Dear Bulfin,

Back River, near Hampton July 3° 79

Your kind favor of the 25th did not reach me untill yesterday, I now hasten to answer as soon appears to wish to hear from me. Personally although I write in Pen not being able to sit up but bow to say on my Sort of my Best Wishes is what you would call thinking but to me that have so many debts on the heart and then that by my Countrymen without knowing the Limits of my care it is Scarcely felt. Escort when Obeying the other two are going well for the Conduct of the British War Court in the extreme it is certainly infamous in every Point of View.

And the Manner in which the Government has acted and is about to act does not hold, for Short of it, knowing as they do the transport situation of the Ships Lying here in every Quarter More Still a State than a Man of War, let us say with Professor the Principal officer commanding the Persian a Ships for defense, the Gunners with his Cowardsly and trifling in the Extremes no Bottman no Carpenter and a Scarcity of other wanted Parts deficient or not Obtained never and I Set Sail in a Shipp So totally unprovided to defend in all my Life, the Deaf and Dumb.
was in good order, and this is all that can be said, and in fact it is
all that the Crew had time to attain to, and you know that
since the Piece was Frame, and the lower half Trouble, that
the Training of the Pieces to the knowledge of the service
of the Gun, has been left for the commanders, and this is why
the Men it appears has not been at their Letter two in one,
and that Murphy I am sure to this man in order to
continue the Mr. Bell. One of my informors
himself had done his duty in a terrible way, because for
Lighthof & Reparate for him to see half a man at his side
and at the end of the Trouble to utter in almost every otter.
Their belonged to his division, the young gun that
spent his life in the salt, under my orders order
given in this City. (Lighthof had been once promised in last
officious of my orders). Then you called on him and said Pack
so drawn on this side and do if you can’t get me
own Gun for the honor of the flag, before 1 wrote
it which I am sure to do. Shortly in want and curiosity
my wish to the officer that he thought most fitting, I am it
received and it was by the means that the only gun was sent

Wall up of opinion that at this time there was no man on
the deck and before the colors. Some of them could not be
known for the deck, and a moment know that it was
the Colors, Company to another as from that moment that it was only to be seen
by her experience out of my sight, the two short times passed
on the deck with they knew how to be full to one of
they had been in the Invalid Parion. When they were
it in an unimprint of regular of Camadine Hill send a message
made of them. Mr. I am convinced ever had the use of these
Parion after the first saw was 2400 from the Colors until the
five hours over Mr. Booth all of my encircle and a very
comprehensive figure in the same large, first at a lobby of his eye,
Booth, and command it with his officers and I imagine you had
conclude that one that he had note. He was his Gun for when he
write it, Mr. Greatman commanded the other division and none
Mever one single article out of the command, the Captain had
ever touch his attention out to the five guns in the Colon then was
only for Mr. during the time of the five had not Mr. Great
sent in the request. I am Pardon to believe these could not
been one man. Remaining. Mr. Greatman reports that he
had during the action broken over an out of six division of men but on being called on for his name, he made some plausible excuse for such a fatality he said that man was cut in so many places that he thought he must have been at last then, Allen I am told lost his ground with more of them than any of them but this is all he did for it was out of his division that the one gun boats first he is the most infatuated and the most vindictive person of them all he came to that ship with all the prejudices that his friends and R fand inculcated and were induced to believe that all the reports now in circulation prejudiced to me have originated with him, again say in your letter to my brother that there was some disagreement between my officers and myself about striking the Colossus, believe me that there was no order of mine executed with one kindred to Part of the Abating that this was hard after the Ensign was down which was only done in the order to strike the Colossus, I feared that the Pendant would fly like a kite when all those damn fellows, Barked out to the top men to hold it down, only ask People to Lord know their stuff in the
Project, let the true story come out and then I shall not trust Confederate, the command, my own confidence opposes my mind, had I been prompt and supported I would never have handled down the Chief from the Colonies to the Secession until the damage had but the fate of the door out of the house but on the contrary those very officers who have confined to make favorable impressions upon the General to sit that on being asked by me about the Middle of the action if there was no officer on that desk that thought it his duty to give some orders about securing the property remained as I have before said drum, my attention in the first Part of this letter to the conduct of the Government towards me arises from their Subsidying the Previous De

my pride. Then by saying to the world the dissection history
of his own unmitigated amount was calculated to far all, form disease
the first Infant of the third year I ever knew, I am now unable to write more and now my much esteemed friend, the Colonel must consider this an address to you both jointly, I shall adhere strictly to both your advice what
the more of defence or I have employed Mr. R. Saylor as my
Counsel. He is a man of honor acknowledged by all Parties
Dear Bulles[

