



The New York Public Library  
Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

**Logbook of the U.S.S. Independence, U.S.S. Lynx, and U.S.S. Prometheus**

1815-1818

MssCol 452

## Summary

**Creator:** Independence (Ship : 1814-1913)

**Title:** Logbook of the U.S.S. Independence, U.S.S. Lynx, and U.S.S. Prometheus

**Date:** 1815-1818

**Size:** .08 linear feet (1 volume)

**Abstract:** This volume was kept by Charles H. Caldwell, midshipman in the United States Navy, and served as the logbook of three ships: the U.S.S. Independence, U.S.S. Lynx, and U.S.S. Prometheus. Entries for the U.S.S. Independence were made from July 2-November 10, 1815, while the ship was commanded by Captain William N. Crane and bore the broad pennant of Commodore William Bainbridge and traveled from Boston to Tangiers, Gibraltar, Tripoli, Tunis, and Malaga before returning to Gibraltar. On October 7, 1815, Captain Crane was replaced by Captain Chas. H. Ridgely when Crane transferred to the Erie (Ship). The Independence then sailed toward the United States with a squadron. The log of the U.S.S. Lynx contains entries made from November 1, 1817 through January 10, 1818, when the ship was commanded by Lieutenant Commander John R. Madison. During this time, it sailed from Boston to New York, continuing (in company with the ships John Adams, Enterprise, and Prometheus) on to Charleston. The log records the sighting of several ships carrying slaves. At the port of Charleston the log ends and Lieutenant Caldwell transferred to the Prometheus. Log entries from Caldwell's time on the Prometheus date from August 14-September 9, 1818, while the ship was commanded by Lieutenant William Bolton Finch and traveled from Charleston through the Bahamas into the Gulf of Mexico via the Windward Passage. The log ends at a latitude and longitude point at or near New Orleans.

**Access:** Advance notice required.

**Preferred citation:** Logbook of the U.S.S. Independence, U.S.S. Lynx, and U.S.S. Prometheus, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

## Key Terms

### Geographic Names

Atlantic Ocean -- Description and travel  
United States -- History, Naval -- To 1900

**Subjects**

Logbooks -- Ships sighted  
Slave ships

**Genre/Physical Characteristic**

Ships' logs

**Names**

Independence (Ship : 1814-1913)  
Caldwell, Charles H  
Enterprise (Sloop)  
John Adams (Ship)  
Lynx (Ship)  
Prometheus (Ship)  
United States. Navy