

It had been my intention, not to leave the vicinity of the yard with my boat, during the night, but having Captⁿ Brighton, and other gentlemen with me, she was too much encumbered and overladen, to render that determination proper. We therefore proceeded to Alexandria, in the vicinity of which I rested till the morning of the 25th when, having also refreshed the ^{horses} ~~higs~~ crew we left Alexandria at a past 7 o'clock, and proceeded again up to the yard, where I landed unmolested about 2 1/2 before noon.

The Schooner Lynx, had laid along-side the burning wharf, still unhurt - Hoping therefore to save her, we hauled her to the quarter of the hull of the New York, which had also escaped the ravages of the flames.

The detail issuing store, of the Navy store keeper, had remained safe from the fire during the night, which the Enemy (being in force in the yard) about 8 o'clock set fire to, and it was speedily consumed. It appeared that they had left the yard, about a hour when we arrived. I found my dwelling house, and that of Lieut. Haraden untouched by fire - but some of the people of the neighbourhood had commenced plundering them - therefore, hastily collecting a few persons known to me, I got some of my most valuable materials moved to neighbour's houses, out of the yard, and tendered me their offer to receive them, the enemy's officers having declared private property sacred - Could I have stayed another hour I had probably saved all my furniture and stores but being advised by some friends that I was not safe, they believing that