Your kind favor of the 25 Ulto did not reach me until yesterday, I now hasten to answer as you appear to wish to hear from me. Personally although I write in pain not being able to sit up but have to lay on my side, my worst wound is what you would call Shaking but to me that have so many darts in the heart and them shot by my Country men without knowing the merits of my case. It is Scarcely felt except when dressing. The other two are getting well fast. The Conduct of the British was cruel in the extreme it is certainly infamous in every point of view, but the manner in which the Government has acted and is about to act towards me does not fall far short of it. Knowing as they do the situation of the ship Lumbers in every quarter more like a transport than a man of war, without, I may say (with propriety) the principle officer necessary to prepare a ship for defense, the gunners worthless Cowardly and trifling in the extreme no boatswain no carpenter and a variety of other necessary persons deficient or not appointed, never did I set sail in a ship so totally unprepared for defense in all my life, the Hull and Rigging was in good order, and this is all that can be said and in fact it is all that the Crew had time to attend to, and you know that since the Peace with France, and the war with Tripoli, that the training of the people to a knowledge of the
Excercise of the guns, has been Left for the outward Bound Passage the Men it appears had never been at their Quarters but once and that mainly to answer to their names in order to Correct the Quarter Bill. if one of my infamous accusers had done his duty in a tolerable way would you suppose it possible for him to be one half hour at his Quarter and at the end of that time to be without almost every article that belonged to his division. the only gun that was fired was set off by a cole of fire from the gally under my express order given in this way. (Capt Hall's Countenance Promised a cool observance of my orders.) I therefore called on him and Said, Hall go down on the gun deck and see if you cant get me one Gun fired for the Honor of the Flag befor I strike it which I intend to do shortly; he went and communicated my wish to the officer that I thought most likely to have it executed and it was by this means that this only gun was fired. Hall is of opinion that at this time there was not 10 men on the Gun deck before the Captain. I never Suffered Capt Gordon to Remain on the Quarter deck a moment I knew that if it was Possible to Recover the People from their Fannick that it was only to be don by his assistance & out of my Sight. the two Smiths that were Quartered on the Quarter deck they would have been as usefull to me if they had been in the infernal Regions where they will go if an abominable design of cowardice will send a man there neither of those men I am confident ever had the
Exercise of the guns, has been left for the outward bound passage the men it appears had never been at their quarters but once and that merely to answer to their names in order to correct the quarter bill. If one of my infamous accusers had done his duty in a tolerable way would you suppose it possible for him to be one half hour at his quarter and at the end of that time to be without almost every article that belonged to his division. The only gun that was fired was set off by a colt of fire from the galley under my express order given in this way. (Capt Hall's countenance promised a cool observance of my orders.) I therefore called on him and said, Hall go down on the gun deck and see if you cant get me one gun fired for the honor of the flag before I strike it which I intend to do shortly; he went and communicated my wish to the officer that was most likely to have it executed and it was by this means that this only gun was fired. Hall is of opinion that at this time there was not 10 men on the gun deck before the Boat. I never suffered Capt Gordon to remain on the quarter deck a moment I knew that if it was possible to recover the people from their Pannick that it was only to be don by his assistance & I had kept them out of my sight. The two smiths that were quartered on the quarter deck they would have been as useful to me if they had been in the infernal regions where they will go if an abominable design of cowardice will send a man there neither of those men I am confident ever had the
use of their Reason after the first gun was fired from the Leopard until the fire was over. Mr Brook also one of my accusers cut a very conspicuous figure in the Same Way. Look at a Copy of his Logg (forwarded to the office by me) Book, and compare it with his charges and I imagine you will conclude with me, that he had not Recovered his Senses when he wrote it. Mr Graton Commandes the after division and never moved one Single article out of it. not even the Cabin Bulkhead [?] ever struck his attention and to the two guns in the Cabin there were only four men during the time of the fire, had not Mr Eliot been in this division I have Reason to believe there would have not been one man Remaining. Mr Crain Reported that he had during the action thrown overboard out of his division 3 men but on being called on for their names, to make Some Plausible excuse for such a falsity he said, that man, was cut into so many pieces that he thought there must have been at least three. Allen I am told stood his ground with more obstinancy than any of them but this is all he did; for it was out of his division that the one gun was fired he is the most infamous and the most Vindicative Rascal of them all he came to that Ship with all the Prejudices that his friend Comdr H could inculcate and I am induced to believe that all the Reports now in circulation Prejudicial to me have originated with him.
You say in your letter to my Brother that there was some disagreement between my officers and myself about Striking the Colors. believe me, that there was no order of mine executed with one hundredth Part of the Alacrity that this was only Ensign was hauled down which was done on the order to Strike the Colours, I observed that the Pennant was still flying when all those heretofor dum fellows, Balled out to the topmen to hall it down. I only ask People to Suspend their opinions for the Present. Let the true story come out and then I shall meet, with confidence, the consequences, my own conscience approves my conduct had I been Prepared and Supported I would never have hauled down the Chesapeake Colors to the Leopard until the damage had put the fate of the day out of Question but on the contrary those very officers who have contrived to make impressions favorable to themselves were so petrified[?], that on being asked by me (about the middle of the action) if there was no officer on that deck that thought it was his duty to give some orders about Securing the Rigging Remained as I have before said dum, my allusions in the first part of the letter to the Conduct of the Government towards me arrises from their [?], me Previous[?], to my trial then by Saying to the World he disapproves his conduct by his own account which account was calculated to save all from disgrace. It is the first
You say in your letter to my Brother that there was some disagreement between my officers and myself about Striking the colors. believe me, that there was no order of mine executed with one hundredth Part of the Alacrity that this was after the Ensign was hauled down which was[done on the order to Strike the Colours, I observed that the Pennant was still flying when all those heretofor dum fellows, Balled out to the topmen to hail it down. I only ask People to Suspend their opinions for the Present. Let the true story come out and then I shall meet, with confidence, the consequences, my own conscience approves my conduct had I been Prepared and Supported I would never have hauled down the Chesapeakes Colors to the Leopard until the damage had put the fate of the day out of Question but on the contrary those very officers who have contrived to make impressions favorable to themselves ware so petrified[7] that on being asked by me (about the middle of the action) if there was no officer on that deck that thought it was his duty to give some orders about Securing the Rigging Remained as I have befor said dum, my allusions in the first part of the letter to the Conduct of the Government towards me arrises from their [super[ing] me Previous[7] to my trial then by Saying to the World he disapproves his conduct by his own account which account was calculated to save all from disgrace. It is the first
Instance of the kind I ever knew. I am now unable to write more and you and my much Esteemed friend the Colonel must consider this addressed to you both jointly. I shall adhere strictly to both your advice with Respect to the mode of defense as I have employed Mr A Taylor as my Counsil he is a man of Honor acknowledged by All Partys.