




MC 63.32

George W. Tracy 

John

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1804
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Journal, kept on board of the
U. S. Ship Franklin of seventy four,
Guns,
Commanded by

Commodore Charles Stewart
Captain Henry C. Ballard

By

Midshipman John King

which unfortunately for humanity
the world has never
plated, ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~yet~~ ^{yet} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~be~~ ^{be} ~~known~~ ^{known}
glad in our ~~stomachs~~ ^{stomachs} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~our~~ ^{our} ~~eyes~~ ^{eyes}
O. J. ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~effectually~~ ^{effectually} ~~try~~ ^{try} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~be~~ ^{be} ~~prevented~~ ^{prevented}
lined we left the mouth of

ad, which precluded the possibility of our making
ny thing in our course to day, we were therefore con-
felled to relinquish our intended design, of getting a-
-der weigh to day, the latter part of the day was
cloudy and rather cool.

November 21st. Friday. light airs from the North
and cold weather at 6 A.M. the winds increasing
hove up the anchor and got sail on the ship from
the anchoring grounds abreast of the town of An-
-apolis, and proceeded down the Bay, set our
Top mast and Top Gallant stearing sails, going
in the course of the day at the rate of 8, 9 and 10,
knots per hour. The weather rather inclined to clear
-up, but still continues Chilly

November 22nd. Saturday the winds from the South
and weather the same, at half past 2 P.M. Com-
-mander with his staff and anchor in the mouth of
-Chamaco river, in 10 fathoms water, at 4
-o'clock. Lieutenant Levy
-went on shore, in
-for the purpose of
-to ship,
-with the
-getting a
-presented
-ing for sea,

we came off, at 5 in the afternoon, the wind fresh-
ening up, and the weather growing quite cold,
at 1/4 past 6 in the morning got the ship under
weigh with a stiff Top Gallant breeze from the
North^W and stood out of the mouth of the river,
and proceeded down the Bay on our course, we said
at the rate of 10 knots per hour, considering the
attending circumstances, allowed to be very good
sailing; the day ends cloudy and airish,

November 21st Monday the wind hauling to the
West^W got all said on the ship, and at 5 in the
evening made the Capes; The Pilot Boat got under
weigh from St. Marys at the same time the ship did
but owing to the superiority of our sailing she was
now left 10 or 15 miles astern, on getting out we
lay with our maintop sail to the mast waiting
for her to come up, which was not until the
Sun had been down some time, at 1/4 before 7
we discharged our Pilots, and sent on shore
sick men, on account of their being
with contagious diseases as well as for their
better accommodation. The Pilot Boat in return
off, unfortunately carried away her main mast
by getting it entangled in our Starboard main
brace, though we ineffectually try'd to prevent
that accident; - Since we left the mouth of

The Potomac this morning our ship has sailed
with remarkable celerity, averaging at least 10 miles
an hour; - after the Pilot Boat shoved off, we fell
away with a fine steady breeze from the north^{west} and
west^{ward} a beautiful clear moon light evening, and
prospects of a good sailing. At 7 P. M. Cape
Henry Light house in the Latitude of $36^{\circ} 58' N.$
and Longitude of $76^{\circ} 21' W.$ bore West $\frac{1}{2}$ North
Distant Six Leagues from which I take my depar-
ture. Midnight pleasant, and a beautiful moon
reflects its brilliant beams, on the ~~water~~ ^{water}
ward; we saw the watery world in its most beau-
tiful grandeur this evening, towards break of
day saw several sails in sight standing dis-
tinctly, in the morning the breeze fresh-
ning up, we took a single reef in each of our
topsails. — " —

At Sea;


Tuesday November 25th AD. 1817.

From meridian to 4 P.M. Fresh breezes
and cloudy weather, saw new fore top sail to race
those not being not trust worthy, at midnight
strong breezes from the North^W and East^N fly-
ing clouds attended with light rain, at 4 in
the morning the winds moderating turned and
out of the top sails, and set for one main
top gallant sails. Saw great quantities of gulf
weeds floating on the surface of the water, the
temperature of the air was ascertained to be 47°
and that of the water, 71° a difference of 24
degrees, current setting N. E. at the rate of 3
knots per hour, our course to day is South 85^W
Distance 179 miles. Dif Lat. 18° 5'. Dep 178.5 East
Lat. by dead reckoning 38° 31' N. Dif Long. 5° 53'
Long. W 59° 22' W. Variation of the Compass 74 of
a point West by.

Wednesday Nov. 25th Commences with light vari-
able winds and cloudy weather, at 3 P.M. set
the fore top gallant sail and flying jib, at 9
hauled down the flying jib, and staysails the
winds baffling and light rains, at intervals, during
these twenty four hours the temperature of the air

was from 50° to 50° a difference of 4° and that
of the water from 59° to 71° a difference of 2° .
The current setting to the South West at the rate
of half a mile per hour; no observation to day.
our Course this day is $S 62^{\circ} E$, the Dist 41 L.

Dep. Lat. $20^{\circ} S$ Departure $36^{\circ} E$, Lat D. R. $30^{\circ} 11' N$.
D. Long $15^{\circ} E$. Long In $58^{\circ} 37' W$. Variation $1/2$ point
Westward; as I must wish to note down some re-
marks for my own private satisfaction; My time
compels me to be as laconic as possible; I shall
therefore not insert more than the distanced Sailed
each day hereafter; and exclude the Dep. Lat. Dep. H.
Thursday Nov. 27th Commences with light winds
and flying clouds; at 2 P.M. set the main sail and
at 3.30 took in Top Ballast sails, wind freshening
runder the fore and main Top sails, at 7 split
the fore and hauled it down, fresh gales and squally
weather, at 8.30 took in the main sail and furlled it
(in the morning) strong breeze from N.E. and
squally attended with rain at intervals. The tempera-
ture of the air from 52° to 54° ; The water from 53
to 72° Distance sailed 124 miles, Course $S 80^{\circ} E$.
Friday Nov. Light variable winds and heavy rain
at 12 meridians made the Islands of Bermuda on
our Starboard Bow (bearing) from us $S. E. 1/2 S$.
Distance 40 miles we find ourselves considerably

out of our reckoning; the Compass being attracted by
our barstax, 2 points from its true course, accounts
for this. This day ends with moderate Breezes from
the South^W and West^W 

General Remarks.

After making the Islands of Bermuda we bore
up and made all sail, a S. S. Easterly Course, until
we got clear of the Islands, and its contingencies
and then shaped our Course more for England
we sailed along quite expeditiously, and without
any remarkable occurrences until we were about
8 days sail from the Islands, when it set in to
blow with great violence about 4 o'clock in the
morning, and by the night increased to a severe
gale of wind, attended with dark thick seas, and
a most tremendous sea, we were compelled to ~~the~~
^{heave} our ship too; and reduced to our 3^d storm staysails,
the storm continued with such violence, as placed
our labouring ship, in rather a perilous situation
the night being very dark, and heavy squalls of
rain, made our situation much more disagreeable
if not more alarming; we had no friendly means
to give light to our course, nothing but the vivid
glare of lightning flash'd across the "dark blue cover",
and the low peals of thunder, at intervals, added

Still more to the sublimity of this awfully grand, but
threatening night. we had these dreadful attendan-
all night, but about day break, with no small de-
-pleasure, we observed the storm in a measure to ab-
-bate, but still, the waves lashing and rolling to
mountainous heights, however this not being so
great an obstacle in our course, as the Gale; we
-bore away in the morning; and got our topsails
on the ship, we weather'd this Gale without any
material accident happening to the ship or crew, save
wet beds, and berths, as our ship roll'd very deep;
every minute, a sea would break in upon us
not of a sufficiently magnitude to swim in, but
still, it would sap to leeward with you, whereby
you were compell'd to quaff it, in pretty copious
-mouthfulls, which being salt as brine, will
make any person sick; in fact, at the time, I
was sea sick my self, which I declare to pro-
-nounce the most disagreeable of any sickness, I ever
-I believe ever can endure; it threw me into
such a complete state of insanimacy; that I really
wonder at the time, almost taken Death, if it were
the only alternative to my relief; I would not
insert this; had I not so excessively suffered by
it, I may say with veracity, that in the course
of 2 weeks, I did'nt eat as much or wood

Serve a good hearty man, for Forty eight hours.
One morning, when in the longitude, of the
Grande Bank of Newfoundland, a number of
these beautiful fish, called Golpshin, came sport-
ing under the bows of the ship, and as we were
going through the water only about 5 or 6 knots
there was a probability of catching one of them
at least. I recollect of reading, the description
of a dying Golpshin, by the much admired
Psalconer, in his Poem of the Shipwreck; which
of course excited my Curiosity much more to see
this fish; however they were hardly discovered by
the Sailors on the Fore Castle before a scheme
was projected in catching one; accordingly one
of the men went under the Bowsprit with a
harpoon, and in a few minutes succeeded in
striking one; at the moment it was struck, it
appeared, in more beautiful and variegated Colours
than tis possible for a Man of the richest
Jewels to boast of, and his affrighted Compan-
ions darted, as if all the glowing ocean seem'd
to Blaze, we got him in on deck; in to give
a description in Psalconer's own words.

"The upturning points his ponderous bulk sustain,

"On Deck he struggles with convulsed pain

"What radiant Changes strike the astonish'd sight

"What glowing hues of mingled Shade and light

"Not equal to canvas bill the Lucida Nosty,
"With partings beams all o'er profusely drest;
"Not Loulier Colours paint the vernal dawn,
"When orient dew impard the enamell'd lawn,
"Than from his sides in bright suffusion flow,
"That now with gold empirical seems to glow.

— This beautiful fish, is about 2 feet long, and 8 inches in circumference, his skin is never the same colour, but always changing, in fact to give a true description of the colour of Dolphins is only painted, (by comparison,) in the above quotation.

After weathering a seven Gale of wind, we again shaped our course, but for 7 or 8 days after, the weather still continued very tempestuous, though not so severe, as to compel us to stand, or lay to, the wind of sea fell, ran to mountainous heights and almost constant rain, made our ship very uncomfortable, when we made the latitude of 48° N. a thick misty fog set in, which continued for several days, so very thick at times, that we were very near getting possession of several vessels, not being able to discern them, till within a hundred or hundred and fifty yards, we continued on our course, without any thing worthy of remark taking place, till Friday the 12th instant at 10 o'clock P.M. saw a strange sub-
siding a flicking and blue light, which we sup-

proved to be an English Man, of War, by her making
signals, which we could not understand, we Cal-
culated on speaking her in the morning, and get-
ting news of the Land, as we judged were not far off,
our reckoning not to be depended on, as upon examina-
tion of the Compass we found the Magnet, attracted
2 Points to the Eastrd of its true Course, supposed to
be owing, to the quantity of Iron metal on our
Bastions; and the weather so bad, as to prevent the
Possibility of getting the Latitude by observation, how-
ever, on the approach of the Morning, the Stranger
was sought with all perspicacity but in vain, we
were now in daily expectation of making the
Land, in the Course of 48 hours, passed several
Days, but spoke now of the moving to various dis-
advantageous Circumstances.

In the Latitude of 52° saw a great number of
Porpoises, all around us, a pretty expect hand took
the Harpoon, and hove it into our, we roused him
on the fore Castle, he measured full 7 feet in
length, and about 4 in Circumference, he was cov-
ered on the back with a thick Black Skin; or
rather more the Colour of the Sea water, between
a black and blue, his under part, and about $\frac{1}{4}$ way
of the side, white, which is all oil; or at least
when boiled makes the best of oil, this part is

is called the Blubber, as of a Whale, the head at a small distance off, you can hardly observe the difference between a hog's, and in fact, taking him altogether, is very much like the hog. Some people have given it the name of the Sea hog, and really believe it a species of that animal; first meat being scarce, he was of Coward Cook's, the part of which I ate was Cook's like a beef steak, and though not quite so nourishing, answered as a very good substitute; Some on Board who had before ate of it, gave it a decided preference to their beef and pork, which convinces me, that were it to be made a customary dish, in time it would be relished as well as Mutton, Pork, or any other, flesh, now in General use.

We were now in daily expectation of making the Land, sound frequently with 100, 120 fathoms of line, but got no bottom, on the mornings of the 10th & 11th we sound'd in 100 fathoms, find white sand and small specks of black, in the afternoon, sound'd in 70 fathoms, this night about 9 o'clock, saw a very large ship standing for us, on our low bow her size induced us to believe it was a vessel of war, we piped Clow to each other and hail'd her, but received no answer, after 3

times hailing, the winds being very fresh, we were
now led to believe, that she was a large Indian
(for if a Man of War, it was her duty to speak
Strangers on the English Coast;) and did not
think it worth while, to leave her too; but pro-
-ceeded on our Course, saw a number of Sails, but
Spoke none; on the Morning of the 10th Dec^r.
had sharp look outs at each Mast head, but the
fog was so very thick, as to preclude the possibility
of discerning any object, further off than a quarter
of a mile. Saw a very high Cloud on our lee
Bow, which some took to be the White Cliffs of
Albion, others saw fly away; we stood for it,
when the fog, had began to clear away, and a-
bout 3 leagues off, it proved to be St. Albans
Head, we were now no longer in a State of
uncertainty, we immediately fired a Gun, and hoist
ed the Jack at the Fore, as a signal for a
Pilot, our signal was soon answered, by the Pi-
-lot coming on Board, we made all Sails and
stood on; the Isle of Wight soon appeared on
our Starboard Bow, like a Great Mountain of
Snow, but on our nearer approach, discovered it to
be the natural state of the Soil, the land is very
high, and the Coast for the most part completely barren,
at the same time it presents to the Observer a

very Grand and Picturesque appearance; we pass
through a Channel formed by the Isles of Wright
and Woburn, Called the Rudeles, which in a
gale of winds must be very dangerous, owing
to the surrounding breakers, and Craggy rocks, some
which appear on both sides of the Channel, in very
splendid, and Romantic groups; some of which
were almost perfectly square, and Craggy on
the top, others like Splendid Spire; in a
heavy gale of winds, the eye must be delighted
to view, with one the Grandest, but most awful
Scene, formed by Nature; the very high Cliffs of
Chalk, which from the Main Land, extend out
into the Sea, in numerous groups, but not all
connected, but separated by the small Channels, which
flow between them, and all one, without adding
to it the roar of creptures, are enough to in-
timidate the Mariner, even, though every thing
may be favourable, and nothing to be apprehended
from the weather we passed through this place
(the Rudeles) with a good steady and favourable
breeze, fortunately without any accident. There
is a Telegraph on the highest Peak of Land, on
the side of Wright, for the purpose of Com-
municating Intelligence from the Sea, which

has many advantages of any I ever saw, Command-
ing at Spheer of at least 40 Miles Air Circumference.
It also answers the purpose of a light, to repel
Coming in, at night, this we passed on our right,
a few miles further up, on the British side, is
a fortified Castle, and light-house, the Castle is
called Morris, Castle, which makes the whole
Channel,, we saw but 7 or 8 Guns on the Top
the rest I suppose were all dismounted, as there
is nothing now to be apprehended; We passed a
great number of Merchant Ships at Anchor in
a safe and convenient Cove just above, the for-
tification, a few miles further up passed an English
Frigate and Sloop of War lying at Anchor,
at half past 3 in the afternoon, we come to
an Anchor opposite the Town of Cowes, on the
Isle of Wight; and a very ancient Castle on
the opposite side, which is now, the residence
of Lord Henry Seymour, On our arrival here
we heard the news of the Death of the Princess
Charlotte of Saxe-Coburg, the heir apparent.
We can just see the Ships at Spithead with
a Glass, it being but 12 Miles to Portsmouth,
we understand that there is a Squadron of Russian
Men of War just arriv'd at Spithead, on their way
to South America, Can I just discern them.

