 6th February 1802, together with such instructions as the President will deem proper to enjoin.

The ship is about three hundred and ninety Six Tons burthen, mounts Ten Carriage Guns and will be manned with twenty four men. She is owned by the Subscribers Citizens of the united States residents in this City, Charles Venn to be first and John Deal, Second Lieutenants.

As we are not exactly acquainted with the necessary forms in such cases, we presume you will forward the Commission to the Collector of the port of Baltimore, where the Ship will take her Clearance about the 5th November ensuing, with instructions to deliver the same to us on giving the requisite Securities. Shou'd any further formalities be necessary we beg you to inform us, in order to avoid any delay in the Ships departure.

We are respectfully

Sir

Your obedient Servants

EISELEN & HORNE  
ALEXANDER WEBSTER & Co  
MAYER & BRANTZ.

BALTIMORE 28th October 1803.

if you shou'd have occasion to reply to the above, it will be sufficient to direct to either of the Subscribers.

[NDA. Misc. LB, 1802-3-4.]

To Captain Thomas Tingey, Superintendent, Navy Yard, Washington, D. C., from  
Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP<sup>t</sup> 29. Oct<sup>r</sup> 1803 —

Be pleased to procure & Ship with the Gun-Carriages, six Tierces of Rice. If you should not be able to stow so many away, procure only so many as you can stow in the Vessel. Be particular in procuring that of the best kind.

[NDA. Barbary Powers LB, 1803-1808.]

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

U S SHIP *Constitution*  
*Cadiz Bay October 30<sup>th</sup> 1803.*

SIR In consequence of an imprudent promise made by Commodore Morris to the present Crew of the *Enterprize*, entered at Gibraltar last May, that they should be discharged in six months although they must ship for twelve; much difficulty has arisen, however they have in consequence of a small advance to each, [agreed] to remain untill the expiration of the time they shipped for, which will expire next April. She will then at the time when I shall most want her services be left destitute of at least half and I think probable more than that proportion of her crew, as many of them will insist on returning home; and I do not see any probability of procuring men in the Mediterranean to replace them. I therefore think it is absolutely necessary that 50 Men at least should be sent out for the purpose of compleating her crew. If an Armed Store Ship should be sent out, those Men would add much to her security.

[LC. EPP, LB, 1803.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate  
*Constitution*, Sunday, 30 October 1803

At Anchor in Cadiz Bay — Wind from WNW to ENE — receiving Water on Board from S<sup>t</sup> Maries by Spanish Boats Six Men on the Sick List and Seven Convalescent —

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

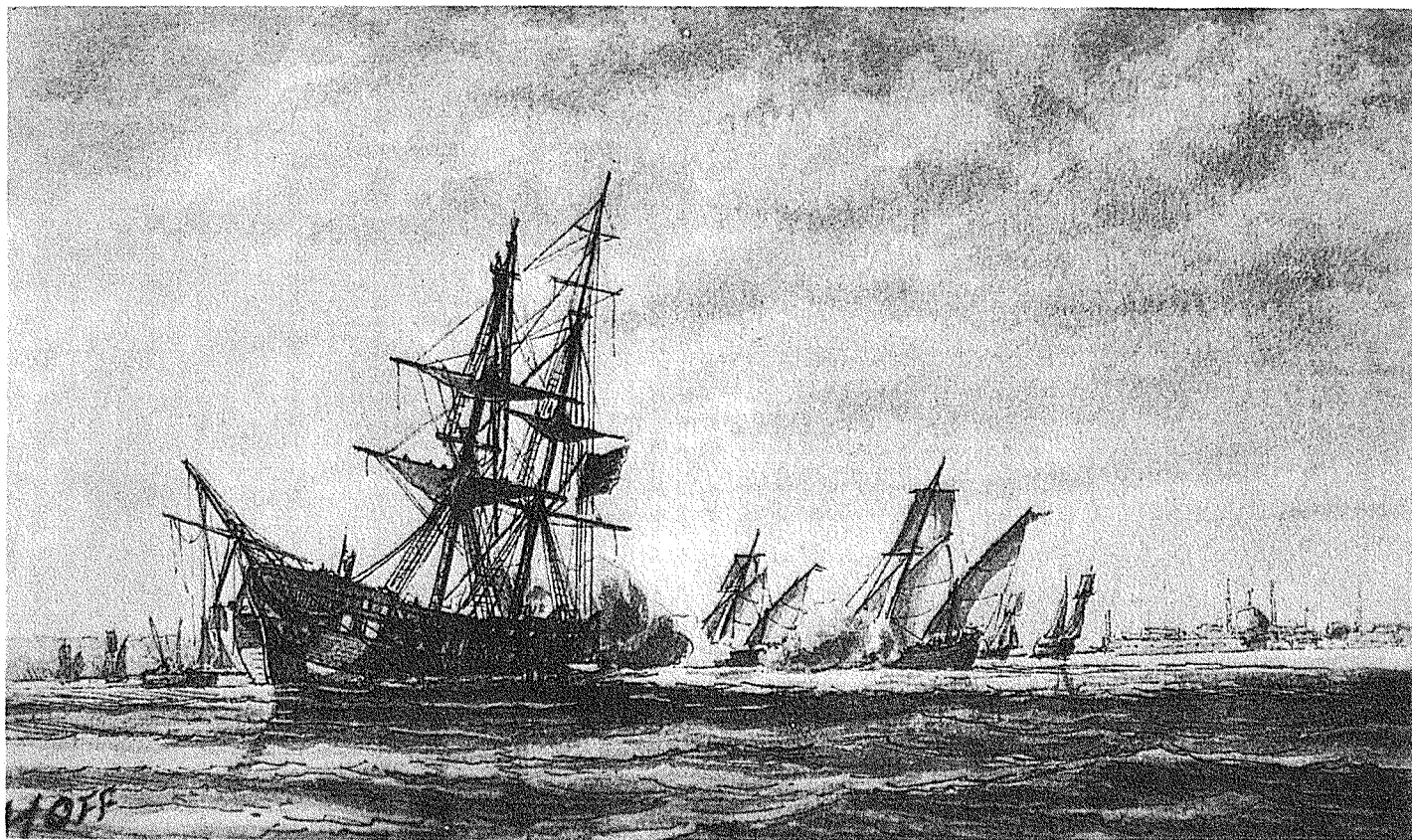
To James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco, from Secretary of State

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, *October 31<sup>st</sup> 1803.*

SIR. I acknowledge the receipt of your letters from N<sup>o</sup> 56 to N<sup>o</sup> 60, both inclusive. By this conveyance of the Schooner *Citizen* you will receive the so long expected gun carriages. From the pains which have been taken in getting them ready, it is hoped that they will prove an acceptable present to the Emperor, and you will not fail to make use of the occasion to confirm him in sentiments most conducive to a continuance of that friendship & peaceable intercourse which has so long subsisted between us. If a few casks of rice can be procured in season for this conveyance it is intended to ship them: they may be presented to him with the carriages, or if you think proper they may be retained for some future occasion which may call for such a small token of attention.

In expectation of soon hearing from Commodore Morris his intentions with respect to the Ship *Meshouda* and in hopes that your advice & representations would induce her redelivery, a definitive order has not before been given for that purpose: but least any difficulty may arise on the subject the commanding Officer of our Squadron is now instructed to deliver her up, provided that your opinion of its expediency remains unchanged, and you shall signify it to him accordingly. In that case you may, if you find it necessary, give immediate assurances to the Emperor that she shall be returned at the time and in the manner you may concert with him & the commander of our Squadron. In taking this step you will as far as is prudent give it the appearance of a gratuitous and voluntary surrender of an indisputable right to our desire of conciliating his esteem & obtaining a reciprocation of good offices. To guard against future claims referring to this transaction as a precedent, it may also be observed that as it constitutes the first occurrence of the sort, which has happened between the two Nations, we were unwilling to take advantage of the culpable conduct of the Captain of the *Meshouda* to the injury of the Emperor, more especially as we were fortunate enough to arrest the mischief meditated against us before it took effect, and that this act of liberality is further influenced by the persuasion that care will be taken by his Officers to provide against a repetition of similar infractions. You did well to refrain from urging compensation for the freight of the Brig *Mary* as suggested by the Supercargo, but you will not omit any opportunity presenting itself, at a more favorable season to procure for the owners all the justice which may be attainable.

[NA. SDA. Disp. to Con., Vol. 1, Oct. 1800–Feb. 1817.]



THE CAPTURE OF THE U. S. FRIGATE PHILADELPHIA.





[1803]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Junior Officers on board the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*

Comm<sup>d</sup> EDWARD PREBLE

SIR Having formed ourselves into two Messes, and purchased our stores; if agreeable to you, we should wish to remain so during the cruize —

We are with Respect  
Your Obe<sup>d</sup> Humb<sup>e</sup> Ser<sup>ts</sup>

DAVID DEACON  
HETHECOAT J. REED —  
JOHN DAVIS  
ALEXANDER LAWS  
FRANCIS C. HALL  
DAN<sup>l</sup> S DEXTER  
CHA<sup>s</sup> MORRIS —  
W<sup>m</sup> BURROWS  
RA[LPH] IZARD —  
J. M. HASWELL

[LC. EPP, Vol. 8, 1803-1804.]

[31 October 1803]

To Officers of U. S. Frigate *Philadelphia*, from Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy  
TRIPOLI 1<sup>st</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1803

GENTLEMEN As I am about informing the Government of our Country of our late unfortunate event; and the opinion of the Officers on my conduct in the distressing circumstance, may be desirous to be known by the President of the United States; you will be pleased to give me your opinions thereon; a certificate from Officers whom I esteem will in some measure alleviate my feelings which are beyond description

Your unfortunate but faithful Commander  
W<sup>m</sup> BAINBRIDGE

To the Officers late of the  
United States Frigate *Philadelphia*

[HS. of Pa. Gratz Col. NDA photostat.]

