

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

**Volume III
Part 2 of 3**

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

**United States
Government Printing Office
Washington, 1941**

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

AS A WORK OF THE UNITED STATES FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
THIS PUBLICATION IS IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN.

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^m 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 31st 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—

1st 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^l 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^d 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

idea, of no boat Comeing off — The requisite precautions is to be used a sharp look out and ready on all tacks —

3^d If you are by calms or light winds obliged to Anchor take Care you do it in time, before you Come within reach of Shot of the Castles, As soon as you Anchor the marine batteries of Algiers fires a salute of 21 Guns — which is as much as to Say welcome — You return the Salute with the same number of Guns — in Case you should Anchor and not be Saluted, it indicates your nation has some difficulties with Algiers —

4th Your best Anchoring ground is to the S E of the light house of the marine to anchor at the distance of 4 — or 5 Miles from the Batteries in about 22 — or 30 fathoms. between November and March there is often Strong & severe Gales from the N E, N^e & N W, a Vessel to Anchor in the Bay of Algiers, Should allways be ready to get under sail and to be in order for Action — NB. every night there is a light lit at the Marine batt'ery

5th The first Question for the Captain of the Ship of war of the U States, to ask the Consul on his Comeing adjacent, is if at Algiers, we have health, or Clear of all Contagious disorders, if any Sickness. Then for the Consul with the boat of Algiers to drop under the frigates Stern — and by a rope made fast from the frigate to the Algerine boat for the Consul and Captain to Confer if not to lie on their Oars and the Captain & Consul talk on requisite affairs if there is no Sickness in the Country and the Consul with the Algerine boat Comes along Side it is customary with all other nations to Salute the Consul with 5 — or 7 Guns — on his going on board or on his departure from the Ship —

6th On the Consul going on board he will inform the Captain of the situation of the affairs of the U States with this Regency, and all other Particular news & affairs — The Consul will inform the Captain when it will be proper for him to land in order to see the dey and ministry The Captain — at his landing the Algerines Salutes him with 5 — or 7 Guns. The Ship of the U States returns an Equal number —

Should the regency Send off any Presents to the Ship such as oxen Sheep fowls & &^s On receiveing Said Presents on board to Salute with 3 Guns — This miserable present is Paid for by the Consul at the rate of 20\$ to those that Carries it off & attends therewith

7th The rowers in the Algerine boats is not to be admitted on board without first Speaking to the Consul, and they are never to Enter or Come out at the Ports, further none of the Crew of the United States Ships is to be permitted to have any Conversation with any one of the Algerines, from this Circumstance often occurs misrepresentations and difficulties — and should be Avoided as much as possible —

8th On the Captain going off to depart Algiers on his Entering his boat (after his leave or audience with the dey & Minister of Marine) the Algerines Salutes him with 5 — or 7 Guns — The Ship on this Occasion returns the Salute —

9th Should any slaves belonging to the Regency made their Escape and get on board — the Captain of the United States Ship is to inform the Consul and the Slave or Slaves — are to be given up — neither Christians Moors or Jews, that illegally gets on board is to be kept. fridays is turks Sunday — The marine and City Gates is Shut, every

Evening one half hour before Sundown — and no Communication with the City untill day light —

All officers & Marines of every description in Passing in front of the deys Palace is to Keep their hats off —

RICH^d OBRIEN

ALGIERS The 1st novemb^r 1803

P. S The algerine Salute to a ship of war of the U States Costs 76\$ [or 75\$] — this is Customary also with the Swedes deans & dutch — with the British french & Spanish the Salute Costs 60\$ —

Each time the Consul goes off in an Algerine boat, or sends a boat off — Each trip is paid for by the Consul 8 dollars, also feese to the Cap^t a port and drogerman — attending with the Consul, as Customary with all nations —

as I suppose the minister of Marine of the United States has furnished Comodore Preble with a Copy of these observations. This Copy is intended to gaurd or serve against an Omission — on this Tack —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

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

NAV. DEP^t Nov. 1st 1803

Enclosed you will receive under a cover directed to Mess^{rs} Eislen & Horne a commission and instructions for the private armed ship the *Warren* — which commission & instructions you will deliver to the owners after you shall have obtained their Bond with two responsible securities disinterested in the Vessel agreeably to the accompanying form and the act of congress which is also enclosed and which you may also deliver to the owners of the *Warren* You will be pleased to transmit the Bond to me —

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

To Hon. Michael Lieb, House of Representatives, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPARTMENT, November 4, 1803.

SIR: The following statement exhibits answers to the queries which you have proposed, in your letter of the second instant, in relation to the marine corps. * * *

	Lieut. Col. Commandt.	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieutenants.	Surgeons.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Music.	Privates.
The acts of Congress of July, 1796, March, 1799, and April, 1800, which constituted the marine corps, authorized...	1	4	18	18	8	48	48	50	890
The corps is not complete; there is a deficiency of.....	1	1	3	14	8	12	15	14	494
We have now in service, in the Mediterranean,.....	1	5	4	4	17	16	15	239	
But, the frigates, <i>New York, Adams, and John Adams</i> , whose return is shortly expected, will bring.....			2	3	6	5	6	83	
Of which it is intended to discharge.....					4	5	5	49	
There will then be in service, in the Mediterranean,.....	1	3	1		11	11	9	156	
And we shall then have on shore, and in the vessels in ordinary,.....	1	2	12	3	21	17	22	191	
There are on shore seven marine stations, viz: barracks, navy yards at Washington, Norfolk, Philadelphia, New York, Boston, and Portsmouth.									
We have at barracks, at present, including staff, music, armorers, artificers, servants, sick, &c.....	1	1	6		13	11	15	112	
But, on the arrival of the <i>New York, Adams, and John Adams</i> , we shall have.....	1	1	8	3	15	11	16	146	
Of which guards will be supplied for eleven ships in ordinary, (each ship having, agreeably to the law of 3d March, 1801, one sergeant, or corporal, and eight marines) and of which guards for the barracks, and for the navy yard at Washington, will also be supplied.									
We have at the navy yard at Norfolk.....			1		2	2	2	15	
at Philadelphia.....		1	1		2	2	2	15	
at New York— <i>none</i>									
at Boston.....			1		2	2	2	15	
at Portsmouth— <i>none</i>									
There are belonging to the corps—officers,.....	1	3	15	4					

We have in actual service —

The *Constitution*, of forty-four guns; the *Philadelphia*, of forty; the *New York*, of thirty-six guns.

The *Adams*, and *John Adams*, of thirty-two guns, each.

The *Syren* and *Argus*, of sixteen guns, each.

The *Enterprise*, *Vixen*, and *Nautilus*, of twelve guns, each.

But, as before observed, the frigates *New York, Adams, and John Adams*, are expected home shortly.

	Captain.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieutenants.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Music.	Privates.
There will then remain in service in the Mediterranean,							
The frigate <i>Constitution</i> , having on board,.....	1		1	2	2	2	40
<i>Philadelphia</i> , having on board,.....		1		2	2	2	35
<i>Syren</i> , having on board,.....		1		2	2	2	21
<i>Argus</i> , having on board,.....		1		2	2	2	37
<i>Enterprise</i> , having on board,.....				1	1		9
<i>Vixen</i> , having on board,.....				1	2	1	11
<i>Nautilus</i> , having on board,.....				1	2		13
In service in the Mediterranean, as before stated,	1	3	1	11	11	9	156

The annual amount of the pay and emoluments of the commanding officer of the marine corps is one thousand seven hundred and twenty-two dollars ninety cents.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, sir, your most obedient servant,
 RT. SMITH.

MICHAEL LEIB, Esq.

Chairman of a Committee of Congress.

[Am. State Papers. Nav. Aff., Vol. 1.]

[4 November 1803]

To Secretary of the Navy from Eiselen & Horne; Alexander, Webster & Co. and Mayer (or Meyer) & Brantz, Baltimore, Md.

SIR. The President's commission for the private armed Ship *Warren*, has been delivered us by the Navy agent of this City according to your directions, on giving the requisite Bond and Security. In consequence of the rumors and their subsequent confirmation, of the hostile disposition of the Emperor of Morocco, which have transpired since our application for the above commission, we have been induced to enlarge the armament of the Ship *Warren* to the number of *Sixteen Guns and Twenty five men*. — We take the liberty of returning this commission again to your department for the purpose of having the alterations made therein conformable to the armament as above mentioned;

EISELEN & HOVAL
 ALEXANDER, WEBSTER & C^o
 MAYER & BRANTZ.

BALTIMORE *4th November 1803.*

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

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

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Nov^r 4th 1803.

SIR. Since my last (of the 31st ult.) I have rec^d from M^r Gavino, a copy of Cap^t Bainbridge's letter to you, of the 29th of August last, in which he relates the capture of the Imperial Cruiser *Mesboha* [*Mirboka*], and the recapture of her American prize the *Celia* of Boston. Notwithstanding the perfidy with which hostilities have been thus commenced by the Emperor, as it is important that the dispatches intended to be landed at L'Orient should be immediately forwarded, and as the gun-carriages are already prepared, the Schooner *Citizen* will proceed to Gibraltar with her Cargo: and if the turn which our affairs with Morocco, has assumed permits their being presented as first intended, without too much condescension on our part, and it will contribute to any object commensurate with their value, you will not withhold them. Should they not be wanted for such a purpose, you will be pleased to inform Tobias Lear Esq^r our Consul General at Algiers of it. But if they can be safely and conveniently stored, it will be best not hastily to decide upon their not being wanted for the Emperor, but if they should not be immediately given, to wait a suitable time in order to observe the course our affairs may take in relation to him.

The President will probably this day, communicate to Congress the information received respecting the aggression above alluded to, and they will doubtless make provision for meeting the exegency in a manner suited to its nature. As soon as the result is known I shall com-

municate it [to] you with such instructions as may grow out of the measures they may think proper to adopt.

Nov^r 10th.— The *Citizen* having been detained by objections made by her crew founded on their apprehensions of danger from the Emperor's Cruizers, your letter of the 5th Sept^r has come to hand in the interval. The President has as above intimated, communicated Cap^t Bainbridge's letter to Congress, who have not yet come to any determination respecting the measures proper to be taken. They will doubtless be only precautionary, and if in the mean time, the Emperor of Morocco is willing to disavow the hostile acts which have taken place, and to consider the peace as continued, notwithstanding what has happened, the President is willing that his ships & subjects should be restored, provided the accommodation shall not appear to you to be a feint calculated merely to obtain them with a view to further acts of perfidious hostility. The Emperor should also cause some satisfaction to be given for the insult offered to your official character by the detention of your person at the house of the Governor of Tangier. If therefore an arrangement can be brought into train, on the principles above indicated, you will connect with it a demand for such satisfaction in the form suggested, by a prudent regard to the honor of the United States. Commodore Preble is ordered to deliver up the ships & their equipages on your signifying to him that your negotiations require it.

[NA. SDA. Disp. to Con., Vol. 1, Oct. 1800—Feb. 1817.]

To Secretary of State from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco
N^o 70. — Triplicate

TANGIER 4th November 1803. —

SIR N^{os} 68 and 69 having been forwarded by so good a conveyance as the *New York* Frigate sailed from hence on the 19th last Month, I do not conceive it necessary to trouble you with any copies of them.— I have now the honour to advise return of the Schooner *Nautilus* to this Port on the 30th from Mogadore with advice from M^r Gwyn that on the 19th Ult^o at receipt of His Majestys Order for that purpose, the Governour there immediately set the Crew of the *Hannah* at liberty and put Captain Williams in possession of his Vessel with every article of Cargo and private property had been taken out of her. — The *Meshouda* has been sent to Larach River, she has been entirely dismantled and the Cargo was on board of her landed there. — I have much satisfaction in seizing the earliest opportunity of giving you this intelligence of His Imperial Majesty having so far carried into effect the engagements he came under to the United States at the restoration of Peace, and I trust in God Government will experience at his hand better faith than we have for some years past. — His Majesty has sat down at Mequinez. —

* * * * *

Immediately on my delivering up the papers of the *Meshouda* left with me by Commodore Rodgers for that purpose, Arracz Omar of Tetuan who had commanded her was seized by Alcaide Hashash, severely bastinadoed and lodged in a dungeon loaded with Irons on his Legs and Neck, where he remains to this hour; — the Governour sent me word this had been done by order of His Majesty as punish-

ment for having taken on board Stores and Passengers at Algiers and Tunis for Tripoly, contrary to orders. — The Emperours Ship *Maimona* has arrived at Larach from Lisbon after having been supplied there with a Sett of Cables, a new foremast and Rigging. —

I have the honour to repeat the assurances of respect with which I am

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

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Friday, 4 November 1803

[Cadiz] Winds V^ble fresh gales. received on board a 12 Inch Stream Cable, two 8 Inch Hawsers and Seventy fathoms of 7 Inch Shrouding — We have encreased our crew 28 Men since our arrival here —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

To Hon. Joseph Hopper Nicholson, United States Congress, from Captain Alexander Murray, U. S. Navy

PHILAD^a Nov^r 5th 1803

D^r SIR In the multiplicity of momentous circumstances that at present must employ your mind, it may possibly be deem'd intrusive, to call your attention to further discussion, but by late intelligence from the Mediterranean, respecting the unpleasant state of our Commerce, I am induced to give you my Ideas on that head, being well acquainted with the disposition, & locality of Morocco, & be assured that none of the powers on the coast of Barbary can annoy us equal to that.

They wanted but a slight pretence to commence their depredations, & that pretence hath been but too fully justified by the delay in sending on the gun carriages, promised long since; with some other irritating circumstances, clashing with the policy of that nation, & I am much mistaken if we have not to pay dear for it, but to obviate the evil as far as existing circumstances will admit & the resources of our Country can justify it certainly will be expedient to reinforce our Squadron in those Seas, in which no time ought to be lost, as our ships cant be got down the Potowmac in the Winter, & 'tis more than probable that we shall have to wage war with all the states of Barbary ere long, but with respect to Morocco, the ships destined to repel their aggressions, should be station^d principally along the Atlantic shores, from Cape Finistere to cape Cantin as most of their naval ports are on the Atlantic, such as Tangier, which is at the entrance of the Streights, and could see any Vessel that goes in, & out, there are also Sallee, Magadore, Rabat, Arzille & several others, contiguous & if our ships once enter the streights & the Westerly winds should set in which often prevail there for several weeks in the fall, and Winter, they cannot get out through the rapidity of the current setting up, till an Easterly wind prevails, as was the case with me last Winter, when I was detained six weeks at Gibraltar; so that those Pirates may cruize without, unmolested —

I may be deemed presuming, or an interested adviser, but I declare my real sentiments, and am under a firm conviction that nothing but coercive Measures can controul those Piratical States & they will commit hostilities against us whenever the whim takes, & the more we pay the more are they emboldened, and it would be less

degrading, & more honorable, never to pay them a Cent but give tribute from the mouth of our Cannon

I find we stand much in need of some powerfull friend in Congress to save us and our families from a state of ruin, 'tho we are to bear the brunt upon all these commotions; & fain would ask your patronage in behalf of myself & our Officers generally, to put us upon a better establishment I have, & I beleive many others have, also, spent the greater part of their substance in the public service our commands are respectable & must be supported with expence, & being ever liable to be called into service precludes us from turning our attention to other pursuits, being so few in number, & 'tis hard to be confined to half pay for those intervals, when out of service, at least our one half rations ought to be annex'd to half pay — this with some other reforms I hope you will find meet to assist us in, when other more weighty concerns have been decided

I beg you will present my respects to M^r & M^{rs} Gallatin & accept of my assurances of esteem & with great regard

[NDA. A. Murray's LB, 1799-1805.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Saturday, 5 November 1803

Light airs from the West^d — We continue at Anchor in Cadiz bay — the *Enterprize* in C^o The Ships Company employed as necessary — Towards the Evening we Veered to a half cable & ran out a kedge to the North^d in order to steady the ship from fouling her anchor — At 6 in the Evening a Spanish launch came along side with an anchor — This Anchor is in Lieu of the bower anchor we parted from in Tangier bay — This Anchor is said to have been left here at the time of the American & English War by one of the U. S. Frigates — The Anchor is very rusty & has no mark shewing the weight but I suppose it to be between 32 & 37 Cwt — The Stock is perfectly sound & appears fit for Service — The Night was moderate with breezes from the N. N. W. — At day light the Pilot came along side in order to carry the *Constitution* to Sea — We Weighed the kedge By 7 in the Morning we had Variable Winds from the East^d & rain — John Bartele Seaman who was an acting midshipman on board the *Constitution* was this day discharged for unofficer-like conduct at Gibraltar — A passage is provided for him on board an American Vessel bound to New York — We had heavy rains & thick weather all the forenoon — The Pilot continues on board in order to carry the *Constitution* to sea when Wind & Weather permits — At Noon thick weather winds from the N E. — We have no Communication with the shore this day — Surgeons report is 5 sick & 10 CORV^{ets}

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

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

U: S: SHIP *Constitution*
off *Tanger Bay* 6th Nov^r 1803

DEAR SIR I send an Officer to receive any communications you may have to make. Has the *Nautilus* returned from Mogadore, or has the order for the release of the *Hannah* been complied with?

I left Cadiz last evening. Nothing new in that quarter. * * *
 [LC. EPP, LB, May-Dec. 1803.]

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

TANGIER 6th November 1803. —

DEAR SIR The *Nautilus* came off this Bay the 30th Ult^o & after sending the Letters from Mogadore on shore proceeded for Gibraltar without Anchoring; — the *Hannah* was restord with every sixpence worth of property had been landed from her. — I sent M^r Gwyns Letter to me on the subject to M^r Gavino for your perusal. — The *Meshouda* was sent round to Larach and has been dismantled. —

So far the Emperour has carried his engagements to us into effect, with all good faith. —

Arraiz Omar lays in Tangier Castle loaded with Irons, in a letter I wrote you to Gibraltar, I advised the punishment had been inflicted on this man, but I did not then expect they would have made him suffer so long. —

As many of the articles as can be collected have been sent down. —
 [LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board
 U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 6 November 1803

Sailed from Cadiz for Gibraltar.

[LC, original.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on
 board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Sunday, 6 November 1803

Moderate Breezes & thick Hazy Weather — Winds from the East^d — We continue at Anchor in Cadiz bay — At ½ past 2 P. M. the weather cleared away At 3 P. M. We Weighed & came to Sail in order to proceed to Gibraltar — *Enterprize* in Company — As we came thro' the Narrows we passed his Catholick Majesty's Ship *Bonaventuro* Admiral Lobas do Payta — At 4 we discharged the Pilot — by ½ past 4 we had Strong breezes from the S b E down top gall^t Yards & double reefed the topsails at Sundown we saw Cadiz light house bearing E N E nearly 10 Miles — We parted Company with the *Enterprize* she being Ordered to make the best of her way to Gibraltar — We were in Cadiz near 13 days, 3 of which we were under Quarantine At ½ past 8 A. M. Tacked to the South^d Out 3^d reefs from the Topsails — At Midnight moderate Breezes from the North^d — At ½ past 3 judging the Ship to be nearly up to Cape Spartell we hauled on a wind to the E N E — At ½ past 4 we saw Cape Spartell bearing S E nearly 10 or 12 Miles — We tacked to the West^d — At 6 or a little after day light we tacked to the East^d & stood in for Tangier bay — the *Enterprize* Joined Company At 8 up top gall^t Yards & out second reefs from the Topsails — At 9 A. M. fired a gun, hoisted our Colors & bro't too off Tangier bay — We sent a boat on board the *Enterprize* — She then bore up & ran into Tangier bay — We Continued standing off & on Tangier till ½ past 11 A. M. at which time we fired a gun as a Signal for the Boat. — At noon we had light breezes from the Northw^d — The *Enterprize*

has our boat in Tow standing out of Tangier bay — Surgeons report is 7 Sick — 10 Conv^{nt} & 1 discharged from the Sick list — At Noon Sailing by chart thro the Streights of Gibraltar

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

To Eialen & Horne; Alexander Webster & Co. and Meyer (or Mayer) & Brantz, Baltimore, Md., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP^t
Nov. 7, 1803

I have received your letter of the 4th you will herewith receive a commission for the private armed ship the *Warren* made out in conformity to the armament & crew stated by you to be on board

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

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 7th Nov^r 1803

SIR You are on receipt of this to take command of the United States Schooner *Enterprize* now commanded by Lieu^t command^t Hull who will relieve you in the command of the *Argus*, make the necessary arrangements for the Exchange with all possible expedition, as the *Enterprize* must sail to the Eastward the 9th ins^t in the morning, —

[HS of Pa. Mrs. F. H. Getchell.]

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

UNITED STATES FRIGATE
Constitution GIBRALTAR BAY
7 November 1803

SIR You will sail from this Bay with the first fair wind, and convey to Syracuse the provision ship *Traveller* — Billips — Master Loaded on account of the United States with provisions for the squadron under my command be carefull not to chase out of sight of her on any account but Afford her all the protection in your power, as it is of the utmost importance that she should arrive safe, —

Remain at Syracuse to new Rig and put in good condition the *Enterprize*, and if I should not arrive by that time, you will proceed off Tripoly, and join the Frigate *Philadelphia*, and Schooner *Vixen* in the Blockade of that place, and take care and inform Cap^t Bainbridge of the arrival of the Provision Ship in Syracuse, —

Continue to cruize before Tripoly until the season makes it dangerous, and then you must harbor in Syracuse, but you must even in the worst season go out, and shew yourself off Tripoly occasionally if only a day or two at a time, as it will have a good effect by convincing those *Barbarians* that there Vessels is not safe, in leaving port at any season of the year. —

You are to capture all Vessels belonging to the Bashaw of Tripoly, or his subjects, and to annoy the enemy by all the means in your power, you are not to Suffer the Vessels of any nation to enter or have commerce with Tripoly, But if any Vessel bound in, who might not

have been informed of the Blockade, it would be well to order her off, and if detected in making a second attempt, you will send such Vessel into Syracuse for adjudication

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 (so far as may lay in your power) to succour aid relieve and free any American Vessels attacked by the enemy, or in their possession, —

The Officers of the *Enterprize* may receive payments of money from time to time, but no advance beyond what may be due them, for which and other necessary purposes, you may immediately make a requisition on me for Two thousand dollars, to prevent the necessity of your drawing Bills, which cannot be done without great loss to Government, —

In all cases of expence, observe the strictest Economy, and keep me regularly informed from time to time of all your proceedings, —

[HS of Pa. Mrs. F. H. Getchell.]

[7 November 1803]

To Midshipman (acting as Lieutenant) Jonathan Thorn, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

(L s.)

By Edward Preble Esquire
Commander in chief of the
United States Squadron stationed
in the Mediterranean.

To M^r Jonathan Thorn hereby appointed Lieutenant of the United States Schooner *Enterprize*.

By VIRTUE of the Power and Authority to me given, I do hereby constitute and appoint you Acting Lieutenant of the United States Schooner *Enterprize* Willing and requiring you forthwith to go on board and take the charge and command of Lieutenant in her accordingly. Strictly charging and commanding all the Officers and Company belonging to the said Schooner, subordinate to you to behave themselves jointly and severally in their respective employments with all due respect and Obedience to you their said Lieutenant. And you likewise to observe and Execute as well the general printed Instructions as what orders and directions you shall from time to time receive from your Captain or any other your superior Officer for the United States Service: hereof nor you, nor any of you may fail as you may answer the Contrary at your Peril: And for so doing this shall be your Warrant. Given under my hand and Seal on board the United States Ship *Constitution* Algeziras bay this 7th day of November 1803 and in the 28th Year of the Independance of the United States of America —

Signed, EDWARD PREBLE

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

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

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*
Gibraltar Bay 7th Nov^r 1803

SIR Being convinced that the interests of the U: S: will be promoted by leaving a force on this Station, I have selected the *Argus*

for this service; relying with the greatest confidence on your Zeal for the Honor and Interest of your Country —

Experience has taught us that, implicit faith cannot be placed in Treaties with any of the Barbary States; you will, therefore, as often as possible, appear on the coast of Morocco; and communicate with Consul Simpson at Tanger. If you learn that any of their cruisers are fitting for sea; you will inform yourself of the object of such equipment; and take care that, you repel the first aggression on their part, with the greatest promptitude; as an ascendancy can only be obtained over these, or any other Barbarians, but by a determined mode of conduct towards them.

When any considerable number of American Vessels are collected here, for the purpose of procuring Convoy to the Eastward, you will proceed with them as far as Cape Martin, or farther, if in your opinion absolutely necessary. Keep a good look out about Cape De Gatt, and cruise there occasionally.

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 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 & free, any American Vessel attacked by the Enemy, or in their possession

As it is impossible for me to anticipate every situation in which you may possibly be placed; & owing to the distance I am from you, and the difficulty of communication, much must depend on your own judgment and prudence; you will however keep me advised of all your proceedings by every opportunity, and write frequently to the Navy Dep. In case of any event of an important or alarming nature, you will send me notice, by hiring a small swift Sailing Vessel, with an Officer in charge of the Dispatches, if you cannot consistently leave this Station in the *Argus*.

You will rendezvous occasionally in this Bay, at Cadiz, and Malaga; and frequently visit the Bay of Tanger. I expect one of the small Frigates from the United States on this station early in the Spring to watch the motions of the Morocco Cruisers. When she arrives, you will immediately take such dispatches as she may have for me, and join the squadron in the Blockade of Tripoli.

The Officers of the *Argus* may receive payments of money from time to time, but no advance beyond what may be due them; for which, and other necessary expences, you may immediately make a requisition on me, for Three thousand Dollars, to prevent the necessity of your drawing Bills, which cannot be done without great loss to Government. You will make all your requisitions for Provisions on John Gavino Esq^r Consul at Gibraltar; and he will supply you with such as belong to the U: S — Such articles as he has not, you must purchase, but in all cases of expenditure you will make use of the greatest economy.

In case a provision ship should arrive, you will consult M^r Gavino, and exercise your best judgment respecting the safest, and most expeditious manner of conveying the provisions to Syracuse

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

U: S: SHIP *Constitution*
GIBRALTAR BAY

7th Nov^r 1803

SIR On Signal from the *Constitution*, you will get under weigh, and proceed in company with her to the Blockade of Tripoli. But if it so happen, that we should part company you will make the best of your way & join the Frigate *Philadelphia* and Schooner *Vixen* off that place; and continue to cruise ther untill the season makes it dangerous; and then you must harbour in Syracuse. But you must even in the worst season go out and shew yourself off Tripoli occasionally if only 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 are not to suffer the vessels of any Nation to enter or to have commerce with Tripoli, but if any Vessel bound *in* who might not have been informed of the Blockade, it would be well to order her off, and if detected in making a second attempt, you will send such vessel into Syracuse for adjudication

You will respect the rights of nations with whom we are at peace, and not 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 the *Nautilus*, may receive payments of money from time to time; but no advance beyond what may be due them; for which and other necessary purposes, you may immediately make a requisition on me for Two thousand Dollars to prevent the necessity of your drawing Bills, which cannot be done without great loss to Government.

In all instances of expence observe the strictest economy, and keep me regularly informed from time to time of all your proceedings—

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

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

by Sundown we was up to the shiping at anchor at gibraltar/ we was Visited by the health offcier from Gibraltar/ we found here at anchor the united States Brig *argus*/ leiutenant Decator/ the schooner *Nautilus*/ Leeutenant Sommers/ and His B. T. Magestys Ship *donnegal* and *Agincourt* a little after sundown we fill^d and set the Courses/ in order to work over to the western shore or the algiseras side

[NA. ND original.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Monday, 7 November 1803

Moderate Breezes from the W. N. W — We continue our course thro' the Streights of Gibraltar — At 1 we made all plain sail & hauled over for Tarriffe — We brot Europa point to bear N E b E ½ E by compass — We kept the bearings till we opened the Marks of the

Pearl Rock Those marks are always attended to by ships of heavy draft — When we opened Gibraltar bay the wind set nearly out of the Bay — We worked in on Gibraltar Side by Sundown we were up to the Shipping at Anchor We were Visited by the Health Officer at Gibraltar We found here at Anchor the U. S. Brig *Argus* Lieut^t Decatur, The Schooner *Nautilus* Lieut^t Sommers — & H B M Ships the *Donnegall* & *Agincourt* — A little after Sundown we filled & set the Courses in order to work over to the Western Side — After dark up Courses & in T Gall^t Sails & worked up to the Anchoring ground under Topsails — This Precaution was necessary in order to obtain regular Soundings — At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 9 P. M. We came to with the small bower in 21 fath^s soft Muddy bottom Veered to 70 fath^s — The Town of Algeziras W S W nearly 2 miles — The fire Tower on Carbaritta Point S S W 4 miles — Furled Sails & mustered the Larboard Watch as an anchor Watch — Lieut^t Somers & Lieut^t Decatur waited on Commodore Preble — At 9 A. M. Veered away on the Small bower & moored Ship a cable Each way the best bower to the S S E in 22 fathoms of water We had light airs from the Eastward all the forenoon; we sent down the fore & main Futtock Shrouds & shortened them in — Unbent the Main sail — Sail makers employed altering the main sail set the foremast forward by the fore runners & staying the Masts — part of the Ships Company employed scraping between decks —

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

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

NAV. DEP^t
Nov. 8, 1803

The Schooner *Citizen* must sail as early as she can be prepared — We shall not detain her a moment for dispatches — Let me know when she will be ready to sail

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 6, 1802–1803.]

To Commanding Officer of the U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t
Nov^t 8. 1803

By dispatches from Cap^t Bainbridge, the capture of the *Merboha* and the re-capture of her prize [*Celia*], by the frigate *Philadelphia*, has been announced to us. We approve Cap^t Bainbridge's conduct. The vigilance and foresight exercised by him in the whole conduct of this business and the rapid movements he subsequently made to arrest the Mischief intended us, entitle him to our thanks, which The President has charged me to convey to him through you. —

[NDA. LB, 1799–1807.]

To Commanding Officer of the U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t
Nov^t 8. 1803. —

It is the command of the President of the United States, that you deliver up the *Meshouda* and the *Mesboha* [*Mirboka*] to the Emperor

of Morocco, provided that M^r Simpson our Consul at Tangier shall deem it expedient and shall signify the same to you. The time and manner of delivering up these vessels must be concerted between you and M^r Simpson. —

[NDA. LB, 1799-1807.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Tuesday, 8 November 1803

Went to Gibraltar, waited on the Governor & principal Officers of the Garrison and took leave. At 10 AM the *Nautilus* and *Argus* joined company. Ordered L^t Hull to take command of the *Argus*, and L^t Decatur to take command of the *Enterprize*: & Doctor Weems to the *Argus* —

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

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Tuesday, 8 November 1803

Moderate Breezes & cloudy — We continue at Anchor off [f] Algeiras with the *Enterprize* in C^o — Commodore Preble waited on the Governor of Gibraltar — We have no communication with the Shore on Algeiras Side — The Ships company employed setting up the Topmast & Top Gall^s rigging — Towards Evening we sent down the Top Gall^s Yards — We this Afternoon We reeved new main top sail Haulyards the old ones being unserviceable — At 10 in the Evening the U. S. Brig *Argus* & Schooner *Nautilus* anchored along Side of the *Constitution* — We had moderate Breezes during the Night till 7 In the morning when we had fresh Breezes from the S W. At 10 in the forenoon we saw an American ship near Gibraltar with the Signal of distress flying in her main topmast rigging — We Immediately sent an officer & a boats crew with a Hawser & kedge to her assistance — by 11 A. M. the S. W. Wind had increased to a Gale — Commodore Preble went on board the schooner *Nautilus* — She made sail toward Gibraltar — The Ships Company employed birthing Hammocks & Overhauling the rigging The Surgeons report to the Commodore is 7 sick & 7 Convalescents — At Noon fresh Breezes & rain Winds S W b S — We have now here in comp^y the *Argus*, *Enterprize* & *Nautilus* —

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

To Commanding Officer of the U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean from
Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t
Nov^r 9. 1803

The subject of the communications from M^r Simpson & Cap^t Bainbridge relative to the movements of the Emperor, having been submitted by the President to the consideration of Congress, it is expected that such provisions will be made as will authorize our proceeding against him in any manner that will tend most effectually to the preservation and protection of our commerce. A hope however is entertained, that an adjustment of our difficulties with the Emperor, may be obtained and peace effected on terms agreeable to us. But should the authorized negotiations fail of producing so desirable a

result, an additional Frigate will be sent to you with such further powers and instructions as may be deemed expedient. In the mean time you will capture and destroy his armed vessels wherever you may meet with them on the high seas, and use such other means of vigilance and precaution as may appear to you the most effectual to the protection of our commerce and Seamen in that quarter. It is a primary object with us to be at peace with the Emperor: we must create a corresponding disposition in him, which can best be effected by coercive means. —

[NDA. LB, 1799-1807.]

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

U; S. SHIP *Constitution*

Gibraltar Bay 9th Nov^r 1803

SIR I arrived here from Cadiz the 6th Ins^t On my way I stopped at Tanger Bay and sent a boat on shore. Everything is quiet in that quarter. The Emperor has complied strictly with his promise as far as he has had opportunity. The Captain of the *Mishouda* has been severely punished; and the moment the *Nautilus* arrived at Mogadore with the Emperor's orders, the American Brig *Hannah*, which had been detained there, was released and the Crew set at liberty. The weather has been so stormy since I came into this Bay that it has not been possible for Col. Lear with his family to embark I hope they will be able to come on board to day — The *Argus* is arrived and is without exception the handsomest vessel of her rate that I have ever seen. She is very much and very justly admired by every Officer: — The order she is in does great credit to her commander — L^t Decatur has delivered me the 30,000 Dollars mentioned in your letter of the 22nd of August which I now have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of and shall attend to its contents — L^t Hull has exchanged commands with L^t Decatur The *Nautilus* & *Enterprize* are both here. The Store Ship from Balt^o has arrived — It is necessary the provisions should go to Syracuse as soon as possible; and as no vessels can be obtained to carry them there, except we trust them in the Vessels of Nations at War I have advised M^r Gavino to bargain with the master of the *Traveller* to carry the cargo up, which he has done, and is to pay 3000 Dollars. This is 800 Dollars more than the customary freight in English Vessels, if they could be had, but they cannot, and the expence of landing and storing the Cargo and re-shipping it, and the damage and loss the provision would sustain in such removals would make more than three times that difference in the expence and as English Vessels would be liable to capture by the French Privateers of which there are a great number out we might be disappointed in our supplies. I have advised M^r Gavino to give him that Sum, as he found the Captain determined not to take less. The best way in future will be to freight the Store Ships for Syracuse, to stop at Gibraltar for orders I regret that She has not brought out any Cheese, Butter, Molasses, or Candles, as those articles are extremely dear here. The *Enterprize* goes direct to Syracuse to convoy the Provision Ship — The *Argus* with a convoy to Mersailles and back to this Station; and the *Nautilus* accompanies me to Algiers, and from thence off Tripoli. I enclose copies of all their orders for your perusal. I shall only remain off Tripoli myself

at present a day or two, as I must go to Syracuse to make the Necessary establishments and arrangements there, but shall not remain long in port — You may rest confidently assured, there shall not be an idle Vessel in my Squadron, I shall sail the moment the wind and weather will allow me to —

The Store Ship had 2 Men impressed and taken out of Cadiz by the British Frigate *Maidstone*, Capt^s Elliot The British make a practice of taking from our Merchant Vessels every man that has not a Protection, and very often those who have — What would be said if our Ships of War were to take by force even Americans out of English Merch^t Ships? it would make a bustle in America as well as England! and why have we not as good a right even to impress from their Ships English Men when destitute of Protections, as they have Americans from Ours? They certainly have no more right to presume every man without a protection on board our Merchant Ships to be English than we have to consider every Englishman in the same situation on board their Vessels an American — However, this is a matter for the Government — I shall take care that they do not go so far as to take mine by force with impunity The *Argus* is so fine a Vessel, and so well calculated and armed for the service I shall want her for before Tripoli, that you will pardon me for again urging the necessity of sending out a 32 Gun Frigate for this Station to take her place that I may have her Services. I am still of opinion that a Schooner or Brig with the Frigate, will be necessary to watch the Straits of Gibraltar and the Coast of Morocco, and to afford Convoy to our Merch^t Vessels bound up the Mediterranean.

If a quantity of good Slop Clothing could be sent to Syracuse in the first Store Ship that comes out, it would be of advantage to the Service, a quantity of Canvass and Twine will be wanted and cannot be purchased here, without paying a most enormous price for it —

L^t Dent is an officer of uncommon Merit Active, Steady, Intilligent, and ever attentive to his duty. I find great relief since he joined the Ship, and hope his exertions on all occasions to promote the good of the Service will entitle him to the notice of the President e're long, and gain him the promotion of Lieutenant Commandant But at the same time I hope I shall not be deprived of his services in this Ship while I command her The Officers generally have conducted well. I am sorry however to inform you that L^t Livingston of the *Argus* did while in Boston conduct very improperly, and in a manner disgraceful to himself as an Officer; and that there is not any probability of his amendment — He is extremely intemperate and exposes himself to observations on board and on Shore. I have forbid L^t Hull from suffering him to go on shore to disgrace the Service; and the first formal complaint that is made against him, I shall arrest and order him home- this will be a painful task to me, but the Service requires it.

I have on board the *Constitution* many remarkable fine young men whose conduct promises great things to their Country —

It is necessary that as many Mediterranean passes be sent out as there are Vessels in the Squadron that each one may have a check on any Barbary Cruiser should they have false Tops — which it has been hinted to me they can procure —

[LC. EPP, LB, May-Dec. 1803.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 9 November 1803

(At Anchor off Algaziras.) A, M, Moderate Weather at 8 weighed the anchor sent up top Gall^t masts hove short with the best bower. Isaac Hull Esq^r came onboard and took Command, Stephen Decatur Esq^r went onboard the United States Schooner *Enterprize* also M^r Bainbridge —

At 3 P, M, Weighed and stood over towards Gibraltar the wind at S, S, W at 4 came to with the best bower in 10 fathoms Water Veered away and Moored [off Gibraltar] with the small bower to the N, E, Best bower to S, W, continual Showers of rain. Doctor Weim came onboard as Surgeon. A, M, Struck lower Yards

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Wednesday, 9 November 1803

Strong breezes & rain — We continue at Anchor under Algeziras — The Ships Company Employed working up Junk & cleaning between decks — Sail makers & carpenters employed in their different departments Towards the Evening the S. W. Wind had nearly increased to a gale — Launched Top Gall^t Masts & bitted a range on the sheet cable — At 7 in the Evening the Weather became more moderate — Commodore Preble returned with the Schooner *Nautilus* — The boat which was ordered to the Ship in distress returned; the officer reports the ship in distress to be the *Sheperdess* of Boston Cap^t Alex^r Hodges — from 9 P. M. till 3 A. M it blew a perfect gale from the S W b W — We had smooth water all the gale — We are about 1½ miles from Algeziras which makes a weather shore — From day light till 7 A. M. we had light Airs & Variable which gave us a foul hawse which was immediately cleared as the weather had the appearance of a gale from the East^d — The Wind from the East^d blows on shore on Algeziras side & has a reach of near 6 miles — The Anchorage ground on this side being Very Extensive & the bottom good it is judged much safer than Gibraltar side — At 10 A. M. bent the Main Sail Lieut^t Hull & Lieut^t Somers waited on the Commodore At Noon Winds from the North^d with rain — The Surgeons report this day is 9 Sick & 6 Conv^{ants}

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

To Mr. McCreery, United States Congress, from Captain Alexander Murray, U. S. Navy

PHIL^a Nov^r 10th 1803

D^r SIR I am happy to find that you have taken your station in Congress, flattering myself in the hope of an acquisition of one more friend *in Congress*, to keep up the spirit of our Navy, and to put us upon a more permanent footing than we are at present. —

I have written to my friend M^r Nicholson on this subject, & can assure you that there are but few of the Officers, belonging to Navy, who have families that have not nearly ruined them in the service, for how is it possible that we can maintain ourselves, when out of commission, upon our half pay, not being even allowed half Rations? 'tis well known, that to keep up a decent ship, and to carry with us that respect which our Rank, & stations require, every Cent of our

pay is only sufficient to meet our expences on ship-board; and when we consider that being ever liable to be called into service, it is impossible to turn our attention to other objects, for a livelyhood in the intervals. —

As the cheif revenue of the U. States arrives from its commerce, which must have at least an apparent protection, surely our Countrymen cannot be so ungenerous as to suffer her Officers to be ruined, or very much embarrassed, especially as there are so few of us, but I fear that the object of keeping up that rigid Economy absorbs every other consideration. —

It is often found expedient to appropriate a little money to save a good deal, & the eyes of Europe are now upon us, watching our deportment towards the states of Barbary, & badly as our arrangements have been executed, we have spread no small degree of terror among them, but like a Dam to impede a rushing torrent, often when least expected, forces its barrier, and ruin and desolation is the consequence, so, be assured that when ever those Barbary states find us off our gaurd that they will commit serious mischief upon our Commerce, the seeds of Discord, & Envy, are now sowed and especially with Morocco and we ought to keep a vigilant lookout in that quarter. —

I feel happy in seeing your name annexed to the Committee, to enquire into the expediency of coercive measures, & when we recollect that Tripoli, & Morocco are nearly 1500 miles apart, & those seas so uncertain in traversing up, & down, a seperate division should be provided in case of emergences notwithstanding it may clash with Financial arrangements & should it be deem'd necessary I hope the Sec^y of the Navy will give me the preference to command, for altho' high on the list of Rank I have never yet been honor'd with the charge of a division, for what reason I know not, but if I have not merited such a trust I am unconscious of my errors

[NDA. A. Murray's LB, 1799-1805.]

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

UNITED STATES SCHOONER *Enterprize*

Gibraltar bay Novr 10th 1803

SIR I have the honor to inform you I arrived here on the first of this month after a passage of thirty four days, twenty five of which we had the winds easterly; the *Argus* sails well and possesses a number of excellent qualities, yesterday I delivered the *Argus* to Lieu^t [Isaac] Hull and relieved him in the Command of the *Enterprize*. —

Agreeable to Your instructions I inclose you Commodore Preble's receipt for the thirty thousand dollars I brought out —

[NDA. Officers LB, 1802-1805.]

To whom not indicated, from Midshipman Henry Wadsworth, U. S. Navy

ALGESIRAS Nov 10th. [1803]

DEAR SIR The *Constitution* the *Argus Enterprise* & the *Nautilus* are here in company at Algesiras: if you ask why we have deserted our old moorings at Gibraltar — why it is because the English commanders have treated us with great indignity have protected our Runaway Seamen, have refused to give them up, when demanded, have anchored close to us in order to give our men an opportunity of

swimming on board of them. Capt Gore of the *Medusa* & Capt [space] of the *Termagant* have done this. The Gov. Col Trigge disapproves it & we know it to be contrary to the orders & wishes of the British government — which are to give us all the assistance in their power, & keep up a good understanding.

The *Argus* has just arriv'd from America & brings me a letter from my much lov'd friend M^r [Peter?] Thacher: * * *

The *Nautilus* has just arrived from Mogador where she has been to witness the delivery of the American Brig seized at the commencement of the disturbances. * * *

[H. W. L. Dana Col.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*. Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 10 November 1803

[Off Gibraltar] P. M., at 1 departed this life James M^rKinlie Marine committed the body of the diseased to the deep —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Thursday, 10 November 1803

[Off Algeiras] Wind S E and rain. delivered orders to L^t Hull of the *Argus* for this station but previously to convoy the Trade from this to Mersailles and Leghorn, and take the Trade down with him — Gave orders to L^t Decatur of the *Enterprize*, to convoy the Store Ship Traveller Geo^f Billups Master to Syracuse and orders to L^t Somers of the *Nautilus* to accompany the *Constitution* to the Blockade of Tripoli. The *Argus* and *Enterprize* sailed for Gibraltar to Water and take in provisions & Stores. In the Night the Brig *Frances* of and from Salem Captain Chapman ran on the rocks near Carbrita point & Bulged with a Valuable cargo on board. sent Boats to his assistance

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

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Thursday, 10 November 1803

Moderate Breezes from the W S W with rain — We continue at Anchor at Algeziras with the *Enterprize Argus* & *Nautilus* in company — Lieut Hull was this day ordered to the command of the Brig *Argus* & Lieut^t Decatur to the command of the *Enterprize* — By 2 P. M. the wind had Veered to S S E with a constant rain — Application was made to Commodore Preble for a boat to assist in Weighing the Anchors of the *Shepherdess* — At 4 P. M. the Weather became more moderate — The *Argus* & *Enterprize* Weighed & stood over Gibraltar Side — At 7 in the Evening we had heavy squalls from the W S W which continued by Intervals till 3 A. M. at which time we had a dead calm & rain The Eddy & Counter Currents have given the ship a foul hawse — The Necessary duty of cleaning decks in the Morning prevents the clearing Hawse — At day light the Commodore Ordered an officer & boats crew to the Assistance of the *Shepherdess* — At 9 A. M We had fresh breezes from the S W b W — The master of the American brig [*Francis*] belonging to Salem came along side of the *Constitution* in the Brigs boat with his mate & 5 men — He reports that last Evening at 7 P. M. He ran ashore

in a heavy Squall from the West^d on the reef of rocks near Carbaritta Point This Point is the Western Side of the Entrance of Gibraltar bay — The Master of the Brig acknowledges it was an Error in his Judgment which caused his running ashore — Commodore Preble immediately ordered an Officer with a boats crew to her Assistance with a Kedge & Hawser — The Commodore also recommended the Master Immediately to Employ a number of Spanish boats to take out her Cargo — She is in sight from the *Constitution* — Her situation does not Appear Very alarming while the Westerly Winds continue — She is on a reef about a cables length from the shore — At 10 loosed sails to dry — Surgeons report is 12 sick & 6 convalescents — At Noon strong breezes from the West^d — We attempted clearing Hawse but as the Ship rides by both cables we found it unsafe —

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

To the Hon. William Eustis, United States Congress, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t

Nov^r 11. 1803.

In answer to your letter of the 10 ins^t I have the honor to inform you, that we have at present in the Mediterranean and adjacent Seas, the following Vessels of war employed for the protection of our commerce in that quarter. — The Frigates *Constitution* of 44 Guns; *Philadelphia* of 40 Guns; *Newyork* of 36 Guns; *Adams* and *John Adams* of 32 Guns each; the Brigs *Siren* and *Argus* of 16 Guns each; the schooners *Enterprize*, *Vixen* and *Nautilus* of 12 Guns each. But the Frigates *Newyork*, *Adams* & *John Adams*, are ordered home, and their return is expected in the course of the present and the ensuing month. There will then be left in the Mediterranean,

The Frigates, *Constitution* — 44 Guns. —

	<i>Philadelphia</i> — 40 “	
Brigs,	<i>Siren</i>	} of 16 e ^s
	<i>Argus</i>	
Schooners	<i>Enterprize</i>	} of 12 e ^s
	<i>Vixen</i>	
	<i>Nautilus</i>	

[NDA. Cong. LB, Vol. 1, 1798–1811.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 11 November 1803

At 3 furl'd sails the Commodore came on board people employed as Necessary — Moored off Gibraltar

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Friday, 11 November 1803

Fresh breezes & cloudy — We continue at Anchor at Algeziras with the Schooner *Nautilus* in company — The *Argus* & *Enterprize* at Anchor in Gibraltar — At 4 P. M. We had moderate breezes — Cleared Hawse & furl'd sails — Towards the Evening Tobias Lear Esquire the American Consul at Algiers came on board the *Constitution* from Gibraltar with his Attendance & baggage — At 7 in the Evening the boat which was ordered to the Assistance of the American

brig (on the rocks off Carbaritta Point) returned — The Officer reports it to be the Brig *Francis*, Cap^t Chaplain belonging to Salem loaded with Fish, Butter Cheese Candles Salt provisions & some dry goods — When Our boat left her a little after Sundown the Brig was full of Water — We had frequent Squalls from the North^d with rain during the Night At 2 A. M. the Boat returned which was ordered to assist in weighing the Anchors of the *Shepherdess* We recieved the Kedge & Hawsers we lent her — At day light the Commodore ordered another boat to the assistance of the Brig *Francis* — At 9 A. M. loosed sails to dry — The boat returned from the *Francis* — She is now a complete wreck with her masts standing — We supplied her yesterday with a five inch Hawsers of 120 fathoms, 40 fath^s of which were lost among the rocks — At 11 A. M. the Weather became squally — Furl'd sails & swayed up Top Gall^t masts — Made the necessary Arrangement for unmooring ship — Cap^t Hull of the *Argus* & Lieut^t Decatur of the *Enterprize* waited on Commodore Preble — During our stay here we have had no communication with Algeziras Side — Surgeons report is 17 Sick 6 Conv^{ect's} & one discharged from the Sick list — At noon we had moderate breezes from the W N W & light rain —

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

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

UNITED STATES FRIGATE
Constitution GIBALTAR BAY
12th Novem^r 1803

SIR I enclose you a copy of the declaration of the Blockade of Tripoly, which has been sent to the direct courts of Europe you will please make the purport thereof as public as possible, —

[HS of Pa. Mrs. F. H. Getchell.]

To James Mouroe, U. S. Minister to London, England, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

CIRCULAR

U: S: SHIP *Constitution*
Gibraltar Bay 12th Nov^r 1803

SIR Whereas the United States of America and the Regency of Tripoli, are in a state of War and actual hostility with each other I have thought proper in order to distress the Enemy by preventing any supplies from reaching him to Blockade the Port of Tripoli by a detachment of Ships of War, acting under my orders: and you are hereby requested to communicate this information to the British Government. To all the Ministers and Consuls of Neutral Powers at London, and to the Consuls for the United States at the ports in England; to be communicated by them to the Consuls of Neutral Powers residing there, that they may warn the vessels of their respective Flags, that all Neutral Vessels that attempt to enter the Port of Tripoli, or are met with on the coast near that Port after this notice is received by such Neutral Powers, will be stoped by the Squadron under my command and sent into port for adjudication

Copies of the foregoing Circular letter have been sent to the American Ministers at the Courts of Madrid & Paris; and to the Consuls for

the United States residing at the following places Viz — Mersailles, Barcelona, Cadiz, Allicant, Malaga, Leghorn, Naples, Lisbon, Gibraltar, and Tanger —

[LC. EPP, LB, May-Dec. 1803.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*. Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 12 November 1803

[Off Gibraltar] At 8 P M unmoored ship, Rob^t Murray seaman attempted to desert by Swimming towards the *Donegall* British ship of War Confined him in Irons

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 12 November 1803

Declared Tripoli in a state of blockade.

[LC, original.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Saturday, 12 November 1803

Wind Westerly, wrote to our Ministers at the different Courts in Europe and to our Consuls in those countries — where Ministers are not resident notifying them of the Blockade of Tripoli, and desiring them to notify to the Ministers and Consuls of the different Neutral Nations of the same

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

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

we continue at anchor at algesiras with the Schooner *Nautilus* in company the *argus* and *Enterprise* at anchor at gibraltar Captain Chapline of the Brig *Francais* came and Took away, the chists and orther articles that was left on board the *Constitution* Thursday last/ * * * the Brig *Francais* now a wreck of[f] Caberetta point belongs to M^r Reess [or Russ] Merchant in Salem/ Every assistance and advice has been given by Commodore Preble conserning the saving her cargo/ the Reef shee is on is intierly oppen to the Eastw^d and a gale from that Quarter will Tottaly destroy her/ in consequence of her situation the Commodore has Recommended the Taking out her cargo/

[NA. ND original.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Saturday, 12 November 1803

Moderate Breezes & cloudy — We continue at Anchor at Algeziras with the *Nautilus* in com^r — The *Argus* & *Enterprise* at Anchor at Gibraltar Cap^t Chaplin of the Brig *Francis* came & took away the chests & other articles which were left on board on Thursday last — At 3 P. M. We Veered away on the best bower & unmoored ship — We hove into a cable on the small bower — Stowed the best bower — We had moderate breezes from the West^d all the Afternoon with showers of rain — From Sundown till mid-night light airs & Variable from the North^d — The Brig *Francis* now off Cabaritta point belongs to M^r Russ Merchant in Salem — Every

Assistance & Advice has been given by Commodore Preble concerning the saving of her cargo — The reef on which she is, is entirely open to the East^d and a gale from that Quarter will totally destroy her — In consequence of her situation the Commodore has recommended the taking out of her cargo — At day light we hove short on the Small bower & up top Gall^t Yards — The Weather to the West^d is foggy with light Airs from the North^d — We stowed the sheet anchor in order to have all clear for sea as soon as a breeze sprang up — At 9 A. M. the Weather in some measure cleared up — Loosed Studd^d Sails to dry — Ships company employed Cleaning Ship — By 10 A. M. we had light rain & Variable winds from the Eastward — For these last 4 weeks we have had a great Quantity of rain & damp weather — The Sails not bent are more or less Mildewed although every opportunity which has offered for drying them has been attended to — The Surgeons report to the Commodore is 16 sick 7 convalescents & one discharged from the Sick list — At noon a light breeze Sprang up from the S S E — The brig *Francis* is now in Sight & we can perceive two or three lighters taking out her cargo. —

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

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 12 November 1803

[Convoy duty since leaving Gibraltar 25 October] Commences with fresh breezes & heavy sea. The *Petapsco* & *Fame* close under our stern. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past meridian hove too & spoke the aforesaid vessel she prov'd to be a (Ragusa) Brig from Leghorn bound to Alicant, out 4 days. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 1 boarded main tack. At 2 haul'd up main sail. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 2 close reef'd topsails & sent down top gall^t yards. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3 reef'd fore sail & handed main sail. At 5 hove too under close reef'd topsails. Cape Corso bearing S. E. dist. 6 leagues. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10 fill'd away & made the Island of Gorgona. Midnight moderate — Gorgona bearing N E by E 2 leagues distant. At 1 AM hove too for the convoy. At $\frac{1}{4}$ past 1 fill'd away E N E. At 2 hove too Gorgona bear^d NW. made signal for the convoy to heave too with Starboard tacks on board. At 6 sent up top gall^t yards. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 6 made signal for the convoy to keep their course, same time fill'd away & stood in for the port of Leghorn. got the anchors ready for coming too & overhaul'd a range of cable. At 9 came too with the convoy in Leghorn bay in 7 fathoms water. Cape Nero bearing S $\frac{1}{2}$ E light house S E by S Marona W. N. W. At 10 hoisted out boats, sent down top gall^t yards & overhaul'd a range of the larboard cable. — At 11 launch'd top gall^t masts at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 11 barge went on shore with M^t Cathcart. At meridian gave 50 fathoms more cable to the 1st scope. —

[NDA.]

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

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*

Gibraltar Bay, Nov^r 13th 1803.

SIR, As you have been necessarily and usefully detained in this part of the Mediterranean, in consequence of our difference with the

Emperor of Morocco, until the season is so far advanced as not to admit of active or permanent operations before Tripoli until next Spring; I have concluded that it would be most proper for me to remain at Algiers during the winter, and not proceed to Tripoli, to endeavour to enter into any negotiations for a peace with that Regency (which I am impowered to do by the President of the U. States) until the season will admit of pushing, with vigour & activity, such operations as you may judge will be most effectual for reducing our Enemy to the necessity of making peace, if he should not be disposed to do it, upon proper and admissible terms, before that time. —

Should this arrangement meet your approbation, I will be ready to proceed to Tripoli whenever you will be pleased to advise me that the season is proper and your arrangements made, and will join you off that place in such Vessel as you may send to Algiers for me. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

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

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*
Gibraltar Bay 13th Nov^r 1803

SIR, I am honored with your letter of the 13th inst^t. Your proposition to wait at Algiers until the Spring I think prudent and proper, as the season is now too far advanced for active operations, against Tripoli with any prospect of success, I shall Order a respectable force early in the Spring to accompany you to Tunis previous to your joining me off Tripoli

[LC. EPP, LB, May–Dec. 1803.]