In the morning of the 19th December, Richard P. Esq.
Lieut. Minister Plenipo. left the Ship in the Green Barge
under a salute of 13 Guns; Commodore Stewart and
Captain Ballards also went on shore this morning
and accompanied Mr. Rush and Suite to the City of
London, on a Visit; during their absence a num-
ber of British Officers visited the Ship, all of
which expressed their admiration of her architecture,
though, I know they gave their opinion with some
reluctance, more through courtesy than any thing else,
though she had her of reputation itself; after pains
and time would admit; our Ship we might say
I should as well as some British Sloop of War,
I was very anxious to visit Portsmouth, if it
was only to see the vessel a ship of 20 Gun
as well as the Victory; the Ship in which Lord
Orcourt, killed, received his mortal wound,
and death; also all vessels then of the Royal
Navy; it being the Great Harbour and Depot
of all Britain; I obtained permission to go on-
shore together with some of my associates, and
went out from the Ship in a Petrol Boat on
the 21st Dec; we sailed through the Russian
flats, consisting of six feet of the line and 2
gun gates, lying at anchor off the Harbour

Saw the British Ship "Queen Charlotte" at Anchor
in side the Harbour mounting 110 Guns; we
saw innumerable Ships, but was not able to
designate any other, she bearing the Post
Admiral's Blue Flag of the Man all a tattered
or in other terms, rigged and in Commission.

Just at the entrance of the harbour are two very
strong Batteries, one on each side as well as
two or three very strong fortified castles, which
makes it utterly impossible for any force to land.
The Town of Portsmouth is very irregular and by
no means handsome. No place worthy of note ex-
-cept the Naval and Military establishments,
which are the most principal in all England.

The town is strongly fortified, with an exten-
-sive wall, and Batteries all around the place.
is very ancient, and very few of the houses are
built in the modern way of the world, which
is generally of Brick, some few stone, which are
on the side. I staid here two days, the last being Christ-
-mas, I expected to see much hilarity and glee, as
is the case pretty generally in My own Country, but
was surpris'd in finding it quite the contrary, every
house shut up, and the day devoted entirely to the
worship of Almighty God. Which to be sure
is very commendable, but I am inclin'd to believe

That this strict Ceremony was more a Matter
of Compulsion, than the Natural inclination
of the People their being Compell'd to shut up
their Shops, I know was. — The late Princess
Charlotte, appears to be a general favourite
among the People particularly the women,
who said "she was the only Hope; the Nation
such General regard; that every female; who
could purchase a pair of ^{new} Morning wove it
as a mark of affection, and respect to their
dead Princess.

At Christmas Morning, My Companions and
myself, finding our Ship completely secluded
from the sight of the People, (save the Brit-
ish officers, who look'd upon us as American
Naval officers, with more like envy, than
inviting friendship;) thought we could not
enjoy the day more agreeably, or at least more
instructively, than visiting the Ships in the
harbour we accordingly got a Boat,
and visited a number of them, among
others was the late R. S. Sigsbee President
(whose Captain was very near carrying them
two large Sigsbee) the shot holes are all

Painted white so as to show how she was cut up
her Guns were not on board, and there was as
many shot holes below water mark, as above
or at least shot holes made after her arrival
in England for I am sure if the Presidency
had ^{of her} ~~of her~~ so many wounds under water,
particularly when there was such a heavy sea
on, she would never have been able to make
a voyage to Europe, it would have been utterly
impossible to have kept her afloat 10 minutes
longer, but it may be easily known, why so
many extra shot holes are made,
after visiting the President we went on board
of the ship "London" mounting 130 Guns
the largest (but not the best constructed) vessel
in the world, after seeing the King on
the Painted regatta Pleasure Boat, almost a
map of Gold and ship rigged we finally
went on board of the "Victory" of 110 Guns, the
most famous ship that ever floated, being the
flag ship at the Battle of Trafalgar, when Lord
Cornwallis was killed, on the spot where he fell
there is a diamond placed in the Deck, the
officer was very polite in showing us the dif-
ferent parts of the ship, particularly the Cock
pit, the apartment where the most famous name
here that ever lived, breathed his last breath.

In the afternoon we returned to the Franklin our
own ship, and did not get another opportunity of
going on shore in Croisland, though I wished much
to go on the 20th of Night, but the duty of the
Ship prevented that possibility; there is still some
remains of the famous Castle of Carisbrooke, in
which Charles the first was confined, the Cham-
ber from which he attempted his escape, is the
only apartment whole remaining, it was only a
bout 7 miles on the Island, from which we lay
and it was a source of much regret that I could
not visit it. On the afternoon of the 29th Dec.
we stood up for Portsmouth, and anchored one
mile from the Russian Squadron, also the British
Frigate Tiger Commanded by Capt Dacres (for-
merly the Commander of the late B. M. Frigate
Guerran) lay within a half a mile of us at
anchor, we staid here but 2 days, during
which time, the Russian Admiral, and a post
captain visited the ship and paid her
very highly. We got under weigh from
Portsmouth on the morning of the 31st with a
fair wind, and stood out to sea, for the
Mediterranean, we had no obstruction in our
course; until we were in the mouth of the
Bay of Biscay, when we had violent squalls,

at Intervals, for 3 days, it blew so violently
that we were at times under reef'd foresail and
Close reef'd Mainsail said, One Moment a Com-
plete Calm, and the Next a violent Squall,
so we, were, a Minute with our Top Sail, and
Courses an' her, and the Next were obliged to
Clew up every thing, our situation was in the
particulars, very alarming, we were obliged to
lay to, or Carry said, having the Coast of Spain
but a few Leagues under our Lee, and Made it
several Times, I saw the Sea in Greater agitation
then ever before, though not quite so dangerous
being a long high and heavy swell, after getting
Clear of the Bay of Biscay and its Contingent
we stood on our Course, and saw the Land, fu-
quently, on the morning of the 7th January, saw
a very high peak on our Weather side dis-
tant about 7 Leagues, which upon our arriv-
ing it proved to be the Rock of S. Pedro
and on the afternoon of the 8th Made Cap
St Vincent, bearing from the Ship E. N. E.
distant 12 Leagues, we made a number of
Sails, on the 9th going through the straits
about 5 knots, two of our men fell overboard,
from one of the Gun Deck port-side, and
back to the main and Mizzen Top-sails, and

Haul'd up the Main Sail, and lower'd down
the larboard Quarter boat, with all possible
dispatch, fortunately the men were very
good swimmers, and a very light sea,
the boat succeeded in picking them up,
about Thunders yard astern, we fill'd away
again on the larboard Tack, the wind haul'
ing right ahead against us, we continued
sailing, till the morning of the 10th, when
we made Cape Trafalgar on the Spanish
Coast, and Cape Spartad on the African
Coast, the lands on both sides is very high
and mountainous, and completely barren as
far as the eye could extend, not the smallest
appearance of any vegetation, we had
fine weather, very warm and pleasant, but
we could see at a distance the snow on the
mountains, which was truly grand and
picturesque. We passed near Trafalgar,
through the water, where Lord Nelson was
slain, and proceeded up the straits, leaving
Cades on our left, it being dusk, we did not
see the Lion, also, Langier on the Port side,
made a fine wind, and at 11,
Clock the huge rock of Gibraltar appear'd
on our larboard bow, hanging its ponderous

ous heads, high over the Clouds, we had one
somer got to the mouth of the Bay. When
we were becalmed under the Lid of the rock
8 miles from our anchorage, having no wind
ings when we were thought the Shore was no
more than 2 miles from us, had light winds
at intervals, but we were not at anchor
until the morning of the 12th June, about
4 o'clock, all hands up the whole night.

The Town look'd very romantic at night
being on the side of the Rock, every light in
the whole Town was presented to the observers
below, it's small, and of course very irregular
being built on a craggy rock, whose height
reaches above the Clouds; it is always
thought a Task for an able Historian, to
give a description of this wonderful piece
of Nature; the Subject is too grand and awful
for a young and incompetent person, to
touch upon; I must therefore decline, under
this head; in fact the Rocks, and the ad-
jacent Shores, no Pen can describe; the eye
itself is the only Informer, by which your
Curiosity may be gratified. The morning
after our anchoring about 10 o'clock, the Amer-
ican Consul (Bernard Henry Esq) came off
in Company with some English Post-officer,

bringing a proposition from the Governour, for
a Salute, which was acceded to by Com: Stewart;
accordingly at 12 o'clock, we Saluted the for-
tification, with 21 Guns, which was answered
gun for gun, from the Battery at the New Mole,
The Commodore, in company with the Consul, went
on shore, immediately after, our salute was an-
swered, heard that the American Squadron
under Commodore Chauncey, had sailed from
this place, about 14 days since, for Syracuse
in Sicily.

We had the satisfaction of seeing a number
of large Boats coming off, cargoes, with
the most delicious fruits, which to us was a
great rarity, the whole crew feasted very
luxuriously on oranges, figs, nuts, and a
variety of other delicacies, we purchased as
fine oranges, as I ever ate in my life for a penny,
a piece, and every other article in the fruit line
equally as cheap, so one shilling would buy as
much as a Dollar in America.

After gaining the necessary information, we got
under weigh from the Anchoring ground, and
stood down the Bay, passed an English 74, at
Anchors abreast of the Dock Yard, which had
the preceding night came in from sea, we
hauled up a wind, and doubtless Europe's print

at the end of the rock, being the Southernmost
Point of the Continent of Europe, we stretch'd
along the Coast of Spain keeping at a re-
spectful Distance; though we might run within
3 yards of the Shore and not strike, being very
bold, and steep; we keeping on our Course, saw
Many little Villages, at a perspective Distance,
which appeared to be as it were completely inclosed
having immense Mountains surrounding them;
we spend our time much more satisfactorily,
than when in the Atlantic, the Beautifull and
romantic and variegated Scenes, which daily are
presented to our view, together with the delight-
full Summer weather (Jan'y 15) displays such
uncommonly pleasant days, that it cannot
help, but please, and interest the roving
disposition of youth.

Thursday 16th Jan'y saw the Town of Malaga
on the Spanish Main, but was not near enough
to make any observation, it being about 11
leagues off, could only discern it with a glass
on our passing Malaga; the Mountains of
"Grenada" presented their high and lofty
Structure to our view; it is impossible for me
to give an idea of those immense hills, the Super-
structure of which; is seen in white snow far
above the Clouds, and their irregular shape, may

he said to resemble the undulations of the Sea, con-
=paratively Speaking, their appearance, is barren
and desolate, I saw a little Village at its base
here and there; ~~which~~ ^{which} I suppose obtain their sub-
sistence from the Interior; or rather more Con-
=veniently from the Commerce of the Sea, they
stretch an immense range, on the Coast; and present
to the Imagination, one of the most awful and
sublime, ideas; for the human ^{mind} to meditate upon
that tis possible for any earthly Topic to surpass
we were becalmed under the Lid of those mountain
chains for several days, saw light airs at In-
=tervals, and of no duration, on the Morning of
the 17th day a Breeze sprang up, right a-
=head, we were compelled to Beat, stood over
for the African Shore made it, and tacked
again the winds still unfavourable, I must
then remark the peculiar pleasantness of the
weather, while we were becalmed, the nights
particularly, we had not a single Cloud
visible, for 4 or 5 days and nights, the Moon
shines apparently in Conscious Majesty, sur-
=round'd with attendant, still relieved by the
Sun; and I may say that we were always in
daylight.

We anticipate having a long Chase in pur-
=suit of the American Fleet, but knowing to

to a Certainty when they are. The general opinion
is that they have left Syracuse before this,
The winds still continues unfavorable, for
us, make the Coast of Barbary frequently,
on the 29th night, air from the West, we
set all sail and stood on our Course, the
 breeze increasing carries us along 7, 8, and 9
miles per hour, the weather is very pleasant,
having but one small shower of rain since our
entrance, The Coast of Barbary is high generally
and the Top Grounds very irregular, at day
light on the morning of the 24th Jan^y the
Town of Algiers was in sight, on our weather
Bow, distant about 12 leagues, the Town and sur-
rounding Country, presented such a gloomy ap-
=pect, as to indicate the nature of its inhabit-
ants, the Town appears to be at this distance
an immense mass of white rocks, and the dreary
hills are interspersed here and there, with their
unkempt dwellings, though this Country
has such a gloomy and inhospitable appearance
still it presents in some parts, some very
picturesque scenery, Not the fruits of Arts, but be-
=stowed upon it by nature, The breeze still continues
fair, we have the Barbary shore frequently
in sight, going at the rate of 9, 10 and 11 knots

in the morning of the 20th Juny. made the
Islands of Paita distant from the Coast 30
miles. it is quite small and uninhabited,
having a number of Dangerous rocks, around
it, projecting out of the Sea, to some Consider-
able height in a pyramideal form, the
Island itself bearing S⁶⁰ E by E, distant 10 miles
bears me small resemblance in its Shape, to
the rock of Gibraltar, it is said that St Paul
the Disciple of our blessed Saviour Jesus Christ
suffered shipwreck on this little Island, off "Cape
Bon" and a number of small Islands, danger-
ous rocks, and Shoals, scattered about, some just
a foot or two under the surface of the water
others just peeping out, which makes the
Navigation very intricate in this part of the
Pacific Ocean, it is also subject to very
violent and sudden squalls; we were struck
with a violent squall of wind and rain last
night with soft fall at midnight. Fortunately it
was perceived a few seconds before, we
chose up every thing, but still the ship
took a very sharp career, in a moment it
was over, without any damage on our
part. But I said again, continued on our course
with difficulty, the wind baffling all night
till morning, the wind hauls right ahead

which is really mortifying; had the wind continued
we should have arrived at the place of destination
by the 28th we have been nearly as long coming
from Gibraltar, owing to head winds and Calms
as we were crossing the Atlantic at a distance of
nearly 4000 miles; and it is but 1000 from here to
Gibraltar; however 200 miles more will complete
the Passage, on the night of the 27th saw several
sail, one of them making signals, at 12 o'clock
at night the wind still unfavourable, tacked ship
to the N^o and E^o braced sharp up on the Starboard
tack, in the morning saw 3 vessels in sight, stand-
-ing different courses, saw the lands on our weather
bow, having the appearance of an Island, and about
11 P.M. saw two small Islands on our fore beam,
Shortly after made the Southernmost part of
the Islands of Sicily, at midnight the wind died
away, we were again disappointed in our expectations,
calculating to be in Syracuse at least and at
furthest, in 48 hours; a complete Calm, and a
very short irregular Sea, render our situation
mortifying and disagreeable; at 11 o'clock at
night (28th), saw a brig about a quarter of
a mile off, drifting down towards us, in
a few minutes she was about 50 yards drifting
broad side on to us, she striking we were not

not perceiving her, began to ring her Bell, and
set all hands a ringing, as a Signal
for help, we lowered down our two Quarter
Boats, and sent them to her assistance, they towed
her off, about a Quarter of a Mile in a North
westerly direction, at 12 the Boats returned, said it
was a Moor's pound from Constantinople to
Leg Horn, towards Morning, a light breeze
sprang up from the N. by E. ³ bore the main sails
and the 2. Sallant Studding Sails, and heaved our
Course E. by S. at Sun rise 12 Sail in sight from the
Main Mast, the land on our weather Bore distant
12 leagues, if this little wind continues, I am
in hopes we shall reach the Barb in 24 hours.

