

to by

Navy Department
6 May 1873

Sir—

I am much satisfied with the progress you have made in the equipment of the Chesapeake, and trust this will find you ready for sea. In this expectation the following outline is intended to designate your Cruise, which, if pursued with vigorous vigilance I am persuaded will result as ^{well} to your honor and advantage than to the advancement of the great object of War. It is impossible to conceive a Naval Service of a higher order in a national point of view than the Capture and destruction of the Enemy's Store Ships with Military and Naval stores destined for the supply of his armies in Canada and fleets on this Station; and the Capture of Transports with troops intended to reinforce Canada, or invade our own shores. With this view no position can be better chosen than the range of the Coast of Nova Scotia, and the entrance of the Gulf of St. Lawrence continuing about this ground until the latter part of June; then thro' the Gulf of St. Lawrence and Straits of Belle