

[Old Sparta, NC]

Key West Fla  
July 24/98

Hon Elias Carr,  
Tarboro N.C.

Dear Sir;

Desiring to see active ser-  
vice when we were decorated I enlisted  
with Maryland Naval Reserve & have  
not been disappointed We have been  
on blockade duty South side Cuba  
for past 2 mos & rendered most ef-  
ficient service 4 of us brought  
prizes here Monday and as this  
Ship "Lancaster" is very short handed  
They seem reluctant to part with  
us she does nothing but lie<sup>at</sup> anchor  
here of course I did not wish



for such duty as this, & joined with <sup>2</sup>  
the distinct understanding that our or-  
ganization would be preserved intact  
otherwise I should have remained at  
home. I have nothing to complain of  
here but I certainly have a most  
natural desire to join my own  
Ship & Shipmates, I am doing what I  
can to uphold the honorable name of  
my State & Country & whatever influence  
you can bring to bear to effect the  
change will be most earnestly appre-  
ciated. I have written to several  
persons of influence & have no  
doubt through your combined efforts  
the transfer will be made, as to  
my own record I respectfully refer you  
to Lieut. J. E. Merriam Executive Officer  
U.S. Cruiser "Dixie" of Navy Dept. Wash. D.C.  
Very truly yours James R. Hutton.