January 29th a fine & brisk Breeze, carry-
ing us well, at 10 o'clock P.M. saw Mount
Ethna's white Snowy Top, far above the Clouds,
distant from us about 50 miles, the breeze
continued fair, we made Cape Pisaro, at
12 past 3 in the afternoon, haul'd round the
point, the City of Syracuse made its app-
earance, could just see the American Squad-
ron at anchor in sight consisting of the
Washington 74 the United States ³ Frigate 44.
and the Ship Erie of 24 Guns, we were
all very glad in finding them, as we ex-
pected to chase them all round the Mediterranean

we took in Royals and beat up the Mouth of
the Bay, it being not more ^{than} 1/2 a mile across.
Though very deep water, we could run close in
under the Land, on both sides, there is a pretty strong
and very Commanding Battery on the right
hand side at the Entrance; the Ship, was work
better beating up for the Squadron, than I
ever saw her before, but that is very easily
accounted for, we entered the Squadron Fast, and
at 1/2 P.M. bore up and passed between the
Washingtons, and Crow, being about 100 yards
apart, the Washington fired a salute of 15
Guns, just before we passed under her Stern,
when Commodore Chauncey mounted his Staff
with his Speaking Trumpet, and said he was
happy to see Commodore Stewart, hoped he was
well &c. &c. he was answered by our Commodore
from the Starboard Bannoway, "propria persona"
we luffed round her quarter, but unfortunately
miss'd stays, and run aground in 23 feet water
in the midst of our Glory, how mortifying
all the Squadron eying us how well she man-
-ouevred, &c. but there was a strand which brought
us up, though Nobody's fault, on board, we
not knowing the Harbour, as soon as we
grounded, our old Commodore with a smile on
his countenance, said Capt Ballard returned the

Washington's Salute, probably, that will shake
her off." we then returned Commodore Chauncey
Salute, with a discharge of 15 thirty "nope"
got an Anchor astern, and raised her off, and
Anchor'd all safe and sound by 12 o'clock at
Mighty, in the morning, from: Chauncey, Capt
Crane, and Lambie, the Commander, came on
board, and had an interview with Lord G.
They returned to their respective vessels at 12.
Subservient, to the "Franklin" the Sloops Spark
and Peacock, and at Messina, the Constellation
with Captains Har and Grand, have gone to Amer-
ica, the Washington is a lovely ship, though
the Franklin pretty generally carries the day
31st Day; Commodore Sturges and Capt Ballew
went on shore to day to visit the Governour,
of Syracuse; This town is one of the most an-
cient in Sicily, and has been very populous, the
Bible tells us, that the "Apostle Paul" in his
Voyage, put into Syracuse and remained 3 days
which you must remember, was several Centu-
ries past; the town now is but small, the
ruins, and to be seen some miles in a sphere.
The famous Temple of "Munera" is still to be
seen, in the Cluster of ancient structures.
The dreadful Earthquake which proved so fatal
to the City of Catania (which is about 30 miles off)

Shook a great part of the Buildings to their
Foundation, and Many of its inhabitants suffered,
this as well as many others have suffered severely
and are now subject to the Shocks of Nature, on
account of its proximity to Mount Etna, which
is plainly to be seen. Not only the whole Mountain
but also the neighbouring Regions, appear to have
been formed of the accumulating matter that has
been ejected from age to age from this never
ceasing Furnace; of all the eruptions that have
happened it appears that the earthquake in 1593,
was by far the most fatal, having as I before
mentioned overturned the City of Catania, and bur-
ied 18.000 persons in its ruins, and many of the
circumjacent Cities suffered severely, several
Centuries ago Etna ceased to emit fire for nearly
90 years but afterwards broke out with the most
direful consequences; it has ceased to emit fire
now for 2 or 3 years; and it is supposed it will in
time break out, with similar attendants, in fact
the Inhabitants of Sicily and more peculiarly dan-
gerous than any other part of the world. They are al-
ways labouring under apprehensions of this destroyer
of Man; it is said the Cinders which are thrown out
in small quantities serve for Manure to the ad-
jacent lands. The Top of the Mountain is always
covered with Snow though it never ceases to smoke

and sometimes sends forth flames; On the 2^d of July,
The whole Squadron fired a Salute of 15 Guns, to
Commodore Stewart, at the same time Commodore
Chauncey haul'd down the Blue Vexil and hoist'd
the red; the Franklin kept up the Blue pendants
and returned the salute, at noon saw the Spack
standing in for the mouth of the Bay, and at
4. P.M. Came to anchor on our Starboard
Quarter and fired a salute. On the 4th of July
I rec^d orders from the Commander, in Chief
of the Squadron to repair on Board the Pri-
vate United States Commanded by Capt
Wm. M. Board, as a Midshipman of that Ship
I went to Capt Board my Commander, and
explained to him my astonishment, and disap-
tation at receiving such orders. He told me
that there was a Peacety of Officers on board
of the "United States" and that some of the Mid-
shipmen of the Franklin would undoubtedly
be scattered through the Squadron, and that
I ought not to complain; I then requested
Capt Board to transfer me to the Ship
Peacock, as I had heard a very unfavour-
able opinion of the Commanded of the U. S. States
He advised me to go, that I had been misin-
formed, that Capt. C. was a most unexcep-
tionable officer, — I felt extremely mort-

lication in leaving the Franklin, "the thoughts of
it impud³ me with more sorrow, than, when being
my real home and family, however six of my
competitors and brother, share the same fate, for
the vindication of my Character in Alas I should
not be attacked with any kind of Hemis, and for
the satisfaction of my friends, I wrote to Capt
Ballard; the following letter

(Copy)
Capt. A. B. Ballard

U. S. Ship Franklin //
Syracuse Bay 4th July 1815.

Sir,

Having understood that I
am to be ordered from this ship, to the "United
States" frigate. I hope you will grant me the
Liberty of choosing the U. S. Ship Peacock
under the Command of Capt Rodgers, and for
my own satisfaction, as well as that of my
friends, and to defend my Character from
any stigma which will very naturally arise
after leaving the Franklin; I hope Sir, and
request that you will give me a line to assure
me (however laconic) stating of whether it
was for my neglect of duty, or whether it was
for my deviating from those principles, which
ought to be the necessary accompaniments of
all of my Grade. With the highest respect &c.

Capt Ballard sent for me, he was astonished
at my writing him such a letter; I told him I
consider it a duty incumbent on me, to act as
I had done. He then assured me that he was en-
tirely satisfied with my conduct as an officer
and as a Gentleman since I had been under
his command, and that he had selected the
Frigate U. States himself for me to go on
board of, but told me I might remain with
him and he would find some other, I objected
to that. Knowing that by such an act I
might incur the displeasure of the officer,
I therefore told Capt Ballard that I felt in-
titled, reconciled and satisfied, and reposing
confidence in his advice, should acquiesce
to the orders of the Commanded in Chief —
Repair on board the U. States Frigate.
My reason for not wishing to join the
U. States, was that I heard that Capt Crane
was one of those kind of patron's; that never
interested himself about the promotion of
his young officers; and as now is the sea-
son of life, when I should be opening the
road to my future prosperity, I wish'd to be
with a Commander who I might expect some
encouragement, without which I can take

My Interest in exciting myself - how great
My Reasons Justifiable? — Capt Ballard
are my order with the accompanying letter

(Copy)

United States Ship

Franklin, Syracuse

4th Feb: 1815.

Dear Sir,

Allow me to introduce to
your acquaintance Midshipman Tompkins,
late of this ship and now attached to yours;

I have very great pleasure in saying to
you that he is a young Gentleman of most
exceptionable habits, and will, I have no
doubt, under your advice, become a valuable
Member of our Corps,

With Great Respect,
I am,

Your ob. Servt.

(Signed)

Henry C. Ballard.

Capt M. M. Crane

U. S. Ship "United States"
Syracuse.

United States Frigate United States
William M. Crane Esq. Commanding
Syracuse February 5th A.D. 1819.

I reported myself to day as a Midshipman of
the frigate United States, and am happy to find my Com-
panions a set of very adequate gentlemen, and in-
teresting young men. The frigate has just been
refitted aloft, and ready for Sea, on the afternoon
of the 5th the Governour of Syracuse visited the
Franklin and was received with a Salute of 15 Guns
which was answered from the Batteries on Shore,
towards twilight Commodore Stewart made the
Signal for to hoist Short Stay peak preparatory
to getting under way by the morning, but unfortu-
nately the wind hault right ahead, we lay Short
Stay peak till the morning of the 8th when the
Commodore made Signal for getting under weigh
the Ship and the Washington, the only two remaining
of the Squadron, (the Erie and Hawk left this place
on the 5th) together with the Franklin got under
weigh with a very light wind and stood out of the
Harbour the United States leading the Van, the
Washington carrying royal Studding Sails and
Moon Hakers, after Clearing the point, haul'd
up for Mopina, the wind still continuing light.

On the Night of 8th at 12, the Squadron was a
Guest of the unfortunate City of Catania, which
is partly cut off, and again rests its head on the
Bosom of its destroyer, (Mount Etna,) the intervening
Clouds prevented us from seeing the Town, being in a
very elevated Situation, though at the foot of the Mount-
ain, but the Coast is very high, and the highlands
are seen Snow Cap'd at an immense height, the Coast
for the most part appears barren, and unfruitful, but
the distant Hills look green, and Cluster of beautiful
little trees, are scattered about on their Summits, which
are the Signs of vegetation, I noticed While at Syra-
cuse, that the wine, the orange and fig Trees, were
paid more attention to, than any thing else, and as
they are raised among, the most fruitful articles
of Commodities, I suppose it is Cultivated throughout
the Island, I saw some wheat, however, from the in-
terior the best I ever saw in my life, the Soil is
however most favourable to fruit Trees, an abundant
Quantity of which is always to be had as cheap as ordi-
nary, you get Common wine for about 5 Cents per
Bottle, and their best wine 30, now however is good
as the Madeira, the Marsella, is generally ac-
counted to be the best; some of which is but little
inferior to Madeira, the grapes here are very
excellent; but the Sicilian Peasants do not

Know how to Censure them, they are too so very indolent, they
are alike the most of people in our respect; like
to earn Money with as little trouble as possible.

13th February; We Clapp'd all sail on this morn-
ing agreeable to Commodore's Signal; and at 9
P.M. pass'd Reggio on the Italian Shore, this place
though small, is one of the most ancient in
Italy, and is frequently spoken of in ancient his-
tory; — The Apostle Paul, in his voyage, remain'd
at this place some time, fulfilling the Commands
of his Holy Master, among the then unchrist-
ianlike inhabitants of Reggio, and its circumja-
cent Country, on the opposite Shore, Sicily. Sev-
eral little Towns, are to be seen interspersed on
the hills and dale; some of which were once flour-
ishing; but, like a great many others, are now
but in the 'wreck of revolutions'; and display
in the most gloomy Scenes "the wreck of
Matter and the Crust of worlds;" "Time, Wars,
and Earthquakes" have demolished the most
flourishing Cities; of the most unfortunate
Country; and very few Specimens of work re-
main complete, — we stood up the Straits of
Messina, a Channel form'd by Italy and Si-
cily, the Country adjacent is very beautiful and
picturesque. It is an ever green, the Hills, are

Clothed in a summer garb, and the beautiful
little Clusters of Shrubbery, delight the eye of
the observer, with a very interesting pros-
pect; Sicily; may be said to resemble
the Sea, when influenced by the rage of
Neptunus; for it is one continued group of
mountains and hills; — We continued up
the Straits, the Washington ahead, the Furrow
in neck, and this ship brought up the rear.
we had a fine steady Top Sails and Breeze,
right in from Sea, and at half past 10 P.M.
the Squadron anchor'd at Mafina, out side
of the Harbor, and near to the Celebrated
"Gulf of Charabass" which is so frequently
spoken of by the ancient Heathen writers. The
revolution of the water in this astonishing
whirlpool, is with such velocity, as to render
it almost impossible for a ship, even of the
largest class to pass through, without very
great difficulty. There is a difference of opin-
-ion concerning the singular motion of the water
here, but I believe the general imputation, is
this, that the water's ^{circulation} is from both
the Northern and Southern ends of the Straits
Must then with such reciprocal resistance
as to prevent either passing its desired course

without a recount, this together with the
proximity and irregularity of the opposite shore
which precludes the water from expanding
in as large a Sphere, as it would otherwise;
is generally ascribed, to as the most rational
reasons.

In the afternoon of the same day of
our arrival, Com. Stewart paid a Salute of 15.
Guns, to the Governour of Messina, which was
answered from the Batteries on Shore; on the 14th
the two Commodore, mark'd their Ships in Sight
the more, the United States follow'd, their mo-
tions the next day, when we found the Core
and Spark. the Squadron now consists of 2
ships of the line, 1 Frigate, and 2 Sloops, the
"Peacock" we daily expect.

