



USS Constitution
Museum

TRANSCRIPTION OF

**Isaac Mayo's Private Journal at Sea
from 1809 to 1819**

USS Constitution Museum Collection [1488.1]

I. Mayo. U.S.N.
Private Journal at Sea From
1809 to 1819

Mayo lived to see one age give way to another wholly different. When he was born in 1794 the United States was an infant nation of seven million people, largely undeveloped, agrarian, and full of hope for the future. It was a slow-paced world, where one's local community counted for more than national politics, and where ways of thinking about the world changed slowly. When Mayo set off on his naval adventure in 1809, it took two days to travel from Philadelphia to New York by stagecoach. When the adventure ended in 1861, the same journey took only a few hours by train. As the Civil War threatened to disembowel the nation he had served for five decades, the country of his youth must have seemed nearly unrecognizable. With waves of immigration swelling the population and northern states rapidly turning to industrialization under the demands of an increasingly consumer driven society, his tidewater upbringing must have seemed more a dream than a lived experience. And yet, the call of childhood remained strong to the end. Faced with a painful decision after the fall of Fort Sumter, Mayo tendered his resignation to Abraham Lincoln directly. In an impassioned letter he explained his reasons:

“For more than half a century it has been the pride of my life to hold office under the Government of the United States. For twenty-five, I have engaged in active sea-service and have never seen my flag dishonored, or the American arms disgraced by defeat. It was the hope of my old age that I might die, as I had lived, an officer in the Navy of a free Government. This hope has been taken from me. In adopting the policy of coercion, you have denied to millions of freemen the rights of the Constitution and in its stead you have placed the will of a sectional Party. As one of the oldest soldiers of America, I protest--in the name of humanity--against this "war against brethren!" I cannot fight against the Constitution while pretending to fight for it. You will therefore oblige me by accepting my resignation.”

Lincoln had accepted the resignation of several high-ranking officers, but for some reason refused Mayo's request. He was cashiered instead. The same day, 18 May 1861, Mayo shot himself at his home, Gresham House in Edgewater, Maryland.

A note on the transcription: We've tried to make the editorial intrusions as few as possible, but occasionally it has been desirable to clarify a passage or fill in a missing word. Mayo was not a friend of periods, and he hardly ever capitalized the first letter of a sentence: we have made those changes when necessary. Otherwise, the grammar and spelling are just as Mayo wrote them. [N.B. this is for published text- not done yet]

1.

Washington Nov. 15- 1809 received a Midshipmans warrant in the Navy of the U. States, and on the 9 Feby. ordered to Join the U. States Ship Wasp Commanded by Lt. Comd^t James Lawrence. The Honb^lc Paul Hamilton speaks in high terms of Capt Lawrence and recommends me to him, by permission of the N. Department remained a few days with my friends in Annapolis M^d It is only those that are blessed with an affectionate Mother that can appreciate my feelings at taking leave of her; On the 24th arrived in Baltimore and same day took stage for Philadelphia by way of Havre de Grace, roads very deep- lost some part of my baggage, met with many little disasters a fate I suppose most generally attending young travell[ers.]

We proceeded rapidly notwithstanding the bad roads and at night were in Philadelphia, put up at the Mansion House. On 27 took stage for New York, a Lady passenger with her nephew four years old the only persons in the stage- weather very cold, but my stout watch coat, (of which some of the older reefers that I have met with say will be to me a most inestimable companion), kept me warm, when day opened upon us, I found my companion de voyage both handsome and youthful- dined at

2.

Trenton about Seven PM [?] and the empty stage put off, remained at Trenton all night as the roads are excessively deep, next day we took stage and at dusk we were in New York at Westminster Hall took leave of my traveling Companion. she gave me her address. I know not how it is, but I feel a most sincere regard for this Lady. I am two hundred and fifty miles from friend or relation, at parting she wished me happiness and promotion in the profession that I have chosen.

On 1 March reported myself for duty on board the Wasp of 18 Guns, lying at the navy yard Brooklyn. cannot say that I am much pleased with first appearances. The first night on board was put in for rather more than four hours of the mid watch, through a snow storm, those 24 hours seemed longer to me than all my previous life. Have dined with my Commander and much pleased with him, but the reefers say that there are no favors shewn on board this ship. The Frigate Constitution, Brig hornet and Schooner Enterprize are the only Public vessels at the navy yard. In the absence of Capt Lawrence I was ordered to the Enterprize Lt. Comd^r Tripp, but on Capt Ls return he

3.

requested the order of Com^d Rodgers might be revoked which was done- from the time of my joining the Wasp untill the 20 March the crew employ^d rigging ship stowing Hold &c. bent sails and haul^d in the North River, been but twice on shore to the City of N. York. 24 weighed anchor stood down the harbour, passed Sandy Hook, where there are two light-houses, and put to sea, first and second day out most deadly seasick, oh could I have got on shore in the hight [sic] of it, I swear that uncle Sam, as they call him, would certainly forever have lost the services of at least one sailor- ordered aloft by Capt L, when I could not keep my feet on deck, about to remonstrate but as usual in such cases, came up [?] only second best. The log slate said that it was fine weather with moderate breezes, and so said those that had witnessed more of such scenes than myself, but I did not wish to see it worse – four days brought us to anchor of[f] Long Wharf, Boston, as a

very great favor one third of the Midshipmen were allowed to go on shore every day for three days, to be up after the Theater- The Exchange is said to be a well kept house, at least it was so to me, after four days hard bread and salt junk mortal never enjoy^d the land more than I now

4.

do. This day [April 1, 1810] we were made an April fool for just as the 1st Watch had rigged themselves out, and the masters mate about to descend the ward room ladder, all hands were called up anchor, and in a short time we cleared the forts, and stood towards Cape Cod. we soon were out in the Atlantic, and how delighted I am to find that I have none of those quamish [?] feelings experienced upon leaving New York- stationed in the main top, in working ship and also at Quarters, have entirely gotten over my dislike to the Lieutenants, for when I was sea sick I thought them no better than the monsters of the deep.

On the 4 April arriv^d at New York, visited the Theater and saw Miss S. [?] about the middle of April stood up the North river as far as the once famous West Point, Arnold and Treason, visited the establishment. did not envy the Cadets their station on shore, neither do I believe that they envied me mine on board, particularly when I ushered them into our steerage, and informed them that seven Midshipmen messed and slung their Hammocks in an apartment ten feet by twelve. on the 20 returned to New York, and on the 21 put to sea, second day out made Montauk point-

5.

[April 25] Stood into Long Island Sound, anchored in the river Thames off the Town of New London- cannot say much for this place, which was once engaged in a very honest horse [?] trade with the West Indies, but since the Embargo and nonintercourse it is found more profitable tho less honorable to take bullocks to the same market—

27 stood down Long Island Sound and anchored of[f] Trog's point [?], W. Hammond who resides on the point evinced much hospitality to the officers of our ship- John O.

Creighton joined the Wasp as first Lieutenant. 10 June stood down through Hell Gates and anchored of[f] New York. on the 20 stood up through Hell Gates, our ship in much danger, and very near being lost, in consequence of the wind dying away when the ship was in the pot. warped the ship to the shore and made her fast to the trees. when the tide turned we got clear. stood up sound and anchored of[f] New Haven, a few days after came too of[f] New Port. here is a fine harbor a Ship may put in or out let the wind be as it may. Some of the timber of the ship in which Capt. Cook circumnavigated the globe are yet to be seen- Stood out to sea, and on the 2 July anchored at New York. on the 3 July Capt Lawrence received orders to give up the command of the Wasp to Capt

6.

Jacob Jones, who was his senior. Capt Lawrence was ordered to the Brig Argus 16 Guns lying near us, late the Command of Capt Jones – Capt L took a part of his officers and crew with him to the Argus myself amongst the former- such had been the deportment of

Capt L. that every officer and man would have gone with him to the Argus altho a very inferior vessel. This being the anniversary of our Independence the Wasp & Argus also the Forts and batteries fired a national Salute- hauled the Argus to the navy yard overhauled and painted, and on the 11 stood out through Sandy Hook to sea in company with the Wasp- but soon parted with her. 16 made the Capes of Virginia. 17 anchored in Hampton Roads, where all the national vessels in Commission within the U. States are ordered to rendezvous- namely the Frigates President Commodore Rodgers; United States Com^r Decatur Constitution Capt Hull and Essex Capt Smith. The sloop Wasp Capt Jones, Brigs Hornet Capt Hunt, Argus Capt Lawrence and the Scyren [sic] Capt [blank] Such changes were made as the service required. The Argus stood up to Norfolk and anchored between Forts Norfolk & Nelson. 2 August stood down, and anchored in Hampton roads- on the 4 stood out to sea, and on the 8 anchored

7.

at New York. 18 Stood out to sea. made for the Grand Banks of Newfoundland- hove too, to fish Capt L caught 2 cods, which his steward [sic] gave me for a Haddock that I had taken, he observed at dinner how would [? illeg] like that- near getting on shore in Barnstable Bay, one of the afterguard having put a marling spike in the Binnacle- 30 anchored at New York, and next day stood out to sea upon one of our short cruizes in Support of the non-intercourse made Martha's Vinyard, passed over Nantucket Shoals and put into Boston. 19 arrived at N. York hauled into the navy yard and overhauled ship. from the 20 to the 30 Mr. Fulton made repeated attempts to get his torpedo under our bottom, giving us ten minutes to prepare ourselves. I don't think that he was altogether satisfied with the experiment. 5 October stood out to sea- and on the 11 anchored a few miles below Philadelphia 17 stood down the Delaware and anchored of[f] Port Penn. 18 put to sea. 27 anchored at Boston. The Chesepeake [sic] Frigate at anchor in ordinary at the Navy Yard Charlestown- 31 stood out to sea. 8 november anchored at New York the Frigate President Com. Rodgers, schooner Revenge Lt. Comd^t. O. H. Perry at anchor. hauled into the navy yard, and overhauled. 28 rigged ship

8.

on the 17 December stood up the East river through Hell Gates. and up the Sound- on 18 anchored in New London, where we found the President, the Constitution, and the Revenge 26 stood down Sound, and anchored of[f] the navy yard New York. The U.S. Brig Nautilus at the Yard, about the 15 January the Revenge was lost up the sound crew saved- during Feby hove the Argus out and copper^d her bottom and refitted for sea. on 4 March stood up through Hell Gates, up and out Sound and anchored at New Port. our object was to take Midshipman Hamilton on board and proceed with him to Europe as bearer of Dispatches, but the Corvette John Adams had arrived at New Port a few hours before us and Mr. H was about to embark in the J. A- 7 stood out to sea, and then into New London. took Com. Rodgers and Lt. O.H. Perry on board and proceeded down Sound to New York. on 21 weighed anchor and stood out to sea by way of Sandy Hook, on 24 made Cape Henry light- 26& 27 Standing up the Chesapeake Bay and anchored

of[f] Annapolis found my friends all well. The Frigate President arrived at Annapolis a few days after the Argus. The Citizens of Annapolis evinced

9.

their hospitality by giving the officers a Ball, on 10 may stood down the Chesapeake Bay. 13 Spoke the U.S. Ship Wasp bound to Washington, 15 lost sight of the Capes of Virginia, and parted company with the President. 17 made the Capes of the Delaware, and anchored off Lewistown. 18 stood out to sea, during the night discovered a large suspicious looking sail, beat to Quarters as usual and prepared for action, she proved to be the Georgia Packet bound to Philadelphia, 20 stood up the Delaware and came too a few miles below Philadelphia, visited the City. 24 stood down the Delaware and put to sea. 26 spoke a Pilot Boat, informed us that a few hours previous he was spoken by one of H.B. M. three masted schooners, as the English have many cruizers on our coast and getting to be a great annoyance to our traders. we stood in the direction most likely to fall in with her. At midnight discov^d a strange sail prepar^d for action the first Division, the stranger continued to stand from us. the third shot brought her too- proved to be the Philadelphia Packet bound to Charleston- arriv^d in New York, 28 proceeded to sea in Company with the Frigates President and United States. 7 arriv^d of[f] the Chesapeake Bay run in and anchored of[f] the light house bearing E.S.E. distant 8 miles- the two Frigates in company.

10.

[1811]

on the day following the U. States Frigate Essex from Europe anchored near us, on 10 the Essex stood up the Bay; the squadron put to sea. 14 anchored of[f] the City of New York, the 2 Frigates in Company. 20 Squadron put to sea upon a cruize, 1 August returned to New York having seen no English cruizers. 1 September the Argus put to sea alone upon a cruize, leaving the Frigates at New York. previously to our sailing a court of Inquiry had commenced for an investigation of Com. Rodgers conduct for returning the fire of H.B.M Ship Little Belt. We only regret that the Little Belt was not of equal mettle with the President, but the day is not far distant when we shall have a trial of ship for ship and Gun for Gun, or we must lay aside all pretension to the freedom of the seas. Made the capes of Delaware, stood up the Bay and anchored off Markus Hook. visited Phila. and rejoined the Ship at Wilmington, where much hospitality was evinced by its inhabitants, in going down anchored off New Castle, also off Bombay Hook. The Comet that has been visible for some time has increased [2 words illeg.] very considerably- 29 heavy gales blown from our mooring off Lewistown and compelled to put to sea, leaving several officers and a boats crew on shore. returned to our

11.

anchorage of[f] Lewistown rece^d the boat on board discovered 3 strange sail in the offing with N^{os} flying, stood out to sea, and joined Com. Rodgers Squadron, consisting of the Frigates President and U. States, and sloop of War Wasp, cruized along the coast untill the 10 when the Wasp returned to her station of[f] the Delaware. The 2 Frigates and

Argus put into New York. 13 Capt Lawrence was ordered to Washington to take command of the sloop of war Hornet, formerly a Brig- Capt W^m M. crane took command of the Argus, being sick remained on shore untill the 15 Nov. when the Hornet arriv^d at N. York, joined Capt L's new Command. on the 2 Dec. drop^d down to the Quarantine Ground, where we received Lt. James Biddle, and Midⁿ. Tayloe on board bearers of dispatches to St Cloud & St. James- 3 got underway and stood out to sea. discharg^d the Pilot and unbent the cables, stowed the anchors and loaded the Guns, wind fair and fresh, nothing of consequence occurred during our run across the Atlantic, on Christmas day struck upon soundings in 70 fathoms water gravelly bottom the day following fell in with an English outward bound fleet of more than 100 sail of marchant vessels protected by several men of war. This is what we stand so much in want of- as it is the property of our Citizens go unprotected and at the mercy of all nations who chuse to plunder and maltreat them.

12.

