

Maria B. Cobb, Capt.
West Gouldsboro
Maine

Flag Ship Constitution
Porto Praya May 29th 1854.

My Dear Sister

How endearing that name, yet who for a moment would think such a thought ever entered the mind of this wanderer, who forsakes the happy fireside, and the approving smiles of all those who wish him well, to rove over the boundless deep, and particularly on this barren and inhospitable Coast, with nothing but rain, heat and negroes, to break the dull monotony of this every day life, Oh! it is insufferable, but never mind better days in store, and I for one shall know how to appreciate them, but why do I moralize, I have sung the same song so often, that I almost despair of ever conquering this roving disposition; Oh! for a tie to bind me to the shore, when I could bask in the sunshine of conjugal bliss, but if I live and spring comes, take care of your hearts Down East Ladies, for I am about to cast my all upon the stake, sink or swim. Well, enough of all this non-sence, and I will try since.

We are now waiting for the store ship to arrive from Boston, and I am in hopes there is a letter from some of the family, not having heard from any one for 14 months, to day, after her arrival we proceed on a cruise down the coast returning next Fall and we shall probably be at home in the winter or early spring.

I have recently been appointed to the confidential situation of Commodore's Clerk. the office is a complete sinecure, but for that I find no fault, for the pay is good. I am in the best of health. Remember me kindly to all inquiring friends and believe me Dear Sister your affectionate and Wandering Brother. Edward Cobb.

U.S.S. Constitution Letter

This letter was written by Edward Cobb, a crew member on the U.S.S. Constitution in 1854, to his sister, Maria (Cobb) Taft, who lived in West Gouldsboro.