

Captain's Letter
Tingey to Jones
August 27, 1814

(5)

any sort of probable conjecture, either of the proceedings & situation of our Army - or that of the Enemy. Determining therefore to have a positive knowledge of some part thereof, from
----- demonstration, I again embarked in the gig, proceeding ~~with~~ with due caution to the yard - where I learned with chagrin the devastations and pillage before mentioned - and found also to my surprise that the old Gunboat, which had been loaded with provisions and had grounded in endeavouring to get out of the Branch on the evening of the 24th, was nearly discharged of her cargo, by a number of our people without connexion with each other.

Having landed in the yard, I soon ascertained that the Enemy had left the city - excepting only a serjeant's guard for the security of the sick and wounded. Finding it impracticable to stem the scene of plunder that had commenced, I determined instantly (on repossessing the yard ~~with~~ with all the force at my command repairing therefore immediately to Alexandria; Lieut. Haraden, the ordinary men and the few marines there were ordered directly up; following myself, and got full possession again at evening.

I am now collecting the scattered & pilloined provisions ready for your orders, presuming they will now become very scarce indeed - the quantity saved you shall be informed when known to me.

The Lynx is safe, except her foremast being carried away in the storm of the 25th - about 4 PM! - We have also another of the Gunboats with about 100 barrels of powder; and one of the long yard-cutters, nearly full with the filled cylinders, for our different previously mounted, the powder of