[31 October 1803]

To Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy

SIR: We, late officers of the United States frigate *Philadelphia*, under your command, wishing to express our full approbation of your conduct concerning the unfortunate event of yesterday, do conceive that the charts and soundings justified as near an approach to the shore as we made; and that, after the ship struck, every exertion was made, and every expedient tried, to get her off, and to defend her, which either courage or abilities could have dictated. We wish to add, that, in this instance, as well as every other since we have had the honor of being under your command, the officer and seaman have distinguished you. Believe us, sir, that our misfortunes and sorrows are entirely absorbed in our sympathy for you.

We are, sir, with sentiments of the highest and most sincere respect,  
your friends and fellow sufferers,

DAVID PORTER, *Lieutenant*,  
J. JONES, *Lieutenant*,  
THEODORE HUNT, *Lieutenant*,  
BEN. SMITH, *Lieutenant*,  
WM. S. OSBORN, *Lieutenant Marines*.  
JOHN RIDGELY, *Surgeon*.  
KEITH SPENCE, *Purser*.  
WM. KNIGHT, *Sailing Master*.  
JONA. COWDERY, *Surgeon's Mate*.  
NICH. HARWOOD. do.  
BERNARD HENRY, *Midshipman*.  
JAMES GIBBON, do.  
BENJAMIN F. REED, do.  
WALLACE WORMLEY, do.  
ROBERT GAMBLE, do.  
JAMES BIDDLE, do.  
RD. B. JONES, do.  
D. T. PATTERSON, do.  
WM. CUTBUSH, do.  
SIMON SMITH, do.  
JOSEPH DOUGLASS, *Sailmaker*,  
GEORGE HODGE, *Boatswain*,  
RD. STEPHENSON, *Gunner*.  
JAMES RENSHAW, *Midshipman*.  
WM. GODBY, *Carpenter*.

[1 November 1803]

[Am. State Papers. Nav. Aff. Vol. 1.]

[31 October 1803]

To Lieutenant John Smith, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Schooner *Vixen*, from  
Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy

TRIPOLY 1<sup>st</sup> November 1803

SIR The enclosed letter to Commodore Preble which I leave open for your perusal will inform you of the unfortunate event of the loss of the United States Frigate *Philadelphia* under my command— You will please to take the Dispatches which I send to the care of Consul Pulis, and carry them to the Commodore at Gibraltar, or wherever he may be On your arrival at Gibraltar should the Commodore not be there, you will deliver those letters for America in charge of John Gavino Esq<sup>r</sup> our Consul, to forward them in the most direct manner to the United States It is unnecessary for me to urge dispatch, You can readily conceive the importance of giving Congress the earliest information.

Glory and happiness attend you! and may you never experience what I have, since parting, is my present wish.

[LC. EPP, I.B, May–Dec. 1803.]

[31 October 1803]

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

TRIPOLI 1<sup>st</sup> November 1803

SIR This letter conveys to you, the distressing information of the loss of the United States Frigate *Philadelphia* under my command, by being wrecked on rocks about four and a half Miles from the town of Tripoli For particulars of this unfortunate event I refer you to the enclosed copy of my Letter to the Secretary of the Navy, which you will be pleased to accept as full information to yourself — the distressed state of mind must plead an excuse for the reference. Had I not sent the Schooner from us, the Accident might have been prevented: If not we should have been able to have extricated ourselves from Barbary Prison, but my Motives of ordering her off Cape Bon, was to grant more efficient protection to our Commerce, than I could by keeping her with me.

I hope that you will consider the Arrangement as judicious, and done with the best of intentions; although it has proved unfortunate. It is with sincere pain, I reflect on my Services under your Command, in which I had promised myself much pleasure, has been so short and cruelly terminated.

We are left entirely without the least change of cloathing: Negotiating Bills here for Money will be attended with difficulty and loss: We shall rely on your aiding and assisting us, as much as lays within your power

May Success attend the Squadron under your Command is the wish of

Sir

Your Most Obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>W<sup>m</sup> BAINBRIDGE

Commodore EDWARD PREBLE

*Commanding the United States Squadron  
in the Mediterranean*

M<sup>r</sup> Nisson the Danish Consul who has rendered us every assistance in his power and is very instrumental in alleviating our distresses— he thinks a Credit on Tunis would be the most proper place to meet our wants —

W B

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

[31 October 1803]

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

TRIPOLI 1<sup>st</sup> Novem<sup>r</sup> 1803

SIR, Misfortune necessitates me to make a communication, the most distressing of my life, & it is with the deepest regret that I inform you of the loss of the United States Frigate *Philadelphia* under my command by being wrecked on Rocks between 4 & 5 Miles to the Eastward of the Town of Tripoli; The circumstances relating to this unfortunate event are: At 9 A M about 5 Leagues to the Eastward of Tripoli, saw a Ship in shore of us, standing before the Wind to the Westward, we immediately gave chase, she hoisted Tripolitan Couloers & continued her course very near the shore; about 11 Oclock had approached the shore to 7 fathoms Water, commenced firing at her, which we continued by running before the Wind untill half past

Eleven, being then in 7 fathoms water and finding our fire ineffectual to prevent her getting into Tripoli gave up the pursuit & was beating, off the land when we ran on the Rocks in 12 feet water forward & 17 feet aft. Immediately lowered down a Boat from the Stern, sounded & found the greatest depth of water a stern, laid all sails aback, loosed top Gall<sup>s</sup> Sails and set a heavy press of Canvass on the Ship, blowing fresh to get her off, cast Three Anchors away from the Bows, started the Water in the hold, hove overboard the Guns except some abaft, to defend the ship against the Gun Boats, which were then firing on us, found all this ineffectual, then made the last resort of lightning her forward by Cutting away the Fore Mast. which carried the Main Top Gall<sup>s</sup> mast with it, but labour & enterprize was in Vain; for our fate was direfully fixed. I am fully sensible of the loss that has occurred to our Country & the difficulty which it may further involve her in with this regency, and feel beyond description for the Brave unfortunate Officers & Men under my command, who done every thing in their power worthy of the character & stations they filled, & I trust on investigation of my own conduct that I will appear to my Government and my Country, consistant to the station in which I had the honour of being placed.

Striking on the Rocks was an accident not possible for me to guard against, by any intimation of Charts, as no such shoals was laid down in any on Board, and every careful precaution (by three leads kept heaving) was made use of in approaching the shore, to effect the capture of a Tripolitan Cruizer, & after the Ship struck the Rocks, all possible measures were taken to get her off, and the firmest determination made not to give her up as long as a possible hope remained; although annoyed by the Gun Boats, which took their position in such a manner as we could not bring our Guns to bear on them not after cutting away part of the Stern to effect it, when my Officers & self had not a hope left, of its being possible to get her off the Rocks; & having withstood the fire of the Gun Boats for four hours & a reinforcement coming out from Tripoli, without the least chance of injuring them in resistance, to save the lives of Brave men, left no alternative but the distressing one of hauling our colours down & submitting to the enemy whom chance had befriended — In such a Dilemma the Flag of the United States was struck however painfull it will be to our fellow Citizens to hear the news, they may be assured that we feel in a National loss equally with them, Zeal of serving our Country in doing our duty, has placed us in that situation, which can better be conceived than described & from which we rely on our Countrys Extricating us. The Gun Boats in attacking fired principally at our Masts, had they directed their shot at the Hull, no doubt but they would have killed many.

The Ship was taken possession of a little after sun set & in the evening myself and all Officers with part of the Crew were brought on shore carried before the Bashaw who asked several questions from the Palace the Officers were conducted to the House which M<sup>r</sup> Cathcart lived in, where we lodged last night & this day the Minister has become guarantee to the Bashaw for us Officers and we have given our parole of honour — Enclosed you will receive a list of the Officers and a few of the People to attend on them, who are quartered in the American Consular House and we are to be provided for by such ways & means as I can best adopt, which will be on as equinonomical

a plan as possible, the remainder of the Crew will be supported by this Regency.

We have all lost every thing but what we had on our Backs & even part of that was taken off, the loss of the Officers is considerable as they were well provided for a long station — M<sup>r</sup> Nisson the danish Consul has been extremely attentive, & kindly offers every service of assistance —

I trust Sir, you will readily conceive the anxiety of mind I must suffer, after the enclosed Certificate from the Officers on my conduct, should you be pleased to express the Opinion of Government, you will much oblige me

P. S. Notwithstanding our Parole we are not at liberty of leaving the house, or going on the Top of it, they have prevented our View of the Sea which they allowed at first. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

[31 October 1803]

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

TRIPOLI BARBARY 6<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1803

SIR, I wrote you on the 1<sup>st</sup> inst. informing of the distressing event in the loss of the United States Frigate *Philadelphia* on the Rocks off Tripoli; since then, owing to the assistance of their Gun boats, and a strong Westerly wind that came on about 40 hours after we struck, which raised the Sea so as to enable them to get her off; this still adds to our calamity, but feel conscious that it was morally impossible, situation as we were, to effect it: however distressing it is to us, we feel some consolation in knowing that it is not the first instance where ships have been from necessity (of running aground) obliged to surrender, and afterwards got off by the enemy, which could not have been effected by the ships company; — witness the *Hanibal* at Algeiras, the *Jason* off S<sup>t</sup> Maloes, and several others.

We are confined to the American Consular House, notwithstanding our having given our parole of honor.

When a vessel of the United States appears off here, if she hoists a white Flag at the Fore & fires a Gun, and should the Bashaw hoist a white Flag & fire a Gun in answer, I presume a Boat with an Officer would be safe to come on Shore; — this I am told is their method.

Negotiating Bills here; for money will be attended with a great loss Present my best respects to Col<sup>o</sup> Lear, who must excuse my not writing him at present.

