

I enclose the estimate of Adam & Noah Brown for her
hull 69,500 f.
My estimate for her Engine and Machinery . . . 78,000.
147,500 f.

You can best judge of the expense of coppering her and her arma-
ment, which, if 35,000, will make her total cost \$82,800
but as you have the Guns and copper, it will not require this
expenditure in money. —

What you observe of the keels is correct, for steam vessels
never make leeway, and it certainly is important to have her
as shallow a draught of water as possible, but if I have calcula-
ted her total weight correctly and displacement of tons of
salt water she will draw, from 8 to 9 feet; On conversing
yesterday with Commodore Decatur and Capt. Jones, they
are of opinion that her sides above the water line, five feet thick,
will be sufficient, because having the power of motion in
every direction, she can take any position or range, of from
600 to 5000 yards, where all her red hot shot would strike;