

fought in 1775, and on September 6th Captain Salter and his nephew sailed away from Newburyport in the ship *Crisis*, and were captured. Tibbits then made a successful cruise in a privateer. Later he was captured in the *Aurora*, June 14, 1780, and committed to Old Mill Prison, Plymouth. July 10, 1781, after a year in prison, he writes for money :

“ I am as yet a minor and an apprentice to my worthy kinsman and uncle, Mr. John Salter, mariner, and many years master of different vessels from and belonging to Mr. George Boyd, merchant, late of Portsmouth. Many were consigned to your house, the latter particularly named the *Fidelity*, and was sold after having discharged her cargo in London, from whence, in consequence, my uncle and self returned home as passengers.

“ In order to acquire a due experience, sufficient to qualify me in the business of my profession, that of a mariner, by and with the advice and consent of my kinsman and tutor, I left home in a letter-of-marque brig called the *Aurora*, under the command of Mr. Samuel Gerrish, which vessel was captured on her way to the West India Islands by one of H. B. M. frigates bound home, in consequence of which it hath been my ill fortune to be brought to this place. Previous to my leaving home the voyage before this, in which I was captured, my uncle was pleased to make provision for my relief in case of capture, in his having furnished me with a bill upon your house, which, having no occasion for, I returned him on my arrival at home after a safe and prosperous voyage. My coming with Captain Gerrish only admitted of a small delay.”

Tibbits while in prison kept a log-book filled with problems in geometry and navigation, also copies of his