

That several persons have since been empowered to make enquiries, whether the ransom agreed upon by Mr. Lamb, might not be reduced ; but all attempts of that sort have hitherto proved ineffectual. The Regency declaring, that the contract made by the agent on the part of the United States, ought to be discharged.

That owing to the melancholy situation to which we are reduced, one of us, James Harriett, has been deprived of his senses by the Almighty; to make him insensible of his situation as a victim ; and is, these three years, confined in a cell in chains. The rest of us have been left destitute these three years ; and in this deplorable situation, many of us have resisted the temptation of the Regency to enter into their service, which might be attended with remorse, and a great detriment to our country—we trusting in the justice and humanity of our country to extricate us from slavery.

We have repeatedly petitioned Congress without effect : At first we were informed, that Mr. Lamb would redeem us ; next, that the United States were poor, and that they were forming their government ; next, that a subscription would be set on foot for our release ; next, that the United States were rich, and would make a peace, and redeem us ; next, that our redemption concerned the peace. In April last, Congress commissioned to try for a peace. The Dey prescribed his terms more favourable than the peace of the Danes, Swedes, or Venetians ; or even, than the Dutch had. We now hear that Congress has rejected the peace with Algiers, and given us up as victims determined not to redeem us ; thus having suffered an ignominious captivity of eight years.

We pray you will consider what our sufferings must have been, during this long period of captivity : Three times surrounded by the plague ; which has numbered five of our brother sufferers in the bills of mortality. The rest of us seem destined to share the same fate.

The plague, that tremendous and fatal disorder, at present is raging in this city, and it seems, that we are to be its victims. We are on the verge of eternity ; therefore, we beg of the citizens of the United States, in the name of the Almighty and our Saviour, who died to redeem us all, that our country will adopt some plan to extricate us from this city of human misery ; and we shall ever pray and be thankful.

Fellow Citizens, your most humble Petitioners,

The under-written Crew of the ship Dauphin, of Philadelphia, belonging to Messrs. Matthew and Thomas Irvin :

	Dollars.
Richard O'Brien, Master, at	4000
Andrew Montgomery, mate, at	3000
Philip Sloan, at	1400
Peleg Lorin, at	1400
James Hull, at	1400
Jacobus Tiffanier, at	4000
William Patterlon, at	3000

Spanish Dollars, 18,200
Crew