From Mr. Eaton of Feb'y 25th and April 17th 1800

June 7th 1798

The letter accompanying this was received in this office on the 9th. I have the honor to inclose you a copy of a letter from Mr. Biddle dated Philadelphia, which contains that two frigates were obtained for the service. I have lately received a letter from Mr. Biddle dated 2d. Novemb[ber] which confirms this information. Mr. Biddle writes me that the news of Gibraltar has reached him that one of the frigates he arrived in Lisbon the 27th Dec. Military preparations and naval armaments were going on in this port, in the event of a war with France. A commemoration was held in Pennsylvania, which was immediately supported by volunteers from Philadelphia. The news was sent to our capital on the 9th. Mr. Monroe has returned to New York. Three consuls are appointed to negotiate with France. Report says they have arrived there. The United States have concluded a treaty of commerce and navigation with the independent States of Belgium. The agents of the United States have declared war against the United States on account of a difference of opinion relative to the article of debt. A superintending of proceedings on the part of our commissioners at Philadelphia has been made which has attended similar proceedings on the part of the Commissioners in London relative to navigation. The treaty of Novem[ber] 1793 is renewed.

Min R. to acknowledge the rec'd of 12th. Dec. for the 7th. yesterday. He grows satisfied. This is an auspicious moment with us.

Yours truly, yours in truth and sincerity,

W. Eaton