

CRUISE OF THE SCHOONER ROSSIE

Commodore Barney

1812

July 12th, sailed from Baltimore. July 15th, left Cape Henry. July 17th, spoke ship ELECTRA, of Philadelphia, informed her of the war. July 21st, spoke brig TRITON, of Portsmouth, informed her of the war. Spoke ship RISING SUN, of Baltimore, informed her of the war. July 22^d, seized brig NYMPH, of Newburyport, for breach of the non-importation law; spoke ship RESERVE of Bath; brig———, from Lisbon to New-London, informed her of the war. July 23^d, was chased by a frigate; fired 25 shot at us; outsailed her. July 30th, chased by a frigate; outsailed her. July 31st, took and burnt the ship *PRINCESS-ROYAL*. August 1st, took and manned the ship *KITTY*; 2^d, took and burnt the following: brig *FAME*, brig *DEVONSHIRE*, schooner *SQUID*, and took the brig *BROTHERS*—put on board her 60 prisoners, and sent her to St. Johns, to be exchanged for as many Americans. 3^d, took and sunk the brig *HENRY* and schooner *RACE-HORSE*; burnt the schooner *HALIFAX*, manned the brig *WILLIAM* (arrived) and gave the schooner *TWO BROTHERS* to 40 prisoners, and sent them to St. Johns, on parole. 9th, took the ship *JEANIE*, after a short action; she mounting 12 guns; sent her for the United States (arrived.) 10th, seized the brig REBECCA, of Saco, from London, for a breach of the non-importation law, (arrived.) 14th, spoke brig HAZARD, from Cadiz, informed her of the war. 16th, spoke ship HERCULES, from Malta, informed her of the war. 17th, spoke brig FAVORITE, from Cadiz to Boston. 20th, spoke brig JOHN ADAMS, who had been captured and plundered by the *GUERRIERE*, and let go. August 25th, seized ship EUPHRATES, of New Bedford, for breach of the non-importation law, (arrived.) 28th, spoke a brig, prize to the BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, privateer. 29th, spoke ship JEWELL, of Portland, informed her of the war. 30th, spoke schooner ANN AND MARY, of New London, informed her of the war. September 7, spoke brig ——, from Providence, Rhode Island, in distress; left her under care of the Revenue Cutter, of Newport. 9th, chased by three ships of war, a short chase. 10th, spoke ship JOSEPH, from Bonavista, informed her of the war. 10th, spoke a brig, prize to the schooner SARATOGA, of New York. 12th, chased by a frigate six hours; outsailed her. 16th, took his Britannic majesty's packet ship *PRINCESS AMELIA*, after a severe action of nearly an hour, at pistol-shot distance. The captain, sailing-master, and one man was killed, the master's mate and six men wounded. We had Mr. Long, first lieutenant, severely wounded, and six men (most of whom have recovered), the ship cut to pieces, and the ROSSIE much injured in sails and rigging. September 16th, fell in with three ships and a brig armed, exchanged shot with the commodore, received an 18 pound shot through our quarter, wounded a man and lodged in our pump; continued to dog and watch the above vessels 4 days, in hopes to separate them, but in vain. September 23^d, spoke the private armed schooner GLOBE, captain Murphy, of Baltimore, went in pursuit of the above vessels, but could not fall in with them. 25th, spoke a Spanish brig bound to Porto-Rico. October 8th, took (in company with the GLOBE,) the schooner JUBILEE, and sent her in. 9th, spoke a Spanish schooner from Palma to Porto-Rico. 10th, chased and spoke the privateer schooner RAPID, of Charleston, S. C. 52 days out, had taken nothing. 22^d, seized the ship MERIMACK, for breach of the non-importation act. Result is, three thousand six hundred and ninety-eight tons of shipping, and two hundred and seventeen prisoners—valued at upwards of one million five hundred thousand dollars.

John Brannan, ed. *Official Letters of the Military and Naval Officers of the United States During the War with Great Britain in the Years 1812, 13, 14, & 15 With Some Additional Letters and Documents Elucidating the History of that Period.* (Washington: 1823), pp. 65–66.