Every wish attend you for glory & success, but I am doubtful of the *Field*

W<sup>m</sup> BAINBRIDGE

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

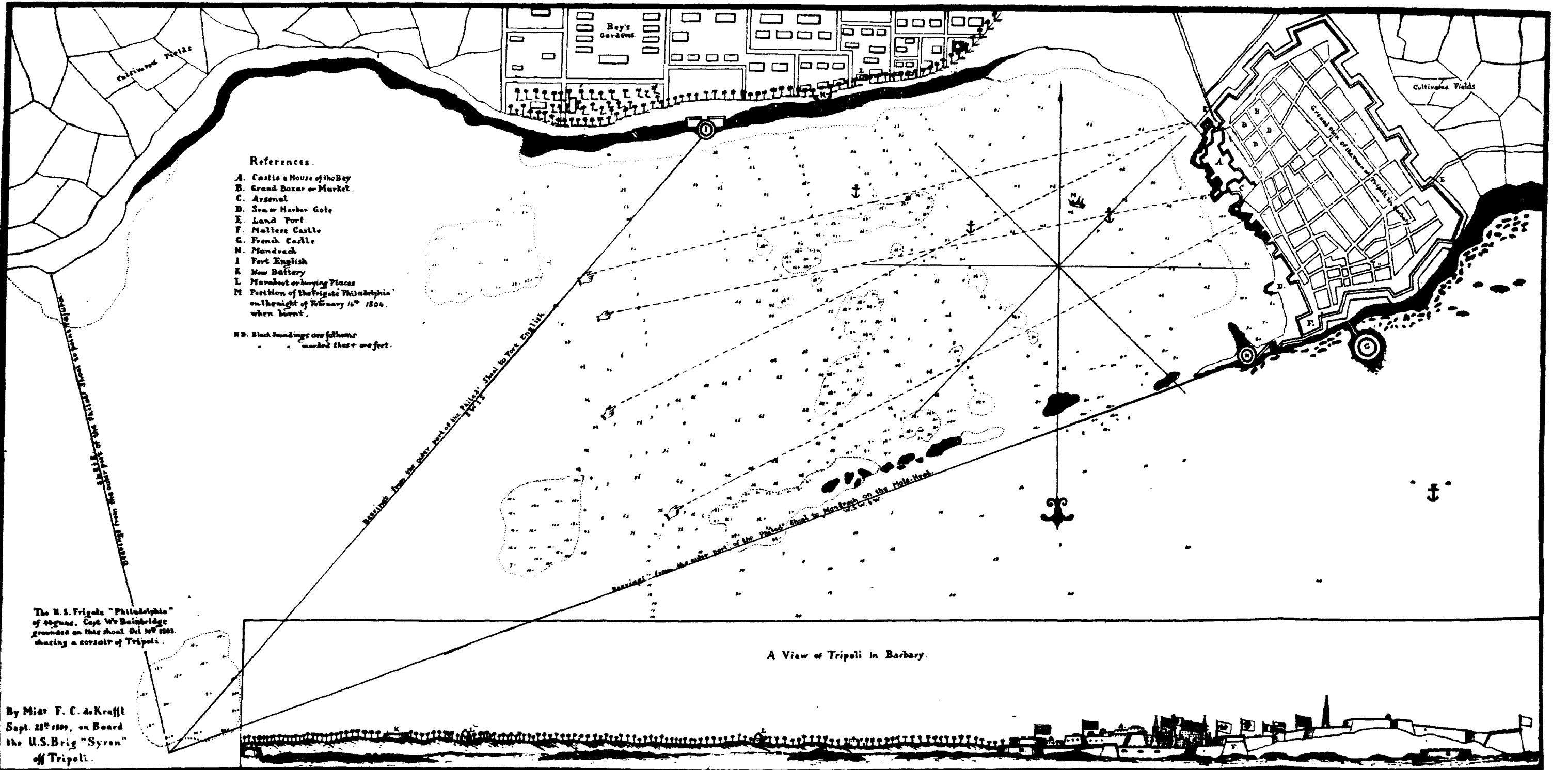
[31 October 1803]

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

TRIPOLI BARBARY 12<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1803

SIR I had the Honor of writing to you on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> from this place giving an account of the loss off the United States Frigate *Philadelphia* late under my command: I now transmit you the

Particulars of that unhappy event; The following bearings were taken from the Place where the Ship grounded — The Westernmost of the small rocks which form the Harbor W b S  $1/2$  S; The Steeple of a Mosque near the Danish Consuls flag staff S W b W; Fort English to the East of the Town S W: bearings taken by point of compass — When the ship grounded her head was N E — After giving up the chase in pursuit of the cruiser, striking on the rocks was as unexpected to me as if it had happened in the middle of the Mediterranean Sea: Immediately laid all sails aback, ran all the guns aft; Sounded and found a sufficient depth of water astern, and a small distance from Each Side: a consultation of the officers was called when it was unanimously agreed to heave the guns overboard and start the water; this was done as expeditiously as possible and a fire kept up at the Gun boats from our stern and Weather Quarter Guns: In firing the lower stern chasers the stern caught fire which was put out without much confusion: the gun boats carrying brass 18 and 24 Pounders were keeping up a fire at us but directed their shot at our masts. Finding that the Guns & water did not lighten her sufficient the Officers were of opinion that the foremast should be cut away which was done but without the desired effect. A reinforcement of five more Gun boat coming upon our lee Quarter where it was impossible for us to fire a gun except down in the water; and the Weather Guns could not be deppressed sufficient to heave within the distance of the boats; At 4 P. M. every hope was fled of our being able to get her off, and not the least power whatever of injuring our enemies, and saw no alternative but our eventually becoming prisoners to Tripoli; A Council of Officers was called when they were unanimously of opinion that it was impossible to get her off the rocks; And that continuing in our present situation would be only a sacrificing lives without effecting our enemy or rendering the least service to Our Country; In such a dilemma too painful to relate, the Flag of the United States was struck I trust that a want of Courage can never be imputed where there is no chance of resistance — distressing indeed to brave minds to be obliged to surrender without having had an opportunity of defence — Some Fanatics may say that blowing the ship up would have been the proper result. I thought such conduct would not stand acquitted before God or Man, and I never presumed to think I had the liberty of putting to death the lives of 306 Souls because they were placed under my command, And those persons who argue thus to have been in our situation would no doubt have had very different Ideas. I have zealously served my Country and strenuously endeavored to guard against accidents, but in spite of every effort misfortune has attended me through my Naval life. — Gaudaloupe and Algiers have witnessed part of them, but Tripoli strikes the death blow to my future Prospects, Al[t]hough I am conscious that my conduct will bear the nicest investigation, but I am no stranger to the censure of an ungenerous world & the regrets & mortifications which are incident to a change of public opinion which does not always follow meritorious exertions And an accident although occasioned by circumstances which no prudence could foresee or valor countroul may weigh against years of Arduous Services Yet I have consolation in believing that my friends are too sincere to let adversity of fortune change their opinion



- References.
- A. Castle & House of the Bey
  - B. Grand Bazar or Market.
  - C. Arsenal
  - D. Sea or Harbor Gate
  - E. Land Port
  - F. Maltese Castle
  - G. French Castle
  - H. Mandrakh
  - I. Fort English
  - K. New Battery
  - L. Molehead or landing Place
  - M. Position of the frigate 'Phaenopolis' on the night of February 16<sup>th</sup> 1804, when burnt.

N.B. Black soundings are fathoms, marked thus + one foot.

The U.S. Frigate "Phaenopolis" of 40 guns, Capt Wm Bainbridge grounded on this shoal Oct 30<sup>th</sup> 1803, during a voyage to Tripoli.

By Mid<sup>r</sup> F. C. deKrafft Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> 1809, on Board the U.S. Brig "Syren" off Tripoli.

A View of Tripoli in Barbary.

(Scale of one Geographical mile.)





[31 October 1803]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

THURSDAY, Nov. 24th. [1803]

At 9 A. M. spoke His B. M. ship *Amazon* on a cruize the Cap<sup>n</sup> of which gave me the melancholy and distressing Intelligence of the loss of the U. S. Ship *Philadelphia*. He said she ran on shore near Tripoly in chase of an Algerine schooner, that the Officers and Crew were made prisoners and the ship got off by the Tripolines and Towed into Tripoly. The loss of that ship and capture of the Crew with all its consequences are of the most serious and alarming nature to the United States; and if it should not involve us in a war with Tunis and Algiers in consequence of the weakness of our squadron, yet still it will protract the war with Tripoly.

[LC, original.]

[31 October 1803]

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

TRIPOLI BARBARIE 25 Novem. 1803

SIR, Since the first instant I have written you seven letters announcing the unfortunate loss of the United States Frigate *Philadel<sup>a</sup>* under my command, on rocks  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles distant from this place, which are not laid down in any Chart; presuming that you must get the information before this can arrive to you, makes me forbear particulars on the distressing event, having already detailed them to you.

I severely feel the loss which my country has Sustained; but feel conscious that no impropriety in truth can be attached to me, and have not a doubt on investigation but it will appear so to my Government. Still I am no stranger to the censures of an ungenerous World; and the premature opinions, which are too hastily formed on the misfortunes of the unfortunate: but I trust that an accident occasioned by circumstances which no prudence could foresee, or valour controul, will not weigh against years of zealously serving my country. Every imaginable precaution was made use of to avoid the danger, and when it was encountered, all which Seamanship could possible dictate, was acted upon to be relieved from it. Courage had no chance of resistance, the ship laying Six feet out of water on rocks, and creening in such a manner as to make every Gun useless. I hope Sir, that you will do me the justice in believing that I neither wanted firmness or courage in the distressing situation: I trust no act of my life will ever justify such an opinion. The only alternative left of becoming prisoners to Tripoli, was that of blowing the ship up; — some Fanatics may say that was the proper one to have pursued; had they been placed in our situation (which never can be conceived but by those who may sadly experience it) I doubt not but they would have thought very different. I never presumed to think that I had the liberty of putting to death 306 Souls because they were placed under my command.

The Gale of Wind which came on about forty hours after we surrendered to the rocks raised the waters on this Coast so as to get the ship off much damaged, her keel & C, broke; this added to our distress; but feel conscious that it was morally impossible for us to have effected it; We were not Gods to foresee the Wind, and to know that the Sea

would so rise; and had we been apprised of it all, it could have availed us nothing; for in far less time than that period, ten Gun boats carrying 18 & 24 pounders, besides several Vessels, which could take their Station on each Quarter; and not a gun of ours could be brought to bear on them, certainly would have cut us all to pieces. Had we been able in our situation to have injured our Enemy in the least, never would I have surrendered while such means was in my power; but alas! fortune deprived me of a chance of convincing my Country the Veneration I have for their Flag.

