

F.

SEA-LETTERS AND CERTIFICATE OF CARGO.

[I.—SEA-LETTER OF THE COLUMBIA, FROM THE FEDERAL AUTHORITIES.]

To all Emperors, Kings, Sovereigns Princes, States and Regents, and to their respective officers, civil and military, and to all others whom it may concern:

I, George Washington, President of the United States of America, do make known, that Robert Gray, Captain of the ship called the *Columbia*, of the burden of about two hundred and thirty tons, is a citizen of the United States; and, as I wish that the said Robert Gray may prosper in his lawful affairs, I do request of all the before-mentioned, and each of them, separately, where the said Robert Gray shall arrive with his vessel and cargo, that they will be pleased to receive him with kindness, and treat him in a becoming manner; permitting him, on the usual tolls and expenses, in passing and re-passing, to navigate, pass, and frequent their ports, passes, and territories, to the end, that he may transact his business where, and in what manner, he shall judge proper; and, thereby, I shall consider myself obliged.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the seal of the United States to be affixed to these presents, and have hereunto set my hand, at the city of New York, the sixteenth day of September, in the year of our Lord,

[L.s.] one thousand, seven hundred and ninety.

By the President:

G. WASHINGTON.
TH. JEFFERSON.

[II.—SEA-LETTER OF THE COLUMBIA, FROM THE STATE AUTHORITIES.]

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

By His Excellency John Hancock, Esq., Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. To all who shall see these presents, greeting:

It is hereby made known, that leave and permission has been given, by the Naval officers, to Captain Robert Gray, Master and Commander of the ship *Columbia*, now lying at Boston, within this State, to depart from thence, and proceed, with his ship and cargo, on a voyage to the North-west coast of America; and that the said ship and cargo belong to Joseph Barrell, Esquire, and others, gentlemen of character and reputation, citizens of this Commonwealth, being one of the thirteen United States of America.

Now, in order that the said Master may prosper in his lawful affairs, it is earnestly requested and recommended to all who may see these presents, at whatever port and place said Master, with his vessel and cargo, may arrive,

that they would please to receive him, the said Master, with goodness; afford him all such aid and assistance as he may need; and to treat him in a becoming manner, permitting him, upon paying the usual expenses in passing and re-passing, to pass, navigate, and frequent the ports, passes, and territories, wherever he may be, to the end that he may transact his business where, and in what manner, he shall judge proper, he keeping and causing to be kept, by his crew, on board, the Marine Ordinances and Regulations of the place where he is trading.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Commonwealth aforesaid, this twenty-fourth day of September, A. D. 1790, and [L.s.] in the fifteenth year of the independence of the United States of America.

JOHN HANCOCK,

By his Excellency's command:

JOHN AVERY, Jr., Secretary.

[III.—CERTIFICATE OF THE CARGO OF THE COLUMBIA.]

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

District of Boston and Charlestown, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

These certify all whom it may concern, that Robert Gray, Master and Commander of the ship *Columbia*, burden two hundred and twelve tons or thereabouts, navigated with thirty men, mounted with ten guns, has permission to depart from this Port with the following articles, viz: two thousand bricks, six chaldrons sea-coal, one hundred and thirty-five barrels beef, sixty barrels pork, three hog-heads N. E. rum, two hog-heads W. I. rum, five hog-heads molasses, five barrels sugar, ten boxes chocolate, two hundred and twenty-eight pounds coffee, seventy-two pounds Bohea-tea, six casks rice, twenty barrels flour, twenty-seven thousand pounds bread, six firkins butter, five hundred pounds cheese, thirty barrels tar, thirteen barrels pitch, thirty packages of merchandise, six tons bar-iron, twenty hundred bar-lead, fifteen hundred pounds gunpowder, three hundred pounds small shot.

Given under our hands and seals, at Boston aforesaid, the twenty-fifth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety.

R. LINCOLN, Collector. [L. s.]

JAMES LOVELL, Naval Officer. [L. s.]

G.—CORRESPONDENCE OF THE GOVERNMENT WITH THE OWNERS OF THE SHIPS.

BOSTON, November 28, 1816.

Sir: In consideration of a desire expressed