

Washington, January 4, 1830

My Dear Pierce

I am now awaiting for my final Instructions & then shall proceed forthwith to take Command of the USRSch "Detector" [?]Anderson, Genl Ripley & others called on the Secy & President after my Commission was made out and attempted to get it Revoked but in vain the President informed the Gentlemen it was his wish that these Vessels should be commanded by Young men & officers from the "Navy" I have no doubt but that, there will be @ Hell of @ row kicked up by Sturdivant & his friends. but tell him when he wants things not done send his Boy but when he wants it done go himself. My officers are not as yet appointed and I shall endeavour to meet the views of the Secy by getting @ Reefer for a first Lieutenant but the others shall be appointed by the advice of Genl Chandler whose views I shall endeavor to enter in to & please as far as possible. I wish you was here to crack @ Bottle of wine with me, but the "Parchment" but time enough I have not received any letters from Adelaide I think there must be some in P for me Give my love Ann & the family And believe me Yours truly

W. A. Howard
[Signature]

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U.S.R.S.