PERSONAL MEMOIR OF DANIEL
DRAYTON: FOR FOUR YEARS AND FOUR
MONTHS A PRISONER (FOR CHARITY'S
SAKE) IN WASHINGTON JAIL. INCLUDING
A NARRATIVE OF THE VOYAGE AND
CAPTURE OF THE SCHOONER PEARL

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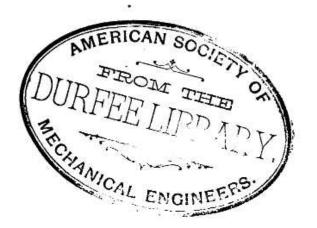
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Daniel Dragton

## PERSONAL MEMOIR

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FOR POUR YEARS AND FOUR MONTHS

A PRISONER (FOR CHARITY'S SAKE) IN WASHINGTON JAIL.

INCLUDING A NARRATIVE OF THE

VOYAGE AND CAPTURE OF THE SCHOONER PEARL

We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

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### ADVERTISEMENT.

CONSIDERING the large share of the public attention which the case of the schooner Pearl attracted at the time of its occurrence, perhaps the following narrative of its origin, and of its consequences to himself, by the principal actor in it, may not be without interest. It is proper to state that a large share of the profits of the sale are secured to Captain Drayton, the state of whose health incapacitates him from any laborious employment.

### MEMOIR.

I was born in the year 1802, in Cumberland County, Downs Township, in the State of New Jersey, on the shores of Nantuxet Creek, not far from Delaware Bay, into which that creek flows. My father was a farmer,- not a very profitable occupation in that barren part of the country. My mother was a widow at the time of her marriage with my father, having three children by a former husband. By my father she had six more, of whom I was the youngest but one. She was a woman of strong mind and marked character, a zealous member of the Methodist church; and, although I had the misfortune to lose her at an early age, her instructions - though the effect was not apparent at the moment - made a deep impression on my youthful mind, and no doubt had a very sensible influence over my future life.

Just previous to, or during the war with Great Britain, my father removed still nearer to the shore of the bay, and the sight of the vessels passing up and down inspired me with a desire to follow the life of a waterman; but it was some years before I was able to gratify this wish. I well remember the alarm created in our neighborhood by the incursions of the British vessels up the bay during the war, and that,