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United States Frigate Constellation off Norfolk

Sunday Night March 28. 1813

Sir

The look out boat has just returned and the Officer states, that the Enemy's Squadron in Hampton roads, consisting of six ships of war, got under way about 4 o'clock this afternoon and stood down the bay towards Lynnhaven; they weighed in the height of a squall to cover their movement and the weather was thick and rainy.

It is stated by some that they were in want of water, but this appears improbable as they have not been long from Bermuda; it is also stated that the movement they made with one of their frigates and tenders up James river was for the purpose of procuring water, but that their tenders grounded about forty miles up and they were obliged to destroy them. I shall send the Franklin tender down in the morning to reconnoitre and remove their buoys.

I have the honor to be

Respectfully, Sir

Your obedient servant

ble. William Jones,
Secretary of Navy.

C. B. Stewart