

Lyme April 8 AD 1814 64

To the officer commanding the detachment of
his Britannick Majesty's Marine forces now
gone against the shipping lying near the
mouth of Connecticut River

Sir,

To avoid the effusion of human blood
is the desire of every honorable man,

The number of forces under my command are
increased so much as to render it impossible

for you to escape. I therefore suggest to you the
propriety of surrendering your selves prisoners
of war by that means prevent the consequence
of an unequal conflict which must otherwise
ensue. Captain Charles Harrison is the
bearer of this dispatch & will receive your
communication.

I am Sir with sentiments of the highest
esteem your most obedient servant

(Signed) Marsh Ely. Major
Commanding the forces at Lyme
Saybrook

W B an immediate answer is expected

A copy verbatim

Nich. Corti