Messina, is next largest town in Sicily the houses
are built altogether with Stone, Cements over, and
their appearance is not very inviting; there is
hardly more than of the Nobility, but what seems
to me more intended for a prison, or Dungeon
than for Civilized Man to dwell in, the floors, a-
bove and below are also laid with Stone, which
must make them always damp, and consequen-
ly unhealthy - there are generally as many Convent
Churches, Cathedrals &c. in these towns, as there
are private houses. Some of which are truly May

Mercy; — I don't recollect an instance of my
life, when I was impressed with more sympathetic
feeling than when visiting one of those Convents.
There was a charming little girl, apparently about
the age of 15, near the grate, as we were peeping
in side. She was indeed truly fair; — an elderly man
outside, came up, when we were standing, as he
came to the fair little Penitent, who came to her Mother
(I presume) when they had a moment's conversation, during
which time, they were both weeping, with that recipi-
cal affection, which is so natural to the Child and
the Parent; and on appearance, of the Monk, or
rather more properly speaking, the Superior; she was
compelled to retire in sobs and tears; the natural
conclusion, was that this young lady entered the house
in very earliest period of life, (like thousands of others,
who are unable to live but in misery, and are compelled
to take the veil for substitutes, when they are often
subjected to the vilest and most indecent impositions
(that Stigmata human nature) when her parents
were under unfortunate circumstances, and remain
till too late, when compelled to take the veil for life,
and allowed no other but outward communication
with their friends and relations, at a time too, when
the ties of affection are most dear; — In fact
the heads of those institutions, who profess to be
perfect Christians; and who receive under their

Forerunning hand; the unfortunate party of our female
Sex who enter their School of worship; are in my
opinion the most infamous impostors, Connected
to the Species of Man. How often indeed have
I seen some of these Holy Clergy, pass by the
naked and the helpless, without paying the
Smallest attention, to their heart piercing cries
of excessive Misery; Tho' their hearts are destitute
of Charitable or Human actions; which deficiency
is Supply'd with mought but Superstition and vil-
lany; the former they brandst into the Minds
of their fellow beings, and the latter they prac-
tice, by extorting a princely livelihood from
the more unsuspecting fellow men, who con-
sider them as a Superior order of beings &
worthy; and if they receive the blessing of their
priests, or if their Conduct is Sanctified, they
consider themselves at once freed from Sin.

Not that I am prejudiced against the Catholic
Religion, In speaking as I have done, But I think
it is incumbent on every true Philanthropist to
defame as much as possible, those Superstitious
impostors, who act directly Contrary, to all the
good our blessed 'God' and Civilized Man; and
at the same ^{time} abuse the divine Revelation, by
pretending to act, under the pure principles of

Christianity.*

On the morning of the 21st February
Just as the sun rose, the whole Squadron fired a
Salute of 21 Guns, as a testimony of respect due to
the Memory of our immortal "Washington," the
remainder of the day was spent in useful, and
salutary mirth.

The U. S. Ship Peacock was discovered standing
in for the harbor at day light on the 5th March, she
took a birth between this ship and the Store; and was
safely moored by 9 in the afternoon, Com. Chauncey has
dressed his broad pendant; and for 2 days wore the Whip.
This morning (7th) he has hoisted the Blue pendant, as
near Commodore of the Fleet. The following are the
ships of the Squadron now lying in the harbour of
Middletown.

Ships of 31	Franklin	Commander in Chief
do 2	Washington	Rear Commodore
3	Atalanta States	Brigade
4	Peacock	Store
5	Eric	do
6	Spark	do

u

* In speaking of the Religion of this Country, I have heard it
stated that the Catholics are entirely Superstitious

The Spuck was'd up of the Larkland the 19th.
March, and got under weigh the 20th. Suppose
to be bound to Gibraltar, and the Washington
got under weigh the 21st. destination not known,
but suppose to be Naples, which leaves here
the Franklin, United States, and the two Sloops -
Peacock, and Erid.

On a visit on shore the 21st. (March) I
was more pleas'd with my excursion, than all of
my preceding perambulations, through Messina.
Having this time devoted my attention, more par-
ticularly to the places of note, among others, was
a Church, whose celebrity, for its internal de-
corations, and ornaments, is surpass'd by few.
Myself and Company, were privileged, to go in
public service, and it being ascension day,
(which is held by the Catholics, more sacred than
any other,) we had an opportunity, of seeing it in
its most awful grandeur, (it is well to observe
here that, the Major part of the Church are all
attached to a Convent, wher the Nuns can
have access, without leaving their abode; their
ceremonies, consist chiefly, in kneeling before
the altar, and asking a blessing, which toget-
her with the mournful sound of the organ, and
the melancholy plaintive voice, of the fair let-
tled Penitents, whose melody was equal to that

of the enchanting Hymns, was Calculated to in-
spire the soul with the deepest solemnity, and
although this service was performed by bigotted
worshippers, it was done with the most so-
lemn devotion; the Church was richly grand,
it contained 3 Altars, one on each side
in a recess, where was representation, of
our Saviour, hanging on the Cross, which was
carved out of the finest alabaster, attended
with the Virgin Mary, who was weeping
for the sad fate of her Son, and also many
iniquities of woe, in rich gilt work,
which reflected resplendent lustre on each
other, the sides of the Church, were richly
diversified; with representations of numerous
groups of Angels, which appear'd to
be paintings, but upon closer inspection
discover'd it to be Alabaster, inlaid, in
the brown colour'd marble, which made it
appear and in conceivably grand; and the
upper Ceiling, display'd a view of our
Saviour ascending in a midst, surrounding
Black Clouds; & accompanied with a group
of Angels, making in all the most
splendid view of Art, I had as yet seen
any where of; though I am told there are

Some that purpaz it; I only wish that some
of my Kentucky friends could but see such
a piece; they would look with wide surpris-

30th March. Commodore Stewart, went on board
the Procech; to inspect that Ship. He was rec^d

with a Salute of 15 Guns. It is anticipated
that the Commodore intends inspecting the Fleet
generally, before we leave Messina. The next day

the Commodore on board this Ship, we mann'd our
yards for his reception. all the Commandes
and first Lieutenants of the Squadron came
on board, also and dined with Capt. Crane

On the 2nd of April the Squadron got under weigh
from Messina with a westerly light wind, and
went out of the northern mouth of the Faro. Steer'd
our Course for Tunis, on the Coast of Barbary
with light winds, and unfavourable; at half past
10 A.M. Called all hands to attend the fun-

eral of — Roberts; a Seaman; who was killed
by a fall from the fore royal yard, last night
at 12, o'clock, divine Service being performed
by our Chaplain, Doctor, Moss. His body
was committed to the deep. This poor fellow
suffer'd severely, but, half an hour, having shall
and his whole frame; his legs and arms, were
broke in several places, as well as his body
it was a most shocking Spectacle —

We pass'd the burning mountain 'Stromboli'; an
Island of Small Size, but most stupendous height
it lies to the N. E. of the Mouth of the Strait
and emits streams of liquid fire; this famous
place is often proach'd as a sublime Topick
in the pages of ancient History, as we
bore away from Italy's famous Shore, the re-
-ceding mountains present'd a most pleasing
and interesting prospect, overtopping each
other, in irregular and magnificent groups
as far, as the eye could extend. While their
Spiral Summits exhibited the Snowy severity
of winter; the Cypress, the Olive and the Myrtle
Shaded their sides with the green tints of Spring,
and groves of Orange, Lemon, and Citron spread
over their feet the full glow of Autumn,
uniting in one grand, but small Sphere,
three different Seasons and Climates, as we
advanced in this blooming region, the scenery
became still more pleasing, and diversified,
while the eye was delighted with the prospect
of the romantic groups of Islands; on one
hand, on the other it was pleas'd with the
fertile Shore of Sicily the gently swelling
hills that rose from the Coast, were crown'd
with Cypresses, Olives, and date trees, and here

and there were scattered, the plain and simple
Cottages of the peasant; whose Chief object
it is to attend the Culture of the Vine, Orange
and fig tree; — The soft and Salubrious
-land breeze; seemed to breathe the fragrance
of the rich Shows of orange, Lemon, and Ben-
gamot; & the gay and luxuriant views, which
now opened themselves, appeared as if in one
Scene of delight "Heaven, Earth, and Ocean smiles"
" We continued on our Course, and on the night
of the 5th (Apr) at 12 o'clock made 'Cape
Bon' on the Coast of Barbary and by 10
o'clock next morning the Squadron had an-
chor'd in the Bay of Tunis, where we found
the U. S. Ship Washington, who had a day
previous arriv'd from Naples; we anchor'd
off the Town of Tunis distant about 8 miles
on the Eastern Shore of the Bay, and within about
1/2 of a mile from where we lie, is the conse-
-crated Spot, where flourished the City of Carthage
the powerful, and contemporary rival of Rome,
which after a Siege of bloody Wars Car-
-thage was subdued; and the Romans triumph
ed in a manner, which might be expected
after finding themselves masters of the world,
Squadron; desolation far and wide, — their

long and powerful enemies of this place more
exhibits a scene of one general mass of ruin
pillars of marble laying here and there in
irregular Clusters, and here and there are to
be seen the remains of some ancient for-
tification; & it is impossible to distinguish
any famous Structure, or Cliff, by its locality
as here are mingled palaces, fortifications,
and the hovels of the lowest order; in discrim-
inability; in one general mass of matter.

The Consul at Tunis, came off to the Squad-
ron; and after learning the Government was
still amicably disposed towards our Country
and respected our flag, the same afternoon
the Squadron weigh'd anchor, and stood out
of the Bay; and directed our Course for
'Algiers' when we arrived on the 15th after
a very pleasant passage; the whole Squadron
anchor'd within a mile of the batteries, the
Bay fired a Salute of 24 Guns, which was
returned by the Commodore's Ship; the Vice Consul
came off and inform'd the Commodore, that the
People of Algiers were much more friendly
to our flag than was ever before known,
and on seeing 2 Lin of Battle Ships, they were fully con-

Winced that we had the means of augmenting our
little Naval force, by building as well as capturing
it is a remarkable fact, that they think an A-
merican Frigate can whip any English Ship that
ever floated; because their celebrated Admiral, who
was taken by Decatur, having so frequently and for
such a length of time evaded the vigilant pursuits
of British Ships (who till lately they rivaled as their
only rivals) in his single frigate; and at last to
be captured by the Americans, after having so long
depredated on British Commerce; the people after
ocular demonstrations of their kind, think an A-
merican 74 impregnable; — We heard that the
'Plague' is raging with great fury here, which
will be a precaution to our going on shore; the hot
Sirocco winds which come in from the deserts; together
with the fittiness of the Town (the Streets being so narrow
that two persons cannot pass abreast) is thought
by the most distinguished Physicians, to create
prejudice among the people, the Sirocco wind is
now raging; and never before have I ~~seen~~ felt such
a strong parching blast; on the Hills above
the Town stand the Country Seats of the Nobility
among which, the Bey's Castle attracts your at-

attention more particularly; its magnificent appearance
woud by no means indicate the nature of its in-
habitants, for its romantic and beautiful appearance
surpasses any thing I have ever seen; I can see with
a glass some beautiful gardens and delightful little
shrubberies, adjoining the Edifice; And what must make
it still more pleasing; is its commanding situation
wherby you are allowed, a most interesting and ex-
tensive view of the Mediterranean - on the af-
ternoon of the next day, the 14th Apl, appeared a
blowing weather, the Com. made signal for the fleet
to get under weigh, and I had out to sea, and by
the time we were under weigh, had to buffet, very
seven gales right in from sea, at night sent down
top gallant yards by signal, our mizen stay
blew away; got up fore sail; and close reefed
fore and main top sails on her; a very heavy sea,
and dark dismal night, accompanied with thunder
and lightning; and rain at intervals; this is the first
severe gale we've had since in this sea, however
it was of short duration, towards morning the storm
in a measure abated, and the Squadron made
sail to the north and east. —

On the 15th April at Sea, our first Lieutenant,
left the ship for the Washington, who was here
too; when he went over the side the crew, manning
the rigging, and gave him a hearty cheer,
which he return'd, by very respectful and pa-
thetic gestures; he was leaving a ship in which
he had always done Justice, and gained the esteem
of all his companions to return to his natal
home; a man endow'd with such qualities, as
Mr. Jones; could not leave the ship, to which he
had been attached for some time; without being
deeply affected; indeed he was so much so, that
he could scarcely articulate, "I will with my faith-
ful shipmates"; Lt. McCully next in rank
will succeed him, in the office of first Lieuten-
ant of this ship: the 16th April at 4 P.M. the
Squadron hove too; Commodore Stewart, sent his
despatches on board the Washington, when she
bade the Squadron farewell, with 13 guns
which was return'd by the Franklin, when the
Washington and Peacock parted company set
all sail, and bore away for Port Mahon in
the Stars of Minorca; the Squadron steer

for 'Leghorn' in Tus cany; on the 18th I saw the
celebrated Isles of Corsica, and Elba, the former
gave birth, and the latter confined the great
Napoleon Buonaparte the wonder of the world,
off these Islands we experienced a very heavy squall
of wind and rain, attended with dreadful thunder
and lightning; the sharpest flash I ever saw in my
life; struck this ship, but fortunately we had our
Lightning Rod up, which conducted it ^{to the water} without
any material injury to the ship; though several
persons were struck on the yards, (the Lads being
up reefing the Top Sails) all of which recover'd, it
was followed by a loud peal of Thunder —

After passing 'Gorgona' a small Island in sight
of the coast; 'Leghorn' presented its bay coast to
our sight, on the morning of the 19th Apl. and by
2 o'clock the Squadron anchor'd, about 2 miles
from the town, this ship nearest in; the prospect
from sea is duply interesting; on the one hand, a view
of gay Commerce; a crowd of lofty Ships; and the
works of Art; on the other, the lofty and spiral
summits of the 'Apennines' the wonders of nature,
present their snow white sides, to the eye of the de-
lighted observer; tis here that man can observe the

Contemplate, the Contrast between himself, and maker-
observed this splendid Town, that magnificent tower,
er, and had a forest of lofty Ships; the produce of
enterprising man; Compare all these, to the scene
the contiguous, the stupendous and majestic Ap-
pears, whose heights are lost in the clouds; how
how insignificant does the works of the former ap-
pear, in competition with those of his mighty and mys-
terious Chief, then may he be taught to believe, and see
verified, ^{this precept:} that 'man is but a worm of the dust.'