I wrote you on the 15<sup>th</sup> informing that myself and Officers was confined one day to the loathsome prison of our Crew, without any thing to eat, on account of letters said to come from the Tripolitan prisoners at Gibraltar, mentioning that they were cruelly treated; by the Ministers interference for us to the Bashaw, we were permitted in the Evening to return to our quarters, where we are still confined. The crew are employed at their respective trades; — the Officers have not yet been made to work, — myself never will; — my life is in their power, but my Soul is above their command.

The Seamen are much in want of cloathing; what measure am I to pursue to cloath them. There is some infamous characters among them who even rob the last Jacket from their ship mates, to sell for liquor to get drunk on. I believe there never was so depraved a set of mortals as Sailors are; under discipline they are peaceable & serviceable; — divest them of that, and they constitu[t]e a perfect rable.

A Sweed who we had on board (cockswain of my Barge) a most infamous character (his conduct I mentioned to you in my last letter) by his rascality. I think that it is probable he will be permitted to leave this; if he should and any of our Vessels of War meets him, I hope they will apprehend him as a deserter, to answer several capital charges which I shall bring against him.

If Government negotiates a ransom or peace, they would find advantage by having a mediator; F. & E. are the nations most dreaded. While we have Commerce in this Sea, a Treaty with the Ottoman Porte will be found useful.

We trust that my Country [will] soon 'relieve [us] from [this land of Bondage, and hope they will reflect that serving our Country, doing our duty as Officers has placed us here.

W<sup>m</sup> BAINBRIDGE

P. S. An ordinary Seamen & Boy has turned turks —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 8, 1803-1804.]

[31 October 1803]

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

TRIPOLI BARBARY 8<sup>th</sup> February 1804

(re<sup>d</sup> 21 Ap<sup>l</sup> 1804)

D<sup>r</sup> SIR, Your much esteemed favor of the 16<sup>th</sup> Decem last this moment came to hand, which gave all of us much pleasure and particularly myself as it convinces me that my friends have not deserted me in misfortune; the sympathy which you express for our unfortunate situation, and the kind assurances of your service to alleviate it, claims our warmest acknowledgements.

I presume before this period that my letters to my Friend O'Brien must have reached Algiers; in them I have detailed the particulars of the loss of the United States Frigate *Philadelph*, by which you will perceive that she struck on rocks (not laid down in any Chart) between 3 & 4 miles from this place, tho' every precaution was used to avoid the danger of shoals; I had given up the pursuit of a Tripolitan Cruiser, and was bearing off shore, going between 7 & 8 knots, when very unexpectedly ran into 12 feet water forward & 17 abaft; this happened about 12 o'Clock, when 9 Gun-boats were sent from the Harbour to attack us. All that seamanship could dictate was acted upon to relieve us from the rocks, but proved in Vain! The Guns were hoove over-board, except a few to defend us against the Boats, — the anchors cut from the bows — the water started in the hold — the Foremast cut away, and the Main Top Gall' Mast lost; and the ship creen'd in such a manner as to make the few Guns reserved become entirely useless: all possible hopes being fled of getting the Frigate off, and having withstood the fire of the Gun-boats for upwards of four hours without any power of resistance. In such a situation a Council of Officers were called, who were unanimous of Opinion that the ship could not be got off, and to continue in our exposed situation would only prove a sacrifice of lives without injuring the Enemy or serving our Country, for our fate must inevitably be to fall in the hands of the Tripolitans; — In such a dilemma, the most *painful* of my life, was the Flag of the United States under my command struck, which event has left an impression on my feelings that time will not be able to erase, altho' I feel conscious of the rectitude of my own conduct and of those I had the honor to command; but the ever distressing reflection of being obliged to surrender without a chance of resistance will be a perpetual sting. The report of their having carried us by boarding is incorrect, would to God the attempt had been made, we should then have had a chance of convincing our Country that an opportunity and not courage was wanting, and we should have considered it glorious to have resisted as long as we could have destroyed her enemies; but unfortunate for us they gave no such a chance, and possessed too much prudence to try that mode of conquest, but by taking their stations in their Gun-boats in such situations that we could not bring a Gun to bear on them, pursued a more effectual plan, and without any danger whatever to themselves; in fact a just comparison of our situation, is one man tied to a stake attacked by another with arms. — believe me that it cannot be fully conceived but by those who may sadly experience. We had none slain on board, owing to their directing their shot altogether at the masts; had they pointed at the Hull the slaughter must have been great, for with their heavy metal they could chose any distance out of musket reach.

About 40 hours after we struck, a gale from the westward raised the waters on this coast and made such a sea as floated the ship off; we were not Gods to forsee the wind and sea, and if we had, our fate must have been the same, for in far less time she would have been cut to pieces; and verily believe that nothing less than the assistance of the Elements could have got her off. Before I surrendered, had the magazine drowned, and many articles of value destroyed: we were taken possession of about 6 o'Clock, and in the course of the night was brought on shore, robbed of all articles except the cloaths on our backs, and a part of them were taken — for further particulars I refer you

to my letter written the 11<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>o</sup>, since which nothing particular has transpired.

I have not yet received a line from Commodore Preble and am at a loss to account for his long silence, particularly as I have wrote him many letters and pointed out the safe channel of conveyance. I hope to hear from you by every opportunity — your letters will give infinite pleasure.

My respective friends at Algiers in commiserating my misfortune does justice to that regard which I possess for them, — please to remember me to them all. The kind prayers of M<sup>rs</sup> Lear are truly appreciated by myself and Officers — tender her my best respects & sincere wishes for her happiness.

Altho' our acquaintance, my dear Col<sup>l</sup>, has not long commenced, with it began friendship I trust of a sincere duration; for your early attention to our situation as an Officer of the United States I return you thanks, and as a friend accept of my prayers for your happiness.

[Stephen Decatur Col.]

[31 October 1803]

To Susan Bainbridge, Perth Amboy, N. J., from Captain William Bainbridge,  
U. S. Navy

TRIPOLI, *November 1st, 1803.*

MY DEAR SUSAN, With feelings of distress which I cannot describe, I have to inform you, that I have lost the beautiful frigate which was placed under my command, by running her a-foul of rocks, a few miles to the east of this harbour, which are not marked in the charts. After defending her as long as a ray of hope remained, I was obliged to surrender, and am now with my officers and crew confined in a prison in this place. I enclose to you a copy of my official letter to the secretary of the navy, from which you will learn all the circumstances in detail, connected with our capture.

My anxiety and affliction does not arise from my confinement and deprivations in prison — these, indeed, I could bear if ten times more severe; but is caused by my absence, which may be a protracted one, from my dearly beloved Susan; and an apprehension which constantly haunts me, that I may be censured by my countrymen. These impressions, which are seldom absent from my mind, act as a corroding canker at my heart. So maddened am I sometimes by the workings of my imagination, that I cannot refrain from exclaiming that it would have been a merciful dispensation of Providence if my head had been shot off by the enemy, while our vessel lay rolling on the rocks.

You now see, my beloved wife, the cause of my distress — my situation in prison is entirely supportable — I have found here kind and generous friends, such as I hope the virtuous will meet in all situations; but if my professional character be blotched — if an attempt be made to taint my honour — if I am censured, if it does not kill me, it would at least deprive me of the power of looking any of my race in the face, always excepting, however, my young, kind, and sympathizing wife. If the world desert me, I am sure to find a welcome in her arms — in her affection, to receive the support and condolence which none others can give.

I cannot tell why I am so oppressed with apprehension — I am sure I acted according to my best judgment — my officers tell me, that my conduct was faultless — that no one indeed could have done better, but this I attribute, (perhaps in my weakness) to a generous wish on their part to sustain me in my affliction.

I hope soon to hear that your health is good, and although grieved at my misfortune, are yet surrounded by dear and condoling friends, who will in some measure assuage your affliction. Perhaps, too, you will be able to tell me, that I have done injustice to my countrymen — that so far from censuring, they sympathize, and some even applaud me. God grant that this may be the case — and why should it not? The Americans are generous as they are brave. I must stop, my dear wife, for I see I am disclosing my weakness — these are the mere reveries which daily pass through my heated brain.

I beg that you will not suppose our imprisonment is attended with suffering — on the contrary, it is, as I have already assured you, quite a supportable state.

Your ever faithful and  
Affectionate husband,

WILLIAM BAINBRIDGE.

Mrs. SUSAN BAINBRIDGE,  
Perth Amboy.

[NR&L. Bn<sup>1</sup> B 162 H.]

