

discovered how we were standing, shaped her course to athwart our fore foot, as the sailor would say, but she being to leeward was obliged to depend upon her oars. She had designed no doubt to have boarded us, but when she saw that we were likely to shoot by her endeavored to decoy us. She did not show a rag of sail until she had completely gained our wake, and then began a chase with a full press of sail. But our ship being an excellent sailer we soon began to leave her, and thus by the mercy of God we escaped capture and slavery. She chased us but a very little while, and finding she was no match for us in sailing gave up the chase, took in her sails, and we soon lost sight of her. The next day we got into Lisbon and reported the circumstances of this chase. There immediately went out a government brig in pursuit of her, but I did not understand that she ever found her. We took in a part of our cargo at Lisbon and had to go to St. Ubes for the remainder, and were with a number of other vessels convoyed off the coast by a Portuguese frigate."

The *Lydia* arrived safely in America with her cargo of salt, and Sherburne, who had been taught to write in Plymouth Prison by Tibbits, opened a school for boys on the Saco River, fifty-five miles from Portsmouth, in January, 1786. He says in his *Memoirs*: "Had I had not been drawn or carried through the distressing scenes which I have already related, and been lodged in Old Mill Prison, I had probably never acquired an education sufficient to have sustained these offices and to have performed the business which has proved so profitable to me."

Sherburne represented the town of Cornish, where he kept school, at a convention held in Berwick in regard to public buildings. General John Frost, of the Revolutionary Army, was called to the chair. In September,