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but guilty of neglect of duty, in not doing
his utmost to aid in capturing the Shannon, by animating
and encouraging in his own example the inferior officers
to fight courageously and in denying the use of coercive means
to prevent the desertion of the men from their quarters to return
to their duty.

Of the fourth charge for unofficer-like conduct,
the court find the prisoner guilty, in that, while the enemy
was boarding or attempting to board the Frigate Chesapeake
the prisoner accompanied his disabled commander, James
Lawrence Esquire from the quarter deck, where his presence
and command were essential to animate and direct the
Chesapeake's crew in repelling the boarders of the enemy,
and sentenced him to be cashiered with a perpetual in-
capacity to serve in the Navy of the United States.

Stephen Decatur

President of the Court

Thos. O. Selfridge

Judge Advocate

Approved

James Madison

By the same court and at the same place, Midshipman
James W. Forrest was tried on the following charges &
specifications thereof.

Charge 1.

Desertion and neglect of duty.

Specification. In that he deserted his quarters
on board the United States frigate Chesapeake, in time of
action with the enemy's vessel Shannon and did not
return to them but went below and there continued during
the remainder of said action.

Charge 2.

Drunkenness.

Specification. In that after the capture of the
said frigate by the enemy, and during the detention of the
officer and crew thereof as prisoners of war, in Halifax
he was frequently intoxicated.

In which charges & the prisoner pleaded not
guilty.

On the 29th of April 1814 the court met pursuant
to the order of the President.