[31 October 1803]

To Thomas L. Bristoll, Philadelphia, Pa., from Sailing Master William Knight,  
U. S. Navy

TRIPOLY Nov<sup>r</sup> 1<sup>st</sup>, 1803

Friend THOMAS, I take this opportunity of informing you concerning the Malencholy Loss of the *Philadelphia* on the Rocks off tripoly distance from the Town 3 Miles — on Monday at 6 A M oct<sup>r</sup> 31<sup>st</sup> being between 30 & 40 miles to the East<sup>d</sup> of Tripoly discover'd a sail close in with the land — gave chase — at 10 bro't within Gun Shot commened firing she being a small Kept very close in shore, the wind being from the East Run the ship within 1½ miles of the shore soundings from to 10 fathoms firing as we could get the Guns to on her — at 12. finding we could not cut her the town nor run her on shore — ceas'd firing being fathoms, put the Helm down to stand off — & direct of a reef of Rocks the above distance — 1½ miles Nearest shore — all hands starting water & heaving the Guns — running them aft. cut away 3 anchors Bows & hove every article over that would lighting at this time 6 Gunboats came off from the Town firing on the ship keeping directly on our Quarter made it impossible for to get more than four Guns on them & them by cutting away part of the Stern at 2. Cut away the Fore mast in hopes to make float — at the same time all hands employ'd heaving every heavy article overboard (except the Men employ'd at the Guns) found all impossible — at 3 Capt. Bainbridge calld all the officers aft to consult what was to be done to which we all answer'd that all was done

[Ms mutilated]

nothing remaind to be done but to give the ship up at ½ past 3 — hauld down the Colours at which time she had 4 feet water in the Hold. out of water at least 5 feet forehead, run on the Rocks going 6 knots — at 9 the same evening the water was up to the Orlop deck —

I was put in a boat at 6 oclock the same evening with 20 fellow sufferers & conducted to the Palace or rather Castle as we were going they began to Rob us of waches cravats money some of their coats — the Cap<sup>t</sup> treated no better than other officers — every article taken but what they stood in — When in the palace we were arraing'd before Bashaw he gave us some supper & sent all the officers to a house where our Consul formerly liv'd in being in all 24 officers he kept in the pallace or prison — [the Bashaw] is a very handsome Man at present we are [treated] well much better than I expected for — but [? knows] how long it will last & he will not tel us [I under-]stand he Dont talk to people at this time on [this subject] we are all young and I hope will out live it [We all] expect to be Redeem'd in the space of 3 or 4 years [We have a] house to live in plenty to eat at present will [be given permission] to walk out in a few days explore [the country] & so forth in fine spirits all hands & [are] well [the English] consul is keeping the Vessel on account of [word mutilated] Father & Mother must excuse me for not [writing] two letters, tel Mother not to grieve at my [plight I] live in hopes to see her again — a great loss [to the] U. S. cant be help'd all is over — [there were on board] of the Frigate when given up — 311 souls I will thank you to give this letter to my Mother after Reading it — Give My Compliments to all my Acquaintance tell them of my Captivity

Your humble Servant at

Present — a — Slave to the  
Bashaw of Tripoly —

THO<sup>s</sup> L. BRISTOLL

WILL KNIGHT

[NDA. A-4.]

[31 October 1803]

Concerning the participation of the ketch *Mastico* (subsequently captured and renamed *Intrepid*) in the capture of the *Philadelphia*

[Translation]

Recieved in this royal Vice Admiralty Court of this most faithful City of Syracuse on the Second day of February 1804 (Signed) D<sup>r</sup> Salvatore Partesano

R MAST<sup>r</sup> Not<sup>y</sup>

Testimony recieved and examined in the Royal Vice Admiralty Court of this most faithful City of Syracuse at the Petition and instance of Edward Preble Esq<sup>r</sup> commanding the Anglo American Frigate called the *Constitution* actually anchored in this Port by the Order and mandate of the respectable doctor of Both Laws Don Nicholas Thomas Fucile Judge of the said Court in force of his Provision made at the foot of the chapter or Article proved by the said Commandant Edward Preble Esquire in the said Royal Court presented, in which it is said — “Let there be presented and be recieved the Witnesses in Order that they may appear in future” —

(Signed) Fucile Judge of the Vice Admiralty and by me Royal Master Notary of the said Royal for the Information of any other Court whatsoever or Office or Tribunal, or Magistrate and thus word for word it follows.

Salvador Catalano of the happy City of Palermo being at this time in this most faithful City of Syracuse, existing present and known; of the age of thirty two years or thereabouts as he the above said and as from his look it appears, a sworn Witness interrogated and recieved on the Article probationary of the said Commandant Edward Preble Esquire in the said Royal Court presented upon the same he said (or Swore) that he the said Witness being in the latter end of October of last year one thousand eight hundred and three in the City of Tripoly on one of those days he not exactly recollecting the particular day, That an Anglo American Frigate struck on the rocks of Tripoly, after which he heard her named the *Philadelphia*: That there was at that time in the Port of Tripoli among other Vessels the Martegana [*Mastico*] commanded by Mustapha Rais under Ottoman Colors which were then flying. However as soon as the said Frigate struck on the aforesaid rocks, that the said Martigana struck her Ottoman colors and hoisted the Tripolitan flag. That also many Tripolitans at the same time armed with firelocks and Sabres embarked on board the said Martingana and finally slipped the Cables by which she was anchored, Made Sail towards the Frigate; but the said Martingana having arrived near the Rocks of Tripoli, there came to an anchor where she remained untill the evening of the same day when they then embarked in the launch of the said Martingana the Same in which they had embarked from the shore together with Mustapha Rais all armed they went on board the said Anglo American Frigate and made her a Prisoner and forthwith began to transport the Americans of the said Frigate on shore to Tripoli as Prisoners and the Said Mustapha Rais with great eagernees executed this removal of the People and he himself conducted the Americans prisoners unto the palace of the Bashaw and this the Deponent knows, declares and deposes to have actually happened in the exact form and manner in which it is here by the aforesaid witness declared and for the knowledge of facts and the confirmation of his Attestation has here undersigned

(Signed) SALVADOR CATALANO confirmed as above.

Confronted with the Original which is preserved in the royal vice Admiralty Court of this most faithful City of Syracuse.

SYRACUSE *Second day of February 1804.*

(Sign<sup>d</sup>) SALVADORE PARTESANO *roy<sup>l</sup> Mast<sup>r</sup> Not<sup>r</sup>*

Here follows a formula in Latin attesting the truth of this and Signed by the prothonatary of Senate to which also is affixed the Seal of the Senate of Syracuse.

We the undersigned do hereby certify to all whom this may concern that the above is a true & faithful translation of the deposition given by Salvadore Catalano and conformable to the Original copy deposited in the V. Admiralty Court of this City.

GOULD FRANCIS LECKIE  
W<sup>m</sup> DENISON

SYRACUSE *2<sup>d</sup> Feb<sup>r</sup> 1804*

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

[31 October 1803]

To the Danish Consul, Marseilles, France, from Nicholas C. Nissen, Danish Consul,  
Tripoli

TRIPOLY 2<sup>d</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1803

SIR "I embrace the opportunity of an English Vessel bound to  
"Malta to send you this thro Naples, to inform you of the deplorable  
"event happend on the 31<sup>st</sup> October Ult<sup>o</sup> to the U. S. frigate *Philad<sup>a</sup>*  
"Cap<sup>n</sup> Baimbridge 44 Guns & 307 Men which touchd Ground on the  
"Point of Tasoura near this Port at ½ Past 11 OClock A. P. in chaising  
"a Cruiser; after useless efforts to put her a float again & having  
"bravely fought till ¼ after 4 OClock P. M. the frigate surrendered —  
"There is no need to mention the advantage this Bashaw will draw  
"from so rich a Capture and of so many prisoners, amongst whom  
"there are more than 25 Officers, the Bashaw sent them in the U. S.  
"house on their Parole of honour and their treatment is as soft as  
"possible, but the Populace here stripd them of every thing as soon as  
"they came on shore, & before they were carried into the Castle, so that  
"they have nothing but what they wore on, as the U. S. house is con-  
"tinque to the one of De[n]mark I am doing all what I can to render  
"their situation supportable — in heast yours —

(Signed) NISSEN —

[NA. SDA. CL, Gibraltar, Vol. 2, 1796–1804.]

[31 October 1803]

Services rendered to the United States by Nicholas C. Nissen, Danish Consul,  
Tripoli

Mr. Clark, from the committee to whom was referred a letter from  
the Secretary of the Navy, communicating the nature and extent  
of the services rendered to the captive crew of the late frigate  
*Philadelphia*, by his Danish Majesty's consul at Tripoli, sub-  
mitted the following report:

That, at the time of the unfortunate loss of the late frigate *Phila-  
delphia*, off Tripoli, commanded by Captain William Bainbridge,  
Nicholas C. Nissen, Esq. was his Danish Majesty's consul residing at  
that place. As soon as this disastrous event was known to him, he  
generously offered his services to obtain the necessary supplies for  
Captain Bainbridge, his officers, and crew, which he most faithfully  
continued to do for nineteen months and three days, the period of  
their captivity. This interposition was not only humane, but greatly  
beneficial to the captives, in supplying them with the necessaries and  
comforts of life, which, in some instances, were beyond their limited  
resources, except through this friendly agency. Consul Nissen took a  
prompt and feeling interest in the welfare of the American captives,  
and administered to their wants, by sending to them provisions and  
bedding from his own house, and ameliorating, as much as possible,  
their truly unpleasant situation; and his benevolence never suffered  
the least abatement during their continuance at Tripoli.

One trait in the conduct of this worthy gentleman, is too remarkable  
to be passed over without notice: His house was much exposed in the  
attack Commodore Preble made on the town of Tripoli; but such was  
his zeal for the accommodation of the American prisoners, and his  
anxiety to be near them, that he refused to seek a place of security,



although urged so to do; and by remaining at home, greatly endangered his life. From the most correct information of Consul Nissen's disinterested conduct, the committee are of opinion that he deserves well of the American Government, and, therefore, recommend the following resolution:

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

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

[Am. State Papers. Nav. Aff., Vol. 1.]