1811 Decr. 28

Spoke one of the fleet, informed that the Lizard bore E.N.E. 22 leagues. Ushant bore SE by E 73 leagues passed within 6 miles of the Lizard light house. 29 passed the Eddystone and start points. standing up the British Channell [30]. discover^d a sail making signals, shortened sail and prepared for action. (Alderny and Cape La Hogue in sight.) having shortened sail the stranger came within hail, being a brig of war with English colours flying- the two commanders hailed alternately several times, neither being disposed to answer the hail- however at last the stranger answered that it was H.B.M. Brig Thressian Capt Symes, and requested permission to send his boat on board, which was granted, upon the officer of the boat reaching our deck, his first words were why Sir we came very near firing into you. Capt L merely pointed fore & aft to our battery, where the men were blowing their matches, and I must say that his lofty bearing seem^d much humbled when he saw with what coolness and deliberation our Crew kept their Guns to bear upon him. Stood in for the Harbour of Cherbourg, hoisted our Colours, set the Jack and fired a gun for a Pilot. The N^o of the U.S. Frigate Constitution hoisted on board of her in the Harbour, which we answer^d. Stood in and anchored near the Constitution, Capt Hull, landed Lt. Biddle who proceeded to Paris [Jany 2 1812]- at midnight

13

Jany 3 1812

stood out in the English Channel, and on the next morning, had the Isle of Wight in sight with its chaulky cliffs. Anchored off the Town of Cowes Isle of Wight, Midn Tayloe our bearer of dispatches proceeded to London. Capt Lawrence also went up. Altho it is winter, with a thick and Cloudy atmosphere, yet one can but admire this Island. it must be a garden spot in Summer. the Town of Cowes has some handsome houses, but is badly built and the lower streets very dirty; there appears to be very few respectable looking people here, but some fine soldiers to appearance. East Cowes stands on the opposite side of a small Creek, Portsmouth and Spitt Head in sight. the Channell fleet at anchor at Spit Head. On the 18 Capt. L. & Midⁿ Tayloe returned from London. weather unpleasant no sun. These Englishmen are always soaked with rain or strong beer. 19 weighed anchor and stood up to Spitt Head, boarded by a boat from the Guard Ship of the

day. the fleet is always ready to put to sea. Some good looking ships, stood out by St. Helens Bluff and across the Channel. Same day anchor^d again in the harbor of Cherbourg (France) the Constitution had sailed for the U.S. at anchor in the harbor 2 French 74 2 Frigates & several corvettes. the hornet saluted the French Admiral, which was returned with one Gun less- a boat was immediately dispatched to the Admirals ship to know why Gun for Gun had not be [sic] returned. It was a mistake, and the other Gun was

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Jan 20 1812

fired the next morning when we hoisted our Ensign. Cherbourg is certainly a very filthy place. the females are not handsome, few men to be seen, the women are employ^d upon all occasions. The harbour is strongly fortified. The excavations commenced by Napoleon will very soon be completed, and ready to receive shipping. There are several thousand Spanish Prisoners at work upon this magnificent undertaking. The Inhabitants are polite and the French officers very attentive- much more so than we found the English at Cowes. 2 stood out in the Channell and on the 3 anchored off Cowes, heavy gales, let go all the anchors and struck lower yards & topmasts. Mr. Porter the messenger from our minister in Paris Joel Barlow Esq. proceeded to London. 13 Mr. Porter returned from London, crossed the Channel, and after a heavy gale of two days, during which our ignorant Pilot was near running us upon the Dyke; & with the loss of one of our Boatswain's Mates Wm. Thomas we anchored in the harbour of Cherbourg. we passed an English Frigate just out of Gun shot of the Forts. altho within fifty yards of each other, neither hailed, nor extended any of the courtesies customary upon two national vessels coming in contact. this is a pretty clear proof of the feeling of the two nations- as our ministers appear being on both sides of the Channel, we shall

15

soon see how it is to end. April 5, discover^d a sail in the offing with American Colours flying. hoisted our No and was answer^d by that of the U.S. Ship Wasp sent our boat out to her with a Pilot. Same day she came in and anchor^d near us. The Wasp was Commanded by Capt Jones- 26 days from New York with dispatches for our minister at Paris- Cpts. Jones & Lawrence went to Paris. Capt Black an American, commands a Privateer from this port and has made many valuable captures from the English, with whom the French are now at War. 25 Capt. Lawrence and Lt. Biddle returned from Paris. 26 got underway and stood over to the Coast of England. put Mr. Jones of New York, messenger from our minister at Paris to the American Charge des affairs in London, with several other American Gentlemen on board a Pilot Boat to be landed in England, and the Hornet stood down Channel Passengers for the U. States Sir James Jay, Claudius Le Grand, & Benj. Turner. 27 spoke H.B.M. Frigate Spitfire, 28 passed the Lizard, and took our departure from the Scilly light house bearing NE b N 13 miles. making the best of our way across the Atlantic, 13 May carried away our fore topmast & main top gallant mast by the parting of the weather fore topsail brace- soon clear^d away & had her all atanto again. fair winds and pleasant weather. 15 Sounded in 90 fathoms water

16

red and brown sand, Eighteen days from Soundings to Soundings. 19 received (?) pilot and ---- (?) up to New York. Lt. Biddle proceeded immediately to Washington, 20 hauled round (?) to the Navy Yard and overhauled ship. The Frigates President, United States, and Congress at anchor off the L----tine (?) ground (?). In 24 hours our ship was equip^d and ready for Sea. The Brig Argus Capt. Saint-clair joined the Squadron. This morning the declaration of War by the U. States against Great Britain was received; on shore all in commotion and bustle- on board every countenance is beaming with delight, for many is the bold T—(?) in our squadron who have been impressed for years in the English naval - ---- (?), that may now have an opportunity of wreaking (?) their vengeance (?) upon those that have oppressed them. at 10 AM Commodore Rodgers gave out the signal to weigh, never was anchor to the cathead sooner nor topsail sheeted home and to the mast head with more dispatch than upon the present occasion (?). the smallest boy on board seems anxious to meet what (?) is now looked upon as the common (?) tyrant of the ocean, for they had heard the woeful tales of older ---s (?). when the ship was underway Capt. Lawrence delivered a short and appropriate address to the Crew, which was returned by three hearty Cheers- and swore never to

17.

disgrace their countries (?) Flag. Capt. Lawrence had the crew called to their Quarters and told them that if there was any amongst them who were disaffected, or one that had not rather sink than surrender to the enemy with gun for gun, that he should be immediately and un---- (?) landed or sent back in the pilot boat. the reply fore and aft was not one. at half past two o'clock P.M. passed Sandy Hook and put to Sea. The Squadron consisted of the Frigates President Com. Rodgers, United States Com. Decatur Congress Capt. Smith, Sloops of War Hornet Capt. Lawrence and Brig Argus Capt. S^t Clair. The two first days out spoke several ----- (?) informed them of the War, 25 at meridian (?) discover^d a large sail, and soon made her (?) out a Frigate under English Colors (?). The squadron made all sail in chase, and continued for some time to gain upon the stranger. at 4 the enemy cut away her boats and appeared to be lightening ship, as we did not come (?) at all. at 5 the wind became very light, the President the only ship within gun shot of the enemy who at this time commenced (?) dropping the President, when Com. Rodgers commenced a fire (?) upon her from his bow Guns, which was promptly returned by the enemies (?) stern Guns. The President kept up a constant and well directed fire as long as the enemy was within Gun shot. The President c----ded (?) on, but the enemy

18.

continued to drop her. at sun set the enemy out of Gun shot of the President. the rest of the squadron from 2 to 6 miles astern. soon after dark lost sight of the Commodore and the enemy. at 2 AM the squadron came up with Commodore who had been --- (?) out of sight of sight by the enemy. The President was but little damaged. She had 2 midshipmen and two men Killed (?) and 12 men wounded. the Commodore was also severely . The Commodore -ed (?) every exertion to close (?) with the enemy- but he was too swift after lightening his Ship. boarded several American Merchant vessels and informed them of the War. 4 boarded an English Merchant Brig, took (?) out the prisoners and set her on fire. this (?) m--- (?) the innocent suffer with the Guilty. 5 took another English Brig

which we also burnt. Lat. 47°- 20' N Long 35°-12' W discov^d a stranger. the Hornet fairly outsailed the whole squadron, and was the first to come up with the chase (?), which proved to be the English Brig Dolphin. Took out the crew and sent Midⁿ Conner act (?) ----- (?) as prize m---- (?) and ordered her to the U. States. made the Island of Madeira. 24 Captured the English letter of marquis Ship John of 16 Guns. from London to Martinique, took out the prisoners and ---- (?) lose (?) prize m--- (?) for the U.S. 2 Captured the English Brig Argo, took \$ 10,000 in sh--- (?) and ordered her to the U. States. 13 all the squadron in chase

19.

of a sharp schooner. She is supposed to be one of our Privateers. Could not come up with her. 17 Captured an English schooner dispatched her for the U. States. 24 re (?) captured the American schooner Betsy (?). She was captured on the 13 July (?) by the British Frigate Guerriere. dispatched her for the U. States. fell in with the American Brig Hiram. Captured by the B. Fr. Guerriere and ----- (?) for \$2000. fell in with a Brig prize to the U.S. Ship Wasp (?). bent (?) the cables- (?) sounded in 80 fathoms water. 27 passed (?) cape (?) sa--- (?). passed (?) two cartels from Halifax bound to the U.S. at night. lost sight of a large sail that we had been in chase of, but at a great distance. 30 made the breakers on Georges Bank. 31 passed cape Cod and soon after discov^d a Frigate at anchor in Naut---- (?) road (?). The squadron h--- (?) too, and the Com. stood down (?) for the supposed enemy our signals not being answer^d when a pilot boat informed us that it was the U.S. Frigate Constitution Capt. Hull that she had captur^d H.B.M. Frigate Guerriere, Capt. Sir (?) J.R. Dacres after an action of 30 minutes having all her masts (?) cut away. 15 Killed and more than 60 wounded. The Constitution was but little injur^d, had seven men Killed and seven (?) wounded. let us have one more victory and we may then say truly that we can cope with the enemy. The whole squadron stood up to Boston where Capt. Hull, his officers and his crew were receiv^d (?) with the celot (?) due to the conquerors

20.

of a British Frigate. The Guerriere was to much cut to pieces as to render it impossible to get her in. The action was in Lat 41°-42' N Long 55°-48 W. on 19 Augt.

[Table labeled “----- (?) to the preceding cruize”]

21.

The Squadron refitting and getting ready for another cruize. Commodore Rodgers put to sea with his squadron, consisting of the Frigates President, United States + Congress, with the Argus Brig. 28 The Constitution Com. Bainbridge + our ship the Hornet put to sea in company. course off E ½ S. boarded several American ----- (?). took possession (?) of the American Brig South Carolina, discov^d she had English License (?). Sent her for the U. States. 18 made the Cape de Verd Islands. The N.E. trade winds (?) quite stiff. surrounded by f---ing (?) fish (?), several have come on board. frequent + heavy showers of rain, thunder + lightning. Crossed the Equator into South Latitude. 2 made the Island of Ferdinan de Norosha (?), the Constitution + Hornet anchored in 16 fathoms water. hailed (?) English colors and reported (?) as such. --- (?) ---- (?) fruit (?) and a few

thousand gallons water, and a small quantity of fresh provisions all purchased from the Governor (?) of the Island. the Island is small it is situated in Lat 3°-55 S. Long 32-27 W This is the Portuguese Botany Bay for male convicts. there is not a female on the Island nor are they supposed to visit it no boats are allow^d to belong to the Island

22.

for fear the convicts should attempt their escape to the coast of Brazil which is not many leagues distant. there is a guard of fifty Portuguese soldiers who take care of the convicts. The best (?) anchorage is abreast of the Large Fort about 2 miles North of the Citadel. 5 wash^d (?) anchor The Constitution in in company stood to the S+W. passed several Cotawarans (?) during the day + night. about 50 miles from the coast of Brazil. 6 made Cape Lido. on the 8 passed the City of Oa----haca (?). 9th Spoke a Portuguese Polacca (?) She informed us that an English man of war was at anchor in the Harbour of St Salvadore (?). Employ^d pumping (?) of our water for the Constitution, and endeavored to keep clear of all small craft that were likely to give intelligence of our being on the Coast. 15 Lt. Ballard and myself were dispatched in the ^{71(?)}Cutter for St Salvadore. in the evening the Hornet came up and anchored near the City, the Constitution keeping out of sight. Exchanged salutes of 18 Guns with the Forts. all boats employ^d filling water and getting stores om board. H.B.M. Corvette Bonne Cityonne at anchor near us. She mounts 25 Guns with a compliment of 170 men. Commanded by Capt. Green, having on board one and a half Millions of Dollars (?). we wish (?) the Constitution as many miles from us, for it will no doubt be the plea not to give us combat. St Salvadore, upon an eminence (?) on the right (?) hand as you enter the Bay of all Saints. it was once the

23.

Capital of the Brazils (?). The houses have more the appearance of jails than of private dwellings, having huge doors and iron grating to the windows (?). Some of the churches are indeed Elegant, being decorated inside with Images of pure gold and silver. the climate at this time of time is fine. the people appear withdrawn. the better sort of females donot (?) appear during the day, but flock out upon the public walk after Sun Set attended by their old Duenna's. The men are mostly too indolent to walk and are carried by 2 or more slaves in a sedan. the slaves are generally naked except bellow the waist. visited most of the Convents (?) and Nunneries where are some of the prettiest girls that I have seen, and who appear to vie (?) with each other in beauty and gracefulness, particularly when the elder sisters would be employ^d in selling to advantage some beautiful wreath of flowers made of feathers. we could not get near enough to Kiss their hands, but this they would do and wave them to us. we were kept (?) of[f] (?) by a double iron grating. we only saw those that had not taken the vail, and I have no doubt but many of them would gladly escape (?) it. would it not be an act of charity to break open this prison house, and run (?) of[f] with a dozen of these sweet creatures. we reefers (?) have become acquainted with one of the Padres who acts as our guide. W. Hill (?) our council is very attentive to the offerings (?), and very active in procuring the -----ing (?) for the two ships. The Hornet is the first

24.

United States ship of Man of War that has ever visited a South American Brazilian (?) Port. The English here are not at all pleased that the Governor should answer our Salute, and that we should receive the attention we have- but the capture of the Guerriere is already known here, which was denied by the English until our arrival. It appears to me that only one thing is wanting to make this country equal to ours; that is our Government with administrators equally wise and virtuous. 18 stood out to sea. 19 jointed (?) the Constitution furnished her with most of the stores we received, being 15 buss----(?) with good vegetables and fine fruit. 20 parted company with the Constitution she stood out to the N^o previously to separating bow. Bainsbridge wrote to the British (?) Council at St. Salvadore, stating that he had gone a cruize to the North, that Capt Lawrence was anxious to meet Bonne Cityonne, and if Capt Green was so disposed, he pledged his honor not to be in sight. at the same time Capt L. wrote to Capt G. what may be called a formal Challenge. the enemy mounts more Guns than the Hornet and from thirty to forty more men. we have every reason to believe that this will be a most desperate b----p (?) the enemy must support the honor of his flag, and our first division of boarders are nick named by the crew the hell hounds- no fifty men can over power them.

25.

on the 22 sent our Communication to the enemy by a Portugues [sic] smash (?), who had been spoken by the Constitution of b----- (?) 60 miles to the North of us. Stood close in to the harbor fir^d a shot to windward, hoisted our Ensign, and cleard ship for action. hove too of[f] the port. no appearance of the enemies getting underway. 24 again stood close in fired 2 shots to windward, hoisted our Colors, and hove too off the harbour. The morning Chronicle (a small written paper on board) sarcastically (?) says that the Bonne Cityonne's chain cables is of much better stuff than her guns. whilst lying too of[f] the harbour discov^d 2 sail one in chase, standing down the coast. stood in chase and cut the stranger of but being within the jurisdiction of the Portuguese Diminions (?), only fired a shot over her and let her pass. The ship in chase was the Constitution, the one chased H.B.M.'s Jackets. Lucy (?) will the enemy observe this Law of nations. The Constitution returned to her cruising ground of ----- (?), and gave Capt Green another opportunity to come (?) out. discov^d two sails to windward. hoisted English Colours when one of them ran down (?) to us and within musket (?) shot before she discov^d her mistake. she attempted to get of but the first division brought her too. She proved to be the English schooner Ellen from London bound to St. Salvador with a most valuable cargo of dry goods and \$6000 in specie (?)

