

to be described, having barely a sufficiency of even the common necessaries of life for the support of nature. You will therefore judge of the distress which I experience, and which is a common calamity. I need not more fully describe to you the woes that are attendant and on almost insufferable with a state of imprisonment when nature is supported with a competent sustenance. When that fails life itself is almost a burthen too heavy to bear, and in which situation have no alternative. I therefore request you will be pleased to favor me with a supply for my relief, such as your bounty shall be pleased to dictate, on account of my honored tutor and kinsman, Captain John Salter, who hath altogether declined following the seas since captured in the *Crisis* and taken into Boston, who I am satisfied will reimburse you fully for so reasonable a supply to the relief of

“ Sir your devoted sincere

“ Humble and distressed servt,

“ RICHARD SALTER TIBBITS.”

Tibbits copied in his log-book the names of five hundred prisoners ; names of vessels and dates of capture. The brig *Fancy*, taken in August, 1777, had Francis Salter, from Marblehead, and Thomas Salter, from Frenchman's Bay. The brig *Dalton*, taken December 24, 1776, had Joseph Shillaber, of Portsmouth, who was exchanged ; Captain Gerrish, from Portsmouth, taken in brig *Aurora*, ran away.

Andrew Sherburne, in his *Memoirs*, published in Utica, in 1828, gives an interesting account of his capture in the privateer *Greyhound*, Captain Jacob Willis, of Salem. In the outer yard of the Old Mill Prison he found “ Old Aunt Anna,” with her hand-cart to supply the prisoners