The rigidity of the Lazaretto laws of Leg-
horn, prevents us, from having ^{any} Communication
with the shore, until riding out a regular quar-
antine of 7th days. The brig Spark arrived on the
20th from Gibraltar bringing despatches
for Commodore Stewart; two days before
the Spark came in, a fifty gun Ship bearing
the flag of Sardinia stood in and anchored
near the fleet, she had on board the Duke of
Lisboa, who went on shore under a
salute from his ship; on the 20th he visited
our Squadron and was received with mark'd
attention, on his shoving off from his own
ship they fired a salute and man's yards

on his boarding the Commodore's Ship, he was re-
ceived by a salute of 15 Guns, and the Sailors
all arrayed in white man's the yards which
motions were followed by the rest of the Ships,
The Prince, was very minute in all examinations
and expressed himself in very flattering terms
on the good order and discipline of the Fleet,
the next day the Sardinia frigate sailed with
the Duke, in Company with a brig and Schooner
under the same flag; The U. S. Ship Peacock
arrived the 1st May from Port Mahon, having
then parted Company with the Washington
who was bound for America.

Owing to the salubrity and healthiness of
this Part of the Country, the Commanding
officer has had a Hospital established at
Pisa (a small but very ancient Town
about 10 miles from Leghorn) for the
better accommodation, and more speedy
recovery of the Sick; in Case therefor
any contagious disease rises in the Fleet,
or we are much troubled with a number
of Sick, this will be made the general

Conducious for such vessels; this part of
Italy is thought to be one among the health-
iest Countries in the world, the people are
seldom Sick except, when foreign vessels in-
troduce diseases of a contagious nature. The
Plague when spread in Italy is not unfrequent-
ly brought by Turkish vessels, whose towns
seldom escape the fatal consequences, of
the hot Syroo winds of the deserts, and
more than once has its polluted breath
almost depopulated the Towns of Algiers and
Tunis; it rages in the Summer only, and then
Cities with which they trade are very strict
in inspecting their bargues, Compelling them
to ride out a quarantine of from 20 to
30 days; and keeping a watchfull eye, that
they may not have any Communication; an
exemplary Instance of the rigidity of the
Quarantine Laws which transpires within the
last Century is worthy of remark and cannot
fail to excite the feelings of pity, from the
breasts of the brave; A Horde of Pirates has
for a length of time infested their Coast and
circumpacent Sea, depredating on all property

their force would ensure, and escaping the vigilant
pursuits of the most enterprising³ mariners.

The Son of the King, who had been justly in-
-censed at the daring³ outrages of these ster-
culean Monsters, equipped a vessel deter-
-mined to ferret them out, and put to sea
he fell in with them, a chase ensued, and
was continued with such perseverance, that
his said two of the pirates in trying³ to elude
his pursuits, broke their arms at their oars,
the others after a desperate resistance, were
made Captives and carried bound in Chains
to Leghorn to the great astonishment and
no small pleasure of the Citizens, The
Victor, who being too highly elated at
his conquest, bore with all possible des-
patch the glad news to his father, who had
but a short time before sanctioned the law
which his unfortunate Son now had fallen
in a sacrifice to; he came on shore with-
out the permission of the Custom house, sup-
-posing his title and victory would ensure
him pardon and protection, but an men

were born equal, in this respect - he was
executed amongst a crowd of warring spec-
tators, and the spot is consecrated to
Memory, with an elegant Monument, rep-
resenting, himself, and Captives, placed in
emblematical and appropriate positions.
The workmanship was executed by a Flo-
rentine Artist, and is pronounced to be a com-
plete Masterpiece, this Monument is erected
on the quay of the Gally Mole, and an example
made of so worthy and distinguished a per-
son fails not to excite the fear of those, who
for mere personal interest have a predis-
position to violate the just and absolutely
necessary laws of every Commercial Town.

On the 17th of May Sunday this Ship according
to the directions of the Commodore, got under
weigh for "Civita Vecchia" having on board
Mr. Shaler Consul General of the Barbary
Powers, and Capt. Ridgely of the Navy, who
were going on a visit to the City of Rome
we stretched along the coast of Italy with
a pleasant little breeze calculating to pass
through the Channell form'd by the celebrate

Island of 'Elba' and the main land, but the
wind came out ahead and as the passage through
was rather intricate it was thought more safe
and expedient to sail round the Island which
circumstances pleased me very much, as it would
afford me an opportunity of seeing the outlines, if
not the interior abode of Napoleon; though
it could not be expected from my situation
that I could give a description, and accurate
account of the Island, I can confirm the
descriptions of those who were more thoroughly
acquainted and better qualified to perform
the task of a descriptive Geographer; as it
regards the soil of this celebrated spot, every
part of Earth which was not obstructed
by rocks (of which there are a number of
towering heights and huge dimensions) appears
highly and plentifully garb'd with the green
tints of vegetation which is certainly a
strong indication of the fecundity of the
soil; it is in circumference about 70 miles
the coasts for the most part irregular and
rocky and high; there are several small

towns on the Islands, the most Considerable of which
is 'Porto Ferrajo' on the Northern extremity, then
Napoleon landed; and also embarked again for
his Country; the town is but small, situated
on the declivity of a very high hill which over-
looks the Sea to an immense distance, and on
its summit is a very large ancient Castle, and several
strong and very commanding Fortifications,
the general prospect of Elba would be far from
attracting the attention of the Mariner, were it not
for the Celebrity it has obtained from its great in-
cident, — a pleasant breeze sprang up on the
afternoon of the 18th we left Elba, and steered
on our course; the next Day spoke an English
Ship Packet from Leghorn, we arrived off 'Civita
Vecchia' the morning of the 26th on our appear-
ance off the Town the Citizens manifested their
friendly attachment, in a Salute, but a boat
on shore with General Phaler, Capt Ridgely,
and our Chaplain Mr. Moff who were bound
to the City of Rome which is only a days
Journey from 'Civita Vecchia'; this place is
small but its reduction is proving particularly
to time; a scene of Prodition, and Misery

persuades the place and vicinity, the Traveller
is often intercepted in his passage to Rome
by the most daring Robbers who in numerous
hudds infect the whole way; people who are
reduced to this last alternative by excessive
wants I can't think so blameable as those who
can obtain subsistence in a Country where they
can be advantageously employed, this Country
once so eminent and distinguished, is now the
abode of the lowest order of reprobates and
though they profess to be the most scrupulous
and Christian; their actions are stained with
the blackest Crimes. We did not anchor
at this place but continued standing off and
on until the boat returned from the shore,
when we set sail and laid to the Southward and East
having a fine leading breeze in an hour we were
out of sight of the land sailing at the rate of
11 miles an hour, on the 23rd made the group
of Islands off the South Western End of Sicily
they are small barren and uninhabited, with
the exception of one, which has a Castle on
its high Summit; which is the abode of the

Convict and Exile; we arrived off 'Marsala' in
the evening, but did not anchor till the next
morning; this place is notorious for its export
of great quantities of wine which in point of
excellence is next to the 'Madeira' and Con-
sidering the prices of the two, the former is
by far the most preferable, Capt. Crann
bought in a stock for himself and several
other of the Captains, the Vintny is very ex-
tensive, and the benefits of its sale amounts
to very considerable sums - on the 25th the
American Consul who is interested in the es-
tablishment came off to the Ship; and all
the Vintners and a great number of Peasants
visited us they appeared highly delighted with
the 'Americano Frigate' this being Sunday a
day of leisure or I suppose we should not
have been honoured with such numerous
Companies, we got under weigh the same
afternoon and bent our course for 'Tunis'
in Barbary, in the Bay of which we an-
chored the next afternoon after a pleasant
run of but 24 hours, the next day the

American Consul came off and hearing the am-
icable State of our affairs sailed the same after-
noon the (27th) for Algiers, from the time the An-
chor was up we sailed during the first 30 hours, at
the rate of 11 and 12 Miles an hour, the wind fresh,
the wind died away on the afternoon of the 30th day,
as we had got in sight of the Town, which we had
reason to suspect on account of its being in from sea,
and in all probability the next would be the Sim-
wind of the deserts of Arabia, which not only blows
in violent squalls, but breathes infection as I
had heretofore observed, during the night a light wind
waited us abreast of Algiers, the next morning the
fifty heavy showers of rain and foggy weather, then
too within a mile of the Town and fired a Signal Gun
with the Ensign up, for the American Vice Consul
discovered him coming at 11 o'clock, but a heavy
sea, being on at the time he was compelled to
put back again, at half past 12 o'clock
Mr. Bull the Am. agent came along side and in-
formed us all was quiet, but that the Plague was
raging with all most incredible fury carry-
ing off 20 and 30 of a day, several savage Parties

were in the Boat with him. being the 3rd Crew the he
during the Short Space of 4 weeks. we may Judge
from this Circumstance alonethat the Deaths and Dis-
-fully Drumer odd; after the Boat went on Shore
filled away with a fresh Breeze, at 3. P.M. passed
a French Frigate standing in for Algiers, we heath
our Course North Easterly for the Island of Minorca
as soon as we were out of sight of Algiers, It Com-
menced blowing fresh from the E. we reef'd our Com-
-sails and Clove reefed the Top Sails when a most ter-
-rible Squall struck the Ship and drove her
air ports under water some feet, it continued till
9 o'clock at Night when it fell into a fair
-safe wind, when we set all Sails that would be-
-and made Minorca the 2nd sent a boat on Shore
at Port Mahon for some little Necessary's, and he-
-d our Anchor out side of the Harbour
got under weigh the next Day the 3rd and steer'd
for Cape St. Martins on the Coast of Spain
we had a pleasant run of 3 Days, and steer'd
down the coast Cruising, passed Cape de Gato the
7th June, and arriv'd off Malaga the evening of
the 8th when we heard that the Squadron had
passed but 4 Days before for Gibraltar, we ex-

pected the Commodore would sail from Lighthorn
shortly after this ship, butz it appears the Commodore
remained there some time after - We sailed, from
the neighborhood of Malaga the next evening after
our arrival; we sent a boat on shore at this place
for some little necessaries, butz Capt. Cranes instructions
would not permit him to Anchor; which was the
Cause of our sailing so soon, this Circumstance prevent
ed us from seeing the Curiositys, the two most prin-
cipal of which, are the Cathedral, a very large
and magnificent edifice thought to be surpassed but
by the Cathedral at Rome, which being the residence
of the Pope of course more splendour would be attach
ed to the Church. The other is an old Moorish Castle
mouldering to dust, situated on a high mountain
which bounds the Eastern extremity of the Town, it
is ordered for to be build on a, an extension, and almost
impregnable Fortification - We proceeded up the
Mediterranean Roping the rugged Coast of Spain
in sight, and the morning of the 12th passed Cape De
Gata off this place the Squadron under Command
of Com. Decatur captured the Algerine Admiral
Rais Hammida, which terminated the War be-
tween America and that Regency - we continued
cruising off this place expecting to meet the Franklin
but was disappointed saw sails frequently and gave

Chase and at one time then wind 50 Sail or upwards
in sight from our deck, and a majority of them 8 to
which shows the flourishing state of Commerce in this
Sea, we were happy to recognize several Americans,
among the Cluster and as there was but half a dozen
displayed their Colours I had not the least doubt
but what a number more of them were 'Harkness'
we continued Cruising off the Coast until the morning
of the 14th when we discovered a Sail in the N. E. qua-
ter, from appearances a Man of War we made all
Sail in Chase and discovered her to be the U. S. Ship
'Eury' last from Leghorn, when she had been left by the
Commander Capt. Gamble was in. We made Sail
with the 'Eury' in Company standing in for Cartha-
gina which lies to the E. about a day Sail from Cape Be-
late we bore too off the Harbour and sent a Boat
on shore for some little necessaries in the morning (15th)
in the afternoon I went on shore in a Boat for the
purpose of getting sand, when on our landing found
it in great plenty, the Coast is rugged and high
and immense mountains of Plate Border the Sea,
I stayed but a short time, during which I took an op-
portunity from the Summit of the Mountain, to extend
my discoveries as far as the naked eye would per-
mit, and really I never before enjoyed such a Roman

prospect; My Situation being a Commanding one, I sup-
-pose the Sphere of my prospect encompassed at least one
hundred Miles; the Vallies below were covered with rich
harvests, and extensive orchards of Fig, Orange, Cyprus
Citron, Lemon, all of which grow in abundance, also the
Apple, Peach, and Apricot; the Town of Carthage
was also comprehended in this pleasing and extensive view but
while on the one hand My attention was directed to such
interesting scenes, which would have gratified, and
satiated the eager eye of the most Curious; my at-
-tention was attracted on the other to the Sea where Neptune
if intent on beautifying and Contributing his Share to this
delightful scene, had now quell'd the Turbulent element
to a calm, and placid Grandeur, several Sail Ships
their white ~~ails~~ ^{Booms} to the South Breeze and Nature itself
seemed to Smile with Conscious Majesty on her own
Constituents; I could not indulge myself with the
view so long as it would otherwise have attracted
but returned to the Ship after an absence of 2
Hours fully satisfied with the excursion. We made
Sail for the Coast of Barbary with the English Com-
pany and after enjoying pleasant weather arrived
off Algiers the 19th and displayed the ensign but
did not Anchor, a heavy Squall drove us off
to the Eastward, abating next day, this Ship
with the English Company sailed again for the

Coast, off which on the 20th we saw a large Ship, which
was supposed to be the Franklin but on giving chase
dis cover'd her to be an English frigate under a private
said we cruised off the Coast of Spain until the 29th
when the Erie made signal, she wish'd to speak
with us, however until she came up, and learnt of
the increasing illness of Capt. Gamble her Com-
mander, our doctor and Capt. Grand went on board
of the Erie and after a short stay returned, when
the Erie bore away to the East? and parted Com-
pany. The 4th of July we spent at Sea, off
CARTHAGENA; we dined on soup made of some
Sea Turtles we had caught a few days before, and
the Sailors being allow'd a pint of Grog each,
the day was celebrated with the accustomed
quantity of 'Tari' on such an occasion, as is
usual at Sea no salute of Cannon was fired.
The time directed for our Cruise being now nearly
expired we made all sail on the 5th to the
East? and after buffeting several severe storms
off the Coast of Genoa the native Country of
Christopher Columbus, we arriv'd again at
Lepont in the province of Tus canyon the 12th
when we found the U. S. Sloop Erie, at Anchor
in the Road.

