

The greatest advantages would be derived by the frigates, if a small fast sailing schooner with them as a tender; it would facilitate the procuring supplies, and prevent often the necessity of putting the frigate to great hazard: my plan therefore, would be to attach to each of the frigates, a vessel of that description, calculated to carry six or eight light guns, in the first instance could be put in the hold, the schooner then stowed full of provisions and stores, with a sufficient number of men to navigate her, and to proceed from the United States and keep company with the frigate. But in case of separation to proceed to a fixed rendezvous, which each commander would fix on; and when they were relieved sufficiently from their cargo, they could mount their guns, and be officered and manned from the frigate, and cruise with her, and on all occasions would do away the necessity of the frigates going into port for supplies. There are other advantages to be derived from them; in case of capturing valuable property they would be the means of securing it on some desolate island until the cruise was over. I will here beg leave to illustrate this objection, by observing, how useful such a vessel would have been to Commodore Bainbridge; as all the valuables on board the frigate Java could thereby have been saved to the government.