

and made a note of the results. It was found that the old shot, or those with which the ships were supplied at the commencement of the war of 1812, were comparatively lighter than those which had been cast at a later day; but in no instance was an American shot even then found of full weight. On the other hand, the English shot were uniformly of accurate weight. Some of the American 32 pound shot, weighed but 30 pounds; and a gentleman present on the occasion, assured the writer that, a few years earlier, he had met with many which did not much exceed 29 pounds. The heaviest weighed was 31 pounds 3 ounces. An average of four, all of which were of the later castings, gave 30 pounds 11 ounces. The average of the 18 pound shot was about 17 pounds; but, it was understood, as this examination occurred several years after the peace, that the shot, as well as the guns, were then materially better than they had been previously to and during the war.

The reader will bear in mind that twelve French pounds make nearly thirteen English. Thus, while the gun-deck batteries of *l'Insurgente* were nominally twelves, the shot weighed about 13 pounds. On the other hand, the gun-deck batteries of the *Constellation* were nominally twenty-fours, but the shot probably weighed about 22 pounds.

In the action with *la Vengeance*, the two ships had the same nominal weight of metal on their gun-decks, viz. eighteen pounders. But the eighteen-pound shot of the *Vengeance* must have weighed nearly 19½ English pounds, while those of the *Constellation* did not probably weigh 17 pounds, if indeed they weighed more than 16 pounds.

It has been asserted that the English shot were over-weight, but the writer weighed a good many himself, and he found them all surprisingly accurate.

### NOTE C.

*List of the Officers of the Navy, before the Peace Establishment Law of 1801 was passed.*

#### CAPTAINS.

John Barry,	Samuel Barron,
Samuel Nicholson,	Moses Brown,
Silas Talbot,	Moses Tryon,
Richard Dale,	Richard Derby,
Thomas Truxtun,	George Little,
James Sever,	John Rodgers,
Stephen Decatur,	Edward Preble,
Christopher R. Perry,	John Mulloony,
Richard V. Morris,	James Barron,
Alexander Murray,	Thomas Baker,
Daniel M'Niell,	Henry Geddes,
Thomas Tingey,	Thomas Robinson,