After remaining 5 days the Franklin & Peaco at home
in sight, and come too outside of us, and within hail
we rode out the accustomed quarantine of 15 days,
before having communication with the shore,
during our stay at Leghorn, our Squadron was made
the evening resort of the Italian Fair, and Nobility
of the vicinity, Madam Napole, paid us a visit, and
was highly pleased, Lewis Buonaparte & Consort,
wished much to see us, but the Governour, could
not permit them, as we understood, a watchfull
eye was kept over them, I took an opportunity
to visit thow beautifull Palaces, and Country
Seats, which are the first objects of attraction
to the mariner, on his approach to Leghorn,
Some of which are as magnificent, and yet
as tranquil in the appearance, as our fancifull
imagination often points out, as the Seat of
all earthly felicity, The most conspicuous in its
appearance, is the present residence of Madam Buon-
aparte, who is separated from her husband, its situ-
ated on the N.E. extremity of the town, on the declivity
of a high Mount, it is built of brick, about 15 story
high, but ornamented by Nature in its Situation, and

by art in its structure, so as to present to the eye
of the interested observer, a most delightful view
of Romantic magnificence, far beyond my
description. On the Summit of the Mount is situ-
ated a solemn Marble edifice the residence of
the unfortunate Madam Neve, it is shrouded in
a beautifull Cluster of Myrtle and Orange trees,
there is a little shrubbery, and garden, adjoining,
and a walk, whose path, is shielded from the Sun,
by impervious Clusters of the most delicious
grapes; and a variety of fruits & flowers, which
I suppose is often the resort and Seat of Con-
templation of this melancholy Lady, who can
certainly never dispel the gloomy remembrance,
of her once great husband, who suffered, the vic-
tim of Tyranny, this place presented a solitary
gloom, which I suppose was adapted to her pre-
sent State, of lonely melancholy, its Command
a wide & Romantic view of the Mediterranean
the City's of Leghorn & Pisa, and a beautiful
prospect of the Apennines. - On the afternoon
of the 10th August, our Ship being (reported) ready for
sea, we were ordered to proceed to Gibraltar, we got

✓
under weigh and proceeded on our Coast, stretch-
along the Coast of France, Spain, & Genoa; and
had pleasing views, of the most Picturesque parts
of those Countries, there is a great Similitude in
the general appearance of the Northern Coast,
of the Mediterranean, being high & Rugged,
Some parts are tinged with a beautiful verdure,
and others of a more lofty Situation; Cover'd with
Snow; Such Variegated Scenes of Nature, afford
in ample field for the fanciful Imagination,
of a Poet; and an interesting sight for the Curious
the Towns and Villages on the Coast, appear to be
almost Subterraneous, from being surrounded by
high hills & mountains; which is more pleasant to
look upon, than to dwell upon, as they are gen-
erally arid, and unfruitful, the Grape being the
Principle article of Cultivation; fruit, tho' in a
great State of perfection and in abundance
grows in some of the intervening vallies; Such
as Oranges, Apricots, Plumbs, Figs, Limes & Citrons,
we arrived in the Bay of Gibraltar on the 27th August
after a passage of 12 days found here two Tunisian

Sloops of War, which were blockaded by a Portuguese
Frigate & two Sloops, the former of which, was at an
Anchor near the Tunisian; - we heard here of the prob-
ability of the United States, recognizing the Spanish
Patriots as a nation, and a strong report of a
war with his Catholic Majesty, however this has
been so current a thing for the last 6 months, that
we know not when to believe, until we receive official
despatches from our Government - I had the pleasure
of receiving several letters from my Father's Family,
wherein was acknowledged, the reception of one from
me, dated in England, which was very gratifying,
I wrote to my Father, but had not time to answer
my Mother's & Sister's, as we sailed again, (after we
on board a quantity of Provisions for the Squadron)
on the 31st August to the East. we arrived off Cape Ver-
de the 2nd Sept. and cruised off and on till the 5th when
The Franklin and Eric joined us from the South & W.
The Spark a few days since parted Company and
sailed for Gibraltar. The Franklin the next day
parted Company & stood to the West. this Ship
& the Eric remaining in the vicinity of Cape
Verde till the 29th when the Commodore joined

when the Squadron made all sail for the Coast
of Africa, we embarked the Squadron off Abbees
Junie & Tripoly, the latter of which I never before
visited, and in its appearance is more inviting
to the Christian, than either of the former places,
we had here a variety of refreshments, such as
fruits, vegetables, &c. which come to me
very opportunely, as I have been confined to my
bed since the Ship left Gibraltar, and fresh
provisions were wanting. The Franklin & Eric
remained but a few hours at Tripoly, leaving
orders for this Ship to proceed to the archi-
pelago Sea, after paying due Compliments
to the Bashaw, in Salutes, visits, &c. we
on Board the American & Spanish Consuls,
who were desirous of visiting the ruins of
Athens; when we expect to go, after making
all necessary arrangements, we made sail
the 5th of October for the East, and had a
delightfull passage of 4 days; upon in the
morning of the 11th the shores of Greece appear-
ed above the horizon in a North Easterly di-
rection, we soon came up; with the land in

sights, which proved to be the Promontory of
Monia, on which are the remains of the ancient
City of Corinth, on the South East appeared
the Isle of Candia, or ancient-Crete, and then
of us appeared Sergio, and several small
Islets, which are all conspicuous in the annals
of History, But as they are in this vicinity
so very numerous, and so unlike they were in
former times; the remarks that I may make
will be general, and desultory, as cir-
cumstances may induce, the eye is rarely grat-
ed with such groves as we read of in the
time of Telemachus; and the nymphs of
Calypso. But that, once ambrosial forest
where fairies, were so near entrapping the en-
amour'd Son of Ulysses is now, arid,
desolate, and presents an uninteresting
lump of earth to modern Travellers, the
whole Cluster which were so notorious in
times of old, take them generally are in
the same way, those which retain any
peculiar ^{marks of} distinction from the rest I shall
notice more particularly.

We entered the Archipelago Sea on the 10th of October
and proceeded up amidst groups of small Islands
to Milo having a large safe, & Commodious
harbour, where we anchor'd. we found here a
French National Ship; Reported to be making a
Survey of The Grecian Isles; we were employ'd
here two days in procuring a fresh Supply of water
as our old Stock being nearly expended; and
after getting about 10,000 Gallons on Board of
a very Brackish and Sickening taste, we pre-
pared to depart from this desolate Spot; before
which I shall make a few remarks on this an-
cient Island of Milo: The harbour Cannot be
surpassed, as it regards Convenience, Safety, and
Beauty; I should be glad if we could, Possess of
one so much desired by our Country. At the
entrance it is about 1 mile or less broad, free
ing about N. or N. by W. it has a winding &
spacious turn to the East. of South which, forms
a Beautifull and spacious Bay, large enough
to Contain 100 Sail of the line with Convenience
The Shores are very Bold, & steep and Can be
approach'd within a Stone throw by large Ships


The depth of water is different, decreasing from
150 fathoms at the mouth, down to 24, 20, & 12,
and the peculiar advantage it has over many
is; There is no hidden danger to be apprehended;
The best anchorage is on the left hand as you
enter, where you are completely landlocked,
completely sheltered from any wind and sea, It
is a Circumstance much to be regretted; that
the Island produces little or no refreshments to
Sailors, one of the greatest pleasures; anticipated
on getting a shore after a long Cruise; On the
upper Shore and nearly opposite to the mouth, stands
the City of Milto, whose population has been de-
stroyed, by Contagious diseases, from 20,000
to that of about 50, which was attributed to
the very bad state of the water, to add to
about the more probable Cause, of the Turks in-
troducing the plague amongst them; There are
said about 100 Families, all of which are
of the ancient Greek descent, and who live in
the most miserable state, that can be conceived
above, of so abject an appearance, in which you

Could expect to find hogs; the poor Sallow Complexions,
and wassal Greek, lies ^{seemingly} in conscious of his mis-
ery, and who may be said, never knew the sweets
of life; they are tributary to the grand Saignior, who
governs his immense dominions, according to the
dictates; of the whimsical disposition of a Turk.
We saw on the Island several of the females, who
were dressed according to the fashions of the Sotans,
Having a large petticoat dropping a little below
the knee; of a homely & Bunchy make; with a pad
behind them; for what other purpose than to make
very seat an easy one, I did not learn; their
legs from the knee to the ankle bare, with coarse
slippers made of the hide of an ass; of which there
was an unproportioned number to the people; their
features were regular and some whose complexion
differed but little from the fair of America, from
the manner in which they treated us, under the
reserved look of politeness, was easily to be per-
ceived a tenacity, which some suspicious looks
too plainly told, the prize of which they were in-
teracious, we left these people, and set our passage
with pleasure as we were in hopes our next port

would be better stored with the riches of na-
-ture, as also of art, for I did not see a single
tree on this Sandy Spot; and nothing, But the
remains of an old Amphitheatre, for what
purpose was erected or by whom; time only,
in her secret Annals has enrolled not to be re-
-vealed; The remains of a flight of steps are per-
-fect; and Bear the marks of a splendid ed-
-ifice, which we Concluded, was a temple erected
to Minerva, or some other favourite God deity,
of the ancient Greeks. - We got under weigh
the 14th Oct. and Beat out of the Harbour
when a gain was presented to our view Clusters
of several Islands, whenever the eye was di-
-rected, we shaped our Course for the City
of Athens too well known; than for me to men-
-tion any more than the name, without adding
the immortal names of its Children; Socrates,
Plato, Demostocles, & others - we sailed between
little Islets till the next afternoon after our
departure from Miletus when we saw the main land,
through the Spaces of several intervening Islands
the most distinguished of which is the Island

of Macronisi; But formerly Helena, It took the
former name, from the circumstance, of Paris
stealing the Spartan Queen (Helen) as was or-
dained by Venus; and on his way from Sparta
to his native City Troy he was Compell'd to put
on shore at this Island owing to head winds
whereby he could make no progress in his voyage
Helen who tis said was the handsomest woman
in the world at that time remained on this spot
for several days; when a favourable opportunity
offer'd they escap'd; which Circumstance
is well known caused the Siege of Troy
The Island now appears to be ill adapted to
the Comforts of Helen, But presents a gloriously
lonely & desolate appearance. — While I am
in the vicinity of this place I cannot but think
the Circumstance of the Brittania a Ship
being wreck'd on Cape Colonna which is
now close to us. The Beautiful poem of
the Shipwreck by Falconer is founded on
this fact, and as there are the Scenes, I refer
you to that much admir'd author for a

a more lively description. The next Island that
appeared ahead, was that of Salamis in whose Bay,
& on whose Shore, The decisive Battle was fought
between the Greeks and Persians; there is a high
mountain which is shown as the place
on which, Xenxes sat and reviewed his
army, during the fight. Just opposite the Bay
in which the Persian Fleet engaged the ene-
my; this we had a view of in sailing up the
Harbour; a head wind obliged us to anchor
on the outside; and its Continuation prevented us from
making sail, on the Ship; taking advantage of
a lull; we warped up and anchored in the
Beautiful Bay of Port Leon; this place took
its name from the Circumstance of a large
white marble Lion of exquisite workmanship
being placed near the Shore; whose Shape was
so perfect, and Sculpture so superior after hav-
ing Buffered the ~~ravages~~ ^{ravages} of time that over
time it is classed with the most perfect marble
pieces of art; The Venetians have got this
piece of Sculpture in Venice at present hav-
ing secured it to themselves when they found
their abandonment ^{of the country} certain. The situation well

Known having overrun the greatest part of this Country and under whose Government - It may never again expect to flourish; - In one of my walks over the solitary ruins of Athens; Chance led me to the spot where the illustrious Themistocles was entomb'd, I was not so enthusiastic in my discoveries, as some of our Historians were on such occasions; it did not extort the reverential tear, nor did I in vain ^{Chetambriand, a french traveller} Call Themistocles, to gratify my queries. But view'd it as the Sepulchre of a fellow Creature, who had only gone to the Common destiny of men; a tribute was due to him, but I did not pay it in a tear; I therefore Broke a piece of the Flint, which his Body had lain against, to present it to my Father, So I took the Rock of distinction; but could not force the tributary tear. ^(Chetambriand, was of Athens) This Sepulchre is on the Sea Shore, so near that every wave flows over it, it is made in the form of modern graving only of marble, forming  the inside being about 6 or 7 feet long and 2 or 3 Broad; its depth at present about 3. filled at every flow of the sea, the walls, or inclosures, consist of But one piece of marble on each Side; there is no covering, which

I suppose has long since been destroyed ~~near~~ to it
an piece of marble full of 20 feet in Circumference
which appear to have been the Constituents of a stur-
penduous Fabric; also heaps of the most Beau-
tiful Parian Marble, that which lies within reach
of the waves has been disfigured, and so much
discoloured, that it requires a very close Ins-
pection to perceive the difference between it and
Common Stone; and that more distant from the Sea
Several pieces you could not have told the dif-
ference between it and the whitest loaf Sugar.
There remains of an old wall all around the
right hand side of the entrance of the harbour
which surpasses anything I ever saw; I suppose it
to be the ancient wall of Athens, which two
thousand Chariots could pass abreast with ease.
The Stones with which this wall is built are
generally 10, 20, and 25 feet long and thick in
proportion; The wall appears to have been between
70 and 80 feet thick; but the Circumstances of
so many huge edifices being constructed near
it, may have deceived me, some of their founda-
tions being so closely cemented by time that if

Com. 6. 1. it is very doubtful whether it is or not after all it is very doubtful whether it is or not after all

it was not a known fact they were artificial,
you would not hesitate in receiving them as natural.
For 6 or 8 miles from the remaining part of the City
are ruins, of immense fabrics, walls &c. all of
which with a few exceptions, we are left to form
Conjectures, of what they were, or to what purpose
such huge piles could have been erected; Sculpture
is plentifully discovered; some pieces of Cornice
work; and pieces of pillars, of marble, and other
architectural ornaments, retain, a considerable
degree of perfection; while that, more ancient
or probably more delicate in its grain, has been
destroyed since the general annihilation; I shall
now go from the ruins of Athens to that small
portion of the City that yet remains; though
in a very imperfect State to what it formerly
was; It still exhibits to the eye of the Curious
many objects interesting to Contemplate; I shall
Commence with the Beautifull Temple of Theseus
this is the first object that attracts your attention
on entering the gates of the City; It is perhaps
the only Fabric of the kind that stands complete
by which we are to form some idea, of the people

who erected it. I Judge it to be about 100 feet in
length and about 110 or 120 feet Broad; I Cant
vouch for the Correctness of this; as 'tis a mere
Conjectural Computation, which Cant be far out
of the way. - The whole of its pillars, or supports
are yet standing, to the number of 36 whose cir-
cumference, (Separately) is 20 feet; which are all
fluted or grooved, and of the — order; the minu-
tia ornaments or figures; have been effaced; and
you can only perceive the sketches, of what once was
perfect and Beautifull; The Turks have converted it
into a mosque, and its original ^{interior} ornaments, have
all been taken away, lost or destroyed. It is situ-
ated on an eminence, and is of a truly antique
appearance; The marble which was once of a
Beautifull whitish hue now of a dark & allow-
colour; and lost all that Polish which con-
tributes so much to the neatness and beauty of
Sculpture. The next most Compleat, but by far
the most magnificent Fabric is that of the
Temple of Minerva, what remains both of ex-
terior and interior ornaments are more per-
fect and more Compleat than those of Theus

But an English Lord ~~has~~ ^{Lord Agin} lately robb'd it of its principal ornaments; among others, he has taken the neck and head of a Beautifull Horse which is in this Temple; the trunk of the animal remains, which is a handsome figure and well proportioned; but the loss of its neck and head renders its appearance, as may be supposed, awkward, and little resembling what it was originally intended for.