26.

stood on (?) for the other sail also under English Colours we having the American Ensign aloft. fir^d one division towards her when she bore (?) up and ---- (?) down to us. She proved to be the American Ship William of Philadelphia, and cut (?) out from one (?) of the Cape de Verd Island by H.B.M. Frigate Java. She had on board one English Midⁿ 2 master mates + 15 men; we put Midⁿ s---oot (?) on board + ordered her into St. Salvador. The prize crew informed us that the Java had them in tow (?) when she discov^d a Frigate with American Colours flying of which she went in chase, and (as one of the English Midshipmen told me) as the Java sailed two feet to your (?) Frigates one, you know she

must/meant (?) be (?) captured before this. We did not think proper to believe that our good old Constitution was to be taken so easily notwithstanding the Java has an extra compliment of men according to the previous account of 150 men for a new Sloop of War building (?) at Bom (?) Bay. What can Capt Green be compared (?) of to remain quiet, when two of his countrymen are taken under his eye. The Command of the Ellen was given to me. She mounts 16 guns and I have twenty men. The Constitution hove (?) in sight the Hornet and my schooner the Ellen stood out for her. the Ellen being the swiftest sailor came up with the Constitution first, and passed under her stern. one of the Midshipmen

27.

from the prize ship L---- (?) had been put on board of we (?). we both discov^d that the Constitution had shot holes in her stern and stern boat. by this time the Hornet had come up and spoke the Commodore, when she gave three cheers. my English friend observed that well we might Cheer for our Frigate had made a most lucky escape. I ran (?) down to the Hornet when Capt Lawrence informed me that the Constitution had Sunk H.B.M. Frigate Java after an action of one hour and twenty minutes. I replied that it was no more than I expected. hauled up for the Commodore and gave him three cheers. my English companion discov^d (?) his ----- (?) in London Porter (?) of which Ellen had a good (?) supply. the Java had all her work (?) shot away, with 60 men Killed and 106 wounded- and to much cut up in her Hull that it was impossible to get her into port. the only serious damage that the Constitution received was having her wheel shot away early in the action which made her fight to a very great disadvantage yet she had but 9 killed and twenty five wounded. having kept anew suit of sail (?) it was not easy to discover that she had been into action. Commodore Bainsbridge was severely wounded. Capt Law hurt (?) a distinguished officer (?) of the British Navy dangerously (?). Govⁿ Hirlop (?) appointed to Bom (?) Bay and suit (?) wise (?) [sent men?] on board the Java. the Constitution anchor^d at St Salvadore.

28.

Sent our Prize the William in with Commodore. Upon the Commander of the Bonne Cityonne's hearing of the capture of the Java, he let go anchor & chain cable. Commodore B. has placed his ship under the Guns of the forts and pledges himself not to interfere if the Bonne Cityonne will come out and give the Hornet battle. This day Capt Lawbert late of the Java died of his wounds. on the 5 the Commodore inform^d Capt. L. not to let Ellen come in, as the customs house would seize her. we having let her late Commander go on shore to ----- (?) her, he had entered into an arrangement with the couques (?) to make it appear that she had been sold to Portuguese merchants previous to her capture. of this I was not informed by Capt L. Same night- the Hornet stood of[f] in chase, and as she did not return for 24 hours, I run (?) in with the Ellen ass----ble (?) to my instructions from Capt L. and anchor near the Constitution. soon after two boats filled with soldiers came on board as they said to prevent smuggling. at the same time our Councils clerk (?) came on board on (?) ----- (?) me (?) that their r---t (?) tear (?) to seize the hepelment (?) on board the Commodore to get his opinion how to act. he said that Capt. L had been informed of what was going on, and asked why I had

29.

come in; produced my written instructions from Capt. L, directing me in the event of the Hornets running off and not returning in less than 24 hours run in to St. Salvadore procure what stores that were necessary and make the best of my way to the U. States. I Then informed the Com^d that Capt L had not made me acquainted with the intention of the Customs house to seize the Ellen, he having run off in chase a few hours after receiving the information. The Commodore informed me that he had given his honor to Capt. Green of the Bonne Cityonne not to interfere with the Hornet in any way. left the Commodore in high dudgeon as he believed that we should loose one of the best prizes taken during the war. I lost no time in determining how to act. upon my return to the Ellen I was not the least suspicious of what was the intention of the officers and soldiers on board of me. Invited the officers of the guard and the Customs into the Cabin, got them fairly underway, at good eating, and better drinking. went upon deck and feasted the soldiers upon the best—in a few words informed my acting Boatswain of the danger we were in of losing our Prize. our hand was loosened to cut away the halyard that we had come too with, two to let fall the fore topsail and come down by the sheets- the crew to

30.

was aft at a Gener Segal- and seize upon the soldiers arms that were carelessly laying about. the auch hailed Midⁿ Swoot who was at anchor near us in another prize to send his largest boat on board. as soon as She came alongside a wave of the Land brought my crew aft. I closed the Cabin doors upon the officers below, and in half a minute the Portuguese soldiers were clustered into Swoots boat with their own muskets. the cable was cut, and the foretopsail upon her. stood immediately for the Constitution and kept her in a line between the Ellen and the Front. stood off until out of Gun shot. let the officers up from the Cabin, and sent them in the boat with their men. They directed the Portuguese Pilot to say that that I had on board, to say that I had not treated them well, my reply was that I had given them the best on board. no—but that I had deceived them, deceived that pilot to say that there we were at quits—for their object in coming on board had been to deceive me. cast off the boats painter and requested Midⁿ Tippit, who had chase of the boat, not to hurry himself in getting on shore. stood out of the harbor and fell in with the Hornet of St. Antonio. Capt L was alarmed for the safety of his prize but pleased at my escape. on the 6 the Constitution

31.

came out. received fresh provisions and fruit from her. Commodore Bainbridge concluded to take the Ellen to the U. States with him. not being disposed to return home, I was ordered back to the Hornet. 7 the Commodore took his departure for the U. States having the Ellen with him. from the 7 to the 24 continued to blockade Commodore Green as the men now call him, he having with him the Bonne Cityonne of 25 Guns, the British Jacket of 16 Guns, and a letter of Marque Ship of 20 Guns—yet the enemy discover no disposition to come out. altho they have arrived that spoken the Constitution more than a week since 300 miles from us. 24 discovered a large sail to windward, made all sail in chase, soon discovered he to be a ship of the line, did not alter our course until all was ready to square away—when we set suddery sails and made all other sail

to advantage. The Island of Japerico locked us in to Leeward, so that we were obliged to make sail obliquely across the Enemies bows to get into St. Salvadore. The enemy was quick to discover our intentions and crowded (?) all her cannals (?) to cut us of[f], continuing to gain upon us very (?) fast (?). It was neck (?) or nothing with us. we were to cross (?) the 3 fathom shoal, where we turned up the wind (?). The enemy open^d his fire upon us but his shot fell short by more than 100 yards. The chase in woven (?) pursiut [sic](?) was near running upon the shoal

32.

and had only time to round (?) too, and clear up and let o his anchors. The Hornet continued to stand up the Bay, where we discov^d three sail standing down toward us. These we believed to be Commodore Green and his squadron, Gallantly coming out to cut us of[f]. beat to Quarters and clear^d Ship for action Capt L's intention was to fight his way through them to the City. at dusk came up with the three sail, they proved to be merchant ships bound out. the Hornet stood up and passed so close to the Bonne Cityonne that she called away her boarders. Stood up the bay until after dark, when we took in all sail but the topsail, and the loud (?) breeze setting down we tacked and stood down the Bay again. Soon discovered the Ship of the Line, which we know to be the Montague 74 Admiral Dinor who has come up from Rio de Janario [sic] to run (?) the blockade. continued to stand down under our topsails, having every thing ready to cra---d (?) on. discov^d the enemies squadron formed across the Bay. continued to stand down and actually passed under the Guns of the Montague either unperceived or taken for some other vessel, supposing that we would not dare pass them. when we passed they were making night signals. this had no effect upon Capt L and we continued to stand on under the same sail

33.

which in all probability deceived the enemy. after getting out of sight we cr----d (?) all sail, and stood to Southward, leaving the old Admiral to blockade us as he supposes, for it may be some time before he will discover that we are again in blue water. The Morning Chronicles a small paper written on board for the amusement of the crew; observes that the Trident of Neptune was on the night of the 24th Jany 1813 transferred from H.B.M. 74 Montague, to the U.S. Ship Hornet of 18 Guns. This change is said to have taken place in consequence of the Gallant bearing of the Hornet in blockading an English squadron for several weeks in St. Salvador—and when herself forced in, made her escape the same night through an over whelming force of the enemy. the old Gentleman (?) will remain on board the Hornet until we fall in with one of our Frigates, when he will hoist his flag on board of her. Stood to the North and having obtained a good offering (?). Current setting 11 Knot 6 hours S.S.W. (?). Discov^d a strange sail, went in chase, light winds gain^d upon her but slowly. after dark she altered her course, but our night glass (?) was upon her and at 9 oclock took possession of the English Brig Resolution. She was loated [sic] with Bread, flour, Beef and small stores, with which the Hornet was supplied, and the Brig set on fire. after she had been some time on fire her late Commander said that she had specie on board, and we took out of

34.

her \$234,000 (?). whilst lying too to windward storing our boats, the Brig opened a fire upon us, and we were forced to run from her, to the no small amusement of her Late Captain, he guns were loaded and when the fire reached them they went of in succession. 5 Boarded a Portuguese Brig and sent the prisoners of the Resolution in her to St. Salvadore, which will let Admiral Dinor know that we are not hauled up into any of the rivers of the Great Bay of all Saints. from the 5 to the 10 beating round Capt St. Augustine, strong current, setting to the Southward. 11 passed Cape of St. Roque (?) and stood more to the Westward. 14 Crossed the equator into North Latitude. The entrance of the river Aungor (?) in sight. from 14 to 23 cruising off Cape Brange (?), Cayenne Parasibo (?), Suinaun (?), Burbice (?) and Deuncara (?) formerly Dutch Settlements now in possession of the English. 24 at day light Discov^d a Merchant Brig and chased her in shore until quarter less (?) three (?). tack^d and stood of[f]. same time discov^d a sail at anchor towindward, under English Colours and apparently a man of War. She got underway, Coralona Bank lay between us, and we both beat to windward to clear it, each apparently anxious to meet the other. soon after and short 3 P.M. discov^d another sail towindward, and on the same side of the bank with us, with English Colours

35.

Flying, and to all appearances a vessel of War. Standing down for us. Tacked ship to gain a better offering and to increase the distance between the enemies two vessels. the one last discovered bearing down holds upon us at 4^h 45' (?) having gained a pretty good offering tacked ship. took in the light sails. beat to Quarters and prepared for action. at 4-55 the enemy discov^d that we could weather (?) him (he having kept of[f] too much) when he bore up a little, and at fi—(?) we passed each other at less than half Pistol shot and Exchanged broadsides the Larboard battery of each bearing upon the other. The enemy put his helm up —en^d (?) short (?) round + gave as his starboard broadside. we had also borne up, presenting the same battery to the enemy— seen him close on board the yards of the two vessels being bearly [sic] clear of each other. our fire was so powerful and well directed that in fifteen minutes the enemy staid (?) his Colours, hailed us and said he was sinking. Immediately ceased firing. She proved to be H.B.M. Sloop of War Peacock, Capt. W^m (?) Peaker (?) Commander. both ships were brought to anchor being in 5 fathoms water, and all the boats employ^d removing the prisoners to the Hornet. all the shots holes that could be got at were plugged, many of her Guns hove overboard, yet she was so cut up that she Sunk before all the prisoners could be removed, carrying down three of our brave fellows with her, who were below

36.

assisting in getting the wounded of[f] the enemy infirm (?) deck (?), and also fourteen of the wounded English. Lt. Couner (?) + Midⁿ Cooper narrowly escaped this same fate. I was in a boat close alongside when she went down. my boat was then filled with prisoners. laid (?) upon my oars. Those that could swim clung to the sides of the boat and to her oars which was near swamping me. they were taken up by one of the other boats, but many were drowned. my boat took three sailors + a marine from her foretop (?) after she was on the bottom. The Peacock was much cut to pieces in her hull, and mainmast shot of[f] by the board (?). Capt. Peake fell at the close of the action. After being wounded between the eyes by a musket ball, a grape shot through the arm, and a 32

pound shot which nearly cut him in two. The enemy acknowledges 9 Killed, and we know of thirty five wounded exclusion of those that sank in her. The Hornet had 1 Killed and 2 wounded. one round (?) shot in her Hull and one through her foremast and much cut up in sails and rigging. The Peacock mounted 19 Guns, one of them being a Shifting (?) Gun upon her topgallant forecastle, so that she fought (?) 10 of[f] a side being (?) the same number as the Hornet. Soon after the Peacock surrendered four (?) daring fellows on board of her took one of her boats

37.

and pulled for the shore. our boats were more humanely employ^d than to go in chase of her. She has no doubt reached the Jaws (?) of Demerara (?) as one can see the English flag flying from the Fort. This boat will give the good people of the place an account of the action, which must have been to them a ----(?) tho not a pleasing sight. The marine guard received and secured the prisoners as fast as brought on board, for every officer and Sailor was busily employ^d—Knotting and stoppering (?) the standing rigging and ----ing new running, bending new topsails and courses (?)—all of which was completed in a short time, and the ship ready for a second action, which we had every reason to expect as the other man of War is now round the Corohoua (?) Bank and standing down towards us. we are informed by the officers of the Peacock that it is H.M. Sloop of War L’Espiegle mounting the same number of guns as the Peacock. To the astonishment of all on board both English and American, the L’Espiegle has continued on and run into the port of Demeraca (?). Capt Lawrence determined to lay too off[f] the prt 24 hours for L’Espiegle, thinking that she may have run in to get more men. but as we have given her a fair opportunity to try her strength—for the boat that went on shore must have informed her that we are of the same size as herself—so we have faced a sail to windward and stood off towards the west Indies. There was

38.

no opportunity to (?) removing the body of Capt Peake nor to pay to it any of the honors due to a brave but unfortunate officer. The Quarter bu—(?) was his Bier, the sword he used in the action placed by his side. we left him alone with his Glory; he Sunk with the ship he had to gallantly defend. It is painful to word (?) any thing to sully the fame of one who has otherwise borne a spotless (?) name. Capt Peake compelled two American Seamen that he himself had impressed from an American merchant vessel to fight against their Countrymen. before going into action they requested to be allow^d to go below. Capt Peake called the officers of the Division to which they belonged, and ordered that they should be shot down if they did not do (what he called) their duty. their names were Wilson and Tompkins of New York. Made the Island of Deuada (?) one of the West Indies. Spoke an American vessel use^d (?) papers stating the capture of H.M. Sloop of War Frolic Capt Whinyates by the U.S. Sloop of War Wasp Capt Jones. The engagement took place on the 18 (?) October 1812 in Lat 37° N Long 65° W. The action was commenced at 60 yards which was gradually lessened (?) until the Wasp laid her on board and carried her by boarding. The Wasp had her fore topmast shot away. 5 men Killed and five wounded. The Frolic had Fore (?) and main mast shot away 30 men Killed + forty five wounded. the action

39.

lasted 43 minutes. two hours after the Frolic had struck (?), the Wasp and her Prize were captured by the Poictiers 74. also states that the capture of H.M. Frigate Macedonian Capt Carden by the U.S. Frigate U States Commodore Decatur the action took place on the 25 October in Lat 29° N Long 29-30° W had lasted an hour and a half. The Macedonian was to windward and engaged at her over distance, to which Commodore Decatur ascribes (?) the windward length of the action. The U. States had five Killed and Seven wounded and very trifling injury in Hull + rigging. Commodore Decatur states that he should have continued on his cruize, but that he wished to convoy (?) his Prize into Port. The Macedonian had thirty six Killed and Sixty (?) Eight wounded. fore and main topmast + main yard shot away and much cut in the Hull. made the Island of Nantucket. the advantages in running thone (?) shoals (?) in time of War are great (for [?] an Enemies squadron will always avoid them) unless you can cope with the enemy. took pilot and anchor^d in Holmes Hole. having on board 277 souls. The Prisoners from the Peacock having lost all their clothes by her sinking our crew gave each of them two shirts and apair of blue trousers + Jacket. The officers of the Peacock would amuse (?) us, and had flattered themselves with the hopes of recapture (?), but when we were standing in and their last hope had fled, one of the English Lt^s Little

40.

