My bear In Boyer, ERichard Hortzomery Boyer? my priends had not much expectation of getting my llain attended to, day, but I have sent the larriage and if you have a moment to spare, they the favor of you to ride up and

ascertain what they are about! Jam Smenely 1. December monday -

A. M. Boyer Engine

Decatur died Mehrz 1820 this letter which years for 30 fell on Wed, after Desatur becalle & 1 of so olds My hear for Prayer Bichard Hartgering I expect two or three of my heighbors to pap their Tuning with me and I hope you will do me The favor to jain my little circle and to bring Judge Thelgan with you if he Kilgore?

si in Tann They you to between me stungs Mast widenties de Duntar 



March 15,18327 They dear for Bayer. Rockard Horizomeny Boyers Ayon can space to time, I pray you to go to the la pital lameran and see whether my thise dies un honorable den the! for, die I know it mas !! An In thertann has just return'd from Whiteles . phia, and I done any with

a packet full at fabrications es unfounded and as take as those inhich have at ready have made against Between me always mul finerece 1. Duntas Munistay Edining



TO THE

LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS

FROM THE

Manuscript Division, July 30, 1919.

101

REFERRING TO letter, of July 26, from
Edward W. Hawley, Lawyer,
525 New York Life Building,
Minneapolis, Minn., (to J. C. Fitzpatrick)

enclosing a copy of a letter, dated March 15, 1832, signed "S. Decatur", together with a tracing of the signature, and asking to have the signature compared with others here, in order to determine whether it is that of Stephen Decatur; and also stating that the letter bears a wax seal, with an impression that is evidently that of Decatur's own seal ring, and asking if we know of the existence of any other impression of this ring:

Stephen Decatur was killed by Barron in a duel, March, 1820. The S. Decatur, a tracing of whose signature is enclosed by Mr. Hawley for comparison, is Susan Decatur, the widow of Captain Stephen Decatur.

The letter of March 15, 1832, which Mr. Hawley inquires about, refers to House Bill No. 98, 22nd Congress, 1st Session, 1831-32, which was a bill to compensate Susan Decatur, widow of Captain Stephen Decatur, and others. It appropriated \$100,000., to be distributed among the officers and crew of the Intrepid, for their gallantry in retaking the U.S.S. Philadelphia. Susan Decatur, as the heir of Stephen Decatur, was to receive \$31,412.42. The bill failed of passage at this session, and it is to this expected failure that the letter of March 15 refers.

As to the impression on the seal, made by Stephen Decatur's seal ring, the Library of Congress does not possess an example, and has no means of knowing how many of such are in existence. A number of Stephen Decatur letters are preserved in the Pennsylvania Historical Society in Philadelphia. Some of these may possibly have the seal attached.

Assistant Chief, Manuscript Division.

All correspondence should be addressed 
"LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS
WASHINGTON, D. C."

## LIBRARY OF CONGRESS WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE LIBRARIAN

August 1 1919

Dear Sir :

By direction of the Librarian, I am enclosing a memorandum which Mr' Fitzpatrick, the Assistant in Charge of our Manuscript Division, has prepared in connection with your request of July 26, addressed to him. We trust that the information furnished will prove of some service to you.

Very truly,

Secretary

(2 enclosures)

Edward W. Hawley, Esq., 525 New York Life Building, Minneapolis, Minn. J. Duatur