



THE MARINERS MUSEUM Newport News, Va. 23606

Executive Director — Rear Admiral George Dufek, USN, (Ret.) • Area Code 703 - 595-0368

May 7, 1968

Mr. Jerry MacMullen
3659 Van Dyke Avenue
San Diego, California 92105

Dear Mr. Mac Mullen:

In Richard J. Cleveland's "Voyages of a Merchant Navigator..." p.71, Shaler and Cleveland purchased at Hamburg "the brig LELIA BYRD of Portsmouth, Virginia, a staunch, fast sailing vessel of 175 tons with good capacity for carrying and very comfortable accommodations."

We cannot find any reference to date and place of building or names of original owners.

In Hubert Howe Bancroft's "History of California", v. 2, p.10-14, considerable space is devoted to the San Diego incident. A footnote on p.10 reads "April 1, 1801, papers of the LELIA BYRD, 74 tons (but 175 tons according to Cleveland) under Capt. Forsyth, with a crew of nine, signed Colonial Secretary Jefferson, at Norfolk, Va."

Unfortunately there are no Norfolk ship records and we cannot find mention of the LELIA BYRD elsewhere.

Sincerely yours,

John L. Lochhead

John L. Lochhead
Librarian