Lambert as we called him, who was a little tight, said well it is all up with us now, prisoners for the War and no more Prize money. So Arry (?) (to his servant) And me my At and Il (?) See this little Ornet go into olmes; ole, This little fellow had been in fourteen fights, and had victory on his side until the Capt weigh^d anchor and stood for Long Island. heavy gales ahead, put back into Tarpaulin Cove. weigh^d and beat through the race (?) under dark reefed (?) topsails and s----- (?) reef^d courses. Stood down Sound through Hell Gates and anchored of[f] the navy yard New York, where the Frigates U. States, Macedonian, the Sloop of War Alext (?) (captured by the Ellen,) the Loker Adams (?) and Brig Argus were at anchor. as we stood down those vessels hoisted their N^o's, detected one of the English officers taking them down upon his finger nails—but this was no time to make a fuss. The officers were put upon their parole of honor, the men wound (?) over to the marshall [sic], A Quarter watch of all (?) of the crew allowed to go on shore daily- the rest of the crew employ^d refitting for another cruize. Volunteered with several of our officers and crew for the Argus, upon a cruize in the Sound In search of H.M. Sloop of War Curlew. Stood up the Sound discov^d two of the Enemies Frigates in Gardivers (?) Bay

41.

Came too off New London, and cruised in the Sound until 20, when we returned to New York the Hornets returned to their Ship. 30 the officers and crew of the Hornet were invited to a public Dinner to be given to them on the 4th May, by the Corporation of the City of New York . a handsome (?) view (?) of the action headed the invitation, which ran thus—

Sir

New York

April 30 1813

On behalf of the corporation of the City of New York, we have the pleasure to request the honor of your Company at a public Dinner to be given on Tuesday the 4th day

of May next at 4 o'clock at Washington Hall, in testimony of the high sense (?) they entertain (?) of the Gallantry skill and patriotism displayed in the Capture of His Britannic Majesty's late Sloop of War Peacock by the American Sloop of War Hornet Capt Lawrence.

To
Midⁿ Mayo
U.S. Navy

We have the honor to be
your Obedient Servants
August H. Lawrence
Elisha W. King
Peter Mesier

At 2 O'clock the crew dressed out, filled the boats and in a few minutes Landed at White Hall in the City of New York, where they were received by the applause of many thousand Citizens with several bonds of murie (?). The Crew were fo---- (?) 2 abreast, accompanied by many civil officers bearing appropriate banners. They mooved [sic] (?)

42.

up Broad and Wall Streets into Broad Way + up to the Hall. The officers were received in Carriages at the City Hotel. The crew were seated up stairs to a Sumptuous Dinner. The officers were seated below at a splenddid [sic] table, with many ----- (?) and Citizens of distinction. The rooms were appropriately decorated with flag mottos (?) --- (?). The Toast and the song (?) enbuenced (?) the scene (?). The Crew with our Boatswain Eaton at their head conducted themselves in a manner that reflected much credit upon them, as well as upon the discipline of the Ship. at 6 o'clock (by previous invitation of the Managers to the officers + Crew) the doors of the theater were opened to us. The crew first entered in the Pitt [sic], and soon after the officers in the Boxes, when three times three Cheers were given, with Hail Columbia from the Orchestra. every part of the Theater was filled, not an accident occurred, unless some hearts were wounded and mad Captive. The day and evening passed as all could have wished, and what made it particularly so to the young officers was Capt Lawrence's attention in bringing them forward. Capt L was detached from the Hornet, and ordered to take command of the Chesapeake of Boston. he leaves us with the appreciation of every officer and man. Capt James Biddle takes Command of the Hornet 13 Lauled (?) round (?) in the North River

43.

Latitudes and Longitudes with variation of courses (?) to preceding cruize [see table]

44.

On the 24 May Commodore Decatur in the U States Capt Jones in the Macedonian, and Capt Biddle in the Hornet. got underway from the East River New York, and stood brough (?) hell gates. Same day the U. States struck by lightning, the squadron hove to + let the U. States pass on. She was not much injured. continued to work (?) up sound. 30 discov^d the enemies squadron in the offing (?) from Fishers (?) Island consisting of one bui (?) of Battle + two Frigates. our squadron stood out, soon discov^d four large sail between Long + Block Islands. Soon made them out to be the enemy. a Ship of the Line + one Frigate stood in after us, the other two sail stood behind Montauk point so that in the event of our giving battle, they might come in an decide the contest. to this our Com^d

is wide awake. both squadrons hauled upon a wind, the enemy in chase of ours. The Hornet being very deep, sail^d dull (?), and the enemies Frigate within long (?) Gun shots of us. the U. States and Macedonian about two miles towindward of the Hornet, and the enemies 74 about two miles to leeward of his Frigate. In this situation the Hornet was nearly cut off, when Com^r Decatur bore gallantly down upon the Frigate after exchanging a few shot, which fell short

45.

The enemies Frigate bore away for the Ship of the Line. our squadron stood into the River Thames and anchor^d of[f] New London. The enemies squadron anchor^d of[f] the entrance of the Lauham (?). our squadron was moored across the river Thames with springs (?) upon our cables as it is not impossible that the enemy may attack us when his squadron is again united. a Lieu^t (?) from one of our Ships with a party of seamen was ordered to Fort Groton (?) to repair it, and to man the Guns. I was ordered to Fort Tremble (?) with one hundred seamen to man its guns. The Fort is a wretched state of depece (?)—many of the Inhabitants of New London have left the Town (?), put full crews on board of 2 of our Gun boats that are in the Harbour. Our marines (?) employ^d putting up funnaces (?) for hot shot on Shore. The Enemies Ship of the Line fired a Salute in honor of the British Kings birth day. our squadron stood up the Thames as far as gales (?) Ferry (?), short (?) 12 miles above W. London. The enemy stood close in and fired several shot on shore, which was returned from a 6^{pc} (?) from the Light (?) house (?). made several excurtions [sic] (?) in the boats of the Fort in pursuit of the enemies barges which are continual plundering the Shores of the Sound. During my stay at the Fort, one morning discov^d the enemies barges taken possession of the Sehoora (?), the crew of the Sehoora (?) had taken to their boats, and reached the shore. Soon after the enemy had taken her, she exploded, and on column of

46.

Smoke, moving upon the wake was all that was to be seen. all of the enemy on board of her must have perished. The crew from the Sehoora (?) has informed us that She was fitted out by a number of persons in New York as a fire (?) ship. a few barrels of flour were put on board as a decoy and her Hole (?) filled with empty bbs (?). It was supposed that she would be brought alonside [sic] of one of the enemies vessels to be discharged of her cargo. Such would have been the case had the tide not have prevented it. about the middle of June we receive^d the news news of the capture of the U. States Frigate Chesapeake and ----nert (?) the death of Capt. Lawrence. we cannot expect always to be victorious. Capt Brooke of the Shannon has nothing to boast of. his ship was whipped when he threw his crew on board the Chesapeake, where all the Lieu^t's (?) were Killed or wounded. She was carried in that way—it was a gallant act—and it is only to be regretted that such brave men should have continued to fire upon a crew after all resistance had ceased. The last signal of Nelson was “England expects every man to do his duty this day.” Those of the Gallant and dying Lawrence were much more forcible (?), ‘Don’t Give up the Ship!’ let them be remembered by every American Sailor. Reformed (?) the Hornet. 28 ordered to Norwich for the purpose of recruiting more Seamen for the Hornet.

47.

Norwich is upon the Thames at the top of tidewater the seaway including the falls (?) are worth seeing. August 11 no men to be Shipped (?). regained (?) the Hornet. The crews of our Squadron have completed a small fort and called it Decatur. it commands the ships and surrounding country. it is garrisoned by the marines of the squadron. ordered to New York and took charge of the recruits for the Hornet. proceeded in a Packet to New Haven, and in stages to New London. Joined (?) the Hornet with all my recruits in good order. 30 our squadron drop^d down the river and anchor^d of[f] New London. the enemys blockading force 2 76's and one Frigate. Commodore Decatur made the signal to get underway. That is the private signal. The enemy seem^d to be aware of what we were doing for the commenced (?) their (?) right (?) signals. The duty in the Guard boats is —y (?) ---- (?) upon the Midⁿ + men. Stood up the river to induce (?) the enemy to believe we had abandoned the hope of passing him. The blockading force being 2 – 74, 2 Frigates + 2 Brigs. Squadron got underway at 10 o'clock, very dark and a favorable time (?) to get out. The Hornet got on shore, some/same (?) time getting her off, returned up the river, made several attempts to evade the enemy and get to sea and as he always commenced his signals as answers to signals given to him, we have every reason to believe that he has (?) spies (?) on Shore. 15 This day the enemies Squadron firing at a Target- are they convinced (?) of d----- (?) in Gunnary (?)

48.

8 April receiv^d information that the Enemies boats were up the Connecticut River destroying the Shipping. Capt Jones + Biddle proceeded to Saybrook Ferry and a detachment of Marines from the Squadron follow^d. also several volunteer m----- (?) who were on (?) liberty—myself being one of the number—found 3000 militia of the Ferry. The enemy continu^d (?) to burn the shipping up the river. having no boats the militia threw up breast works in the banks of the river and awaited the return of the enemy, who had 250 Seamen in boats (?) from his Squadron. at 9 b.m. [sic] being quite dark, an alarm was given that there was a---ural (?) fire from both shores, but without seeing the enemy, none could say that the enemy had actually passed, and all was in suspense. When L^t. Dummer (?) of the U.S. Infantry (?) Midⁿ. French (?) Forrent (?) and three Seamen volunteer^d to go up with me in a small boat and ascertain if the enemy was yet in the river. we pulled for a new Privateer Brig on board of which the Enemy had all his men at Sun Set, and as this was equip^d for Sea we supp^d he intended to take out with h---- (?). after hailing her several times without answer we pulled alongside consenting rather to be made prisoners than to return without ascertaining what we had set out for. The Enemy had gone down the river,

49.

after Setting fire to the Brig in the Hole, which was about to burst in aflame when it was put out. the Brig was called the warrior. we returned to the Ferry the militia dispersed (?), we returned to New London. A Court Martial co--- (?) in the Squadron for the trail of Lt. Lor (?) formerly of the Chesapeake. he was dismissed (?) the service. All hopes of the squadron getting to sea abandoned the ----- (?) fore always darker (?) that of our own. The United States + Macedonian were dismantled. Com^f Decatur and his crew ordered to the President Frigate. Com^d Rogers from the President with his crew to the new Frigate Guerriere at Phila^d. Capt Jones of the Macedonian and crew ordered to the Lakes. the

Hornet with her crew left to protect the 2 Frigates. moor^d there close together, lashed heavy spars together and rigged them well out to prevent boats from boarding them. ordered to Providence upon the recruiting service. difficult to procure good Seamen for a Blockade Ship. went to Blackstone (?) Factory, also Bristol no men to be had. During my stay at Providence one of its handsomest Churches was destroy^d by fire, supposed to be the work of an incendiary. 20 requested (?) the Hornet. Same day ordered to Saybrook and from there to New Haven for same purpose. 4 This day is celebrated here in honor of the victories of the allies. I am invited, refused or

50.

rather declined going, as Great Britain is one of the Allies and She at war with us. an attack was made upon me at the village of Dragon (?) not far from N. Haven where I had ---- (?) with a friend to spend the day. Some blood but no lives lost. 14 ordered to New York for the purpose of recruiting men. about this time, Capt Porter with the Servicing (?) affairs (?) and crew of the late U.S. Frigate Essex, arrived at New York in the Essex Jr. The Essex Frigate had been Captur^d by the enemies Frigates Pheobe [sic] and Sloop of War Cherub at Valparaiso after a most desperately fought action. The Essex had varied away her main topmast and had anchor^d close to the shore when she was attack^d by the two above named vessels, which is a breach of neutrality. Sent a number of recruits to the Hornet by Midⁿ Smoot. closed (?) my (?) -----(?) and volunteered to go on to Washington with the crew of the President under Com^r Decatur. when about to set out we receive^d accounts that the enemy had accomplished their object and return^d to their ships. a most disgraceful h----- (?) on our part to allow them to get their (?), and equally so in theirs (?), to commence a new mode of warfare by destroying the Capitol^ naval ----- (?). opened (?) my under--- (?) again, ordered to regain (?) the Hornet. took passage in Gun Boat N^o 38, with my recruits. a squadron

51.

of Gun Boats under L^t. Barret (?) being bound up the Sound to convoy 50 sail of small craft. reach^d the Hornet in safety with my recruits. Capt Shaw arriv^d at New London and took Command of the Blockade Squadron. 15 the Hornet's crew complete. 17 at night rigged the Hornet atauto + bent sails. Sent an officer to the light house (?) he reports five sail of the enemy in sight. at dusk got underway in the Hornet and stood down the river, run on Mauraugue (?) Shoals, and with much difficulty got of[f]. at Midnight passed New London light house and stood down and passed the english Squadron that is stationed of to blockade us. heard the Enemies centinels [sic] cry out "all's well!" the night dark and cold, ----- (?) from N^d VE^d (?) with saw (?) + (?) now (?), as the enemy made no attempt to get underway, we conclude that we passed unperceived by them. stood down Long Island Sound passed the gabs (?), and on 21 anchor^d of[f] the Navy Yard New York. Let it be remembered that it is not so difficult to pass a blockading squadron as is ----- imagined. Stopped (?) ship. 24 hove out the starboard side and repair^d the Copper that had been beaten of[f] her keel. 25 repair^d Sarboard [sic] side. 26 rigged Ship all atauto 27 + 28 filling water and hauting (?) ship. 29 got all the stoves on board. 30 hauled off from the Navy Yard, all ready for sea with the exception of a few men.

52.

Sent recruiting men for the Hornet and soon made up her supplement [sic]. called on Commodore Decatur with a letter from Capt. Biddle requesting that I might be made an acting Lieu^t (?) on board the Hornet. The Commodore said that he would appoint me as soon as the squadron put to sea, that he was not authorized to do so within the U. States. 16 Capt Biddle advised me to visit Washington and gave me a letter to the Secretary of the Navy. 22 reach^d Washington and called on the acting Secretary M^r Homans (?) as he was only acting said he could not appoint without consulting the President of the U. States. he took my letter from Capt Biddle my commander (?), with another that Capt B had written some months before to the Secretary upon the same subject. they were as follows.

U. States Ship Hornet New London
September 5 1814

Sir

In a letter which I had honor to receive from you some time since, you mentioned that two commiss^d (?) Lieuts and one acting Lieu^t was the complement allowd to this ship. we have already two Commission^d (?) Lieuts. and as an acting Lieut I should be glad if you would permit me to rate M^r. Mayo the Senior Midⁿ of this Ship, he was in this ship in the action with the Peacock, as also for some time previous, and the late Capt. Lawrence pm quitting this Ship made the most favorable report to me of his conduct and deportment.

53.

I have since had opportunities of perceiving that the favorable opinion of Capt. Lawrence was greatly (?) merited. There are several Midⁿ of M^r Mayo's date already promoted, and beside that, M^r Mayo would be much Mortified (?) if any Midshipman was to be sent here over him. I should be much better pleased to have M^r Mayo as an acting Lieutenant than any other. The interest I take in the advancing and success of the officers under my Command will be my apology for troubling you upon this occasion.

I have the honor to be, with great respect

Honb^e (?)

William Louis
Secr^y. of the Navy

Your Obd^t Sev^t
(Sign^d) James Biddle

The letter which I presented ran thus-

U. States Ship Hornet
New York Dec^r 10 1814

Sir

You have my permission (?) to visit Washington. I have already written to the Honbl^e Secretary of the Navy requesting that you might be promoted to the rank of a Lieutenant, and be attached to the Ship under my Command. I hope your merits as an officer will meet a suitable reward, and I shall be happy if the vacancy of a Lieutenant now creating (?) in this Ship should be filled by yourself.