The Temple of Minerva is on the highest Peak of the present City, and Commands a view of every thing else worth seeing; among the most principal are The tomb of Philopappus the Roman Consul, the Pantheon or Jupiter Olympus, The Temple of the Winds; - The place where the ancients performed the celebrated Olympic games. - the Stadium where the Judges sat; and the Rostrum, where the wise men of Greece harangued the people.

all of these places, are comprehended within the view, from the Temple of Minerva; - Modern Athens, is of all cities I have ever seen the most filthy, narrow contracted, and miserable. ~~and~~; The Greeks are mercenary to the Turks, who domineer over them in an austere, and self

important manner; though they are not cruel to
their Slaves if I may so call them, as most Masters
are; they only exact from the Greeks that difference
which they think by being Knights of the Partan or
of the grand Seignior, they are entitled to;— they look
upon those Superstitious Piles erected by the ancients
with the utmost indifference; and from the cir-
cumstance of foreigners taking away all the val-
uable remains of antiquity from their Country, it
may be supposed that they attach no value to
them, the Greeks think them does the greatest man
living; little do they think they are classed among
the most ignorant; So many travellers have of
late taken away nearly all the remains of Sculp-
ture; they have noticed it, and they have paid an
inconsiderate price on them, which probably may
increase if they discover an insatiable desire, in
Christians to obtain them.—

The Country contiguous to Athens is Barren &
has a yellow miserable appearance, nothing
like a Shrub is to be seen on the high Sun
Black Hills; There is a grove of Olive trees
between the Sea and city, which is the only

think looking like a wood, the houses of the Peasants
are scattered here and there, with nothing more, than
a couple of thin foliaged Quince or Olive trees, to shield
it from the almost intolerable heat of a Summers
day; - The Pomegranate is the most plentiful ^{fruit} except-
ing Olives, and an the best I have seen; the quince
is the largest and sweetest I expect in the Country
they drop off in Seize and taste, any thing of the kind
in America, and their peculiar advantage over
all others for preserving, is they are free from
worms - which hardly one in our Country escapes
this distemper. I have not the least doubt, that
if proper attention was bestowed on some of
the Vallies near Athens, the Labourer would be
plentifully rewarded for his trouble. But the in-
habitants are generally so indolent that they will
sit all day, Smoking their pipes, and playing the
game called drafts, without knowing when
they will get their food to satisfy the next de-
mand of their appetite. I shall leave Athens
now and return to the Ship after taking a hasty
and imperfect view of its Curiousities. Our Ship
is now in the very waters that Heracles sailed his fleet

to attack the Grecians; the famous Isle of Salamis
protects us from the Sea, and the plains of Mar-
athon are to be seen but a short distance to the
East. Hence I may draw the Conclusion, that we
are now in the most distinguished Spot recorded
in the Annals of History. Modern writers have dis-
preserved the Name of Colonna ^{which is also in our view} from oblivion.
Falconer was this Shipwreck'd, and his Poem
will perhaps live as long as that of any Author
and will perpetuate his Fame to the latest posterity.

On the 14th of October we sailed from Port Leone
and Bade farewell to Athens, we steered along
the Coast Easterly, as it was our Captains intention
to visit Cape Colonna there being some valuable re-
mains of Antiquity on it, but we were blown out to
Sea by a violent Gale which frustrated our de-
sign, we touch'd again at Mito to land the
Pilot we took from thence, and then start'd for
the Mediterranean, where we safely arriv'd, after
a very dangerous and intricate passage through
numerous Islands, Islets, and Rocks, we anchor'd
in the Port of Syracuse in Sicily on the morning
of the 29th of October, when we found the N. E. Ship

Peacock at Anchor, learned of the death of Capt. Partridge
Commander of the Crew, and Mid. B. Bordini, the former
died a natural death at the U. S. Hospital in
Pisa, Italy, after a painful and lingering sickness
& several months, the latter a worthy young
man was shot by one of his grade in a duel, which
terminated his existence in a few hours after the water

As we found some difficulty in obtaining
Provision at this Place, we sail'd at the following
day, to Messina, where we were admitted
Communication with the Shore, we remained here
till the 11th Nov. when hearing of the Commodore's
arrival at Syracuse, we returned to that place
when we found all of the Squadron, we remained
here several days waiting for the arrival of the frigate
Guerrier, who was expected daily, and on the
we were preparing to sail as a large sail was dis-
covered coming down before the wind which proved
to be the frigate Guerrier, we sail'd for Messina
in Company with the Squadron, leaving the
Guerrier at Syracuse we arrived at Messina
when I rec^d orders to join the U. S. Brig Spaulding
the U. S. Stab being about to sail for America
I join'd her on the 1st of Jan. 1814.

U. States Brig of War 'Spark' of 12
J. J. Nicholson Esq. Comdr.
Messina January the 1st 1819.
On my application to the Commander in Chief to
remain in the Mediterranean, I rec^d orders to
join this vessel, which in Competition with the
other vessels I have said is in quite a
cock boat but she is nevertheless, safe and
commodious, and very well adapted to the
purpose of a despatch vessel for the Mediter-
ranean, which she is at present employed as. I
can have a greater opportunity of seeing the
different parts in the Mediterranean as she is
always under weigh, and another advantage is
that the Captain frequently allows the Midst-
to work ship, whereby they may improve much
towards proficiency in the line of a Sailor, -
she is now nearly ready for sea, with the exception of
a few trifling repairs, we have some upart of
her sailing round the Straits of Sicily, - On the
Commodore Stew and Cam on board in Com-
pany with Capt Crane, the Brig fired a
Complimentary salute to the Commander in
Chief when we got under weigh and also a

out of the Strao of Messina, or in other terms
the Gulf of Charibdays, celebrated for numer-
ous fictitious tales, by the ancient inhabitants of
this Country, among others it being the abode of
the enchanting Sirens whose Charms proved so
fatal to Mariners, that Ulysses, before en-
tering the Gulf caused himself to be tied to
the Mast his mouth closed, and took every
necessary precaution to avoid them by telling
his Men not to obey his orders, when the Sirens
commenced their Song, this precaution proved
very effectual, as when the Symphonies
sounded near his ear, he immediately Order'd
that his Ship shou'd remain in their hearing
but they obey'd his first order and saved
their vessel - This fabulous tale arose from
the Circumstances of its being a very danger-
ous passage to Marinnus, as it is to this day
owing to the astonishing whirlpool which at
all times is dangerous to vessels - but to quit
on with my Journal, we sailed for the
City of Palermo the largest City in Sicily

and one of the most opulent in Europe, it is
the residence of the Viceroy of the Island - we
arrived at Palermo on the _____ when we re-
mained till the _____ but before I take my de-
parture from this place, I shall give a brief
account of what I saw and observed -
Palermo is on the South Side of the Island
of Sicily, and is larger than Messina, it being
the residence of the Viceroy and Sicilian
Nobility, a great number of palaces, and
beautiful Country Seats adorn the City and
its environs, there are also many very handsome
pleasure gardens in and about the City, the
principal palaces are the Viceroy's, and
one or two princes, but the former claims
my attention, as I have not sufficient time to
describe those which are equally elegant, but
they are not the residence of the Present of
Sicily - This palace is in the Country, about
2 miles from the City, situated on a very
high Mount, which commands a very exten-
sive prospect of the Sea, and adjacent
Country, which is truly grand and picturesque

and its local situation, enjoys the great advantage of the Sea Breeze, which not only breathes a wholesome air, but drives all disease from the borders of the ocean, it is built of Marble of a rough grain, the interior furniture is also of Marble, but of a very fine grain - it is ornamented with rich Mosaic, and Alabaster work, to which is added some of the paintings, of all ages, and Busts, executed by the most celebrated ancient, and modern artists, the palace is small, but exquisitely tasteful, it is surrounded by a beautiful garden, of handsome walks, draped with a variety of flowers, Shrub, and evergreen, in the garden, there is a small lagoon, which is as pure as Crystal, in which live a number of Golden Fishes, and a variety of other kinds, which appear to sport in happy mood, in their small, but salutary domain they are shielded from the Sun by evergreen Trees, and in the Summer, by clusters of grapes which forms a complete shadow or canopy over

the Sphere of the Lake; In another part of the
Royal retreat, is a Statue of Ceres, holding in
her hands, Cornu Copia, and many plants, in a
Cave of the Bountiful provided of the Lard,
which is admirably executed by the artist, and
farcifully adapted to its purpose, by the
Turret, being surrounded with a variety of
rich herbs and shrubbery; together with fruits, and
grain, hanging in Copious luxuriance from
the bending boughs. The local Situation of this
Country Seat, together with its ornaments and de-
corations, I should suppose, would fully acc-
ord with the ideas of European Princes, as to Comfort
in the small Sphere, all the variety of rural
Felicity, and all the Splendour attend of Kings
Magnificence, the one calculated to soothe
the mind to tranquillity, while the other excites it
to the ambition of wealth, and foolish pride.
The other palaces of Palermo are numerous and
extensive, but the contracted scale in which
I write will not permit me, to speak more
of other. — The King's Gardens so called is
a public resort for the Nobility and Gentry.

of the place, which is an agreeable, and healthy
retreat, in the afternoon of a Summer day, it
is situated immediately on the Sea shore, which
forms a pleasing view and contrast, a variety
of fruit trees composing an extensive Botani-
cal Garden, are dispersed throughout to its
beauty and advantage, and spacious, wind-
ing walks, bordered with blushing flowers, of
Mellifluous scent, form an interesting retreat
for Man, when the imagination becomes, passive
and wandering, for here you find all classes
of the people at Summer, ^{as} assemble, to inhale
the Sea breeze, and strolling in pleasing
meads, contemplating the 'Beautiful gifts of
the author of Nature' - thus in a great
many States, and Parts, Mountains and Lanes
artificially placed to render the place mag-
nificent and variegated, for a place of
public Resort it certainly surpasses any
thing of the kind I have seen, in Europe
Africa or America -

After sailing from Palermo, we steered for
Marsala a small town at present, and formerly
the ancient Tybemon, mentioned in History as the
Scene of a battle between the Naval power of
Rome and Carthage, but celebrated now only for
its produce or manufactures of the choicest
Wine in the Mediterranean, on our passage
we were compelled by Stuffs of weather to
put into Trapani a small but ancient place
we saw the hill called 'Mount Aery' where
we are told Aneas buried his father Aene-
as, and on its Summit stand the remains
of the ancient City. This famous Cliff of the
Sea is only remarkable at present for its
lofty and rugged appearance. The circum-
stances of our having been driven by storm
from our course, twice before we could
reach Marsala, appeared to be our
our of some bad west, and as the sole
object of this cruise round Sicily, was for
the more private purpose of getting on
for the Commodore, and Commandant, we
began to think that Bacchus had done

with the capture with the complete determination
of preventing us from obtaining the relief
of our money, but after a series of ad-
vances, we surmounted all difficulties by
supplying our little Brig with a cargo of
that 'liberty stuff' and sailed for Mexico
when we found all the Squadron as we left
them: the term of our stay in Port was but of
short duration. My old ship sailed for
America from Mexico but two days before
us and never since I left my Fatherhouse
had my love and attachment extended
from me the tears of real sorrow, it was
a cold dismal day when the flag flew
our little Brig at anchor as far as I
could distinguish the friends and com-
panions of my toil, did they wave their
red handkerchiefs as a token of a long
farewell and to long did I answer them
with reciprocal feelings, - there is something
so deeply affecting in parting with those
with whom you have lived with, loved, and

and suffered, and to part at a time when
im Companions of such worth had just im-
the planted in your bosom a solicitude for their
are happiness in this temporal life of vicissitude
w. that can only be felt by those who have
to participated with all their care and trou-
up- ble, and though you may have had some
or little difference or enmity with some, yet at
the the moment of separation it is all dispa-
a- rated in the suspension of thoughts, which
m is not away like this appear to be connected
the with a retrospect of our lives from the cradle
to the present - when sailors part on
the the ocean it is very dissimilar to the part-
ing of travellers on shore, they are not only
subject to every corporeal disease
which people on shore are, but are always
in such a life of uncertainty and dan-
ger, that they know not what moment
some ill fated stroke might ^{bury} ~~bury~~ them
all in the "dark blue main" but enough of
this very wide domain, when I must build
my house among the crowded City, lest to

Proceeding with my Journal we sailed from
Messina to Gibraltar on the 10th when we
safely arrived after a passage of 20 days. I
got rec^d a letter from my Mother which
contained no bad news. ~~It~~ before we left
Gibraltar the Erie and old U. S. Slat, to
our disappoint ment were come in. Several of
our officers were at this place engaged with
British officers in single combat, it however
ended in our favour. An English man
killed and two wounded and an Amer-
ican is lightly wounded. After completing
the objects of our visit we sailed to the
East & on our passage put into Port Mahon
in the Island of Minorca, from thence in
company with the Erie we sailed for
Palermo in Sicily when we found the object
our, remained two days in Palermo and
put to sea in a tremendous gale of
wind we were beating off the coast for
three days with dark blowy weather, when
we discovered a brig bearing down for us

under a puff of sail, she made a signal
of distress when nearing her we were in-
formed she was sinking, we immediately
gave her a rope from our stern, and made
all sail with her in tow, we towed her
into the harbour of Palermo under very dis-
trussing circumstances, her crew had been
at the pumps for 100 hours successively -
we could only say we had the gratifi-
cation of preserving the lives of 14 of
our fellow creatures, they risking our
selves to great danger; she sunk imm-
ediately after we left her, we proceeded
to sea again in a gale of wind, and though
we saw the Squadron when we were in
sight the old Commodore would not call
us in, we were ordered to proceed to Tunis
in Barbary where we arrived after
encountering several severe storms, we heard
from our Vice Consul at Tunis, that the
American flag was not so respectfully
regarded as formerly, we had no other

than verbal Communication with this place
having understood the plague was raging
with great violence, we sailed from Genoa
for the City of Naples, agreeable to the Com-
modore's orders, our passage was quite pleas-
ant in Comparison to the last, we sailed
along the Coast of Sardinia, Corsica, and
Elba, many other smaller Islands we
passed which made this passage still
more pleasing and diversified, on the night
of the 1st of May we saw the Point of
Mount Vesuvius at the distance of about
10 Miles, on the 2^d of May we got into Naples Bay the
succeeding night, when we had an oppor-
tunity of seeing what modern Travellers
agree in calling "not only the most beau-
tiful and sublime but the grandest and
most awful scene that Nature and
Art exhibit" on the right Mount Vesu-
vius played forth its streams of Lava, in
awful majesty on the left the Bay was
lined with the ruins of departed ages &

