

Gibraltar 27th October 1815

My Ever Dear Marcy

I commenced writing to you yes=
=terday when most unexpectedly Commodore Bainbridge
got his whole fleet underway – I was obliged to
close my letter without saying anything that I
had to say and with much difficulty got it onboard
the Brig commanded by Lieut Jack Nicholson – I
confided it to him particularly and he promised
me to put it in the post office at the first port
I should arrive at and to call and see you on
his arrival at Baltimore – it is under cover to
Mr Mosher and contains a bill set of bills of
Exchange for [?100] fearing the /any acci=
=dent should arrive to Lieut Nicholson or his Brig
I send you a ‘fourth of exchange’ of the same bills so
that no disappointment may arrive to you
as Mr Mosher will get you the money for which
ever arriving first – Commodore Decatur came in

in last evening as Bainbrige went out he sails
this evening and by him sent the present letter
they say that is was the cause of B's sudden departure

I have sent the Gen Scott to Bordeaux
there to load with wines &c for Norfolk
will get home safe but for myself I would not
cross the ocean in her for all the riches of the
universe – coming out have I often expected never
again to put my foot on dry land therefore
shall not again trust her with my person

I have got a rheumatism that affects me
much which I charge to what I underwent
in her last winter – it attacks me in spasms
in the left hip knee and ankle it will fly
from the one to the other like lightning sometime
it will make me quite lame- and again wont
have it for a week – I have ^tryed every nostrum that
that everyone prescribes without relief – I've
had a trifling affection of the Bowels but not

not very bad and my appetite is much better
than used formerly to be as I live uniformly on
eggs for breakfast and Mutton for dinner
no supper or tea-

As there are a great number of
fine comfortable vessels at Bordeaux I shall choose
among them over on board of which I shall be
comfortable on the [winter] coast and of
which I shall inform you from there – I go from
this to Marseilles and from that place shall go by
land to Bordeaux – I shall go up in the Constellation
with Capt Gordon – I sent you a dress of [Bombazen]
by Mr Hamell of Philadelphia with a couple of dresses
for my dear Amelia & Mary who I am sure will
deserve them ^by their attention to their studies-
I shall not be disappointed when I get home in
the progress they have made in arethmatic
Geography French and Music prepare to
their finishing their education which I hate
to effect without being ashamed of them

In

In France for to be admitted into the first
boarding schools in Paris they might be already
prepared for the fine polish which is there
given to female education and which fits
the lady for polished lovely in any part
of the world – I also sent up Mr Hamel
a government bill for L 100 Sterling which I
Lieut Nicholson I hope will keep you easy
and comfortable while I get home or you hear
from me – to contribute by every [?] in
my power to your happiness is ^the summit of
all my wishes – the end of all my toil
to make you happy and blessed with our[?]
ofsbring to toil is pleasure

I cannot describe to you the great
transport I feel on the receipt of the dear
[?] lines I have this moment put into my
hands from you dated the 30th June – with an

endorsed direction from Barney to Bernard
Henry – most sincerely do I thank Mr Mosher
and Mr Dorsey for ^their attention – they
place me under a life of obligation to
them and I hope yet to be able to ma=
=nifest to them ^my sensibility of them-My sweet children
Kiss them and tell them how dearly their
Father doats on them and believe that
with them you my sweet angel occupy all
the thoughts of your ever loving husband

And affectionate friend

JFKennedy

Mrs Marcia Kennedy
Care of James Mosher
Baltimore