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

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Gibraltar Bay 13th Nov^r 1803

SIR You may make the best of your way for Leghorn with the Vessels you have under Convoy pass near Cape de Gatt where it is probable you will meet with me — You will attend to your Convoy, and take no notice of my motions, unless I make a signal for you, When you return to this Station, you will not convoy any Merchant Vessels excepting they are loaded for acc^t of the U: S above Cape Martin, but attend to the other part of your instructions —

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

To Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy, from the Minister of the Bashaw of Tripoli

[Translation]

TRIPOLI, *November 13th, 1803.*

Captain BAINBRIDGE, former Commander of the frigate *Philadelphia* of the United States of America.

Yesterday I sent you my Secretary and at the same time I requested Mr. Nissen, Consul General of His Danish Majesty, to inform you of the letters which the families of the prisoners, which are at Gibraltar, had received, of the rage in which His Excellency was, and of his

dispositions. To-day to my great surprise I learned all that has been done by order of His Excellency, assuring you that I am very much concerned at not knowing what to do to have you and your officers again undisturbed in your house, for the advice which I am able to give you is to oblige His Excellency by returning to him his subjects, without loss of time, and for this purpose to write to Commodore Preble, explaining your situation to him. If the latter consents, you will have fulfilled your obligation, and if he does not agree to your request, at least you will have gained all the time until a reply is received, during which you will not be interfered with. If what I have told you is agreeable to you, send your reply in French, and on your account I shall go to the Castle this evening in order to do my best to persuade His Excellency.

Your humble servant.

Signed in Arabic.

MAHOMED DGHIES.

[Translator's Note: This letter is in poor French (badly misspelled in places). Some of the statements are not very clear, which makes a closely literal translation impracticable. A somewhat free translation is given in some cases, but true to the intended meaning, to the translator's best judgment.]

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, Sept-Nov. 1803.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 13 November 1803

This day beings with light airs from the Southw^d at 8 A. M. the Commodore made the Signal to prepare for sailing, cleared the deck and hoisted in the launch at 9 made the Signal with a Gun for the Convoy to weigh, weighed and made sail with the Ship *Alexander Hodgdon* of Boston & Schooner *Hazard* of Salem in Company, the Commodore and *Nautilus* weighed at Algaziras and stood out of the bay —

(Sailing out of Gibralt^r Bay)

[NDA photostat.]

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

Sailed for the coast of Tripoli.

[LC, original.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Sunday, 13 November 1803

Light airs & rain — We continue at Single Anchor at Algeziras perfectly clear for sea as soon as the wind permits — The Schooner *Nautilus* in company At 3 P. M. lighted the small bower — found it foul — Let go the best bower & Veered to a third of a cable Stowed the Small bower — Lieut^t Somers of the *Nautilus* waited on Commodore Preble — We had no communication with the Shore all day except one boat Sent to Gibraltar — In the Evening Lieut^t Hull of the *Argus* waited on Commodore Preble — We had light airs from Noon till 9 in the morning at which time a light breeze sprung up from the North^d — We Weighed & came to Sail. We have been here at Anchor Seven days; the greatest part of the time we have had rainy Weather. We have recieved no supply of any kind during our

stay here — Yesterday we recieved from the U. S. Brig *Argus* Daniel M^aAllean & Edward Madden marines who now belong to the *Constitution* — We sent from the *Constitution* to the *Argus* Simeon Saunders marine — On Friday last we supplied the brig *Argus* with a Quantity of Junk supposed to be 1500 CW^t We also supplied the Schooner *Nautilus* with a small quantity of Wood — When we weighed at 9 this morning the light breezes continued till 10 A. M. After that till noon we had a dead calm We continued over Algeziras Side on Soundings with the best bower clear in case it should be wanted — We have now on board the *Constitution* 90 Leagurs 76 Butts & 56 Gang Casks of Water which is 41385 Gallons — At Noon a dead calm We are off the Town of Algeziras nearly 2 miles from the Shore in 28 fathoms of Water — The Surgeons report to the Commodore is 19 Sick & 8 convalescents The Marine Officer reports to the Commodore 7 Marines Sick — 2 Marines confined & 3 on Extra duty — Lieut^t Decator of the *Enterprize* waited on Commodore Preble — The Ships draft abaft this day is 23 ft 4 In forward — 21.6 which is 22 Inches difference

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

To Secretary of the Treasury from Secretaries of State, War, and the Navy

NAV. DEP.

Nov. 14, 1803

To avoid the expence to which we are exposed for the rent of Houses for the messengers of the Departments of State, War and navy — General post office and of the accountants of the War and navy Departments — & to provide against accidents of fire to the Buildings occupied by these Departments we conceive that it would be expedient for Congress to make provision for building Six small brick Houses with necessary buildings attached to them & for purchasing two fire engines and erecting Pumps &^t we therefore submit the following Estimate of monies necessary to effect these objects and request that you will lay the same before Congress

Six small brick dwellings a 1000 each.....	6000 —
other necessary Buildings.....	1200 —
Fire Engines.....	1400
Pumps.....	350
Buckets.....	200
	9150

GIDⁿ GRANGER.

JAMES MADISON
H. DEARBORN
R^t SMITH.

[NDA. Treasury, Vol. 2, 1803-1821.]

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

NAVY DEP^t —

Nov^r 14: 1803. —

You will proceed with all practicable dispatch to put the *General Greene* in a state of complete repair. —

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

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

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*
At Sea, November 14th 1803.

SIR, If you can with propriety, and without injury to the Service, permit M^r Robert Henley, a Midshipman on board the *Constitution* to remain with me at Algiers this Winter, I shall feel highly gratified by the indulgence, as his services may be useful to me in the discharge of my public duties there. —

Should this request be granted, M^r Henley will hold himself ready to join the service at any moment he may be called upon.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

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

Laying Bealmd in Gibraltar Bay, at ½ past 12 a light Breeze sprung up from the Southw^d we filld Towards the Rock/and Tack^d as necessary to clear Europa point, at 4 P M. we weatherd Europa point and Made Sail to the Eastw^d/in order to proceed as far up the Mediterranean as algiers/the Brig *Argus* and the Schooner *Nautilus* are in Company, with two american Vessels under convoy/Latitu^d ob 36. 28

[NA. ND original.]

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

NAV. DEP
Nov. 15. 1803

Daniel Bedinger Esq navy agent at norfolk will transmit to you Bill of lading and invoice of the cargo of the provision ship the *William and Mary* the freight is to be paid here — The Captain of the *William and Mary* is directed either to land the Cargo at Gibraltar or to proceed with it to Malta as he may be advised by you on his arrival at Gibraltar — In forming your determination on this point you will consult the convenience of our Squadron — Should you send the *William and Mary* to malta you will give the Captain the necessary instructions with respect to the Disposition of the Cargo

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

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

NAVY DEP^t
Nov^r 15. 1803 —

Enclosed you will receive copies of my letters to you of the 8th ins^t The originals were sent by the schooner *Citizen* Cap^t Lawson, which vessel sailed from this port with 100 Gun carriages for the Emperor on the 13th instant. —

P. S. The *Citizen* goes to L'Orient first, then to Gibraltar. —

[NDA. LB, 1799-1807.]

[15 November 1803]

To President Thomas Jefferson from Richard Farquhar, Malta

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY

In consequence of not receiving an answer to a Letter, which I forwarded to you from His Excelency Cidy Hamet Carmile Bashaw of Derna I send you the other copy whith His Seal & Signed by His Secretary

In which he requests the loan of forty Thousand Spanish Dollars with Guns Powder &^e he will give the United States any Security in his Power viz by Putting American Troops in Possession of one of the forts in Tripoli when ever it is taken untill that sum is repaid

Should the City of Tripoli be taken by Storm he the said Bashaw of Derna will then have Plenty of Cash & the American Troops will receive their Share of Prize Money,

the Bashaw of Tripole has been at War with a great Nation of Arabs but has come to some terms with them, but has lost many of his Troops also with his Brother the Bashaw of Derna who has defated him, altho in want of every thing, but finding his Brothers Troops daily arrive from Tripoli & no assistance from America he thought Proper to leave Derna for the Present.

Therefore the United States will consider whither it is better to assist this said Bashaw of Derna to be Bashaw of Tripoli or to pay the Present Bashaw his unreasonable demand of three Million of Dollars and then not certain of keeping Peace with him one year afterward if the United States assist the Said Bashaw of Derna to be Bashaw of Tripoli they are certain of being successfull and it will be the means of keeping America at peace with all the other Barbary States

I understand your late Consul at Tripoli has been the cause of this War & he has recommended to be your Consul in Malta a M^r Poulis who was latly Consul to the Present Bashaw of Tripoli which does no good to your Affairs. as I was a witness to the unfortunate loss of the Frigate *Philadelphia* and was of great Service to the Officers who was stript of every thing I also advanced Captⁿ Bainbridge three Hundred Spanish Dollars. I have done the United States many Services & will do them more as I send off a Small Vessel to Tripoli to get Intellgence which I will give to the American Comodore or any other Officers who may come hear

MALTA Nov^r 15th 1803

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

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

GIBRALTAR 15th Novemb^r 1803

SIR Deprived the honor of any of your Commands I beg leave to refer to my last Respects N^o 135 Accompany^g Copy of one from Consul OBrien of Alger under date 14th Sep^r last.

Coll^l Lear in the *Constitution* left us with the *Nautilus* the 13th Ins^s for Algiers, as did said day the Brig *Argus* with two Vessels under her Convoy for Leghorn —

Yesterday saild the Schooner *Enterprize* Cap^t DeCature for Cyraeue with the Victualler ship *Traveller*, for the use of the Squadron —

A few days ago four spanish ships the Line past this from the East, two got to Cadiz, the others supposed to have gone for Ferol

The Contagious Disorder still Continues at Malaga, & altho one half the Inhabitants quited the Town, and the Governour suspended all Communication with the Mole & Harbour, 70 to 100 were by our last accounts of 8th Ins^t carried off daily; The Governour of this Place admits no Vessels to anchor in his Bay from the intermediate Coast of Spain, between Alicante & Cadiz, and from those Ports & others beyond them, they are subjected to quarantine in Conformity to the Accounts that the Health office may have of the state of Publick health, when they arrive

As to Barbary Occurencys have nothing new, yet refer to the Inclosed from Consul Simpson of Tanger. — On the 2^d Ins^t: arrived the ship *Old Tom* Cap^t Cormick from Norfolk with stipulations for Algier; was Quarantind having no Bill of health, he proceeded the 6th —

A few days ago arrived a Convoy from England with Stores for this Place and Malta. Admiral Nelson Continues off Toulon, has 11 Sail the Line and many frigates, three of the former now here for Provisions & Stores, one is Stationd off Cadiz.

The British Consul Falcon who was sent away from Algiers some time ago, has gone by orders from Government to ad^l Nelson, who is to return him there, and if refused has (it is sayd) Discretionall orders to act as may think best for the honour of the Nation; the Admiral owes that Regency an old Grudge. —

[NA. SDA. CL, Gibraltar, Vol. 2, 1796-1804.]

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

TRIPOLI BARBARIE 15th Nov^r 1803

SIR Owing to letters said to be received from the Tripolitan Prisoners in Gibraltar, taken in the Ship *Misoudra* [*Meshouda*], to their families in this place; mentioning that they were cruelly treated, the Bashaw of this Regency had myself and Officers taken from our Quarters, and carried down to the loathsome prison of our Crew, amongst whom we were confined the whole day without any thing to eat; in the Evening the Minister got us removed to our Quarters, where I received a letter from him, a copy of which I enclose you & my reply to it.

About 10 OClock at night was sent for by the Minister, who I saw, and perticularly explained to him that the information must be false, and he must be sensible that I did not command the Commodore and could not & would not come under any obligation respecting the return of the Tripolitan subjects here; he requested that I would write and give you *this* information; which I conceive it my duty to do. You will find by the Ministers letter that he has interrested himself in our situation it was to him that we gave our parole which obtained us the *Quarters* of the late American Consular house.

Our People are kept employed at various branches of their profession and labour; the Officers as yet, have not been made to work, myself never will

A seamen belonging to the Crew who was my Coackswain (& a favorite) by the name of John Wilson a Swede, has behaved in a most infamous manner; by telling the Bashaw numerous lies to exasperate him to treat the Officers & Men with severity myself he has impu-

dently insulted, and expects to take protection under the Swedish Consul; as it would be grateful to the feelings of myself, Officers, & Men to have the rasscall returned [?] with us, to answer for his villainous conduct; you will much oblige the unfortunate, by writing to the Swedish Consul at this place requiring his desisting in any manner to claim the said Wilson, as he will be considered a deserter from the service of the United States. The Consul's *character* prevents my having the least communication with him on the subject. my situation is such that I cannot treat him as he justly deserves

P. S. you will please to address all your letters for me to N. Nissen Esq^r Danish Consul —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

To the Minister of the Bashaw of Tripoli, from Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy

TRIPOLI BARBARIE 15th Nov^r 1803

SIR I've the honor of receiving your letter respecting the treatment which myself and Officers have this day experienced said to be by His Excellency's order on account of some letters received from the Tripolitan Prisoners at Gibraltar captured in the Ship *Misoudra*, mentioning their being cruelly treated; the information must be incorrect, as it is directly contrary to the Naval laws of the United States and to the known humanity of the Americans to treat their prisoners ill.

I shall write to Commodore Preble and state the demands of his Excellency the Bashaw, and feel sensible of your politeness in the buissness

MOHAMMED DGHIES Esq^r

Minister to his Ex. the Bashaw of Tripoli

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 15 November 1803

at 5 Malaga bore N $\frac{1}{4}$ E distance 9 Leagues made & shortened sail as occasion required to Keep Company with our Convoy —

At 7 A, M, the Barbary shore in sight and 4 strange sail in sight standing to the Westw^d

At 10 the Commodore and Schooner out of sight Convoy in Company —

Latitude Observed 36°29' N.

[NDA photostat.]

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

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution* at Sea

16th November 1803

SIR, Enclosed is a permission for M^r Henly to remain at Algiers with you agreeable to your request, and should it be disagreeable to M^r Lear to part with her Brother, during your absence in the spring, he may remain at Algiers, 'till your return, and then join the Squadron —

[Stephen Decatur Col.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 16 November 1803

These 24 hours Commence with moderate breezes and Cloudy Weather at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3 P, M, bore up for the ship and Schooner they being considerably astern. at 4 Modril bore N. dist. 5 leagues saw a large sail to the Eastw^d made the signal for the Ship to close in which was not answered At 6 took the Schooner in tow she sailing dull and made sail

Latitude Observed $36^{\circ}23'$ N.

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Wednesday, 16 November 1803

Nautilus returned from her chase and reported one vessel to be a Latine Spanish merchant Vessel from Cadiz for Leghorn and the Brig a Dane from Tetuan for Tunis with Six Algerine Passengers on board; Wind from the Eastward: Tacked ship occasionally:

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

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Wednesday, 16 November 1803

Moderate Breezes & pleasant Weather — We continue Standing towards the land, till $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 at which time we tacked from the land Grenadine Mountains bearing N. E. We are at this time nearly Six Miles from the land to the East^d which is just in Sight in the night & supposed to be near point Sacraftil [Sacratif] bore East nearly 5 leagues Towards the Evening the Weather became cloudy with fresh breezes from the E S E — In second reefs in the Topsails & down Top Gallant Yards — In the course of the Afternoon We punished Edward Madden Marine with 48 lashes for refusing duty, contempt of a Commissioned Officer, Insolence to a non-commissioned Officer & attempting to desert This Marine is a very Notorious character & was recieved on Sunday last from the U. S. Brig *Argus* in Irons — Punished Thomas Jones Seaman Thirty Six lashes for Drunkenness Insolence to his superior Officer & Neglect of duty — Punished also James Butler seaman with 24 lashes for drunkenness & neglect of duty — From 5 P. M. till midnight we continued standing to the south^d at which time we tacked to the N. E. by 4 A. M. The Wind had shifted by degrees to the S S E — At 6 A. M. We saw the land bearing from N E b N to E b N The weather being Hazy & the clouds hanging over the land makes our situation doubtful but from the distance ran from Our bearings last night we suppose the land within us to be point Adera & the land E b N to be Cape De Gatte At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 6 A. M. We out reefs & up Top Gall^t Yards. After 7 A. M. till 9 A M we had light Breezes with calms & rain — By Intervals after this till noon we had fresh breezes & rain with frequent Squalls from the West^d — At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10 A. M. in third reefs in the Topsails & down Top Gall^t Yards — Surgeons report 18 Sick & 6 convalescents. —

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

[17 November 1803]

To Hon. William Eustis, United States Congress, from Secretary of State

The Secretary of State presents his respects to M^r Eustis, and has the honor to enclose to him a statement of the Naval force of Morocco as far as known.

JAMES MADISON.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
17th Nov^r 1803.

[Enclosure]

The following is an account of the Naval Force of Morocco, as far as is known, exclusive of the two frigates captured by the Vessels of War of the United States.

A Ship of 30 Guns and 150 Men.
Two gallies built last year.

Another galley was getting ready at Tatuam in August, and the Governor of Tangier at that date expressed his intention of arming a two masted boat lately seized there under Genoese colours. In the month of September last passports were issued by all the Consuls at Morocco, except the American, for another Frigate which was to proceed to Cadiz, Lisbon or elsewhere to be coppered and repaired.

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

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

LEGHORN Nov^r 17th 1803

SIR, I have the honor to communicate to you the intelligence contain'd in the following extracts from the letters of M^r Nissen his Danish Majesty's Consul Gen^l at Tripoli in Barbary and must request that you will at all times avoid mentioning the source from whence you gain your intelligence as it might have serious consequences and might even tend to place M^r Nissen's life in Jeopardy, should the Bashaw be inform'd of his friendly interference, this Gentleman has been of great service to the U. States, he is candid sensible & above the mean intrigues of those Consuls, who prefer their own Interest and ease to the honor of their Country As such give me leave to recommend him as the most proper person to be employ'd, should a negotiation commence on your arrival off Tripoli —

I am with sentiments of perfect respect Sir Your &c

(Signed) JAMES LEA^r CATHCART

[For enclosures see documents dated 15 July, 19 and 28 September, 1803.]

[Stephen Decatur Col.]

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

NAV DEP

novem 18th 1803

I am honored with your letter of the 13th ins^t — If you can procure in season 10,000^{lb} more of bread at norfolk be pleased to do so otherwise the Vessel must sail with the quantity already supplied — I hope the rice will arrive in time — it is an important article and cannot be procured in the mediterranean but on extravagant terms — Be

pleased to add to the Cargo if they can be stowed away in the vessel the following articles —

Viz —

- 3000^{lb} of Butter firkin
- 10,000 “ of Suet
- 8,000 “ of Cheese — good New England
- 1,300 Gallons of Melasses
- 1,300 Gallons of Vinegar
- 50 Boxes of Candles of w^h
- 20 must be Spermaceti

If the *William & Mary* will not receive the whole of the additional articles but part you will in that case proportion the quantity of each to the whole amount directed to be put on board —

As the owners or crew of the *William and Mary* may in consequence of the late intelligence from the mediterranean entertain fears of her capture by the Moors I deem it proper to inform you, that you may quiet such fears if entertained — that there are now cruising northward & southward of the rock of Gibraltar the following Vessels —

- The *Constitution* 44 Guns
- Brig's *Syren & Argus* 16 — 24 p^d Caronades
- Sch^r *Enterprize & Nautilus* 12 Guns each

The frigates *New York* of 36 Guns and *John Adams* of 32 Guns were also in the neighborhood of Gibraltar in September last and it is presumed they would remain there untill their cooperation in the protection of our commerce should have been considered unnecessary —

The frigate *Philadelphia* of 40 Guns and the Schooner *Vixen* of 12 — 18 p^d Carronades are cruising Eastward to protect our commerce against the Enemy up the mediterranean —

Be pleased to deliver the accompanying letter addressed to M^r Gavino to the Captain of the *William and Mary*

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

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

NAVY DEP^t
Nov^r 18: 1803.

Commodore PREBLE. — Mediterranean.

I have received your dispatches by Commodore Morris. —

The distribution which you have made of the force committed to you, is judicious — your construction of your authority is correct — your orders to your Officers are Soldier-like — in a word Sir, your conduct presages a complete fulfilment of our expectations, & justifies the high confidence reposed in you. — The President has charged me to convey to you his thanks — be pleased also to accept mine. —

[NDA. LB, 1799-1807.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Charles Pinckney, U. S. Minister to Madrid, Spain

MADRID 18th November 1803.

DEAR SIR, I received yesterday a letter from the french Ambassador at this Court in which he mentioned to me that some Deserters from the french Marine had taken refuge on board the United States frigate, the *Constellation*, & requests, that I would, in compliance with the good understanding which subsists between our two Governments, use my endeavours to have them delivered up to the french Commissary at Cadiz. — In consequence of this request I take the liberty of recommending to you not to suffer any french Sailors to be shipped by the Officers under your command — The present situation of the United States with respect to their Commerce & Flag is so happy & valuable a one, that it can never be prudent in us to risque a dispute with either of the belligerent Powers for the sake of obtaining a few Sailors — We surely have Sailors enough of our own to prevent this necessity — In short, the state of affairs requires that we should be very exact indeed in our conduct, & as the French *have, I am told, given up several American Sailors who had entered their service*, I hope you will enable me to say that we have done the same.

You will let me hear from you on this subject as soon as possible, & I should be obliged to you to write by duplicate, as there is a probability that one of your Letters may miscarry, unless indeed you should happen to be in a Spanish Port at the time you write.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

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

LEGHORN Nov^r 18th 1803.

SIR. I have the honor to inform you that we arrived here on the 12th Ins: and on the 14th I got pratique, the brig by an accident was quarantined for some days longer. —

Enclosed is the latest intelligence from Tripoli by which you will be inform'd of the whole marine force of that Regency, & that several of their Cruisers are at Derna where they will undoubtedly remain until the Bashaw of Tripoli subdues his brother Hamet, in order to prevent the latter from receiving supplies from Malta, this will take up a considerable time to effect, & it occurs to me that the[y] would fall an easy prey to any of our vessels of war that would attempt the enterprize. — Derna is the easternmost Port or Bay of the Regency of Tripoli, it is defended by a small fortification of 8 or 10 Guns the water is not deep, but sufficiently so for our Schooners when lighten'd for the purpose. —

You will likewise receive copys of two letters from me to Com^e Morris which will give you my unalterable opinion relative to the manner of negotiating with Tripoli, their is nothing formidable in that Regency but 10 Gun boats & the Bashaws obstinacy; the first must be destroy'd; & the last subdued by force of arms before we will be able to effect any thing, unless government thinks proper to comply with all his demands, which will furnish the other Regencys with pretext to encrease their demands upon us & their will be no end to their exactions depredations & insolence; we had better be at war with all the Barbary States at once than to be treated by them as a subdued nation, which We certainly shall be, if we condescend to comply with

the Bashaw of Tripoli's demands; all Europe as well as Barbary has view'd our conduct in silent expectation, since the war with Tripoli commenced, the former with an intention to follow our example if worthy imitation, & the latter to know how to rank us among the nations of the earth, whether to class us with Great Britain and France the only nations who make themselves respected, or with the northern nations whose miserable pusillanimous aconomy has so far preponderated in their Councils as to induce them in many instances to sacrifice their national dignity merely because it cost's them something less to bribe those Regencys to confer the honor of permitting them to navigate the mediterranean sea, than it would to maintain a Squadron in the Mediterranean: it is true they have an excuse for so doing that we have not: they say the act is by no means consider'd as national, the Chamber of Commerce defraying the expences occasioned by an intercourse with the Barbary States: and say they, if the merchants finds that it is to their advantage to pay those sums for the enjoyment of a trade (by no means secure) in the mediterranean why should we go to a considerable expence to oppose them, when the *King* pays nothing; it is different with us the money comes out of the public treasury and is appropriated by a public act of the legislative body of the nation which makes it the more dishonorable. —

I shall remain here until May, in the mean time if I can be of any use either in procuring Gunboats or accomplishing any thing conducive to the good of the service, I am always ready at a moments warning; I mention Gunboats because I am convinced that with two mortars mounted on the brigs & eight or ten Gunboats that the force under your command is sufficient to reduce Tripoli to ashes & probably to effect a revolution in that Regency favourable to our interests in the whole of the Barbary States, it would at least in the sentiments of the heads of the other Regencys which would insure us more respect in future, as we must at some period adopt energetic measures, the sooner the better as it will be attended with less expence. —

I would thank you to inform me where you will most probably find any communication that I may have in my power to make you, as M^r Nissen & others communicates intelligence to me with less reserve than they would to a stranger. —

If any thing worth your attention should occur before the departure of the *Siren* it shall be the subject of another communication, wishing you success in all your enterprizes, I remain with the greatest respect. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

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

we are now Running to the Eastw^d with the Barbary Coast in sight/ in order to proceed to algiers/

Latitu^d ob^d 36. 56 N^e

[NA. ND original.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Lieutenant John Smith, U. S. Navy,
commanding U. S. Schooner *Vixen*

MALTA Nov^r 19th 1803

SIR, I have the honour to inform, that agreeable to Cap^t Bainbridge's letter of the 1st I left Malta on the 15th with dispatches for you, after having m[any] Calms on the 17th Gozo bearing S. S. E. 39 Miles, I experienced a heavy Blow from the N. W. which compelled me to return to Malta, speaking at the same time a Convoy from Gibraltar to Malta, having in Company a Ship with Provision, by which I received letters for Cap^t Bainbridge & myself, mine not informing me of your situation, I conceived that the nature of the service rendered it consistant to read of those from you to Cap^t Bainbridge, in order to preclude the possibility of not falling in with you on my way to Gibraltar.

Herewith I take the liberty of enclosing my letter from Cap^t Bainbridge, with a copy of his to the Secretary of the Navy — I have left one letter in the hands of the Consul of this place from Cap^t Bainbridge for you — I shall leave this place to day on my way to Gibraltar, keeping the southern shore on board in order to meet with you — which should I not effect, I shall proceed to the before mentioned place, depositing in the hands of M^r Gavino the letters to be forwarded by the earliest conveyance to America, from whence I shall repair with all possible dispatch to join the Squadron, trusting that you will view my arrangement as consistant as my situation will admit of

P S. Coincieving it probable that you may wish some communication with the Town of Tripoli; I have directed the Cap^t of the English Vessel that carries my Letters to that Place, should he be there on your arrival, that on y^r hoisting an English Jack at the Fore Top Gall^l Mast head to come out to you

JOHN SMITH

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

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

MALAGA 19 Nov 1803

DEAR SIR, I have the Pleasure to reply to your esteemed Favors 2. 10 & 12 Ult^o Whereby I learn with much Satisfaction the reestablishment of Peace with the Emperor of Morocco, and ratification of the Treaty made with his Father, This pleasing Intelligence I have communicated to the Citizens of the U. S. that happened to be in the district of this Consulate, and in other respects given it every possible publicity, I consider it a most fortunate circumstance for our Trade and rejoice that you have been the Instrument of rendering such an essential Service to the United States, in conjunction with M^r Simpson. —

I was extremely mortified the Sickness in this Place rendered it unsafe for you to pay us a visit. I would have been happy in seeing you before you went up the Mediterranean, and having an opportunity of renewing our old acquaintance, I however hope on your return you will give us a Call, Here you can water & procure every thing you stand in need of much better than at Cadiz, or Gibraltar, and it is quite in your way, therefore I hope you will not pass without see-

ing us, Give my best respects to our good Friend Bainbridge who I presume you will meet with off Tripoly. —

Tho Yellow Fever has made very considerable ravages in Town, and tho' it has within these few days somewhat abated and the Physicians are of opinion it will be all over in the course of this Month, still a great number are daily carried off. It is thought above 6000 have died to this day, notwithstanding that more than $\frac{1}{2}$ of the Inhabitants have retired to the Country, my Family I sent out to my Country House Six Miles from Town on the 4th Ult^o I afterwards used to go in every day Untill the 15 When I found such numbers going off that I determined to Join them, and have not since gone back, M^r Gruegnee & his Family is also here, having shut up our Counting House, we dispatch what Business offers from hence, We have been fortunate in escaping hitherto, tho' we have lost Two Aunts & an Uncle and many Friends no Symptoms whatever of the Sick-ness have reached this Village tho' at a neighboring One some few have died, so soon as every thing is over, and we can With Safety return, I will again write to you, In the mean while I wish you every possible Success against the Tripolines, and flatter myself you may be fortunate in bringing them to terms of accommodation;

We are under great apprehensions this Country will be soon involved in the War, —

I have a few Lines some Posts back from your Brother Henry, He has defered his departure to America till this Spring.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

To Purser James S. Deblois, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy
 UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Algiers Bay 19th Nov^r 1803

SIR In consequence of a representation made to me by the Surgeon of this Ship, that a quantity of fresh Meat and Vegetables are wanted for the use of the sick, and to preserve the health of those that are well. You will, therefore, purchase the following supply for that purpose, or as near the quantity as can be procured.

fifty bushels Potatoes, fifty bushels Onions, four hundred heads Cabbage, one thousand Lemons & Oranges, six dozen Fowls and four bushels Barley.

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

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 19 November 1803

These 24 hours commence with moderate breezes and Clear pleasant Weather the Schooner [*Hazard*] still in Tow, the Ship [*Alexander Hodgdon*] astern with all sail set, set and took in sail as Necessary —
 Latitude Observed 41° 20' N.

[On 21 November cast off the schooner.]

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Saturday, 19 November 1803

We continued working into Algier bay till noon at which time we brot to with the Main Topsail to the mast about four Miles from

Cape Coxine — Consul Obrien & Consul Lear with all his baggage & Attendants were landed by the Conveyance of a Shore Boat — On Consul Obrien & Consul Lear leaving the *Constitution* we Saluted them with 7 Guns — On their landing they were Saluted by the Garrison with 5 Guns — We returned the Same number — By Noon the Wind had fell to a calm — The Surgeons report to the Commodore is 18 Sick & 8 convalescents —

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

[20 November 1803]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Anthony Terry, U. S. Vice Consul, Cadiz, Spain

CADIZ 28th November 1803 —

DEAR SIR On the other side please to find copy of what I had the honor of addressing you on the 21st Ins^t via Gibraltar.

By orders of M^t Yznardy I have to inform you that the American Ship *Sally* Captⁿ R. Archer chartered by the United States Gov^t with Naval Stores for the Regency of Algiers was lost the 20th Ins^t on the sands near the Bar of S^t Lucar the Vessel is entirely lost. M^t Yznardy was luckily at his Country House of Rola and used all his activity in trying to save some of the Cargo

I give this information likewise to Mess^{rs} OBrien and Lear that they may inform the Dey of this *Novelty* that he may not imagine that the American Government has neglected sending the Naval Stores. My next will give you further intelligence on this important matter

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803-April 1804.]

To his Father from Midshipman Henry Wadsworth, U. S. Navy

ALGIERS Nov. 20th 1803 — *Eveg.*

SIR — The squadron separated at Gibraltar the *Constitution* & *Nautilus* arriv'd here yesterday the *Argus* — gone with a convoy to Marsailles & Leghorne, *Enterprize* to convoy the store ship to Syracuse.

Nov 24th 1803 Morning. South end of Sardinia in sight.

Spoke the English Frigate *Amazon*: the Capt. informed us that the *Philadelphia* Capt Bainbridge had ran on shore off Tripoly in chase: had been captured, got off & carried into Port.

25th West point of Sicily in sight.

Spoke & Boarded a Tunisan Xebeck of 16 guns out 50 days, & taken a Neapolitan & a Sardinian had the crews on board. *Constitution* under English Colors. —

[H.W.L. Dana Col.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Sunday, 20 November 1803

Light Southerly winds and Pleasant Weather. At 1 P. M. three boats came from the shore for Col^o Lear, his family and baggage: At 2 P. M. they embarked: M^t Obrien accompanied them — Saluted them with 7 Guns as they left the ship On their landing Col^o Lear was saluted by the Algierne Garrison with 5 Guns which I returned.

At 6 P. M. anchored in the Bay in 22 fathoms water muddy bottom — Moderate all night. At 7 A M we hoisted our colors: the Garrison saluted us with 21 Guns which we returned with an Equal number — Our position in the bay appears to be a very good one — The Mole head at the Town bearing W N W about 5 Miles — Cape Coxine N $\frac{1}{2}$ W seven miles — Cape Matifora E $\frac{1}{2}$ N. 5 miles, The rivers mouth S S W five miles — White fort in the bottom of the Bay E S E three miles At 10 A. M. I left the ship in the barge to go on shore: At 11 landed under a salute of 5 Guns from the Algerine Marine Battery and was immediately conducted to the General of Marine where I was politely recieved and treated with Coffee and Sherbet: from thence I was conducted to the board of Admiralty and treated in the same way, Visited the City, and the Dey's palace, gardens & ** Stables and dined with our consul and at 4 P. M. returned on board — Was saluted with 5 Guns from the Admiralty Battery on leaving the Shore: I did not see the Dey as he was at his Palace in the country
[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803-1804.]

To Commanding Officer of U. S. Frigate *Adams*, Navy Yard, Washington, D. C.,
from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t
Nov^r 21, 1803 —

The *Adams* must be dismantled and the Crew paid off without delay. Be pleased to send up your Purser immediately to receive the necessary monies. —

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

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

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Under sail in ALGIERS BAY
21 Nov^r 1803

SIR I have the honor to inform you that I arrived and anchored here the 19th Ins^t, with the *Nautilus* in company; but the wind shifting suddenly from S S W to N W and a prospect of a gale made it prudent to get under Weigh last night and stand out to Sea — I am now stretching into the Bay to receive a present of Bullocks, Sheep, Fouls, and Vegetables provided by order of the Dey to be sent off to us; and shall immediately after make sail for Tripoly — Col: Lear has been favourably rec^d The Usual Salutes were passed between the *Constitution* and the Garrison on anchoring — I was on Shore yesterday and received under a Salute of Cannon from the Marine Battery; and treated with politeness and attention I believe our Nation Stands as high with this Regency as any of the European Nations, and perhaps higher.

The two Ships the *Betsy Walker*, and the *Old Tom* loaded on account of the United States have both arrived safe— and the Store Ship the *Traveller* loaded with provisions for the Squadron, passed this place the day before yesterday, under convoy of the *Enterprize* for Syracuse — M^t OBrien thinks it necessary that we should at all times have one of our strongest Frigates full manned at Gibraltar and a Schooner or Brig to prevent either of the Barbary Powers from passing through the Straits to capture our Merch^t Vessels in case of

any sudden rupture; and I cannot but agree with him that it is necessary, as there is not any dependence to be made on these capricious Tyrants — A force known to be stationary near the Straits will make our peace more secure with them all. I enclose you some remarks of M^r OBrien's on the Regency of Algiers in his own words —

The Dey is now in the Country at his seat & expected in Town tomorrow but previous to his going out he left orders for Col: Lear to be received by his Prime Minister, and to be acknowledged as Consul. The Col I suppose will give every requisite information to the Secretary of State — It is the custom of all the European Nations to salute their Consuls with 7 Guns on their first visiting and leaving their Ships of War arriving in any of the ports in these Seas — I think we should not respect our Consuls less than other Nations do theirs, as it has an unfavourable effect on the Barbary Powers particularly — I have therefore saluted on such occasions; and I submit to you whether it will not be proper for an order to issue from the Navy Dep^t to all the Commanders to this effect.

* * * * * * *

[LC. EPP, LB, May-Dec. 1803.]

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, Monday, 21 November 1803

[At Leghorn] Commences with fresh breezes from the S^d & W^d Hands employ'd on necessary duty. At 3 rec^d on board 10 casks of water. (At 7. 5 bales & 1 trunk of sundries came on board as presents for the Day of Algiers) Ends with moderate breezes from the S^d & E^d. Rec^d 120 lb fresh beef, a quantity of vegetables for the hands, & some bread for the sick. 2 men came on board with an intention to ship as seamen, they being englishmen, prisoners at Leghorn. —

[NDA.]

[22 November 1803]

Impressment of American by H. B. M. S. *Donegal*

CONSULAR OFFICE OF THE U. S. OF

AMERICA AT GIBRALTAR —

On this Twenty Second day of November 1803 Personally appeared in my Consular Office James Norman Comander of the American Brig *Sophia* of Baltimore and after being Solemnly sworn did upon Oath Declare, That he saild from Triest on or about the Twenty second day of October last with a Cargo of sundry Merchandize for Baltimore aforesaid in the U. S. of America, That he proceeded with Variouse Winds & Weather untill Yesterday that he was obliged to enter this Port of Gibraltar, having met with head Winds.

That he Anchor'd yesterday Evening in this Port when was admitted to Prattick — That imediately after he was boarded by a Boat belonging to His Brit^h Majestys ship of Warr *Dunegal* Commanded by Sir Richard Straughan, who Press'd John Felt a Citizen Mariner belonging to the said Brig *Sophia*, whose Wages is Demanded by the Commander of said ship of Warr —

Wherefore he the said James Norman hereby Protests against the said wind and weather that obliged his puting into this Port, as well as against the said Sir Richard Straughan for Impressing the said John

Felt, as well as all others whom it doth or may Concern in any ways for all and singular the Damages, Deteriments Losses Detentions and Oother Occurrencies in Consequence thereof, already happend or that may hereafter happen, and for remedy and redress in a due course of Law.—

Thus Sworn, Declared and Protested
before me at Gibraltar the Day and Year
first within written Witness my hand
Seal of Office.....

JAMES NORMAN

JOHN GAVINO

Consul of the U. S. of America —

[NA. SDA. CL, Gibraltar, Vol. 2, 1796-1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 22 November 1803

These 24 hours commence with strong gales at ½ past Meridian close reef the topsails and launched top Gall^t masts at 8 P, M, Veered ship to the N. W. At 2 AM more moderate swayed up the T. G. masts at ½ past 5 made the Island of Gorgona bearing E N E. distance 5 or 6 leagues, got up T. G. yards made sail the ship in sight at 8 AM, Gorgona bore N b W distance 2 or 3 leagues light airs Inclib^o to Calm tacked ship Leghorn light house bore E b N ¼ N. At 7 brought too with the Starboard Anchor in 6 fathoms Water good bottom found here the U, States Brig *Syren* Lieu^t Stewart, the Ship *Alexander Hodgdon* & Schooner *Hazard* our Convoy anchored in Shore of us At Meridian fine pleasant Weather —

[NDA photostat.]

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

At ½ past 6 P M. we filld and made sail to the NE. with pleasant Breezes from westw^d/ Cape Caxine W ½ S nearly nine miles/ Cape Matifora SEbE ½ E nearly the same distance/ we continued steering the NE during the night with light Breezes and pleasant weather/
Latitu^d ob^d 37. 33 N^o

[NA. ND original.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 23 November 1803

(Moored in Leghorn Roads —) At 8 AM. Moored ship Starboard Anchor to N W, and larboard anchor S. E.

At 9 hoisted out the barge the Protique boat came off the Captain went on shore being informed by the Protique boat we were put under Quarantine and returned on board at 1 P M bent one of the Starboard Cables to the sheet Anchor and prepared for letting it go.

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 24 November 1803

Spoke the British Frigate *Amazon* and received information of the loss of the *Philadelphia* on the coast of Tripoli.

[LC, original.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Thursday, 24 November 1803

Moderate breezes from the West^d — We continue our course to the East^d with the *Nautilus* in company in order to proceed between Sardinia & the Island of Galite — Towards Evening we in studding Sails in order that the *Nautilus* might join company — At Sundown we judged the ship to be nearly 12 or 14 leagues from the S. W. part of Sardinia, but the Horizon was much contracted by a light haze; to the north we could not see the land — We continued Steering to the East^d during the night with pleasant breezes from the West^d — We made and shortened Sail as necessary for the *Nautilus* to keep company — A little after day light we saw a sail to the North^d — We hauled on a wind towards her cleared ship for Action — At 8 A. M. Shortened sail & spoke her — She was his Brittanic Majesty's Ship the *Amazon* who communicated to Commodore Preble the Intelligence of the capture of the U. S. frigate *Philadelphia* — He reported that the *Philadelphia* ran on the Shoals near Tripoli & in succeeding days was got off & towed into Tripoli — At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 8 A. M. We bore up to the East^d & made Sail — Made the Signal for the *Nautilus* to come within hail — We continued Steering to the East^d till noon when we observed in 38.15 North — A Haze to the North prevents our seeing land to the north^d — Latitude by Account & observation agrees We Judge the S. E. part of Sardinia to bear nearly North Ten or Twelve leagues — The Surgeons report to the Commodore is 17 Sick 11 Convalescents & 5 discharged from the Sick list.

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

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Joseph Pulis, U. S. Consul, Malta
Translation

MALTA LA VALETTE
26th Nov^r 1803

SIR I have the honor of transmitting to you several letters by L^t Dent, one of which I received from Captain Bainbridge a few days since which will inform you particularly of the misfortune that has happened to him — I have not delayed answering his order for three hundred Spanish Dollars which will save his wants as well as those of his Officers — He has demanded several medicines which I have ordered to be prepared to be sent by the first opportunity that Offers for Tripoly I now give you what information I have in my power — The Bashaw has written to Malta to Conts Gatine Consul for Tripoly to negotiate for the sale of the Frigate *Philadelphia* because he has it not in his power to mann her properly.

The Schooner *Vixen* L^t Smith left here six days ago for Gibraltar —

The news that I have been able to learn respecting Tripoly are that the Bashaw is fitting out a Schooner built at Tripoly by a Spanish Ship Builder. She will carry 16 Guns — There are three other small Vessels viz One Brig, One Polacre & one Xebec all of which will sail shortly. The Bashaw's brother was Bey of Derne has fled He has been in Alexandria in Egypt dreading the loss of his head, as his brother the Bashaw of Tripoly had dispatched some Troops by land to seize him — This news was brought by a Vessel which arrived 4 days ago from Tripoly — Eight days since a Vessel arrived here loaded with pro-

vision for your Squadron but it is consigned to an English Merchant here M^r Higgins who is now discharging the provision. This affair surprizes me much as Consul Gavino has not consigned them to me who am the National Consul at Malta wherefore I am obliged to request you will order M^r Higgins to consign them to me that I may put them all together in the Store where are all the Sails, Cables, &c^s of the *Philadelphia* and Schooner *Vixen*.

[LC. EPP, LB, May-Dec. 1803.]

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

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
at Sea off *Malta Harbour*
26th Nov^r 1803

SIR On your arrival at Malta, you will gain what information you can respecting the affairs of Tripoli, Tunis, and Algiers — Take on board all the provisions you want from the stock on hand belonging to the United States, and sail immediately for Syracuse where you will receive orders for your government you are not to delay one moment of time at Malta but what may be absolutely necessary —

[Similar letter sent to Lieutenant John Smith commanding U. S. Schooner *Vixen*.]

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

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy

U. STATES BRIG *Argus*
Leghorn 26 Nov^r 1803

SIR I beg leave to acquaint you of my arrival here after a passage of nine days from Gibraltar, without any thing occurring worth notice with the ship and schooner under my Convoy.

The morning after our arrival we were visited by the health Officer, and by what I could learn from him our Quarentine would be but short, I likewise went on shore in order to get M^r Appleton and Mess^{rs} Dagen and Purviance, to make what interest they could for our being soon admitted to Prottigue, but the weather being very bad and a hard gale of wind from the westward, it Prevented my hearing from them for four days past, till this evening a boat from Mess^{rs} Dagen and Purviance came off, and informed me the time of my Quarentine was fixd at eight days,

I immediately sent M^r Blake on shore to the health officer, to know the reason of our being obliged to perform a longer Quarintine than the *Syren*, she being from the same port and under the same Circumstances, they gave for answer that they did not know when the *Syren* arrived of the fever at Malaga, or she would have been subject to the same Quarentine,

The letters that I had in charge were sent on Shore but they would not receive them, I shall send them on board the ship that came under my Convoy, so that in four or five days they will be forwarded, there are a number of American ships in this port, but none bound to the westward under ten or fifteen days, and perhaps not more than two or three within twenty,

I have heard from Mersailles by an American ship from that port, and find there are no american Vessels there that will be ready for sea under ten or fifteen days, and then but one or two, —

As that is the principal port for commerce and so few Vessels there, and the season being so far advanced which makes it dangerous keeping the north shore, owing to the South west and west winds which blow almost the whole time,

I have determined to make the best of my way to Gibraltar without stopping at any port, unless I am forced in by contrary winds or some accident, and hope the steps I am about to take may meet your approbation,

The *Syren* is here and I believe she sails the first fair wind, the weather has been such that I have not been able to see Captain Stewart, but have been informed that he was ready for sea, —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 8, 1803-1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 26 November 1803

(Moored in Leghorn Roads —) a boat came off from Mess^{rs} Dagen & Purviance & informed us our Quarantine was Extended to 8 days sent a boat with an Officer to know the reason as the *Syren* under Similar Circumstances got Protique in 3 days they gave for Answer they had not heard of the fever at Malaga when the *Syren* Arrived At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3 swayed up lower yards & Top Gallant masts at Sundown the Center of the Island of Elba bore S W b S $\frac{1}{2}$ S people Variously Employed —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Saturday, 26 November 1803

Fresh breezes from the N N W — We continue the chase to the N N E — We fired 2 Guns — Shortened Sail & Spoke her — She was an Imperial brig from Sousa[?] bound to Marseilles — We immediately bore up & gave chase to a strange sail in shore — We shewed her English colors — In answer the chase hoisted red At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 2 P. M. cleared Ship for action & boarded the chase — An armed ship belonging to the bey of Tunis on a cruize — While we were Examining this vessel the *Nautilus* returned from chase — She reported to the Commodore that her chase was a Spanish man of war brig on a cruize — At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3 P. M. we bore up to the S E b S with fresh breezes from the North^d with pleasant Weather — At 5 P. M. we took our departure from the middle of Maritimo bearing by compass north 7 leagues — The Middle of the Island Favognana N E $\frac{1}{2}$ E — 9 Leagues. These two Small Islands are situated four or 5 leagues from the Western part of Sicily — Towards the Evening we double reefed the Topsails in order that the *Nautilus* might keep company — We had strong N N W breezes during the night — Towards the morning we passed a sail on the Starboard Quarter — At 7 A. M. We spoke an Hamburgh Ship bound to Pernso: By 8 A. M. we had run from our departure (Maritimo at 5 P. M.) 120 Miles S E b S by compass — At $\frac{1}{4}$ past 8 A. M. saw the Island of Gozo which is situated 3 or 4 leagues to the N W of Malta — Our distance ran from our departure perfectly agrees with the land-fall in the Morning which was S S E

by compass nearly 20 miles — By 10 A. M. we were abreast of the N. W. End of the Island of Gozo — We steered along the East Side of this Island with an offing of 4 Miles in order to proceed to Malta — From the N W extreme of the Island of Gozo to the harbor of Malta is nearly 26 miles — This distance we ran along shore with an offing of three or four miles Steering between S E b S & S S E by compass — At Noon the Harbor of Malta bore S S E nearly 4 or 5 Miles — down top gall^t Yards — The Surgeons report to the Commodore the same as yesterday — [17 Sick & 11 Convalescents]

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

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 26 November 1803

[At Leghorn] These remarks include 36 hours

At Midnight the breeze veer'd to the Northw^d still blowing a heavy gale, weather clear & cold. At 1 weigh'd the larboard anchor. at 2 being more moderate, the barge return'd with Lieu^t Stewart. got top gall^t masts on end & sway'd up lower yards, rec^d by the barge 7 small boxes of money & 1 trunk; intended as presents to the Dey of Algiers. —

Geo. Gillingham a seaman came on board & entered, likewise a boy nam'd Francisco. — At 6 sighted the larboard anchor & lett it go again. — giving about 35 fathoms cable, sent up top gall^t yards & hove up, the wind hauling west, made sail & beat out of the harbour or bay, with all sail set, left in the Roads the U. S. Brig *Argus* & several American vessels riding quarantine. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 9 AM took in top gall^t sails &c. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 11 reef'd topsails & sent down top gall^t yards, Hands employ'd stowing anchors &c. At Meridian Gorgina bore N W by W 6 leagues, Cattrera W. by S. Elba W S W. —

Latt: Obs: 43°10' N.

[NDA.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 27 November 1803

(Moored in Leghorn Roads —) This day begins with light winds at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 AM, unmoored and proceeded to sea the U. S. Brig *Syren* unmoored also and proceeded after us, the wind hauling to the Westward with an Appearance of blowing hard at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 6 tacked and stood into Anchorage found we outsailed the *Syren* at 8 AM brought too and Moored with the Starboard Anchor S. W and Larboard d^o N W, Leghorn bearing S E $\frac{1}{2}$ S, Cape Nero S $\frac{1}{2}$ E Island of Elba S^o Center of Cabrera S S W $\frac{1}{2}$ W, the Consuls boat and a boat with provisions came off on our Anchoring Arrived a french armed brig with a small Genoese Vessel in tow —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 27 November 1803

Arrived off Malta and sent in a boat which brought me a letter from Captain Bainbridge dated Tripoli advising me of the loss of the *Philadelphia*.

[LC, original.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Sunday, 27 November 1803

At $\frac{1}{2}$ past noon sent L^t Dent in the Jolly boat to Malta for letters and Intelligence; Lay off and on until 4 P. M. when the Boat returned and brot me off letters from Cap^t Bainbridge confirming the loss of the *Philadelphia* and informing me of the following Particulars respecting that unfortunate affair Viz^t The *Philadelphia* fell in with a Tripoline cruizer to the Eastward of Tripoly about 5 leagues on the morning of the 31st of October, the Cruizer being to the S W in shore of the Frigate ran for Tripoly; the Frigate in chase keeping as near the coast as possible: At 11 A. M. she had approached the shore to 7 fathoms water and commenced firing at the Corsair At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 11 A. M. finding the shot did not reach, and considering it imprudent to venture any nearer the shore, hauled off and gave up the Pursuit — In beating off shore the Frigate ran on a rock about four or five miles from the Town, Threw over most of the Guns, cut away the Foremast, and three Anchors from the Bows to lighten her forward without effect. The Gun boats and Cruizers went from Tripoly and kept a constant fire on the Frigate without her being able to return it with effect as the ship lay over too much; And at 4 P. M. she surrendered to the Tripolines by striking her Colors. The whole of the Officers and crew 307 in number were made Prisoners — At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 4 P. M. wore off Shore and stood to the Northward by the Wind under low sail bound to Syracuse in in Sicily; the wind blew hard all night: At 7 A. M. Cape Passari N N E 6 Leagues — Our run over from Malta N E b E 33 miles — At Noon Cape Passari S W b W $\frac{1}{2}$ W distance 3 leagues — Lat^s observed 36° 38' N^o

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

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Sunday, 27 November 1803

Strong breezes from the N N W — We continued running for the Harbor of Valeta till $\frac{1}{2}$ past 12 noon, when we were off shore abreast the Harbor of Valeta — The out Mole about 2 cables length — Lieut^t Dent & a boats crew went on shore — The *Nautilus* was Ordered by the Commodore to keep close in with the Harbor in order to tow off the boat — We continued Standing off & on the Harbor of Valeta till $\frac{1}{2}$ past 4 P. M. at which time Lieut^t Dent returned with dispatches for the Commodore which confirm the loss & capture of the U. S. Frigate *Philadelphia* — At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 4 P. M we wore off shore & came to the Wind under close reefed top sails & reefed courses — At 5 P M we took our departure from the N. E point of Malta bearing S W b S $\frac{1}{4}$ S nearly 10 Miles — The Town of Valeta W S W nearly nine miles — By 6 P. M. the wind had increased to a perfect gale — Handed the Topsails & launched top gall^t Masts — It blew a Violent gale from the N W b N from 7 in the Evening [to] 3 A. M. We continued standing to the N E during the night under reefed courses & storm staysails till day light at which time it became more moderate — At 5 A M we set close reefed topsails — At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 in the Morning we saw Cape Passari which is situated on the S E point of the Island of Sicily bearing N N E nearly 7 leagues — Our distance ran from our departure Valeta perfectly agrees with the land fall in the Morning — Our course corrected from our departure last night till we saw

Cape Passari this morning was N E b E distance 33 miles At 8 in the morning out one reef from the topsails and turned out the reefs of the courses — We split the foresail Bent another — By 11 the weather became moderate with a smooth sea — Swayed up Top Gall^t mast. & up Top Gall^t Yards — At Noon fresh breezes from the N N W We are about four leagues from a small town which is situated between Cape Passari & the Harbor of Saragosa or Syracuse — Cape Passari bears S W b W $\frac{1}{2}$ W nearly 3 leagues —

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

To Daniel Ludlow, Navy Agent, New York, N. Y., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP
Nov. 28. 1803

Your resignation of the appointment of Navy agent at New York is now accepted — In thus closing your official transactions with this department I beg leave to Offer my acknowledgements for your Services and to express my regret that Circumstances have induced you to resign your appointment

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

To Henry Rutgers, appointed Navy Agent, New York, N. Y., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPARTMENT
Nov. 28th 1803 —

Reposing especial confidence in your integrity and zeal for the public interest I have appointed you navy agent to act for and in behalf of this Department —

As a compensation for all your services of every kind you will be allowed a commission of two p^t cent on all sums of money paid and expended by you on the public account, a commission of 1 p^t cent on all sums of money received by you for public property sold, and a commission of one half p^t cent on all sums of money paid by you for the purposes of recruiting paying off a crew and the like Services

Instructions on the subject of accounts and the forms to be observed in keeping them will be sent you by the accountant of the Navy and you will from time to time receive particular instructions from this Department as Circumstances may arise to create them —

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

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

NAVY DEP^t
Nov^r 28. 1803 —

When I had last the pleasure of seeing you at this place, you expressed to me your wish to build a gun-boat for the department. I shall be very glad if your avocations will now permit you to undertake it, and I request that you will inform me. If it is convenient, I will, on hearing from you, write you an official letter on the subject. —

I understand that the *New York* has on board the Model or Draught of a gun-boat on the construction of those at Naples. As it may probably afford you some information, I request that on the arrival of that Vessel in the Roads, you will go on board and examine it. —

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

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 28 November 1803

at 8 P. M. unmoored got under way and made sail at midnight
Leghorn light house bore W b N 3 leagues

Latitude Observed 43° 23' N.

Longitude Observed 9° 53' W.

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board
U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 28 November 1803

Arrived and anchd. at Syracuse.

[LC, original.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on
board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Monday, 28 November 1803

Moderate Breezes & pleasant weather — Winds Variable between N N E & E N E — We are now working to the North^d along the East Side of Sicily between Cape Passari & Saragosa with an offing of 5 or 6 miles from the shore We sounded with this offing several times 60 fath^s no bottom — At 3 P. M. joined company the U. S. Schooner *Enterprize*, Lieut^l Decatur, who waited on Commodore Preble — The *Enterprize* parted company from the *Constitution* on the 12th of this month with a convoy from Gibraltar to Saragosa — M^r [Seth Cartee] the Sailing Master of the *Enterprize* came on board the *Constitution* in order to assist in piloting the ship into Saragosa — At ¼ past 3 P. M we passed an English convoy of sixteen sail from Saragosa bound to Malta. From 4 P. M. till 6 P. M. we had a favorable breeze from the West^d We ran along the coast till the light house which makes the Starboard entrance to the Port or Harbor of Saragosa bore W N W. Six or Seven miles We then shortened sail by double reefing the Topsails & handing top Gall^l sails At 8 in the Evening the harbor of Saragosa bore west by compass distance 5 miles — We continued working towards the Harbor till 10 P. M at which time it was two or three miles off — We then up courses & bro't to with the main Topsail to the mast: as the wind was off shore our fore reaching was to the N N E which was nearly parallel to the shore — We continued in this situation till day light when we tacked in shore & made sail for the harbor which bore W S W nearly nine or ten miles — At ½ pas 8 in the morning we hauled round the Outer point which makes the North Entrance — We pass round this outer North point about one cables length from the shore — Our sounding was from 8 to 5 fathoms — We worked into the Harbor under Easy sail — The Entrance is about four cables length wide — Our soundings were from 9 to 16 fathoms soft Bottom — At 10 in the Forenoon we came to with the small bower in 7½ fathoms sticky bottom in the port or harbor of Saragosa which is situated on the East Side of the Island of Sicily — The Entrance to this Harbor offers no danger — It is well fortified to the North with a strong fort — Our situation now is half a mile from the West Side of the Harbor and about 3 cables length from the Town which is to the N E — The Two extremes which make the outer entrance to this harbor bears S E ½ S — One half mile between those two bearing to the East^d this Port is open to the Sea — It is land locked from every Wind except the four abovementioned points We found here the *Nautilus* & *Enterprize*

from whom we parted company last evening — At noon moderate breezes from the N E.