Respectfully Your – (?) L^t
(Sign^d) James Biddle

To Midⁿ Mayo U.S.N

54.

Called on the Secretary of the Navy the next morning and received the following—
Navy Department Dec^r. 23 1814

Sir

You are hereby appointed an acting Lieut. in the Navy of the U. States with the rank pay + emoluments as such. You will report yourself to Commodore Decatur as one of the Lieutenants to be attach^d to the U.S. Ship Hornet.

I am respectfully

To M^r Mayo
U.S.N.

Your Obed^t Sev^t
Benjamin Homans
acting Sec^y of the Navy

Set out for Annapolis, having obtained permission from the Department to remain 26 hours with my friends in that place. most of them I had not seen for more than 4 years. Same night made my appearance in our little City. my friends were astonished at seeing me, and delighted to see that I had mounted an Epaulette, but I had always wrote to them that I would never come home until I was promoted. Took Christmass [sic] Dinner with my mother, and at the expiration of 26 hours set out for New York. passed through Baltimore, Laucarter, Phila^a, and joined the Hornet at the ----- (?) time ground Staten Island on the 28.

55.

ordered to New York to recruit men, several of our crew being upon the sick report were sent to the hospital. closed the renderway (?) and went on board the Hornet, The U. States Sloop of War Peacock Capt Warrington (?) drop^d down from the Navy Yard and anchor^d near us. The President Frigate put to sea, with a store (?) ship in company. 15 the pilot came up and reported that the President had struck upon the bar in going out but did not believe that she was injured—tho no doubt some (?) what. 24 got underway Peacock and Tour Baubine (?) store vessel in Company, and stood out to sea wind N.W. lost sight of the Peacock and Tour Baubine (?) in chase. 30 John Clark Seaman fell from the flying jib boom (?) overboard. the ship ran over him, with difficulty he was picked up and saved. the boat was dashed (?) to pieced (?) as soon as she got alongside. the crew was saved but the boat lost. very heavy weather. boarded a French Brig. Took the N.E. trade winds in Lat 18-11 N. Long 28° W. boarded a French Ship from Haved Le Prae (?) bound to Brazil. 24 Crossed the Equator in Long 22° 40' W Cavnent (?). 12 Knot + hour (?) S.W. heavy showers of rain filled up with wtare. 28 we did not take the S.E. trade ----- (?) until in Lat. 4° 30 S. Long 24° W the Sun (?) Vertical. passed close to the Island of Trinidad. Over inhabited by the Spaniards, they deserted it for want of fresh water

56.

at particular seasons (?). one of our crew once landed here to get water but found none he says that there are several wells near the old Town (?) but no water in them. wild boar and goats are to be taken tho not in abundance. wild fowl in abundance. Some years since an American Merchant ship in passing this Island short of water sent her boat on Shore. the boat was dashed to pieces against the rocks, the crew reach^d the shore, the ship drifted to Leeward and could not get back. upon her arrival in the U. States a vessel was fitted

out from New Haven. She took them of 6 in number after being six months upon the Island. The Island is near the Southern (?) tropic being in Lat-22°-20' Long 27°-40' W variation (?) 7°-15' W. here we lost the S.E trade wind and took awind at N.E. In a calm (?) let the crew go overboard to bath a shark of very large size appear^d near the ship but did not attempt to approach us. I have frequently heard that a shark would not attack 8 or 10 men together. in this instance no attempt was made. This fish (?) had at least one dozen pilots to conduct him to his prey. It being a stout (?) calm, corked (?) a common (?) porter bottle reversing (?) the wine (?), and sunk it with a lead, eighty fathoms. when hauled up the cork was driven in. fitted a wooden stopper to the same bottle well (?) pitched (?) over

57.

over [sic], and sunk it to the same depth. after being down 10 or 15 minutes hauled it up. could not perceive that pitch was at all broken, there was about a gile of water in the bottle, suppose it entered through the ---- (?) of the glass, and had the bottle remain^d down sufficiently long I suppose it would have filled. but this cannot be so. (?) in the two first instances the mouth of the bottle was down. I sent the bottle down the same distance seem^d in the same manner as the last time, but had the neck of the bottle up. let it remain down the same time and not one drop of water was in it. I believe it is a dock (?) master (?) of Liverpool (?) who states that if a common Jauck (?) bottle is stop^d securely, that it will be crushed at twenty fathoms. this is found in his treatise (?) on the pressure of water. 18 in Lat 37°S. Long 19 W took a fresh breeze from the N.W. said to prevail here at this season. 23 discov^d Inaccessible Island and soon after the Island of Tristan de Cunha being very (?) high land (?) bearing (?) E÷S (?). Stood on until midnight when we hove too. 24 at day break made Nighterygale (?) [sic] Island. Stood on and dispatch^d Lt. Conner in the first cutter for the Island of Tristan de Cunha. at 11 the boat returned, reported that we could procure water, wood, vegetables, wild boar, and goats in plenty. The Inhabitants inform^d Lt. Conner that a Brig appear^d of a few days since, which we believe to be the Macedonian, one of

58.

our store vessels. as this is the place of our first Rendesvous [sic]. a detachment from each Division was ordered to hold itself in ----- (?) for an attack upon the wild boar, in which they inticipate [sic] much pleasure and amusement. At 11 hours 15 minutes discov^d a strange sail bearing SE b E coming down for us. hauled our wind (?) for the sail in sight which he believes to be one of our squadron which is to meet us here. At Meridian clear and pleasant. The Island of Tristan de a Cunha bearing S.S.W. distant 3 miles at 1 P.M. the stranger standing Stern (?) on for us without making (?) signal. turned the hands up from dinner and beat to Quarters, and cleared Ship for action. at 40 minutes past 1, the Stranger being about half musket shot distant rounded too upon the Starboard tack, being the same that we are upon, fired his bow gun into us. hoisted his Colours and gave us a broadside, which c—comned (?) the action. the firing was quick on both sides for the first five minutes. when the enemies fire slackened, and at the end of 10 minutes almost silenced—when she being towindward bore up and ran (?) us (?) on board upon the Starboard quarter. seeing the enemies intention we were prepar^d to repel. The attempt

was not very spirited, their boarders were forced to retire they were headed by the 1st Lieut.

59.

a second, and many say a third attempt was made but very faint indeed. they were shot down almost as fast as they made their appearance on their top Gallant forecastle [sic]. at last the 1st (?) Lieutenant W. (?) Mr Donald was left almost alone. forty muskets could have picked him of [sic] , but not one fir^d at him when alone altho he was endeavoring to rally his boarders. he soon discov^d that it was all over with them. he shook his sword at us with a thrust and left his top Gallant forecastle [sic]. we were about to board, in turn and only a waited [sic] the order, but Capt Biddle fortunately refused Saying that she was ours already. at this instant the sea lifted the enemy clear of us. She passed under our stern taking our stern boat with her. we bore up a little and was about to give the enemy our larboard broadside which was fresh. they hailed and said that they had surrendered. we immediately ceased firing hands (?) up a little to prevent getting foul of the enemy. When the enemy first bore down for us we exchanged hails + understood her to be H.M. Sloop of War Penguin (?) this brought 3 lusty (?) cheers from our crew. after she surrendered Capt Biddle was on the topsail and about to hail the acknowledged conquered foe; when one of her marines was seen to level his musket at Capt B. when he was told he was about to be fir^d at, he said let him fire and be d-d- (?). he did fire. the bolt took effect. it struck Capt B. on the chin

60.

glanced and passed through his neck. Lt. Newton (?) and myself was standing by Capt. B. or he would have fallen overboard. the miscreant was shot down by our sharp shooters before his musket was from his face. we had lupp^d (?) our ship up to prevent falling on board the Prize, which gave her a r----- (?) fountion (?) of us. and after the musket was fir^d she commenced the action again. we immediately hoisted the Jib the halline (?) having been shot away, and Shivered (?) away the after yards and in a few minutes our Larboard broadside full charged and primd was brought to bear upon the enemy. by the time She had reciev^d (?) the second Division, she again called out that she had surrendered and sung (?) out for quarter. It was with some difficulty that our crew was restrain^d; they said that she was Treatcherous [sic] and would again deceive us. The action from the first to last gun was twenty two minutes. altho Capt Biddles wound was severe yet he did not leave the deck. He ordered me on board to take charge of the Prize. upon my getting on board, her 1st Lieut. James M^c (?) Donald inform^d me that it was H.B.M. Sloop of War Penguin Capt James Dickinson Commander who fell at the close of the action by a grape shot through the body. he was a distinguished officer.

61.

The First Lieutenant offered me his sword. I put it back + told him that I could not take the sword of an officer who had defended his ship as he had done. he thanked me and wore his sword to the Hornet. The Penguins sides were completely bored (?) with our Shot, her foremast and bow sprit shot away. her decks were literally covered with the Killed and wounded. They acknowledged (?) 14 Killed and 35 wounded, but the number of Killed certainly exceeded that number. The Penguin is one of the Enemies largest

Sloops of War, mounting 18. 32 p^s (?) Cannonades and one Shifting 9 or 12 p^s (?) upon her forecastle, which makes her fight the number of guns as the Hornet. they acknowledge a Compliment of 132 men. her length was precisely that of the Hornet 112 feet, with one foot more --- (?). The Hornet had but one man Killed and Seven wounded, Capt Biddle and Lt. Conner amongst the latter. not one round shot in our hull, the only spar (?) injured was the spanker boom (?) shot in two. Our Crew behaved with that c----- (?) and intrepidity (?) that seems to characterize our Seamen. Going through the manouvers [sic] as deliberately as when at an ordinary exercise (?); all boats employ^d removing the prisoners. received an order from the Hornet to have the Prize ready to blow (?) up. afew minutes after, the Hornet made sail from me. L^t. Newton hailed me and said that I must do the best I could for myself. at first did not comprehend him, sent a man to the mast head who informed he that two sail were standing for us. this accounted for the Hornets

62.

making of, to repair damages, her sails and rigging being much cut up. The Hornet was soon out of sight, and as the two strangers continued to stand for me, I expected in a short time to be a prisoner, as the officers of the Penguin had induced us to believe that they had a squadron off the Island in chase or search of ours. I had twenty of the Hornets crew on board with me with several prisoners that had not been removed, ordered the crew to get their supper it being now nearly sun set. made no effort to stop (?) the shot holes and left the Prize to sink gradually under us, so that if the vessels standing for us should be enemies they would be alongside time enough to take us of, but too late to save the vessel, and if friends the probability was that we should be compelled to destroy her. I now (?) went into the Cabin for the first time, altho the steward of the Penguin's Cabin had several times informed me that dinner was ready. It appeared that the officers + men of the Penguin had not taken their dinners before the action, as the steward observed (?) to me (who was a West India French Creole), and a fellow of good taste in the culinary art, for the Cabin table was set of with ale that a half starved sailor, as I was, could have wished, for we had no provisions other than salt for several weeks. There was green turtle (?) in some half dozen shapes, with the best (?) of wine (?). all the wardroom officers were to have dined in the Cabin aeed (?) the long table was spread. The

^ which the prisoners say accounts for their making so poor a fight [where does this go?]

63.

Gallant Dickinson's Corps was enveloped in his country's flag with his [s]word (?) upon his breast, and laid out at the foot of the table. Midⁿ Tippett (?) was on board with me, he was called down also to partake of this to us delicious banquet. Then we were seated, the Seward [sic] obr^d well I tell poor Capt Dickinson he (?) dinner grow cold. but he say nevear [sic] mind, take him up to de galley, for I must take dat d-d- (?) Yankee doodle before I eat again. well then I say to myself may be you no eat and may be you no take he. Thus ended the Stewards soliloquy, and all the attentions (?) that he could possibly have bestowed on his late commander were now transferred to myself. after dinner went upon deck and found that the two vessels that had been standing for us had altered their course and stood round the other side of the Island. I did not know whether to regret or rejoice at this circumstance, for our hold at this time was nearly full of water and all the

boats had been left on board the Hornet. all hands went to the pumps and to bailing out with the fire buckets. Some few cut away the foremast & Bowsprit that was hanging alongside, and secur^d it astern – to answer as a raft in the event of our sinking – and others stop^d up what shot holes could be got at. by Midnight we were in a tolerable condition, having rigged a small jury mast to the stump of the foremast, which kept us before the wind. my plans were soon formed [.] I had determined to make

64.

the best of my way to St. Salvador in Brazil. Then March to {Recife?}, Ship a full crew, and cruise under my own commission- Those were delightful thoughts to indulge in – but day light put an end to my hopes for behold the Hornet was again in Sight, all atanto [sic] and ready to go in pursuit of the vessels we had seen the evening before. we were taken out, and the Penguin sunk. The corps[e] of Captain Dickerson was remov^d to the Hornet. 25 Beating up for Tristan de a Cunha which is still in sight. 26 when near the Island discover^d the same two sail in shore of us. committed the remains of Capt. Dickerson to the deep, which would have been buried on Shore had the 2 sail not have hove in sight. The corps[e] was furled in one of the English Ensigns, his sword with him. It being thick could not discover the signals of the 2 Strangers, but beat to Quarters, clear^d ship for action and, bore down for them. Lt McDonald of the Penguin asked me very seriously if I did not think Capt Biddle's mind affected by his late wound (for our Surgeon had at one time told me if Capt. B. gave an order that appeared inconsistant [sic] it had better be evaded)- I told McDonald who is a gallant fellow, that I though there was much reason in his madness who is a gallant fellow, that I thought there was much reason in his madness in bearing down for the Strangers- his only reply was – well is it come to this- we continued to stand for the strangers and soon after discov^d by signal that they

65.

were the U. States sloop of War Peacock & store vessel Tombowline [sic], with whom we had seperated [sic] a few days out from New York. They gave us three cheers. The Peacock & Tombowline had made the Islands the day before us, and those were the 2 sails we had disc^d after the action. on being close in under the shade of the Island was the cause of their not seeing us- The officers of the Penguin inform us that she had aboard a Brig from the Island a few days before. She had American colors flying- we conclude that this is the Macedonian store vessel that sails from New York in company with the President Frigate. The officers of the Penguin were also informed by the inhabitants of this Island, that they were told by the American Brig that the President had fallen in with the English blockading squadron of New York, and was apprehensive that she had been overpower^d [.] We also learned from the people on the Island that the American Brig said that there was peace with great Britain [sic] , but of this the officers of the Penguin said nothing- 27 & 28 working up from the Island. 29 came too in 17 fathoms water of the Caskade [sic] Island of Tristan de a Cunha [sic], the Huts at the watering place bearing SwbS Dist. 1 ½ miles- Sent all boats on shore for water, provisions and wood. Peacock & Tombowline in company. The Caskade [sic] has a perpendicular fall of 50 feet[.] it can be seen five leagues at sea. The best anchorage bears NE from the Caskade 1 mile Dist. but

at the Dist. Of 5 miles one

66.