The silent grandeur of Roman antiquity, and
immediately in our front was situated the
Beautiful City of Naples, the Capitol of
the Kingdom, and the Modern Rome of
Southern Europe embellished with all the
beauties of an Italian climate & tempered
with the choicest luxuries of the tropical
regions, if it were possible to add another
charm to the scene, it was the appearance
of the American Squadron riding at an-
chor on the Translucent flood & the 'Star
& Spangled Banner' waving aloft exhibiting
at once a scene which an 'Inhabitant
of the regions of Celestial Bliss would not
have passed without a glance of admiration
I had forgot to mention In opening the
Bay, we passed the Island of Capua famous
for the abode of the Roman Emperor Tiberius
who lived here in all the pomp &
splendor of the age, some vestiges of
his palace are still to be seen, which
must have been a mansion of the living
almost as celebrated as the Mausoleum of the

dead. We found in Naples the Emperor of Aus-
tria & suite, on their way to the City of Rome
he remained here about a week or 10 days with
his Factors in Law the old King of Naples during
which time he visited our Squadron twice ex-
pressing the highest admiration, old Ferdin-
mand said to our Commodore in Italian
"That in visiting the English Fl^{ty} which was lying
in the Bay he did not feel himself lost
for words in expressing his opinion, but now
without flattery, I will frankly Confess that
I am not sufficiently master of my own lan-
guage to express my opinion of your
Ship (The Franklin) for I never thought it
possible to bring things of this nature to
such perfection" This of course we all
took as a most unheard of Compliment
being fully convinced that it was the
honest dictate of the old gentleman
Judgment. His Britannic Majesty's Ship
Poictiers of 70 Guns Commanded by Ad-
miral DuRoi was lying in the Bay, he
Commanded in Company with Sir Sidney

Smith of the British Navy visited the
Franklin and spoke of her in the English
Station, in terms of rapture - Sir Sidney
Sauldary remarked that to command the
Franklin in a war with the United States
would be the summit of his wishes, step-
ping along the deck with a conscious pride
it is too well known for me to mention
to here, that he has gained his great
name from being the successful adver-
sary of Napoleon in Egypt - our offi-
cers and them of the English ship, as usual
kept each other at a most respectful
distance which conduct I have very little
doubt was actuated by the same mo-
tives, however our Commodore paid the debt
which he owed to his feelings and to those
of the British Admiral by returning
the visit - they both dined with the
King the next ^{day} by special request, His
majesty was unexpectedly courteous to
the American, as in paying them the

crowded strata in his carriage, he never
failed to notice the American offi-
cers of every grade by a Bow which
was invariably, was followed by a doff
of the Chapeau on their part. The King's
Birth day was celebrated with great pomp
& magnificence on the 1st of July. The approach
of day was announced by a national
salute from the Castle of St. Elmo which
being situated in a very romantic height
over the city had a very noble effect,
& the tremulous flood below, reflected
every blaze of the cannon with a
peculiar beauty. St. Elmo was answered
by the Metropolitan Men of war in the
Harbor & Bay each vessel firing a salute
in order, our Squadron manifested
their regard for the day by hoisting his
Majesty's national flag at the fore.
The celebration ~~of the 1st July~~ was continued
by dances, masquerades, etc. and con-
cluded with the amusements at the Theatre

St. Carlos. which surpassed in Splendor
any thing of the kind I ever saw the Pan-
theon & scenery being inimitable. The
Theatre is doubtless the one of the finest
edifices in Europe its Splendor & size is
not excelled by any thing of the kind.

I never thought it possible to carry the art
of dancing to such perfection, until I
saw the Beautiful King of Naples, for I
declare that in seeing about 50 dancing, some
times one by turns then all together, all alike
in the symmetry of their persons & the Beauty
of dress I imagined myself in the Land of
the Fairies, or translated to some region I
never before had an Idea of. I had al-
most forgot to mention that the choicest
music of the world 'the Royal Band'
spoke in Eloquence too persuasive not
to believe that it had not its share
in raising the soul to such unutterable
delight. There were doubt to be 4000 per-
sons in the Theatre, and at times when
one of the principal musicians would

rain his tuneful violin without any other ac-
companiment, every fibre of the heart seemed
to vibrate in concert with the heavenly tones
the most delightful silence reigned among
the 'Courtly, multitudes' & the soul itself
seemed to beg for "That strain again, it
had a dying fall oh! it came o'er my
ear like the sweet south, when it breathes
upon a bank of violets, stealing & giving
odor." in short I never before had an
idea of the power of music, and am sat-
isfied that it was before unknown to those
who had never before heard this mas-
ter of his art. The evening amuse-
ment concluded with the "magnificent and
the mad" acted in PanTommo. I had
almost forgot in noticing the splendour
of the Theatre that the Emperor of Rus-
sia, the King of Naples & their respec-
tive Suites were not the least of the
objects which attracted the curiosity
of the gazing multitudes; They occupied

Three Boxes, on the second tier near the
Stage being a more slight alttho' not so
conspicuous a situation, as the Crown
Box, immediately in front of the Stage,
I was at a loss to account for the va-
cancy of the Crown Box, until I heard
of the old King being shot sighted &
deaf, & preferred enjoying the opera, more
than sitting off at a distance to be
looked at. The Emperor of Austria, Fran-
cis the first & his beautiful daughter, sis-
ter to the Empress Buonaparte, were so
completely surrounded by Gold Lace
Gentry, that I only had an opportu-
nity of satisfying my self that she
was perfectly beautiful. She was
however dressed in a style, that would
have deceived, had she been otherwise. The
Blaze of her diamonds, beads & dress
etc. seemed to shed a lustre on
the whole audience, and indeed her
modest deportment, which was obvious
to all, entitled her to more favour

than most of the Set, who might be him-
selves situated: We have it Reported
here that the Emperor of Austria is on
his way to Rome, where his unfortunate
daughter Maria Louisa sojourns at pre-
sent, to effect if possible a divorce from
Napoleon, but from his repeated decla-
rations against such an act, it is presu-
mable such a thing will never take place
upon coming out of the Theatre it was
impossible to pass without seeing the mis-
erable beggars which throng'd the Streets
& we found the only method of rid-
ding ourselves of such company, was by sling-
ing Copper among them when the opportunity
to escape would afford itself, when
we got down to the Reach we were
saluted by a party of Beautiful Girls
who were walking on the 'Allanina' to
take the water-cure, to look at the
moor thro' their nets, and for what

other purposes, we took the liberty of
gossiping at; and indeed it would be
a hard matter to gossip wrong, in gossiping
at the object of an Italian Lady, walking
by moonlight, when we all know that at
two sunset in Naples is much the most
pleasant part of the 24 hours. -

To attempt describing every thing I have
seen here is a Task I don't feel any way
competent to undertake, much less willing if
I felt the ability I shall barely mention
that I visited the Tomb of Virgil, the
Latin Poet on Mount Posillipo, the
Palace of elburat the late King of Sta.
Italy at Portici, and every thing else
that my time would allow, when I
get to Sea I may attempt something more,
but until then, I wish to look at the
fire of Mount Vesuvius, which I now
hear rumbling like distant Thunder.
On the evening of the after a stay of a
about a month in the Bay of Naples, a closed
up the fine leading Bruce, accompanied

the Squadron, in their departure from this de-
lightful region of the world, the leaving
of which, forever! I must confess, has exci-
ted in me that feeling, which more prop-
erly belongs to the land of my nativity
we proceeded to sea, in fine order, the
smaller vessels, in front & the majestic
Franklin, brought up the rear, like a
fluffy cloud "sailing upon the bosom of
the air," it is impossible for me to give
an idea of the scene which now display-
ed itself; The shores, the Batteries, the Kings
Gardens, all, & every place that man or
woman could occupy, was thronged to
admire the slow moving majesty, of the
American fleet; every sail that could
be set, was spread before the increasing
Breeze; but day light left us in sight of
the Land, & the fire from usurious shot

a beam of light far o'er the distant main,
which continued in sight until the ap-
proach of morning, disappearing at last
like a faintly glimmering star. The next
morning the Squadron being out of sight
of the Land, steered westerly, and had
a pleasant passage of 5 days to Lib-
rtaea; Hearing of the likelihood of the
Sloop of war Eric's sailing for the U. States
shortly, I applied with the consent of Capt.
Nicholson to the Commander in Chief, for
orders to join that vessel to return to
the U. States, after an absence of two years,
& they were granted me; I joined her
on the 21st day of July 1819. & the same
day Robt. J. Stockton late first Lieut.
was appointed to command her, for the
want of Captains, who were all ar-

reported; by the Commodore, a short time pre-
-vious, concerning a dispute ^{about} ~~concerning~~
the rights of Court's martial & Com-
-mander in Chief - The joyful news
of returning again to the Land of Liber-
-ty, & the central point of all that is
near and dear, inspired us with un-
-common ardour, & activity in the pre-
-paration of our ship for sea, before
the dread approach of stormy win-
-ter; In a few days we were reported
ready for sailing, having laid in an am-
-ple stock of provision & stores of every
-kind for a long & eventful voyage, a
strong westerly wind blowing in vessels
from the Atlantic every day, rendered
it impracticable for us to get under weigh
the wind & current running Eastwardly.

being both against us, put our patience
to the severest test. but a circumstance
happened which prolonged our homeward
trip for 6 months. The westerly wind brought
in the American Merchant Brig Rajah,
who reported herself to have been rob-
bed by a Lawless pirate off the Western
Atlantic Islands, and we were dis-
patched immediately in his pursuit, after
taking on Board the mate of the vessel
robbed, to identify the piratical ves-
sel in case we should be so lucky as
to meet, we got under weigh with
a strong Easterly wind, passed thro
the Straights of Gibraltar, & the next
morning found ourselves, in the At-
lantic ocean, out of sight of the land,
we bent our course, for the western Is-

lands North westerly; Boarding, & Speck-
ing vessels on our passage; but receiving no
satisfactory Intelligence; Continued on our
cruise till 30th July. being in the neighbour-
hood of the Islands discovered several
suspicious sail, upon which we hoisted
Dutch Colours, fired a Gun, & made
all sail in chase of the leewardmost
vessel, overhauled her & her suspicious
appearance, induced the Captain to take
her in tow, for further examination, con-
tinuing the pursuit after the others, com-
ing up with the others, examined them all to-
gether with the Schooner we had in Tow, (who
was very much alarmed thinking she was
in the hands of a pirate) and found them
all properly licenced, a strange sail
was seen the day before by one of them
which answered the description of

o the pirates, steering westerly, upon which
9 we changed our course & steered ac-
a cordingly
a

County of Hendry Virginia County Set:

I hereby nominate Constable and appoint
my self in fact to transfer
my share in the Bank of Kentucky. No 2
to be this 16th day of May
Given under my hand &

Star! how oft dost goodness round itself
And sweet affliction prove the Spring of MOOD!

O Thou pale orb, that silent shinnest,
While can untroubled mortals sleep!
Thou seest a wretch that inly pine,
And wanders here to wail and weep!
With me I nightly vigils keep,
Beneath thy wan, unwarining beam;
And mourn, in lamentation deep,
How life and love are all a dream.

I joyless view thy rays adorn
The faintly marked, distant hill:
I joyless view thy trembling horn,
Reflected in the gurgling rill:
My fondly fluttering heart, be still!
Thou busy power, Remembrance, cease!
Ah! must the agonizing throes
For ever bar returning peace!
No idly figure a poetic pain,
My sad, low-born lamenting strain.

No shepherd's pipe — Arcadian strains;
No Labrad's terrors, quaint and tame;
The plighted faith; the mutual flame;
The oft attested powers above;
The promise father's tender name;
The sacred pledges of my love

Encircled in her clasping arm,
How have the raptur'd moments flown:
How have I wish'd for fortune's charm,
For her dear sake, and hers alone!
And must I think it! is 'tho' gone,
My secret heart's exulting boast?
And does the heaveless hear my groan?
And is 'tho' every, ever lost?

Oh! can she bear to bate a heart,
So lost to honour, lost to truth,
As from the fondest lover part,
The plighted husband of her youth?
Alas! Life's path may be unsmooth!
Her way may lie through rough distress!
Then, who her pangs, and pains will soothe,
Her sorrows share, and make them less?

Of winged hours that over us pass,
Embraced more, the more enjoyed,
Your dear remembrance in my breast,
My fondly-treasured thoughts employed.
That breast, how dreary now, and void,
For her too scanty one of room!
Even every ray of hope destroyed,
And ^{not} a wish to give the gloom!
The morn that warns the approaching day,
Awakes me up to tail and hood:
I see the hours in long array,
That I must suffer, lingering, slow,
Full many a pang, and many a thro',
Keen recollection, blissful train,
Must wring my soul, e'er Phoebe's love
Shall kiss the distant, western maid.
And when my nightly couch I try,
Doree has a bout with care and grief,
My toil-but nerves, and tear-worn eye,
That watches with the nightly thief
Of if I slumber, Fancy, chief,
Quips, hazzard-void, in wild affright:
Even day, all better brings relief
From such a horror breathing night.

O! how bright I find, who o'er the expanse,
Now highest Reign'st, with boundless sway!
Oft has thy silent-marking glance,
Obscured us, fondly-strand'ring, stray!
The time, unheeded, sped away,
While Love's luxurious pulch' bears high,
Beneath thy silver-gleaming ray,
To mark the mutual-kindling eye,
O! scenes in strong remembrance set;
Scenes, never, never to return!
Scenes, if in stupor I forget,
Again I feel, again I burn!
From wry joy and pleasure torn,
Life's noisy vale I'll wander thro';
And hapless, comfortless, I'll mourn
A faithless woman's broken vow.

P. Burns
the Ploughman

P. Tompkins Esq.

2

John Thompson
his son
Mahon
Mahon

Mediteranean

12	150	21
3	30	
<hr/>		
12	180	

B. *manus*

12	180	21
3	30	
<hr/>		
12	210	

England

13 miles in North

John Thompson
5/11 Henry - John