[31 October 1803]

A list of Officers and Men quartered at the American Consular House at Tripoli

Cap <sup>t</sup> W <sup>m</sup> Bainbridge	Rich <sup>d</sup> Stephenson, Gunner
David Porter Lieu <sup>t</sup>	W <sup>m</sup> Godby Carpenter.
Jacob Jones Ditto	W <sup>m</sup> Anderson Cap <sup>t</sup> Clk
Theodore Hunt ditto	Minor Fountain Mast <sup>r</sup> s Mate
Ben <sup>j</sup> <sup>s</sup> Smith ditto	James C. Morris Ships Stewart
W <sup>m</sup> S. Osborn L <sup>t</sup> Marines	Otis Hunt Sarg <sup>t</sup> Marines
John Ridgely, Surgeon	David Irving D <sup>o</sup>
Keith Spence Purser	W <sup>m</sup> Leith, Ships Cook
W <sup>m</sup> Knight S <sup>r</sup> Master	James Casey Armourer
Jon <sup>s</sup> Cowdery Surg <sup>n</sup> <sup>s</sup> Mate	Peter Williams
Nicholas Harwood d <sup>o</sup>	John Baptist
Geo: Hodge Boatswain	Lewis Hecksner
Bernard Henry Midshipman	Fred <sup>t</sup> Lewis
Dan <sup>l</sup> T Patterson d <sup>o</sup>	Charles Mitchell
James Gibbon d <sup>o</sup>	Peter Cook
Ben. F. Read d <sup>o</sup>	Leonard Foster
W <sup>m</sup> Cutbush d <sup>o</sup>	W <sup>m</sup> James
Wallace Wormley d <sup>o</sup>	W <sup>m</sup> Gardner
Robert Gambel d <sup>o</sup>	W <sup>m</sup> Temperfelt
Rich <sup>d</sup> B. Jones d <sup>o</sup>	43
James Renshaw d <sup>o</sup>	264 Men & Boys in the Bashaws
James Biddle d <sup>o</sup>	Palace
Simon Smith d <sup>o</sup>	—
Jo <sup>s</sup> Duglass Sail Maker	307 Total of Crew

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

[31 October 1803]

Extracts from List of part of Crew of U. S. Frigate *Philadelphia*, Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy, commanding

Abstract of Balances due to sundry persons, part of the Crew of the United States late frigate *Philadelphia*, commanded by William Bainbridge Esq<sup>r</sup>. —

N <sup>o</sup>	Names	Rank
4	Theodore Hunt	3 <sup>rd</sup> Lieu <sup>t</sup>
5	Benjamin Smith	4 Lieu <sup>t</sup>
6	William Knight	Sail <sup>r</sup> Mast <sup>r</sup>
14	Barnard Henry	Midship <sup>n</sup>
15	Rich <sup>d</sup> B. Jones	D <sup>o</sup>
18	Simon Smith	D <sup>o</sup>
22	William Godby	Carpenter
26	James Cassey	Mat <sup>r</sup> at arms
27	John Stretch	Cooper
28	John Garrabrandt [Died at Sea 14 June 1805.]	O. S.
29	James Barwell	OS
30	Jacob Chisrio	S
31	Benjamin Manleaf	OS
32	Thomas Conner	Q <sup>r</sup> Gun <sup>r</sup>
33	William Crandle	Land <sup>sm</sup>
34	Peter Spyrus	D <sup>o</sup>
35	David Wilson	Q <sup>r</sup> Mat <sup>r</sup>
39	John Junor	Boy
40	John Blye	D <sup>o</sup>
41	John Wolf	D <sup>o</sup>
42	James Stanford	Bo: Mate
43	David Nichols [claimed as French Citizen, at Tripoli.]	OS
44	Andrew Williams	Q <sup>r</sup> Mat <sup>r</sup>
46	Richard Brothers	S
47	Hugh Kennedy	S
48	Corn <sup>t</sup> M <sup>c</sup> Canley	OS
49	Henry Johnson	Q <sup>r</sup> Gun <sup>r</sup>
50	Patrick Turner	OS
51	James M <sup>c</sup> Laughlin	OS
52	William Ruddock	Boy
53	Robert Bukerton	OS
54	Alexander Tyms	OS
55	John M <sup>c</sup> Donald 1 <sup>st</sup> [Died at Tripoli, 7 September 1804.]	S
57	John Baxter	OS
58	Benjamin M <sup>c</sup> Elwain	Sh. Const <sup>t</sup>
59	George Carson	S
60	Hugh Anderson	OS
61	William M <sup>c</sup> Laughlin	OS
62	James Holms	S
63	George Percival	OS
64	John Wright	Bo: Mate
65	Samuel Calm	S
66	John Briard	S
67	John Goldsmith	Q <sup>r</sup> Gun <sup>r</sup>
69	Adam Kayer [or Kaiser]	Carp <sup>n</sup> Mate
70	David Dunbar	S
71	John Kysley	OS
72	Sam <sup>l</sup> Woodruff	Q <sup>r</sup> Gun <sup>r</sup>
73	William M <sup>c</sup> Kee	OS
74	William Murrain	OS
76	Sam <sup>l</sup> Johnson	Boy

N <sup>o</sup>	Names	Rank
77	John James	Boy
78	James Conner	S
79	Rich <sup>d</sup> Skilling	S
81	William Taylor	Q <sup>r</sup> Mar
82	Thomas Prince	OS
83	William Johnson [Sent home as an invalid.]	S
84	John Wilson [Turned Turk 29 November 1803.]	Q <sup>r</sup> Mar
86	Stephen Howell	S
87	Jeremiah McLaughlin	S
89	William Adams	S
90	John Passmore	OS
91	Thomas Murray	S
92	Jesse Tuttle [Sent home as an invalid.]	Cap <sup>t</sup> Mate
93	Thomas Williams	OS
94	George Hassell	S
95	Charles Mitchell	OS
96	Joseph Griffith	L
97	Nich <sup>s</sup> Stunbough	OS
98	Mathew Holgan	L
99	Henry Cockran	L
100	Thomas Hazleton	Am <sup>t</sup>
101	Will <sup>m</sup> Drummond	L
102	James Rutherford	Q <sup>r</sup> Gun <sup>r</sup>
103	Thomas Hanghey	OS
104	John Robinson	OS
105	John Jennings	S
106	Thomas Shaw	S
107	Tho <sup>s</sup> McPherson	S
108	Mathias Holkar	OS
109	William Hammond	OS
110	Peter West [Turned Turk, 7 December 1803.]	S
111	John Morrison [Died at Tripoli, 24 April 1804.]	S
112	Henry McClaskey	OS
113	John Thompson	Q <sup>r</sup> Gun <sup>r</sup>
114	Samuel Hale	S
115	James McDonald 1 <sup>st</sup>	Carp <sup>t</sup> Gunner & OS
116	Caleb Manfield	OS
117	John G. Jones	Q <sup>r</sup> Gun <sup>r</sup>
118	John Spyres	OS
119	Jacob Immell	OS
120	Thomas Clighorn	S
121	John McDonald 2 <sup>d</sup>	S
122	John Johnson	S
123	Thomas Smith 1 <sup>st</sup> [Turned Turk, 15 January 1804.]	S
124	John Taylor	S
125	Elisha Wharton	OS
126	John Smith 1 <sup>st</sup>	Bo <sup>t</sup> Mate
127	David Lockwood	S
128	John Clark	Boy
129	Arnoldus Van Rissen	Boy
130	John Applidon	OS
131	David Davis	S
132	Edward Gooman [Died at Tripoli, 15 October 1804.]	OS
133	John Mellin	OS
134	Nich <sup>s</sup> McLaughlin	OS
135	John Francis	S
136	Jacob Dowerdisher	S

N <sup>o</sup>	Names	Rank
137	John Silby	S
138	John Thays	S
139	William Roth	Qr Gunr
140	David Croll	S
141	Timothy Filby	OS
142	John Cherry [Sent home as an invalid.]	Carp: Mate
143	John Smith 2 <sup>d</sup>	OS
144	Henry Munro	OS
147	James Hogg	Qr Mar
148	James Fryar	Bo: Yeom <sup>r</sup>
149	John F. Shryder	S
150	James Dougherty	OS
151	John Hilliard [Died at Tripoli, 4 June 1804.]	OS
152	Thomas Smith 2 <sup>d</sup>	S
153	John M <sup>c</sup> Mullin	S
154	John Flint	S
155	Lewis Garlinger	S
156	David Jones	OS
157	John Mitchell	S & Qr Mar
158	James Francis	OS
160	Mich <sup>l</sup> Walsh	S
161	Con <sup>r</sup> Colthoon	Carp: Mate
162	Joseph Nicholas	S
163	John Hassin [Sent home as an invalid.]	OS
164	Thomas Oddy	S
165	Thomas Davis	S
166	Dan <sup>l</sup> Pattengale	S
167	William Clemens	OS
168	Charles Sille	OS
169	John Wymer	OS
170	George Lewis	Boy
171	John Hendrickson	OS
172	Jacob Farman	S
173	Peter Connolly	S
174	James Grimes	OS
176	Thomas Farr	S
177	Ja <sup>r</sup> Ware	Sail-makers mate
178	John Grimes	S
179	George Griffith	Gunmate
180	Rudolph Stunbough	OS
181	John Smith 3 <sup>d</sup>	S
182	Daniel Davis	S
183	John Burton	S
185	Thomas Higgins	OS
186	John Mills	OS
187	John Nihell	OS
188	Peter Lee	S
190	John Domyne	Loblolly boy
191	William Carsan	S
192	Sylvester Parker	OS
193	Robert Bowen [or Bower]	OS
194	Christopher Simmons	S <sup>r</sup>
195	William Jones	S
196	John Hemmen	G <sup>r</sup> mate
197	John Fryer	S <sup>r</sup>
198	William M <sup>c</sup> Gowan	L
200	Hugh M <sup>c</sup> Cartney	OS
204	Rich <sup>d</sup> Thompson	OS
205	Calvin Weatherby	S
206	John Green [Claimed as a French Citizen at Tripoli.]	S

