

done in case of a failure of Batteries & 16 Sept 78
agreeable to your order Capt
ridgely proved the hardness that has been
mentioned by the writer. The proof was agreeable
to the questions and ~~the~~ of the two limited the
fire.

Capt. Ridgely reported to me: that he observed
flaws or defects either in metal or the casting
which enabled him to point out those that would
and did burst in proving - They burst into so
many pieces and fly such an immense distance
as to endanger the lives of the boatmen & craftsmen
going in and out of the Harbour. we shall have
- fore prove the remainder at the furnace. the last
of this week - They generally burst in the
Chamber & in one instance the thickest part of
the breach in the bottom of the Chamber blew to
pieces -

The Owners of the Schooners are very extravagant
in their demands on which subject I presume
Mr. Bratty has written you to day. but I am still
in hopes I shall be able to close that business
this week, when I shall be in readiness to proceed
to Norfolk -

The Owners of the Norfolk packets since the
Blockade have generally made their trips to