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

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 29 November 1803

This 24 hours commence with moderate breezes and fine pleasant Weather Eastern¹ brig in sight appears to be standing for us. at ½ past 1 she hoisted english Colours at 2 Spoke her, she proved to be his britannic Majestys Brig *Childers* at 4 P M being a beam of the other brig Exchanged Signals & found her to be the *Syren* At 8 moderate and clear the *Syren* on our Weather Quarter at 10 saw the land and a strange sail under our lee bow at 12 Veered to the N, W, and spoke the *Syren* 5 strange sail in sight. find we easily outsail the *Syren* saw 2 strange sail on our lee Quarter at day light one of them hoist English Colours and fire a Gun they appear to be a 74 Gun Ship and frigate & in Chace of us at 7 hoisted our Colours and the *Syren* made Signals —

Latitude Observed 43° 29' N.

Longitude Observed 8° 19' W.

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Tuesday, 29 November 1803

[Syracuse] Landed and waited on the Governor who recieved me politely and offered me the use of Magazines Gratis to deposite any provisions and stores for the Squadron and expressed himself desirous that we should make this harbor our rendezvous as it would be the means of protecting the coast from the depreddations of the Barbary Cruizers — returned on board in the Evening. At 8 A. M. Ordered several men punished for breach of trust and Drunkenness. At 10 A. M. Saluted the Garrison, which was returned by an Equal number of Guns — Was visited by the Nobility and Gentlemen of the Place with offers of their friendship and services. Surgeons report 18 Sick & 10 Con^{v^{est}}

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

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Tuesday, 29 November 1803

Moderate Breezes & pleasant Weather — We continue at single Anchor at Saragosa [Syracuse] with the U. S. States Schooner *Enterprise* and *Nautilus* in company — On our anchoring here we found the Ship *Traveller* employed as a store ship from Gibraltar to this port — The cable which was condemned some time ago in Cadiz was coiled down under the small bower We roused up the small bower cable & bent the best end as a best bower — We made the necessary arrangements for bending a new fore & main top sail — Lieut¹ Sommers of the *Nautilus* waited on Commodore Preble — Towards the evening we ran out a kedge to the West⁴ in order to steady the ship from her anchor — At 8 in the evening mustered the Starboard watch — At 9 P. M. the wind shifted from N N E to N W We had pleasant weather during the Night. The Ships company employed setting up the rigging fore & aft — Punished Mark Clark Seaman with three dozen for drunk-

ness, Neglect of duty & stealing rum from the ships stores — Punished John Smith, John C. Smith, John Shaw & Mathew Brophy for drunkenness & stealing rum from the ships stores — At 9 A. M. we saluted with 17 Guns — An Equal number was returned from the fort The carpenters and sail makers employed in their different departments — Several of the Officers had liberty on shore — We loosed the fore & main Topsails to dry as they are ordered to be unbent — The Ship is surrounded with bum boats but the duty of the Ship will not permit them alongside — They offer nothing for sale but fruit — The surgeons report is the same as Yesterday 18 Sick & 10 convalescents — At Noon moderate breezes from the West^d — .

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

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 30 November 1803

[At Syracuse] Mr. [Purser James S.] Deblois died.

[LC, original.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Wednesday, 30 November 1803

Moderate Breezes & clear Weather — We continue in Saragosa with the *Nautilus* & *Enterprize* in company Unbent the foresail — The Ships company employed overhauling the rigging — Reeved new reef Tackle The old ones being unserviceable — The Commodore ordered Vegetables for the ship's company — they are plenty in this port & very cheap — Towards the Evening the weather to the East^d had the appearance of a gale — The Top Gall^t yards were sent down — The weather however continued moderate & pleasant during the night — We this day supplied the U. S. Schooner *Nautilus* with 18 fathoms of cable Junk (22 Inch) supposed 18 C^wt — At 8 in the morning departed this life M^r James S Dublois Purser. — His burial took place this forenoon in one of the Ancient burial places a little out of the town — The funeral procession was composed of the officers belonging to the Ship — At 9 A. M. We had strong breezes from the West^d — Veered away on the small bower to half a cable — By 11 A. M. it blew nearly a gale — Let go the best bower underfoot in order to have the ships decks convenient & cleared as much as possible of Lumber — The Commodore ordered a number of the spars to be landed — They are ordered under cover in a place of safety. — We rafted the spars but it blows too fresh to send them ashore — The ship's company this day had a large had a large portion of Vegetables served out Extra — At noon strong breezes from the N W b W. —

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

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

U S FRIGATE *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbour 1st Dec^r 1805 [1803?]

SIR The articles you have requested to be supplied the *Enterprize* are ready to be delivered to the proper Officers, as soon as they apply to receive them And I request you to have the *Enterprize* ready for Sea, as early as possible for a Cruize, —

[HS of Pa. Mrs. F. H. Getchell.]

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

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbour 1st Decem^r 1803

SIR Your men on shore for the purpose of fitting your Rigging, were this Afternoon most of them drunk, — This must undoubtedly have happened in consequence of the negligence of the Officers in charge of them, I request you to make the necessary enquiry respecting this Neglect on their part, as I shall most certainly take notice of it, — One of your men is in Irons on board this ship. For impertinence to me, —

[HS of Pa. Mrs. F. H. Getchell.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Thursday, 1 December 1803

Strong breezes & cloudy weather — The Ships company employed stowing the booms & cleaning between decks — By 3 the weather became more moderate — We sent a boat to tow the spars on shore, which were rafted in the forenoon In the forenoon we sent into the Tops the Topsails & bent the rigging & got All in readiness for bringing them to the yards — We did not bend them in consequence of the wind being fresh — We fitted new fore tacks, The old ones being unfit for winter service — Lieutenants Somers & Decatur waited on Commodore Preble — Commodore Preble waited on the Governor in order to make the necessary arrangements for landing the stores from the American Ship *Traveller* — M^r Morris, Chaplain, is appointed purser in the room of M^r Dublois deceased — M^r Gadsden a Midshipman is sent to the Sick quarters at Saragosa — This afternoon arrived at this Port the *Egolize* an English Privateer from Gibraltar — Through the night fresh breezes & clear weather — At ½ past 7 A.M. weighed the Cadge Anchor — At 9 bent a new foresail — Most of the People employed getting Water Casks out of the hold to send ashore — At 10 in the forenoon we rafted 13 butts in order to send them ashore; but the North wind blew too strong to tow them — Towards noon we hoisted them in on deck — Part of the ships company employed in getting a number of stores to hand which are ordered to be landed at this place for safe keeping — The Commodore went on shore in order to make the necessary arrangements for landing the stores and provisions from the *Traveller* Store Ship — The Surgeons report to the Commodore is 17 Sick & 7 Convalescents — At noon strong breezes from the North^d Veered away to half a Cable on the best bower in order to ride by the two bowers

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

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

Duplicate. N^o 3.

ALGIERS, December 2nd 1803.

SIR, I had the honor of writing to you on the 18th of October from Gibraltar, by the U. States Ship *New York*, in which I informed you that I expected to sail in a few days for this place; but on the 22nd Commodore Preble sailed in the *Constitution* for Cadiz, to get a cable and sundry Articles of which he stood in need, and which could not be procured at Gibraltar. — He expected to return in a few days;

but contrary winds detained him until the 6th of Nov^r when he came back to Gibraltar, where he was detained 'till the 13th when we sailed, in company with the U. S. Schooner *Nautulus*, and the Brig *Argus*, which was to take a convoy to Leghorn, and return again to the Straits, which will be her station for the winter. —

On the 18th we entered the Bay of Algiers, when M^r O'Brien came off, and as the wind was too light to permit of the Ship's getting to the anchoring birth, he remained on board all night. And the next day, about noon, I went on shore with him, and was received, on my landing, with the usual friendly salute of seven Guns. — The Dey being at his Country House, and not expected in the City 'till Thursday, the 24th, I could not have an Audience 'till that time; but he sent to inform me that he should receive me with much pleasure. — On the 20th the Commodore came on shore, (the Ship having been saluted with 21 Guns on her anchoring) and returned on board in the afternoon, after having made arrangements for sundry articles of fresh provision &^c &^c which he might want, over and above the customary present which had been sent on board. — On the 21st he got everything he wished; and sailed, with the *Nautulus*, for Tripoli. —

I was much disappointed in not finding here the U. States Brig *Syren*, which left Gibraltar on the 24th of October for Leghorn, to bring over the Consular Present which M^r Cathcart had provided at that place: And as the Dey had been informed of my having been at Gibraltar some time since, and was daily expecting me, with the Consular present, he would be highly disappointed at not receiving it with me, and might make some difficulty in receiving me, on that account, especially too, as all the annuities had not arrived, and had been so long promised. —

As he had been favourable impressed towards me, and appeared to be very friendly disposed towards us at present, I thought it would be highly impolitic to do anything which might give a different aspect to our Affairs; and therefore determined to make an arrangement for the present here, if those from Leghorn should not arrive in time. I found that the House of Bocris & Busnach were always provided with those articles which it was customary to give on such occasions; and upon a full communication with M^r O'Brien and others, on the subject, it was strongly urged that our affairs would be placed upon a much better footing to take the Presents from them, and to use their influence therewith, with the Dey (which seems to be great) if it sh^d be necessary to continue his patience for the Balance of the Annuities, and as the Articles from Leghorn would always sell here, if necessary, for their cost there. — I accordingly Agreed with them, that they should furnish the present, to the entire satisfaction of the Dey & Regency, for twenty thousand dollars; and that they should undertake fully to satisfy him for any deficiency in the annuities which were due on the 5th of September, at the rate of thirty thousand dollars per year, in Cash, for what might be wanting. — After some negotiation I effected this: And on Thursday Morning the Dey sent to inform me he was ready to receive me. I went to the Palace about 9 O'clock, with M^r O'Brien and the Drogerman &^c &^c — The Dey received me with great apparent satisfaction, and had the President's letter interpreted to him, with which he seemed much pleased. He expressed strong friendship for our Nation, and paid me many compliments, saying he should depend upon me to hold the balance fairly between

him and my Country according to our Treaty — That he liked a Consul with a clean face, and that I might always be assured of his protection, and of everything his Country afforded. He also expressed his satisfaction with the conduct of my predecessor since he had been here. — The audience lasted about half an hour. — At eleven o'clock we returned to the Palace with the presents for the Dey, carried in form. — He examined them with much attention, seemed highly pleased, and expressed his happiness in being on good terms with the United States. —

In the afternoon I went to visit the heads of Departments at their several Houses, in the following order — The Prime Minister — The Aga, or General of the Turks. — The Hogia de Cavallor, or General of the Horse — and the Vickelhadge, or Minister of Marine. — To each of these a present was carried, as is customary. — They all appeared highly pleased, paid me many compliments and repeated, again and again, the pleasure they should take in shewing their friendship to the U. States, and their readiness to render me any service. —

The following day was spent in sending the presents to the inferior Officers; none of whom were visited by me in form, as it is not customary for Consuls to pay particular attention to any but the high Officers. —

On the 27th I went, with M^r O'Brien, to the Minister of Marine, and informed him of our intention to change our Mediterranean Passports, and shewed him one of the new Passports; at the same time informing him, agreeably to my instructions, of the time which w^d elapse before the new one sh^d be alone in use; and in the mean time, that either the old or the new should be considered as sufficient; — but instead of nineteen months being allowed for the full exchange, I mentioned two years, (consisting of twelve lunar months each) in order to give ample time for the exchange to be made by all American Vessels. — This time was readily acceded to, and the business being fully explained, the minister expressed his full satisfaction, with assurances that it sh^d be particularly observed. — As this is a business entirely in the marine Department, the communication was properly made here. — I wished to have made it in writing; but M^r O'Brien and the other Consuls assured me it was never done. — This formal communication, in presence of the Drogerman, being all that is required, and that notes are made of it in the Department. —

On the 28th I sent, by the Drogerman, a formal message, announcing the Blockade of Tripoli, agreeably to the Official information thereof, given me by Commodore Preble.

The nine Cruizers which sailed from this Port on the 3^d of October, on a cruize on the Coast of Naples & Sicily, returned into Port yesterday, bringing about 150 Captives whom they had taken from the land, and out of small coasting craft. — They brought no prizes in with them. — They consist of one frigate of 44 Guns, built here — another of the same force, taken by the former, some time since, from the Portuguese — the *Crescent*, built in the U. States — three Xebecks from 20 to 30 Guns — the Brig & two Schooners built in the U. States. —

The Biennial Present had been made by M^r OBrien, before my arrival, out of the 30,000 dollars in his hands. — This amounted to 16,000 doll^s. 4000 more he says he has taken to his own account and for Consular Expences — and 10,000 is to be paid to the Jews on account of the Consular Present &^c —

I paid to the Dey, at the time I gave him the Consular present, six thousand eight hundred dollars, for the Ransom of Captⁿ [Andrew] Morris & crew. — The Debt of fifteen thousand & seventy five dollars, due to the Jews, is to be paid when I pay them for the Consular present, which will be done as soon as they furnish their accounts.

M^r OBrien yesterday received a letter from D^r Davis, at Tunis, a copy of which is enclosed. — I shall write to D^r Davis to take care of our Affairs at Tunis until I see him in the Spring, and in the mean time to keep me fully informed of every thing which relates to us in that quarter.

As I have been here so short a time, you will not, of course, expect I can go into any detail of our affairs from my own knowledge. — Every thing *appears* at present very favourable to us; and I think it justice to M^r OBrien to say that he seems to have conducted our affairs with great adroitness, to keep the Dey in good humour, when we have been so tardy in our annuities; and must add that he appears to be very willing and able to give me full information on every point. — I must here express my astonishment to find, that even if the other Ship should arrive with the Timber &^c we shall be so far from being in advance to the Regency, that there will be a very considerable sum due to make up the deficiency to the 5th of September last. — The first Ship which arrived brought a Cargo for the U. States amounting only to about 11,000 dollars — and the Second (The *Old Tom*, by which this letter goes) brought but 3000 dollars. — The Ship expected will not probably, from her size, have more than the last; in which case we shall still be in debt more than one year for the Annuities. — How this has happened I cannot tell; but it is certainly very unfortunate; and I fear very much for the Ship expected (The *Sally*, Captⁿ Archer) as Captⁿ Cornick of the *Old Tom*, now here, says she had put back to Norfolk, with the loss of her foremast, — was repaired, and expected to sail from thence the day after he came out; — and that she was so old and so bad a ship that no person in Norfolk would insure upon her. — Should we fall so much behind hand as I expect, and the Dey insist upon an immediate payment of the balance, I shall be drained of all my money, and have no resources for our business at Tripoli or Tunis, should any arrangement take place with the former; but I cannot help entertaining a hope, from my knowledge of Commodore Preble, and from some other circumstances, that we shall lower the haughty tone of that Regency. —

I have the honor to enclose the copy of a letter from Commodore Preble, and his answer, on the subject of my going to Tripoli in the Spring. —

From the little I have had an opportunity of learning and observing here, I should not apprehend much difficulty in keeping fair with this Regency, provided we are *punctual* in complying with the stipulations in our Treaty, and proper measures are taken by the Consul here to keep on good terms with the leading men; but unless such punctuality is observed, and the Consul has the power or means to meet any sudden or unforeseen storm, I presume we shall always be in danger

of a Rupture, and the situation of a public Agent here very precarious and unpleasant. — I shall not fail to keep in view the several points mentioned in my instructions, and push them, as I may find fair & favourable opportunities.

The English Consul, M^r Falcon, who was sent from hence last summer, by the Dey, left Gibraltar some time before I sailed from thence, to go to Lord Nelson, off Toulon, who, it was said, was ordered to see him restored to his Post; but they seem to laugh at the idea here of his being forced upon them.

At the close of the present month, I shall make up my accounts and forward them to you, when I hope to be able to give you a more minute detail of our affairs in this quarter.

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

[2 December 1803]

Certificate given to Captain John Cornick, by Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

Copy of a Certificate give to Cap^t John Cornick December second, eighteen hundred & three. —

Be it known to all whom it may concern, that this Second day of December 1803, personally appeared before me Tobias Lear, Consul General of the United S. of America at Algiers, John Cornick, Master of the American Ship *Old Tom*, now laying in the Harbour of Algiers, who declared, that, four of the crew belonging to said ship had left her in this place, and that no other Seamen could be obtained here to supply their place, and that the said ship is now navigated by eleven persons, including the Captain. —

Given under my hand and Seal of Office at Algiers this Second day of December 1803. —

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

To Monsieur Dubois Thainville, Chargé d'Affaires and Commissary General of the French Republic, Algiers, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

ALGIERS 2^d Dec^r 1803. —

CITIZEN COMMISSARY GENERAL,

I have received the letter which you did me the honor to write on the 9th fremaire, enclosing a certificate for Capt. Cornick of the American Ship *Old Tom*, and two letters, one for the Charge d'affaires of the French Republic at George Town, and one for the Commissary at Norfolk. —

The certificate has been delivered to Cap^t Cornick, and the letters committed to his charge. —

As soon as the *Old Tom* shall have sailed, and some affairs dispatched by me, w^h require my immediate attention, I shall have the honor to pay my personal respects to you. As a man of business, I am persuaded you will impute my not having paid my respects to you before, to the pressure of affairs on my first arrival, and not to a want of that respect and Esteem which I feel for you.

In the mean time I pray you, Citizen Commissary General to accept the assurances of high consideration and regard with which I have the honor to salute you.

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

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

NAV DEP^t

Decem^r 3^d 1803

I am honored with your letter of the 27th ult^o — The rates of Insurance upon the cargo of the *William and Mary* are much too high — They are I presume founded upon the belief of our being in a state of Warfare with the Emperor of Morocco — This however is not the case Commodore Rodgers has just arrived in the *New York* with the intelligence that peace is made and that our ships will experience no molestation from the Cruisers of that power — In consequence of this information the high rates of insurance to the mediterranean must fall —

Insurance I have no doubt can be effected in Baltimore at much lower rates than these you have given me —

If you find that you cannot make the insurance upon the peace premiums at Norfolk you will be pleased to write to Col. Stricker and request him to insure the Cargo of the *William and Mary* in Baltimore

Agreeably to your letter of Requisition I have this day directed you a remittance of \$4,500 under the following appropriations

Provisions 4421.52

Contingent — 78.48

4500 —

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

To Sir Thomas Trigge, Lieutenant Governor of Gibraltar, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

ALGIERS December 3^d 1803. —

I take the liberty of informing your Excellency, that this morning the Dey sent in great haste for M^r O'Brien, my predecessor, and myself to the Palace. — When we went there we found him in a great rage, threatening to put to death some of the Captains of his Cruisers which had lately been out, for having taken a Vessel from Malta, which was under the protection of the British, and had Sir, Alex^r Ball's passport, and carried her into Tunis, where she had been sold. — He said he had sent for us to give us an evidence of his justice towards the British — that, altho' he had sent the Consul out of the Country last summer, it was an act of mercy on his part, as he had so far violated their laws that he would not have been safe from the outrages of the people &c — that notwithstanding this, he considered himself bound by his Treaty with the King of England, whose friendship he most highly valued — and that he was very desirous of having a new Consul sent to renew & confirm his friendship &c — that i the (the Dey) should permit the former Consul to return he would not be safe from the violence of the Moors. — He requested M^r O'Brien & myself to write to your Excellency, or any other of the British Governors or Commanders who would be most likely to let his disposition towards the British Nation be known to the Government. — At the intercession of the Ministers &c — the Captains were saved, but were all dismissed from the Dey's service. — If any good should result from a communication of this disposition on the part of the Dey (let it proceed from what course it may) I shall feel peculiarly happy in having been the organ of it. — In

any event I shall be gratified in having so good an opportunity of expressing the sense which I have of the polite and friendly attention which M^{rs} Lear & myself recd. from your Excellency & Lady Trigge while we were at Gibraltar, and to offer my best services if they can at any time be made useful to Your Excellency. —

M^{rs} Lear is in good health and much pleased with the appearance of the Country. She tenders her best respects to Lady Trigge, to which I beg leave to join mine. —

NB. First by Ship *Old Tom*, Cap^t Cornick
Second by Spanish Courier via Alicant

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

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Saturday, 3 December 1803

Strong gales & cloudy weather — We continue at Anchor in Saragosa [Syracuse] — The Ships company employed as necessary — As M^r Morris the late Chaplain is appointed Purser it is necessary that there should be a chaplain and the Commodore has accordingly ordered M^r Peter Leonard to that duty —

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

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

U. S. SCHOONER *Enterprise*
Syracuse harbour Dec^r 4th 1803

SIR, The disagreeable task of stating the extreme impropriety of M^r Boyd a midshipman under my command is imposed on me —

On the 2nd of this month, M^r Boyd having permission to go on shore, went where he became inebriated, & while in this state maltreated several of the inhabitants; Lieu^t Thorn (who was present) told him his conduct was extremely improper & ordered him on board; he replied to Lieut. [about two lines of MS mutilated] he would comply with, but continued his abuse to Lieu^t Thorn — Lieu^t Lawrence then took him by the arm for the purpose of carrying him to the boat when M^r Boyd collared him & at the same time drew his his dirk, Lieu^t Lawrence disarmed him & again ordered him to the boat —

The conduct of M^r Boyd was represented to me by M^r Lawrence, M^r Thorn, & one of the inhabitants who was treated ill, precisely as I have stated it to you, In consequence of which I arrested him, a copy of his arrest & charges I inclose you. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 8, 1803-1804.]

To whom not indicated, presumably from Midshipman Henry Wadsworth, U. S. Navy

[U. S. FRIGATE] *Constitution* 44
SYRACUSE December 4th 1803

DEAR SIR, A second time you see. I have the pleasure of addressing you from Syracuse where we arrived after going off Malta & sending a Boat in to Port in order to ascertain the truth of the report respecting the *Philadelphia*, which alas is but too true. * * *

10th December. *Vixen* Lt Smith arrived, having been out 19 days & prevented from getting to the westward of Sardinia, by the Westerly

Gales has been into Cagliari to wait a fair wind: at length weared with the length of the gale & supposing the Com^{ro} must have passed Eastward he bore up for Malta thence to this place. * * *

[H. W. L. Dana Col.]

To Midshipman Christopher Gadsden, Jr., U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitution Syracuse Harbor.

Decem^r 4th 1803

SIR Agreeable to your request you are Permitted to return home for the recovery of your health. —

You will be charged with two Setts of dispatches for the Navy department which you will keep with you, and deliver yourself at the Navy Office or forward by Mail immediately on your arrival. You have also a packet for M^r Yznardi which you will deliver to M^r Gavino to be forwarded to Cadiz by the first mail; and one for M^r Gavino which you will also deliver to him — I wish you a speedy restoration of health and it will afford me pleasure to see you return to Service with Promotion.

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

To Lieutenant John Smith, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Schooner *Vixen*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP Constitution

Syracuse Harbour 4 Dec^r 1803

SIR On your arrival here, you will immediately prepare the *Vixen* for a cruise. Make your requisitions for such provisions as belong to the United States on M^r George Marcellin; and let your purser purchase such as he cannot supply you with, and remain in port untill further orders.

[Similar letter sent to Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Siren*.]

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

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Midshipman Walter Boyd, U. S. Navy

U. S. SCHOONER Enterprize

Syracuse Harbour Dec^r 5th 1803

SIR It is with the utmost regret that I am under the necessity of addressing to you a letter on so disagreeable a subject, as my late misconduct on shore; confiding however to your mercy I hazard to make the request of obtaining your pardon. My superior officers whom I must confess I shamefully offended have granted me their forgiveness, and agreeably to the information of Captain Decatur, it rests entirely with you to extricate me from the evils arising from my folly. —

Give me leave Sir to assure you, that I will not only avoid to deserve your displeasure or that of my superiors in future but the sole aim of my conduct shall be to convince you of the most sincere gratitude. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 8, 1803–1804.]

To Commanding Officer, of U. S. Frigate *New York*, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t
Dec^r 5, 1803 —

The *Newyork* must be paid off without delay. Be pleased to send up your Purser immediately to receive the necessary monies. —

Same to Commanding Officer of the *John Adams*. —

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

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

TRIPOLY IN BARBARY 5th Decem^r 1803

SIR I had the honor of writing you on the 15th Ult^o giving a Cypher, which would enable us to correspond without any danger of our private communications benefitting this Govern^t, in case of detection. For fear that said Cypher may miscarry, I now send you another on the same plan, but alphabetically varied. Your letters which does not contain any private matter, had best be directed to the care of the British Consul, and those of a private nature, you had better get the Danish Consul at Malta, to enclose to his colleague in this place.

The greater part of our crew consists of English subjects, not naturalized in America; Suppose Lord Nelson was to claim them, and to enforce his demand, would it not be policy in the United States, to accede to such a measure? Interest, and Humanity, would (in my opinion) sanction an acquiescence.

This day, two Gallies returned from a cruise, and brought in 13 Sardinian, and 3 Sicilian persons. The Marine force of this Regency (as near as I can learn, being confined to the house, prevents giving accurate information,) consists of one Polacre Ship, 1 New Brig proper rigged 14 Guns, — 1 Schooner ready for launching, very tant Masts, 10 Guns. — 5 Gallies latteen Sails; 4 & 6 Guns 50 to 60 Men — 12 Gun Boats, two of which, are small, the others carry heavy Metal, all in port, and 1 Xebeck at Derne.

The unfortunate Frigate lies moored in the Harbour, with all her Guns. They took them up from off the rocks in the depth of 12 & 14 feet Water. I think it very practicable with six or Eight good Boats well manned, and determined Officers to destroy her, and their Cruisers, particularly if the thing was attempted without giving them much warning; for all their Gun Boats at present, are hauled up on Shore, and I am told, that there is only a four Gun Battery badly mounted, that points towards the Harbour, which could be easily silenced, after getting possession of the Ship. Powder and Shot should be brought in one of the Boats, to supply the Guns on board the Frigate. By chartering a Merchant Vessel, and sending her into the Harbour, with the men secreted and steering directly on board the Frigate, it might be effected without any or a trifling loss. It would not be possible to carry the Frigate out, owing to the difficulty of the Channel. I beg that you will not consider me too officious, in giving my ideas on a conjectural practicability.

The Harbour of Tripoly is fortified by nature; they have a number of Guns on their Battery, pointing to the Southw^d which will prevent Frigates acting effectually on the Town. A blockade has, and ever will be found a wrong system to pursue, with this Regency; it is only hazarding a great risque (as I have fatally experienced) without the

least effect, except the Interest of a few Jewish Merchants. The Country abounds with plenty, and every superfluous supply can readily be got from Tunis by Land. The situation of their Harbour, and coast is such, that their small cruisers which are the most dangerous, can always go to Sea, and return into port in spite of the most vigilant cruisers stationed off here. The passage between Cape Bon and Sicily is an important place to guard; and our small Vessels to cruise on the coast of Italy, Spain, and Sardinia, would probably detect their Cruisers, which endangers our Trade and which in general should have convoy given it. This System I verily believe, to be the best to pursue; had it fortunately been the case, I should not now regret the loss of my services to my Country.

Whatever measures my Commodore you may pursue, patriotism to my Country, and sincere friendship to yourself, will cause me to offer my fervent prayers for their success. I know they will be actuated by the purest motives, and dictated by a comprehensive mind. Would to God! I was this moment under its influence.

I hope that you and Col. Lear, will feel yourselves justified to ask the demands of the Bashaw immediately, so that we may be able to form some opinion of the probability of our Government complying with them. France would be found a good mediator, but not to be negotiated thro' their Consul.

(Signed) W^m BAINBRIDGE

[The original of this letter includes the cypher of Captain Bainbridge.]

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

To Lieutenant Colonel Commandant William W. Burrows, U. S. Marine Corps, from Captain John Hall, U. S. Marine Corps

SYRACUSE 7th Dec^r 1803

SIR I now enclose you Cloathing Return for the Month of Nov^r with the signatures of each Man, as also general return of Cloathing Issued since my arrival in the Mediterranean, in which you will see my want of Cloathing, there are none that I can hear of either at Gibraltar or Malta — I am sorry to inform you that the *Philadelphia* is now a Prize in Tripoli & the whole of her Crew made Prisoners, three hundred & seven in number the Officers are closely confined in the French Consuls House & the Men put to hard Labour, & their daily allowance is eight oz: of Bread & a little bad Oil —

Serg^t Hill is now in Irons on board the Schooner *Nautalus* for Insolence to Lt Decator the Com^{dr} has promised to get him on board this Ship if possible, but fear he must undergo a Court Martial, I think he is treated ill, but cannot say positively untill I hear both sides of the question the other Detachments are well & in good order. I have the honor to be —

[MCA. LR, 1803.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Wednesday, 7 December 1803

[Syracuse] Moderate. Landed provisions from the Store Ship: The Magazines where we deposit the Provisions and Stores and the Arsenal where our Spars, boats &^o are lodged are very convenient and supplied me by the Governor free of expence — A. M. commenced watering — a party discharging the store ship — The *Enterprize* and

Nautilus nearly ready for sea; the *Enterprize* has been new rigged since her arrival here and they have both been compleatly fitted for winter cruizing — Punished several men for getting drunk —

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

To the Hon. John Randolph, Jr., United States Congress, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t

Dec^r 8. 1803 —

In answer to your inquiry of the 6th ins^t I have the honor to enclose you a statement shewing the number of Clerks employed in this department with their respective salaries. —

The hours of attendance at this office are from 9 till 3 O'clk, but I beg leave to state that when business requires it (which is frequently the case) the attendance is not confined to particular hours. —

[Enclosure]

Number of Clerks Employed in the Navy Department with their Respective Salaries
Clerks employed in the Navy Department with their respective salaries. —

In the Secretary's office, 3 Clerks. —

Chief Clerk — salary p ^r Annum.....	\$1, 800
Two d ^o “ @ \$1,000 ea.....	2, 000

\$3, 800

In the Accountant's office — 9 Clerks. — viz^t

1 @	\$1500
1 “	1200
1 “	1120
1 “	1115
2 @ 900	1800
2 @ 850	1700
1 @	600

†\$9,035

†In the above is included the 15 p^r C^t additional allowed by the Act of last Session making appropriations for the support of the Government for the year 1803. —

[NDA. Cong. LB, Vol. 1, 1798-1811.]

To George McIntosh, Norfolk, Va., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP^t

Decem. 8. 1803

I have received your letter of the 1st instant —

The *Betsy Walk* deposited her cargo at Algiers and returned to Gibraltar October 17 — 1803 since which time we have no information concerning her —

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

To Captain George Billups, commanding American Ship *Traveller*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*
Decem^r 9th 1803

SIR, It is necessary that your ship should be discharged to day as I shall go to Sea tomorrow evening with the Squadron; and if you wish for Convoy you can then take the benefit of one. Your freight money is ready as soon as the Cargo is delivered.

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

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Friday, 9 December 1803

[Syracuse] Wind W N W: Strong breezes. Supplied the English schooner *Magdalena* Tender to the ship *Madrass* Guard ship at Malta with a barrell of beef and a barrel of Pork — Ships company employed in preparing for sea, taking in water, discharging the store ship and stowing the provisions in the Magazine on shore; We have found it necessary to new Pickle every barrell of salted Provisions in order to preserve it. M^r George Marcellin and M^r Charles Morris I have appointed to remain at Syracuse in charge of the Provisions and Stores of the Squadron.

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

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

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbour 10th December 1803

SIR I had the honor to write you from Algier's Bay, after landing Col. Lear and family, since which, no opportunity has occurred untill now. I left that Bay on the 22nd November, to proceed off Tripoly, with the *Nautilus* in company; and on the 24th off the S W end of Sardinia, spoke an English Frigate from Malta, the Capt of which, informed me of the loss of the *Philadelphia* on the rocks off Tripoly, but was not able to give me the particulars of the distressing intilligence, which induced me to steer for Malta, to gain further information — On the 26th between the Island of Maritimo and Cape Bon, chased and boarded a Tunisine Xebeck of 18 Guns on a cruise, with the passport of George Davis. American Charge des affairs at Tunis, and permitted her to proceed — 27th arrived off the Harbour of Malta, and sent in a Boat with an Officer on Shore, who returned with letters from Captain Bainbridge dated at Tripoly, stating the particulars of the capture of the *Philadelphia* by the Tripolines, without a man on either side having been killed or wounded; with the mortifying circumstance that she was in the Harbour of Tripoly. — This affair distresses me beyond description, and very much deranges my plans of operation for the present. I fear our national character will sustain an injury with the Barbarians. — Would to God, that the Officers and crew of the *Philadelphia*, had one and all, determined to prefer death to slavery; it is possible such a determination might save them from either — Enclosed is Capt. Bainbridge's account of the business; with sundry other papers as p^r list. I shall not hazard an opinion on the subject of the loss. — You can form as correct a one from Capt. Bainbridge's own letters of

the 1st and 6th Ulto, as it is possible for me to — Soon after the Boat returned from Malta, a heavy gale of Wind came on from the N. W. The sea was tremendous in the channel, and the ship laboured much:—I stood across to the Northward, under reefed courses and Storm Staysails, and fetched under the lee of Scicily; where I had smooth water; and on the 29th the gale subsided.

I fell in with the *Enterprize* L^t Decatur, who informed me, that the store Ship *Traveller* was at Syracuse. I accordingly made sail for, and entered the port, the next morn^g. I immediately waited on the Governor for permission to deposit our Provisions & Stores, which he not only readily granted, but assigned me the use of the Arsenal, with compleat covering for our Boats and Spars, and very excellent Magazines that will contain five thousand Barrels of provisions; and all these free of expence! — He considers himself under obligations to us, for making this port our rendezvous, as it will prevent the Tripolines from cruising on this part of the coast of Scicily. — This Harbour is one of the best in the Mideterranean, and the country will afford us fresh Meat, Vegetables, Fruit, Candles, and Rice, cheaper than they can be purchased in America. The Inhabitants are extremely friendly and civil, and our Sailors cannot desert, In fact, I think it by far the best place for the Squadron to rendezvous at. The almost constant heavy gales of Wind, and extreme bad weather since our arrival here, has prevented us from compleating our Stock of Water, and finishing landing the cargo of the Store Ship, untill to day. I have bent a new suit of sails — The *Enterprize* is new rigged, and the *Nautilus* in fine order. We sail tomorrow for the coast of Tripoly, and are well prepared for a Winter's Cruise. I shall remain off the coast, as long as it is possible for any of their cruisers to keep out; but I do not think it will be possible to cruise all Winter without hazarding too much; for should any accident happen to this ship, and any of the other Barbary Powers should break out upon us, the consequences may be dreadful to our commerce in these Seas. — On my arrival near Tripoly, I shall send a flag on shore, to know the present situation of the Captives, and learn the Bashaw's disposition and expectations, and to establish a necessary supply of Money for the comfort and health of the Officers & Crew, and by this means, I shall learn the present disposition of their Naval force. — I suspect the demands of the Bashaw, since he has the *Philadelphia* and Crew in possession, will be enormous; of course, Government will feel the necessity of sending out an additional force, to supply the loss of that ship. — One Ship never ought to cruise alone on the Coast of Tripoly, if it can be avoided. If two Ships are in company, and an accident of running on shore happens to one, the other can protect her whilst getting off — and the same protection would be wanted, in case of losing a Mast, by engaging the Batteries.

If it had not have been for the Capture of the *Philadelphia*, I have no doubt, but we should have had peace with Tripoly in the Spring; but I have now no hopes of such an event — If you send me another Frigate or two, and a Frigate to relieve the *Argus* at Gibraltar, so that I can have the services of that Brig, I will so compleatly Blockade Tripoly and annoy the Coast, as to lessen the Bashaw's demands, more than double the expence of the reinforcement, and perhaps oblige him to sue for peace.

I do not believe the *Philadelphia* will ever be of service to Tripoly; I shall hazard much to destroy her — it will undoubtedly cost us many lives, but it must be done. I am surprized she was not rendered useless, before her Colours were struck.

I am sorry to inform you, of the death of M^r Deblois purser of this ship. he was sick for about three weeks, and died soon after our arrival here. The service has sustained the loss of an Officer of Merit in his station. I have appointed M^r Noahdia[h] Morris (late Chaplain) as his successor, and M^r P. Leonard (late Captⁿ Clerk) I have appointed Chaplain, who will also continue to do the duty of a clerk — I hope the President will do me the honor and favour, to confirm the appointments — If he knew their merits as well as I do, he would not hesitate.

The Beef sent out in the Store Ship, and branded George Town, I Krouse & C^o is miserably poor, and badly put up: — Indeed, nothing but absolute necessity will induce the people to eat it. Most of the Casks are the worst sort of fish Barrels, and very few of them full hooped; in consequence of which, the Pickle has leaked out, and the provisions spoiled. — Several bb^{ls} have been condemned and thrown overboard, being too offensive to be retained in the ship. — I believe it will be for the Interest of Government, to ship all the Beef from Boston, or Connecticut. The Pork, Rice, Flour, Bread &c^s is good, but the Casks are in very bad order. A quantity of Bread, and other Provisions and Stores, have arrived at Malta from Gibraltar, sent up by M^r Gavino. — M^r Pulis complains of their not having been consigned to him, but to an English Merch^t. I shall settle the business, by taking the whole of them over here, as I return from my present cruise. As we have no consul or Agent here, and I do not chuse to trust our Provisions & Stores in the hands of Strangers, I have placed M^r George Marcellin and M^r Charles Morris, Midshipmen, in charge of the Public Stores untill I return. I take the precaution to leave two, in case of accidents.

M^r M^oDonough a Midshipman belonging to the *Philadelphia*, that was left by her prize at Gibraltar, and afterwards joined this Ship, I have ordered to join the *Enterprize*. Notwithstanding we are well accomodated here for Magazines to deposit our Provisions & Stores, Yet, still, a ship that would Answer for a Store and Hospital Ship, would be much preferable, for it is uncertain how soon we may be disturbed by the French or English taking possession of this Country. I shall write you immediately on my return from this cruise, and hope to be able to give you more correct information respecting our affairs with Tripoly, than I can at present. If a Frigate comes out to reinforce the Squadron, will it not be well for her to stop at Algiers and take Col. Lear on board? as it will prevent the necessity of my sending a vessel after him in the Spring. M^r Gadson whose health does not permit him to attend to duty, has requested leave to return to the United States, and I have charged him with my dispatches — I sent you a mem^o of such Stores as it will be in our power to procure here, and such as it will be necessary to send out. — I shall take the earliest opportunity to survey the Islands of Pantelaria and Lampedosa and ascertain what advantages the Squadron may derive from those places. I have an opinion, that we can make one of them our general rendezvous in Summer, with more advantages than any other place, as they are situated so near the Coast of Barbary, and directly in the track of

Vessels to and from Tripoly. The Articles which I can purchase here upon terms that will make it more for the Interest of the United States, than to send them out, are Rice, Wood, Candles, Vinegar, Wine, Hats, Shoes, & Summer clothing. It will be necessary to send out Rum sufficient for the Squadron for about 4 Months in the Year, the other 8 months, Wine will be most serviceable; and Winter clothing, such as blue Jackes — Trowsers and Blankets only. The articles of provisions which cannot on any terms be procured here, are Salt Pork, Beef, Bread, Flour, Butter, Cheese, Molasses & Peas or Beans. In about 10 Weeks, we shall be entirely out of Molasses, Butter, Cheese, & Rum. It will also be necessary to send out two or three Frigate's Bower Anchors, and as many Stream with Oak Stuff for Stocks. — Thick or thin Duck cannot possibly be procured here; it will be necessary to send out some of that Article, and a few thick & thin Oak plank and boards. And if one or two lower yards for a large Frigate can be sent here, it will be well, as we have not one in the Mediterranean, and in case of an accident to one, it could not at present be replaced

PRESENT SITUATION OF THE SQUADRON

- Constitution* } Getting under Weigh for a cruise off Tripoly;
Enterprize }
Nautilus — To convoy the Store Ship down, and cruise off C: Bon.
Vixen — Gone to Gibraltar with Captain Bainbridges dispatches, to return here immediately.
Syren — Went from Gibraltar to Leghorn for money & presents, to take to Algiers; and proceed off Tripoly, where I expect to fall in with her. —
Argus — Gone from Gibraltar to Marceilles & Leghorn, with Convoy. — To return immediately to Gibraltar, to watch the motions of Morocco, and occasionally Cruise off Cape de Gatt, Cape Palos, and along the Coast of Spain.

12th. December. The weather has been such as to prevent me from Sailing. The *Vixen* Lt Smith has just arrived. She sailed from Malta the 19th *Ult*^o with dispatches for you from C[aptain] Bainbridge giving an account of the loss of the *Philadelphia* — Lt Smith states, that he has made use of every exertion in his power, to reach Gibraltar, but in vain; for after having buffeted the Seas for 22 days, experiencing nothing but constant Gales of Wind, and excessive bad weather, he has been compelled to return. He touched at Malta on his return, and brought me a letter from Captain Bainbridge, dated the 12th *Ull*^o which throws more light on the loss of his ship, and the situation of himself, his Officers and Crew. — Would to God, I could release them. It also enables me to enclose you a letter from a M^r Farquhar a Merchant at Malta, (of whom, by the by, I know very little) He states the expectations of the Bashaw, to be ridiculously extravagant. I hope when the season admits of our keeping close to his Coast, with safety, I shall be able to make him feel the force and Weight of our shot so effectually, as to check the extravagance of his expectations. I shall take every proper means of endeavouring to make the situation of Capt. Bainbridge, his Officers and Crew, as comfortable as circumstances will possibly admit of. I hope to be able to second the views of the Bashaw's brother, who has lately gained a victory over the Bashaw's Troops near Derne — Government will determine whether

it will give him any other aid than that of our forces — I shall readily with them assist him against Tripoly

I hope soon to be able to give you more correct information relative to this part of the World, and the affairs of it, than I can at present.

PS. I have ordered L^t Somers of the *Nautilus*, to sail immediately for Gibraltar, with these dispatches, to be forwarded by different conveyances from thence; as I am aware of the necessity of their reaching you, while Congress is in Session, or as early as possible. —

L^t Smith, has lately lost an Anchor, and L^t Somers another. It will be well to send out a few from about 8 to 9 C^t with Iron Stocks, as we are obliged to pay a quarter of a Doll. p^r pound here. — E: P

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

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

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbour 10th Dec^r 1803

DEAR SIR, I have rec^d your letter of the 15th Ult^o respecting the Tripolitan subjects taken in the *Mishouda* — I have only to observe, that they were well treated while I had the command of them; and I have every reason to believe, they were, before I arrived at Gibraltar. They all declared to Hamet the Moorish Consul, that they had no cause of complaint.

You may inform the Minister, Mahomet Dghies, that on the settlement of a peace with the Emperor of Morocco, I voluntarily gave up to the Emperor, the Ship *Mishouda* in the same order she was taken, together with all the Guns, Military Stores, and Merchandise found on board her; and all the Moors, Algerines, and Tripolitan Subjects found on board her, were landed at Tanger, and set at full liberty, to sell their Merchandize and effects, and return to their respective countries. I hope when His Excellency the Bashaw, is made acquainted with this generous treatment of his subjects, and of our generosity in restoring the ship *Mishouda* to his friend the Emperor of Morocco, notwithstanding we could not but know she belonged to Tripoly, that he will show his magnanimity, by ordering yourself, Your Officers and Crew, to be treated in the most liberal manner

I beg you to present in behalf of my Government, my thanks to the Minister, for the Interest he has taken in your unfortunate situation.

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

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

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbour 10 Dec^r 1803

SIR You will proceed in company with this Ship on a Cruize off Tripoly, should we unavoidably Be seperated, approach the coast so as to reconnoitre the Harbour and situation of the *Philadelphia*, After which endeavour to fall in with me. If you should fail in this, you will cruize between Lampedosa and Cape Bon two or three weeks, if the weather should prove such, as to make it dangerous to the safety of the Vessel, and then Return to this port, Fill up your water, take in provisions get all ready for sea, and waite for orders,

[HS of Pa. Mrs. F. H. Getchell.]

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

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse harbor Dec^r 10th 1803

SIR Before you recieve this you will have heard of the loss of the *Philadelphia* with all the distressing and mortifying circumstances.

I shall want your Services in the Spring and hope you will be relieved so as to Join me early in April. I have made an establishment in this place which I find well calculated for it.

Write me often, Send me all the News and newspapers; Tell me how Morrocco stands affected and what condition her cruizers are in: Direct your letters to me at Malta and keep a good look out on your Station.

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

To Joseph Pulis, U. S. Consul, Malta, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. FRIGATE *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbor Decem^r 10th 1803

SIR I have recieved your letter of the 26th Novem^r by L^t Dent and thank you for the Information it contains

You have done right in sending Capⁿ Bainbridge three hundred dollars for himself Officers and crew and if it had been three thousand I should be answerable for the supply. You have done right in sending the medicines he required.

I expect soon to be at Malta and will then Settle the business between you and M^r Higgins by ordering all the Provisions and Stores to be shipped for this place

I shall sail from this place tomorrow for the Coast of Tripoli where I have now some vessels cruizing — You will percieve by the enclosed that Tripoli is at present and will continue to be in a state of blockade.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 8, 1803–1804.]

To Secretary of State from Josef Yznardi, U. S. Consul, Cadiz, Spain

CADIZ 10th December 1803.

DEAR SIR. I had the honour of writing you on the 22^d Octob^r & 3^d ult^o whereof the inclosed are Copys.

I have now to inform you that the American Ship *Sally* Cap^t John R. Archer loaded by Government with Naval stores for the Regency of Algiers, was lost on the 20th ult^o on the sands of Torre del a Higuerrilla within a 11. Leagues of the Barr of S^t Lucar; the Vessel is entirely lost, and I am apprehensive that what has been saved of the Cargo will hardly pay the expences of it; I have duly acquainted this misfortune to —

Edward Preble Esq^r Commodore of the U, S, Squadron

Richard OBrien } Consuls at Algiers —
 Tobias Lear }

that they may acquaint the Dey of it, that he may not be under any apprehension missing the Naval stores, and as the Salvage will be so expensive in such a far distance & bad roads, I have determined to sell it on the spot at Public Auction, & whatever may be the Neat Proceeds for account of Government I shall duly inform you of it with proper Documents.

Inclosed I have the honour of remitting you Copy of a Letter received from Comm^d Edw^d Preble concerning the Blockade of Tripoli & of my answer to him.

The Sickness in Malaga continues with great force & inclosed is a note of its Situation on the 6th instant.

By all appearances this Country remains perfect neutral in the actual Contest between France & England; but as yet Government has not made it public, sundry Spanish Vessels carried to the Ports of England by Privateers are put in liberty, and the Privateers condemned in paying some part of the damages.

I have the honour to be with the most profound respect and veneration.

[Enclosure]

Malaga 6th December 1803 —

fallen Sick.....	49
Cured.....	79
Died.....	52

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

To Hon. N. K. Moore, United States Congress, from Captain Alexander Murray,
U. S. Navy

PHIL^a Dec^r 11 1803

DEAR SIR The very unpleasant situation of the officers of the navy now on the half pay establishment induces me to intrude upon such Members of Congress that I have the honor of an acquaintance with & hope by their influence with others (as my acquaintance is very confined among that honorable body) that they will make an effort to get our Rations annexed to our half pay, trusting that there will be found a majority of the house in favor of making such an extension, and I take the liberty of craving your Patronage in our favor —

It would be trespassing upon your time to urge many Arguments on this head, 'tis well known that our rank, & respectability while in service unavoidably urges us to keep up a certain state of expence that absorbs all our emoluments and nothing can be left for our families on our return to the private walks of life, many of us have large & expensive families & our half pay is found insufficient to pay our house rent few of us have independent fortunes and the pride and dignity of Office will not (but upon dire necessity) brooke the descent to menial occupations nor would it be to the credit of the U States that we should be found retailing bunches of Onions &c. from Drogers in forts where we had held high commands — It may be alleged that we are better paid than the Officers of the british navy but let it be remembered that they are mostly men of high birth & Fortune & they have many priviledges that we have not —

We cannot extend our views to any schemes of life that will require time to mature—had we even capitals to do it, being ever liable to be called into service and which might happen at a time when our serious attention was the most required in short we should ever be in readiness for active service possibly we may now be considered as an useless appendage of expence to government the Temple of Janus

being about to close its doors, but a county like ours should ever be on its gaurd —

I have written to my old Friend M^r M^cCrery on this subject who with others I flatter myself will exert their influence in behalf of us

[NDA. A. Murray's LB, 1799-1805.]

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

*Constitution Frigate
Syracuse Harbor Dec^r 11th 1803*

SIR I have paid Cap^t Billups one thousand dollars on account of his freight from Gibraltar to this place you will please to pay him the other part of his freight amounting to two thousand dollars and charge the same to the navy department

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

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

On board U. S. FRIGATE *J. Adams*
Navy Yard City [of] Washington.
*December 12th. 1803**

DEAR FATHER With Pleasure I Embrace the first moment which the hurry and Bustle of our Ship affords to Inform you of our arrival here (after a passage of 50 days from Tangeir not more agreeable than can be conceived, yesterday the President with all the heads of Departments payed us a visit with nearly all of Both Houses of Congress, the *Newyork* was dressed on the Occassion; the Yards were manned, Salutes fired, and every other mark of respect paid him by Both Ships, preperation for this has employed every moment since I wrote you those hasty Lines — * * *

(*“Of” inserted after “City” and date altered to “11th” in another hand.)

[Huntington Library Quarterly.]

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

N^o 1.

ALGIERS *December 12th 1803*

SIR I have the honor to inform You that I arrived at this place on the 19th ultimo, in the U. States Frigate *Constitution*, Commodore Preble, and am now in the exercise of my functions as Consul Gen^l of the U. States in this Regency. In order that You may see the relation in which I stand with respect to the Consuls of the U. States at Tunis & Tripoli, (when ever we may be at peace with the latter) I enclose an extract of my instructions from the Department of State, on that head. —

As M^r Cathcart has not been recieved by the Bey of Tunis, and You remain charged with the affairs of the U. States in that Regency. I will thank You to furnish me, by the first oppertunity with a full statement of affairs there, and such observations thereon as will lead me to form an opinion of what we may expect from that quarter. At the same time You will be pleased to add such information relative to our Affairs with Tripoli, as You may have been able to obtain, and upon which any reliance can be placed. —

Our Government has thought proper to change our Mediterranean Passports, and has furnished me with one passport and a number of Tops for each Consul in these Regencies. I embrace this opportunity to forward a passport to You & sixty tops, and add a copy of the instructions given to me by the Sec^y of State relative to them. I have given information to this Regency of the intention to change our passports, and instead of the term of 19 months for the full exchange of the new for the old, as mentioned in the instructions, I required two Years (consisting I presume, of 12 *lunar* months each) for that operation, which was readily acceded to. This will give more time for the full exchange, and if You obtain the same terms it will be desirable; and when notified to the Regency, You will be pleased to give information to the Sec^y of State, as directed in the instructions.—

I have also the honor to enclose a letter for You from Commodore Preble, notifying the blockade of Tripoli by the U. States Ships of war. —

Commodore Preble has put into my hands Your letter to Commodore Morris, dated, onboard the U States Frigate *Adams*, September 8th 1803, together with a letter from the latter to the former, stating, that as M^r Cathcart had been appointed Consul for the Regency of Tunis, he had requested Messrs Degen & Purviance not to advance You the 2000 dollars for which he had given You credit with them. — How far this was proper or otherwise, I shall not now undertake to say; but presuming it must have placed You in an unpleasant situation, I shall forward to You the like sum of two thousand Spanish dollars, either by this opportunity, or by land, as I may find it most safe and expeditious, upon enquiry on the subject. — With respect to the 4,000 dollars for which you have become responsible on account of the claims for Tunisian property vended at Malta, I can only observe, that when I have the pleasure of meeting You next Spring, as I hope to do at Tunis, this matter will be considered and justice done in the case. —

M^r OBrien has favoured me with Your letters to him of the 3^d of July & 15th October, the former enclosing an extract of Your letter to the Sec^y of State, of the same date, and sundry documents relative to the redemption of Demoiselle Anna Porcile d' l' Ile di' S^t Piere left in Your charge by M^r Eaton. — With respect to the redemption of this Young woman, I do not hesitate in giving my opinion that she ought to be redeemed; and especially as you add there is no receipt or document of any kind left in Your hands to shew that the payment had been made for her by M^r Eaton; or that there was any obligation to pay him for her liberation as You say, in Your letter to the Sec^y of State, "that if commodore Morris should acquiese, You should feel yourself perfectly authorized to relinquish the further prosecution of the claim, fully satisfied that you have no longer reason to hope for the recovery of any part of the sum"

I trust you will not experience the evil, which you suggested as possible to arise to you, from our naval Commanders not giving full credence & respect to Your passports, as I informed Commodore Preble, that I should consider you as charged with the affairs of the U. States at Tunis untill we should have further advices from our Government, and he in consequence, wrote the enclosed letter. —

I have not been here long enough to form any correct judgement, from my own observations, of the situation in which we are likely to

stand with this Regency; but I have the satisfaction of finding Mr O'Brien most perfectly ready and able to communicate to me so much of his valuable stock of information respecting every thing here as will be very essentially useful to me in my public Agency as well as in my individual accommodation; and I am also pleased to add that he will remain here during the winter. —

We have satisfied the Biennial & Consular presents, and have received two cargoes of Timber from the U. States towards paying the two Annuities due on the 5th of September — Another ship has been expected for some time; but we now almost despair of her arrival — Should she not come, we must endeavour to make an arrangement to pay the balance, which may be due in Cash. — The Dey & great Officers appear to be in good humour, at present, with the U. States; but in these Latitudes we have no right to calculate upon a long spell of favorable weather — I only wish I may be able to keep as good a helm in the squalls & Gales, as my predecessor appears to have done; but he is an experienced navigator in these Seas. —

I am happy to inform You that our differences with the Emperor of Morocco were satisfactorily adjusted early in October. — A concurrence of fortunate events put into our hands one of the Emperor's frigates, and about 160 of his subjects; and the junction of the outward and homeward bound squadrons at Gibraltar, in a critical moment, gave an opportunity 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 Sea port in the Empire, from Mogadore to Tituan, had or more [sic] cruisers off, to prevent the entrance or departure of any Vessels. —

The Emperor came to Tangier with his Army. — Our Frigates were drawn up ready to destroy his Town, if he should determine on hostilities. — The impression was strong; and the Emperor not only disavowed, in the most positive manner, every thing which 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 and unequivocal ratification of our Treaty made with his Father in 1786. — This was at once complied with; and not a demand or intimation of a present from us, either in gross sum; or by way of Annuity. — We gave him up his ship & subjects as a gratuity. Thus was this business, which threatened serious evil to the commerce of the U. States in these seas, happily terminated in a few days. — Commodore Morris had returned home in the *Adams* before this event took place, and Rodgers who Commanded the homeward bound Squadron, behaved with patriotism and his usual activity. —

This event, I think, augers well with respect to the operations which may be carried on against Tripoli next season. If daring intrepidity, united with the full experien[c]e of a seaman, excellent judgement & proper prudence, can command success, I presume Commodore Preble will gain Laurels for himself & honor for his Country.

I have this moment received a most unpleasant piece of intelligence. My Drogherman informs me that the Minister of Marine has just directed him to tell me, that an Algerine arrived from Tunis, brings accounts that one of the American Frigates off Tripoli in chasing a Tripoline cruiser, going into Tripoli, had run on shore — that they

threw overboard twenty Guns in order to get her off; but without effect. — that the Tripoline Gun boats went out and took her in this situation, and afterwards got her off, and that the command of hir was given to a Rais, formally of Algiers called Genoa.