N <sup>o</sup>	Names	Rank
207	James Henry	S
208	Peter Frank	S
210	Charles Cape	OS
211	Philip Shoot	OS
212	Andrew Jones	S
213	William Gillin	S
214	And <sup>r</sup> Massells	S
215	Thomas Enright	S
216	Rob <sup>t</sup> Rodrick	OS
217	Abram Wallington	S
219	George Moore	S
220	Jonathan Cook	S
221	William Dane	S
222	John King	OS
223	Thomas Rynolds	OS
224	Elijah Norman	S
225	Thomas Brown 1 <sup>st</sup>	S
228	James M <sup>r</sup> Donald 2 <sup>d</sup>	OS
229	Dumis Lundy	OS
230	Thomas Collings 2 <sup>d</sup>	S
233	Christian Myres	S
234	Geo: W. Kittyham	OS
236	And <sup>r</sup> Ross	Painter
237	Thomas Young	S
238	John Stout	OS
239	Daniel Johnson	OS
240	James Johnson	OS
241	Frederick Shoffer	S
242	Robert Jackson	S
243	Antonio Minises	OS
244	James Anderson 1 <sup>st</sup> [Died at Tripoli, 5 Jan'y 1804]	OS
245	James Waldram	Land <sup>s</sup>
246	James Anderson 2 <sup>d</sup>	OS
247	John Rawman	S
248	Thomas Lidley	OS
249	James White	OS
250	Robert M <sup>r</sup> Cord	OS
252	Will <sup>m</sup> Hemphill	G <sup>r</sup> Yeom <sup>r</sup>
254	James Gallagher	OS
256	Thomas Ward	S
257	Thomas French	S
258	George Javit	S
259	John Smith 4th	S
260	Nath <sup>l</sup> Eldridge	S
261	John Walker 2 <sup>d</sup>	S
262	William Scott	S
263	John Null	S
264	William Perry	S
265	William Burton	S
266	John Henscome	S
267	Richard Lyne	S
268	Charles Dinoon	S
269	Sweeny Peters	S
270	William Barsdale	S
271	John Dixon	S
272	Thomas Brown 2 <sup>d</sup>	S
273	John Larrinders	S
274	James Quinley	S
275	John Benfield	S
277	William Stevens	S
278	James Robinson	OS
279	Joseph Edwards	S

N <sup>o</sup>	Names	Rank
280	David Porter	1 Lieut
281	James Rinshaw	Midspmn
282	Frederick Lewis	OS
283	Jacob Bugeia	OS
284	Charles Rylander	OS
285	James Ingerson [Died 19 June 1805]	OS
286	Daniel Shays	OS
287	Nathaniel Brooks	OS
<b>MARINES</b>		
	Charles Hunt	Sergt
	George Urry	Corpl
	John Symmons	Fifer
	Abrahm Hurshaw	Drumr
	Nathl Brush	Private
	David Burling	D <sup>o</sup>
	John Coleman	D <sup>o</sup>
	Jacob Cooker	D <sup>o</sup>
	John Crutzer	D <sup>o</sup>
	William Doogan	d <sup>o</sup>
	John Dann	d <sup>o</sup>
	Thomas Dinny	D <sup>o</sup>
	Benjamin Goodrich	D <sup>o</sup>
	Francis Hubert	D <sup>o</sup>
	James Haley	D <sup>o</sup>
	Frederick Hunter	D <sup>o</sup>
	William M <sup>o</sup> Hugh	D <sup>o</sup>
	Phillip Morrison	D <sup>o</sup>
	John M <sup>o</sup> Donald	D <sup>o</sup>
	Joseph Miley	D <sup>o</sup>
	William M <sup>o</sup> Koy	D <sup>o</sup>
	John Moore	D <sup>o</sup>
	Charles MacGinnis	D <sup>o</sup>
	Patrick Mullin	D <sup>o</sup>
	Anthony Murray	D <sup>o</sup>
	William Nugent	D <sup>o</sup>
	Jacob Pifer	D <sup>o</sup>
	Frederick Quigly	D <sup>o</sup>
	William Ray	D <sup>o</sup>
	John Rapp	D <sup>o</sup>
	William Rhodes	D <sup>o</sup>
	John Stout	D <sup>o</sup>
	John Sein	D <sup>o</sup>
	Thomas Stewart	D <sup>o</sup>
	William Southward	D <sup>o</sup>
	Jeremiah Sullivan	D <sup>o</sup>
	George Furkington	D <sup>o</sup>
	Philip Tully	D <sup>o</sup>
	John VanCamp	D <sup>o</sup>
	Peter Wulan	D <sup>o</sup>
	Rubin Wainright	D <sup>o</sup>

Washington, 30<sup>th</sup> September 1805E<sup>o</sup> E<sup>d</sup> [Errors Excepted]

KEITH SPENCE

[31 October 1803]

Court Enquiring into the Loss of U. S. Frigate *Philadelphia*

Proceedings of a court of inquiry on the conduct of Captain William Bainbridge in the loss of the late U States frigate *Philadelphia* —

U STATES SHIP *Constitution*  
Syracuse 29<sup>th</sup> June 1805.

SIR, I am authorized by the Honorable the Secretary of the Navy to direct that on board the U States frigate *President*, under your command, you commence a court of enquiry on Captain William Bainbridge late commander of the U. States frigate *Philadelphia* for the loss of said frigate, and that you report to me in proper form the whole extent of the enquiry of said court, with its decided opinion thereon, in order that I may transmit the same to the Navy Department of the U. States.

The court of enquiry will consist of three members, yourself, & Captains Hugh G Campbell & Stephen Decatur j<sup>r</sup>

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your Obed<sup>t</sup> hum: serv:

JN<sup>o</sup> RODGERS

Captain JAMES BARRON

Commanding the U S. frigate *President*.

In conformity to the foregoing order the court convened on board the U States frigate *President*, at anchor in the harbor of Syracuse, at ten oclock a. m. June 29<sup>th</sup> 1805. present the President and members of the Court and William Eaton Esq. acting Judge Advocate, and being opened according to law Captain Bainbridge was notified that they were ready to proceed to business; he attended and the Court entered upon the enquiry by examination of witnesses.

Lieut. David Porter, of the late frigate *Philad<sup>a</sup>* — Lieu<sup>t</sup> Jacob Jones, Lieut. Theodore Hunt, Lieu<sup>t</sup> Benjamin Smith — Mr William Knight, sailing master, Lieu<sup>t</sup> William Osborn of the marine corps, M<sup>t</sup> Keith Spence, purser — Daniel T. Patterson Benjamin F. Read and James Gibbons masters mates — Midshipmen James Biddle James Renshaw & [space] Anderson — Richard Stephenson, gunner — George Hodge, boatswain & William Godby, carpenter, all of the said frigate were sworn and improved as witnesses —

LIEU<sup>t</sup> DAVID PORTER testified, that on the 31<sup>st</sup> of October 1803 about eight o'clock in the morning, the ship *Philadelphia*, then under the command Captain William Bainbridge and cruising off the port of Tripoli, the wind from the eastward, and the frigate standing in and along shore, discovered a sail on her weather bow, running to the westward, to which she gave chase. The sail was soon distinguished to be an enemy corsaire standing into the port of Tripoli. The *Philadelphia* continued the chase until she came into about eight fathom water keeping up a constant fire on the enemy with her bow guns, until it was found impossible to come up with her without danger of approaching too near the shore; consequently she hawled out to gain an offing — She had constantly three leads going, one dipsey and two hand leads; a lieutenant tending the dipsey and a midshipman or master's mate at each of the hand leads. The ship

had about eight nots way upon her. This witness was ordered into the mizen top to look into the harbour of Tripoli and observe if any cruisers were in port. At this instant the water shoaled and the helm was put down. He had gotten about half way up the mizen rigging when he felt the ship strike. He immediately returned on deck — All sails were instantly set to endeavour to force her over the bank. Finding this did not succeed, Captain Bainbridge asked the witness's opinion what could best be done? Who requested him to consult his officers generally — The lead had been hove under her bows in about twelve feet water. The ship lifted at times abaft and the helm was then clear. The enemy's gun boats were already seen coming out of port, nine in number, as nearly as the witness recollects — A boat was sent out to sound around the ship and deep water was found a stern. The officers, being consulted, were of opinion that endeavors should be used to back the ship off by a press of sail; and, if that should not succeed, to run the guns abaft: both were done, and at the same time the anchors cut from the bows: but to no effect. It was then the opinion that the guns should be hove overboard, reserving only enough to resist the gun boats: this was done. In the meantime the enemy passed under the fire of the frigates stern guns and took a position on the starboard and weather quarter where no guns could be brought to bear on them by reason of their advantageous position and the deep heel to port and fixed posture of the ship — Captain Bainbridge now called another counsel of the officers, who were of opinion that the water should be started in the hold and pumped out, and all the heavy articles hove overboard; if that should not succeed, that, as a last resort to save the ship, the foremast should be cut away: all these were done to no effect — Orders were then given to the carpenter to go down forward and bore holes through the ship's bottom; and to the gunner to drown the magazine by turning the cock and securing the key: the witness heard the gunner report that he had executed this order. Orders were then given to destroy every thing on board which could be rendered useful to the enemy. It had now already been determined that the flag must be struck, as no hopes remained of saving the ship and no possible means of defending her. The Colours were accordingly struck, and the enemy took possession. It was now about sun down, and the ship had grounded about half after eleven in the morning, as nearly as the witness can recollect, during which time she was exposed to the constant fire of the gun boats, but suffered only in her spars and rigging — The ship was lost about three miles and a half from the town of Tripoli, and one and a half from the nearest point of land, which bore south.

#### QUESTIONS BY THE COURT.

Had you any boats sufficient to carry out an anchor?

Ans. It is my opinion we had not: but had this been otherwise the enemy commanded the ground where it would have been necessary to drop anchors.

What water did the ship draw when she went on shore?

As nearly as I can recollect she drew about eighteen feet forward and nineteen and a half abaft.

#### QUESTION BY THE JUDGE ADVOCATE.

During the transactions and disaster of that day did you notice any thing of remissness or neglect in her commander which could tend to the loss of the *Philadelphia*?



Ans. I did not: On the contrary, I noticed in Captain Bainbridge great coolness and deliberation.

LIEU<sup>t</sup> JACOB JONES was called into court and examined. He confirmed in every thing the testimony of Lieu<sup>t</sup> Porter, without variation —

LIEU<sup>t</sup> THEODORE HUNT was examined before the court — and varied only in his testimony from the two preceding witnesses in the draft of the *Philadelphia's* water when she went aground, which he stated to have been eighteen feet six inches forward and about twenty feet six inches aft, which he had ascertained from observation the day before the misfortune — And also, in answer to the first question by the court to Lieu<sup>t</sup> Porter, he adds that in the river Delaware he made an experiment in carrying out an anchor in the *Philadelphia's* launch, when she was obliged to be buoyed by casks —

LIEU<sup>t</sup> BENJAMIN SMITH, corroborates the testimony of the preceding witnesses without adding any material circumstance —

M<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> KNIGHT, sailing master, was examined. He confirms the testimony of the witnesses before recorded — And adds that he was positive the ship was pierced forward by the carpenter as ordered, for he heard the water running into the Auger wholes — When asked why the ship did not fill, he said he expected she would have filled, as he was sure there were sufficient wholes bored for the purpose; but he conjectured they must have been stopped in some manner.

