

I as he had failed to do so in a former instance  
I requested his early decision, that should  
he have any objection, I might myself  
communicate with it upon this head.

It affords me great satisfaction to have  
the explanation you have given relative to  
the British prisoners held in the Carolinas  
and in Georgia; but I have to request  
that not any British prisoners of war  
which do not belong to the West Indies  
carried into any ports of the United States  
may be ever sent in Carrels to any part  
out of the limits of my command.

I observe by the American papers that  
Captain Porter, the officers and crew of the  
late United States Frigate *Essex* have been  
declared absolved from their parole and  
free to serve in consequence of an order  
issued by the British Government.

It is my duty to remark that the  
circumstances under which Captain  
Porter and his crew have been permitted  
to return to the United States differ very  
widely from those under which releases  
have been granted on the ground of their  
alluded to, and which I believe you were  
aware was given to prevent the irregularity  
that at one period were, unfortunately, committed  
by persons being landed or released  
upon parole by those who had no authority  
for so doing. The officers and crew of the  
were sent from a foreign port for their  
own country in an irregular manner  
and established at such by Captain  
Porter dated 5<sup>th</sup> April 1800. I have  
been with relief.