Suppose that he is almost on Shore- 10 April The Tombowline was despatched as a cartel with the prisoners for St. Salvador, Brazil, Lt. Brownlaw of marines took the Penguin's flag with orders to proceed to Washington- Continued to cruize of[f] the Island the time specified in Comr Decatur's letters of instruction. I will endeavour to Give some account of this remarkable Island, with that of its inhabitants. It is situated in Lat. [blank] South, Long [blank] W. is a good place for our Ships to rendezvous and secure water and provisions when destined to cruize against the enemies['] commerce off the cape of good Hope, or when bound to the Indian Ocean. Tristan de a Cunha or Acuna is the main Island[.] it is about 20 miles in circumference, can be seen in clear weather 70 miles and is most accessible at the NE point. There is a precipice opposite the Cascade, or rather in its near nearly [sic] perpendicular to the height of 1000 feet. this precipice appears to extend entirely round the Island and seems to guard the table land making from it from the access of human footsteps. In the center of the table land, the mountain rises in a conical form to the high [sic] of from 8 to 10000 feet from the level of the sea. during our stay I have but once seen its top entirely clear of clouds. It was cover^d with snow, its appearance is beautiful- the NE point is the inhabited part of the Island. upon making

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This point, when two leagues at sea, it appears to contain but a few acres, but when on shore it is converted into a small country - ones eye is deceived by the high [sic] of the mountain towering in the rear. The chief or Governor's name is Casie, a native of

Leghorn. one a Spaniard, and one a native of Flanders, the last was left here a few months since from the American privateer Young Wasp at his own request, being only

three persons on the Island. I questioned Curice [sic] several times concerning the fate

fate of the late Govn^r Lambert, a native of the U. States and the first that settled upon the Island. he said that Lambert and another American took the boat and went round the east point to fish. Soon after a gale came on and he thinks that they were both lost as he had not seen them since. Currie [sic] always avoided speaking upon the subject, and I think it not improbable that the two Americans had not fair play shown them. A Midshipman of the Penguin who lost a leg in the action informed us that he was of this Island about four years ago in H. M. Frigate President that Lambert and Curry or Courie was at variance. The Captain of the Frigate endev^d to bring about a reconciliation but without effect. The Soil is very rich producing all vegetables growing in the same North Latitude. The huts are covered with rushes, and in appearance not unlike a Maryland Fodderhouse. There are two or three stone houses built after the same fashion - in which are

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stored the skins, oil, meat and vegetables. They are close to the stream, which rushes from the mountain and fall [sic] into the sea about two hundred yards in front of them. No other part of the Island can be reach^d from this point, except by water, as the sea breaks at the base of the precipice at the East and alo at the west sides [sic] – so that it is not improbable that Lambert and the other American have been thrown on shore upon some other part of the Island with the loss of their boat. The Island is volcanic [.] There is every appearance of a crota [sic: crater] near the top of the mountain. There are two other Islands about 10 leagues to the westward of Tristan. one called inaccessible, name taken from fact. The other Nightingale, but as we have seen no birds of that name, and are a hundred of Penguins, some of which we have on board, I a double sense of the word, we donot [sic] think it a miss [sic] to baptize the Island a fresh [sic] and call it Penguin Island. took many Albatross with the hook and line. One measur^d 12 feet from tip to tip of his wings. One of our boats with Midⁿ Kuhn & crew absent three days from the ship during a heavy gale, returned all well he had hauled his boat up on the Island- frequently sent the seien {sic: seine?} on Shore and never fail [sic] to catch from 200 to 300 fine large fish not unlike our black fish. The officer of the Penguin informed us that one of H. M. 74s had taken the U. S.

69

Brig Syren of[f] the cape of good Hope. On the 12 having complied with Comr Decatur's instructs to cruize of[f] this Island 20 days for him, on this day take [sic] our departure for the second place of rendezvous, the Peacock in company- 17 crossed the meridian of Greenwich and commence East Longitude- 26 Peacock made signal for strange sail – made all sail in chase, thick foggy weather with light airs, lost sight of sail- 27 close^d her again, thick weather, lost her again, 28 the stranger again in sight, all sail set in chase. 29 the stranger has hauled upon a wind, and discovers a disposition to run no longer. At 3 P. M. the Peacock being ahead of us, made signal that the Stranger was an enemy of superior force, and soon after a Ship of the Line. upon the first signal we hauled upon a wind, and with the eye (as the mist blew of[f], made out – the enemies [sic] double battery - we suppose that through the mist the enemy had taken us for two Frigates and had run from us – but upon making us out, it was our turn to be chased- The three upon the Larboard tack – we heading N.N.E. The enemy about six miles to leeward of us. Capt Warrington in the Peacock adged down most gallantly across the enemies [sic] bows, with the object of taking his attention from the Hornet, but the enemy had discov^d that the Peacock out sailed him, but that he outsailed us- He gave the Peacock a few shot as She passed down a head [sic] of him, but kept

70

his eye upon the Hornet, and gaining upon us very fast. At 4^h-20' the enemy bore

S 75 E

at same time the Peacock bore N 81 E

at 5-20 the enemy bore S 67 E

at same time the Peacock bore N84 E

The difference proved the enemy gaining fast upon us. at sun set loosed the wedges in the masts- at dusk lost sight of the Peacock, she having run to Leeward- at 10 hove over 90 pieces of kentledge, each piece weighing 180^{lb}. Same time cut away the sheet anchor and [?] the cable overboard- hove over a quantity of heavy rigging and cut away the spars in the chains- at 2 in the morning the enemy weathering upon us very fast, and being before our beam tack^d ship. The enemy tacked also. at day light the wind headed us of which brought the enemy very close up under our lee quarter, when he opened his battery upon us, his shot going half a mile beyond us- cut away the boat also broke up the Launch and hove her overboard- at same time cut away the two bower anchors, all the kedges and all the cables – every thing out of the tiers, more Kentledge and a quantity of shot, and also any thing that could lighten Ship except the guns, ammunition and provisions. at sun rise the enemy half a mile from us, and sending his shot into us- hove over the two forward and two after guns & carriages, and continued to throw them over until but six remain^d

71

and only reserved an inadequate quantity of shot. The enemy continued to head us of[f] and the enemy to keep up his fire. at 10 the enemies [sic] shot fell short of us, the wind favoring us a little- the enemy threw his shot into us for five hours without much effect- at 11 the breeze freshened and headed us of[f], the enemy coming up again rapidly- made and shortened to the best advantage in the squalls which is [sic] frequent- at 1 P.M. The enemy ½ miles distant again open^d his fire .\- his grape fell just clear of us, his round shot a mile beyond- his congrave rockets and shrapnel shells crashing about us, was at first not so pleasant but after a while really served to amuse the men. hove over five of the six remaining guns, all the shot and 24 bb^{ls} salt Provisions. knocked away all the stantion [sic] from between decks. cut away the top gallant forecastle- at 2 the enemy continuing to gain upon us- hove over all the small arms of any description, all the stores from the Masters, Boatswains, Gunners and Carpenters store rooms- at 3 hove over some things that could be of any use to the enemy, as our capture appears inevitable, the enemy hulling us tho [sic] not often as usual [sic] he fires badly – yet too well for us to be at ease under it- at ¼ past three the enemy ceas^d firing and seem^d disposed to run up and take quiet possession of us- as his quarter boat was lower^d almost to the water and the crew with their oars up- at half past three the wind hauled aft about 4 points, came heavy

72

with mist and some rain. 1 May we pretended to clew up, which the enemy perceiving, actually shortened sail. we immediately sheeted home and hauled on board, with the helm a weather [sic] squar^d away, and set the studding sails- passed close to the enemies [sic] bows and when the mist clear^d of which lasted about ten or fifteen minutes, we were clear to Leeward of our enemy. this was what we wanted but the enemy never would give us a chance – as soon as the enemy got sight of us he bore up and gave us part of broadside, rounded too and gave us the other – one hot of the first fell on the bow – the second fell short- our crew of their own accord remanned the rigging and gave them cheers. This was indeed to us a happy moment. It was worth the captures of a dozen

Peacocks and Penguins or in fact all the feathered triks [sic] of old England- a few moments before Capt. Diddle had address^d the crew, and told them that our escape was almost impossible, but that we should not surrender with masts standing, that when prisoners he would remain with them, even if taken to the black Hole of Calcutta. The enemy continued to chase us all night and until Meridian next day, when he shorten^d Sail reef^d his topsails and hauled upon a wind- The enemy had his ensign flying and a Rear Admirals flag at the Mizzen [sic]. as the Cornwallis is in the Indian Ocean we believe this to be her. We never once Shew our [colors]

73

May 3 During the whole of the chase, and when under the enemies [sic] warmest fire every man and boy behaved with the utmost firmness. after loosing sight of the enemy some time, we shortend [sic] sail reef^d the topsails and hauled upon a wind heading NW. our cruize [sic] is broken up, and the first thing was to put all hands on the Shortest allowance - continuing to shape our course back to the westward- upon a muster of all the munitions of War on board, found we were reduced to one long 18^{pr} without shot, 24 muskets, 1 Ships Pistol with 8 private D^o. 4 Ships cutlasses, & 10 private swords, about 20 boarding pikes that were fortunately lashed round the spanker boom – and a few battle axes, not an anchor, Kedge, Cable nor hawser – no Spare rigging nor Spars- The chase was in Lat. 37 S Long 33 40' East when we were making the best of our way to the Islands of St. Paul and New Amsterdam the second place of rendezvous specified in Com^r Decaturs Instructions. from there we were to have proceeded to BenCooland [sic] to break up the English spice trade- 7 Sounded in 70 fathoms water with oozy bottom, being a little to the Eastward of Cape Agulhas South coast of Africa- discover^d three sail did not chase for want of armament- 9 heavy swell and soon after a heavy gale commenced from the N^d and lasted several days. 12 passed along the coast inhabited by the Hottentots-, made gunners coin &

74

Soon after the table Land upon the cape of Good Hope. In Lat. 25 S Long. 2 30 E took strong SE wind being the SE Trade wind- 27 passed near the Island of St. Helena but did not make it. 8 discover^d the land being the coast of Brazil. the SE Trade lasted until we made the land. Standing in for St. Salvadore. Carpenters making a wooden anchor loaded with Iron Kentledge – and when we came too remove[d] our tacks and sheets to serve for a Cable. 10 Anchor^d in the harbour of St. Salvadore, and the first person that visited us was Lt. James McDonald formerly first of the Penguin. he brought us of[f]a boat load of fruit & was the first to inform us of the certainty of Peace, of which we before had been in much doubt- The Tombowline had landed the crew of the Penguin here and then proceeded to the U. States- our Consuls clerk Mr. Bartlett came of[f] and informed us of the capture of the President by an English squadron (now no longer enemy) also the defeat of the English at New Orleans under Lord Packingham [sic] by Gen^l Jackson- at anchor in this port the American privateers Blakeley & True Blooded Yankee- We are supplied with every thing we [are] seeking or requir^d except Guns- In weighing our wooden anchor brought up an Anchor weighing 20 Cw^t W^t- Mr. Hill our Consul having provided quarters took the wounded on Shore. This is the rainy season &

it is very unpleasant. Visited the Portuguese opera with the officers of the Pnguin, we are the best of friends-

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19 having refreshed, took the wounded on board and on the 20 stood out to sea. It was from this port that we made our escape from the Montague 74v about 18 months since, and were inform^d she continued as she supposed to blockade us, until the prisoners from the Brig Resolution which we had captured informed them that we had made our escape- 24 took the Se Trade wind. 27 passed between Ferdinan [sic] de Noronha and the main- 30 crossed the Equator in Long 30 W and did not take the regular NE Trade wind until in Lat. 8 N Long 39 W. July on 10 in Lat. 12 N passed over much discolor^d water; lost the NE Trade in Lat. 18 40 N Long 53 W and had a wind from SE. The moving [sic: ?] chronicle of this moving [sic: ?] announces the favorite play of Josef Hamet to night on the Hornets birth [sic] deck. principal characted [sic] by Ge^o Western, one of our captains of the fore-castle- Spoke a Brig that had taken her departure three days from the Island of Sobraco [sic], and her Long 66-40 W which puts Hornet 6 [degrees] West of her reckoning, but which agrees with our Lunar, we have had strong Westerly currants [sic]. The same vessel gave us the news of the capture of the British vessels Cyane & Levant Sloops of war by the Constitution Frigate Capt. Charles Stewart- The action was fought of[f] the Island of Madeira and lasted forty minutes- The

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Cyane ia s Frigate built ship mounting 34 guns & 175 men. Gordon Falcon Esq^r Commander- The Levant mounting 21 guns and 150 men Honb^e Geo Douglass [sic] Commander- The Constitution lost 4 killed & 10 wounded [.] The enemies [sic] loss could not be ascertain^d but was very great. The Cyane arriv^d in the U. States, the Levant was recaptured in the harbour of Porto Praya in the Island of St. Iago, or of[f] the Cape de Verds [sic] by an English squadron under Sir Ge^o Collier- 27 made the highlands of neversink [sic], took Pilot and run [sic] up- came too of[f] New York, and a few days after hauled into the navy yard and strip^d Ship- Since we left the u. States a Peace had been concluded with Great Britain. War declared against Algiers- the Algerines humbled by our squadron's having taken one of their Frigates and a Sloop of War, and their Port blockaded – and most of the squadron return^d home, before some of the cruizes of the previous War had reach^d the U. States- Some time in September an occurance [sic] to be regretted happen^d at the Theater N. Y. Lt. N. Nicholson and myself in passing the lobby were jossled [sic] by two English officers from Canada in [sic] their way to England- an explanation was requested, which they declin^d given in a contemptuous manner a mutual attack with [?] ensued. The Englishmen were both brought down, severaly [sic] tho not dangerously wound^d.

A few days after obtained a leave of absence from the Hornet, proceeded to Annapolis, my family all well-

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Reckoning to the proceeding cruize – from Jan^y to Aug^t 1815

Date	Lat ^e	Long ^e	Var. Comp	Wind	T air	T Water
Jan ^y 25	38 N	70 W	3 W	NW	36	59
26	38 "	68 "	6	"	47	66
27	37 "	64	7	"	53	64
28	38 "	61	7	W	51	64
29	38 "	57	9	"	54	64
30	37 "	54	11	"	54	64
31	36 "	49	14	SW	57	64
Feb 1	36 "	46	15	"	63	66
2	34 "	40	16	W	58	67
3	33 "	39	16	NW	58	67
4	32 "	35	17	"	61	68
5	30 "	34	17	"	61	69
6	30 "	34	17	SW	61	70
7	29 "	32	17	"	69	70
8	27 "	30	17	"	70	70
9	26 "	29	17	"	70	70
10	25 "	30	17	SE	70	70
11	22 "	29	17	"	70	70
12	19 "	29	17	E	70	71
13	15 "	28	17	"	71	71
14	12 "	26	16	"	72	72
15	10 "	27	13	NE	74	74
16	8 "	28	12	"	75	75

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Date	Lat ^e	Long ^e	Var Comp	Wind	T Air	T Water
17	7 "	26 W	12 W	NE	76	76
18	6 "	24	12	"	76	77
19	5 "	24	10	"	73	78
20	3 "	23	9	"	74	78
21	0-24	23	8	"	74	79
22	2	23	8	"	75	80
23	1	23	8	"	76	80
24	0-9 N	23	8	"	78	80
25	1 S	23	8	SE	80	79
26	2	23	8	"	80	81
27	3	23	8	"	80	78
28	5	24	8	"	82	76
Mar 1	8	25	8	"	82	79
2	11	25	7	"	80	80
3	14	26	7	"	79	79
4	16	27	7	"	79	79
5	19	29	6	NE	80	79
6	22	28	6	"	80	78
7	24	26	6	"	82	78