However painful this intelligence is to me, I cannot give it credit; for I know that no vessel has arrived in this port for 12 days past; and if the news came by land (as they say it did) from Tunis, that You could not have delayed a moment in forwarding to this place information of so important an event, should it have been known there; and besides David Bocri, the Jew, informs me that he Yesterday rec^d letters from Tunis, which do not mention such an event.

It is *possible* notwithstanding, that it may be true; and if it should be so, I think it must be the *Philadelphia*, as the *Constitution* left this Bay on the 22^d of November & could not have reached Tripoli soon enough for information of such an event to be received here. — I pretend to give no kind of credit to the tale, and assure them here, that even if it could be true, it would be attended with good effects in the end, as our Gov^t would see the necessity of keeping a larger force in this sea, than may be necessary for immediate operations, to guard against accidents of this kind; and that if this ship should be lost, her place would be immediately supplied with two more. —

I have this day paid to David Bocri, the Jew, two thousand Spanish dollars, for which he is to place a like sum at Your disposal, on account of the U. States, in Tunis; and has given me the enclosed letter for his correspondent Seig^r Soloman Azuly, at Tunis, which he says contains an order for a credit on him, in Your behalf for two thousand dollars; and that another letter to the same effect, will be forwarded by the land Courier in two or three days. —

Enclosed is a letter which I brought from the U. States for Anthony Nyssen Esq^r Consul Gen^l of the Batavian Republic at Tunis, which I beg the favour of you to deliver to that Gentleman with my best respects; also a letter from M^r OBrien to You. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 8, 1803-1804.]

To Nicholas C. Nissen, Danish Consul, Tripoli, from James Leander Cathcart, Leghorn

LEGHORN Dec^r 12th 1803 —

D^r SIR. On my return from Gibraltar in the United States Brig *Siren* I found your esteem'd favors of the 15th of July & 19 & 28th of Sept^r copys of which I forwarded to the Department of State immediately, & for which I return you my most sincere thanks. —

This ins^{nt} I receiv'd your distressing acc^t of the loss of the U^d States Frigate the *Philadelphia* Cap^{tn} Bainbridge & have taken the requisite steps to alleviate their sufferings, by furnishing them with an immediate supply, I have for that purpose wrote to M^r Williams Higgins at Malta to send to you three thousand spanish dollars in cash, which you will please to distribute to the sufferers in the most economical manner, you & Cap^{tn} Bainbridge can devise & to prevent miscarriage I have furnish'd you with a credit upon the house of Frederick Degen & C^o of Naples should you find it more convenient to draw upon them for any part of the above Sum, or you may draw upon me at Leghorn taking care that the whole ammount may not exceed four thousand Spanish dollars. —

The rent of the Consular house is paid until May 1804 as will appear by Ciddi Mohammed ben Luna's receipt & Farfara's which I left at Tripoli, you will please to renew the lease on the best terms you can & appropriate the house for the use of the prisoners, & I request you to make their situation as comfortable as possible. — By a vessel which sails tomorrow for Algiers I will inform our Agents there of this unhappy event, & request M^r Lear to furnish you with a more extensive credit than I have in my power at this moment, in the mean time I hope the small supply you receive from me will answer the present emergency. —

By the first opportunity I will write you more fully & in the mean time, I request you & Cap^{tn} Bainbridge to give me every information in your power, relative to the Bashaw's sentiments on this change of position & what are his pretensions in consequence thereof. — I will write Cap^{tn} Bainbridge by the next post to Naples & remain very respectfully. —

P. S. Tomorrow I will endeavor to engage two suits of apparel for the seamen, the Officers would do well to specify their wants as soon as possible; when the said cloaths are ready I make no doubt but some conveyance will offer for their removal to Tripoli. —

[NA. SDA. CL, Tripoli, Vol. 2, June 1801–Sept. 1805.]

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

GIBRALTAR 12th December 1803.

DEAR SIR I wrote you the 14th Ulto p^r the Ship *Traveller* who went for Syracuse with provisions and a Bill of lading of said Cargo and a list of which went to Malta addressed to M^r W^m Higgins in the absence of the Commander of any of our state Vessels, since when I have not heard from you. I now enclose four letters from Cadiz &c* The Ship *Sally* Captain Archer with part of the stipulations for Algiers from the United States was totally lost off Rotta. A little of the Cargo will be saved. By a vessel arrived this day from Baltimore in 50 days. I find Captain Steritt was engaging men to come this way in the *Esser*. The only news we have here is, that a declaration of War may be every moment looked for from England against Spain and Portugal. At Malaga the disorder continues.

I do not find that any answer is come regarding the dispatches sent to England by the Commander afloat here on the subject of your affair regarding seamen; if it has, it is kept to themselves.

I have been told in confidence by a friend, and I hand it you in same manner, that an order is come out from King and Council and also sent to Governor Ball at Malta to take up and try Stepⁿ Decatur and young Bainbridge for an affair that took place some time ago I believe at Malta in a Duell where Decatur was Bainbridge's second, and his opponent was Killed on the Spot. [See 14 February 1803]. They represent the case, in a state which might go hard against them. Let this serve for your Governm^t and take such steps as you may think prudent on the subject.

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

To Lieutenant John Smith, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Schooner *Vixen*, from
Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbor, Dec^r 12th 1803

SIR, You will sail on or before the 15th Ins^t and take under Convoy for Gibraltar the Store Ship *Traveller* George Billups master: Should you be separated & no prospect of falling in with the *Traveller*, proceed to Malta; gain what Information you can respecting our affairs at Tripoli; Take on board as much of the *Philadelphia's* & other public Stores as possible & return to this place. Put the *Vixen* in Order for a Cruize with Water, Provisions & Stores and wait for Orders.

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

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

U. S. FRIGATE *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbor Dec^r 12th 1803.

SIR You will immediately Sail from this harbor for Gibraltar, On your Arrival there deliver the dispatches with which you are charged to John Gavino Esquire and return to this place without delay — Should you want provisions M^r Gavino will supply you — Return by that rout which you shall deem best calculated according to Information you may receive to fall in with our enemies Cruizers — Enquire of Lieut^t Hull and M^r Gavino for letters for me and gain what information you can respecting our Barbary Affairs —

On your Arrival here fill up your Water Take in provisions, get ready for a Cruize and wait for Orders

N. B. The dispatches are of Importance to our Government and require exertions on your part to get them forward, which I am Confident you will make.

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

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Monday, 12 December 1803

Moderate Breezes & cloudy weather. We continue at anchor in Saragosa with the *Nautilus* and *Enterprize* in company. The ships company employed as necessary Three officers and a party of men are employed ashore stowing away the stores landed from the *Traveller* — Towards the Evening it was a dead calm Hove up and down in order to keep a clear anchor It remained calm all night with hazy cloudy Weather: At 7 in the morning the U. S. Schooner *Vixen* appeared without the harbor. As it was a dead calm, the Commodore ordered p^r Signal the boats of the squadron to assist in towing her in: She anchored here at 9 A. M. Lieut^t Smith waited on the Commodore; He reports that he sailed from Malta nearly three weeks ago in order to proceed to Gibraltar where he expected to Join the Commodore: In consequence of the strong Westerly winds he did not pass to the West^l of the Island of Sardinia. The ships company have been employed this forenoon and [in] restowing the booms. We continued up and down all night and untill 11 A. M. at which time a light breeze sprang up from the S. W. We veered to one third of a cable. The Commo-

dore this forenoon ordered a boat to sound off the North Part of the Harbor. The Surgeons report to the Commodore is 12 Sick, 9 convalescents and three discharged from the Sick list. The ships company yesterday & this day have had salt provisions served out as fresh could not be got. At Noon light airs from the S. W. We are at Single Anchor with the *Nautilus*, *Enterprize* & *Vixen* in company
[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803-1804.]

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

TRIPOLI BARBARIE, 13th Dec^r 1803

SIR By this conveyance you will receive two letters from me giving particular information of our Situation and also informed you of our want of money, I have this day received from the Minister of Foreign Affairs five hundred dollars, for which I have given him Bills on Leghorn at fifteen percent loss to the drawer. If we do not get money occasionally sent us from Malta or a Credit on which I can draw at Tunis, we shall be much nesseciated for means of subsistence.

In my former letters I mentioned that our Crew was kept employed; the mechanics at their respective Trades, the others at various work. We had on board a smart Gang of Carpenters, who are employed in working on a new Schooner. M^r Godby [?] our head Carpenter (has not been ordered to work before this day) has received orders from the Bashaw to build a Gun Boat; if there is not a possitive order given to order Crew, and particularly to the Mechanics; Tripoli will receive great advantage from their labour and they cannot receive much worse treatment than they do, for they are only allowed bread scarcely sufficient for them to subsist on, and the *Interest* the Bashaw has in their lives will prevent him from starving them entirely. I do not conceive it policy in me to give the order, and was I to do it; it would not have the same weight as if come from you.

Should they persist for the fear of more severe treatment I think they should be considered as having aleinated themselves from the United States; if they prefered turning Mahomettans the choice was free.

There has already turned the following persons

John Wilson, a Swede, Quarter Master

Lewis Hacksener, a German, Ordinary Seaman

Thomas Prince, — — — Boy

Peter West — an American — Carpenters Crew

Wth BAINBRIDGE

[LC. EPP, Vol. 8, 1803-1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Tuesday, 13 December 1803

Moderate Breezes & cloudy weather. We continue at Anchor in Saragosa with the *Enterprize*, *Nautilus* and *Vixen* in company. The Ship's company employed in scraping down the topmasts working up Junk and stowing the Booms. Towards the evening the S W Wind died away nearly to a calm. We continued short at single Anchor during the night — At day light out boats and sent the large cutter watering — In the course of the forenoon she bro't two loads — 30

Gang Casks — It was a dead calm all the forenoon till 11 A. M. at which time a light breeze sprang up from the East^d. The Signal was made for the *Nautilus* and *Enterprize* to unmoor — Towards noon the Signal was made for all captains who accordingly waited on the Commodore: The Ships company have been employed this forenoon in scraping between decks, relashing the Jeer Blocks, repairing the cat falls and foretopsail sheets. The *Nautilus* is ordered to hold herself in readiness in order to convoy the Commodores dispatches from this Island (Sicily) to Gibraltar; I mentioned yesterday the Arrival of the U. S. Schooner *Vixen*: She was in Malta when the Intelligence of the loss of the *Philadelphia* was received in that Island She Immediately put to sea in order to proceed to Gibraltar at which place she expected to Join Commodore Preble: After being out 20 days being short of Provisions and not being one third of her passage down she bore up for Malta and from Malta here; For these last 30 days the prevailing wind has been from the West^d and sometimes heavy gales from the North — And it is very propable that no Intelligence of the loss of the *Philadelphia* has yet arrived at Gibraltar At Noon this day we had light airs from the East^d — The Surgeons report to the Commodore is eleven Sick, ten convalescents and two discharged from the Sick list.

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

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Wednesday, 14 December 1803

Moderate Breezes and cloudy Weather. We continue at Single Anchor with the *Nautilus Vixen* & *Enterprize* in company — We are perfectly clear for Sea and are waiting for a wind The Ships company employed working up Junk and restowing the Warranted Officers store rooms By three P. M. the light airs from the East^d had entirely died away and by 4 P. M. we had light airs from the S. W. The cutter was sent this Afternoon to sound off the South Side of the Harbor: We continue at Single anchor during the night with light airs and Variable from the West^d. It was moderate and cloudy all the forenoon: The Ships company employed in cleaning ship; All the birth deck and every part below the Gun deck is scraped invariably every forenoon. This method of cleaning ship is recommended by the Surgeon during the winter Season: It is very Evident that the necessary duty of cleaning between decks can never be dispensed with over two or three days But so frequent a repetition of scraping is very Injurious to the decks, Yet it is my opinion that frequent washing between decks is worse than scraping. The Innumerable inlets between decks which lead the water to every part of the ships frame may be considered (in my opinion) as a reason why all the Ships of our Navy have become rotten At daylight the large cutter was sent on the watering service in order to complete our daily Expenditure — The Surgeons report to the Commodore is 12 Sick, 8 convalescents & 3 discharged from the Sick list. At 10 A. M. the cutter returned with 9 Gang Casks of Water — At noon light breezes from the West^d and cloudy Weather.

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

To Hon. William Eustis, United States Congress, from Captain Alexander Murray,
U. S. Navy

PHIL^a Dec^r 15th 1803

DEAR SIR Through the medium of my friend Captⁿ Nicholson who hath just left this on his return to Boston I have taken the liberty of introducing myself to you, as a friend to the navy requesting your patronage to obtain for the Officers the price of their Rations in addition to their half pay —

I half written to my friends Mess^{rs} Nicholson MacCreery & Moore, on this subject hoping by your united influence with other Members of Congress that you will befriend us so far as to bring about so necessary & desirable an acquisition 'tis well known to every liberal & generous mind that the rank we hold while in actual service unavoidably leads us to keep up a stile of expence that requires the whole of our pay to entitle us to proper notice while abroad and to support the respectability of the Navy, our acquaintance being or ought to be among the first class of society wherever we go as well as the necessary *Etiquette* on ship board and table expences generally —

What then is to become of our families in the intervals on the present half pay regulations? few of us have independent estates & the circle of our acquaintance in the private walks of life ought to be respectable, is it then consistant with the dignity of the U. States, thus flourishing in its Commerce & render'd in a measure secure by our little navy, that their officers should be compelled either to seclude themselves from the eyes of the world or fly to the *donnée* resort, of accepting of menial Commands in the private sea service when to be obtained & to expose themselves to the view of Foreign nations vending their wares where they had held high & distinguished commands, for my own part I never was ashamed of an honest occupation, but I should feel for the dignity of my Country upon such an occasion —

I will not trespass upon you with any further considerations flatering myself that you will readily suggest Ideas more forcible than any I can point in conjunction with my other friends above alluded to

P^s I beg the favor of you to have the enclosed letter to my niece M^{rs} Mason forwarded to her.

[NDA. A. Murray's LB, 1799-1805.]

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

N^o 2

ALGIERS December 15th 1803

SIR M^r OBrien has this moment received Your letters of the 16th & 17th ultimo announcing the painful intelligence of the loss of the U. States Frigate *Philadelphia* and captivity of the crew at Tripoli. This confirmation of the report which I mentioned in my letter of the 12th having been received here, is distressing indeed; but we must lose no time in making the best arrangements we can for the support of our unfortunate fellow citizens in captivity, and for preventing a greater an extension of evil from this unhappy event. In order that the first object may be attained with all possible expedition, I hereby authorize You to obtain on the credit of the U. States in Tunis, if possible a sum not exceeding 10,000 dollars — and apply the same in the best manner You can to relieve the immediate wants of our un-

fortunate fellow Citizens. I shall, without delay, make arrangements on this subject, and forward the same to You — and, in the mean time shall dispatch letters, in various directions, to give the earliest information of this event to our Gov^t —

This will go by the Vessel *S^t Antisimo* which carries my dispatches of the 12th ins^t. She is under way, but the wind is so light that a boat will be sent off to her with the letter.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 8, 1803-1804.]

To Secretary of State from James Leander Cathcart, Leghorn

N^o 16.

LEGHORN 15th Decem^r 1803.

SIR. The enclosed papers will inform you of the loss of the United States Frigate the *Philadelphia*, of the deplorable situation of the Officers & crew, & of the steps which I have taken to alleviate their present sufferings until provision is made for them by government. —

I have not a word to offer in extenuation of this fatal accident, it involves incalculable consequences & changes our position not only with Tripoli, but the whole of the Barbary States. —

How glorious it would have been to have perish'd with the Ship, but how apt are we all to prefer a precarious, nay an ignominious life of slavery to a glorious death which would transmit our names to posterity & have establish'd a national character which time could not efface; while humanity recoils at the idea of launching so many souls into eternity, every thing great glorious & patriotic dictates the measure, & our national honor & pride demanded the sacrifice. —

In compliance with your orders of the 16th of last July I have deliver'd cash & effects to M^r Lear & to his order to the amount of 32,000 dollars which with the bills I accepted drawn by M^r Eaton while he remain'd at Tunis, the credit I have forwarded for the relief of the crew of the *Philadelphia* & my own salary & expences amounts to a sum considerably greater than that deposited in my hands for public use, exclusive of the cost of two suits of cloathing which I am preparing for each of those unfortunate men, I therefore request you to forward me cash or a credit on London to the amount of ten thousand dollars to answer my engagements & for which I will hold myself accountable until final settlement. —

The provision necessary for the crew of the *Philadelphia* while in captivity will amount to about 2000 dollars p^r month, if sent out in cash in any of our vessels of War, Malta is the most proper place for its deposit on account of its proximity to Tripoli, if a sum is to be negotiated for that purpose Leghorn is the only place in the mediterranean where it can be done to advantage, Exchange upon London is this day at 51^q for one p^r da 8/r or Leghorn current dollar. —

If Government concludes to redeem our fellow Citizens immediately & sue for Peace on the Bashaw's own terms, it will cost us three hundred thousand dollars at least, exclusive of Consular presents & an Annuity of ten or fifteen thousand dollars, & if a Frigate is not given gratuitously to Tunis we will have a War with that Regency the succeeding year to the conclusion of a Peace with Tripoli, & it is not very probable that Algiers will view those concessions with indifference, to carry on the War to any effect it will be necessary to keep constantly two or three Frigates besides the light vessels now in this sea & ten gunboats which may be built in this Port or in

Naples in about five months & will cost about fifty thousand dollars, therefore viewing our present situation in any point of view we have little to expect but difficulty & an enormous expence, it remains for government to determine which mode of procedure will be most conducive to our interests.

If coercive measures had been pursued on the commencement of the war with Tripoli we should not at this moment be reduced to our present humiliating situation, if an accomodation for cash should now be determined on, it wou'd be adviseable to send it on board the vessel that takes the negotiator to Tripoli, any sum in dollars may be procured in Leghorn for bills upon London provided sufficient time is given to procure it in, otherwise as in the purchase of Bullion in general advantage will be taken & its price will raise in proportion to the exigency of the demand. —

I have not heard of Comodore Prebble since he was on his passage to Algiers, on his hearing of the above melancholy event, the first idea that he will conceive as an Officer will undoubtedly be to proceed off Tripoli with the small vessels & endeavor to entirely destroy the remains of the Frigate if he finds their is any possibility of the Tripolitans heaving her off the bank, in order to prevent them from using her against us which would render them considerably more formidable & consequently render it necessary to keep a greater force upon their coast. —

I send copys of this communication & enclosures to different parts of the mediterranean in order to facilitate its speedy arrival, & I request you to acknowledge its receipt as soon as possible. —

With grief as poignant, as any of the sufferers can possibly feel for this most unfortunate event, I have the honor to continue very respectfully. —

[NA. SDA. CL, Tripoli, Vol. 2, June 1801–Sept. 1805.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Thursday, 15 December 1803

Moderate Breezes from the West^d. We continued at single Anchor in Saragosa with the *Vixen*, *Nautilus* and *Enterprize* in company. The Squadron is all ready and perfectly clear for Sea when an opportunity offers — All the afternoon the weather was gloomy and overcast with a continual succession of heavy clouds from the West^d & by 4 P. M. the weather had the appearance of an approaching gale from the West^d. The *Nautilus* Schooner Lieut^t Smith sails this afternoon with the Commodore's dispatches for Gibraltar. M^t Gadsden a Midshipman who is the bearer of the dispatches is to remain in Gibraltar in order to convey them to America by the first opportunity — Towards the Evening we bent the sheet cable and unstowed the Anchor — The cutter was sent after sand and holy stones — She returned in the evening with a quantity of each. Of the salt provisions recieved from the *Traveller* Store Ship we opened seven barrells this afternoon before we could find one barrell fit to serve out — These Provisions wered [sic] headed up and stowed at hand for surveying By 10 in the evening the Weather cleared away and the Wind Veered to the W S W. At ½ past 10 the Brig S^t *Brieux* an English Privateer from Guernsey arrived here — We boarded her for Intelligence but recieved none — The latter part of the forenoon

we had moderate breezes from the S. W with hazy weather — The ships company employed scraping between decks and puddening the Anchors M^r M^eDonough a midshipman whom we recieved on board the *Constitution* from the Moorish Ship *Merboka* was this day turned over to the *Enterprize* — The Surgeon reports to the Commodore 9 sick 11 convalescents and 4 discharged from the sick list — At noon moderate breezes from the W. S. W. and Hazy Weather — The *Vixen* is ordered to hold herself in readiness as a Convoy from this Port to Gibraltar.

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

To Midshipman (acting as Lieutenant) Daniel C. Heath, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM^t
Dec^r 16, 1803 —

The Committee of claims to whom was referred the petition of David Valenzin, has called upon me for official information on the following points in relation to the imperial Polacre [*Paulina*] captured by order of Commodore Morris. As you were Prize-Master of the Polacre, it may be in your power to furnish the information required, which I request you will do. —

1st What disposition was ultimately made of the Polacre? —

2^d For what purpose was Valenzin sent a Prisoner to this country?

3^d In whose possession are his papers if any were taken from him at the Time of his capture? —

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

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

(Copy)

ALGIERS, Dec^r 16th 1803.

DEAR SIR, We yesterday received from Tunis, the painful intelligence, of the captivity of yourself, officers & crew, and the loss of the Frigate *Philadelphia*. — Unexpected and severe, as this blow is, we must not despond; but use our best endeavors to remedy the evil, as far as possible. I cannot tell you, what I feel for yourself, and others of my countrymen in captivity; but I can say, that you may depend upon every means in my power, to soften the rigor of your situation and give every comfort it will admit of; and that your liberation, will be one of the first objects of my exertion, the moment we can receive advices from our Government. In the mean time, I place full reliance upon that fortitude, which so eminently distinguishes our countrymen, to bear their hard fate, like men, who look forward to better days.

Mr. Davis, our Charge d'Affairs, at Tunis, has forwarded copies of his letters to you and to Mons. Beaussier, the Commissary-General, of the French Republic, at Tripoli, requesting his friendly assistance, to alleviate, as much as possible, the unfortunate situation of yourself and company. — I fully approve of this conduct of Mr. Davis, and have authorised him to procure money, for supplying such things as may be necessary, for relieving the wants and affording such comforts, as their situation will admit of, to our unfortunate fellow-citizens.

I am desirous to learn the particulars of this business — as we have only learned, that, on 30th of Oct^r in the afternoon, the *Philadelphia*,

chasing a Tripolitan Corsair, ran aground, about 2 mile from Tripoli that part of the cannon, &c. were thrown overboard, to get her off, but without effect — that in the night, eight Gun boats went out from Tripoli, and anchored near the frigate 'till day-light; when they began an engagement with her, which continued 'till 4 P. M. when the frigate was carried by boarding — and afterwards got off — We therefore, apprehend, that many lives have been lost on b^d the frigate, before she was boarded.

If it can be any alleviation of your misfortune, to know, that every one here, takes a deep & feeling interest in your situation — you will enjoy that satisfaction in the highest degree; for no Citizen of the U. S. has had a better opportunity than yourself, of making favorable impressions here; and none could have done it more effectually. Mons. Thainville & his family, are sensibly afflicted with your misfortune. He tells me, he shall write to you, by this courier, and also, to Mons. Beassier, in behalf of our Countrymen.

I shall dispatch, immediately, to our Gov^t copies of the communications from Mr. Davis, in various directions, so as to ensure as early a conveyance, as the season and circumstances will admit; and I flatter myself, that the acc^{ts} must be on their way to the U. S. before this, from other quarters, where they have received earlier intelligence of the event, than we did.

Commodore Preble, left this Bay on the 21st of Nov^r and intended to go off Tripoli, before he proceeded to Syracuse; so that I presume, you must have heard of him. The U. S. sch^r *Nautulus*, was in company with him.

I have been received here, by the Dey & Regency, with great cordiality, and they seem to be in good humour with the U. S.

Mr. O'Brien, my predecessor, will remain here, 'till next spring, on acc^t of the situation of his lady — This is a pleasing circumstance to me, as I shall have an opportunity of profiting by his knowledge and experience in affairs here, as well as in other Regencies. I presume, he will write to you at this time.

Mrs. Lear, sympathises most sincerely, in the misfortune of yourself and our Countrymen, she sends her prayers, and best wishes for your & their health & deliverance. Assure yourself, My Dear Bainbridge, of everything, I can do for you and my Countrymen, in their misfortunes — Tell them, I shall not forget them. —

The channel, thro' which this letter goes to you, will point out a safe communication with me — and I shall expect to hear from you by every opportunity.

Adieu — may God bless you all — and have you in his holy keeping — prays

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

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Purser Noadiah Morris, U. S. Navy, of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*

U. S. FRIGATE *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbor 16th Dec^r 1803

SIR, On broaching the beef and Pork which came from on board the Store Ship *Traveller* I find a great proportion of it stinking & unfit for men to eat. I have therefore to request that you will order a survey thereon — .

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

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 16 December 1803

(Moor'd in Carthagena harbour) These 24 hours Commence with moderate Breezes and Clear pleasant Weather at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 2 P M, brought to in the harbour of Carthagena and moored with the Starb^d Anchor S W and the larb^d Anchor N E the Consular boat came alongside and informed Pratique might be Obtained

Consuls boat Came alongside again at 10 AM. —

At meridian hoisted out the barge

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 16 December 1803

The *Nautilus* sailed with dispatches for Gibraltar to be forwarded from thence to the U. S. Navy Office.

[LC, original.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Friday, 16 December 1803

Moderate Breezes and cloudy. We continue at Anchor in Saragosa with the *Vixen* and *Nautilus* in company: The Guernsey Privateer Brig which stood into the harbor in the Forenoon stood to Sea in the afternoon and towards the Evening she stood into the Harbor and anchored abreast of the *Constitution* — This strange Manœuv'ring we could not account for: The ships company was employed this afternoon making mats & puddening the anchors. By 5 In the Afternoon it was a dead calm and by 7 in the Evening we had a light breeze from the S W with light rain — By 11 the weather cleared up — After 11 P. M till day light light airs and Variable from the West^d At 7 in the morning mustered at Quarters Punished Patrick Tool & W^m Williams Seamen with 24 lashes each for drunkenness and neglect of duty — Punished John Russell seaman for neglect of duty and for leaving the boat without liberty with 24 lashes — Punished John Rowe Marine for being asleep on his post At day light we made the necessary arrangements for getting under weigh with a light breeze out of the Harbor but before we hove short it was a dead calm — We have been perfectly clear for sea these three weeks waiting an opportunity of going out of the harbor which cannot be attempted with prudence without a leading wind — The ships company have been employed this forenoon in scraping between decks, stowing the sheet and best bower anchors — From $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 till noon we had a dead calm — We continued up and down on the small bower all the forenoon with every thing in readiness for weighing should a leading breeze favor us — The Surgeon reports the same as Yesterday. At Noon a dead calm.

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

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

N^o 3.

ALGIERS December 17th 1803. —

SIR, You will receive, herewith copies of my letters to You N^o 1 & 2 dated the 12th and 15th ins^t as the Vessel which carried the originals

has had a favourable wind since she left this, on the 15th I flatter myself they will reach Your hands in a few days. —

I fully approve of the step which You took in writing to Mons^r Beaussier, Commissary Gen^l of the French Republic at Tripoli, in behalf of our unfortunate fellow citizens in captivity, and I have no doubt but he will do everything in his power to make their situation as comfortable as their unfortunate lot will permit — I shall do myself the honor of writing to him by this opportunity, confirming the wishes & sentiments expressed in Your letter to him on this subject

Mons^r Thainville, the Commissary Gen^l of the French Republic here, feels deeply interested in the fate of Captain Bainbridge, as he considers himself under great obligations for his friendly aid in taking off himself and family, together with the other French citizens here, when Cap^t Bainbridge was at this place in the [*George*] *Washington*, at the time when they were ordered to quit the Regency in 48 hours. — He is also highly esteemed by the Great men here, on account of his Voyage (tho' a forced one) to Constantinople, with the Regalia from the Dey, particularly by the Minister of Marine, who went up and returned with him. I have therefore the satisfaction of believing that measures will be taken in various quarters, to make the situation of himself, his officers, & crew, as comfortable, as can be expected in a state of captivity, untill we know what measures our Gov^t will pursue in this unfortunate affair. As this event took place the last of October, I trust that information of it is by this time far on it's way to the U. States through the channel of Commodore Preble, or some of our Consuls on the European Coast, who must have had intelligence of it before it reached this place, and who would not fail to forward it to our Gov^t by the earliest and safest conveyances. — I shall, however, forward letters to Alicant by the Spanish courier, which arrived yesterday & sails again in a few days, and others to Oran, to be sent over to Gibraltar or Malaga without delay. —

We wait anxiously for further particulars of the capture — there is reason to apprehend that many lives were lost in the engagement from day light till 4 P. M. — As we can do nothing more in this business untill advices are received from our Government, than to endeavour to alleviate, as much as possible the bonds of captivity and slavery, with which our unfortunate countrymen are oppressed; and obtain every information in our power respecting the views & expectations of the Bashaw of Tripoli relative to the captives & the ship; I must beg You will not fail to keep me informed of every particular on this subject, so far as You may be able to obtain information of anything which can be useful. — As the harbour of Tripoli will not admit a Ship drawing the water of the *Philadelphia*, I presume the Bashaw will dispose of her to some other power — on this point You will be pleased to get what information You can; as well as what are his expectations on the score of redemption of the captives. — Information on the latter point must be obtained in an indirect manner, and without seeming to seek for it. —

* * * * *

I expect David Bocri will furnish me with another letter to Seig^r Azuly, relative to the two thousand dollars, with which he is to supply

You; and I shall also endeavour to make arrangements with him to have a part, at least, of the ten thousand dollars which You are authorized to procure in Tunis, by my letter of the 15th ins^t furnished by him, in case you should not have obtained it from some other quarter. For this purpose I shall keep this letter open to the last moment before the departure of the courier. —

18th of December.

I have this moment had a conversation with David Bocri, on the subject of furnishing the ten thousand dollars in Tunis. — He says they have no money there and that money must be sent for the purpose &c — so that I find, upon the whole, he is determined to throw obstacles in the way to obtain advantages which he ought not to have. — I therefore pray You will draw upon me for five thousand dollars; if you cannot obtain money by other means, and I will answer the dft at ten days sight; if longer it would be better. — I should have desired you at once to have drawn upon me for the whole; but have been disappointed in some money which has been expected here from Leghorn, but has not yet arrived. — Bocri says the two thousand dollars for which you was to have credit on Azuly, were sent on by land to Tunis two days ago.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 8, 1803-1804.]

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

Sailed on a cruise off Tripoli the *Enterprise* in company.

[LC, original.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Saturday, 17 December 1803

[Syracuse] At day light hove short: At 7 in the morning we weighed and came to sail with light airs from the W. N. W. — We out boats and sent them ahead with the tow rope — We came out in company with the *Enterprise* — The *Vixen* Lieut^t Smith we lef[t] at Anchor in Saragosa. She is ordered as a convoy to the *Traveller* Store Ship from Saragosa to Gibraltar

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

To Secretary of the Treasury from P. Muhlenberg, Collector of the Port of Philadelphia

Extract from a letter from the Collector of Philad^a dated 19: Decem^r 1803.

Permit me further to request your directions, with regard to American Vessels arming in this port (in part) & as the owners alledge, merely to defend themselves against the Brigands. The *Antelope* was built here by Contract and finished in a very short time — as she was not built for burthen, but expressly for the purpose of fast sailing it was conjectured, that the owners intended to sell her, in the West Indies. It appeared however, that she was chartered for a voyage to the West Indies and to return — On her clearing out, I found she had four Carriage Guns mounted, and that she had some Cutlasses and a few Muskets on board — with about ten rounds of Ammunition. —

I consulted the District Attorney on the occasion whose opinion I beg leave to enclose.

Honble. ALBERT GALLATIN.

[NA. SDA. Misc. L., Jan.-Dec. 1803.]

[Enclosure]

[1 December 1803]

Opinion of Hon. A. J. Dallas, concerning arming of American Vessels for Defence

There is no statute of the United States that prohibits an American Citizen from arming his Vessel, for self defence in a voyage exposed to hazard and it has been often done on voyages to the East Indies and to the Mediterreanean.

But generally considered, it is not regular for a Merchant Vessel to Arm in the time of Peace; and as the Government is responsible for the Conduct of its Citizens, the object of the Armament ought certainly to be satisfactorily ascertained to be a lawful one.

The Armament of the Vessel in question is considerable; but the voyage is, I beleive deemed hazardous by our Merchants. — As therefore the Charter party is conformable to usage; as M^r Hollingsworth assures you that there is no intention to sell the Vessel abroad or to employ her in any offensive or illisit operations whatsoever I do not think it would be proper to detain her.

But in giving this opinion; I beg to be understood as assuming no responsibility, it is a case that merits the attention of the Government, in order to fix a general rule operating throughout the United States

(signed) A. J. DALLAS

Philad^a Dec^r 1: 1803.

[NA. SDA. Misc. L., Jan.-Dec.1803.]

To Nicholas C. Nissen, Danish Consul, Tripoli, from Captain Edward Preble,
U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
off *Malta 19th December 1803*

SIR I beg you to accept my best thanks, for your humane, generous, and polite attention to Captain Bainbridge, and his Officers, since they have been prisoners in Tripoly. Your noble exertions to lighten their captivity, does you infinite honor; and merits the approbation of all good Men. I shall represent your conduct to my Government, and am convinced, they will take proper notice of it; and reward you accordingly, by some public testimony of their approbation. — I wish exceedingly to see you. Come off to me if you can, when I appear with the Squadron before Tripoly. I will hoist a red flag at the Fore top Gallant Mast head, as a signal by which you may know this ship. — I wish to establish funds for the supply of Captain Bainbridge, and his Officers. And now assure you that, any advances necessary for their support and comfort, which you have in your power to make, shall be readily repaid by me, on account of my Government. I beg you to receive this short letter, as a token of my high respect for your character, and to believe me most Sincerely

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec.1803-April 1804.]

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

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
off *Malta* December 19th. 1803

DEAR SIR I am honored with your several favours of the 1st 6th 12th & 15th Ult^o with their enclosures. I feel most sensibly for the misfortune of yourself, your Officers, and Crew — Your situation is truly distressing, and affects your friends too powerfully to be described. Your misfortune, has occasioned your Country the loss of a Frigate, and for a time, of a valuable commander, Officers and Crew. I have not the smallest doubt, but that you have *all* done everything which you conceived could be done, to get the ship off, and extricate yourselves from the unhappy situation in which you were placed; and I most sincerely regret, that your exertions were not attended with success. The necessity of yielding to an Enemy of any description, must be painful indeed, but how extremely so, to a Nation who knows not how to respect the unfortunate. You may rest assured, that in *me* you have a *friend*, whose exertions shall *never* be wanting in endeavours to relieve you; and in the mean time, you may command such supplies of money, for the comfort of yourself, Officers and Crew, as you may require. I have only to request your requisition for such supplies, and certificate that your Officers and Crew, were obedient to Orders while on board, and that they still continue to be so, as far as their situation will admit of; and to make known to me, from time to time, for the information of the Navy Dep: any improper conduct on the part of any of them, in order that their pay may be checked

* * * * *

God bless and preserve you! — May you have health, and live to enjoy the smiles of the fickle Goddess! I shall write you often, under Cover to the Danish Consul. Let me know if any other person at Tripoly can be of service to you, that I can by any means make your friend. — Consul OBrien, recommended to me a M^r Bryan M^rDonough at Tripoly, as a person who could be serviceable in any negotiation with the Bashaw. Perhaps it will be well to make him your friend. I suppose *Cash* will be necessary for this purpose. —

Conscious yourself of having done your duty, and the certificate of your Officers approbating your conduct, and exertions on the day the ship was lost, must afford you consolation amidst your misfortunes —

P. S. The *Mirboka* was valued by Col. Lear, Cap^t Rodgers, and L^t Chauncey at 10.000 Doll^s & the Valuation sent home

E P

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

To the Swedish Consul, Tripoli, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Off *Malta* 19th Dec^r 1803.

SIR I understand that a Seaman by the name of John Willson, late belonging to the United States Ship *Philadelphia*, has, or intends to claim your protection as a Swede. I now inform you, that he is a naturalized citizen of the United States of America — that he has taken the Oath of Allegiance to that Government, and has volun-

tarily engaged his services for two years in our Navy. — And I now warn you not to take under your protection the said John Willson, or in any way whatever to claim or countenance him, as he will most certainly be considered as a deserter, in case we should make terms with the Bashaw, for the ransom of the Officers and Crew of the *Philadelphia*; and he should be missing. The moment I learn that he is actually protected by you, I shall make a representation to the President of the United States, and to our Minister at the Court of St James London, in order that your conduct may be complained of to the King your Master — I am told that the aforesaid Willson, has conducted himself improperly, by abusing his Officers in expectation of your protection. — I hope & trust Sir, that you are not so far lost to every sense of honor & humanity, as to support a scoundrel in the abuse of Gentlemen, merely because they are unfortunate.

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

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

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
off Malta 19th Decem^r 1803]

SIR Proceed to Malta land Mr Dent gain what information you can respecting our friends in Tripoly, and soon as Mr Dent has finished my business in the morning take him on board and Join me again, I shall remain off the Island to Night

[HS of Pa. Mrs. F. H. Getchell.]

[19 December 1803]

To Lieutenant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

SIR Go on board the *Enterprise*, proceed to and land at Malta — Wait on the Governor, acquaint him with my object in coming off the Island — Bring off Mr. Higgins, Mr. Pulis, Mr. Farquhar and the Bashaw's Doctor — Enquire what Vessels are trading to Tripoly and if Clothing etc. can go safe — Bring off all the Letters for the U. S. unless an opportunity offers for Gibraltar soon — Return on board as early tomorrow as possible. —

U. S. S. *Constitution*

Dec. 19th. 1803

[NHF. Dent's LB.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 19 December 1803

at 4 AM, unmoored got up Top Gall^t yards at 6 weighed and made sail out of Carthagena harbour

[NDA photostat.]

[20 December 1803]

To the Commanders of the Ships of War of the U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Permit the bearer of this with his vessel to pass from Malta to Tripoli with dispatches from the Consul of his Danish Majesty at Malta to the Danish Consul at Tripoli — The Vessel is not to carry Cargo of any sort excepting stores for the Consul's family. The memorandum of stores will be made in an open letter. —

Given under my hand and Seal on board the *Constitution* off Malta this 20th day of Dec^r 1803.

(Signed) EDWARD PREBLE

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

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Tuesday, 20 December 1803

P. M. Light breezes and clear weather: Working in with the Island of Malta: At 3 passed over a bank off the Harbor of S^t Pauls; Sounded from 10 to 17 fathoms hard bottom, could see the ground plain. At 4 P. M. the wind being light I sent L^t Dent on board the *Enterprize* with Dispatches for Tripoly and ordered Cap^t Decatur to make sail for Malta and land him, and return tomorrow morning — Lay off and on under short sail all night.

A. M. At 10 Consul Pulis came off in a shore boat: Gave him official information of the Blockade of Tripoly to be communicated At 11 the *Enterprize* returned. L^t Dent informed me that a vessel has lately arrived from Tripoly and bro^t letters for me from Cap^t Bainbridge which have been sent to Syracuse. The Cruizers of the Bashaw were all in Port when that vessel left it 8 days since M^r Higgins a merchant of Malta came off — I gave him Orders to purchase some necessaries for the officers of the *Philadelphia* and directed the consul to hire a small vessel to carry them with my dispatches to Tripoly and granted a passport for that purpose

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 20 December 1803

Curuising along the North Side of Malta and Standing off[f] and on the Harbour of Valeta Winds Variable from SSE to SW

we Run in with in two or three miles of the Harbour and wore off[f] Shore, at 10 in the forenoon Consul Pulis waited on Commodore Preble at 11 in the forenoon Joined company the *Enterprise*, Lieutenant Dent the Barer of the Commodors Dispatches

[NA. ND original.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, Havre de Grace, Md., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM^t

Dec^r 21. 1803 —

The President having determined to build two Gun-Boats, I have to request that you will undertake the superintendency of one, to be built at the Navy Yard at this place. We conceive that Gun-Boats can be employed with great effect, in the protection in times of war, of our Sea-Port Towns, and we are strongly fortified in this opinion by the observations of practical gentlemen. We have determined to build two by way of Experiment and as models — and having great confidence in your judgment, we shall not fetter you by any particular instructions as to model, dimensions, or the kind of Timber with which to build her. On these points we leave you to be guided entirely by your own judgment. We will only observe that she must be constructed to carry 1 long 32 pound cannon. We do not wish you to hasten the building of the Boat to her detriment — take time — have

the materials prepared in your own way and have the Boat made as perfect as possible. —

You will enter into Contracts for the Timber &c on the best terms in your power. M^r Steele who is employed by the government as Master Carpenter of the Yard, will superintend the building under your directions. Money will be deposited with Cap^t Thomas Tingey subject to your orders. You will exercise your discretion in drawing. Small advances may, if necessary, be made. Cap^t Tingey will make payments to the Contractors and others upon your orders, and will, ultimately settle their accounts. —

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

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

NAVY DEP^t

Dec^r 21, 1803 —

The President having determined to build two Gun-Boats, I have to request that you will undertake the superintendency of one to be built at the Navy Yard at Gosport, or at Portsmouth [Va.], or Norfolk, whichever may be found the most convenient. We conceive that Gun-Boats can be employed with great effect in the protection in times of war of our Sea-Port Towns, and we are strongly fortified in this opinion by the observations of practical gentlemen. We have determined to build two by way of Experiment and as Models, and having great confidence in your judgment, we shall not fetter you by any particular instructions as to Model, dimensions, or the kind of timber with which to build her. On these points we leave you to be guided entirely by your own judgment. We will only observe that she must be constructed to carry 1 long 32 p^d Cannon. So soon as I receive a draft of the Model of the Naples Gun-Boat, I will send it to you that you may examine it. Useful ideas may possibly be gathered from it. It is for this purpose and not to control you in your opinion that I shall send it to you. We do not wish you to hasten the building of the Vessel to her detriment — take time — have the materials prepared in your own way, and have the Vessel made as perfect as possible. —

You will enter into contracts for the Timber &c and building on the best terms in your power and with such person or persons as you may judge the best qualified to perform their engagements with fidelity. Money will be deposited with D^r Bedinger Esq^t subject to your orders. You will exercise your discretion in drawing. Small advances may if necessary, be made. M^r Bedinger will make payments to the Contractors and others upon your orders in their favour and will ultimately settle their accounts. —

You will let me hear from you frequently. — The enclosed are the dimensions of the Gun-Boats to be built at this place under the Superintendency of Cap^t Rodgers. —

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

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Richard O'Brien

ALGIERS 21st December 1803

ESTEEMED FRIEND On the 13th Ins^t the report reached us of the loss of the *Philadelphia*, and that the crew were in bondage in Tripoly this great event was confirmed at Algiers on the 15th Instant — Consul Lear has wrote to M^r Davis to aid our Country Men at Tripoly

in temporary supplies untill the will of our Government should further direct. —

278 Mariners at 600\$ each is.....	166. 800\$
29 Officers Captain included at } 4000\$ each is.....	116. 000
Supposed Ransom.....	\$282. 800

That is if the Bashaw would admit they would be redeemed independent of a peace; if not, I suppose that peace would cost us one hundred thousand dollars, but those terms would be giving Algiers and Tunis a bounty to demand extra terms, and would convince Tripoly that we could not contend with them. It would be giving Tripoly a bounty to wrangle with the Swedes, Danes, Dutch, & Spaniards, and after they bowed to his caprice it would be our turn again. The result of course will be more Frigates in this sea. We should have some floating Batteries built to carry heavy cannon to enter the port of Tripoly to attack, fire on the Town, rake the Marine Sea Battery, and flank the Bashaws Palace or Castle. The same time the Frigates with all their heavy Guns mounted on the attack side, also we should have three or four thousand men to take possession of the Town [or Tower?] Battery when silenced by the floating Batteries, Frigates & Gun Boats, and should you be able to procure the Gun Boats of Naples with this mentioned force, I think Tripoly will be brought to American terms. I should suppose you would strictly Blockade Tripoly until you hear further on this tack from our Government. You will further observe how requisite it would be for Gov^t to have built 4 or 6 Whale Boats on a large plan to have each a Brass 12 pounder to row and sail with great swiftness: they would with the Frigates and small corsairs destroy the Coasting trade of Tripoly, at times surprize their Gun Boats, cut out Corsairs, attack small ones take the Corsairs in tow, reconnoitre, gain [i]n[telligence, and be of the most essential service. They should be 50 feet Keel: they should have capital crews, and occasionally be slung over the quarters of the large Corsairs. Experience has now convinced us that separate corsairs should not be employed on the Coast of Barbary. Our Ships should be capitally and extra manned. Well barricaded and all calculated for Bow & Stern chaces from the Main Batt^y

At Algiers the Government of Portugal has offered for Peace and ransom of 380 captives to the amount of One Million, two hundred thousand dollars. Should this sum tempt the Dey, the Corsairs of this regency will have no obstruction to the Western Ocean, and the regency is at Peace with two many Nations for any of the smaller Ones to consider their Peace as durable. Some one will have to look out for squalls. In my opinion we have no time to lose in building the 74 Gun Ships, and 6 more large Frigates we should make a great National exertion, and Tripoly should get what it merits from the United States. You no doubt will have true soundings from Captain Bainbridge. Captain Stewart arrived here this day in 24 days from Leghorn. And also this day I have an addition to my family in the birth of a Son. this event will permit me shortly to set out from here on my return to the United States where I trust my information to the heads of Dep: will be in some respects favorable to your mission to this Sea. It is evident we must fight, or pay, or withdraw our affairs from this Sea, and with a small division at Gibraltar we give

our commerce in the Western Ocean security & is clear of Tributes and homage to Barbary. You will excuse the purport of this random letter I presume there is not an idea hinted at, but what you must have considered fully. One thing more, as the port of Tripoly has not sufficient depth of water for the *Philadelphia*, that is, should the Bashaw get her off and save the Ship, under this consideration I have no doubt but Tunis or Algiers will consider of purchasing said Ship. if so she should not be admitted to a pass or passage as either a Tunisian or Algerine property. God I trust will aid and assist you is the sincere wish of Sir

(Signed) RICH^d OBRIEN

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

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

ALGIERS, Dec^r 21st 1803

DEAR SIR, As I see a Brig off, which I suppose is the *Syren*, I prepare a few lines for you before I go on board; and am sorry to commence our correspondence by saying, that on the 15th ins^t we received the painful intelligence, from M^r Davis, at Tunis, of the loss of the U. S. Frigate *Philadelphia*, and capture of her crew &^e by the Tripolines. — You must undoubtedly have known of this disastrous event long before this, and I feel anxious to hear what measures you intend pursuing in consequence. — I have authorized M^r Davis to give to our unfortunate fellow Citizens all the relief that their situation will admit of, and have also written to Mons^r Beaussier, the French Commissary Gen^l at Tripoli to do everything in his power, to alleviate their misfortunes, which I have no doubt will be done. I wrote to Capt Bainbridge at the same time, and forwarded letters to him & to the French Comm^r Gen^l from Mon^s Thainville the French Chargé d'Affairs here, who feels deeply interested in the fate of Captⁿ Bainbridge & from the services which he rendered him & his Nation when here in the [*George*] *Washington*. — I have had much conversation with the Jews & others here, who are acquainted with those officers, respecting the Ransom of our Countrymen; but it seems to be a general opinion that it cannot be done, without blending a peace with that transaction. Should this be the case, we must wait orders from home, before any steps can be taken in the business. — The Jews Estimate is five hundred thousand dollars for Ransom & a peace; but this is out of the question. —

The Swedish Consul tells me that when they made peace with Tripoli they redeemed about 150 captives, which, with the peace, amounted to 150,000 dollars, and this was thought extravagant. —

The Dey & Regency here appear at present in good humour with us; but this unfortunate event will have an effect on all our Barbary affairs. — If the Tripolines have got the *Philadelphia* off, they cannot use her in their port, and must sell her to some other power, and, in that case, I think the Dey will endeavour to get her. —

I am sorry to inform you that one of the Ships which has been expected here with the Annuities, was lost on the 20th ult^o on the Bar of S^t Lucar, near Cadiz. M^r Iznardi writes me that the Vessel is totally lost, but he hopes some of the cargo will be saved. — This is peculiarly unfortunate at this moment, especially as the two cargoes

received here will not pay one of the Annuities due here last Sept^r — and we shall owe a balance of more than 30,000 doll^r on that acc^t — I was obliged to employ 20,000 doll^s of the money I brought here in a Consular present, as the Dey had been long expecting me; more, perhaps, on account of the expected present, than on any other, and as he had been disappointed in the Annuities which had been so long promised, he might believe we intended to deceive him on every tack, if the present did not accompany me. I am rejoiced that I did so, since we have heard of the fate of the *Philadelphia*, as he has now no fair pretext to be hard upon us, as he w^d be disposed to take advantage of it, at this moment, if he had. — I have always been fully of opinion, in which I flatter myself you cordially join with me, that we sh^d be *faithful & punctual* in all our *stipulations* with these people however unpalatable it may be; and we sh^d then be able to repel any extra demand with a good face. —

The Cruizers of this Regency returned into port on the 28th ultimo, without any prizes. They sold one, a Maltise, at Tunis; but as she had a protection, the Dey ordered her to be restored, liberated the Crew, and broke some of his Captains.

The English are out of credit here, at present. M^r Falcon has not make his appearance; but I think if Lord Nelson could come with his Ships, he w^d have all he could ask. —

The Cruizers are strip'd & laid up for the winter. — They consist of 2 Ships of 44 Guns — 1 of 36 (the *Crescent*) 3 Xebecks from 20 to 30 Guns 2 Polacres of 20 — 1 Brig of 18 — 2 Schooners of 16 & 18 Guns, the three last American built. —

Captⁿ Stewart has had a long passage of 24 days from Leghorn, & some very bad weather. He takes in some water & fresh provisions here & will proceed to Syracuse. —

M^r Lear enjoys good health, and unites with me in respects & best wishes for yourself and the Officers of your Ship. — I am anxious to hear from you & to know what measures you propose to pursue in the Spring. — The *Argus* left Leghorn with the *Syren*.

• * * * * •
[LC. EPP, Vol. 8, 1803-1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 21 December 1803

[20 December, standing in for Port of Algiers] Midnight calm, untill 6. AM when a light breeze sprang up from the Nw^d Algiers bearing W S W. wore to the S. W a ship standing out from the Port of Algiers. ½ past 7 brac'd about the yards & stood in for Algiers. At 11 M^r T. Lear (American Consul) came on board & inform'd us that the frigate *Philadelphia* was captur'd by the Tripolians on the 20th [31] October. Meridian came too in 28 fathoms. At 1 AM the fort at Algiers saluted us with 21 guns, which we return'd with the same Number. At 2 L^t Stewart went on shore with the barrells & boxes &c for the Dey, the lighthouse at Algiers bore East ½ past 4 the barge return'd with L^t Stewart. hoisted in boats. At 5 sent down top Gall^s yards. Midnight loos'd main top sail in order to ride clear of the Anchor —

(These remarks include 36 hours)

[NDA.]

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

NAV. DEP^t
22^d Dec^r 1803

We wish to send to the Mediterranean for the use of our Squadron

400 barrels of	Beef
350 d ^o	Pork
120 d ^o	Flour
18,000 lbs	Suet
120 000 lbs	Bread
0000 lbs [sic]	Butter
30,000 lbs	Rice
400 bushels of	Beans or Peas
1300 Gallons	Vinegar
1300 Gallons	Melasses
8000 lbs of	Cheese

If you have not a sufficiency of Beef and Pork on hand, let me know immediately and I will send you from this place as many barrels as will make up the Quantity required — all the other articles stated above you will purchase on the best terms in your power — the Bread you will engage immediately — it must be baked over twice and great care must be taken in making it and packing it for Shipment — make your requisition for the necessary monies on me —

You will engage a Vessel to sail about the 1st of Feb^r — she must proceed to Gibraltar and if required by the Consul there thence to Malta — As the *Betsy Walk* has a mediterranean pass probably you can engage her on good terms — I have directed Captain Cassin to ship to you (the freight of which you will pay) 1½ tons assorted Cordage which is also to be sent for the use of the Squadron — Let me hear from you immediately on receiving this letter —

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

Receipts to Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

ALGIERS December 22^d 1803. —

Received from Captain Charles Stewart, of the U. States Brig *Syren*, the articles mentioned in the Invoice sent by James Leander Cathcart Esquire from Leghorn, in the said Brig *Syren*, to the underwritten in Algiers, on account & risque of the U. States of America, and for which Cap^t Stewart has given his receipt dated Leghorn November 22^d 1803. —

(Signed) TOBIAS LEAR
Consul Gen^l of the U. States at Algiers. —

Received also at the same time, from Captain Stewart two chests of Tea, sent by M^r Cathcart, as above mentioned, and not included in the Invoice before stated. —

(Signed) TOBIAS LEAR
Consul Gen^l of the U. States at Algiers —

The above is a copy of Receipts given by T. Lear to Cap^t Stewart, for Articles brought from Leghorn Dec^r 21st 1803. —

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

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, 22 December 1803

Commences with light airs from the N E^d & hazy weather. At ½ past 3 handed main topsail. day light hoisted out the boats At 4 hoisted in the launch & barge L^t Stewart went on shore in the cutter — Meridian hove up the Anchor & got under way. Lying bye under topsails in the bay of Algiers unbent the sheet cable & Stow'd the anchor —

(NB these remarks include 12 hours)

[NDA.]

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

U, S, FRIGATE *Constitution* December 23^d 1803 —

SIR, I hope, I may take the liberty of addressing you in hopes of being released from the present disagreeable situation you have plased me in, which you would have had no occasion for, had it not been my middle watch, & not being perfectly asleep before all hands were called, It not being a rule in the other ships I have been attached to, to turn out when it was my middle watch, but I hope you will look over my present negligence to your orders, & depend in future of my strict Obedience I am, Sir,

[LC. EPP, Vol. 8, 1803-1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*. Friday, 23 December 1803

After day light till ½ past 8 A. M. we continued running to the South^d — We then answered the *Enterprize* Signal for seeing land to the S. W. and a strange sail in the same quarter — We made all plain sail and gave chase — The Wind was at this time free, but in the act of setting studding sails the wind veered to the S. W. which bro't the chase dead to wind^d — The chase continued steering towards us till 10 A. M. At which time she was bro't to by the *Enterprize* about two miles in sight from the *Constitution* We made signal to the *Enterprize* to bring the chase to the Commodore — The Wind from this time till noon was light & variable from the S. At ½ past 11 the chase came within hail — She was ketch rigged with Tripolitan Colors [*Mastico*, renamed *Intrepid*] — We sent a boat for the Captain or commanding officer and examined her under English Colors — She shewed about 20 men who seemed to confer together waiting the Issue — When we hauld down the English & hoisted American Colors the People on board the vessel appeared to be in the greatest confusion The Commodore gave orders for taking charge of the Vessell At Noon moderate breezes from the S E — The Town of Tripoli W S W nearly 9 miles — *Enterprize* in company

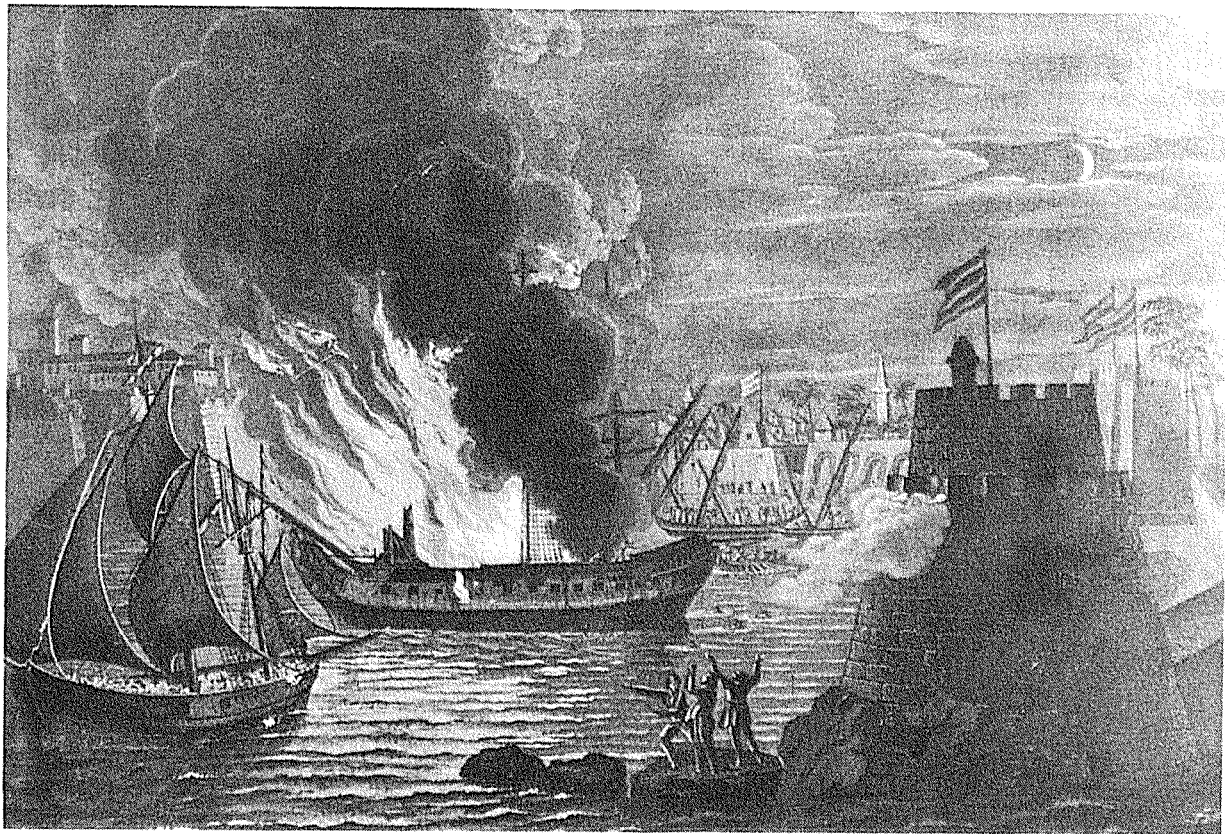
Latitude obs^d 32° 58' North:

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

[23 December 1803]

To Midshipman Hethcote J. Reed, U. S. Navy, appointed Prize Master of Tripoline Prize to U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

SIR You are hereby directed to take Charge as Prize Master of the Tripoline Galliot prize to the United States Ship *Constitution* under



THE BURNING OF THE U. S. FRIGATE PHILADELPHIA.

my command and proceed with her to Syracuse and wait my orders — reporting yourself to the Commanding officer of the United States Ship in that Port.

