

1813
United States Frigate Constellation
Off. Norfolk. April 15. 1813

Sir

With extreme sorrow I have to inform you, that
this Ship's first cutter proceeding on service with fifteen
men, Lieutenant Biggs, Master-mate La Roche, and
Midshipman Phillips was overset not far from the Ship.
Lieut. Biggs and Midshipman Phillips were unfortunately
drowned; the boats succeeded in saving the rest. It is
much to be regretted that those Officers, who bid fair to be
an ornament to their Country, should meet a fate so
distressing. We are grappling for their bodies, but they have
not yet been found.

I have the honor to be

Very Respectfully Sir

Your obedient Servant.

J. L. Stewart

Honble. William Jones

Secretary of Navy