8	...27	.....25	.....5	.....“	.....80	.....78
9	...28	.....25	.....5	.....Var.	.....80	.....77
10	...29	.....25	.....5	.....Calm	.....78	.....77
11	...29	.....25	.....5	.....“	.....82	.....77
12	...29	.....25	.....5	.....“	.....74	.....76
13	...30	.....25	.....5	.....SE	.....76	.....76
14	...30	.....25	.....5	.....Calm	.....76	.....74
15	...32	.....25	.....4	.....Var.	.....70	.....70
16	...33	.....25	.....3	.....NE	.....70	.....73
17	...35	.....23	.....3	.....NW	.....65	.....73
18	...37	.....19	.....5	.....“	.....65	.....69
19	...37	.....16	.....6	.....“	.....65	.....67
20	...37	.....15	.....7	.....“	.....65	.....65
21	...37	.....13	.....9	.....“	.....65	.....65
22	...37	.....12	.....12	.....“	.....62	.....62
24 [sic] Captur ^d the Penguin of[f] Tristan de a Cunha [sic]							
Apr	13	...371014N6059
	14	...39517SW5957
	15	...39219“5857
	16	...40020NW5655
	17	...40321SW5354
	18	...41622N5054
	19	...421123NW5054
	20	...421525“4956
	21	...412026SW7154
	22	...412329SE6869
	23	...392227“6767
	24	...372430W6464
	25	...392730SE6968
	26	...382831S6968
	27	...393130NE6573
	28	...373231NW6566
29 Chased by the Cornwallis 74							
May	1	...37	.....31	.....29	.....NE	.....Thermometers
	2	...36	.....26	.....28	.....NE	.....Thrown Overboard
	3	...36	.....23	.....28	.....“	.....in chase
	4	...36	.....21	.....28	.....Var	
	5	...37	.....20	.....27	.....NE	
	6	...36	.....20	.....26	.....NW	
	7	...35	.....19	.....27“		
	8	...36	.....19	.....28“		
	9	...36	.....19	.....28	.....Calm	
	10	...35	.....20	.....28	.....E	
	11	...36	.....19	.....28“		
	12	...35	.....18	.....28	.....SE	
	13	...33	.....16	.....27	.....S	

14 ...33 12 25 SE
 15 ...30 9 24 "
 16 ...28 7 24 SW
 17 ...27 6 23 "
 18 ...26 " " "
 19 ...25 2 22 SE
 20 ...23 00 21 [blaank]
 21 ...Tricked [?] upon the chase
 26 [sic].....up to the latt of St.Helena

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Date	Lat ^e	Longe	Var	Comp	Wind
<i>Jun</i> 8.....	19-3	.6	12	SE
9.....	13	.9	15	"
10.....	171313	"
11.....	171712	"
12.....	162010	"
13.....	16	.....23	.....8	.....	"
14.....	15	.....26	.....8	.....	"
15.....	14	.....27	.....7	.....	"
16.....	14	.....31	.....6	.....	"
17.....	14	.....34	.....5	.....	"
18.....	14	.....36	.....3	.....	"
19.....	13	.....38	.....2	.....	"
20	In port St. Salvadore ---				
21.....	14.....	38	.....0	.....	"
22.....	15	.....38	.....1	W	"
23.....	14	.....37	.....2	.....	SE
24.....	13	.....35	.....3	.....	"
25.....	11	.....34	.....4	.....	"
26.....	8	.....33	.....4	.....	"
27.....	4	.....33	.....4	.....	"
28.....	2	.....34	.....2	.....	"
29.....	0	.....34	.....0	.....	Var
30.....	2 N	.....34	.....2	E	"
<i>Jul</i> 1.....	2	.....35	.....	"	"
2.....	3	.....35	.....4	.....	"
3.....	5	.....34	.....4	.....	"
4.....	5	.....35	.....4	.....	"
5.....	6	.....36	.....5	.....	"
6.....	7	.....36	.....5	.....	NE
7.....	8	.....36	.....5	.....	"
8.....	9	.....39	.....4	.....	"
9.....	10	.....42	.....3	.....	"
10.....	12	.....46	.....2	.....	"
11.....	14	.....49	.....1	.....	"

12	17	51	1	“	
13	18	53	1	SE	
14	20	55	0	“	
15	21	55	0	“	
16	23	58	1 W	“	
17	24	60	1 W	“	
18	26	54	1	Var	
19	27	6	1	N	
20	27	68	1	Var	
Date	Lat ^e	Long ^e	Var	Comp	Wind
21	28	68	1		E
22	29	68	!		ESE
23	30	68	1		Var
24	31	69	2		W
25	34	71	2		“
26	36	74	3		-
27	37	75	3		-

on Soundings of[f] New York

Account of Ammunition Expend^d on board the U. states Ship Hornet in 28 minutes, in the action with H. B. M. Sloop of War Penguin

Service for the 32 p ^{rs} ....4 Broad sides...36 Cartridges..3 lb 8 oz. is...126 -00
D ^o For 1 ^{lb} reduce for D ^o 11 D ^o .....99 D ^o.....3 -00..... 297-00
D ^o for 2 D ^o for D ^o .....1 D ^o .....11..... 2-12 .....30-4
D ^o for 18 p ^r .....12 D ^o .....12 .....5-00.....60-00
D ^o for D ^o 1 [?]1 D ^o.....1 .....4-8 .....4-8
Powder Emp ^d in Horns .....20-00
D ^o for muskets & Pistols .....13-00
D ^o for Tubes .....10-00
Total Powder Expended .....560-12
Round Shot for 32 p ^{rs} .....160 .....each 32 .....5120
Grape D ^o for D ^o .....189“ 32 .....5580
Round Shot for 18 p ^r .....14“ 18 .....252
Grape D ^o for D ^o .....17" 18 .....336
musket & Pistol Ball .....600 .....37
Buck Shot .....10
11335

The proportion is about twenty w^t of Shot one of powder

80

Visited Gresham, the place of my nativity, not having seen it for nearly nine years I felt all those sensations so natural to one who had been so long from his home if I can say my home is on the shore- as the Farm has been leased during my minor life and up to the present time, I have now more perspective and am settling on it myself, at least for the

time being- but resolved not to remain on shore when my services may be requir^d afloat- Took possession of Gresham stock^d it &c and placed S [L?] Lusby to superintend- amusing myself about the country on my favorite Horse Warrington.

In March returned to New York and relieved Lt. J. T. Newton from the Hornet, he wishing to go south. In May Newton returned, when I obtained leave, and bent my course for Gresham (near Annapolis)

On 1 Jan^y discharged Lusby and took up my residence at Gresham Hall- In the fall of the year, pricing Tobacco, built a new house with Stobbs, Hay [??] Well pleased at

this time to get orders to rejoin the Hornet and proceeded on to New York, having leased the Hall to J. Weedon for three years-

Commenced equipping the Hornet- The weather bad & carpenters tedious[.] On the 20 March left the navy yard, and hauled round in the North river- On the 31 Capt. G. C. Read our Commander, came on board, accompanied by the Commissioners, Govn^r Lewis, M^r. Taylor, and M^r. Ervine, appointed by our Government

81

[Mar 31, 1818] to adjust certain claims of our Citizens upon Christophe and Petion (St. Domingo)[.] M^r Ervine was to proceed to the Orinoco, M^r Strong passenger Same day got under way, stood down passed H.B.M. Frigate Cybelle [sic: HBMS *Sybille*, ex-French] at anchor in Sandy Hook. Stood out to sea. April. I. Mayo 2nd Geo. Hammersley 3. Jno. Gwinn 4th L[?] Continued to Stand of to the Southard [sic] and Eastward. In Lat 22-39 N Long 66 W we took the NE trade wind. 19 made Turks Island SSW 10 miles Dist. it is very low. 20 Standing through Turks Island passage. the course to clear Salt Key is SSW Sand Key is SWbS on 21 made the Island of St. Domingo. The distance from Turks Island to Cape Henry or Haytian is 100 SwbS. we fell rather to leeward of the cape and was several hours beating up. 22 took pilot and stood in for Fort Dauphin on the starboard bow. Steering in SS W [sic] and when nearly abreast of Fort Dauphin hauled up SEbS to clear a shoal making off a little within the Fort. Stand on the last course until midway [sic] the Lanbon, then steer SW 1/2 S to the anchorage about N of the City- exchanged salutes with the Shore- it was returned one gun short- Capt R. requested that the other gun should be fir^d at some given hour, but the Commanding officer observed that it would not be Military, and another Salute was fired- Polite negros [?]- Mr. Taylor our commission [sic] for this place went on Shore

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but would not be received by Christophe as a public agent from the U. States in consequence of our Governments not acknowledging Christophe as King of Hayti. We rec^d every attention from the Americans as well as other foreign Merchants resident at this place, particularly from M^r Myers of Phila^a. Took horses and rode to Sand[?], near the foot of the fortified mountain – also over the country for many miles- It is badly cultivated, the ruins of splendid country Scots are to be seen, destroy^d during the insurrections which drove the French out of this Island, and their Slaves became Masters- the blacks purchased their liberty at an enormous expense of blood and rapine, and as yet it would seem have only exchanged one master for another. they deserve to be free- Christophe rules with

an Iron rod - This place was called Cape Francois by the French when their Colony- but Christophe the Negro King calls it Cape Henry – and himself Henry the first- This African is the leader of a well disciplin^d Army, whose subjects are indebted to him for their liberty, has attempted to introduce the splendor and ceremonies of a European Court- he has a great trade with the U.S. In Coffee & some sugar[.] his Kingdom terminates at the clerest [?] plains which are watered by the Actibonite [sic]- our commissioner Mr Taylor having re-embarked, we stood out to the westward- passed between St. Domingo & the small Island of

83
Tortudos [sic] (on our right – safe passage – [1818] where the west end of Tortudos bears North. Steer WbS for Cap Nicola Mole. Strong current to the W^d. [May] 1st passed Cap Nicola Mole and Fools Cape hauled to the Southard [sic]- 2 Employ^d working through S^t Marks Channel between S^t Domingo & the Island of Guanabe- The Areabins [sic] are in the passage and are to be look^d out for - There are also a rock & shoals of the South end of Grenoba [sic]- 4 anchor^d of[f] the City of Port au Prince. Com^r Lewis the U. S. Agent was receiv^d by the people with much eclat, he having formerly rendered them some essential service in their wars with Hayti- Boyer is at this time President. Petion is much lamented. he died on the 29 March last- The Soldiers are not as well cloathed [sic], neither do they appear as well disciplined as those of Christophe- The City or Town is on a low flat at the head of the Bay. it is not as healthy as the Cape- The Inhabitants here are mostly mulattos – those of Christophe Black- they are Catholics & speak the French language- 10 Stood out and up to Cape Nicola Mole- The NE Trade wind very fresh- East end of Cuba in Sight - being Cape Maize [sic] 15 Employ^d beating up to rendezvous 10 [sic] made point Ticolet [sic]- 17 Made the square Handkerchief – Same day passed old CapeFrancois – and Point Mercury 22 Passed Capes Amana and Teberon 26 passed along the Island of Porto Rico- 29 passed between Portp Rico and

84
Crad [sic] Island called crab Island passage.\- these are Spanish Islands- 30 passed close to Sail rock. It has very much the appearance of the Ship under Sail. a French Ship of War once gave it a broadside in the night, taking it for an enemy. Anchored in the Harbour of S^t Thomas's- This Island belongs to the Danes. the entrance into the harbour narrow tho safe. the harbour will contain an hundred Ships of War and as many Merchants vessels. The Town is famous for once being the strong hold of the bold buchaneer [sic] Black Beau receiv^d much attention from the governor, also the American Merchants- Stood out of the harbour 4 passed buck Island and stood to the S^d having Santa Cruz on our right- 5 passed the peak of Virgin Gordo [sic]- 6 passed S^t Christopher or S^t Kitts and S^t Eustatia [sic]. Sounded in 13 fathoms water on Bird Key or Bank – coral bottom, passed the Island of Saba, where we boarded a suspicious sail. Sounded in 20 fathoms water on Granada Bank, made the Testigos [sic] made Sola rock, and bore up for the Island of Margaretta, come to in the harbour of Pampata [sic] the Fort in the Town bearing NW1/2W, that on the North side of the harbour NE1/2N Dist 4 miles- Capt Read our Agent to the Oronoko [sic] M^r Evans and three Patriot officers who came passengers from S^t Thomas went on Shore - the Island is now in possession of the

Patriots. It was attack^d of the old Spaniards a few month [sic] since, and almost destroy^d- I saw the scene & supplied the crew with fish.

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{June 14] weigh^d and stood round the North side of the Island, and anchor^d in the harbour of Juan Griego. Admiral Brion is at anchor. he is the Venezuelan Admiral. his squadron consists of the Victoria Corvette two Brigs and two schooners- Exchanged Salutes with the Admiral, also with the Gen^l on Shore, Aresmendi visited the ground where the Patriots and the King of Spains [sic] troops had a [? ?] not long since- the Stain yet remains unburied. The Island is in complete possession of the Patriots- Deserted from the 2nd Cutter Robt Lloyd Henry Johnson & Thomas Bond-. L^t Newton & myself were two days riding over the Island in search of them met with a Baltimorean named Fellbrick [sic] who I had seen before he is now in the Patriot service A circumstance highly worthy to be remembered, has just been told me by an Englishman serving in the army of Aresmendi Some months since this place was attack^d and taken by the Spaniards, and a few days after the Fort surrender^d to them upon honorable terms, but no sooner was the Patriots deprived of their arms than they were inhumanly butcher^d by the Spaniards- and their wives and daughters forced to do the drudgery of the camp. the best looking of them were taken by the officers and forced into prostitution- They formed a company and at the hour of midnight wreak^d their vengeance upon the inhuman foe the

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prisoners were released at the same time and almost every Spaniard met the death he so richly deserved- From that time the Patriots have held the Island- Stood out of the harbour, left M^r Evans on Shore- Discovered the Brothers. 20 passed the Islands of Saba S^t Kitts and S^t Eustatia [sic], also S^t Martin, intended to have passed through Aquilla passage, come on thick which compelled us to bear up and run through Sail rock passage- Again in the open sea making the best of our way to the N^d & E^d. The NE Trade wind lasted until the 25th in Lat 29 N Long 65 W-- Made the Bermuda Islands [sic] and passed to the E^d of them- 4th The anniversary of our Independence commenced with Thunder, lightning & rain, gave the crew an extra allowance- Boarded the Grand Turk, and sent Purser Shaw & Midⁿ Shaler home, him in bad health- at night passed a sail on the rock called Nohall [?], as we are in the Latitude - Made the land being one of the Flannel Islands on the coast of Scotland- soon after passed S^t Lerner's [sic] Bluff- Passed Ihona [sic] and Bora rocks- also Cape wrath and [?] Sherry, 22 made Papa Westra one of the Cokney [sic] Islands and soon after Foul Island. Sounded in 55 fathoms water. Intended through Foul Island passage; came on foggy bore up and run to the Nothard [sic] of the Orkney and Shetland Islands, called by navigators north about- run as far North as 63 and hauled to the Eastward in the North Sea

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or German Ocean- [July 30] took our departure from the Isle of U[?] - passed over jutland reef- Made the light house on the Nass [sic] of Norway- Stood along the coast of Jutland in from 17 to 20 fathoms water- 31 passed the [?] Light house, soon after came squally. took a Pilot and run into Winga Roads in Sweden, Gottenbough being in sight- [Aug 1] Wind fair stood out from Winga and up the Categat [sic]. 2 passed Anholt light

house also Kolt [sic] point, came up with Zealand light, 3 and anchor^d of[f] Elsinore. Exchanged salutes with Cronenburgh [sic] Castle- (This is in Denmark). Same day stood through the Sound and anchor^d of[f] Copenhagen in 8 fathoms water, the Crown Battery bearing WNW ½ mile. J. M. Forbes Esqr am Consul General for Denmark and Prussia came on board accompanied by several of the Danish nobility. Exchanged national Salutes with the Town. Visited the Queens Gardens. Saw the King and Queen, and the two Princesses the younger is considered very handsome[.] She has flaxen hair, and a remarkable [sic] fine complexion they are all very plain & easy and exactly like other people. Visited the naval arsenal. every thing in it is well arranged, and kept in high order. They have but few vessels of war. the English have now returned the 20 Sail of the Line taken from the Danes some years ago for safe keeping- we are Sent out here