Given under my hand on board the U. S. Ship
Constitution off Tripoli 23^d Decem^r 1803.

(Signed) EDWARD PREBLE

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

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 23 December 1803

Captured the Turkish Ketch called *Mastico* with about 70 Tripolines on board.

[LC, original.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 23 December 1803

Commences with fresh breezes & cloudy Lying bye off Algiers. At 2 PM L^t Stewart return'd, hoisted in the cutter & made sail to the NE^d At 5 cape Caxene bore West, cape Matifore S. by W, Algiers
W S W

[NDA.]

[24 December 1803]

To the Hon. William Eustis, United States Congress, from Secretary of the Navy

The Secretary of the Navy presents respects to Doctor Eustis and informs him that under the existing Law of 3^d March 1801,

A Captain in the Navy on half pay receives annually	--- \$600
A Lieutenant	----- 240
A Surgeon	----- 300
A Sailing Master	----- 240
A Purser	----- 240
A Surgeon's Mate	----- 180
A Midshipman	----- 114
A Boats ⁿ , Gunner, S ^t Maker or Carpenter	----- 120

and that by allowing rations to the Officers of the Navy when they are on half pay, the additional compensation would be,

To A Captain	----- \$584
To a Lieutenant	----- 219
To a Surgeon	----- 146
To a Sailing Master	----- 146
To a Purser	----- 146
To a Surgeon's Mate	----- 146
To a Midshipman	----- 73
To a Boatswain, Gunner, S ^t Maker or Carp ^t	----- 146

SATURDAY Dec^r 24: 1803 —

[NDA. Cong. LB, Vol. 1, 1798–1811.]

To Anthony Merry, British Minister to the United States, from Secretary of State

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

Dec^r 24th 1803.

SIR. I have received from the Collector at one of our Ports a copy of an American Ships Register, on which is endorsed as follows: "Every port in the Island of S^t Domingo being in a state of blockade by His Britannic Majesty's Squadron, you are hereby warned off from that Island, and if seen or found within three leagues of the land after the date of this, you will be made a prize off. Given under my hand on board His Majesty's Ship *Bellerophon* off Cape Francois 26th Oct^r 1803, (signed) John Loring" —, on the face of the document and through its contents is written the same notice in substance signed by the same Commander.

In case of a real blockade, and of a customary warning thereof to Neutral Vessels, it might justly be expected that more respect would be shewn to so solemn and so permanent an instrument as the Register of a Ship, than to select it for such a purpose, and particularly to deface it in such a manner. Other papers of the Ship, the clearance for example, which could not be safely destroyed with a view to surpress the intended proof might certainly be substituted with more propriety, and with sufficient effect: And there would be the greater reason in committing the notice to an occasional document, as the notice itself might be limited to the occasion: whereas if attached to a permanent document, it might subject the neutral Vessel indefinitely to interruptions, neither warrantable nor contemplated. But you will readily perceive Sir, that these remarks do not touch the primary object which demands attention. Here is another and still more extraordinary instance in which a blockade is pretended and declared by a few Ships against a whole Island, of vast extent and abounding with ports and places of commerce. Persuaded that so gross a violation of the rights of neutrality will sufficiently speak for itself, and make its own appeal to the justice, the honor and the friendly dispositions of your Government, I forbear to make any comment on it, farther than to refer to that contained in my letter of the 27th October last to M^r Thornton, on a similar proceeding against our commerce with the Island of Martinique and Guadaloupe. I must request, however that in addition to the communications which you will doubtless make to your Government on this subject, you will take such other steps as will be most likely to remove without delay, a source of so much injury and irritation, not only in this last case, but in the one preceeding which is not known to have been discontinued.

I cannot dismiss this subject without calling your attention to a circumstance which is no inconsiderable aggravation of the principal wrong. The American Vessel is informed that if found, after the notice given, within three Leagues of any port of the Coast, it will subject her to the consequences of violating the blockade. If it were the intention to extend the Territorial Jurisdiction of the Island three leagues from the shore, it might be asked on what authority this distance is prescribed? it might be asked on what pretext any Territorial jurisdiction could be assumed by those who do not occupy a single foot of the Island? If it were intended that the mere appearance of the Vessel within the given distance should be taken for proof of her steering for a blockaded port, the question not only recurs as to the reality of the blockade, but it might be asked with what colours

such a proof could be drawn from a circumstance which might result either from the casualties of the weather and seas or from a Voyage to other Islands or places, for which such a course is known to be often most convenient, and even absolutely necessary. In making this communication to you Sir, which is done by an express charge from the President, I feel a perfect confidence that you will do justice equally to its importance and to its motives. Our two Nations have every reason to cultivate the good understanding which subsists between them, and the cordiality with which it continues to be promoted on the part of the United States has been too thoroughly manifested to be called into doubt. They have the best grounds therefore to expect and to claim in return every proof of justice and respect which is due to the example on their side, and to the interests on both sides: They look for those returns more particularly in the case of their maritime rights, because it is in the case of these that they have hitherto had most ground of complaint; because it is in the case of these that their sensibility is at this moment awakened; and because in the same case therefore a reciprocity of justice and of respect will contribute most to consolidate the friendly and beneficial relations to which the two Nations are respectively united.

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

To Commanding Officer of the U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, from Sir Alexander John Ball, British Civil Commissioner, Malta

MALTA, 24th December 1803.

SIR, It having been notified to me by the Consul of the United States of America at this Island that the Port of Tripoli is at this time declared, by the Commodore Commanding in these Seas, to be in a state of blockade, I have to acquaint you that the sending supplies to that Port will be discouraged and hereafter prohibited as much as possible by this Government. —

As there is now in Tripoli about One thousand Bullocks which have lately been purchased for the use of the Inhabitants of this Island, I must therefore beg leave to request that you would be pleased to give such directions to the Ships and Vessels under your command as in your judgement may seem proper, in order that the Vessels, on which the said Bullocks may be embarked, may be permitted to proceed without molestation: — And I presume to hope from the friendship and good understanding subsisting between the United States and Great Britain that no difficulty can arise from your compliance with this request.

ALEX. JN^o BALL

*His Britannic Majesty's Civil Commissioner for the
affairs of Malta*

[LC. EPP, Vol. 8, 1803–1804.]

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

N^o 5. (5th Copy)

ALGIERS December 24th 1803

SIR The letters and papers which I have now the honor to enclose, will inform you of the unfortunate fate of the U. States Frigate *Philadelphia*, and the captivity of her crew by the Tripolitans, as well as of the steps which have thus far been taken in consequence of that disastrous event. — We have had no accounts since the

letters of D^r Davis of the 16th & 17th of Nov^r excepting, that the Danish Consul here, says he has received a letter from the Danish Consul at Tripoli, informing that the Frigate had not been got off; and that Cap^t Bainbridge & his people were well treated &^s — I have taken all opportunities of endeavouring to learn, by every indirect manner, what might be the expectations of the Bashaw of Tripoli with respect to Ransom; and I find it is generally believed, that unless a peace is effected, with a Ransom, the latter will be high, if attainable. — The estimate is as follows. —

Ransom of 307 persons @ 1000\$	307, 000
Peace	100, 000
Presents on the Occasion	43, 000
	\$450, 000

But this is certainly too high, as the Bashaw has hitherto received but 5 or 600 dollars per man, from other powers when they have redeemed their subjects and made peace. — We must, however wait for information from Tripoli, to know what impression this event has made there, before we can form any just opinion on the subject. — And all I can do will be to obtain the best information in my power, to enable me, or any other person, to act in this business, when ever the orders of our Government may be received relative to it. — I have not heard from Commodore Preble since the News of this event; but am anxious to know what steps he means to pursue in consequence of it. —

As this event will have its effects on all these regencies, with respect to the U. States, as they may see the measures which will be taken in consequence of it; it remains with the Govern^{mt} to decide, whether they will send a force into this sea, not only equal to finishing the business with Tripoli; but to keep the other Regencies in awe; — or expend in Ransom and a peace nearly 500,000 dollars, with a certainty of having demands increase upon us from the other powers; — or withdraw our Trade entirely from the Mediterranean. — Should this last measure be determined upon, I must add, that it would be necessary to keep nearly, or quite as many Vessels to guard the Straits, and prevent Cruizers from going into the Atlantic, as to effect the first; — especially too, *as I am well informed that the Portuguese* are upon the point of concluding a peace with this Regency, which will open to their Cruizers the whole range of the Atlantic, from which they have kept them for so many years. — In addition to this Misfortune, I receiv^d letters from the Consular House at Cadiz, dated Nov^r 28th informing me of the loss of the Ship *Sally*, on the Bar of S^t Lucar, on the 20th of Nov^r with a cargo of Timber &^s on board, as a part of our Annuities due the 5th of Sept^r. The Vessel was lost and it was uncertain whether any of the cargo would be saved or not. — This will render our settlement with the Regency more difficult than if she had arrived, as we shall have a much larger sum to pay in cash, even if they consent to receive it. — I wait to here further from Cadiz, if any part of the cargo has been saved, to make it worth while to ship it round here; before I press the settlement for cash; and especially as I have not all the Cash in hand (which would be a great object) and must depend upon the Jews for a part of it, with whom I wish to have as little to do as possible.

The U. States Brig *Syren* arrived here from Leghorn on the 20th ins^t whin Cap^t Stewart delivered to me from M^r Cathcart, the amount of nineteen thousand, five hundred & ninety three dollars & 3 cents in articles which he had prepared for the Consular present, and Twelve thousand Doll^s in cash. — The copies of these accounts, and of M^r Cathcart's communications, shall be forwarded to you by the next opportunity. — Capt. Stewart was obliged to remain one day in port to deliver the articles &^c and the next sailed with a fair wind to join the Commodore. — He had a boisterous passage of 24 days from Leghorn and had not heard of the loss of the *Philadelphia* before he arrived here. — The broad cloths which he brought, as part of the consular present, had received considerable damage on board the Brig; the Bales having been wet with sea water in a gale of wind, which obliged him to open them on board.

On the 27th of Nov^r I communicated to the Regency, the intention of our Government to change the Mediterranean Passport, and fixed the term of two years (of 12 *lunar* months each) for the full exchange; and in the mean time either the new or old passport should be respected. — I have sent D^r Davis, at Tunis, sixty Tops and one new passport, with directions to make the like communications there. — The cruizers of this Regency are stript and laid up for the winter.

Dec^r 26th. The Minister of the Marine sent for me this morning, and put into my hands the Inclosed Invoice of articles required by the Dey from the United States on their next Annuity. — I received it, and told him it should be forwarded; but gave him no assurances that it would be fully compli'd with — The non arrival of the Annuities due on the 5th of Sept^r last which were almost entirely of Timber &^c is one principal cause of this heavy Invoice of other Articles at this time; for, he observes that when Invoices are given for Timber, plank, and other articles, the production of the U. States, they are neither not sent forward; or it requires so many Vessels to bring them, that some are lost on the way; and that he may, therefore, as well give orders for articles more valuable and less bulky. — I felt, at this moment all the evils, and disadvantages of our want of punctuality in fulfilling our Stipulations, and could not repel this exorbitant demand in the manner I should otherwise have done; and have, therefore, sent it as I received it; but, in the mean time, I shall seek opportunities to reduce it, and if some part of each of the high Articles sh^d be sent, together with more plank and Timber, of a good quality, and a quantity of small spars for Top Mast, Top Gallant masts, and Steering sail booms — and stuff for the handles of rammers, Spunges & Laidles for cannon of different calibers, from 4 8 to 6 pounders, they w^d be received. — Should part of the Cables & cordage be sent, it would perhaps be best to contract with some Merchant in the U. S, engaged in the Baltic trade, to deliver them here at a fixed price.

There is a Spanish Packet established between Allicant and this place, which passes once a month, and I believe, one from thence to Tunis also. — The time for passing by land, from this place to Tunis, in the Winter is 30 days — from thence to Tripoli 15 days. — Very few Vessels pass in the Winter Season. — In Summer the land conveyance is about 15 days to Tunis & ten from thence to Tripoli. —

Notwithstanding the unhappy loss of the *Philadelphia* & captivity of the crew, and the loss of the Annuity Ship, I do not despair of

seeing our affairs in a respectable situation in this Sea, if we act with Vigor and decision. —

Mons^r Thainville, the charge d'affairs and commissary General of the French Republic here, takes a deep interest in the fate of Cap^t Bainbridge & our Unfortunate Countrymen. — He has just sent me a copy of a letter he has written to his Government on the Subject, expressive of his feelings. —

My best respects attend the President and I pray you to assure him, that my best exertions shall not be wanting to promote the honor and interest of our Country here, so far as it may be in my power.

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

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Saturday, 24 December 1803

Moderate breezes and pleasant weather: Laying to with head off shore examining the chase: She is a Ketch rigged Vessel of about 60 or 70 Tons — Sailed from Tripoly last evening and the Captain says bound to Bengaza under Turkish Colors from thence to Constantinople she is armed with two cannon and some Muskets, Pistols &^{ca} has on board a Turkish Master, Seven Greeks and four Turks, Sailors, a Turkish Officer, Two Tripoline Officers, Ten Tripoline soldiers as passengers and forty two negro men, women, and children which the master says was taken on board at Tripoly on account of the Bashaw and given in charge of the Tripoline officer to present to the Cap^t Pacha at Constantinople: She had on board also two cannon in the hold and was to take on board other presents at Bengaza: her papers written in Arabic but no passport from any of the Consuls at Tripoly. The Turkish Officer alone had a Passport from the English Vice Consul specifying that he was to take Passage in a vessel with Turkish Colors but neither the name of Vessel or Master was mentioned in it. An Italian doctor who came on board at Malta and who was in Tripoly when the *Philadelphia* was captured personally knew the Tripoline Officers and assured me that one of them was a principal Officer of the Bashaw and that the other held high rank in his troops. And that the Tripoline soldiers belonged to the Gun boats were all of them engaged in the capture of the *Philadelphia*. He also informed me that the captain of the Vessel was on board one of the Gun boats that captured that ship: and that he was among the first that boarded her and was extremely active in taking the Officers out and carrying them to the Bashaw of Tripoli, as well as plundering them of their cloathing. Concieving it improper to let her pass under all these circumstances with officers, soldiers, Guns and other Property all belonging to the Bashaw of Tripoly and bound from one off his Ports to another of his Ports, I ordered all the crew and Passengers on board excepting the negroes and two Tripolines to cook for them & take care of them, and sent on board two Midshipmen and several sailo[r]s to conduct her to Syracuse for farther examination and have her papers translated — At 4 P. M. sent off the Prize under convoy of the *Enterprise*. Wind S. E. Stood in Towards Tripoly. At sun set we were about 7 Miles from the Town bearing S W b S. We then shortened sail and Stood to the S E untill midnight, then wore Ship to the S W. Wind from S S E to West, very variable until 10 A. M. when the wind came from the N W b N. Steered W b S untill 11,

then wore ship and stood to the E N E, wind North and every indication of a gale: carried all Sail to endeavour to gain an offing. At Noon observed in Lat^s 33° 22' Tripoly bearing S 47 W distance 38 Miles.

[This prize was the *Mastico*, renamed *Intrepid*.]

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

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Saturday, 24 December 1803

Moderate Breezes with pleasant weather: We are laying to with our head off shore about 9 or 10 miles to the East^d of Tripoli examining the chase which is Ketch rigged belonging to the bashaw of Tripoli & sailed from Tripoli this morning bound to Constantinople At 1 P. M. out large cutter — Sent M^r Reed Masters Mate & M^r Lewis Midshipman with seven seamen on board the chase with orders to proceed to Saragosa in the Island of Sicily — We recieved from the Vessell between 25 & 30 Prisoners & a number of Servants belonging to them — Three or four trunks were recieved from her — The Prisoners were put under the half deck under the charge of two centinels— The cloathes which were recieved were great coats and bedding which was laid down before them and every person was allowed to take his own — A small quantity of small arms was recieved such as Muskets, Pistols and Swords: The Vessel had a number of Black persons on board as a present from the Bashaw of Tripoli to the Grand Signior — Among the Prisoners were several Tripolitan Officers of Distinction whom the Commodore took to his own table — We continued the main Topsail to the mast with moderate breezes from the East^d till 4 P. M. at which time we bore up to the S W & parted company with the Prize & the Sch^r *Enterprize* who is ordered to convoy the Prize from this place to Saragosa — We continued steering to the S W till sun down at which time the Town of Tripoli bore S W b W nearly 7 miles — We shortened sail and came to the Wind N E b N till 1 A M. with moderate breezes from the S E. We then Tacked to the S W — from this time till day light we had moderate breezes & variable from the S E to W N W. We wore as necessary to get in shore and at 8 in the Morning a breeze sprung up from the N W — We made all plain sail in towards Tripoli, The Wind Veered to the North^d & by 11 in the forenoon the weather to the North^d became overcast with heavy clouds & had every appearance of a gale from that Quarter — We Judge ourselves at this time between 25 & 30 Miles from the Town of Tripoli We immediately tacked to the East^d and came close on a wind to the E N E. At noon we had moderate breezes from the North with a swell setting from the N N E with heavy clouds to the North^d we suppose the ship to be nearly 24 miles N E b N from the Town of Tripoli The Weather is overcast & we cannot see the land We are under all plain sail in order to obtain an offing — Latitude obs^d 33° 22' North

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

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Sunday, 25 December 1803

Moderate breezes & cloudy weather. We are between 20 & 30 Miles N N E of Tripoli with moderate breezes & variable from the North^d — The weather has every appearance of strong breezes from

the North^d A heavy gale from the N E or N N E would make our situation very disagreeable as it would expose us to an enemys coast — The angular position of which to the North^d & West^d makes it necessary to avoid that part; by standing to the East^d we could only lay the coast along and of course afford no drift or lee way — The Horrors of ship wreck added to irretrievable Slavery make the coast very dangerous in the winter — The wind was variable all the afternoon — We tacked as necessary to take every advantage in order to obtain on offing — Towards the Evening the weather became squally with light showers of rain We double reefed the Topsails & sent down top Gall^t Yards — At 6 in the evening we tacked to the East^d on which tack we continued during the night in the first part of which we had frequent squalls & rain — We up Mainsail & clewed up the Topsails three times in the Middle watch & set them immediately after the squalls were over — At 8 A M we had a heavy squall from N^d b E. After it was over we tacked to the North^d — We got up the Fore runners & tackles & set up the belly stay in order to ease the bowsprit — Sent down the studding sail booms fore & aft & the fore & mizen top gall^t masts; rigged in the Jibb boom & reset the fore runners — We had frequent Squalls all the forenoon We handed the close reefed topsails two or three time in the course of the forenoon — The Sun did not make its appearance untill about ten minutes before noon — We had an observation between the squalls which agrees very nearly with our dead reckoning 67 miles to the North^d of Tripoli — We have been under a press of sail the greatest part of these 24 hours & hemmed in as as we are on an enemys coast it was necessary to carry thro' all when the squalls were favorable — This we did two or three times till we found the mast to be in danger from the heavy pitching of the ship — During the squalls we clued up the Topsails — At noon strong gales from the N E b E — We are under close reefed topsails & storm stay sails & a reefed main sail — Lattitude obs^d 34° 7' N°

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

[26 December 1803]

To the Hon. William Eustis, United States Congress, from Secretary of the Navy

The Secretary of the Navy informs Doct^r Eustis, in addition to his note of Saturday last, that by allowing full rations to all the Officers of the Navy when they are on half pay, the annual additional Expence to the Government would be about 18000 Doll^s, but if the allowance of full rations should be confined to such sea officers as altho' on furlough shall not have permission to leave the Country, & whose professions do not supply them with the means of supporting themselves on shore, the annual additional Expence would then be \$9,928 as nearly as it can be estimated. Captains, Lieutenants and Midshipmen are Officers of the description alluded to. It is manifest that Officers of these grades are incapable of professional exertions on shore. When officers are furloughed with permission to go to Sea on their own private Affairs, half pay without rations is as much as they ought or I believe do expect. Doctor Eustis will herewith receive a rough draft of a section which comprizes the ideas of the Secretary. —

MONDAY 26 Dec^r 1803.

[Enclosure]

Rough draft comprising ideas of Secretary of the Navy regarding pay and rations of officers on furlough

That every Captain, Lieutenant and Midshipman who may not be under, but may be subject to, orders for actual service, shall during war at present subsisting between the United States and the Bashaw of Tripoli be entitled to receive their respective rations in addition to the half pay prescribed by the Act providing for the Naval Peace Establishment: Provided that if any Captain Lieutenant or Midshipman shall apply to the Secretary of the Navy for a furlough for the purpose of prosecuting any voyage whatever in a Merchant Vessel or any other private business and shall accordingly obtain a furlough for any such private purpose no such officer shall be entitled to receive any rations as aforesaid. —

[NDA. Cong. LB, Vol. 1, 1798-1811.]

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

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

December 26th 1803.

SIR I have had the honor to receive your letters of the 23rd Sep^r and 15th of October last. The President's sentiments concerning the event communicated in the latter, and respecting yourself as having had a principal Agency in bringing it about have been expressed in his Message to Congress of the 5th Ins^t which will doubtless have been forwarded to you from the Department of the Navy; and I have the pleasure to add that the terms of the peace, and the honorable manner in which it was restored, have equally impressed the Public mind in your favour.

The letter from the Emperor to the President came to hand and by this conveyance an Answer is transmitted to the care of M^r Simpson. This will not be the sole expression of our sense of the reconciliation as the Gun Carriages formerly written for by M^r Simpson, will probably arrive, and be presented about the same time. They left the Chesapeake towards the close of last Month in the Schooner *Citizen* bound to Gibraltar, but ordered to touch at L'Orient, to land the ratification of the treaty with France respecting Louisiana —

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803-April 1804.]

To Joseph Yznardi, U. S. Consul, Cadiz, Spain, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

ALGIERS December 26th 1803

SIR, A few days ago I was favoured with a letter from M^r Perry, informing me of the loss of the Ship *Sally*, Cap^t R. Archer, near the Bar of S^t Lucas, chartered by the American Government with naval stores, for the Regency of Algiers. — This Ship we have been long expecting; and the loss of her is unfortunate for us at this time, as our Annuity was due on the 5th of Sep^r last, and has been anxiously looked for here. — I am in hopes that all, or a part of the cargo, may have been saved. — Should there have been as much saved, as to make it worth while to send a vessel with it here, I wish it may be done, on account of the U. States, as it will be an advantage to them at this time. —

You have undoubtedly, before this, heard of the loss of the U. States Frigate *Philadelphia*, Cap^t Bainbridge off Tripoli, and the Cap^t & Crew being Captured by the Tripolines. We received the account here on the 15th ins^t. That on the 30th of October the *Philadelphia*, chasing a Tripoline near the land, about two miles from Tripoli, ran on shore, and could not be got off; — that the Gun boats came out from Tripoli & engaged her from daylight till 4 P.M. when the Ship keeling so as not to be able to bring her Guns to bear upon the Boats, was carried by boarding, & the people made Captives. — We have heard nothing since from that quarter.

The affairs of the U. States are, at present, very well in this Regency. — With the tender of my best services, and assurances of high Respect & Esteem,

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

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 26 December 1803

A[t] sundown the town of Adera bore N E by E, at 6 tacked ship tacked again at 8, 9, & 10 OClock as per log saw a Sail on the Weather bow fired a Gun and brought her too at $\frac{1}{4}$ past 10 tacked and spoke a Spanish Schooner from Almeria bound to Algaziras at 9 fired a Musquit and brought too the Brig *New Century* of Boston 3 days from Cadiz bound to Alicant at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 11 fired a Gun and brought to a Schooner she proved to be the *John* 36 days from Marblehead bound to Alicant Employed Occasion?

[Latitude Observed 36°10' [?] N.

(Continued at sea until anchoring off Tangerole, 2 January 1804.)

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 26 December 1803

A heavy gale of wind from the N. E. in danger of being lost on the coast of Tripoli.

[LC, original.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Monday, 26 December 1803

Strong Gales and very heavy Squalls of wind and rain — Under close reefed topsails, reefed courses and Storm Stay Sails — Standing to the Northward by the wind which is variable from the N N E to NEbE: About Midnight the Gale abated and the sea began to fall: When the Gale first came on I ordered down top Gallant Yards and all the studding sail booms on deck, and Jibb boom in, in order to ease the Masts and Bowsprit: Set up a stout belly stay and two good runners on the Fore mast to ease the bowsprit and save the mast in case the Bowsprit should give way: At day light saw the *Enterprize* and Prize in the E N E: Rigged out the Jibb boom & let reefs out of the Topsails. At 7 A M. spoke the *Enterprize*: Ordered her to tow the Prize which she had parted from in the Gale: Atnoon observed in Latitude 34°53' North — The ship has made more distance to the Northward by Observation than the log will give her which I

suppose to be owing to a strong current which generally setts to the N. W. along the Coast of Tripoly during a N E Gale.

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

To Secretary of the Navy, from John Randolph, Jr., Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, House of Representatives

8th Congress.

1st Session.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, JANUARY 10,
1804

27th DECEMBER, 1803.

SIR: The Committee of Ways and Means have instructed me to request that you will cause to be laid before them such information, in the possession of the Department of the Navy, as may enable them to carry the enclosed resolution into effect.*

I beg you to accept the assurance of my high respect.

JOHN RANDOLPH, JR.

ROBERT SMITH Esq.,
Secretary of the Navy.

*Resolved, That provision ought to be made, by law, to indemnify the captors of such armed vessels, belonging to the Emperor of Morocco, as have been captured and surrendered to the said Power, for the prize money to which they are entitled, and that a bill be brought in for that purpose by the Committee of Ways and Means.

[Am. State Papers. Nav. Aff., Vol. 1.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Tuesday, 27 December 1803

Moderate breezes from the NE and pleasant weather — Standing to the Northward on a Wind. At 1 P. M. sounded in 28 fathoms, sandy bottom. At ½ past 1 saw the Island of Lampidosa bearing NNE The Weather clear and Pleasant: Sent up Top Gall^s Masts and yards At 5 P. M. Calm, Lampidosa N E ½ North 6 leagues — *Enterprize* in sight bearing S E b E. It continued calm untill 2 A. M. when a light breeze came from the Westward — Steered for the Island and saw it at day light bearing E N E. The *Enterprize* and Convoy in sight At 8 A. M. Lampidosa the west end bluff bore N ½ W 6 miles and Limosa a small Island N W ½ W: ran down the South side of the Island, discovered a vessel at Anchor in the harbor, sent an armed boat to examine her: At this time we were about two miles from the harbor, Our soundings from 8 leagues to the S S W. to within three miles from the shore varied from 26 to 30 fathoms and within one mile we had 10 fathoms sand and shells. At ½ past 10 A. M the boat returned and the Officer reported that the Vessel he was sent to examine to be English from Malta and the only one in. The Harbor is on the S W side of the Island: It is small but capable of holding in safe anchorage with any wind about 8 or 10 Vessels of about 12 or 15 feet draft of Water: this Island has only 15 or 20 inhabitants who are herdsmen, farmers and fishermen — This is an excellent summer station for Vessels of war cruising for Tripolines or Tunisians as their corsairs often stop and harbor to plunder provisions — bore away to the Eastward. Wind W b S. Lat^{ge} observed 35°25' North — The South part bore N W b W 6 or 7 miles dist^s

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

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

Duplicate

TUNIS December 28th 1803.

SIR, My unpleasant communication of the 17th ultimo, (which was forwarded via Marseilles, Leghorn, and Malaga) announcing the loss of the U. States Frigate *Philadelphia* — I trust has been rec^d — This unfortunate event, has given not only the Bashaw; but all Barbary, an influence over us, which no other possible circumstance could have produced; the little National consequence, we possessed with this Regency, is already materially effected by our recent misfortune. — On the 14th instant, I was called to Bardo, by the Sapatapa, who demanded an answer to the Bey's letter, directed to Commodore Morris — (a Copy of which I have the honor to enclose You) I informed him that no reply was yet received, and that it was not time to expect one — He observed, that his Master would wait no longer, as he was resolved to know whether we were in a state of peace or War — I told him that no doubt could, or ought to exist in the breast of His Excellency, of our good will & friendship towards him — “We should be better satisfied to hear that, from Your Government, accompanied with such proofs as we expect” — I answered, that on such a question, I was not authorized even to have an opinion — “Good words cost You nothing; however, we expect that no longer delay will be made by the Commodore; or does he intend to wait for more Corsairs, in order to decide the war commenced by Your *Embrolione?* — it would be a different game from that You have played with Tripoly — and the loss of one frigate with us, could only be repaired by a Regalia of three” — Then turning to one of his Agents, he contemptuously observed in *Arabic* — “The Americans are now like the ground — *El Mericken kef el trap*” — To these observations no reply was made — he concluded his audience by requesting my medical assistance, for a Chronic complaint, under which he has laboured many years.

The affairs of Spain, will be arranged, as His Excellency the Bey, may think proper to dictate — The U. States, will be their Successor in difficulties; and Denmark, must follow us — Such is the order of the day.

* * * * *

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

To Joseph Pulis, U. S. Consul, Malta, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*

off Malta 28th December 1803

SIR I have detained a Vessel under Turk's Colours from Tripoly bound to Bengaza. I met with her off the Harbour of Tripoly, a few days ago. She has on board, Officers & Soldiers of the Bashaw of Tripoly; and all the property on board is Tripoline.

I wish much to have her papers translated. You will oblige me, and render a service to our Government, by procuring a proper person to translate the papers found on board. Some of them are in the Turkish, and others in the Arabic language. I am very desirous to have you engage a person as soon as possible for this purpose; and I wish you to accompany him to Syracuse as I shall want your assistance in this business very much.

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803-April 1804.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 28 December 1803

Joined company the *Enterprise* and her Convoy, we Took her Convoy in Tow, the *Enterprise* parted company, for the Harbour of Malta, which bore SE, nine or ten miles at 9 A M we filld and made all plain sail to the NE, in order to make Cape passari, situated near the SE extreme of the Island of Sicily.

Latitu^d ob^d 36. 15 N^o

[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, Wednesday, 28 December 1803

At 2 anchor'd in the harbour of Syragosa in 6 fathoms the castle at the entrance bearing S E $\frac{1}{2}$ S Mount Etna N $\frac{1}{2}$ W, unbent top gall^t sail & moor'd, stream N N E, Larboard bower S S W. At sunset sent down top gall^t yards, hoisted in barge & run the gig up astern.

(NB these remarks contain 36 hours)

[NDA.]

To Commanding Officer of the U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, from Richard Farquhar, Malta

MALTA Dec^r 29th 1803

SIR According to your desire I calld on the Consul of His Excellency Sidi Ahmet Caramallis, (late Bashaw of Tripoli) to inform him that you wished to see him he writes you by this oppertunity

My little Vessel arrived from Tripoli a few days ago the news his Cap^{tn} brings is that Some of the *Philadelphias* Crew has turnd Turks to the number of Eight, and that one of them who is a Sweed by birth has got the Command of a little Schooner latly built in Tripoli & that M^r Lisle has taken the Command of the *Philadelphia* who has all her Guns on Board now, & that those Slaves who Intended to make their Escape has declined attempting it untill you land Some men near Tripoli as there is about Two Hundred of them & with the three Hundred Americans there those five Hundred men will be of great Service if you wish my Vessel to go upon any Business to Tripoli I will Send hir or if I can be of any Service in Sending the Officers of the *Philadelphia* any more money wine or Cloathing &^t Please Command me

[LC. EPP, Vol. 8, 1803-1804.]

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

MALTA the 29 Dec^r 1803

DEAR SIR Capt. Smith having been good enough to say he would take a letter I avail myself of the oppertunity to inform you that the different articles you ordered me to purchase for Captⁿ Bainbridge and his Officers have been these four or five days in perfect readiness but as yet M^r Pulis has freighted no Vessel I do not know the reason, as he keeps aloof from any enquiry on my part, he is no doubt piqued at my being employed —

I congratulate you on the Prize I learn you have made full of fine women and great men, they may serve as an offset against the Captives in Tripoly —

We have no news stirring, Sir Richard Beckerton has arrived in a leaky Condition from the fleet off Toulon which had met with dreadful Weather, he brings the King's speech which breathes nothing but a Continuance of the war

Captⁿ Smith tells me we shall shortly have the pleasure of seeing you on this port, the sooner the more gratifying to me, as I wish to have frequent opportunities of convincing you of the respect with which I remain

[LC. EPP, Vol. 8, 1803-1804.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 29 December 1803

Moderate Breezes and clear pleasant weather. we are Running a cross the Channel Between Sicily and Malta withe Tripolitan prise in Tow that we capturd on the 23 of this month we continu^d Running for Cape passari which we made at Sundown Bearing EbN½N.

[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, Thursday, 29 December 1803

(Harbor of Syragosa) At 1 P. M discover'd a large ship of the harbour (wearing a broad pendant) suppos'd to be the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*. At 2 sent lower yards & top mast rigging on deck, gunners & fore castle men prep^d to strip the lower masts. At 4 the above ship anchor'd here, she prov'd to be the *Constitution* Commodore Preble with a small Tripoline vessel (a Ketch) prize to her, crew employ'd on necessary duty. Carpenters employ'd about the Partners of the M. Mast & pumps. — wind N N E. —

[NDA.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Friday, 30 December 1803

At 3 spoke the English Sloop of war *Bittern* from Malta. At 5 P. M. anchored in Syracuse Harbor in five fathoms water: Our Prize anchored at the same time. The Brig *Syren* here at anchor arrived last evening from Algiers. Cap^t Stewart reported to me his Proceedings since he left Gibraltar. Recieved letters by him from Leghorn and Algiers —

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

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 30 December 1803

This Day Commences with moderate Breezes and clear W^t Standing in for Syragse It Bearing NNW Dist 7 miles at 3 PM Spoke the English Ship *Vitron* on a Cruse —

At ½ past 5 Come too with Small Bower in five fathoms water Run a kedge out to the South East and hove up the Small Bower and Shifted our Birth 1 Cables length to the SE let go the Small Bower veared out 40 fathoms of Cable Let go the Best Bower under foot

Cast off[f] the Prize She Came too to the Nrd of us about 2 Cables length Dist Saw the Us Brig *Siren* Laying here Capt Charles Steward
[NA. ND original.]

To John Beekman, Navy Agent and Superintendent of Navy Yard, New York, N. Y., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPAR^t
Decem^r 31, 1803

You will consider yourself hereby appointed navy agent for the Port of New York — and also Superintendant of the navy yard at that place — your duties as navy agent are not susceptible of enumeration — you will however receive as occasions arise instructions from this Department whose operations you will aid in conformity to such instructions — Your duties as Superintendant may be more particularly defined — they consist in receiving taking care of and issuing under the directions of this Department all the property of whatever description belonging to the Department at New York — Distinct accounts must be kept of all the Timber scantling plank &c distinct accounts must be also kept of all the stores of whatever description monthly returns of which must be made to this Department — you will receive the timber stores &c by inventory of Daniel Ludlow Esq^r late agent upon receiving them you will be held accountable for them —

As Navy agent you will be allowed for your Compensation —

2 P^tC^t on all sums of money paid and expended by you on public account

1 P^tC^t on all sums of money received on all public property sold by you

$\frac{1}{2}$ P^t Cent on all sums of money paid for the purpose of recruiting paying off a crew and the like Services —

As Superintendant you will be allowed an annual compensation of 1,200 Dollars — To aid you in the discharge of your public duties, you will be allowed a clerk at a Salary not exceeding 600 Dollars P^t annum and a Porter at a monthly allowance not exceeding 30 Dollars both to be appointed by yourself. I shall be happy to hear from you by the return of the mail. —

[Similar letters sent to Daniel Bedinger, Norfolk, Va., 31 December 1803; George Harrison, Philadelphia, Pa., 3 January 1804; Woodbury Langdon, Portsmouth, N. H., 4 January 1804.]

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

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Saturday, 31 December 1803

Moderate Breezes from the North^d — We are lying moored in Saragosa — Unbent sails —

We this afternoon sent all the Tripolitan Prisoners on board the Prize to perform Quarantine.

A. M. Employed washing cloaths & scrubbing Hammocks — Received fresh Provisions & vegetables for the ships company. Anchored here the *Enterprize* Lieut^t Decatur who waited on the Commodore. Cleared Hawse by warping the ship round

At Noon Moderate Breezes from the North^d The Surgeon reports fourteen sick, Nine convalescents & two discharged.

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

[1804?]

Dimensions of a Nine Pounder

Dimensions for 9 Pounders —	6 feet 1 Inch in length —
Diameter at the Breach Ring —	15 Inches $2\frac{1}{2}$ tenths
Diameter before the Trunnion,	11 Inches $7\frac{1}{2}$ tenths
Length of the Cannon from the back part of the breach ring to the centre of the trun- nions.....	} 30- $\frac{5}{10}$
From the Breech ring to the extremity of the Breech ball	
Diameter of the Trunnions.....	4- $3\frac{1}{2}$ /10

These being the exact dimensions, proper allowance must be made for the Gun to work with ease —

[Peabody Museum, J. Fox Papers.]

[1804?]

Fortifications on the Sea-Board at Tripoli

Fort English.....	7	guns
“ American*.....	7	“
Bashaw's castle.....	10	“
Battery between the castle & mole head.....	14	“
Mole head Battery.....	19	“
Fort Way.....	11	“
Two small Batteries between Fort Way & Malta Battery	9	“
Malta Battery.....	9	“
Half Moon “.....	12	“
West Diamond “.....	9	“
Battery with Arched embrasures.....	3	“
Western Battery without the City ** — called fort Vixen.....	5	“

Guns 115 — P.

*So called from having been built by American Prisoners.

** “ from having fired the first shot at the brig *Vixen*, and having been built in consequence of her having distressed the town from that quarter — Was silenced by the gun boats Aug. 7. 1804 —

P. When Commodore Dale's Squadron arrived before Tripoli the enemy had only guns enough mounted to fire a salute, and those on bad carriages — Government were advised of this situation — Why they did not profit of it is a question to be solved — If one frigate could make the impression which we see Commodore Preble has done with one hundred and fifteen guns opposed to him, what might not Commodore Dale's squadron have done with three frigates against blank walls!

[H.E.Huntington L&AG. EA 260.]

[1804]

[NOTE: In the Edward Preble Collection, Manuscripts Division of the Library of Congress there are many volumes of signals. There are four volumes of signals for 1804, but in most instances the sets of signals do not indicate by whom prepared or used, and only a few have been dated.]

[January 1804?]

Rules for government of U. S. Ships of War entering Algiers

OBSERVATIONS for the Commander of an American Ship of War coming to the Port of Algiers

1st On a Ship of war of the U. States coming in sight of Algiers, the Consul must obtain the Dey's permission to go off to her; without which no Consul can go off. Said Vessel is to hoist her pendant & Ensign and fire a Gun to Leeward and then hoist the American Jack at the Fore top Gallant Mast head. — She is not to approach nearer Algiers than 5 or 6 miles, untill the Algerine Boat, with the Consular flag, is coming off. —

2^d If there be no contagious disorder in Algiers, the Boat, with the Consul, will go along side; but if any contagious disorder prevails, she will drop astern and confer at a distance.

3^d The Consul will have a detail of affairs, or news ready written, to give to the Commander; and the Commander will also give, in writing, all requisite information to the Consul. — By this means nothing will be forgotten.

4th The Ship should take care to anchor before that, by light winds, calms, or currents, she would be set within cannon shot of the Algerine Batteries; But must *never* anchor until visited by the Consul, and is informed by him of the state of affairs between the U. States and the Regency. —

5th Should the business of the Ship require her anchoring; the best place will be to the S E by S of the Light house on the Marine, a little to the east of the second Castle on the Southern shore: which is the second Battery from the Cape North of the Metafour River Curayuh —

OBSERVE That to the North of Cape Metafour (the eastern Cape forming the Bay of Algiers) there is a reef of Rocks, laying two miles from the land. — When the wind is fresh from N. W. North, N. E. or East the sea breaks over this reef: — It should have a good birth coming in and going out of Algiers Bay.

All within Cape Metafour and Cape Coxines (the western Cape forming the Bay of Algiers) the current sets to the *Westward*; and outside this line it sets to the *eastward*, at the rate of three miles per hour. —

When you anchor in the Bay of Algiers, be *always* ready for *action*; and *always* ready for getting *under way*. — Here are always sudden Gales; and I may add, you are never secure in your affairs. —

The whole crew of the Algerine boat which comes off with the Consul should not be permitted to go on board the Ship. — By their enquiries false news is often circulated, and representations made prejudicial to your national affairs. — *Communicate nothing to the people who come on board; but treat them with civility and attentions.*

When the ship anchors, she is saluted with 21 Guns, which she must return. If she anchors, and is not saluted, it indicates that your nation has a point to settle. — If the Ship salutes *under Sail*, it will not be answered by Algiers; because it is not *usansa*, or *custom*. —

The Consul will inform the Commander when it is proper for him to land. And when he does land, he will be saluted with Seven Guns, which the Ship *must return*

After the Commander has landed, and has seen the General of Marine & Admiral, he then proceeds to the Consular house; and if

requisite, visits the Dey at his Palace. — The Consul must first obtain permission on this point through his Drogerman. —

The oars are always taken out of the Ships boat by the Algerines, when they land. — This is to prevent Slaves from making an escape with the boat. — When the boat is ready to return, the oars will be delivered up. —

The next day after the Ship anchors, it is customary for the Regency to send a present to the Ship of Bullocks, Sheep, Poultry, &c on receiving which, the Ship fires three Guns, and the Consul pays for it 15 or 20 dollars. —

If the Commander, when on shore, should be visited by the different *Consuls*, the Consul, with him, returns the visit; or if by necessity, or accident, he does not return the visits, the Consul makes an excuse. —

Any Captives, or Turks, or Moors, or Jews, of Algiers, who should illegally get on board the Ship, the Commander must report them to the Consul, and he will endeavour to obtain pardon for them. At all *events* they must be given up.

Twenty minutes before sun set, the Marine Gate of the City is shut. This excludes all intercourse between the City and the Marine; which is the only place, at which Boats are allowed to land. — Care should be taken that all persons who ought to be on board the Ship in the night, should pass the Gate before this time. —

When the Ship is ready to depart the Consul gives the intimation thereof to the Dey, through the Drogerman. — It is customary for the Dey (if he be in the City) to see the Commander before his Departure. — On this visit he will say, — “Has Your Highness any Commands? I am destined for Sea”. —

When the Commander enters his boat, to Depart from Algiers, he is saluted with *Seven* Guns, which the Ship must return. —

OBSERVE, that Christian Friday is Turks Sunday. —

OBSERVE, only the Ports of Algiers, Bona, & Oran, are public ports. The others should never be entered but by necessity, as the Inhabitants are *very savage*, and often commit outrages & arrests on Officers and Crews of Boats.

When the Consul goes off to a Ship his national flag is display^d in the fore part of the Boat, to denote the he (the Consul) is on board the boat. — N. B. The flag is not display'd until the Boat passes the pier head of the Marine; and on returning it is taken down at the same place. —

When an Embargo is laid on the Vessels in the Port of Algiers. on account of the fitting out of their Cruizers, it does not effect the Ships of war, of other Nations which may come into the Bay.

Unless the U. States Vessels of War have some very particular business, I would not recommend their Anchoring. — They had better lay off & on two or three days, to avoid the danger of Gales & bad weather in the Winter Season, as well as the Caprice of the Government. —

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

UNITED STATES SLOOP *Syren*
Syracuse Harbour Jan^y 1st 1804

SIR, I have the honor to inform you of my departure with the Convoy N^o 2. from Gibraltar, on the night of the 24th October pursuant to your orders of the 18th[?] of that month. Our progress was much retarded by contrary winds, untill the 31st, when we had light airs from the Southward and Westward. On that day, we made Cape de Gatt, and passed the British Convoy under the *Termagant*. Nothing of any importance occurred, untill the 4th of November, when the *Termagant* came up with us, and requested permission to examine the papers of the Brig *Fame* from Batavia, alledging they had received information of her having Dutch Property on board, I brought the Fleet to, and granted them permission after examining them myself, and finding they were perfectly clear.

On the 9th, we were up with Marceilles, but it blowing a Strong Gale from the Westward, and the weather very thick, we dare not make the land, untill the next day, when I dismissed the Vessels bound there. The 12th we arrived at Leghorn, and landed M^r Cathcart at the Lazaretto. The 17th I obtained Prattique, and landed to expedite the business. On the 25th the money and other articles were ready, but I was prevented bringing them on board, untill the 26th in consequence of a severe Gale of Wind from the Westward. The 27th we sailed, and kept company with the United States' Brig *Argus*, untill the 29th at Midnight, a severe Gale of Wind came on, with a tremendous Sea, that hove the *Syren*, on her Beam Ends, and filled her waist full of Water. We got her before the Wind, Knocked out some of the Ports, and freed her Decks. The Jolly Boat was stove to Atoms, & lost. Nothing but Strong Gales from the Westward, with heavy Squalls (that prevented our carrying any Sail, but Storm Stay sails) prevailed from the 2nd of December to the 12th; during which time, we were driven considerably to the Eastward, and all my Officers Sick, but two young & inexperienced Midshipmen: On the 21st we arrived at Algiers, and delivered the Articles to M^r Lear, Consul General. Next day we sailed. The 26th we made Cape Bon, without having seen any Vessels on our passage. Not having provisions to prosecute your orders farther, we bore up for this place where we arrived on the evening of the 28th Your orders of the 4th December I immediately commenced the necessary repairs &^e that the Brig requires. She leaks very much in her upper Works, which has damaged some of the provisions, and other Articles. I am, therefore, under the necessity of caulking — Her rigging we take this opportunity of overhauling, and also to shift her Main Mast further Aft, which it requires, and feel confident it will much improve her sailing. I left at Leghorn Robert T. Spence Midshipman, whose mind had been for some time deranged — he is a son of M^r Spence Purser of the *Philadelphia*.

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

To Foreign Consuls, Lisbon, Portugal, from William Jarvis, U. S. Consul, Lisbon, Portugal

Copy

CONSULATE of the UNITED STATES of AMERICA

Lisbon 2nd January 1804

SIR I have the honor to inform you that Edward Preble Esquire Commander of the American Naval Squadron in the Mediterranean Seas, has advised me, that in consequence of the War actually existing between the United States and the Bey & Regency of Tripoli he has given orders for a detachment of said Squadron to Blockade the Port of Tripoli & when invested, that all Vessels attempting to enter or depart from said place, will be treated according to the Law of Nations established in such cases —

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your Most Obedient
Humble Servant

WILLIAM JARVIS

JAMES GAMBIER	Eng ^h	Consul
JACOB DOHRMAN	Dutch	"
JOHN AYRES	Danish	"
[space] KANTZOU	Swedish	"
[space] DEBATCHIOSKEY	Russian	"
BARON DE STOQUI SAIR[?]	Imperial	"
[space] SCRUVIER	French	"
[space]	Spanish	"
[space]	Neapolitan	"

[NA. SDA. CL, Lisbon, Vol. 2, Jan. 1803–Dec. 1805.]

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

Copy

PARIS 2nd January 1804

SIR, I have just rec^d the afflictive information that an American Ship of 44 Guns having been stranded in the Harbour of Tripoly, has been compelled to surrender to the Gun Boats of the Dey by which she was surrounded. This circumstance puts in the power of those Barbarians 307 American Seamen and 26 Officers, the ship having been fully manned. The War between Tripoly and the United States was commenced by the Dey in direct breach of a solemn Treaty and without the smallest pretence of ill faith or aggression on the part of the United States. I cannot but hope sir that the humanity of the First Consul will feel an interest in an event which affects so nearly the happiness of so many Men; and that this circumstance connected with the subsisting harmony between France and the United States will induce him to interpose his good Offices with the Dey of Tripoly for procuring them immediate relief. The First Consul has known how to diminish the dread of the great power which France has acquired under his wise administration by embracing every occasion by rendering that power subservient to the interests of humanity. In soliciting his mediation for the establishment of Peace between the United States and Tripoly, and releasing from Slavery the unhappy Men I have mentioned. I afford him a new means of extending to a distant World that species of Glory, which is I am satisfied dearest to his heart.

Nor sir, will he want a direct cause for this interference founded on the interest of France and Italy, which are deeply engaged in the un-interrupted Commerce of the United States during a War in which their view is arrested.

Should the First Consul sir, think this an object worthy his attention, we are content to place our Treaty on the old foundation on receiving back our Citizens to which we are the more entitled, as in all captures made by us upon Tripoly, we have returned immediately the men found on board their Vessels.

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803-April 1804.]

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

U. S. Ship *Constitution*

Syracuse January 2nd 1805 [1804?]

SIR I have received your note requesting the loan of the launch, you should have her if I could admit of her being employed as a watering boat for the squadron excepting in cases of great urgency & necessity, — a shore boat that will carry 20 Gang Casks with 4 Men attached to her can be hired for 9/. pr day I prefer your taking this method, and will send my Pilot to engage a boat and send her along side of the *Enterprize* this Afternoon or early tommorrow morning which will be in time, —

[HS of Pa. Mrs. F. H. Getchell.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, of 18 guns, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 2 January 1804

At Anchor off Tangerole Employed turning to windward under all drawing sails making short stretches off to 35 and in to 7 fathoms Water at 7 P. M. Came to with the Larboard bower Anchor in 18 fathoms Water off Tangerole the Eastermost land E. $\frac{1}{2}$ S and Westermost land W $\frac{1}{2}$ N good bottom —

At midnight light breezes & fine Weather

At daylight sent an Officer on s[h]ore in the Jolly boat to see if Water Could be obtained boat returned at 7 AM —

At 8 hoisted out the Launch and Barge and sent them on Shore Watering Emp^d Watering & otherwise Occasionally

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 3 January 1804

At Anchor off Tangerole At 4 P, M, carried the Kedge anchor out and sighted the larboard Anchor it being Clear let it go again —

At 5 hoisted in the barge At 9 the Jolly boat and launch returned run Up the Jolly boat and hoisted in the launch

At 6 A, M, moderate breezes and Cloudy Weather Wind N E Weighed anchor and made all sail for the Westward Several sail in Sight At 8 Marbelia bore N N W $\frac{1}{2}$ W Gibraltar W S W — At meridian Europa point W b S $\frac{1}{2}$ S Variously Emp^d

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 3 January 1804

We continue at anchor in Saragosar [Syracuse], with the *Syren* and *Enterprize* in company

[NA. ND original.]

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

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbour Jan^y 4th 1804

SIR I am hon^d with your several favours of the 25th Nov; 05th & 13th December, but that of the 15th Ulto, which had your first C——r has not come to hand. I understand that which you have given me in yours of the 5th Ulto and shall make use occasionally of it. I wrote you the 19th and 20th of last Month, and ordered M^r Pulis to hire a vessel and send over for the purpose of carrying my letters, and some articles which I supposed you might most want; and which I directed M^r Higgins to purchase for yourself and Officers. I regret to find that M^r Pulis has not yet sent a Vessel agreeable to my orders. To prevent any further disappointments I shall go to Malta tomorrow to see my letters &c^s shipped to you. I thank you for the information your letters contain and shall profit by it. Col Lear has lodged U M [10?] thousand dollars in Tunis for you to draw for, Your Bills on George Davis Esq^t charge des Affaires of the United States at that place will be duly honored, and your Bills on Mr. Pulis at Malta will also meet prompt payment as I have made arrangements with him for that purpose, of course, it will not be necessary for you to draw any more Bills on Leghorn or elsewhere at a loss. I shall contrive to supply you fully with every thing necessary. Write me what clothing will be proper to send to the Officers & Men, and who I can send it to with safety and it shall be forwarded immediately. Also what provisions & Stores &c^s you wish to have sent you. I shall endeavour to take the most effectual means for your release and am convinced Col Lear will do the same. Our representations have long since gone forward to our Government and we shall, no doubt, have answers to them by the *Congress, Essex & Boston* by the last of March or early in April — I lament most sincerely the situation of yourself & Officers, a situation which makes you and your friends unhappy, and deprives your Country of your services. I have not the smallest doubt Government will take the most ready means of procuring your liberty —

I was off Tripoly the 23rd Ulto. and in sight of the town I captured a Vessel which left the Harbour in the Night. She was under Turk's Colours and the Captain says belongs to the Captain Pacha and was bound to Bengaza. The papers will be translated in a day or two, and if the Captain tells truth, I shall release her together with a Turkish Officer and all the Crew which the Captain claims, amounting in all to twelve. The remainder consisting of two Officers of rank belonging to the Bashaw of Tripoly the son of one of the Officers twelve Tripoline Soldiers and 42 Black Boys & Girls belonging to Tripoly, and intended to be sold or given away I shall keep as prisoners; — This, the Turkish Officer agrees to be just, and acknowledges he had no right to be transporting our enemy's Officers, Soldiers, & property in time of War I hope to be able to exchange this cargo for

some of you unfortunates M^r Pulis is well acquainted with the Tripoline Officers and thinks them a valuable prize. A gale of wind drove me from off Tripoly or I should have sent a Boat on Shore. I shall soon be off there again — I have already given you my sentiments respecting the loss of the Ship, and shall say no more on that subject until I see you, I regret most sincerely the loss of your assistance and services in the Squadron, and of your society. Be assured of my sincere and unalterable friendship. Adieu for the present — write me everything interesting — I write to your officers and crew and to the Bashaw. These letters you will take the direction of, and have them delivered or not, as you may think best.

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

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

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*

Syracuse Harbour Jan^y 4th 1804.

