

5 Nov 93 2

D. M. Benton

Washington D. C.

Dear Friend:

I have been informing
 me that a "line" was up by your boy for
 1871 to send for the Records of the
 "Early Meetings" & that there are at present
 that the investigation will lead to some very
 important results, was sent to day, just as
 I have leaving for Europe with my family.

The Records of the U. S. Navy were borrowed by the
 late Elijah Coffin just before the breaking out
 of the war & sent to me to be forwarded to Mr.
 Hooper then coming on at once they could
 only be sent at night, & being aware that the
 papers were very valuable, I had a strong tin
 box made for them, had it painted to prevent
 rust, & the lid marked on top in large white
 letters: "Records of U. S. Navy Meetings of Officers"
 & deposited in a fire proof iron & brick vault
 under strong lock & key, & have the Records have

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