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to take home the mutineers of the American Schooner Platsborough [sic] of Baltimore owned by Isaac Mc[?]- The Plattsborough sailed from the U, States with a large quantity Specie on board, bound to Smyrna. on the passage out a part of the crew mutinied. murdered the master, the chief mate[,] Supercargo, and One of the men named Sturme. a Prussian took command of her ran her into Norway. they were soon suspected. they fled to Copenhagen where five of them were taken up & confined. This day mov^d the mutineers on board – named as follows. Stephen Ornon 2nd mate, Edward Sanudra Mulatto Steward, American, not concerned in the murder but shar^d the booty- they have confessed the crime and are become States evidence- John Williams a Canadian, Nathaniel White an American Frederick a Dane, Roggi an Italian or Spaniard[.] During our stay I was much on shore, and am pleased with the character of the Danes- the injury this City sustained in the attack upon it by the English feet [sic] under Lord Nelson 2nd in comman is felt to this day. they speak in most bitter terms against the English- am consul Gen^l Mr Forbs [sic] came on board as passenger for the U. States weigh^d anchor and stood through the Sound come too again of[f] Elsinore. Same day the u. States Frigate Guerriere Com^r McDonough anchor^d near us, 35 days from Boston having on board the

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Hon^{ble} G. W. Campbell and [?] minister to the court of S^t Petersbaugh [sic] [Sept 1] The Guerriere got underway and stood up the Baltic- blowing fresh our first cutter with a Midⁿ & crew fell to Leeward 2 Sent the first Cutter [sic] after her, myself in charge, run over to the Swedish shore, and was informed at Elsenburgh [sic] that she had driven on shore on the isle of Nyon [sic]. stood over to the Island and found that the Cutter had returned to the Hornet- This Island was once the residency of the famous Astronomer Tycho Brahe. Stop^d at a famous house occupied by a Lady, who independant [sic] of the Swedish her vernacular Tongue, also spoke, the French, German, Italian and English. she walked with me to the spot w[h]ere the obeservatory of Tycho Brahe stood. She is a Lady of superior mind, and yet she regretted that living upon a small Island had deprived her of many advantages enjoyed by those living on the main and in Cities. She was particularly attentive to me. I had taken Marmantels morals to her in the boat with me. I presented them to her, having turned down the 107 page. Sturme

the ringle[a]der of the mutineers was brought from Dantzich to Elsinore under a Prussian Guard to be confronted to those on board. Sturme to the last denied his ever having seen one of them before but those

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after some hesitation, admitted that it was Sturme the cause of their misfortune- he saw that they were surrendred [sic] tho^h knew him not – so he was returned to the Prussian Guard- The examination to[ok] place at the offices of the Prefect of Police- Visited the Gardens of prince Hamlet, so celebrat^d by Shakespeare. It is about half a mile from Elsinore. They pretend to shew [sic] the grave of Hamlet. the ground is handsomely laid of[f]- Weigh^d and stood down the Catagat [sic] – passed Trundel Rocks, very dangerous, passed the Scaro [?] and stood along the coast of Jutland, wind ahead and blowing heavy- hoisted the Jack for a Pilot. one was soon on board. he ran us into a fine, but small harbour called Blansson, in Norway – fine lobsters, the inhabitants homly [sic] indeed. wind fair, stood out passed the Naze of Norway and standing across the North Sea, intended north about, the wind coing out ahead and heavy, bore up for the English channel. the wind again shifted dead ahead and we bore up for the orkneys intending to go north about, but on the 12 the wind again came ahead we hung on 24 hours, and then hove up for the channel Passed Scarborough head in Scotland – and soon after the South Church of Robbin [sic] Hoods Bay- 15 passed Dangerous light house, and also Crown light, and anchor^d of[f] Harbors light in 13 fathoms water. heavy gales and bad weather. weighed and stood down the English coast- 17 made the

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Galliper [?], and passed the North foreland. Same night, having clear^d the Goodwin Sands, haul^d up for Deal and anchor^d in the Downs in 7 ½ fathoms water, Deal Castle bearing N1/2E, Goodwin Light NebE. M^r Forbs [sic] left the ship for London. The Downs is [sic] considered by the English to be a good roadstead, but I think any part of the Chesapeake Bay preferable to it. 19 heavy gales, ship pitching bows under - 20 weigh^d and stood down channel. wind came a head [sic]. returned to the down [sic]. A fleet of merchant vessels of about one hundred also put back. 21 weigh^d and stood down Channel. wind again came a head [sic] The fleet bore up and return^d to the Downs. The Hornet and an English Packet the only two that continu^d on- 23 passed Beachy Head- 24 heavy gales made the Isle of Wight, having sprug our head Brace. bore up and run into Spitt Head [sic] to repair damages- a number of English men of War at Spitt Head- also three Russian Frigates sold by the Emperor Alexander to the King of Spain, and said to be useful for service- they passed us a month since at Copenhagen and are bound to Cadiz- Admiral Malcomb [sic] from the British fleet sent an officer on board to welcome us and tender his services- Mr Forbs [sic] again joined us 28 stood down past Cows [isc] and out of the Needles- stood down channel, and took

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our departure from the Lizard- fair winds until clear of soundings, when it hauled to NW blew gales and the most violent I have ever experienced- 30 the Sea getting

from the quarter compelled to veer Ship. after veering the wind continu^d to increase – ship under close reef^d main topsail and fore storm staysail- under this sail the ship was hove down on her beam ends three times. the last time she was hove down thr main topsail was split into ribbons- the sea making a perfect breach over the ship- orders was [sic] given to cut away the mizzen mast. at this Instant a heavy sea stuck her upon the Weather bow which paid her off[f], and from the most perilous situation of going down in a few minutes, She proudly righted - kept her before the wind a short time, but finding that the sea was fast overtaking her, we again rounded too and brought handsomely by the wind- the mizen [sic] royal mast was blown off[f] by the cap the top gallant mast being housed- as the second Lt's my Station in time of imminent danger was the foretop upon this I volunteered for the maintop and 8 or 10 men followed me- Ship rolling her main yard arm under – we succeeded in cutting the old sail from the yard, and in going out to save the weather reef tackle [sic] was thrown from the yard partly in the top. the men haul^d me in. I was lowered upon deck and could not leave my berth any several days- The gale abated. the oldest seamen

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on board admitted that they had never seen any thing to equal it before- my belief is that having lost our main topsail saved the ship, for she was much easier after it had blown away- but the old school is to carry that sail to the last, being a lofty sail, to keep her from the sea- this is practical knowledge to me, never to be forgotten- 21 made the Azores-winds still ahead- 24 On an examination found that we had but 900l^b bread on board – being only six days allowance, bore up for the Azores – after having passed them 600 miles- 26 came too off[f] the Viila del Horto Island of Fayal- sent on Shore to our counsel M^r Dabny [sic] who used every action to furnish us with supplies. We can never forget the kindness of M^r Dabny the younger he threw his doors open to us- and we far^d sumptuously whilst with him- his father, mother & sisters were in the U. States- It was here that the American Privateer Gen^l Armstrong so gallant a defence against a whole English squadron[.] The American ship Wiscasset came in short of supplies- having procured all the bread that could be got we filled up with the balance [sic] with Potatoes- 30 Stood out and directed our course homeward- Nov 4 [?] Walker (Boy – fell from the mizen [sic] top into one of the

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quarter boats uninjured- continuation of head winds.. 24 encounter^d another serious gale almost equal the last- the head winds stuck by us until after we struck soundings, and probably no ship before had ever such a time of contrary winds and bad weather[.] Came too in the Harbour of Boston having this day served out our last allowance of bread- we had anchor^d but a few hours before a NE snow storm came on which lasted two days. It was 96 days from the time we started to return home until we anchor^d off[f] Long Wharf Boston- Turned t he mutineers over [to] the states marshal. Cap^t Read proceeded to Washington, all the hands except myself ledt the ship – and by the offer of Cap^t Read I became first Lieutenant of her – hauled into the navy yard and [?] 15 the Hornet having undergone the necessary repairs hauled off[f] in the stream. The Independence 74, Frigates Constitution and Java in ordinary at the yard- Joined the Hornet as a young midshipman and passed through all the grades to t he first Lieutenancy – and have now

been seven years attach^d to the Hornet- the other Lieutenants on board are Babbit [sic], Breeze[,] Hunter, and Eskridge. M^r Worthington Sailing Master- on the 20 March I reported the Ship ready for sea- Cap^t Read returned and came on board- Reckoning to the preceding Cruize;

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Reckoning to the West Indies – to Copenhagen & back to Boston 1818

Date	Lat -	Long -	Var. Comp	Wind
Mar 31	38N	72 W	3 W	West
Apr				
1 & 2	36	71	3	SE
3	35	70	1 W	SW
4	35	69	3	Va ^r
5	34	68	2	“
6	33	68	1	NW
7	31	68	1	“
8	28	68	0	Va ^r
9	26	67	”	“
10	25	66	0	“
11	25	65	0	“
12	24	65	0	“
13	23	65	0	“
14	22	65	0	“
15	22	65	0	NE
16	22	67	1 E	“
17	22	69	1”	“
18 Made Turk Island & until				
19 next date in the West Indies				
Jun 21	22	65	4 E	NE
22	25	65	4	“
23	27	65	4	“
24	29	65	4	“
25	29	65	6	“
26	29	66	4 W	Va ^r
27	29N	65W	6 W	NW
28	30	66	6	“
29	32	64	7	E
30	33	62	7	NW
Jul 1	35	61	8	W
2	38	58	9	NE
3	38	57	10	SE
4	38	56	11	SW
5	40	56	12	“
6	40	53	13	SE
7	40	51	14	SW

8.....	41.....	50.....	15.....	SE
9.....	42.....	49.....	18.....	SW
10.....	44.....	46.....	22.....	S
11.....	46.....	43.....	23.....	W
12.....	48.....	39.....	25.....	“
13.....	50.....	35.....	26.....	“
14.....	52.....	32.....	27.....	“
15.....	53.....	27.....	28.....	“
16.....	55.....	22.....	29.....	SW
17.....	57.....	17.....	30.....	“
18.....	57.....	15.....	31.....	“
19.....	58.....	10.....	32.....	”
20.....	59.....	6.....	34.....	“
21.....	60.....	3.....	35.....	“

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22.....	61N.....	1E.....	30W.....	SW
23.....	60.....	2E.....	30.....	SW
24	In the North Sea, Sweden, Norway			
25	and Denmark, also England			
Sep 29.....	49N.....	6W.....	30W.....	SE
30.....	48.....	10.....	27.....	NW
Oct 1.....	47.....	12.....	25.....	“
3 [sic].....	47.....	13.....	25.....	“
4.....	47.....	15.....	20.....	“
5.....	46.....	15.....	“.....	“
6.....	44.....	15.....	“.....	“
7.....	44.....	15.....	“.....	NE
8.....	43.....	18.....	“.....	”
9.....	42.....	21.....	“.....	NW
10.....	43.....	23.....	”.....	“
11.....	42.....	24.....	“.....	“
12.....	42.....	26.....	“.....	“
13.....	42.....	28.....	“.....	“
14.....	41N.....	28W.....	”.....	NW
15.....	42.....	28.....	“.....	“
16.....	41.....	29.....	“.....	“
17.....	40.....	29.....	“.....	“
18.....	41.....	28.....	“.....	“
19.....	41.....	30.....	“.....	“
20.....	41.....	31.....	“.....	“
21.....	41.....	31.....	“.....	“
22.....	39.....	13 [sic].....	22W.....	“
23.....	38.....	36.....	“.....	“
24.....	37.....	37.....	“.....	“
25.....	35.....	35.....	“.....	“

26.....35.....33..... 23..... “
 27.....37.....31.....23..... “
 28.....38.....30.....23..... “
 29 Anchor^d at Fayal and purchased
 30 The course home on my chart
 31

26th [sic] Capt Read came on board, also M^r Forsythe, Minister to the Court of Spain. Saluted him 27 Stood out to sea, the NW wind that we started with continued until we came up with the Azores, when the winds became baffling- we were only 8 days from Boston to the Azores a distance of over 2000 miles- Ship most of the time was under double reefed Topgallants & going 11

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or 12 knots- during the 5 days our decks were never dry, and most of the time under water- Our minister says that every man that follows the sea should be an Admiral, for nothing less would induce him. [April 14] Made the white convent on Cape St. Vincent- 15 came too in the beautiful harbour of Cadiz- The work day admitted to pratique- exchange Salutes with the Forts – visited by M^r Tunis 24 The American Consul, M^r Forsythe, Cap^t. Read and M^r F[?] left Cadiz for Madrid. at the same time a M^r Ridal, to whom we had given a passage took French leave- At Anchor in the harbour 3 Spanish 74 – Six Frigates with small Corvettes [sic], and more than an hundred Transports – Troops are collecting at this point to embark for South America. Operations to go on Standby for want of government fund and Credit- I did not leave the Ship for the first two weeks, during which time I overhauled^d and painted her – and reported to Cap^t Read at Madrid ready for Sea – visited the shore with our Consul M^r Tunis of Phila^d who is very attentive to us all- my time is much taken up [?] on Shore- The plaza de S^t Antonio, the Alameda [sic], the churches and in fact every thing is delightful- visited Chicalana Porto, Santa Maria la Isle to witness the Bull fights

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at one of which there was [sic] fourteen horses, eight Bulls and one man killed- The first that I witness^d was to me horribly inhuman, but I may soon become familiar to them and never let one escape me- any Spaniard male or female will give the last real to see a bull fight- the wild bull is let loose in the Arena. he is first attacked by men in armor on horseback and ultimately despatched [sic] by a man on foot called the Matador. The prejudices that I have [?] the Spaniard, is entirely done away- They have probably more dignity of character than any other people[.] I have found them amiable and friendly- but do not intermeddle [sic] with their [?] Carasons [sic] sweethearts. I have been very particular in making friends with the Priests – or Padres – during our stay the Patriot Privateer Independencia was wrecked of[f] Tarifa. the crew made [?]. most of them are said to be [?] that is from the re-Italy- rec^d letters from Madrid. the Prime Minister the Marquis Casa [?] Narjo is in disgrace by order of the King Ferdinand the Marquis married an American Lady of Phila^d many years since- The Florida Treaty [??]- The City of Cadiz stands upon the Island of Leon[.] it was a City of the Phoenicians [sic] and called Gades- The U. S.

74 Franklin Com^r Steward [sic] anchor^d here for a few days and return^d to the Mediterranean- Capt Read having returned, we stood out to sea. L^t Berry and [July 1819] Doct^r Heap of the [?] passengers- The Florida treaty not ratified- all the homeward passage was very smooth a small boat might have crossed. 30 Anchor^d off [f] New York. Capt read proceeded to Washington. [August] I was ordered to get the ship ready for sea as soon as possible- The Secretary of the Navy M^r Thompson visited the Hornet man^d the yards and fir^d a salute- the Washington 74 the Cyane & Ontario at the n yard. The 74 on the stocks far advanced--

Reckon from Boston to Spain & back to New York

Date	Lat	Long	Var	Comp	Date	Lat	Long	Var	Comp
Mar 27	42N	69W		5W	Jul 7	35N	17W		21W
28	41	65		6	8	36	20		22
29	40	60		8	9	36	25		21
30	40	55		11	10	36	28		21
31	40	51		12	11	37	31		20
Apr 1	40	47		14	12	37	32		19
2	41	45		15	13	37	33		19
3	41	40		16	14	37	36		18
4	40	37		16	15	37	38		18
5	40	34		17	16	38	40		17
6	40	32		18	17	38	42		16
7	39	29		21	18	39	45		15
8	39	25		22	19	39	48		14
9	38	22		22	20	39	52		13
10	38	19		22	21	39	54		12
11	37	15		22	22	39	56		11
12	at anchor Cadiz				23	39	58		10
Jul 2	36	7		23	24	39	60		11
3	36	9		23	25	39	63		7
4	36	11		22	26	40	67		6
5	35	11		22	28 [sic]	40	72		3