

Com. Dale*, and Com. Truxtun, with the dismissals

childless and greatly respected, September 18th, 1803, in the city of Philadelphia, where he had made his home, from the time of his arrival in the country, and where he had married.

* Richard Dale was born in the year 1757, at a short distance from Norfolk, in the colony of Virginia. He went to sea young, and was mate of a vessel in 1775. After serving a short time irregularly, Mr. Dale joined the United States brig Lexington in July 1776, as a midshipman. When the Lexington was taken by the Pearl, Mr. Dale was left in the brig, and he was active in her recapture. The succeeding year he sailed, as a master's mate, in the Lexington, was in her, in her cruise round Ireland, and was captured in her by the Alert, after a long action. Mr. Dale escaped from Mill Prison in February 1778, was retaken in London, and sent back to confinement. For an entire year he remained a captive, when he escaped a second time, and succeeded in reaching France. Here he joined the celebrated squadron fitting under Paul Jones, an officer who soon discovered his merit, and made him first lieutenant of his own ship, the Bon Homme Richard. The conduct of Mr. Dale in that capacity, is recorded in the text. After the cruise in the squadron he went through the British channel with his commander in the Alliance, 32, and subsequently came to America with him in the Ariel, 20, in 1780. Mr. Dale was not yet twenty-three years old, and he appears now to have first obtained the commission of a lieutenant in the navy from the government at home, that under which he had previously acted having been issued in Europe. Mr. Dale was appointed first lieutenant of the Trumbull, 28, in which ship he served in her action with the Iris and Monk, when the Trumbull was taken. He was made a prisoner a second time, of course, but he was shortly after exchanged.

Mr. Dale does not appear to have served any more, in public vessels, during the war of the Revolution; but in 1794, he was commissioned as the fourth captain, in the present marine. Cap-