SIR. I am hon^d with your esteemed favours of the 17th and 18th Novem^r — accompanied by several communication from you to Commodore Morris, and from M^r Niss^a to you; the whole containing many useful hints, and much valuable information; for which please to accept my thanks. I approve your proposed plans of operations against Tripoly, as they exactly coincide with mine. —

I had hopes of bringing that Regency to reasonable terms in the spring, and effecting a solid peace; but the loss of the *Philadelphia*, has marred that prospect, and will probably protract the desirable event to a longer period. —

However, I shall make them feel the effect of my remaining force, and hope, soon to reduce the Bashaw's present demands, to something reasonable.

I am told he demands for Peace and ransom, three Millions of Dollars, this is a pretty good asking price. I presume our Government will never accede to any thing extravagant, as we shall by that means, hazard a War with all the Barbary powers, by stimulating their avarice. —

I have just returned from a Cruise off Tripoli, where on the 23rd December I captured a Vessel with the Bashaw's presents to the Grand Seignior, accompanied by several Tripoline Officers of distinction. I trust this Capture will give us considerable advantages in negotiating a Peace. —

I wish to procure two or three Gun Boats, and two Mortar Boats with Guns, and 10 Inch Mortars compleat. Can you procure them for me?

Where — When and on what terms? Write me as soon as possible. I also want one or two good Bombardiers, & will make their pay handsome, if they understand their business. They can instruct our young Officers in that branch of Gunnery, endeavour to procure one for me from Toulon; if you cannot short of that; A quantity of Shot & Shells for the Artillery will be wanted. I have made this port the rendezvous of the Squadron, & shall be glad to hear from you often. It is probable one of the Squadron will go down to Gibraltar about the first of May, I shall if so, readily accomodate you. —

P. S. The *Philadelphia* ran on the rocks about 4½ Miles from Tripoly, and was captured together with every officers and man belonging to her, by the Tropline Gun boats —

Pray inform me who M^r J. Barnes is, he has written to me from Leghorn, but I know nothing more of him. —

[NA. SDA. CL, Tripoli, Vol. 2, 1801-1805.]

[4 January 1804]

To the Warrant and Petty Officers, Seamen and Marines late of the U. S. Frigate
Philadelphia, Tripoli, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Altho' the fortune of War has made you prisoners to the Bashaw of Tripoly, it has not made you his Slaves — Whether you will be Slaves or Not, depends on yourselves, Your determination not to work will be proper, and if the Bashaw should attempt compulsion by punishing you for a refusal, I shall retaliate on his Subjects which I now have, and which may hereafter come into my possession. If you conduct properly, you will in due time be redeemed and restored to your friends, and entitled to receive full pay from the time of your capture to your arrival in the United States. In the mean time every proper means will be taken for clothing and keeping you as comfortable as circumstances will admit of, but should any of you voluntarily engage your services to the Enemy, and afterwards fall into the hands of your justly incensed Country Men you will undoubtedly suffer death agreeable to the laws of the United States in such cases made and provided. You ought not to let the threats of those, into whose hands you have unfortunately fallen, intimidate you, but obstinately persist in your rights of being treated as prisoners and not as Slaves I shall write to the Bashaw immediately and acquaint him that all those Americans who suffer themselves to be compelled to work for him, will be considered as having alienated themselves from the United States, and of course our Governm^t will not consider itself under any obligations to ransom them. Behave like Americans be firm and do not despair the time of your liberation is not far distant

I am with Sentiments of regard & Consideration

Your friend

(Signed) EDW^d PREBLE

January 4th 1804

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803-April 1804.]

[4 January 1804]

To the Prime Minister of the Bashaw of Tripoli from Captain Edward Preble, U. S.
 Navy

Edward Preble Esq^t Commander in chief of the United States Squadron stationed in the Mediterranean Sea, unto Siddi Mohamened D'Guise, Prime Minister to His Excellency the Bashaw of Tripoly in Barbary. —

HEALTH

It has pleased the almighty disposer of all sublunary events, to place in your power as prisoners of war, the officers & crew of the frigate *Philadelphia*, late belonging to the United States, but *humanity & justice*, as well as the general usage of Nations, forbid your treating

them as *Slaves*: and should you so treat them after the receipt of this, you will be exercising your power against your interest; as I presume the United States will only make provision for the ransom of their Citizens who are considered as prisoners of war, and not for those whom you treat as Slaves, by compelling them to work for you against their inclination. It is their duty to resist such compulsion by refusing to work; and all those of our Citizens, who voluntarily engage in Your Service, should they ever fall into our hands, will (by the laws of our Country) be considered as Traitors, and punished with death. I therefore request that the unfortunate American prisoners may not either be inticed or compelled to labour as Slaves, but that they be treated with humanity.

On the 23rd Ultimo in sight of Tripoly, I captured a Vessel under Turkish Colours, bound to Bengaza, with two Tripoline Officers, several tripoline Soldiers, and a number of Black men & women; amounting in all to about Sixty on board; and brought her to this place. She is now performing quarantine, and as soon as she is admitted to prattique, I shall release the Vessel, together with all the people claimed by the Captain; consisting of an officer of the Captain Pacha, four Turks, and seven Greeks and will give the Captain a passport and every assistance to prosecute his voyage to Constantinople, whither he say's he is bound, after he should have been at Bengaza; but the Tripoline Officers, Soldiers & Black people I shall detain as prisoners, and send them to America, unless you think proper according to the custom of other Nations, and as humanity dictates, to enter into a negotiation for an exchange of prisoners. In the mean time you may rest assured that your people are, and shall continue to be, well treated as prisoners of War, and not as Slaves. I have not allowed a single article of cloathing, or anything else, to be taken from them; and each one of them now has all the money which they had when they came into my possession. I pray you to make known all these matters to His Excellency the Bashaw, and to write me an answer to Malta. I also want to know what the demand will be for the ransom of such of the officers & crew as are considered and treated as prisoners of war.

Accept my thanks for your kind attention to Captain Bainbridge & his Officers, and be assured I shall when opportunity offers, give you proofs of my satisfaction. Wishing you health I have signed this with my hand on board the United States Ship *Constitution*, in the Harbour of Syracuse, the 4th day of January 1804.

(Signed) EDWARD PREBLE

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

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

N^o 139

GIBRALTAR 4th January 1804

SIR I have not been honord with any of yours since my last under 29th Ult^o N^o 138 p^r the schooner *Mary* Capⁿ Sinclair —

Two days ago arrived from Cyracuse the *Nautilus* Lieu^t Somers who brought me duplicate dispatches from Comodor Prible to be forwarded Consul Isnardi for the Hon^o Sec^r of the Navy which went by Post —

I am Extreamply mortified to find by Comodor Pribles Letter to me that the ship *Philadelphia* Capⁿ Baimbridge has been lost off Tripoly,

& that the Officers & Crew are Prisoners at that Gov^t, this is a most unpleasant event, and for particulars referr to said Comodor's dispatches to the Hon^e Sec^y of the Navy p^t M^t Gadsen a Midshipman in the service — bearer thereof, who was sent down in the *Nautilus* with them and I got him a Passage on board the above mentiond Schooner *Mary* bound to George Town S. C. & is the only American Vessel in Port; the Wind is now coming round to the East & they will sail immediately. —

Yesterday arrived the Brig *Argo* Capⁿ Hull who is under 3 days Quarantine having Waterd at Frangirola near Malaga. The accounts of Publick health from that City announce its intire Reestablishment—

The Portuguese admiral is gone to Anchor at Alguesiras, account the apprehensions of Warr, and the rest of the Squadron is now getting under way for Lisbon. —

I have not yet had an oppertunity of passing Consul Simpsons Bills on you for \$1000

1000	}	\$2550 [sic] —
555		

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

To Commanding Officer of the U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean

MALTA Jan^y 4, 1804

SIR In consequence of the information that I have rec^d from the freinds of His Excellency Cidi Ahmet Caramanlli late Bashaw of Tripoli, I am obliged to send the Bearer Expressly for an *answer*, to know if I can give them true Inteligence with regard to your Cooperating & assisting His Excellency Cidi Ahmet Caramanlli late Bashaw of Tripoli if I can give them those good news they will comence war in favor of His Excellency & the United States and I have purchased some necessary articles for War in Barbary —

In the name of Cidi Ahmet Caramanlli the first Born of the Dominion of Tripoli & late Bashaw I ask the Loan of Two Thousand Dollars on purpose to purchase some more articles of War & to collect Some of his Freinds to go with me to bring him to Derna with your assistance then we will take Bengaz & Tripoli. I have inclosed a copy of Comodor Morris's Letter to me a Copy of which I also sent to Derna with M^t Farquhar

I am Sir

your Humble Ser^t

SALVATORE BUFUTTL

To the Commander in Chief of the
United States Ships of War in the Mediterranean,

[LC. EPP, Vol. 8, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 4 January 1804

At 6 AM. Europa point bore N E. at 10 brought too in the bay of Gibraltar with the Starboard Anchor in the S W. and moored with the larboard Anchor in the N E, in 12 fathoms Water found here the U. S. Schooner *Enterprize* who inform^d that the U. S. Frigate *Phila-*

delphia had been lost off Tripoli and all the crew made prisoners
 People Variouslly Employed —

[NDA photostat.]

[5 January 1804]

Marine Force of Algiers

An Algerine built Frigate, copper bot- tomed.....	44 Guns	12 & 9	Pound ^{rs}
A Portuguese do..... do ..	44 do..	do	—
An American built do. ..A present. coppered.....	34 do..	9 & 6	do
A Xebeck, Algerine built, copper bot- tomed.....	34 D ^o	D ^o	
— ditto.....	30 do....	do	—
— ditto.....	26 do....	do	—
— ditto.....	20 do..	8 & 6	do
A Polacre Greek built.....	26 do..	9 & 6	do
— do ..do.....	18 do....	8	pounders
A Brig Philadelphia built.....	22 do..	4.6 & 9	do
A Schooner U. States built.....	18 do....	6	pounders
A ditto — ditto.....	14 do....	4	ditto —

There is a frigate building at the Marine to carry 48 Guns — Viz.
 18 Pounders on her Main Battery & 12 Pounders on her quarter deck
 & fore castle. —

Each cruizer carries ten men to a Gun, and one Turk soldier to a
 Gun. — N. B. These Turk Soldier[s] are the leaders of the men in
 boarding. —

There are two Merchant Coasting Vessels, mounting 4 Guns
 each. — 2 Guard Row Gallies for the Port. —

50 Gun & Mortar boats — carrying 18 & 24 Pounders

At Oran & Bona there are two armed Galliotis at each, with latteen
 Sails and Sweeps. —

150 Sail of lateen sail Coasters, from 25 to 30 Tons. —

3 Harbour Pontoons at Algiers

8 Harbour boats exclusive of the Barge of the Gen^l of Marine

[LC. EPP, Vol. 9, Jan.-Feb. 1804.]

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

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbour Jany 5th 1803 [1804?]

SIR One of the ships of the squadron, is each day to take the Guard
 for 24 hours commencing at 8 OClock in the morning, a Signal for
 the ship that is to have the Guard will be made by the senior Officer,
 and the Guard ship is to hoist an American Jack at the mizen Top
 gallant mast head, but if a Brig or Schooner, at the Fore, which is to
 be kept flying untill the Guard is shifted by signal Guard is to be
 rowed by a boat of the guard ship for the 24 hours, and it is to speak
 every Vessel that enters the Harbour by day or night, before she
 approaches near the squadron, and report to the commanding officer
 in port, every morning at 9 OClock, agreeable to the following form
 for the information of the Commodore

[HS of Pa. Mrs. F.H. Getchell.]

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

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbor Jan^y 5th 1804

SIR You will prepare the *Syren* for a cruize as soon as possible with six weeks full allowance of Provisions Stores &^{cs} and will wait in this port my farther Orders. — One of the ships of the Squadron is each day to take the Guard for 24 hours commencing at 8 O'clock in the morning, A Signal for the ship that has the Guard will be made by the Senior Officer in Port and the Guard ship is to hoist an American Jack at the mizen top gall^t Mast head, but if a brig or Schooner at the fore which is to be kept flying untill the Guard is shifted by Signal: A Guard is to be rowed by a boat of the Guard Ship for the 24 hours and is to speak every vessell that enters the Harbor by day or night before she approaches near the squadron, and report to the Commanding officer in Port every morning at 9 O'clock agreeable to the following form for the information of the Commodore [see below]

You will keep a good look out on the Tripoline Prize and take care the Prisoners do not make their escape

[FORM]
"REPORT OF GUARD ROWED BY THE U. S. SHIP [SPACE]"
Commander Syracuse [space] 1804

Vessels Name	Masters Name	Owners Name	Ship Brig or Sloop &c	Number of			Where bound	how long out	from whence	lad- ing	to whom con- signed	Intelli- gence
				Men	guns	tons						

[Similar letter to Lieutenant Stephen Decatur, Jr., 5 January 1804.]

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

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

Moored in Gibraltar Bay. These 24 hours begins with Squally Weather and Variable winds and very heavy Squalls Hoisted the Yellow flag sent the Jolly Boat on shore for fresh Provisions

[NDA photostat.]

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

NAVY DEP^t —
Jan^y 6. 1804. —

Cap^t Rodgers has been authorized to employ M^r Peter Gardner and such other of the Ship Carpenters at the Yard as he may deem useful and necessary in the building of the Gun-Boat directed to be built at this place. —

I wish the further repairs of the *Boston* to be discontinued as soon as it can be done with propriety, and without leaving the ship liable to injury from discontinuing her repairs. Be pleased to attend to this subject. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

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

NAVY DEP^t

Jan^y 6. 1804 —

Understanding that it will be more agreeable and convenient to you that the Gun-Boat which you have been requested to superintend, should be built at Hampton, than at either of the places heretofore prescribed, and as it will make no sort of difference to the public, I consent to her being built at Hampton. The monies instead of passing thro' the hands of M^r Bedinger as has been arranged, will be remitted to you, and you will be held accountable to this depm^t for their expenditure. You will perceive by my letter to you of the 21st ult^o, that I have left it entirely to yourself to determine upon the Mechanics and other persons to be employed under your direction in the building of the Boat. Employ whoever you may think best qualified. —

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

To General William Irvine, appointed Naval Storekeeper, Philadelphia, Pa., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t

Jan^y 6. 1804

You will consider yourself hereby appointed Store Keeper to this Department at Philadelphia — Your duties as Storekeeper consist in receiving taking care of and issuing under the directions of the navy agent at Philadelphia — all the stores belonging to the Department at Philadelphia — The Superintend^t has the Custody of the timber, plank scantling &^c as you will have room in the public arsenal for the stores you will receive them by inventory of George Harrison Esq^r and have them deposited there — The Secretary at War will write to you on the subject authorizing the Deposit — On receiving the stores you will be charged with them on the books of the Accountant of the Navy and you will be held accountable for them.

You will receive from the accountant of the navy the requisite forms & instructions you are to make to him monthly returns of the stores on hand which must comprehend all the issues you may have made and all the articles received by you — As a Compensation for your Services as Storekeeper you will be allowed the sum of 600 Dollars P^r annum payable Quarter yearly by the agent at Phil^a

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

To Lieutenant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. FRIGATE *Constitution*

Syracuse Harbor Jan^y 6th 1804

SIR Business calls me to Malta and during my absence you are to progress as fast as possible in Equipping the *Constitution* for a cruize of at least four months with water, provisions &^{ca} and every thing necessary for that time, The ships rigging is to be completely overhauled and repaired where it is worth repairing and where it is not it must be replaced with new; The Ship and Gun Carriages to be scraped and painted inside and outside and a set of hanging shot lockers to be made for the Guns of both decks: The boats to be repaired and painted: Top Gall^s sails and royals altered or new ones made to fish the new Top Gall^s Masts: Hammock cloths tarred and a light touch of tar

on all the rigging which requires it. The boats excepting the guard boat (which is to be moored as usual) to be hoisted in every night at sunset and not any Officer to Sleep out of the Ship or have permission to be on shore after 9 O'clock on any pretence whatever during my absence — .

One of the ships of the Squadron is each day to take the Guard for 24 hours commencing at 8 o'clock in the morning. A Signal will be made by the Senior Officer in Port and the Guard Ship is to hoist an American Jack at the Mizzen top gall^l mast head but if a brig or Schooner at the fore, which is to be kept flying untill the Guard is shifted by Signal. A Guard is to be rowed by a boat of the Guard ship for the 24 hours and is to speak every vessell that enters the harbor by day or night before she approaches near the Squadron and report to the commanding officer in Port every morning at 9 O'clock agreeable to the following form for the Information of the Commodore * * *

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

To Midshipman Hethcote J. Reed, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. FRIGATE *Constitution*
Jan^y 6th 1804.

SIR You will not permit any boat excepting one belonging to the squadron for the purpose of bringing you supplies to come alongside of the Prize under your charge nor allow your boat to be put out or any of the Prisoners or any person belonging to her to go on shore or leave her untill you have my orders or the Orders of the Commanding Officer in Port for so doing.

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

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

U. S. FRIGATE *Constitution*
Syracuse Jan^y 6th 1804.

SIR M^r Nathan Baker Purser of the Brig *Syren* under your command has represented to me by letter under date of the 2^d Inst: that [space] Carter Pursers Steward has conducted improperly as Steward and basely as a man by maliciously spreading reports to endeavour to injure his reputation. M^r Baker's character is I concieve too well established to be blemised by the malice and wickedness of the said Carter. I cannot therefore give the smallest degree of credit to his insinuations and you are hereby directed immediately to dismiss the said Carter from the employment of Steward and place him on the list of ordinary seamen.

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

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

[Moored in Syracuse Harbor.] Moderate breezes & cloudy weather. The ships company employed in refitting the rigging. The carpenters employed in making a new fore top gall^l Mast and altering the main one. The armorers have been employed these three days in making preventure wash plates for the U. S. Schooner *Enterprize*. We had

moderate breezes through A. M. The large cutter was sent on the watering service — We recieved in the course of the day 30 Gang Casks. The ships company employed in refitting the rigging and rigging the ship — recieved fresh mutton & vegetables from the ship's company. The surgeon reports to the Commodore the same as yesterday The Tripolitan Prize which was brought in here was ordered under quarantine for 13 — days. We supply her every day with water & provisions. At Noon moderate breezes from the West^d — .

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

To Degen, Purviance & Co., Leghorn, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbour January 9th 1804

GENTLEMEN It is my intention to procure by purchase or Charter two or three Mortar Boats, and three or four Gun Boats with Guns and 10 Inch Mortars compleat to act against Tripoly early in the Spring, I shall also want a good Bombardier or two to whom I shall be willing to give good wages to make it an object for them to engage in our service. I wrote to M^r Cathcart respecting this business but presume you can render me more service than he can, and it is uncertain if my letter will reach him. I wish you to enquire at Leghorn, and write to Naples and let me know if they can all be procured at either place and on what terms. I think you might contract with the Neopolitan Government for them. The largest size Gun & Mortar Boats will be best, as I wish the Gun Boats to carry a long 24 or 32 pounder each 300 Shells and 500 shot suitable will be wanted. Pray write me as soon as possible, and desire your friend at Naples to write and give me all the information possible on this subject. Let me know if they can be procured how soon, and on what terms?

Can I procure about 50 Men of different Nations to mix with ours to assist in manning our Armament against Tripoly? If you give me encouragement I will send one of our cruisers to Naples or Leghorn as you may think best with an Officer to compleat the business, and convoy the Boats to this place.

Your attention to this, will render an acceptable service to our Government

P. S. Name to me a proper correspondent in Naples, one whom I can confide in, and who has influence with the Gov^t

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803-April 1804.]

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

TRIPOLI BARBARY 9th January 1804

SIR, I have had the honor of writing you eight or ten letters since our unfortunate captivity, and have anxiously expected to hear from you, — as yet have not received that satisfaction; altho' several of my letters particularly pointed out the want we were in for an established credit; and the almost naked situation of our Crew.

Having already particularized the loss of the Frigate *Philadelphia*, I forbear the painful repetition: suffice it to say that impatient the time will pass until I can publicly justify my conduct in the catastrophe, and I hope that no premature censures will be formed.

Being uncertain whether my communications have come to hand, makes me forbear particulars on this place.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 9, Jan.—Feb. 1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES BRIG *Argus*
Gibraltar Bay 9th Jan^y 1804. —

SIR, I have been honoured with your Letter of the 10th ultimo by Captain Somers, who informed me of the loss of the Frigate *Philadelphia*, which circumstance my long passage from Leghorn prevented my being made acquainted with before

I wrote you from Leghorn informing you of my arrival at that place, and my determination to leave there for Gibraltar as soon as possible, and after experiencing several hard Gales of wind in the Gulf of Lyons, and off Minorca and strong westerly winds from thence to Cape Pallos, I found the Masts and Bow Sprit to complain, Owing to the Rigging becoming Slack, in consequence of which I thought proper to run into Carthegena to secure them — After remaining there three days and having wouled the Masts, secured the Bow Sprit and set the Rigging up, I sailed and beat down as far as Tangerole, the wind being ahead and my water nearly Expended I came to an Anchor and filled some of my Water Casks, on my arrival at Gibraltar, after being from there nearly Sixty days, without Communication at any Port, they obliged me to perform three days quarentine —

I am very sorry it is not in my power to give you the least information respecting the Emperor of Morocco or the state of his Cruizers, owing to my long absence from hence and not having hear'd from M^r Simpson since my arrival. — As soon as I can possibly fill my Water and get Provisions on board I shall run over to Tangier, and should all be well, from thence to Cadiz, where most likely I shall remain ten or twelve days as I find the Weather very bad in this Bay and not very safe lying at Anchor. — I find the *Argus* to be an excellent Sea Boat, and I believe when in trim will Sail very fast by the Wind, but have not as yet had an oppertunity of Sailing with anything except the *Syren*, and I believe Cap^t Stewart will be candid enough to acknowledge she beats her. —

I have been informed by Captain Somers that men were shipping for one of the Frigates, if so she may be soon expected on this station, so that I hope I shall be able to join you as soon or sooner than the time mentioned in your Letter. — I shall endeavour to keep as good a look out on this station as the very bad weather we have, will allow me, and write you every oppertunity, and hope soon to have it my power to send you some news Papers. —

[NDA. Isaac Hull LB, 1803–1806.]

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

NAVY DEPM^t
Jan^y 10. 1804. —

Herewith you will receive “directions respecting the employing and paying workmen, laborers &c^s at the Navy Yard at this place” which you will observe and cause to be observed by the Officers and others under your command. —

[Enclosure]

Directions respecting the employing & paying Workmen, Laborers &^{os} at the Navy Yard Washington. —

All the workmen, laborers &^{os} employed in the yard or in repairing the Ships &^c are to be employed under the direction and controul of the Superintendent of the Yard, and to be paid for their services such compensation as may have been agreed on with him; — the amount of daily wages to be ascertained in the following manner viz^t

It shall be the duty of the Clerk of the Yard, daily and every day at morning, noon and Evening to muster every person employed, carefully noting in a Musterroll prepared for the purpose each and every person that may appear to be attending to their duty or employment, and their particular occupation and the object of employment; as well as such as may appear to be absent with the cause of absence (if understood). — Having a due regard in making the said Musters to the convenience of the persons employed and the Interest of the Public, attending for the purpose, whenever circumstances may render it necessary, at the Shops or places of employment: And to deliver daily one copy of the Musterroll so made out to the Superintendent, retaining another copy in his possession. —

And it will also be the duty of the said Clerk at the end of every month to make out separate payrolls for the respective objects of employment headed in the manner herein after directed, varying the description so as to designate each separate object of employment viz^t

“Payroll for the Ship-Carpenters, Caulkers, Laborers &c. employed in repairing the frigate *United States* in the month of Jan^r 1803.” —

Including in the said respective payrolls every person employed in that particular object, designating their respective occupations, and stating the number of days work actually performed, ascertained from the Musterrolls made out as herein before directed; which payrolls he will then submit to the inspection of the Superintendent, whose duty it will be to compare the same with the Musterrolls in his possession; and if it shall appear to him that the time of employment is therein correctly stated, he will certify it to be so, and insert opposite to the name of each person the daily wages at which they are respectively to be paid, and then to hand the payrolls so certified and inserted to the Purser of the Yard, with directions to extend the amount due to each person, and pay the same, taking their receipts on the payrolls. —

[A few general rules in relation to the Navy Yard at Washington were later issued 22 May 1805.]

* * * * *

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

To Midshipman (acting as Lieutenant) James T. Leonard, U. S. Navy, New York, N. Y., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM^t
Jan^r 10. 1804. —

The Government wishes to send dispatches to Europe by a provision Vessel which will sail from Norfolk in the course of the present

Month, and you have been selected to convey them. — Be pleased to repair to this place immediately on the receipt of this Letter. —

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

To the Auditor of the Treasury from Secretary of State

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

January 10th 1804.

SIR. It appearing that William Eaton Esq^r late Consul of the United States at Tunis did on the 9th of August 1802, in his official capacity, enter into an instrument of writing acknowledging to have received from Sidi Haggi Junis Ben Junis, a Tunisian Merchant, the sum of thirty four thousand Spanish milled dollars, as a loan for the use of his public agency; and Richard V. Morris Esq^r having on the 8th of March last caused to be paid to Junis the sum of twenty two thousand dollars on account of the said instrument, M^r Morris is to be credited with the amount last mentioned, which is to be debited to M^r Eaton.

M^r Morris is likewise to receive credit for two thousand dollars advanced by his letter of credit for the same sum, dated on the 7th of March last, in favor of George Davis Esq^r acting as American Consul at Tunis, upon Mess^{rs} Dagen, Purviance & C^o of Leghorn. With the last mentioned sum M^r Davis is to be charged. The instrument signed by M^r Eaton as above stated, Junis receipts thereon, and another instrument executed by the former and dated on the 9th of March last, wherein he acknowledges the sum of twenty two thousand dollars to have been paid as above mentioned to Junis, and also M^r Davis' receipt for the credit of two thousand dollars are enclosed as vouchers to the transactions hereby authorized.

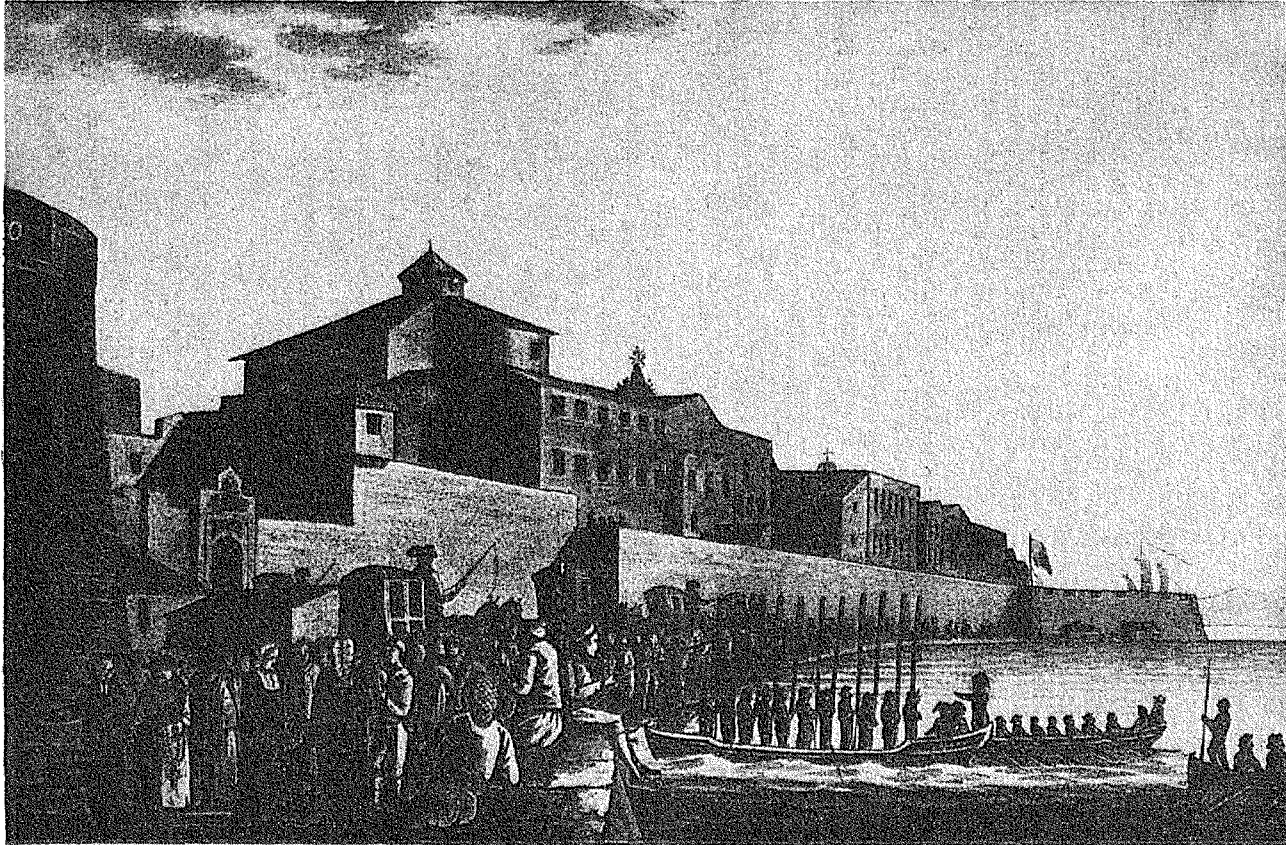
[NA. SDA. Dom. L., Vol. 14, May 1802-May 1805.]

Presumably from Midshipman Henry Wadsworth, U. S. Navy

SYRACUSE HARBOR, Jan^y 10th, 1804.

DEAR SIR, * * * On the 17th December we sailed from this Port with our tender the *Enterprize*, & next day arrived off Malta. The Consul came on board bringing with him & an Italian gentleman who had been surgeon to the Bashaw of Tripoly. * * * We stood for Tripoly — our ship completely prepar'd for the boisterous gales of this season. — & in two days captured a small Ketch under the Ottoman colors — * * *

Twenty four hours after we had sent off the Prize under convoy of the *Enterprize*, the wind set in to the Northward & we began to beat off the coast under a Press of sail — the Gale increased, the sea ran high & the *Constitution*, with Top g. masts & yards on deck, under courses & close reef'd Topsails clawed off the coast to the great dissatisfaction of our Prisoners — who were in hopes that we might be driven on their inhospitable shore & have added to their treasures — & Slaves. — The Italian Surgeon gives us much information he knows the Prisoners personally. — He says that it was 4 hours after the ship struck the ground, before the gunboats came out to attack her, that for several hours they continued firing without one shot hitting the *Philadelphia* — that she struck her colors & the enemy were afraid then to come along side until Capt B. & officers left the



THE LANDING-PLACE AT SYRACUSE.

ship & landed when they boarded her finding every man on board drunk, & laying about the decks like dead men. The moment the officers landed they were stripped to the buff. Thus (if this information be true & we have no reason to doubt it) one of our Finest Frigates was deserted, without even making a defence to be expected from an American cockboat: * * *

* * * * *

Narative.

On the 13th January 1804 the Commodore shifted his Pendant on board the *Vixen* & sailed for Malta with M^r Izard & Wadsworth Midshipmen & M^r Morris Purser — we arrived at Malta on the next day & took up our Lodgings on shore. I now for the first time in two years enjoyed a few Days of uncontrolled Liberty, for the Com^d did not Trouble us excepting to inform us when we were to dine. * * *

In ten days the Com^d having finished his business we reluctantly Departed for Syracuse but for him all places are alike busied with his Summer operations against Tripoli he feels no pleasure in anything which does not forward his Favorite plans. — * * *

In April the Com^d was again off Tripoli & sent in proposals of Peace our Terms were refused notwithstanding the menace of a bombardment at the end of Two Months. This he would not believe.

The next port made was Tunis. The Bey threatens us with war if we left the Bay without acceding to his demands: — he sent the Com^d's letter back unopened by the Charge de Affairs M^r Davis: immediately all hands were called to weigh anchor & we stood to sea. The next day we returned to know the event, — but M^r Bey was in a very good humor & gave six weeks for the Com^d to determine whether he would accede to his demands or not. The answer was you may declare war as soon as you please. I am already determined not to grant you anything. Nay said the Bey be not rash — I shall not make war until six weeks expires. — Just when you please was the answer & we sail'd for Malta & from there to Syracuse.

The Following Prizes have been made by the Squadron under our present Com^d

23 December 1803 A Ketch from Tripoli bound to Bengazi & Constantinople, taken in sight of Tripoli with several Tripolines of Consequence & 45 Blacks on board — likewise a Consul of the Grand Seignior: returning from Tripoli. The vessel belonged to the Isle of Candia.

A En[g]lish Merchant Brig from Malta taken off Tripoli by the *Nautilus*.

A Maltese ship from Tripoli bound to Malta by the *Siren*.

An English Brig of 16 guns from Tripoli bound to Malta by the *Siren*. The *Transfer* of 16 sixes was sold at Malta at the Conclusion of the Peace between France & England. Is a complete Man of War Brig & is Taken in to the Service of the United States, renamed the *Scourge*. John H Dent Lt Commander, Henry Wadsworth 1st Lieutenant, Ralph Izard 2d — Charles Morris Sailing Master, Thomas Marshall Surgeon all promoted from the *Constitution*. M^r Green Purser, from the *Nautilus* — M^r Davis & Rowe Midⁿ from the *Constitution*.

Several other vessels have been sent in & afterwards released. The Port of Tripoli has been constantly Blockaded since 1804 commenced. * * *

Two Spanish Ketches by the *Argus* and *Scourge* in May, coming out of Tripoli.

[H.W.L.Dana Col.]

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

U. S. BRIG *Syren* Jan^y 10th 1804

SIR Herewith I send you farther charges instituted against M^r Baker by Lieu^t Maxwell & Doct^r Marshall

If Sir those things exhibited against M^r Baker are true, they are of such a nature that will oblige me to withdraw my confidence and renders him consequently unfit for the service. You will be pleased to institute such enquiry into M^r Bakers conduct as you think proper that its character may wear its proper colour, for without it there will ever be dissentions among them.

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

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

Moderate Breezes & cloudy weather we continue at Anchor in Saragosa with the *Syren* and *Enterprize* in company. The Ships company employed refitting the rigging. Towards the Evening we made the *Enterprize* signal to unmoor — We had moderate breezes from the N N W through the night.

At 4 A. M. Commodore Preble shifted the broad pendant from the *Constitution* to the *Enterprize* leaving Lieu^t Dent as Commanding Officer. The *Enterprize* weighed at Day light and stood out to sea with the Commodore on board in order to proceed to Malta

We recieved in the course of this day 42 Gang Casks of Water — The ships company employed refitting the rigging & cleaning ship. We received one barrell of Tar from the *Constitution's* stores on shore. The Brig *Syren* hoisted a Jack as a signal for the Guard. At Noon moderate breezes from the North^d

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

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

[Syracuse] Moderate breezes from the N^d & W^d & pleas^t At 5 rec^d a quantity of mutton for ships Company, & some oakum, spikes &c Hand employ'd in fitting ship for sea. At 6 the Commodore hoisted his flag on board the Schooner *Enterprize*, weigh'd & stood out of the harbour, same time 2 carpenters came from the Schooner, to assist in cutting the sweep ports At 8 completed watering, having on board 52 casks each 115 gall^s At ½ past 3 the *Enterprize* hove in sight. & came in the harbour, brought with her a Polackey ship & come too an anchor At ¼ past 5 the Commodore hoisted his flag on board the Frigate, *Constitution*. Anchor'd here the U. S. Schooner *Vixen*. 6 caulkers at work this day. —

[NDA.]

To Charles Pinckney, U. S. Minister to Madrid, Spain, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbour 11th January 1804

SIR, Yesterday I rec^d your favor dated the 18th November last in which you mentioned some deserters from the French Marine supposed to be on board this Ship, in which I can only observe that I was in Cadiz about the 1st of November last, and wanting a few men to complete my complement, I ordered my Officers to recruit some Americans: they accordingly recruited some and a few more who declared themselves Italians & Maltese I find now on examination that there are but three among the whole who speak the French Language, and they deny having ever belonged to the French Marine, but whenever I go to any port where there is a French Consul or Commissary I will permit him to interrogate them, and if they prove to be French Citizens I will readily deliver up or discharge them as he may think most proper and I beg you to assure Gen^l Beurnonville that I shall give particular orders to all the commanders in my Squadron not to engage Citizens of France on any pretence whatever, and that I truly reciprocate his, and your own feelings as it respects your wishes for a good understanding between the two Govern^{ts}

(Signed) EDW^d PREBLE

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

[11 January 1804]

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

SIR I have appointed you acting Sailing Master of the United States Schooner *Vixen* during the Indisposition of M^r Butler who goes on shore for the recovery of his health

You will therefore repair on board Said Schooner and take upon you the duty of Sailing Master and hold that employment untill farther Orders for which this shall be your sufficient Warrant.

Signed EDWARD PREBLE

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbor Jan^y 11th 1803 [1804]

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

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

U. S. SCH^r *Enterpriz* SYRACUSE HARBOUR
Jan^y. 11th 1803 [1804] —

SIR The situation of the United States schooner *Enterprize* under my command induces me to request a survey — “Her situation in my opinion is such as will make her cruising during the winter months (unless repaired) hazardous” — Be assured sir my motives for requesting this survey arrises from what I conceive to be my duty & a wish to benefit the service

[LC. EPP, Vol. 5, 1802–1803.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Lieutenants Charles Stewart, John Smith, John H. Dent, and Carpenter Thomas Moore, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SCHOONER *Enterprise*
Syracuse Harbor. Jan^y 11th 1804

SIR Pursuant to your warrant of this date we have taken a careful and strict survey of the United States Schooner *Enterprise* commanded by Lieut^t Stephen Decatur Jun^t, and are of opinion from her defective state that she is rendered incapable of cruising during the present season without undergoing considerable repairs; The Extent of her defects will be better discovered when she is placed in a situation for repairs.

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

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

U. S. FRIGATE *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbor Jan^y 11th 1804

SIR You are to preside at a court of Enquiry to be assembled on board the U. S. Brig *Syren* under your command on Thursday 13th Ins^t at 9 O'clock A. M. for the investigation of the Official Conduct of M^t Nathan Baker Purser of said Brig since leaving the United States; The Members of the Court are to be yourself, L^t Comm^t S Decatur of the *Enterprise* and L^t T. Robinson of the *Constitution*. M^t Lewis, Midⁿ will act as Judge Advocate. I now enclose you a letter from Joseph J [or I.] Maxwell and S. R. Marshall containing charges against M^t Baker and a letter from M^t Baker respecting the conduct of his Stewart; you will summon the members of the Court in due form and furnish M^t Baker with a copy of the charges bro't against him and will also summon such witnesses as may be required; In the mean time you will give him an order of arrest and suspension from duty untill after the investigation; and report to me in writing a clear statement of facts to enable me to Judge of the Propriety of assembling a Court Martial.

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

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Wednesday, 11 January 1804

[Syracuse] The wind proving contrary and meeting with the *Vixen* a few leagues from this Port with dispatches for me I returned and Anchored — The *Vixen* also anchored: Shifted my Pendant to the *Constitution* — recieved Sundry Stores by the *Vixen* which were left at Malta by the *Philadelphia* — rec^d letters from Captain Bainbridge.

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

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

Moderate Breezes & clear weather. We continue at anchor in Saragosa with the *Syren* in company The Ships company employed in refitting the rigging. The Carpenters employed in repairing the bowsprit — As the Bowsprit has been under repair these two days, it may be necessary to mention its defects and how they were occasioned. As it is a made spar two of the scarfs meet under the gam-

monning, the Ends of which were rotten. No accurate calculation of its defects could be made without taking off one of the fishes which are secured to the spindle; A piece was cut out nearly 7 feet in length and about 8 Inches wide & between 6 & 7 Inches thick.

Towards Evening the *Enterprize* re-anchored in shore of the *Constitution*. On the Commodore's coming on board the broad pendant was shifted from the *Enterprize* to the *Constitution*. His return was in consequence of his falling in with the United States Schooner *Vixen* Lieut^t Smith with Dispatches for him.

At 7 P. M. anchored here the U. S. Schooner *Vixen* L^t Smith who sailed from here nearly three weeks ago as a convoy to the *Traveller* store ship. L^t Smith waited on the Commodore A. M. at Day light we received from the *Vixen* the following stores said to have been left at Malta by the U. S. Frigate *Philadelphia*

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

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Brig *Vixen*, 12 January 1804

Sailed in the *Vixen* for Malta on business for the squadron.

[LC, original.]

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

[Syracuse] *Siren*, *Vixen* & *Enterprize* in company: Ordered M^t Butler master of the *Vixen* on shore to Sick Quarters and M^t Burrows midshipman of this Ship to supply his Place as Acting Master. At 7 A. M. made the *Vixen* Signal to prepare to sail: At 9 A. M. I embarked on board of her and Sailed for Malta. Wind N E. by 10 A. M. the Wind died away, the clouds thickened and every indication of a gale from the Southward: returned into Port and anchored — Rejoined the *Constitution* — This being the Birth day of the King of Naples I ordered a Royal Salute fired in honor of the day as a Compliment to the Government.

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

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren*, of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 12 January 1804

[Syracuse] At 9 the Commodore hoisted his flag on board the *Vixen* made sail & stood out of the harbour, rec^d a quantity of mutton & Veget^s for the crew. At 11 the *Vixen* return'd into harbour having sprung her fore top mast crosstrees. At ½ past 11 the Commodore hoisted his flag on board his own ship the *Constitution*. At Meridian the Commodore fired a salute of 21 guns in Commemoration of the day of nativity of the King of Naples — this day sent on shore several coils of Rope 2 hawsers 1 topmast stay, signal halyards & a quantity of blocks &c. —

[NDA.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Major General W. A. Villetts, Commander-in-Chief of the British Garrison, Malta

MALTA January 13th 1804

SIR, There being a certain number of Bullocks at Tripoli purchased for the use of the British Garrison under my command in this Island a considerable time I believe before the blockade of that port was declared, I have to request you will be pleased to permit the two Vessels on board of which they are embarked to pass without hindrance or molestation to this Island. The Vessels being the property of, and navigated by Maltese subjects of His Britannic Majesty and the Bullocks also British property beyond all question, I flatter myself that I am perfectly justified in making this request, and that you will be pleased to comply with the same.

(Signed) W: A: Villetts

La Vergine del Carmine — Capt^o PIETRO GAMEN
Il Santissimo Crocifesso — Cap^o NICHOLÒ DE CANDIA

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

To Midshipman Jacquelin B. Harvie, U. S. Navy, Richmond, Va., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM^t

Jan^y 13. 1804. —

I have received your letter of the 8th. —

M^r Thompson, Chaplain in the Navy, is employed by government at this place to instruct our Young Officers in the Theory of navigation, preparatory to their entering into actual service. You will repair to Washington as soon as you can with convenience and report yourself at this office when further directions will be given you. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802–1805.]

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

Moored in Gibraltar Bay AM, the United States Schooner *Nautilus* Sailed on a Cruise

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Friday, 13 January 1804

Moderate Breezes & cloudy weather. We continue at Anchor in Saragosa, The *Syren*, *Vixen* & *Enterprize* in company. Ships company employed in refitting the rigging. Recieved from shore 12 & ½ Pounds line for seizing stuff & two Pounds Marline. We shortened in 7 fathoms on the small bower in order to swing clear of the N W buoy.

At day light the Commodore rehoisted his Pendant on board the *Vixen* & stood out to sea in order to proceed to Malta.

The *Constitution* has had the Port Guard these 24 hours & was relieved by the *Syren* at 8 this morning. At 9 A. M. answered the *Syrens* Signal for a Court of Enquiry — The ships company employed in watering ship & refitting the rigging. At noon we had completed our water having recieved 28 Gang Casks. We recieved fresh Mutton & Vegetables for the ships company. We also recieved 6 hides of leather from the shore — Surgeons report 18 Sick & 5 Conv^{es}t^s

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

To Joseph Yznardi, U. S. Consul, Cadiz, Spain, from Lieutenant Isaac Hull,
U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES BRIG *Argus*

Gibraltar Bay 14th Jan^y 1804

SIR, I have the honour to inform you of my arrival in this Bay from Leghorn, after a very long and disagreeable passage, and hope soon to have the pleasure of seeing you at Cadiz, as I am now making every preparation for Sea, and shall sail the first fair Wind for that Port. —

I have been informed since my arrival here that an American Vessel had arrived at Cadiz, with despatches from the United States to the Court of Spain, & that some difficulty had arisen respecting the giving up of Louisiana to the Americans. — Should you be in possession of the particulars I will thank you to write me by return of Post, as I shall be anxious to hear from you before I leave Gibraltar. — If you or your friends have any Commands from this to Cadiz, I beg you will command me — when I arrive off Cadiz, I shall hoist an American Jack, at the fore, for a Pilot, and a white flag with a red Cross at the Main as a distinguishing flag. —

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

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

TRIPOLI BARBARY 14 January 1804

SIR, No doubt before this reaches you but what you will hear of the unfortunate loss of the United States Frigate *Phildelphia*, under my command, on Rocks off Tripoli: presuming that Commodore Preble or Consul O'Brien has communicated the particulars of that accident makes me forbear detailing them: My feelings on that event can better be conceived than described.

By late letters from M^r Davis, charge of Affairs at Tunis, I received information of your being at Algiers in your functionary authority, in consequence of which I take the liberty of stating the situation of our captivity.

The Officers, with a few servants to tend on them, are, and have been, closely confined to the late American Consular House. The remainder of the Crew are confined at nights in prison, and made to work in the day; five of them have turned Mahometants, and probably many more will do the same. We have been much necessitated for a Credit; which difficulty M^r Davis's last letter has removed by authorising the drawing of Bills on Tunis; but that will be attended with a loss of 25 p^{er} cent, which can only be prevented by having money sent to us.

I have been anxiously expecting to hear from Commodore Preble, and am at a loss to account for his silence, particularly as I stated our wants, and informed him of the mode of communicating with this place. I was greatly in hopes that you would have Visited Malta in the *Constitution*, and would have felt yourself at liberty to enquire the demands of the Bashaw of this Regency. — I consider the earlier that question is put, the sooner it will effect a negotiation; as their demands, either for our ransom or peace, no doubt will at first be exceedingly exorbitant, and the system of these Barbarian

powers have always been to demand more than they will finally take, and that kind of treating procrastinates negotiation; therefore, an Overture being made this Winter to receive their first demands, probably would be attended in the summer with their ultimatum; and if the question is postponed until the summer, their ultimatum, owing to the proceeding Autumn & Winter, may be prolonged a twelve month.

I shall briefly give you my ideas on the situation of the United States with this Regency, and trust that you will do me the justice to believe they are not influenced by my unfortunate captivity.

Nature has strongly guarded the Harbour of Tripoli by Rocks & Shoals; — the Town is too well fortified for our shipping, by an attack, to make an impression on it; — the coast is so situated as to make the most vigilant blockade prove inadequate to prevent their Cruisers going in and out of port; — the Country abounds with such a plenty of provision that they are not in the least depending on importation for subsistence: and the loss of their small Mercantile trade can only effect a few Jews, by whom it is carried on, and whose interest the Bashaw totally disregards; and the trade of those Jews by the closest blockade can be but little injured whilst Tunis is at peace; as the Island of Zirbe in the Regency of Tunis, adjacent to the boundary of Tripoli, would always be a port for the reception of goods destined to this place, — which could be readily conveyed in small boats along the shore, or brought on Camels, for a small expense; as these animals are numerous here, land carriage is exceedingly cheap.

The Bashaw will never be forced to terms, without he considers his own safety endangered; and he is only Vulnerable to the United States one way; that is by eight or ten thousand men landing near his Town, which in my Opinion would soon become an easy conquest. This measure or money, are the alternatives. Where is your predecessor, could he not visit Tripoli? His understanding the language and custom of the country would be of great service in negotiating.

The Consuls, except the Danish, have not shewn a disposition to be on friendly terms with us; — you are placed amongst a more *Christian* sett

Please to present my best respects to M^{rs} Lear — I hope she finds herself agreeably situated; altho' Barbary may not afford all the conveniencies of America, those little embarrassments are greatly over-balanced by having you with her, — a happiness that M^{rs} B. seldom experiences.

I flatter myself to hear frequently from you, — your correspondence will always give me much pleasure.

I think you will find the Vickle Hadge Minister of Marines at Algiers, who I carried to Constantinople, a man of principle, — my compliments to him.

[Stephen Decatur Col.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Saturday, 14 January 1804

Wind from the Eastward. At 10 P. M. arrived and anchored in Malta Harbor — Sent an Officer to the Governor and one to the Admiral — At 11 saluted the Garrison with 15 Guns which was returned — Waited on the Governor Sir Alex^r Ball, the Admiral Sir

Richard Bickerton, Major General Villette and Gen^l Oakes and was politely received —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

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

Moderate breezes & cloudy weather. We continue at anchor in Saragosa. The *Syren* & *Enterprize* in company. Ships company employed in refitting the rigging. The carpenters employed in fishing the Bowsprit. Commodore Preble has gone to Malta on service. Lieut^t Steward commander of the *Syren* is the Commanding Officer here at present. Lieu^t Dent is the commanding officer of the *Constitution*. We had moderate breezes from the West^d during the night. A. M. Employed in gammoning down the bowsprit and refitting the rigging. At noon winds from the South^d The Surgeon reports 32 Sick, 4 convalescent & 1 discharged from the Sick list to which 15 have been added these last 24 hours. —

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

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Brig *Vixen*, 14 January 1804

Arrived at Malta saluted the garrison which was returned. Was recd. with politness by the Navy and Army.

[LC, original.]

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

N^o 141

GIBRALTAR 15th January 1804

SIR My lasts which I had the honour of adressing you were N^o 139 & 140 under dates 4th & 11th Ins^t to which please be referred. —

I this day recieved by Post from Ja^s L. Cathcart Esq^t of Leghorn the inclosed dispatch. My friends at Malta tell me Cap^t Baimbridge & his unfortunate Officers are treated with Humanity by the Tripolins—

On the 12th Ins^t was brought into this Port for Examination by the English frigate *Phebe*, J. R. Capel Esq^t Commander, the ship *American Hero*, Andrew Marsters, Master belonging to M^r W^m Gray Jun^r of Salem in the U. S. loaded with sugar Coffe, Pepper & fish from said Port of Salem bound to Marseilles on pretence of being French property; Cap^t Marsters was interogated in the Vice Admiralty Court in my Presence on the 13th Ins^t when ship and Cargo appeard to be the property of said M^r Gray, & was released yesterday, had been stopd near Barcelona on the 2^d Ins^t & brought here for the aforesaid purpose, she is now proceeding on her Voyage.—

Yesterday arrived a Vessel from England who had saild with a Convoy of upwards of 40 Sail for this place and had been dispersed by a Gale of wind in the Bay of Biscay, says there was many Troop ships with them.—

The *Nautilus* proceeded two days ago for Syracuse, and the *Argo* is here ready to go on a Cruise in the Gutt &c^a —

The inclosed from Consul Simpson of Tanger just come to hand

[NA. SDA. CL, Gibraltar, Vol. 2, 1796–1804.]

[About 15 January 1804]

To Citizen Beaussier, French Chargé d'Affaires & Commissary General, Tripoli,
from the French Minister for Foreign Affairs

Copy of the Instructions sent to Citizen Beaussier in Tripoli, from the French
Minister for Foreign Affairs

PARIS 25th Nivose

I have rec^d Citizen your Dispatches of the 10th and 15th Brumaire N^{os} 8 & 10. The details they contain, regards the loss the Americans have sustained off Tripoli by the *Philadelphia* Frigate. This I had been already informed of by M^r Livingston their Minister Plenipotentiary at Paris, who wrote me to claim the good offices of the First Consul in favor of his Country men, whom this accident had delivered into the power of Tripolines.

The First Consul touched with the most lively commisseration for their misfortune, has authorised me to request you will put all in train to alleviate their situation, and to obtain their deliverance.

You will at same time make known to the Pacha, that the War between the Regency and the United States, has more than once excited the solicitude of the First Consul; and being truly attached to the People and Government of America, he desires that a solid and advantageous peace to both parties, may speedily put an end to the War that at present divides them.

The First Consul expects from the friendship and harmony which subsist between the French and the Regency, from the sentiments which the Pacha has always express'd, and from the conduct always used towards him, that the means prescribed you to make use of, will not be fruitless.

I expect myself from your intelligence & Zeal every necessary step will be taken to ensure the success of this negotiation, and the exact result of which, you will please make known to me.

This letter will be sent you by the Commodore of the American forces before Tripoli, to whom M^r Livingston engages to forward it with his Dispatches —

I have the honor to salute you

(Signed) Ch: MAU TALLEYRAND

[LC. EPP, Vol. 7, 1803.]

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

MALTA 16th January 1804

SIR, I am honored with your letter of the 24th Ult^o acknowledging the receipt of a Declaration of the Blockade of Tripoli by the Commodore Commanding the United States Squadron in these Seas, and requesting permission to bring from that port, One thousand Bullocks, purchased previous to your having been notified of the Blockade, for the supply of the Inhabitants of this Island —

Knowing how much it is the wish of the United States to cement more strongly the present Friendship and good understanding with Great Britain, I have no hesitation in complying with your request — I shall therefore give Orders to the Captains & Commanders of the Ships, and Vessels of War under my command, not to molest any British Vessel, sent by you from Malta to Tripoli in Ballast, or, returning from thence to Malta, with Bullocks — until after the 1st

day of March next; presuming by that time, you will have effected the Transportation of the provisions in question — I wish it was in my power consistently to extend the time beyond this limitation —

To His Excellency Sir ALEXANDER BALL
H. B. Majesty's Civil Commissioner
for the Islands of Malta & Gozo — &c &c &c —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 9, Jan.-Feb. 1804.]

To the Captains and Commanders of the U. S. Ships of War in the Mediterranean,
 from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

MALTA Jan^y 16th 1804

The British Vessel bearing this Passport You are to permit to pass from Malta to Tripoly in Ballast and from Tripoly to Malta with a Cargo of Bullocks untill after the first day of March next, and to render her any assistance she may stand in need of.

(L S)

Given under my hand
 and Seal on board the
 U. S. Schooner *Vixen* at
 Malta the 16 day of Jan^y 1804
 Signed, EDWARD PREBLE

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

To Major General W. A. Villetts, Commander-in-Chief of British Garrison, Malta,
 from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

MALTA January the 16th 1804

SIR I am hon^d with your letter of the 13th Ins^t directed to the Officer commanding the Ships of the United States of America off Tripoly, requesting that two Vessels now in that Port on board of which a number of Bullocks are embarked for the use of the Garrison on this Island, and which were purchased previous to my declaration of the Blockade of that Port having been made known to you, may be permitted to pass unmolested. I now enclose you passports for those Vessels, and

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803-April 1804.]

To Brian McDonogh, British Consul, Tripoli, presumably from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

MALTA Jan^y 16th 1804 —

SIR I have desired M^r Higgins to send to your care sundry letters & bundles of news papers, & clothing for Capt. Bainbridge & his officers. They are to be shipped in a vessel sent to Tripoly by Sir Alex^t Ball, you will oblige me by directing the delivery of them. I beg leave to ask your kind attention to those unfortunate Prisoners & be assured I shall not want gratitude in making you such acknowledgements as may be most acceptable when opportunity offers. I wish much for a correspondence with you, & you will do me a favor by endeavouring to learn what the demand of the Bashaw will be for the ransom of the officers & crew & make me acquainted therewith — M^r O'Brien our late Consul at Algiers was so good as to give me your address & to recommend it to me to interest you in our affairs —

I captured a vessel in sight of Tripoly the 23rd ult. under Turks colors, bound to Bengaza with two Tripoline Officers one of which has his son with him — several Tripoline soldiers & 42 black men & women were also on board. I shall release the vessel as soon as her quarantine is over together with all the people which the Turkish Captain claims, viz — one officer of the Capt: Pacha, three Turks & seven Greeks — The remainder amounting to about 60 being Tripolines & Tripoline property I shall send to America, unless the Bashaw thinks proper to exchange them — I wish you would sound him on this subject. I shall make you a satisfactory acknowledgement if you can effect an exchange —

I hope to hear from you soon & beg [MS mutilated]

[LC. EPP, Vol. 9, Jan.-Feb. 1804.]