M<sup>r</sup> WILLIAM OSBORNE, Lieu<sup>t</sup> of marines, on examination, confirms the testimony of the preceding witnesses —

M<sup>r</sup> KEITH SPENCE, purser, varies in nothing material from the witnesses gone before him.

BENJAMIN F. READ, Masters mate, states facts as recorded in Lieu<sup>t</sup> Porters testimony, and adds that, in order by every means to render the Ship useless after it was determined to strike her colours, cannon shot were thrown into the pumps.

JAMES GIBBONS, masters mate, says nothing more than what goes in corroboration of the preceding testimony

DANIEL PATTERSON, master's mate, confirms the foregoing testimony; but adds nothing —

JAMES BIDDLE, Midshipman, states facts as recorded from the testimony of the preceding witnesses —

JAMES RENSHAW, Midshipman, states facts generally as the preceding witnesses have done: and adds that he was the bearer of Captain Bainbridge's order to drown the magazine, after it was determined to leave the ship, and knows it was executed.

RICHARD STEPHENSON, Gunner, testifies that he knew nothing of the transactions on the *Philadelphia's* deck the day she was lost, being confined to the magazine until he received an order to turn the cock and drown the magazine; which he did and went on deck with the keys in his hand — The ship was then on her beam ends, the water running in at the ports, and such of her guns as were not thrown overboard, rendered totally useless —

GEORGE HODGE, boatswain, states facts, so far as they come within his knowledge, in exact conformity to the testimony of Lieu<sup>t</sup> Porter; but adds nothing.

WILLIAM GODBY, carpenter, was examined concerning the scuttling of the ship — He testifies that, when it was determined to abandon the *Philadelphia*, he received Captain Bainbridge's orders to scuttle

her, which he executed by calling to his assistance his two mates and piercing her bottom with chizels and augers in sufficient places, as he thought to fill her, and then reported to the proper officer: but the Turks, he believes, got on board in season to stop the holes and prevent her filling —

M<sup>r</sup> WILLIAM KNIGHT was called in and asked by the court if ever he had a chart in his possession which laid down a shoal where the *Philadelphia* grounded? M<sup>r</sup> Knight answered — No!

M<sup>r</sup> PATERSON, a midshipman, was called into court, and being sworn, testified that he destroyed the mumerary signal book of the *Philadelphia* by Captain Bainbridges orders before leaving her —

M<sup>r</sup> ANDERSON was examined concerning the disposition made of the *Philadelphia's* signal books, who declared that he saw Captain Bainbridge tear them both up and hand them to some officer to be burned or thrown overboard —

At the opening of the court Captain Bainbridge laid before them the following statement —

“GENTLEMEN, Having to account to Government for the loss of the United States frigate *Philadelphia*, then under my command, it is a consolatory circumstance to see that it is before an inquisition, which, by its nautical knowledge, will be so fully adequate to form a correct opinion of the affair and to give that decision on my conduct which both the public and myself must be assured will be just.

In my narrative of this unhappy event, I shall mention my sending the United States schooner to cruise off cape Bon, and the causes that lead to that circumstance, which increased the misfortune that afterwards befel us, and then detail the incidents that took place on the day of our grounding, from the time of giving chase in the morning till surrendering to the enemy —

We left Malta the 3<sup>d</sup> of October, to repair to our station off Tripoli, and to blockade that port according to the orders of Commodore Preble. We arrived there on the 7<sup>th</sup> and continued to cruize off the town, with the *Vixen* in company, without meeting any occurrence of consequence till the 19<sup>th</sup> when we spoke an imperial brig, as she came out of the harbor of Tripoli, which informed us that two of the cruisers of that regency were out upon a cruise. In consequence of this information, and thinking it most probable that they were to the westward I ordered Lieu<sup>t</sup> Commandant Smith of the *Vixen*, to Cape Bon, and cruize there as the most likely place of falling in with them should they be returning from that quarter, and at the same time a safer situation for the schooner than off Tripoli at that season of the year, where the gales blow with great violence on shore, attended with a heavy sea. On the 20<sup>th</sup> the *Vixen* accordingly left us. The 23<sup>d</sup> of the month we had a very heavy gale from the northward and westward, which drove us several leagues to the eastward of our station. On the 31<sup>st</sup> of October, being about six leagues to the eastward of Tripoli, at 9. a. m. we saw a sail in shore and standing to the westward; we gave chase, and at 11 oclock came near enough for our shot to reach her; and the soundings not allowing of our running in shore we continued to chase along the land, hauling on and off shore as we found the soundings from 7 to 9 & 10 fathoms, in expectation of either disabling or driving her on shore, in which case we should

have captured or destroyed her — At half past 11 when within a league and a half from Tripoli, seeing no probability of preventing the chase from getting into port, we ceased firing and hauled off shore, then having eight fathoms water. We had not gone more than two cables length before we suddenly shoaled, and the next moment the ship struck forward, and having  $8\frac{1}{2}$  fathoms way, shot up as far on the rock as to bring it to the after part of the fore chains where she stopped. Her stern being at this time clear of the ground, the anchors were cut immediately from the bows (except one) the guns run aft, and all the sails laid aback, in hopes of pressing her off, as it blew a strong breeze; but the wind being on our starboard beam, and the sea setting with it directly upon the rocks, soon hove our stern upon them in 17 feet water, where we lay with our larboard port sills at the waters edge. The officer who had been sent to sound upon our first grounding, returned with information that there was sufficient water astern and off the larboard quarter, upon which I consulted my officers respecting the most probable means of getting the ship into it. It was the unanimous opinion that the only method in our power was to lighten the ship as much as possible by starting the water, heaving overboard the guns, reserving as many only as would be necessary to defend us against the enemy's gun boats which were taking their station on our stern and quarter, and to endeavour to press her off the shoals with the sails aback. We could not in addition to this avail ourselves of an anchor, as we had no boat capable of carrying one; and if we had had such sufficient for the purpose, it would have been impracticable to have laid it out, as the enemy occupied almost the ground it should have been placed in —

The gun boats having taken a station on our Starboard quarter, commenced a firing, directed principally at our masts and rigging, which we returned with two guns from our main deck and three of our quarter deck cannonades, which, from the very great heel the ship had, took no effect. The guns we got out abaft were rendered intirely useless from the same cause, although we cut away the stern as much as could be done to any purpose; for by endeavouring to give them a direction to bear upon the enemy, they could not be run out far enough to avoid setting fire to the ship, which they once did, but it was soon extinguished without difficulty or confusion. After finding it impossible to press the ship off the rocks by lightning her, and seeing every prospect of getting her afloat at an end, I ordered the foremast to be cut away, in order to right her in some degree, if possible, and to render our guns more manageable; but this produced no effect, and seeing the ship immoveably grounded on rocks, having but 12 feet water forward and 17 abaft, I conceived any further attempts as evidently useless.

After having tried every expedient that could be thought of to contribute to our relief, and exerting ourselves to the utmost from the time of our grounding until half past four p. m. in endeavoring to get the ship afloat and at the same time in resisting the enemy, but finding all hopes of the first vain, and not being able to bring our guns to bear to effect the latter, I called a council of officers to consult them on the subject of a further resistance or the necessity of surrendering to the enemy. Upon a deliberate consideration of our situation, it was the unanimous opinion that it was impossible to get the ship off, and that all further resistance would be but unneces-

sarily exposing men in a situation where neither perseverance nor fortitude would be of any benefit to our Country or ourselves; and it was unanimously agreed that the only thing left for us to do was to surrender to the enemy, which was accordingly done, after drowning the magazine, and destroying as many articles as possible, that might be of use to the enemy —

Having stated to you, Gentlemen, a narrative of facts, which you will find verified by the evidence to be heard I shall conclude after making one observation.

The usage of nations appears, that where there is no probability of successful defence, and all means of escape have been tried, the *flag* may be struck without injuring the commander's honor — These tacit but admitted regulations are founded on principles of humanity, and a nice and delicate attention to national and individual honor. If under such circumstances a commander's honor be preserved, how free from censure must it appear when placed in a situation without being able in the least to injure the enemy, and no means whatever of extricating himself —

W<sup>m</sup> BAINBRIDGE  
29 June 1805. —

The Court having deliberated on the evidence deduced from the testimony of the witnesses, heard in this case, are decidedly of opinion, that Captain William Bainbridge acted with fortitude and conduct in the loss of his ship, the U States frigate *Philadelphia* on the 31<sup>st</sup> Oct. 1803, and that no degree of censure should attach itself to him from that event

JAMES BARRON *President*  
WILLIAM EATON  
*acting Judge Advocate.*

[NDA. CMR, No. 25.]

[1 November 1803]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Richard O'Brien, U. S. ex-Consul General, Algiers

Customary at Algiers on a Ship of War Comeing in Sight, being Visited Anchoring & Departure—

1<sup>st</sup> That any Ship or Ships of war of the united States, Comeing in Sight of algiers, to hoist her Ensign — Pendent and Jack at the foretop Gal<sup>l</sup> mast head, and fire a Gun to leward, but for none of the U States Ships of war, to hoist the red flag at any of their mast heads — this Custom or Signal was in use for the Merchant Vessels — of the united States, with the annuities for Algiers, and Tunis, said red flag denoted that the Vessel that hoists it, has stores or recruits — on board for this Regency, but by our ships of war hoisting their American Jack at the fore will show, they are on the business of the United States, and wants to speak or confer with the Consul —

2<sup>d</sup> Should the wind be favourable, the ship should lie off & on untill they perceive the Algerine boat with the Consular flag Comeing off — The Ship should not salute under sail it would not be returned, by Algiers. The ship should not anchor if Posible, untill they first speak with the Consul, if the Consul does not come off — he might be sick or in the Country or detained by the Regency, under this suspicious