

7th 28. - Constable Norfolk
7th Sept 1814

Sir,

I am sorry to have to inform
you the death of Lieut. Drayton -
He has lingered since last Jan. & died
on Tuesday last - He was buried in the church
yard at Norfolk with the honors due
his rank; The funeral is settling his acc^t
& collecting his effects, a statement of
which will be forwarded to his friends
in South Carolina -

While the numerous fleet of the enemy
are engaged in their war of destruction
of the navy, but one ship of the line is kept
in the blockade at the Cape. It would therefore
be gratifying to know if it is your intention
should embrace the first opportunity
to proceed to sea - My ship is again
re-fitted for 5 months with a crew of
near 300 new recruits or recruitments, &
the remainder of old hands who have 6.
& 12 months to serve - I have but 3 Com-
missioned Lieut. with 3 other officers of
the next grade on whom I can have
confidence - All the others being