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

MALTA January 16th 1804

DEAR SIR I came here for the purpose of forwarding letters and supplies of stores to you. You will readily conceive my intention in writing to the Warrant Officers, & Petty Officers & Crew of the *Philadelphia*, and to the Bashaw's Minister respecting them. I did not think it necessary to say anything to the Commissioned Officers, nor do I suppose that it is to any of the Warrant excepting some of the Mechanics. If you think that either of the letters will have a tendency to make the situation of the Officers and Crew more uncomfortable, you may use your own discretion respecting the delivery, but I suspect they will not have a bad effect. Let me know precisely how you are all treated, what distinction they make, and what they allow you. Did they plunder your Watches — and take the money and other articles from your Pockets? I want to know particulars. Has any of your Officers lost a Gold Watch with three or four hands one of which is broken? Tell L^t Porter I found his Sword & Belt in bad hands, and shall take care of it for him. Write me if you know anything of the Vessel or people which I captured off Tripoly the 23rd December. I believe from circumstances that not only the Tripoline Soldiers but the Turkish captain of this Vessel was active in boarding the *Philadelphia* and plundering the Officers. Give me all the information you can respecting the situation of the T. P. Perhaps in *May* or *June* you may see the Squadron off the Port or perhaps hear of us sooner. Keep up a good heart and for God's sake do not despair. Your situation is bad indeed but I hope ere long, it will be better. Rest assured my dear friend that every exertion of mine shall be made to lighten your captivity and to release you. I have sent you a suit of cloths to the care of the English Consul. The other articles are sent to the care of the Danish Consul. You must write to me by the return of this vessel which has my passport, and let me know what to send you. I regret that you have not sooner rec^d the articles which I now send you. they have been put up and ordered over more than a month but owing to the neglect of M^r Pulis, they have remained here. Write to M^r Higgins for any thing you may want, and he will send it you. If I am not here to do it myself — He will be the person with whom in future I shall entrust my letters &c^s to be sent to you. I have written to the British Consul and desired him to render you assistance. Sir

Alex^r Ball assures me that he will write to the same effect. You will receive by this conveyance many letters & news papers from your friends

Adieu for the present —

With esteem & respect Dear Sir
Your Obed^t Serv^t

(Signed) EDWARD PREBLE

P. S. As the Vessel which brings you this is English, you had better send all the letters excepting particular ones to the English Consul to forward to this place EP. —

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

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

MALTA, 17th January 1804

SIR, I am honored with your Letter of the 16th instant in answer to mine of the 24th ult^o by which you are pleased to accede to my request of being permitted to bring from Tripoli One thousand Bullocks which had been purchased for the supply of this Island previous to the notification being received of your having declared that port in a state of Blockade.

I beg, Sir, to express my high sense of the terms in which this permission is conveyed, and to add that I am well persuaded of its being no less the wish of Great Britain than of the United States that the present friendship and good understanding may long continue to subsist between the two Governments.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 9, Jan.–Feb. 1804.]

[17 January 1804]

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

Copy

The Minister for Foreign Affairs has the honor to transmit to M^r Livingston the letter he addresses to the French Commissary at Tripoly in Barbary [15 January]. He sends it him in secret to the end that he may give it due attention. He desires that this measure dictated by the First Consul towards the United States may have all the effect which they can hope for, and that it may contribute to the advantage of those Americans retained in Tripoly

I have the honor to renew to M^r Livingston the assurance of esteem. —

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

[17 January 1804]

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

SIR, The moment the First Consul returned, I laid before him the letter you did me the honor to write me dated the 11th instant. He was much hurt at the loss the United States have experienced in the roads of Tripoly. He has not examined whether (according to your Excellency's remark) it particularly regards the States he Governs that Peace should reign between the Regencies of Africa and the United

States: but although himself is engaged in a War that the ambition and disloyalty of our enemies has rendered inevitable and necessary, that which the United States have to support has more than once excited his solicitude. His greatest pleasure would be, to be able to effect or preserve the blessings of Peace in all civilized parts of the World He holds a sincere attachment to the people & Government of America, depending on a just return on their part. In short, his natural feelings excite compassion for the misfortune of your Country Men, whom destiny and not want of Courage has deprived of their liberty, but not of honor.

With these sentiments Sir, he has requested me to order the Commissary General of the Republic of Tripoly to put all in order, to alleviate the situation of the American Prisoners and even obtain their deliverance; at the same time he will make known to the Bashaw the ardent desire of the First Consul that a Peace solid and advantageous to both parties may shortly put an end to the War which divides them. May these means be attended with full success! The reason to hope they may not be fruitless, is the good understanding and friendship existing between the French Government and the Pacha Dey of Tripoly, and the disposition and sentiments on which the First Consul has ever prided himself. As I suppose your Excellency intends writing to the Commander of the Forces off Tripoly, I shall have the honor of addressing the Instructions for the French Commissary to him, to be forwarded

I beg your Excellency to accept my best Consideration

(Signed) Ch: MAU TALLEYRAND

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803-April 1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Robert R. Livingston, U. S. Minister to Paris, France

PARIS 17th January 1804.

SIR, Upon receiving advice of the Misfortune that had happened to the *Philadelphia*, and a desire to render every possible aid to my unfortunate fellow Citizens that were captured in her, induced me to make immediate application to the first Consul for his aid in procuring their relief; and his mediation in bringing about a Peace. He rec^d my application in the most friendly manner, as will appear by his answer to my note [2 January], which with the note are enclosed for your perusal. The Minister has written on the subject in the strongest terms to the French Commissary at Tripoly. recommending that he may use every endeavour to procure the release of the prisoners and every effort to bring about a Peace that he declares to the Pacha the interest the First Consul takes in the restoration of Harmony between the two Nations. The regard he has for the United States, and his hope that the friendship the Pacha professes for him, will induce him to offer terms of accomodation Thinking the subject sufficiently important to merit your immediate attention. I have directed M^r Appleton to send a dispatch Vessel with it immediately to you. You will see the instructions safely delivered to the French Commissary at Tripoly You have probably some powers and instructions from the Government on the subject of Peace, if the Pacha should be disposed for it, or if you have not, M^r Lear certainly will have Ample powers for the redemption of the prisoners, and the con-

clusion of a Treaty. It will be proper therefore for you as soon as possible, to send a copy of this letter with the enclosures to M^r Lear, who will act thereon, as his prudence may suggest. The business being out of my department and being wholly uninformed as to the wishes of our Gov^t all I can do is to procure for you the aid and support of this Court in whatever M^r Lear and you may concert and I doubt not that the Consul's recommendation will have much weight. I shall feel myself extremely happy if with that aid you can effectuate anything for our brave but unfortunate fellow Citizens. I hope that you will be so obliging as to give me the earliest and fullest information relative to your operations, as it may contribute to advance the objects you have in view, as well as enable me to communicate earlier intelligence to our Government that you may have the means of doing

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803-April 1804.]

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

UNITED STATES SCHOONER *Vixen*

Malta Harbour January 17th 1804.

SIR, I have the honor to inform you that I came here in the *Vixen* the 13th Instant from Syracuse, where I left the *Constitution* making some necessary repairs on the Bowsprit and overhauling and refitting Rigging &c^s. The Bowsprit rec^d some damage in a heavy Gale of Wind off Tripoly last month, but I shall make it do with what repairs our Carpenters can give it. I think it will be well to send out a Spare Bowsprit, and the necessary wood for a lower Mast as neither can be procured here and in the event of losing either I should be obliged to leave this station and go to Toulon to replace it, which would to me be a grievous and mortifying circumstance. The co[a]st of Tripoly is extremely dangerous at this season of the year but I could not avoid paying it a visit, and on the morning of the 23rd Ulto I captured a vessel in sight of Tripoly which left that port in the Night bound to Bengaza. She was under Turkish colours, and Navigated by Turks and Greeks, but had on board two Tripoline Officers of distinction, a son of one of the Officers a number of Tripoline Soldiers, and 42 Black Men and Women Slaves belonging to the Bashaw and his Subjects, and a small sum of about 1000 dollars in money, Tripoline property. My object in coming over here was to attend to the Translation of the papers, to look out for some good Boats for light cruisers and to forward some necessary supplies to our unfortunate Country Men.

If I find on the translation of the papers that the Vessel is Turkish property I shall release her together with all the people claimed by the Captain Viz. An Officer of the Captain Pacha three Turks and seven Greeks the remainder amounting to about Sixty Tripolines and Slaves belonging to the Bashaw and his Subjects I shall keep as Prisoners I have written to the Bashaw proposing an exchange, and hope this Capture will enable me to release some of our Country Men, or at any rate it will afford us considerable advantage in any negotiation for a ransom or peace. I have had indirect proposals from the Bashaw for a peace. He is willing to restore the Frigate *Philadelphia* if we will give him a Schooner and and he will give up our Officers and Men for five hundred Doll. each. I believe that, on these terms he would make peace but he demands an annual

stipend for keeping it, such as the Sweeds and Danes pay him amounting to [space] doll: p^r Annum payable in [space] This we never ought to accede to, as it would stimulate the avarice of the other Barbary Powers and probably induce them to make War upon us. I am taking measures to procure two Mortar Boats, and three or four Gun Boats, and hope as soon as the season becomes favorable to make War upon Tripoly in a way that will lessen the Bashaw's demands. He seems already to be convinced that he has something to dread, or he would not propose accepting One hundred and fifty Thousand Doll: for what not long since he expected to receive Three Millions. I shall return to Syracuse in three or four days, and shall forward three setts of Dispatches by diff^r conveyances detailing all the transactions of the Squadron since the 14th December, the day on which the *Nautilus* sailed from Syracuse for Gibraltar with my dispatches up to that date, by her I forwarded three setts of Dispatches and one set by the *Traveller* Store Ship, with all the particulars of the loss of the *Philadelphia* and other occurrences. I gave one set in charge of M^r Gadson who was directed to proceed to the United States with them by the first Vessel from Gibraltar, one set directed to M^r Gavino to forward to Cadiz to M^r Yznardy, to forward by the first Vessel from that Port, and two setts to M^r Gavino who was to forward them by different conveyances. Of course it is hardly possible but some of them must have reached you. I shall however briefly state that in chace of a Tripoline she [*Philadelphia*] ran on the rocks off Tripoly the 1st November; that most of her Guns were thrown over board; her Fore Mast cut away, and other measures adopted for lightening her to endeavour to get her off but without effect, and that after an attack of about 4 hours by the Gun Boats, she surrendered, and all the Officers and Crew amounting to 307 Men were made prisoners.

The Civil and Military Government of this Island have represented to me by letters that a number of Bullocks were purchased by them at Tripoly, and paid for previous to my declaring it in a state of Blockade, and requesting permission to bring their property out of that Country, in consequence of which I have allowed them until the last of February to bring them away stipulating however that the Vessels should bring no other property away, and that they should proceed to Tripoly in Ballast I hope you will approve of this indulgence, as the season of the year is such, that it is not prudent to keep so near the Coast as to enable us closely to Blockade it. After February has expired I shall be able to cruise near the Coast, and no farther indulgence shall be granted to any Nation. The peculiar situation of this property I hope will justify my acceding to the request

The *Nautilus* has not yet returned from Gibraltar. The *Syren* returned to Syracuse the week before last from Algiers where she carried the Money &c^s from Leghorn. She has refitted her Rigging and to improve her sailing her Main Mast has been removed farther aft. I shall send her immediately on a cruise off Cape Bon, and to look into Tunis occasionally to receive any interesting intelligence D^r Davis may have to communicate. The *Enterprize* returned to Syracuse the 29th Ultio from a cruise off Tripoly since which L^t Decatur has requested a survey on her, stating that her hull is in too weak and decayed a state to proceed to Sea in the Winter season I accordingly ordered a survey by L^t Commandant Smith L^t Command^r Steward,

L^t Dent, and two Carpenters who reported her rotten, and not sea worthy for winter cruising of course she must lay by until the month of April, this leaves me only the *Syren* and two Schooners as the *Argus* has returned to Gibraltar after having convoyed Vessels to Leghorn, and she must remain at Gib^t until relieved, which I hope will be soon as she is the best Vessel in our service for cruising in these seas. She sails wonderfully fast, has been tried with the *Syren*, and sails more than a third faster and will certainly outsail the *Vixen* as much.

We are much in want of an agent both here and at Syracuse. Our Consul M^t Pulis does not speak a word of English he speaks Maltese, and Italian, but still he may answer for Consul but for an Agent to procure Articles wanted for the Squadron, negotiate Bills, &c^e he will not do. We can have no communication but by a Linguist. he is very inattentive to our concerns. I beg leave to recommend William Higgins Esq^r a Merchant in this place of respectability and influence, attentive and attached to our Interests and concerns, for an Agent here; and George Dyson Esq^r a Merch^t at Syracuse for our Agent there. He is a Gentleman of respectability is very attentive, and is the only person in the place proper for the appointment. I am under the necessity of employing those two Gentlemen until I can know the pleasure of the President I hope you will please to recommend them, for I assure you we cannot have better Agents. I am induced to recommend them from patriotic motives only.

The Bashaw of Tripoly's brother who is his declared Enemy is now at Alexandria, and has all the Arabs & a number of Mamelukes at his command, and wishes to march to the siege of Tripoly, but is destitute of Money, Powder, or Field Artillery. His consul has been with me this morning for assistance. He wants 50 Barrels of Powder Six Brass 4 & 6 Pounds and Eighty or Ninety thousand Dollars. This he thinks with our assistance by sea would put him in possession of Tripoly; and I am very certain that it would in less than two months. He offers perpetual Peace as soon as he is in possession of the Government, to give us hostages & if we chuse, allow us to hold the principal Fort at the entrance of the Harbour, or in fact to allow us to make our own terms to release our Country Men, and all Christian Slaves in the regency I wish earlier notice had been taken of this man and his views. In fact I am astonished that the first or second Squadron did not oblige the Bashaw of Tripoly to sign any treaty they pleased. I have less force than either with ten times the force to contend with. The Tripolines by May will have 19 Gun Boats and unless we have Boats to fight them in their own way we shall not be likely to succeed. If you will allow me to expend One hundred Thousand Dollars in such additional Naval force as I think proper, I will take Tripoly or perish in the attempt. I am confident that it may easily be destroyed or taken in the summer with Gun & Mortar Boats protected by our Cruisers.

N. B. I cannot but observe that the Officers of the Civil & Military dep^t of this place have been extremely attentive to me, and have given every assurance of being friendly disposed towards the United States. Admiral Bickerton called on me this morning to assure me that the conduct of Captains Gore and Sutton in giving protection to our deserters met his disapprobation and that he had no doubt but Lord Neilson would order them to be delivered up. That in future no such

thing would happen promissing me at the same time, every assistance that their ports offered.

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

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

UNITED STATES SCHOONER *Vixen*
Malta Harbor, 17th Jan^r 1804

DEAR SIR, I was honored with your esteem'd favor by the *Siren*, and most sincerely deplore the loss of the *Philadelphia* and its attendant consequences — it was to me an unexpected & mortifying circumstance, but we must make the best of it —

I have not yet, had it in my power to send a boat on shore at Tripoli on account of the severe weather I met with near that Coast. On the 23rd December in sight of Tripoli, I captured a Vessel [the *Mastico*, renamed the *Intrepid*] under Turkish Colours from that Port only a few hours out, bound to Bengaza: she had on board two Tripoline Officers of Distinction, a number of Tripoline Soldiers, 30 Young black Women, and 12 black Boys, some belonging to the Bashaw, and some to Tripoline Merchants, and some of the Officers side arms &c^s captured in the *Philadelphia*

The prize is now in Syracuse where I have established my head quarters: I came here yesterday in the *Vixen* to have the papers of the prize translated, and to forward some necessary supplies to Captain Bainbridge his Officers and Crew —

I hope this capture will enable me to effect the release of some of our Countrymen as I have proposed an Exchange — I shall write you as soon as I know the result of my proposition to the Bashaw. & shall by the next opportunity send you copies of my letters.

It will not do to be too anxious for the ransom of our friends, as the Bashaws demands will undoubtedly be too exorbitant to meet the Concurrence of our Government —

I am taking measures to lessen his pretentions as soon as the weather becomes favorable to our Operations and hope to convince him, that it will be for his interest to make peace on reasonable terms — It would be imprudent in me at present to make known to you by letter my plans, I shall e're long send a Vessel to Algiers. you will then have all the information I can give you —

Make my best respects to M^{rs} Lear. and believe me with sentiments of Esteem, and the highest respect Dear Sir,

P. S. Make my respectfull regards to M^r Obrien and tell him I received his letter by the *Siren*, and shall write him by the Vessel, I intend sending to Algiers

[Stephen Decatur Col.]

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

MALTA 17th January 1804

SIR I enclose you a letter for Col Lear which I beg you to forward as soon as possible; this is the first opportunity I have had of writing you since my arrival in these Seas. I came here yesterday in the Schooner *Vixen* from Syracuse (where I have established my head

quarters and general rendezvous) for the purpose of sending some necessaries to Tripoly for the comfort of our unfortunate Countrymen; and to get some Arabic Papers translated which I found on board a Vessel that I captured in sight of Tripoly the 23rd Ulto. The Vessel alluded to, was from Tripoly bound to Bengaza under Turk's colours, and had on board two Tripoline Officers of distinction, the son of one of the Officers, a number of Tripoline Soldiers, 30 Black Women and 12 Black Men, which were intended to be sent to Constantinople from Bengaza for sale. If the Vessel proves to be Turkish property, I shall release her, together with all the people which the Captain claims; Viz an Officer of the Captain Pacha, 3 Turkish Sailors & Seven Greeks; the others he acknowledges are Tripolines does not claim them. The whole number of Tripolines on board, is between 60 & 70 and I trust this capture will release some of our Countrymen, or afford us a considerable advantage in any negotiation with the Bashaw. As you are acquainted with all the circumstances of the loss of the *Philadelphia*, and are well able to judge of the consequences, I am making preparations for the commencement of a vigorous campaign in the Spring

It will afford me pleasure to hear from you often and to co-operate with you in every measure for the good of our Country, and be assured I shall lose no opportunity of giving you all the information in my power. I shall ere long, send a Vessel to Tunis, and shall write you more particularly respecting my views. The uncertainty of a letter reaching you excepting by one of our own Vessels forbids an unrestrained communication. Write me under cover to M^r William Higgins of this place Merch^t or to the Consul M^r Pulis. A few days since I rec^d a packet from you directed to Comm^r Morris enclosing a letter from the Bey of Tunis, some letters respecting M^r Cathcart and papers respecting the prize captured by the *Enterprise*, the whole of which I shall forward to the U S immediately.

JANUARY 18th The translation of the papers of the Vessel I captured off Tripoly is finished, and I find that one of the Officers on board is a choush of the Bashaw's who was ordered to present 20 of the Negroes on board to the Captain Pacha on his arrival at Constantinople from Bengaza where he was going to take on board two hundred firkins of Butter, and some other property.

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803-April 1804.]

[17 January 1804]

Concerning the Polacre *Paulina*

The declaration of Daniel Charles Heath, acting lieutenant in the navy of the United States, and late prize-master on board the polacre *Paulina*, captured by Lieutenant Commandant Sterrett, under the order of Commodore Morris, of the American squadron in the Mediterranean, taken on oath before the Committee of Claims, on the 31st January, A. D. 1804, viz

That the deponent was on board the *Enterprise* at the time of the capture of the said polacre *Paulina*, which took place off the island of Malta; that the prize was carried into the port of Vallette by Lieutenant Lawrence, who afterwards returned on board the *Enterprise*, and the charge of the polacre was committed to the deponent, as prize-master, on or about the 19th January, A. D. 1803. That on

the 29th of the same month, David Valenzin, and several other persons captured on board the polacre, were put on board the *Enterprise*, and sent to Tunis, as the deponent was informed; that the deponent received orders from Lieutenant Commandant Sterrett, approved by Commodore Morris, then at Tunis, to deliver to the Bey of Tunis, or his order, the greater part of the cargo of the polacre, as particularized in the said order. The residue of the cargo, which was said to belong to David Valenzin, the deponent sold by the order of Commodore Morris. The sales were completed by the 9th June, 1803; the gross amount of which being \$2,665 70 reduced to American currency, may be seen by the accounts of Joseph Pulis, Esq., American consul at Malta, and Mr. William Higgens, who had the management of the sales of said cargo, and whose accounts of the sales are now before the Committee of Claims; and the nett proceeds, after deducting some charges and expenses, amount to two thousand one hundred and forty-four dollars and eleven cents. From which sum the deponent paid to Commodore Morris (as per receipt) five doubloons, and the balance, estimated at two thousand and sixty-four dollars and eleven cents, was by the deponent deposited, with the approbation of the Secretary of the Navy, in the bank of discount and deposit in this city, on the 17th December, 1803; that as the deponent was leaving this city, he left his papers relative to the disposal of the cargo of the polacre *Paulina* with Mr. Goldsborough, clerk in the Navy Department.

The raisins, figs, and cheese, which Mr. Pulis had the management of the sale of, were in a perished and perishing state.

The part of the cargo that Mr. Higgens had the management of the sale of, which was perished and in a perishing state, is particularized in a certificate given by Mr. George Pierce and Mr. Lure, which the committee have an opportunity of seeing.

The deponent further saith that the proportion of Valenzin's property in a perished and perishing condition was but small, not exceeding, perhaps, four hundred dollars in value.

DANIEL C. HEATH.

Sworn before me,

JOHN C. SMITH, *Chairman*.

[For further details regarding this capture attention is invited to pp. 292-296, American State Papers, Claims.]

[Am. State Papers, Claims.]

To Hon. John C. Smith, United States Congress, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPT^t

Jan^y 17, 1804 —

I have rec^d your letter of the 5th ins^t —

I concur in opinion with the Committee of claims that some temporary provision ought to be made by government for David Valenzin; but I have not the power, consistently, to make any provision for him. —

[NDA. Cong. LB, 1798-1811.]

[17 January 1804]

To Charles Pinckney, U. S. Minister to Madrid, Spain, from Secretary of State

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

April 21st 1804

SIR, I have the honor to inclose the report of the Committee of claims to the House of Representatives and an Act of Congress respecting David Valenzin, a principal owner of the cargo of the Polacre *Paulina*, Cap^t Radich, captured in January 1803 by Cap^t Sterritt of the United States schooner *Enterprise* which has been a subject of complaint by the Imperial Minister at Madrid. They are transmitted to you together with the inclosed documents from Commodore Morris with a view to explain the particulars of the capture and subsequent proceedings in relation to the pretended prize. These are certainly marked with irregularities, which doubtless proceeded more from mistaken conceptions of duty than from a disposition to oppress the captured. In the mean time, it is hardly susceptible of a question that Valenzin was a subject of Tripoli and as such his property liable to condemnation. It is understood that no actual blockade of Tripoli existed at the time of capture, and therefore that the vessel was not forfeitable but entitled to freight. That the capture was lawful and justifiable is not doubted, but what is to be regretted is the misapprehension which induced the captors to expect an adjudication at Malta or Gibraltar and finally to send the papers and owner of part of the cargo to the United States without the property. You may therefore signify to the Imperial Minister that the United States having a particular interest in respecting and seeing respected the neutral flag cannot but disapprove of whatever has happened in derogation of its rights in this particular instance; that their Courts of justice being distinguished for a liberal regard to the rights of foreigners it is to be expected that the Imperial subjects will receive adequate compensation for the wrongs committed, on making a proper application accompanied with the necessary proofs; but that if any peculiar circumstances should render the judicial remedy less applicable or extensive than may satisfy the claims of ample justice, the Legislature will doubtless listen to their complaint with the same favorable disposition by which they were led to pass the Act in Valenzin's case.

* * * * *

JAMES MADISON

[NA. SDA. Dip. Cor., Inst. to Min., Vol. 6, Oct. 1801–May 1808.]

[17 January 1804]

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

Copy

Washington April 10. 1804 —

SIR, The Imperial Polacre *Paulina* was captured by Lieu^t Sterett. The particular circumstances relative to the capture and detention of that Vessel, are as follows — on the 18th of January 1803, he captured and brought into the Harbour of Malta the Imperial Polacre *Paulina*, Lucca Radish Master; she was bound from Malta to the Port of Tripoli laden with merchandize the property of Tripolitans, and having the Subjects of the Bashaw of Tripoli on board, one of

which was the principal of the Charter Party and Claimant of the principal part of the Cargo. Lucca Radish, Master of said Polacre took this cargo on board at Malta well knowing the situation of Tripoli with the United States. The Master of the Vessel that brought this Cargo from Smyrna refused to proceed to Tripoli and others were solicited to take it on board; none would venture but Lucca Radish. M^r Pulis was ordered to obtain the oath of a Master of a Merchant Vessel there who had refused to take the Cargo on board "that he had refused to take it on board because it was to be carried to a blockaded port". I solicited Sir Alexander Ball Governor of Malta to direct a Trial on the said Polacre. He assured me it was not in his power; the only alternative was to endeavour to have the Validity of Capture investigated at Gibraltar and for that purpose carried the papers first discovered, with Lucca Radish and the Boatswain, to answer the necessary Interrogatories, and that he might be satisfied no illegal advantages were intended to be taken of him. His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent then Governor of Gibraltar did not think proper to let the Court of Admiralty take Cognizance of the Affair. I was then compelled to send the papers with the Tripolitans to America; it was also my intention to have sent Lucca Radish to the United States if he would not consent to relinquish all claims to freight and demurrage which I was induced to believe he was not entitled to. This offer made by M^r Sterett to him and the Imperial Consul at Gibraltar at my request and in my presence. I sent Lieu^t Sterett with the papers and vouchers found on board of her and at the same time, I sent by Cap^t Barron my correspondence with Sir Alex^r Ball and the Imperial Consul at Malta on the subject of the Capture. My principal object in sending M^r Sterett to the United States was that a full and perfect report might be made to the Secretary of the Navy relative to the capture and detention of that vessel. On the 1st July hearing that Lucca Radish was at Malta, I wrote M^r Pulis a letter specifying the particular Terms upon which he would be justified in giving Lucca Radish the possession of the Polacre; of which letter the enclosed is a Copy. Those terms were complied with and Lucca Radish took possession of that vessel. I know of no irregularities that may have taken place in relation to that vessel, and consequently can say nothing on that subject. I do not recollect any other offers having been made to Radish concerning that vessel except those already stated. —

R^d V. MORRIS —

[NA. SDA. Misc. L., Jan.-July 1804.]

[Enclosure]

[17 January 1804]

To Joseph Pulis, U. S. Consul, Malta, from Captain Richard V. Morris, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES FRIGATE *New York*
Malta Harbour 1st July 1803

SIR, I have to request that you will acquaint Lucca Radish master of the Imperial Polacre *Paulina* that I have instructed you to offer to put him in immediate possession of said Polacre provided he will conjointly with you have the Polacre Valued and he Radish leave a security for the payment of the said sum she may be valued at, should she be condemned in America by a regular Court established for the

purpose of taking cognizance of vessels circumstanced as she is — if he should refuse to acquiesce to this proposition you will please to inform him that in order to avoid a waste of property by decay and otherwise to which Vessels are exposed by so long laying up as to gain intelligence from the United States you are authorised to sell the Polacre *Paulina* at Public Sale and hold the amount of her proceeds until a decision takes place and if favorable to Lucca Radish, you will be instructed to remit the money to him or his Order, you will please to make the representation immediately and request an answer —

Signed. R V. MORRIS

To JOSEPH PAULIS Esq
U S. Consul, Malta

[NA. SDA. Misc. L., Jan.—July 1804.]

[17 January 1804]

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

Hon. ROBERT SMITH.

On the 15th January, 1803, Lieutenant Sterrett received the enclosed orders to cruise. On the 17th he boarded and brought in for trial the imperial polacre brig, bound from Malta to Tripoli, laden with merchandise, the property of Tripolines, and having on board the subjects of the Bashaw of Tripoli, one of whom was the principal of the charter-party and claimant of the principal part of the cargo. Lucca Radishjz, the master of the said brig, took this cargo in at the port of Malta, well knowing the relative situation of Tripoli with the United States. The master of the vessel that brought this cargo from Smyrna refused to proceed to Tripoli, and others were solicited to take it on board. None would venture but Lucca Radishjz. Mr. Pulis was ordered to take the oath of a master of a merchant ship to that effect. I solicited Sir Alexander Ball to grant a trial on the said polacre. He assured me that it was not in his power. My only alternative was to endeavor to have the validity of the capture investigated at Gibraltar; and for that purpose carried the papers first discovered, with Lucca Radishjz, the master, and the boatswain, to answer the necessary interrogations, and that he might be satisfied that there were no illegal advantages taken of him. His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, then the Governor of Gibraltar, did not think proper to let the court of admiralty take cognizance of the affair. I was then compelled to send the papers, with the Tripolines, to America. It was also my intention to have sent Lucca Radishjz to the United States, if he would not consent to relinquish all claims to freight and demurrage, which I was induced to believe he was not entitled to. This offer Mr. Sterrett made him, at my request. He absconded from the United States' ship *Chesapeake*, and refused the offer made to him and the imperial consul at Gibraltar. My correspondence with Sir Alexander Ball was perfectly satisfactory respecting the distance the polacre was taken from the land. Mr. Heath was prize-master, and can give every information of the pretended insult made to the imperial flag, and the treatment of the crew. The petitioner, David Valenzin, is the person alluded to as being the principal in the charter-party, and a subject of the Bashaw of Tripoli. Both can be proved by papers

which were discovered on board the vessel detained by Lieutenant Sterrett, and were put in his possession when he left the Mediterranean, in the *Chesapeake* frigate, for America. The contract of the charter-party was in the name of Lucca Radishjz, the master of the imperial brig, on the one part, and David Valenzin on the other part, as principal owner of the cargo. As a proof that David Valenzin is a subject of Tripoli, a regular attested certificate from the British consul to that effect was discovered among the secreted papers; and, as a further proof, Mr. Cathcart knew him in Tripoli as a broker, and his father as a merchant in the city of Tripoli, and always considered him a Tripoline. His servant has also declared him a Tripoline, as well as himself.

RICHARD V. MORRIS.

[Am. State Papers, Claims.]

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

NAV. DEP^t

Jan^y 18. 1804

I am desirous of engaging a ship carpenter and constructor to superintend the repairs of the public ships at this place and perform such other duties in the line of his profession as may be required of him — I have therefore to request that you will make enquiry and ascertain whether a suitable person can be procured in Philadelphia or not — We require a man who unites science with practical information in his profession to such an one we will allow a salary of 2000 D^r p^r annum — Should you succeed in finding a Gentleman of the requisite qualifications disposed to accept the appointment you will let me know it and you may assure him of the probability of his being appointed —

There is no station in the gift of this Department of more importance nor any which requires a greater extent of Science than the one we are about to fill — It becomes us therefore to have the most unequivocal assurances of fitness in all respects for the appointment before we confer it —

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

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

TRIPOLI BARBARY 18th January 1804

SIR, I have had the honor to address you several times since the unfortunate loss of the United States Frigate *Philadelphia*, and twice sent you *Ciphers* to enable us to communicate without danger from detection; it is near three months since the distressing event, and as yet have not had the pleasure of hearing from you, altho' anxiously expecting it. I feel confident that you must have good reasons for not communicating, for I cannot think that my unfortunate situation has changed that regard which you professed; but situated as I am you may naturally suppose the great desire I must have to hear from the Commodore whom I had the honor of serving under, and who is the proper Representative of my Country for me to address.

It is unnecessary for me to make a repetition of the late unfortunate event, — suffice it to say that every day is an age until I can justify my conduct before a Court Martial, where I do not in the least dread the strictest examination.

The day after you appeared off here on the 23 ult^o, a Russian Vessel with Turkish soldiers arrived from Smyrna; and a few days after a Tripolitan Cruiser from Derne, with considerable money; and many valuable presents for the Bashaw. About ten days since a Polacre rigged ship of twelve guns went out a Cruising.

[See paragraphs 5, 6 and 7 of a letter to Tobias Lear dated 14 January 1804]

* * * * *

In my former letters I mentioned, when you appeared off here, by hoisting a White Flag and firing a gun to call attention, and if a White Flag in answer was hoisted by the Bashaw, you may send a boat on shore with safety.

We have been much necessitated for a Credit, — which difficulty is removed by M^r Davis's, charge of Affairs, letters, by authorising my drawing on him, but the exchange is 25 p^r cent against us on Tunis, which is the only place we can get money for: this great loss can only be prevented by having money sent us from Malta.

In one of my letters I suggested the idea of destroying the Frigate (which lies in the harbour); — I think it very practicable by sending a few boats prepared with combustable to burn her; the Gun-boats are hauled up, and was a Vessel only to make the Town of Tripoli about sun-set so as to prevent her being seen from the shore, and then stand in for the Town, her boats might get into the harbour unnoticed; no person, or very few, ever stays on board the Frigate; and the Gun-boats could not be launched before the service would be performed. If it is attempted, it should be done this Winter, and the first night that the vessel comes off, to take them unawares, for it could not be effected when they were prepared; — the wind in the night is generally off the land.

I hope soon to see you off here to ask the demands of the Bashaw, for the sooner that question is put, I concieve the better. If Consul O'Brien could be prevailed on to come here to assist you in negotiating, he would be very serviceable by speaking the language and knowing the Customs of the Country.

Pray inform me what advance I am to make to the Officers. — Five of the Crew have turned Turks, and two have died — our number is at present three hundred.

I beg the favor of your sending us American News papers when opportunity offers.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 9, Jan.-Feb. 1804.]

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

MALTA January 18th 1804

DEAR SIR, I rec^d your letter of the 12th Ulto at Syracuse Via Palermo The cargo of the *Traveller* was delivered agreeable to Bill of Lading and I hope ere this you have received my Dispatches by the *Nautilus* and *Traveller*. I thank you for the information your letter contains, and shall profit by it.

My reception here by the Navy Department as well as the Civil and Military is rather more flattering than at Gibraltar although I cannot but highly esteem your Governor Sir Thomas Trigg and Others and beg you to make my respects to him, General Barnet and Col. Tyres — Col: Lear and family were well a short time since. I am pleased to hear the *Essex* is soon to be out, and expect the *Con-*

gress & Boston will very soon follow. I find your friend M^r Higgins the man I should wish for an Agent here. I have employed him as such, and you will govern yourself accordingly notwithstanding any thing I may have written you heretofore. However you will consign all the Stores that may arrive for the Squadron under my command to Syracuse to George Dyson Esq^r Merchant whom I have appointed Agent for the Squadron of the U S in these Seas Your correspondence will at all times afford me pleasure The *Nautilus* sailed from Syracuse for Gibraltar the 14th Ulto with my Dispatches, and the particulars of the loss of the *Philadelphia* &c^s — I am momentarily expecting her return.

P. S. You will please attend to forward the letters which accompany this, as they are of importance. On the 23rd Ulto off Tripoly I captured a Vessel with some of the Bashaw's Principal Officers, a number of Soldiers, 30 Young Women &c^s in all upwards of sixty persons.

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

To William Kirkpatrick, U. S. Consul, Malaga, Spain, from Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES BRIG *Argus*
Gibraltar Bay 18th Jan^y 1804

SIR, I have the pleasure to congratulate you on your return to your house in Town, and the restoration of health at Malaga, and am happy to learn that your family has escaped the dreadful calamity that has so long threatened that place. —

You no doubt have heard of the Capture of the Frigate *Philadelphia* by the Tripolians, and all the mortifying and unpleasant circumstances attending it. —

I have no news to send you, as there has not been any late arrivals, either from England or America. — I have however seen the arrival of Cap^t Rodgers at Washington in a Baltimore Paper, but not one word has yet made its appearance about Commodore Morris. —

The *Nautilus* Captain Somers sailed last Evening for Syracuse, but has nothing new for the Commodore. —

The *Argus* is now ready for Sea, and will sail in two or three days for Tangier, and from thence to Cadiz, where I intend to remain eight or ten days, in the course of which time, I am in hopes the communication from this to Malaga will be open, as I intend paying you a Visit on my return from Cadiz. — Should you have any Commands from Cadiz to your place, you will please write me, and rest assured they shall be attended to. —

[NDA. Isaac Hull LB, 1803–1804.]

[18 January 1804]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from Charles Pinckney, U. S. Minister to Madrid, Spain

(Copy) (Duplicate)

“DEAR SIR, “[I]n pursuance of what I wrote you, I spoke to the “French Ambassador here, and the English & Danish Ministers, “to write to their Consuls or Agents at Tripoly to use their best “endeavours to have our unfortunate Countrymen’s situation allevi-

“ated as much as possible. and to get them the best treatment in their
 “power. I am hopeful their influence will do much to soften their
 “sufferings. I mentioned to the French & English Ambassador &
 “Minister to authorize their Consuls to aid the exertions I knew you
 “would make to have them furnished with money for clothes and
 “necessaries, and I w^d reimburse their expenditures here as far as two
 “or three Thousand dollars. That I had no authority to say any-
 “thing on the question of Ransom, as I do not know the course our
 “Gov^t means to pursue on this subject, but that this expenditure was
 “solely to render their situation a little more comfortable, and in aid
 “of your exertions. That I was not authorized even to do this, as
 “the Barbary affairs were more particularly committed to you &
 “Commodore Preble’s management; but in the case of so many of our
 “brave Countrymen suffering as they are in the public service, I was
 “sure our Gov^t w^d approve what I had done. Please let me hear from
 “you, and when you write Captⁿ Bainbridge mention what I have
 “done, and please do the same to the Secretary of State. * * * *

“January 18th 1804

“In MADRID.” —

“I have not the pleasure to know Captⁿ Bainbridge, or yourself
 “personally; but I beg you to assure him, and be convinced yourself,
 “that anything I can do here to serve him and his fellow sufferers,
 “will be done, and that you & they may command me in anything
 “which may appear useful in this, or any other business.

“I beg sometime to hear from you through our Consul at Alicant,
 “on our Barbary Affairs.” —

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

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, com-
 manding, Wednesday, 18 January 1804

This day begins with moderate and light airs from the Eastward at
 10 AM got the Top Gallant Yards across and bent the sails at 11
 unmoored Weighed and stood out of the bay [of Gibraltar] —
 [En route to Tangier] Lowered the Jolly boat down to board an
 American bound in lay by for the boat, the Vessel proved to be the
 Brig *American Eagle* from boston bound to Trieste made sail to the
 Westward —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, com-
 manding, Thursday, 19 January 1804

These 24 hours Commence with moderate Breezes and Clear at 2
 P M Europa point bore E ½ N 3 leagues at 4 brought too in Tangier
 bay the town bearing W ½ N dist^o 5 miles moored, the Starboard
 Anchor N, E, and larboard Anchor S. E, in 14 f^m Sandy bottom
 found here the british frigate *Dianna* sent the Jolly boat with an
 Officer on Shore at 6 the boat returned —

[NDA photostat.]

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

MALTA *January 20th 1804.*

SIR I have rec^d further proposals indirectly from the Bashaw He appears to be willing to give me as many of our Officers & Men as I have Tripolines in exchange. For the remainder I suspect he is willing to take 400 dollars for each, and make Peace without any considerations or annual Stipend or Tribute, and give us the Frigate for a Schooner. These terms will be thought favorable by the United States. I shall send a vessel to Col: Lear to consult him, and in the mean time take the necessary steps for lessening the Bashaw's expectations. You may rely with confidence that no exertions on my part shall be wanting to retrieve our National Naval character which has suffered considerably in this part of the World.

I dare not make an unrestrained communication of the objects which I have immediately in view for fear of a miscarriage of my letters.

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803-April 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 20 January 1804

[Moored in Tangier Bay] These 24 hours Commence with light airs from the Westward and Cloudy Weather at Meridian unmoored weighed and made sail

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Friday, 20 January 1804

[Malta] The *Vixen* taking on board the stores left by the *Philadelphia*, Stores sent up from Gibraltar and Stores purchased for the use of the Squadron — Dined with General Oakes the Commander in chief of the army, the principal part of the field and Staff of the Army, and the Captains of the Navy were present Our Consul has not yet presented me with the translation of some of the Prizes papers altho' he promised them some days Since —

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

To Captain Daniel Carmick, U. S. Marine Corps, from Secretary of the Navy

NAV DEP

21 Jan^y 1804

SIR You will proceed immediately in the brig *Superior*, with the detachment of Marines under your command, to New Orleans — on your arrival there you will report yourself to the officer commanding the army at that place, under whose orders you are to act —

The Contractor for the army in that quarter will supply your detachment with rations — agreeably to the enclosed copy of a letter from the Secretary of War to the commanding officer — M^r Alline will leave this in a few days for Fort Pitt — from whence he will proceed with money for the use of the detachment, to New Orleans — He will act as Pay Master of the detachment — & receive from this Department particular instructions relative to the supplies that may be required by the detachment.

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

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Saturday, 21 January 1804

[Malta] Received the Translation of some of the prizes papers which clearly prove the property on board to be Tripoline: Conversed with the Governor and Admiral respecting the Deserters detained by Cap^{ts} Gore & Sutton: The Admiral disapproved the Conduct of the Captain and promised to make a representation to Lord Nelson; who, he had assured me he had no doubt, would order the men returned and that no conduct of the same nature should again take place — I likewise recieved indirect proposals for a peace with Tripoly — .

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

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Saturday, 21 January 1804

Moderate Breezes & clear weather. At Anchor in Saragosa Employed rattling & tarring down the rigging. Towards evening the weather became overcast and had the appearance of a gale from the south^d; cleared hawse & bitted a range of the sheet cable. At 7 in the evening the weather cleared up. Employed cleaning ship. departed this life John Sloan Seaman: his body was put into a boat, carried out to sea & committed to the deep — Towards noon the weather cleared away The Ships company employed scraping the studding sail booms & fleeting the back stays — Surgeons report Thirty sick, 13 conv^{es}ts & 1 dead. At Noon calm The *Constitution* at 8 A. M. hoisted a Jack as a signal for the guard.

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

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

MALTA Jan^y 22^d 1804

SIR I do hereby appoint you agent for the Squadron of the United States in the Mediterranean under my Command, Authorizing you to recieve the supplies forwarded from the U. S. for the use of Said Squadron, To purchase such as may be wanted, and to issue the same and to transact all such business as is generally transacted by Agents. You will at all times supply the Ships & Vessells of the Squadron with such articles as they may want on the requisitions of their respective Commanders taking duplicate receipts for the same: From the representations I have made to the Navy department I have no doubt but the President of the U. S. Will confirm you as naval Agent for this Place.

(Signed) EDWARD PREBLE

W^m HIGGINS Esq^r
Hereby appointed Naval agent
of the U. S. at Malta.

[Similar appointment sent to George Dyson of Syracuse, 27 January 1804.]

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

[22 January 1804]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from the Agent of Hamet Caramanli,
lawful Bashaw of Tripoli

May it PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY

your Excellency will be Pleased to excuse me for Pointing out the impossibility of reducing Tripoli next Summer, unless you send for the Bashaw of Derna by landing him there or at Bengaza where he will be joined by his friends and ready to Cooperate with Your Excellency when ever news arive from America, Should he remain three or four months where he is untill the answer arive and then to send for him it will take three Months more, then there would only be a few weeks of good wether for reducing Tripoli

but should your Excellency be Pleased to take my advice to send one of your Vessels for him *now* and land him Either at Derna or Bengaza he would then be ready to Cooperate with your Excellency when ever the news arives from America, in that case I will go with some of his freinds in the Vessel who will furnish the money untill the answer arive, as delay may be dissagreable and unfortunate to America and to my Prince also

SALVATORE BUSUTTI
Console di Sidi Ahmet Caramalli

given at MALTA

Jan'y. 22^d 1804

[LC. EPP, Vol. 9, Jan.-Feb. 1804.]

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

These 24 hours Commence with Moderate Breezes at Meridian unmoored weighed and made all sail to the Westward at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 2 set studding sails on the larb^d side forward aloft at 4 Europa point bore E $\frac{1}{4}$ N dist^e 6 leagues Cabritta point E $\frac{3}{4}$ N 2 leagues town of Terriffa E b N $\frac{1}{2}$ N dist^e about 4 miles Cape Spartel W S W 3 Leagues 2 Sail in sight one of the two sail fired a shot over us backed the main Top sail and lay too for her at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 spoke his Britannic Majestys frigate *Maidstone* Sounded Constantly during the night at 6 Cadiz light house bore N E b N at 10 sent the Jolly boat to a fishing boat for a pilot she returned with one Mustered the people Variously Employed

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S.
Navy, commanding, Sunday, 22 January 1804

at anchor in Saragosa *Syren* and *Enterprize* in Company, the ships Company Employ^d overhawling the Rigging and cleansing ship We had pleasant weather through the night. at 9 in the morning the *Syren* hoisted the Signal for the port guard. the Ships Company Employ^d as necessary, and Restowing the spare Bower anchor. the Trepoletian prize continues in Quarantine Shee is dayly supply^d with water and provission from the *Constitution*,

[NA. ND original.]

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

MALTA Jan^y 23, 1804

DEAR SIR You will receive a present supply of money from here through The British Consul B M^cDonogh Esq^t forwarded by M^r Higgins

Any letters for me you will direct to the care of William Higgins Esq^t whom I have appointed Agent at this port for the Squadron of the U S in these seas, & I am confident that he will pay you every attention. The clothing and other stores which ought to have been with you six weeks since, were detained by M^r Pulis and for what reason I know not.

Your drafts on M^r Higgins will be duly honored, keep up your spirits and despair not, recollect there's a sweet little cherub that sits up aloft.

May the Almighty disposer of all events aid me in my plans and operations for the good of my Country and may you be liberated by this is the hope of your friend who esteems you

[LC. EPP, Vol. 9, Jan.-Feb. 1804.]

To Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy, from James Leander Cathcart, Leghorn
Copy

LEGHORN 23rd of Jan^y 1804.

SIR, On receipt of M^r Nissen's letter of the 2nd of Novem^r 1803, informing me of the loss of the United States Frigate the *Philadelphia* under your command, I immediately forwarded a credit to M^r Nissen for \$4000 with orders to draw upon M^r Frederick Degen of Naples or myself for the ammount, provided M^r William Higgins of Malta did not forward to him three thousand dollars in cash he having receiv'd my orders to that effect. —

In six weeks will be finish'd & ready to embark, wearing apparel for the crew as p^r the enclosed invoice & for the Officers I shall send such articles as will serve their present necessitys, which they can have made in Tripoli to their own liking much better than I can suit them by making them here, should Comodore Preble be upon your coast I request you to inform him that it will be necessary for one of the small vessels to come to Leghorn for the above cloathing as nothing is permitted to be embark'd from this place for Malta except in vessels of War, from Malta, the[y] can be sent to Tripoli under a neutral flag or landed under the sanction of a Flag of truce which ever the Comodore may conceive most expedient. —

The cash for which I have forwarded a credit you will (in conjunction with M^r Nissen) please to have distributed to the Officers & crew from time to time until government makes provision for them, as I have no orders whatever on that subject & forward these supplies of my own accord from motives of humanity not doubting but the[y] will be of infinite service to the Unfortunate sufferers, who may depend that I will do every thing in my power to alleviate their sufferings consistant with the honor of our nation & dignity of our flag. —

The deplorable event of losing the *Philadelphia* & captivity of her Officers & crew involves incalculable consequences and changes our position not only with Tripoli but the whole of the Barbary States; it is reported here that a treaty has been enter'd into between the United States & the Regency of Tripoli in consequence of the former

promising to pay the latter the sum of 450,000 dollars, & a considerable annuity, which I presume is false, as none of our Officers in this sea has power delegated to them to such extent, & it is not very probable that they would commit themselves by making unauthorized agreements which they must be sensible would involve such national consequences, that government would never ratify them; what ever may be the intentions of government the idea that the United States will ever conclude a peace with Tripoli upon dishonorable terms ought to be treated with contempt, this is the only means to induce the Bashaw to moderate his terms & to prevent the other Regencys from breaking with us; I have been eleven years in captivity myself & yet I solemnly declare that before I would see my Country obliged to accede to all the impositions which will be the consequence of concluding a precipitate peace with Tripoli that I would suffer to undergo as long a captivity again & would glory in my chains. —

It is likewise reported that the Moors have got the Frigate off the bank & are fitting her out for sea, if true (which I doubt very much) I think there is a probability that Comodore Prebble will give a good acc^t of her if he should be so fortunate as to encounter her out of gunshot of the Fortifications. —

Their has been so many reports circulated by the Jews of Barbary & others relative to your misfortune; manifestly calculated to lessen our importance as a nation & sully our maritime reputation, that I conceive it necessary to contradict them in the most pointed manner; as soon as I am inform'd of the particulars, which I request you to communicate to me as soon as possible; with the number of kill'd & wounded on both sides & such other minutia as will tend to counteract the malice of our enemies. —

I likewise request you to give me every information in your power relative to the Bashaw's sentiments on this change of position, & what are his pretensions in consequence thereof, & whether you suppose the prisoners can be redeem'd independant of entering into Treaty with him. —

Enclosed is a letter from our friend M^r Anthony Dugan which I believe encloses letters from home, I request you & your Officers to make use of my services without reserve & to believe that while I lament your unfortunate situation that I would take a singular pleasure in alleviating your sufferings and making them as supportable as possible. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 9, Jan.-Feb. 1804.]

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

MALTA January 23rd 1804.

SIR, If the Vessel bound to Tripoly by which you have shipped the clothing has not yet sailed, you will please to ship one thousand Dollars for account of the U S addressed to Captain Bainbridge for the use of himself Officers and Crew, under such cover as you may deem most proper for its safe arrival notifying him that it was shipped by my orders, and requesting duplicate receipts for the same.

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803-April 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 23 January 1804

These 24 hours Commence with moderate Breezes and Clear W^t all sail set by the wind at 2 P, M, fired a Gun and hoisted a Sig^l for a pilot standing in for Cadiz bay at 3 Shoaled to 9 fathoms Tacked Ship a pilot boat came off and gave directions for entering the bay at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 brought too abreast the town of Cadiz in $4\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms the Starboard anchor in the S. W and moored with the larboard anchor in the NE, the Northernmost of the Porgues rocks at the entrance of the bay bearing NW $\frac{1}{2}$ N the Pratique boat came alongside and ordered the Yellow flag to be hoisted, discharged the pilot at 8 AM, hoisted out the Barge Armourer employ^d with his forge loosed sails to dry —

[NDA photostat.]

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

Moderate breezes & clear weather At anchor at Saragosa — *Syren* & *Enterprize* in company — Working up Junk — Cleaning ship & fleeting the back stays — The carpenter & four of his crew on shore repairing the small cutter & painting the hammock cloaths — A. M. light airs from the West^d. Ships company employed restowing the sheet anchor & refitting the ridge ropes — We recieved the cutter from shore which was sent to be repaired 30 days ago. The Boat was repaired by the Ships carpenter The Surgeon reports 26 sick, 8 conv^{esced} & 1 discharged At Noon light airs from the South^d — .

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

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

NAV. DEPAR^t

24th Jan^y 1804

The *Betsy Walk* has a cargo of provisions on board for the use of our Squadron — M^r Bedinger will send you copy of the Charter Party invoice and bill of lading — By the Charter Party you will perceive she is to proceed to Syracuse or malta as may be advised by you — Your communications with Commodore Preble will enable you to act with sound Judgement upon this point —

I have written to Lieu^t Hull to convoy the *Betsy Walk* to her place of destination — As I have informed him I have given him this order under the impression that it will not interfere with any Service assigned to him by Commodore Preble of Greater or equal importance — Should he be of opinion however that his orders from Commodore Preble are of more consequence — than that of the Squadron being certain of a supply of provisions he will advise with you and convoy the *Betsy Walk* or not as may be determined upon Such Consultation.

As this may be a subject of great importance I have no doubt that you will bestow due attention to it — You and Lieu^t Hull will be enabled to act more understandingly upon it than I can possible do at this distance — I have therefore committed it to your discretion.

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

To Captain Miles Reddick, of the American ship *Betsy Walk*, Norfolk, Va., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPARTMENT *January 24th 1804*

As soon as you are prepared for Sea you will weigh anchor and proceed to Gibraltar where you will apply to John Gavino Esq. the American Consul for further orders respecting the disposition of the public property committed to your Charge —

I enclose letters for Commodore Preble, Lieu^t Hull Commander of the *Argus* and M^r Gavino all which you will be pleased to deliver

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

To Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Argus*, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPT^t

Jan^y 24, 1804 —

The provision ship *Betsy Walk* is to touch at Gibraltar and thence proceed to Syracuse or Malta as may be directed by M^r Gavino. You will convoy her to her place of destination. —

This order I give you under the impression that it is of great consequence that the squadron be certain of a supply of provisions, and that it will not interfere with any service assigned to you by Commodore Preble of greater or equal importance. Should I err in these impressions you will advise with M^r Gavino and afford convoy or not as you may determine upon such consultation. —

[NDA. LB, 1799-1807.]

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

NAVY DEPT^t —

Jan^y 24. 1804 —

(By the *Woodrop Sims* from Norfolk — V^e —)

I have received your letters of 23^d October 1803 from Cadiz Bay, and 9 November 1803 from Gibraltar Bay. —

By this time, I presume the Provision-ship *William and Mary* from Norfolk, has reached her destination. among other Articles she took out butter, cheese, Molasses & Candles. —

By another Provision Vessel the *Betsy Walk*, this letter will be conveyed to you — She has on board, beef, pork, flour, suet, bread, butter, rice, pease, vinegar, Molasses, cheese, cordage, and canvas of N^{os} 1. 2 & 3 — probably about 1,200 yards of N^{os} 1 & 3, and about 2,200 yards of N^o 2, which is all that we can conveniently send by this opportunity. I have also ordered some twine not exceeding 500 lbs which will be sent if the Agent can procure it in time. —

I am rather surprized that you should have made a requisition for Slop-Clothing. All the pursers of your Squadron have been supplied with sums of money for the purchase of slop clothing, & I cannot conceive to what they could have applied the sums advanced to them for that purpose. However, by the *John Adams*, we shall send you an additional Supply of bread, beef, pork &^c & we will also send some Slop-Clothing. —

The *John Adams* as a transport ship armed en flute, will sail from this country so as to arrive at Syracuse about the last of April next. I will endeavour to provide an active intelligent Commander for her. We shall send by her, Men for the *Enterprize*, & if we can procure

them, we shall also send by her 20 good able Seamen for the *Constitution*. When the Crew of the *Enterprize* shall know that they are shortly to be relieved, it is hoped they will be satisfied even if they have to remain on board a short time longer then they entered for. —

I have ordered Lieu^t Hull, (presuming that he is at or near Gibraltar) to convoy the *Betsy Walk* to her place of destination. This order I have given him (and so stated it to him) under the impression that it will [not] interfere with any service which you may have assigned to him of greater or equal importance, and should he think that the remaining in the neighbourhood of Gibraltar in the execution of your orders, will be of greater or equal importance to the squadron being certain of a supply of Provisions, he is directed to advise with M^r Gavino and convoy the *Betsy Walk* or not as may be determined upon such consultation. —

I enclose seven Mediterranean passes which you will distribute among the Vessels of your squadron, giving to each Commander, one. I hope they will answer the purpose contemplated by you. —

The report which you have made of your officers, affords me great satisfaction. It appears that the conduct of Lieu^t Livingston has presented an exception to that general correct demeanour observed by his Brother Officers. I regret his appointment. It is our duty to rid the service of such Officers; the course you intend to pursue towards him is therefore correct and proper. —

[NDA. LB, 1799-1807.]

To Lieutenant Colonel Commandant William W. Burrows, U. S. Marine Corps,
from First Lieutenant John Johnson, U. S. Marine Corps

U. S. BRIG *Argus*
Cadiz 24th Jany 1804

DEAR SIR

* * * * *

Wee have No News hear but what you have heard before now, M^r Gavino a few days ago told Me that 100 & 40 of the Crew of the *Phila*^a had petitioned, Lord Nelson, to Claim them as British Subjects, his Answer was, if he done any thing in the Business, it would be to have the Rascels all hung — wee have Just heard from Tripoly — the Officers are well treated but Closely Confined to the House — the Men are at hard labour, — the Commodore & all the Squadren exopt us in, is now off Tripoly

[MCA. LR, 1804.]

