

5 June 1813

Esq. and son
John Barr

June

U. S. S. Potomac Mouth of
Potomac 6th June 1813

Since my last communication dated
at this place this day week, I have been cruising
between the 8th and 10th miles from the mouth of the
Potomac, taking a view of the fleet, that from a line
of communication from New Point, down to
the Cape. We are compelled to approach the
fleet very near to get a view of them all
down to the Cape, where we can discover a Rear
Admiral's flag, which I presume is Cockburn.
On Wednesday last I stood within 4 miles of a
Frigate with two of my Schooners & went on
to observe their movements & to draw if pos-
sible the Brig & Schooner that lay near her
after us. They made no movement, except
I presume, to draw us within gun shot of the
ship. Having a fresh wind up & a good op-
portunity for a chase, I at 2 P.M. made the
signal & bore up ^{with} the whole Squadron together,
under a press of canvas to try if the ship in-
tended to chase, but no movement whatever
was made, except by a ship in Lynnhaven
that stood up with every thing set.

I stood on & anchored that night upon the
bar where we lay becalmed 24 hours. Eight
negro men women & children came off to us