

with bread, butter, tobacco, needles, and thread. "I hailed from Piscataqua, and the Piscataqua men were called and formed a circle around me. Mr. Tibbits was the only person amongst them with whom I had had any acquaintance, though most of the Portsmouth people had known my father." Sherburne was sixteen, had been at school but a few months, and could not write or figure. Tibbits offered to instruct him, and he made rapid progress. Soon after the capture of Cornwallis caused a general exchange of prisoners. Colonel Lawrence, United States Minister to Holland, was released from the Tower and visited Mill Prison.

After fifteen months' absence from America Sherburne writes he arrived at Portsmouth. "There was a letter-of-marque brig of eight carriage guns, called the *Scorpion*, fitting out for the West Indies, to be commanded by Captain Richard Salter, and my good friend Richard S. Tibbits, who was my tutor in Mill Prison, was going as one of the mates, and I had the offer of going as boatswain. We had been out about five days, and were discovered by one of his most gracious majesty's frigates, which chased us from 10 A.M. to 3 P.M. under what the sailors would call a stiff and increasing breeze, and though our brig was an excellent sailor she rather gained upon us. We were therefore obliged to heave off our deckload of lumber and then very easily escaped her. We arrived at Guadaloupe and then sailed for Montserrat, our captain being dissatisfied with the market. The British cruisers at this time kept a sharp lookout among the West India Islands for the Yankees, and as we went out of the bay we discovered a brig which had concealed herself behind a point of land. She appeared to be in rather a careless situation until we had got so far from the harbor