[24 January 1804]

Clothing for U. S. Prisoners in Tripoli

Invoice of Wearing apparel a making for the American prisoners at Tripoli in Barbary which are to be finish'd in six weeks from the date hereof. —

Hats.....	300	} Those Articles for the Seamen.
Shoes.....	600 pair	
Cloth Jackets & trowsers.....	300 —	
Russia duck d ^o	300 —	
Shirts.....	600 —	
Handkerchiefs if to be procured..	300 —	

A Credit for 4000 dollars has already been forwarded for the use of the Officers & crew, to be distributed at the discretion of M^r Nissen & Capⁿ Bainbridge and Wearing apparel to the ammount of one thousand dollars for the use of the Officers will be purchased & sent by the vessel that takes the seamens cloathing to Tripoli. —

JAMES LEA^r CATHCART

LEGHORN Jan^{ry} 24th 1804. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 9, Jan.-Feb. 1804.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Brig *Vixen*, 24 January 1804

sailed for Syracuse and arrived new day. [Rejoined U. S. Frigate *Constitution*.]

[LC, original.]

[25 January 1804]

To Levett Harris, U. S. Consul General, St. Petersburg, Russia, from the Grand Chancellor of the Empire of Russia

(Translation of the Original in French)

SIR I made known to the Emperor the note you addressed to me under date of the 20. of this month, by which you solicit our intercession near the Ottoman Port in behalf of the Crew of one of the Ships of War of the United States of America that have been made prisoners by the Pirates of Tripoli.

It is with great pleasure I announce to you that His Imperial Majesty, guided by the most favorable dispositions for your Government, has given me orders to direct his Minister at Constantinople to make the strongest representations to the Turkish Court, in order that a Firman be dispatched to the Bey of Tripoli to liberate not only the Crew, but the Vessel itself.

These orders Sir will be expedited to Constantinople by the first Courier, and I have not a doubt that the representations which will in consequence be made by our Minister M^r d'Italinsky, will have their full effect.

It is extremely agreeable to me to add to this information the most positive assurance, that the Emperor peculiarly gratified in according this mark of his interest for the United States, will not be less so, on all occasions wherein He may be able to give them new proofs of it, and of which, it is His Majestys desire that you expressly acquaint your Government.

Signed S. ALEXANDER

Count de Worontzoff [or Woronzow]

S. PETERSBURG 25. Janv. 1804

[See letter under 7 February 1804.]

[LC. EPP, Vol. 9, Jan.-Feb. 1804.]

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

Moored in Cadiz Bay. This day begins with a Severe gale from the Westward with heavy rain an American Brig got on Shore on entering the bay sent the barge and Jolly boat to her assistance the boats returned on her geting off hoisted in the barge and run the Jolly boat up —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Wednesday, 25 January 1804

Light breezes from the S E and pleasant weather. At 2 P. M. spoke the English Ship *Industry* from Zant bound to Liverpool with an American Ship and English Brig in Company from the same Port bound to London. At 5 P. M. out all sweeps to pull round Cape Passari — At 9 P. M. doubled the Cape and stood to the Northward for Syracuse — At 11 A. M. anchored in that Harbor and rejoined the *Constitution* — The *Syren*, *Vixen* & *Enterprize* in Company.

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

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

Moderate Breezes & clear weather — At anchor at Saragosa — *Syren* & *Enterprize* in company — Painting ship & pointing the straps of the leading blocks — Recieved fresh mutton & Vegetables for the ships company — Moderate breezes from the west^d during the night.

At 11 A. M. the U. S. Schooner *Vixen* returned from Malta — Commodore Preble rejoined the *Constitution* —

Painting Ship and completing the rigging — The cutter watering — Recieved 14 casks of Water. At Noon winds from the West^d —

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

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 25 January 1804

[Syracuse] At $\frac{1}{4}$ past Meridian the U. S. Schooner *Vixen* anchor'd here from Malta with the Commodore on board. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past Meri: the Commodore hoisted his broad Pendant on board the *Constitution*. At 5 rec^d 1 cask of water, ends with light airs from the westward & clear weather —

[NDA.]

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

AMERICAN CONSULAR HOUSE

Tunis January 26th 1804.

SIR, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favour, of the 12th of Nov^r 1803. under cover, from Consul Lear, at Algiers — and agreeable to Your order, have officially communicated to the Government of Tunis, as well as to the Consuls of Neutral Powers resident here, the Blockade of Tripoly, by the U. States Ships of war under Your command.

I presume, that my communications since the 8th of September 1803, to the address of Commodore R^d V Morris, have necessarily been received; and consequently that You are fully acquainted with the subjects, on which I have waited a reply, with much impatience — to wit, the return of the Tunisian property, captured on board an Imperial [*Paulina*], if still in our possession — and an answer, to the letter which I forwarded from His Excellency the Bey of Tunis, who is particularly tenacious, of that attention, which he imagines due him

from all Christian Governments, and who daily becomes more impatient for a reply. — I have the honor to enclose You a Copy of the original, which was forwarded on the 16th Sept^r to the care of Mess^{rs} Degan and Purviance & C^o Leghorn.

It is more than six weeks, since I have received any advice from Tripoly — My last from Capt. Bainbridge, mentioned that he & Officers, had been taken from the Consular house & confined for one day with the men; he receives from me all the assistance, which my limited means admit of — Our Men must suffer for want of Cloathing — perhaps, from the Squadron under Your command a Sufficient quantity might be spared for our fellow Sufferers at Tripoly, — As I shall be compell'd to pay an extravagant price for any thing of the kind purchased here.

I beg to learn, what port, may be considered Your General Rendezvous, in order that I may know where to address You; should any pressing necessity, require Your immediate attention —

GEORGE DAVIS [*Surgeon, U. S. Navy*]

[Stephen Decatur Col.]

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

UNITED STATES BRIG *Argus*

Cadiz Bay January 26th 1804

SIR I have the honor to inform you that I arrived at Gibraltar on the 4th Ins^t from Leghorn, where I had been ordered by Commodore Preble, for the purpose of Convoying an American Ship and Schooner, and to return with such Vessels, as were at that port ready for sea, and wished the benefit of Convoy down,

After performing a short Quarantine at Gibraltar, and taking on board what provisions, Water, and other stores, was Necessary I sailed on the 18th for Tangier, where I arrived after a passage of four hours, and am happy to inform you, that every thing remains peaceable at that place, and that nothing has happened worth Notice, since Commodore Preble left this Station,

The Emperors ships are all dismantled, and laid up at Sallee, and Larash, and no attempt has been made, to Equip any of them for sea, in the absence of the Squadron.

I remained one night in Tangier, and sailed with an intent to go direct to Cadiz, but the wind Shifting sudden to the Westward, and the Weather being very bad, was obliged to return to Gibraltar, and wait a fair wind, on the 22nd the wind being from the Eastward, got under way and run through the Straight, and Arrived here the following Evening, where I shall remain eight or ten days, and return back into the Straights, calling at Tangier in my Way,

I shall endeavour to Keep as good a look out on this station, as the very bad Weather, and hard gales of wind, I experience here will allow me, and Keep you advised of all my Proceedings,

[NDA. Officers LB, 1802-1805.]

To Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Argus*, from John Gavino, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar

GIBRALTER 26th Jan^y 1804

DEAR SIR, This moment is arrived a Victualler from Norfolk with a Cargo of Provisions for the Squadron to be discharged here or for-

warded to Malta, and consigned there at my option — the Captain is to wait four days for my orders — the Cargo is insured to this place and Malta at 9 p^r Cent, to return 4 if the Voyage ends here, and 2 if the Ship Sails and continues with convoy from Gibraltar. — As I do not apprehend any danger, will order her to proceed, Yet I wish you had been here, the Gun Carriages for the Emperor were shipt when the Accounts of War got to America, and they are to come forward, and the Vessel is to touch at L'Orient, with dispatches, so that I have my apprehensions about them. — I have no Letters by her for you, we have dirty weather and not time for more. —

[NDA. Isaac Hull LB, 1803-1804.]

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

U. S. BRIG *Siren* HARBOUR OF SYRACUSE

Jan^y 26th 1804

SIR Last night I received the accompanying communication from M^r Baker; as one of the Charges contained in it, is of the most dangerous Nature and in direct Violation of the internal rules and regulations, for the safety and government of the Brig which I have the honor to Command, I cannot in justice to the Service and respect to my feelings, pass unnoticed such Contempt of my orders, that has placed the lives of my Officers and Crew for one moment in jeopardy

You will perceive by the accompanying regulations that the 36th Article has been violated and the 6th Article addressed to (the Master particularly) has also been treated with Contempt and Neglect —

[See documents dated 27 January 1804.]

[LC. EPP, Vol. 9, Jan.-Feb. 1804.]

[27 January 1804]

To the Bey of Tunis from President Thomas Jefferson

Thomas Jefferson President of the United States of America
To the Most Illustrious, and most
magnificent Prince, the Bey of Tunis.

GREAT AND GOOD FRIEND

I received in due time your letter of the 7th of September, repeating the request of a Frigate of 36 Guns with which on a former occasion I had informed you that circumstances did not permit us to comply. I am under the necessity of stating, that these circumstances continue, and that our Naval force being only proportioned to our exigencies, we cannot with Prudence lessen it, by parting with any portion of it. I should regret much a misconception of our Motives on this occasion. We set a just value on your friendship, as we do on that of all other Nations with which we have intercourse; and as we presume those Nations do on ours. These mutual friendships, and the interests arising out of them, are equivalents the one for the other, and authorize equal expectations, equal claims, and rights on both sides. Of our disposition towards yourself in particular, we have not been wanting in Proofs, in addition to the faithful fulfilment of our Treaty: nor shall we on proper occasions fail to continue reasonable manifestations of them according to the rules we observe in our intercourse with Nations

Such being our regard for you, it is with peculiar concern I learn from your letter of September 14 that M^r Cathcart, whom I had chosen to succeed the place of M^r Eaton near you, and chosen from a confidence in his integrity, experience, and good dispositions, has so conducted himself as to incur your displeasure. In doing this, be assured, he has gone against the letter and spirit of his instructions, which were, that his deportment should be such, as to make [merit?] my esteem and respect for your character, both personal and Public and to cultivate your friendship by all the attentions and services he could render. So soon as he went out of this line, he was out of the line of his duty, and his acts are disclaimed as in opposition to his orders. On his return to the United States, he will be made sensible how far in this he departed from the intentions of his employers. The consideration that the bands of Peace between Nations ought not to be burst asunder by the hasty and unauthorised acts of a Public Agent was worthy of your wisdom and Justice; and the acquiescence in the transaction of our affairs by M^r Davis until an Agent could be sent with formal authorities manifested a desire of maintaining a good understanding, which being reciprocal is auspicious to our Peace. In selecting another character to take the place of M^r Cathcart, I shall take care to fix on one who, I hope will better fulfil the duties of respect and esteem for you; and who, in so doing only, will be the faithful representative and organ of my earnest desire that the Peace and friendship so happily subsisting between our countries may be firm and permanent, and I pray God, Great and good Friend that he may have you under his holy keeping.

Done at the City of Washington in the
United States of America, this twenty seventh day of
January, One thousand Eight hundred and four

(Signed) TH: JEFFERSON
By the President
JAMES MADISON
Sec^y of State

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

To Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, from Purser Nathan Baker, U. S. Navy

On board SLOOP OF WAR *Siren*

Syracuse Jan^y 27th 1804 —

SIR Delicacy has hitherto prevented me from making known to you the following circumstances, conceiving however that I ought no longer to observe any delicacy towards the parties concerned in this unjustifiable conduct, I now proceed to relate to you as follows Viz^t

1st On our passage from Leghorn to Algiers, on or about the first of December at Midnight — the Spirit room was opened by Lieu^t Maxwell & M^r Harrison, & some rum pumped out of a Puncheon — I lay awake in my Cot, during the whole of this transaction. — Thinking it probable that the parties concerned, would mention to me the next morning, the quantity they had taken out, I waited untill the ensuing evening — but as neither of them said any thing on the subject — I then asked M^r Maxwell how much had been taken out — he appear'd somewhat surprised, observing that he thought M^r Harrison had given me an account thereof — to which M^r H —

replied he had not, M^r Maxwell then acknowledged they had taken out a Quart —

2^d^y In pursuance of your directions, soon after we left Leghorn, I presented the Shipping Articles to W^m Kelly, a Seaman taken on board at Gibraltar, for his Signature — which after reading to him, and informing him that I was directed to furnish him with such Cloaths as he wanted, he was about to sign — when M^r Harrison they laying in his Birth observed to Kelly, that he was a damned fool if he signed the Articles without receiving the same Advance in Cash, that had been paid to the Men in Philad^a upon hearing this observation from the Sailing-Master, Kelly put down the pen, & said he would not sign the Articles.

3^d^y Whilst the Brig was at anchor off New Castle & I was on shore — M^r Maxwell found a Key on board which suited the Lock on my Store Room, & opened the same, being informed of this by the Steward — I mentioned it to M^r Maxwell as soon as I went on board, before Lieu^t Caldwell & other Officers — observing that I should not have taken such a liberty with him — I do not relate this as a thing of much consequence, but the slight acquaintance then existing between M^r M — & myself did not sanction such a liberty —

I shall produce the Testimony of Lieu^t Howard, to establish the foregoing charges, which I now communicate from a sense of duty —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 9, Jan.-Feb. 1804.]

[27 January 1804]

Court of Enquiry into Conduct of Purser Nathan Baker, U. S. Navy

Statement of evidence appearing to the Court of enquiry held on board the *Syren* Brig on the Official conduct of M^r Baker Purser of the said Brig. —

The FIRST charge ag^t M^r Baker is that he had ordered a quart of rum to be stopped from the daily allowance of the crew, & that this had continued 20 days. —

M^r CALDWELL states that he knew nothing of an order being given to the Purser's Stew^d to stop one quart of rum from the daily allowance of the crew untill lately; that then Carter (the P^e St^d) was called into the cabin, in consequence of a report to that effect from several of the Officers, & said he had stopped one qu^t of rum for twenty days by the order of M^r Baker, which M^r Baker acknowledged.

QUES. Do you know whether the measures were too great, so as to cause a stoppage of the daily allowance? ANS. I do know that the gill measure was too great, or bore an over proportion to the other measures on board.

M^r CALDWELL further stated that there had been frequently a deficiency in serving out grog without the cause being known — & that Carter had stopped a quart & said M^r Baker enquired whether that would be sufficient, to which Carter replied it would.

CHARLES B. CARTER states that he had overdrawn a ½ pint of rum for three or four days on account of two men leaving the ship That some time after this M^r Baker ordered him to stop a qu^t a day from the allowance & continue it untill further orders. He did so, untill the people complained to M^r Harrison of their grog being too weak, & then he drew the full allowance, but with M^r Baker's knowledge; and that it was three weeks during which this stoppage continued.

QUES. Did you know of any inaccuracies in the measures? ANS. The gill & half-pint overrun the gallon, or did'nt correspond with it. after drawing the full allowance by the Gallon measure, I was often obliged to get more rum out, to make up the deficiency of grog caused by this difference in the measures.

QUES. Did M^r Baker state to you that this inaccuracy in the measures was his reason for ordering the stoppage of one quart per day? ANS. He did not. —

QUES. Have you had any dispute with M^r Baker since you have sailed with him? ANS. I have. —

QUES. What time was it when you discovered the inaccuracies in the measures? ANS. It was after the stoppage of a quart per day had ceased — I tried the measures with each other, & found that the gill $\frac{1}{2}$ p^t did'nt correspond with the gallon, but all the other measures did.

QUES. When was it that M^r Baker gave you the order to stop the qu^t? ANS. Two or three days after leaving the Capes of the Delaware, or the 3^d or 4th Sep^r

M^r HARRISON states that the Cap^s of the Fore castle complained to him that their grog was too weak; and that he had heard M^r Baker acknowledge that he had ordered a qu^t to be stopped from the daily allowance. —

JAMES KELSO (Stew^d's Mate) says, that a quart p^t day had been stopped for a fortnight or longer, and that Carter said it was by M^r Baker's order & in consequence of too much being drawn before.

QUES. Do you remember that it was necessary to get more rum up in consequence of the grog not holding out? ANS. Yes; I remember it happened twice that we had to get more rum up; but I don't know for what cause. —

CH^s STEWART *Presd^t Court.*
W. LEWIS *J^{q^o}* Adv^t

SECOND charge against M^r Baker; Viz. That he had charged the Ward room mess with 60 lb. beef illegally. —

LIEU^t HOWARD Says that a mess book was kept in the W^d Room of the provision drawn from the ship; that at one time there was a charge of 60 lb of beef, which it appeared to him could not have possibly been used. Some time afterwards in an altercation among the Officers of their mess, M^r Baker said a barrel of beef had been opened for the use of the ward-room, & that 50 or 60 lb were missing out of it, & that he conceived it was hard he should loose it; urging this as a reason for his charging the ward room mess with the above meat.

QUES. At what time did this altercation take place? ANS. I don't remember certainly — but about the last of Sep^r or beginning of Octob. I believe.

QUES. How much do you think your mess was overcharged? ANS. I think it was overcharged about 40 or 50 lb. —

QUES. By whom was this charge made? ANS. M^r Baker made the charge & sent for the Ship's stew^d to prove the propriety of it at the time of the altercation aforesaid.

QUES. Did your mess draw your provision regularly, & in what quantities generally? ANS. We drew our provision as we wanted it; and this charge of 60 lb was an extra charge independent of the regular charges ag^t the mess.

QUES. Is this the A/C. (N^o 1) alluded to? ANS. I believe it is, to the best of my remembrance.

QUES. Who drew provision for your mess, & by what authority was it drawn? ANS. It was drawn by the Boy, generally by the verbal order of some one of the mess. —

CHARLES B. CARTER was asked whether there was not a Barrel of Beef kept open for the use of the W^d Room, from which beef was taken without its being weighed or any notice taken thereof. ANS. I know nothing of a Bar^l of beef opened for that purpose or used in that way; but I know of six pieces which were brought to the harness Tub at one time for the use of the Ward-room, & which weighed about 50 or 60 lb to the best of my knowledge. These pieces were not used by the Ward-room, but served out to the crew.

QUES. Did you not weigh the remains of a barrel of beef by M^r Baker's direction, from which you had never used?

ANS. I did, but am not certain as to the weight.

QUES. Did you not hear M^r Baker say he would deduct 50 lb from what he had charged? ANS. I did. —

JAMES KELSO says that he knew nothing of a barrel of beef kept open for the use of the W^d room: but he knew of five pieces brought to the harness Tub at one time, for the use of the ward-room, with a mark on them.

QUES. Do you know whether they were used by the W^d Room? ANS. They were; I kept the key of the harness Tub, & they were used sooner or later by the Ward-Room. —

JN^o REEDY said he knew of a bar^l of beef ordered to be kept for the use of the W^d-Room by M^r Carter, before the arrival at Gibraltar; That to the best of his knowledge 30 or 40 lbs were used out of it, & that the remainder was served out to the Crew by the order of the Ship's Stew^d.

QUES. Were these 30 or 40 lb drawn at different times or together? ANS. They were drawn at different times.

QUES. Do you know of five or six peices taken out of this barrell & sent to the harness Tub at one time? ANS. I do, five or six peices were taken out by the order of M^r Carter & sent to the harness Tub.

QUES. What time elapsed between opening this B.l. & serving it out to the ships crew? ANS. I don't know certainly but I suppose about a week or a fortnight. —

M^r HARRISON says that a b.ll. of beef was reserved for the use of the Ward-room, but not being better than the other beef in the ship, it was afterwards served out in common.

QUES. How much was used out of it, before it was served out? ANS. I can't say certainly, but I suppose about ten or twelve pounds.

M^r MAXWELL states that M^r Baker presented an A/c. to the mess wherein was a charge of 60 lb of beef. At the same time M^r B. acknowledged he did'nt think the mess could have used so much; but as the b.ll was opened for their use as he understood, and there being a deficiency of 60 lb or more, he thought he ought not to loose it. After some altercation M^r B. agreed that 10 lb should be inserted instead of 60 lb. — M^r Maxwell further said he knew nothing of a b.ll of beef reserved for the use of the W^d-Room untill that night.

DOC^t MARSHALL Said that some time in Octob. he was appointed to settle the mess A/C. a statement of which was furnished by M^r Baker, in which was a charge of 60 lb. & several others at very short dates interveeing. Upon refering to the Mess, they all exclaimed against the exorbitancy of this charge of 60 lb. M^r Baker himself

acknowledged that they could not have used as much, but that a considerable quantity had been lost out of a bar^l which he understood was opened for the mess, he thought they ought to bear the loss, as he could'nt afford it himself. —

CHS. STEWART *Presd^t Court*
W. LEWIS *J^{d^ee} Adv^t*

A statement of facts arising out of the evidence produced to the Court of enquiry on the Official conduct of M^r Baker, Purser of the *Syren* Brig. —

It appears, as to the first charge, viz. That a quart of rum per day had been stopped from the allowance of the crew for a considerable time, by the order of M^r Baker; that the fact is, some rum had been stopped with the knowledge of M^r Baker, in order to make up for an inaccuracy in the measures, too much rum having been previously served out; but that no particular order had been given to stop any specific quantity; the thing being left in a great measure to the discretion of the steward: And it does not appear that M^r Baker's object was to defraud the crew, or benefit himself; for by the returns of provisions, the Rum has fallen short a considerable quantity — 150 or 160 gallons. —

As to the 2^d charge viz. That M^r Baker had charged the Ward-room mess with 60 lb beef illegally: it is the fact that a Barrel of beef had been opened for the use of the Ward-room, from which five or six pieces, weighing 60 or 70 lb, were taken & used for the Ward-room Mess; and afterwards, when this beef was found to be of no better quality than that used by the crew in common, the remainder was served out by the ship's Steward; and therefore it appears that the charge of 60 lbs in M^r Baker's A/C. is correct.

CH^s. STEWART *Presd^t Court.*
W. LEWIS *J^{d^ee} Adv^t*

[LC. EPP, Vol. 9, Jan.—Feb. 1804.]

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

U. S. SHIP *Constitution* SYRACUSE HARBOR

Jan^y 27th 1804

SIR, From the Statement of facts arising from the examination of the evidence produced at the Court of Enquiry respecting the official conduct of M^r Nathan Baker Purser of the U. S. Brig *Syren*, I conceive that the charges brot against him by L^t Maxwell and Doctor Marshall to be without the least foundation and that they must have originated from motives by no means honorable to those gentlemen: It is to be regretted that the time and attention of a number of respectable officers of the Squadron Should at any time be taken up for the purpose of investigating charges bro't against any gentleman from motives of private picque: The conduct of M^r Baker I conceive has been very proper and that he has not intended to defraud either the Government of the United States, or the officers or crew of the *Syren*, but that he has paid a laudable attention to his duty. You will therefore take off the arrest and direct him to return to the duties of his office.

You are to direct this Order to be read on the Quarter deck publickly.

EDW^d PREBLE

To CHARLES STEWART Esq^f
President of a Court of Enquiry
Instituted for the purpose of investigating
the conduct of M^r BAKER

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

[27 January 1804]

Receipts for Turkish Yataghan

RECEIVED March 29, 1803 of W^m Eaton Esq^f a Turkish Attagan, or Sword, mounted in Gold, and set with valuable Jewels; for which I hold myself accountable to the government of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, and for which I have signed duplicate receipts of this tenor and date. —

Signed R^d V. MORRIS. —

27 Jan^y 1804 — Rec^d the above Attagan from the office of the Secretary of the Navy of the United States, to be deposited in the Office of the Secretary of State. —

Signed — JACOB WAGNER —
Ch Clk Dep^t State. —

[NDA. Barbary Powers LB, 1803–1808.]

To Secretary of State from George W. Erving, U. S. Consul, London, England
 N^o 28

AMERICAN CONSULATE
 London — January 27th 1804. —

SIR. I have had the honor to receive your circular letter of October 1st with the remarks of the Comptroller of the Treasury respecting the sales of American registered Vessels to which proper attention shall be paid. —

By my letter of Nov^r 10th (N^o 27) — I transmitted the Documents required by yours of April 4th and referred to in this last Circular. — I have found the Powers vested in the Consuls by the late Acts and Instructions extremely useful in preventing various irregularities both in the Transfers of Vessels, and the treatment of Seamen, to render their effect more complete by insuring the deposit of the Ships Papers and preventing the possibility of any British Vessel using American Papers, forged or otherwise obtained. I have thought it expedient to apply for a regulation to be made by this Government prohibiting the Entry or Clearance of any Vessel claiming to be American without permission previously obtained from this Office; — I inclose my letter to M^r Munroe upon this Subject; the application has been delayed by unavoidable Circumstances there can be no doubt however but that the Accommodation will be readily conceded. —

Tho a great deal has been done to purify the ownership of American Vessels perhaps something is yet necessary to accomplish this desirable Object and which Congress may hereafter see fit to regulate; there is the best reason to believe that many Vessels under our Flag are partly owned by Merchants in this City; I would suggest also whether during the time of European War it might not be desirable to establish some Mode of verifying the character of the Cargoes of American Vessels, whether the Sea letter ought not to be delivered

up on the termination of the *single* Voyage for which it is granted, or a suitable endorsement made to prevent the possibility of its being misapplied in the manner suggested in a former letter, whether the Bills of Lading ought not in all Cases to be sworn to by the Shipper before the Consul or Collector and made distinctly to express the account for which the Vessel is freighted.

I am aware of the delicacy of this subject & the Objections which must arise in favor of the carrying-Trade to such regulations, 'tho I cannot conceive that the fair carrying trade woud in fact be injured; but inasmuch as it might be injured the substantial capital Trade of our Country woud be strengthened. It has been strongly urged against the establishment of the principle in the law of Nations that "Neutral Bottoms make free Cargoes" the great encouragement which such a rule would offer to the carrying trade at the expence of the Capital Trade of the United States; the Objection may be supposed to have more force as it comes principally from a quarter where interest woud seem to lead to an entension of y^e carrying trade — If then it was desirable to sacrifice a principle of Public Law for the support of which some have thought the honor of every independent Nation to be pledged, for the purpose of encouraging the Capital Trade of our Country, it is to be hoped that no substantial Objections can be made to such regulations as are calculated only to repress the dishonest and irregular practices of the Carrying Trade; Perhaps the only evil of regulations calculated to define the Bona fide property on board American Vessels, would be, the admission which they would seem to make of the Right of Belligerents to seize Enemies property on board Neutral Vessels. —

I have been prompted to these remarks at this moment by a Transaction which has lately fallen under my Observation and which I took some pains to investigate. — The Owner of an American Vessel lying in this port left a Power of Attorney with a London Merchant enabling him to freight, charter, or sell her: The Merchant freighted her with Goods for the Coast of South America, and put a Supercargo on board who assumed the Character of an American Citizen, & who was to appear to be the owner of the Cargo; the Supercargo had served an apprenticeship in Boston, but it happened to my knowledge was not a Citizen of the United States; they applied however for a Certificate which I refused of course; he probably obtained a Document of some sort, for the Merchant was satisfied that he would answer his purpose as an American; as I also knew that the Young Man had neither Property or Credit sufficient to procure this Cargo I questioned the Merchant upon this Subject, who candidly confessed that the Cargo belonged to himself and friends.

I was disposed therefore to retain the Ships Papers 'till I had compelled them to name in the Bills of lading the true account for which the Property was shipped: Upon more mature consideration however seeing that I had no specific Authority, I doubted of my controul over the subject, and how far my view of it might coincide with that of Government; therefore concluded by only insisting that the Supercargo shoud not be named an "American Citizen" in any Bill of lading signed by the Master; this point was conceded and the Ship Proceeded on her Voyage. —

I have entered into this detail to shew the nature of the Trade which may be carried on from hence to which I mean to apply the

observations respecting the Verification of Cargoes which I have taken the liberty to submit — And have the honor to be

P S. The *Ganges* and *Cyrus* American Vessels purchased in this Port by William Moore of Nantucket on the 20th of May 1802 — and which sailed from this to Dunkirk have been taken engaged in the Whale Fishery under French Colours by a British Letter of Marque. — G W E

[NA. SDA. CL, London, Vol. 9, Jan. 1804–July 1812.]

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

GIBRALTAR 27 Jan^y 1804

DEAR SIR I wrote you the 4th Ult^o p^r the *Nautilus* which now confirms & refers thereto; I paid the Dock Yard for the anchor supplied her \$179:69 —

Yesterday arrived in 44 days from Norfolk the ship *Will^m & Mar^y* Era^t H. Tipling Com^r with a Cargo of Provisions for your squadron p^a note at foot. I wanted Cap^t Triply to proceed to Syracuse w^{ch} he will not do, the Ship being Insured for this Place & Malta, as is said Cargo; The Hon^e Sec^r of the Navy requests my unloading same here, or Direct the Master to proceed to Malta as more Convenient for the Squadron, the freight is to be paid in America. wherefor I have orderd his going to Malta & Consign the stores to such Com^r of our State Vessels as may be there & in default to Consul Pulie who will forward you this, & may give him your Directions on the Subject —

I now inclose you a Letter from the Navy Dep^t with several others & send M^r Pulie severals for Cap^t Bainbridge

Capⁿ Hull has been at Tangier with the *Argus*, went to Cruise & I believe is now at Cadiz

as to News we have none, as such Conclude truly —

I send M^r Pulie by the bearer large fills of News Papers w^{ch} came Directed for Capⁿ Bainbridge, also some for his Bro^r had I got any would have sent them you —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 9, Jan.–Feb. 1804.]

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

N^o 5.

ALGIERS, Jan^y 27th 1804

SIR, I had yesterday the pleasure of receiving your letter of the 27th of December with its enclosures; for which I am much obliged to you. I shall make no comments, at present on the conduct of M^r Cathcart — it must speak for itself. —

The enclosed were prepared to go by the Spanish Brig *Two Friends*, which sailed from hence for Tunis, on the 20th ins^t But as she went off unexpectedly, when I was in the country with M^rs Lear, I had not time to forward them. M^r OBrien, who happened to be in Town, wrote to you by that opp^y and at my request, put on board her a Box containing two thousand doll^{rs} for the use of our unfortunate Countrymen at Tripoli, as mentioned in my letter of the 15th He also informed you of the then situation of Affairs here, with respect to the appearance of the British fleet. — This fleet left the coast on the 18th and has not again appeared. From the nature of the communication between the Dey & Lord Nelson, (tenacious on both sides) we expected

something serious. We are left in the field of conjecture as to the cause of their departure, without enforcing their points. The heroic character of the Commander forbids the idea of fear: and whether the fleet was called away by information from Toulon (as another Ship joined them on the evening of their departure) or from some other cause, we have yet to learn. —

I think the measures you have taken to supply the wants of our unfortunate Countrymen at Tripoli, are proper. I will endeavour to make some arrangement for your drawing on Leghorn in future. In the mean time you must negotiate in the best manner you can, for the sum mentioned in my former letter. —

I write this letter to take its chance by any conveyance which may offer, and shall write you again more fully. In the mean time, I will thank you for all the information you can obtain on our Affairs at Tripoli as well as Tunis.

N. B. Delivered, with enclosures to M^r Beaussier to be sent by the land Courier, under cover to his Correspondent. —

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

To Captain Thomas Hopkins, commanding American Brig *Edward*, Naples, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U S: FRIGATE *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbour Jan^y 27th 1804

SIR, I am hon^d with your letter of the 18th Ins^t from Palermo. Accept my thanks for your polite attention. The Packet from My Brother came safe to hand

There are not any Tripolines out at present, and I shall keep a good look to prevent them from sailing. I shall write you again if the smallest danger is to be apprehended, and will in that case, send a Vessel to convoy you, and the other Americans to the Westw^d.

Let me know how many American Vessels are at Naples, and where they are bound

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

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

Moderate Breezes & cloudy. At Anchor in Saragosa *Syren Enterprise* & *Vixen* in company — Pointing the leading blocks & ring bolts of the Gun Carriages and reeving the running rigging. At 2 P. M anchored here the U. S. Schooner *Nautilus* L^t Somers who sailed hence 30 days ago with the Commodores dispatches for Gibraltar. Large cutter landing stores from the *Vixen* — Moderate Breezes through the night. From 8 A M. till noon Painting ship and Pointing leading blocks &^{cs} — Large cutter bringing off Provisions to the Schooner *Vixen*.

Surgeons report 20 sick, 4 convalescent & 3 discharged At Noon winds W b N. —

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

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 27 January 1804

Nautilus arrived from Gibraltar

[LC, original.]

To Secretary of the Treasury from Secretary of State

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
January 28th 1804.

SIR. I request you to be pleased to cause twelve hundred and eighty dollars out of the appropriations for Barbary negotiations to be remitted to the Purveyor to enable him to pay a draft for the like sum which I have authorized Ebenezer Stevens Esq^t of New York to draw upon him in payment of additional freight of the Ship *Anna Maria* formerly employed as a transport to Tunis.

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

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Saturday, 28 January 1804

[Syracuse] Wind W N W,. The Quarantine was taken off the Prize; this day I recieved information from the Master of an English Vessel who is now our Pilot that he was in Tripoly when the *Philadelphia* ran on the rocks near that place, And that the Prize now in our possession ketch rigged named the *Mastico* [renamed *Intrepid*] and commanded by Mustapha Rais was then at Anchor in that Port under Turkish Colors and that as soon as the *Philadelphia* Grounded the said Mustapha Rais took on board upwards of One hundred Tripolines armed with muskets, sabres &^{ca} slipped his cables, hauled down the Turkish and Hoisted Tripoline Colors, and proceeded to the Attack of the *Philadelphia*, And that as soon as the *Philadelphia* surrendered the said Mustapha Rais with his men boarded the Frigate, plundered the Officers and Men, made them prisoners and conducted the Officers to the Bashaw of Tripoly: In Consideration of which I have concluded to make prize of the Vessel and prisoners of all on board excepting the Choux of the Captain Pacha whom I intend to liberate with a letter to the Cap^t Pacha with an account of this transaction.

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 28 January 1804

at anchor in Saragosa, *Syren*, *Vixen Enterprize* and *Nautilus* in Company, * * * the prize we captured off [f] Tripoly her Quarantine was yesterday Taken off. we Reced nine of the prisoners on board the *Constitution*. Shee was under Quarantine 29 days

[NA. ND original.]

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

[Syracuse] Light breezes and pleasant weather — Painting &^{ca} — Took all the white prisoners 26 in number on board from the prize and ordered her Equipped for a Cruize.

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

[30 January 1804]

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

PARIS, 10 *Pluviose*, Year XII

The Minister of Foreign Affairs

to Mr. Livingston, Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States.

SIR, A declaration by Commodore Preble, commander of the naval forces of the United States in the Mediterranean, announced last December to the constituted authorities of Marseilles that he had blockaded the Port of Tripoli and the adjacent coast and that neutral vessels which should attempt to enter Tripoli or which should be encountered off the neighboring coast, would be halted by the squadron by his orders and taken to a port to be adjudicated.

Although recognizing the privileges and practices of which two belligerent powers can avail themselves, practices according to which a neutral vessel is excluded from a port actually blockaded, I cannot refrain from observing that Commodore Preble appears to have, in this instance, stretched the application of these rights in a manner which tends to injure neutral commerce without being justified by the rules generally adopted in the maritime neutrality conventions.

In order to determine what constitutes a blockaded port, that designation should apply only to a port that is attacked by a number of vessels proportional to the force of the place, and which are near enough that there is an obvious danger that the port will be entered.

It is on this principle that the various conventions, which define what is meant by the blockade of a place are based.

Therefore, it was not sufficient for the American Commodore to make a single frigate cruise off Tripoli, in order to authorize him to declare that port and the adjacent coast under blockade. It must also be mentioned that the coast of a country has never been included in the blockade of a place. This extension of the law would be nothing but a violation of the rights of neutrals and an attack on their commerce. The British have set the example. No nation has been disposed to imitate it, nor has been interested in doing so, and perhaps the United States is more interested than any other power in not adopting a system contrary to the rights and commerce of neutrals.

Convinced that Commodore Preble cannot have been authorized to ignore principles which have become, in this matter, the basis of international law and universally accepted usage, I ask you, Sir, to request him, in the name of your government, not to interpret orders, which he may have received, with a freedom which is as injurious as it is unusual and to declare a port blockaded only when all the indispensable conditions are fulfilled under which neutral nations have no right to protest against such a declaration.

[Franklin Delano Roosevelt Col.]

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

LEGHORN *Janr* 30th 1804.

SIR I was honor'd with your esteem'd favor of the 4th ins^t this day at Meridian, & as the post departs for Naples this evening must postpone answering you as fully as I could wish until next week. — I

am happy that I have anticipated your desires relative to the gun-boats & send you a plan of one drawn after my own directions & calculated to keep the sea as the bow gun which may be either a brass 32 pounder or an Iron 24 is fix'd in such a manner as to be eas'd down on the keelson & hatches are made to lock over tight which will keep the vessel perfectly dry & secure in bad weather, in the wake of the after rowlock is to be fix'd a short cannonade either a 36 or a 42 pounder on a slide so constructed as to be pointed right-aft or at either side as circumstances might require.

We have not yet agreed upon the rig of a boat calculated to carry a mortar & a bow gun, but if you only desire to have a Mortar & the after gun the boat can be built of the same dimensions as the gunboat with about five inches more depth of hold, which will increase her resistance sufficiently and the price will be nearly the same, plans of both shall be forwarded to you by next post & full answers given to all your requests. — Enclosed is a Copy of a letter which I wrote to Cap^{tn} Bainbridge as likewise a list of cloathing which will be ready to ship at the time therein mentioned, if you could possibly permit one of the small vessels to come for them about that period I will not detain her one day & you will render the captives a great service. —

I have not time to add any thing more at present & continue very respectfully.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 9, Jan.-Feb. 1804.]

[30 January 1804]

Concerning the Building and Equipping of a Gunboat in the Mediterranean
[Translation]

A Gun boat according to the enclosed plan built of part oak & part Elm bound round & sheath'd with pine of this country, with sails Oars Anchors Cables & every other necessary compleat except Ammunition Artillery & its utensils can be built for the Sum of one thousand eight hundred Florentine Sequins and launch'd ready for sea in the space of two months; & four boats of the same dimensions can be built & equip'd for sea in four months and a half from the day the contract is sign'd. —

N. B. One thousand eight hundred Sequins is equal
to Spanish dollars at par at £6½ ----- \$3776 ³/₁₀₀

The scale of the enclosed plan is in french feet each foot being 12¼ english Inches. —

JAMES LEANDER CATHCART

LEGHORN *Jan^y 30th 1804.* —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 9, Jan.-Feb. 1804.]

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

LEGHORN *Jan^y 30th 1804* —

SIR I have by this conveyance in part answer'd your esteem'd favor of the 4th ins^t & by the next post will give you such information as I can collect on the subject of your enquiries — If you can permit one of the small vessels to come for the Cloathing herein mentioned for the prisoners at Tripoli I will not detain her one day & you will render those Unfortunate men a very singular service —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 9, Jan.-Feb. 1804.]

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

U. S. FRIGATE *Constitution*

Syracuse Harbor Jan^y 30th 1804

One of the Ships of the Squadron is to take the Guard for 24 Hours commencing at 8 O'clock in the morning A Signal for the ship which has the Guard will be made by the Senior Officer in Port and the Guard Ship is to hoist an American Jack at the Mizzen top gall^l mast head but if a Brig or Schooner at the fore which is to be kept flying untill the Guard is shifted by signal. A Guard to be rowed by a boat of the guard ship for the 24 hours and is to speak every Vessell that enters the Harbor by Day or night before she approaches near the Squadron and report to the commanding officer in Port every morning at 9 O'clock Agreeable to the following form for the Information of the Commodore. —

• • * • • * • •

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

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Monday, 30 January 1804

[Syracuse] Painting Ship &^e &^e — Landed all the Black Slaves 43 in number from the Prize and placed them in a house on shore under the care of the Agent M^r Dyson; Sent two men from this ship to cook for and attend them — Seven Greek Christians taken in the prize Voluntarily entered into our service as Ordinary Seamen — Surgeons report 13 Sick 4 Convalescent —

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

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 30 January 1804

at 7 in the morning we sent the large cutter to assist landing the Black prisoners, from the prize we rec^d on Saturday last from the prize, the 26 white prisoners that Belong to the prize, the 43 Blacks was landed at Saragosa this morning, among the whites is four gentlemen officers, who says they belong to the grand Seignior, four small Boys, servants to the Seigniors officers, Seven grecians, who appear to have Been slaves to the Bashaw of Tripoly, those grecians are not confin'd. the Remaining Eleven are Trioplions, they are under charge of two Centinals, the officer Messes in the gunroom,

[NA. ND original.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Monday, 30 January 1804

Moderate breezes & clear weather. At Anchor at Saragosa *Syren*, *Enterprize*, *Vixen* & *Nautilus* in company. Painting the ship & blacking the bends. Towards Evening fresh breezes from the north^d. The N N W wind continued fresh during the night. At 7 A. M. sent the large cutter to assist in landing the black prisoners from the Prize We recieved on Saturday last from the Prize 26 white prisoners belonging to her. Forty three blacks were landed at Saragosa this morning. Ships company painting ship, gun carriages & masts. Surgeons report

is 13 sick, 4 convalescent & one discharged. At Noon strong breezes from the N N W.

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

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

UNITED STATES BRIG *Argus*
Cadiz Bay 31st Jan^y 1804

SIR, Since I had the honour of writing you on the 26th Ins^t I have received Letters from Jn^o Gavino Esquire, informing me of the arrival of a ship at Gibraltar from Norfolk laden with Provisions and Stores for the use of the United States Squadron in the Mediteranian, and that he had determined to Order her immediately to Malta, as he considered the risque of going up without Convoy so trifling that it would be improper to detain the Ship at Gibraltar such a length of time, as it must take for me to get Letters from him, and arrive there to take her under Convoy. —

I think M^r Gavino has determined very wisely, and have no doubt but the Ship will arrive safe. —

I shall leave this place in three or four days for Tangier and Gibraltar, and if the weather is such that I can with safety keep at Sea, shall run to the East^d as far as Cape DeGatt, and Cape Pallos, where most likely I shall Cruize for some time. —

I shall write every oppertunity, and keep you advised of all my proceedings. —

[NDA. Isaac Hull LB, 1803-1804.]

To John Gavino, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar, from Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES BRIG *Argus*
Cadiz Bay 31st Jan^y 1804

SIR, I have been honored with your Letter of the 26 Ins^t and agree with you, that it is unfortunate that I happened to be absent from Gibraltar when the Store Ship arrived, however as the risk in going up the Straights, at this Season of the year is so trifling, I am happy that you ordered the ship to proceed to Malta, and have no doubt she will arrive there safe. —

I shall leave this place in three or four days, and hope soon to be in Gibraltar, should any Letters be sent to your care, I beg you will not forward them, as I shall leave this before they can possibly come to hand. — I have nothing new to send you, as there has not been any arrivals, either from America or England, since I have been here — The Schooner Sails in all this Week, with dispatches for America, — I have wrote the Secretary, informing him of the arrival of the Store Ship, and that she had sailed for Malta. —

[NDA. Isaac Hull LB, 1803-1804.]

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

U. S. FRIGATE *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbor Jan^y 31st 1804

SIR You will prepare the *Syren* for a Cruize and be ready to sail tomorrow evening, or as soon as the Signal is made.

Proceed with all possible dispatch for the Coast of Tripoly; The Ketch *Intrepid* under the Command of L^t Decatur with Seventy Volunteers from the Squadron is ordered to accompany you, to endeavor to effect the destruction of the Frigate *Philadelphia* by burning her in the Harbor of Tripoly.

Previous to your approaching so near the Coast that the *Syren* can be discovered from the Shore, you are to disguise her by changing the Color of your paint, sending Top Gall^s masts on deck, rigging in flying Jibb boom, Housing guns, Shutting in Ports, raising quarter cloths &^{cs} to give the appearance of a Merchant Vessel

I concieve the Object in view can be best effected in the night; You will therefore keep at a distance from Tripoly untill the Evening, but not so far but that you can reach the Harbor by Midnight: The *Intrepid* being rigged in a manner peculiar to the Mediterranean probably will not be suspected by the enemy, of course it will be most adviseable to send her ahead in order that she may stand into the Harbor, and board the frigate

I have no doubt but L^t Decatur with the Officers and men under his command will be able to take possession of, and destroy her: As soon as the *Intrepid* has entered the Harbor, you will stand in and anchor in such a position as you, in your Judgment, may think best calculated to afford her assistance in the execution of the main object, cover her retreat or destroy any of the Enemies Cruizers that may be in the Harbor by sending your boats for that purpose

It will be most proper for you to enter the harbor with a Westerly Wind as it will ensure you a safe retreat. The destruction of the Frigate is of National importance, and I rely with confidence on your Valor Judgment & Enterprize in contributing all the means in your power to effect it. Whatever may be your success you will return if possible directly to this place

May the Almighty take you under his protection and prosper you in this Enterprize.

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

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

U. S. FRIGATE *Constitution*

Syracuse Harbor Jan^y 31st 1804

SIR You are hereby ordered to take command of the Prize Ketch which I have named the *Intrepid* and prepare her with all possible dispatch for a cruize of Thirty days with full allowance of Water, Provision &^{cs} for Seventy five men. I shall send you five Midshipmen from the *Constitution* and you will take Seventy men including Officers from the *Enterprize* if that number can be found ready to volunteer their Services for boarding and burning the *Philadelphia* in the Harbor of Tripoly, If not, report to me and I will furnish you with men to complet your compliment. It is expected you will be ready to sail tomorrow evening or some hours sooner if the Signal is made for that purpose.

It is my Orders that you proceed to Tripoly in company with the *Syren* L^t Stewart, Enter that Harbor in the night Board the Frigate *Philadelphia*, burn her and make your retreat good with the *Intrepid* if possible, unless you can make her the means of destroying the

Enemy's vessels in the Harbor by converting her into a fire ship for that purpose and retreating in your Boats and those of the *Syren*. You must take fixed ammunition and apparatus for the Frigates 18 Pounders and if you can, without risking too much you may endeavor to make them the Instruments of distraction to the shipping and Bashaw's Castle. You will provide all the necessary Combustibles for burning and destroying ships. The destruction of the *Philadelphia* is an object of great importance; And I rely with confidence on your Intrepidity & Enterprize to effect it. L^t Stewart will support you with the boats of the *Syren* and cover your retreat with that vessel be sure and set fire in the Gun room births, Cockpit Store rooms forward and Births on the Birth deck.

After the Ship is well on fire, point two of the 18 P^{rs} shotted down the Main Hatch and blow her bottom out — I enclose you a memorandum of the Articles, Arms, Ammunition, fire works &^c necessary and which you are to take with you — Return to this Place as soon as Possible, and report to me your proceedings. On boarding the Frigate it is probable you will meet with Resistance, it will be well in order to prevent alarm to carry all by the Sword, May God prosper and Succeed you in this enterprize.

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

To Lieutenants Thomas Robinson, Jr., Samuel Elbert and Midshipman William Lewis, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. FRIGATE *Constitution*

Jan^y 31st 1804 *Syracuse Harbor*

GENTLEMEN You will take an exact account of all the arms, money & papers in possession of the Officers Passengers & Crew of the Ketch *Prize* [*Mastico*] from Tripoly captured by the *Constitution* & *Enterprize*.

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

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Lieutenants Charles Stewart, John Smith and Richard Somers, U. S. Navy

SYRACUSE 31st Jan^y 1804.

SIR, According to your order we repaired to the *Prize* [*Mastico*] and after inspecting into & examining her Hull & materials, we conceive her to be worth, Eighteen Hundred Dollars

CH^s STEWART
JOHN SMITH
RICH^d SOMERS

[LC. EPP, Vol. 9, Jan.–Feb. 1804.]

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

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*

Syracuse Harbour 31 Jan^y 1804

(re^d 15 March 1804)

DEAR SIR, Since my last letter to you I have discovered that the prize [the *Mastico*, renamed the *Intrepid*] I took off Tripoly the 23rd Ulto under Turkish Colours, was in that port when the *Philadelphia* ran on the rocks; and that the Captain who pretends to be a Turk,

took on board upwards of an hundred Tripolines armed with Swords and Muskets — slipped his Cables — hauled down the Turk's, and hoisted Tripoline colours, and went out to the attack; and as soon as the Frigate surrendered, boarded her, — plundered the Officers and Men, and conducted them as prisoners to the Bashaw. In consequence of this conduct I have detained him and his crew, and shall make prize of the vessel. The Captain and Crew having acted hostile towards our Flag, under enemies colours, I cannot release either the Vessel or them, as I have no doubt but should they meet an American Merch^t Vessel they would without hesitation capture her. If a Tripoline, he is a prize; if a Turk, a pirate

I find on translation of the papers that 23 of the Negroes belonged to the Bashaw of Tripoly, which he intended as presents to the Captain Pacha, and other Officers; and 20 of them belonged to the Officers and Merchants of Tripoly, which were for sale. I have among the Tripoline prisoners a choux of the Bashaw's and a Col. of his Troops, besides a number of Tripoline Soldiers.

The prize is equipped as a cruiser. She sails tomorrow with 70 Volunteers from the Squadron on board, under the command of Captain Decatur whose orders are, to burn the *Philadelphia* in the Harbour of Tripoly. The *Syren* Brig goes with him to assist with her Boats, and cover the retreat. I hope they will succeed; it is of National importance that they should.

I have rec^d letters from Capⁿ B[ainbridge] as late as the 18th Ins^t he complains of not having received one from me, notwithstanding I have written several. From Malta last week I forwarded Clothing, Stores & Money to a considerable amount, to the care of the English and Danish Consuls. The Bashaw has received my proposals for an exchange of Prisoners ere this, but I have no answer. While I was at Malta I received proposals from the Bashaw of Tripoly's Agent for a peace, which he says he is authorised by the Bashaw to negotiate. The Bashaw finds we are making considerable preparations for the next Summer, and has become alarmed. His Agent proposed a truce for 10 years. I told him that would not do. I had several conversations with him and assured him we never would consent to pay a cent for Peace or Tribute. He then proposed that we should give the Bashaw 500 Dollars for each of the *Philadelphia's* Officers and Crew — a Schooner in exchange for the Frigate, and make peace without Money or Tribute and that they would exchange 60 Americans, for the sixty Tripolines in my possession. This would be gaining Peace on more reasonable terms than is expected by our Government

Say 300 American Captives
 60 Tripolines deduct'd

leaves 240 at 500 Doll^s each ----- \$120, 000

and we should gain something by exchanging one of the worst schooners for the Frigate. If you could prevail on M^r O'Brien to come here with Cap^t Smith as he speaks the language of Barbary, he could be of infinite service in any negotiation. I should be glad to see you both here, and wish I had a larger vessel to send for your accommodation; but if you cannot leave Algiers at present, what sum will you authorise me to pay for the ransom of the Officers and Crew of the

Philadelphia, if the Bashaw will make peace without Money — Without any annual Tribute — or any Consular present — except a small present at the reception of the first Consul that is appointed? I am anxious to know your opinion, as I expect further proposals from the Bashaw in three weeks.

I have written to Naples and Leghorn for Gun & Mortar Boats, and hope to succeed in procuring them. I enclose you a copy of the last letter I rec^d from Captain Bainbridge. I differ in opinion with him respecting a Blockade. I think it will have a good effect. I go out on a cruise tomorrow and intend to touch at Tunis. I have nothing new in this quarter. Make my best respects to M^{rs} Lear, and believe me with real esteem and respect Dear Sir,

[Stephen Decatur Col.]

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

U. S. FRIGATE *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbour Jan^y 31st 1804.

D^r SIR Since my last letter to you I have discovered that the Prize [*Mastico*, renamed *Intrepid*] I took off Tripoly the 23rd Ult^o under Turkish colors was in that Port when the *Philadelphia* ran on the rocks, & that the Captain who pretends to be a Turk, took on board upwards of an hundred Tripolines, slipped his Cables, & went out to attack her, hauled down the Turkish, & hoisted Tripoline colors, and as soon as the Frigate surrendered he boarded, plundered the Officers & conducted them to the Bashaw in triumph, in consequence of which I have detained him & his crew & shall make prize of the vessel, as the Cap^{tn} has acted in a hostile manner towards our Flag: should I release him & his vessel and an American of inferior force fall in his way, I have a right to believe that he wou^d not hesitate to capture her: if a Tripoline he is a prize, if a Turk a Pirate. I find on translation of some of the papers that 23 of the negro men & women belong to the Bashaw, and 20 to the officers & merchants of Tripoly. I have also a Tripoline Chaux, another Officer with the rank of Colonel, & a number of Tripoline soldiers as prisoners. —

I enclose you a duplicate of my letter of the 4th Ult^o I must have gun & mortar boats: & it is my determination to go to Naples with the ship if I cannot procure them without. I have no doubt but you will do all in your power to assist me. I wish you would go to Naples, & endeavour to procure them for me.

I want two or three Mortar boats & four large gun boats: there are some fine mortar boats at Palermo perhaps you can procure an order for them. My prize is ketch or bombard rigged & is already equipp^d as a cruiser: she sails tomorrow with 70 volunteers from the squadron on an expedition. the *Syren* brig goes with her; I hope they may be successful & cannot doubt but they will.

The *Nautilus* & *Vixen* sail on a cruise in a day or two, & the *Constitution* in a very few days. —

The *Nautilus* returned from Gibraltar five days since: nothing new from that quarter, I am anxious to hear from you soon respecting the gunboats.

[NA. SDA. CL, Tripoli, Vol. 2, 1801-1805.]

To Richard O'Brien, U. S. ex-Consul General, Algiers, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbour 31st Jan^y 1804

DEAR SIR, I write you in great haste. Your favor by the *Syren* came safe, for which, accept my thanks. I believe the Bashaw has a disposition to make Peace with the United States. For particulars I refer you to Col: Lear. Captⁿ Bainbridge thinks with me, that if you would afford your services to your Country, by coming up here, and remaining a few weeks with me, to assist at any negotiation that may be entered into with Tripoly: Your knowledge of the Language and people with whom we have to negotiate, would give us advantages which we cannot otherwise have. I wish you to converse with Col: Lear on this subject. You may rely on my endeavors to make your situation on board this ship as pleasant as possible.

Make my respects to M^{rs} OBrien, and accept my best wishes for your health & happiness.

[Stephen Decatur Col.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 31 January 1804

Moored in Saragosa. the Tripolean prize was got underway by the officers of the *Enterprize* and towed into the Mole in order to Repair.

[NA. ND original.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Richard Farquhar, Malta
MALTA Feb^y 1st 1804

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY

The Bearer is the Master of a Vessel whom you spoke to in Malta for a Pilot, he is not only well acquainted with the Coast of Tripoli Bengaza & Meuserate &^{ca}, but a very active steady man and should you want any more men than he has taken with him now, he would be a very proper person to send over hear for more, as this is the time to get them, for when the Spring of the year comes in the Vessels begins to fit out for their respective Voyages

As he has got 25 men he hopes your Excellency will permit him to have Uniforms, he has advanced Cash for the men he takes with him

There is a Vessel arrived hear from Tripoli, the News by hir is much the same as formerly viz that Provisions is still high and by the different Accounts which I have had the People is murmuring much against the Bashaw they seem all to agree that when your Vessels appear off Tripoli with his Brother on Board they will Murder the present Bashaw

there is also a Vessel arrived a few days ago from Alexandria with news from the Bashaw of Derna saying that he is preparing to retake Derna again, his Consul hear has wrote to him by a ship which sails to morrow for Alexandria he is in hopes you have determined to send him to Alexandria, in one of your Vessels either to bring the Bashaw to Derna or Bengaza as His Excellency is in daylee Expectation of some American Vessel arriving in Alexandria, I understand your Consul hear has got also a Letter from the Bashaw of Derna —

the Bearer has taken his Brother with him & hopes your Excellency will permit him to be in the same Vessel with his Brother