

Walter one of the African
1848
19/13

Dear Sir,

I am under the painful necessity
of reporting to you the murder of George
Rentick late a private in the Marine corps
& composing one of the guard at this place -
He was shot by Ebenezer M. Elroy, another
private Marine of the same guard, who was
a sentinel on post at the time between the
tours of 8 & 10 last evening -

John Bennett & Jacob Coats, of the same guard,
were witnesses to the transaction, & report in
substance, that they heard at the Guard room
door some harsh words pass between the deceased
& the sentinel; And, that on leaving the sentinel
ordered the deceased (who it appears was intoxicated)
into the house, one of said witnesses went to
the door & persuaded the deceased to come in,
who on entering the door cursed the sentinel,
upon which said sentinel discharged his piece
the contents of which passed through the body
of the deceased who died this morning at 7
o'clock - I have therefore confined said
Ebenezer M. Elroy under the charge of murder
until I shall receive your further orders
The Sergeant Commanding the Guard has
ever assured to me a very correct & faithful