

am well treated : so are all the rest, according as the country affords, &c.”

The letters came to Springfield the 23d of September, and a day or two after to Boston. The Frenchmen not long after, by some means or other were retaken and carried to Canada, where they were punished as deserters. Before their execution they confessed the whole. Mr. Nelson was carried out with them, in expectation of the same fate. They were shot before his eyes. He was sent back to prison, and soon after to France, but on his passage prevailed with a fellow passenger to convey intelligence of a second design of 12 men-of-war and 2,000 troops, which were every day expected at Canada to make a descent upon the English colonies from Piscataqua to Carolina. He was confined in France in a small hole for two years, without opportunity of seeing any person but a servant who brought his victuals to a grate. A gentleman, who had taken notice of the person who carried the victuals from day to day, had the curiosity to inquire what prisoner was there, and to speak to him at the grate, and to ask if he could do him any service. Mr. Nelson desired no other favour than to have a letter sent to England, to inform Sir Purbeck Temple of his condition ; which was done, and soon after a demand was made of his release or exchange. He was sent to the Bastile, and just before the peace of Ryswick was allowed to go to England upon his parole, and security given by a French gentleman for his return. The peace being concluded, and he intending to return, was forbid to do it by King William ; but to prevent any trouble to his friend, he went contrary to order, and surrendered himself. Being discharged, upon his return to England he was brought into trouble there for going back to France contrary to the King's order, but at length returned to his family after ten or eleven years' absence.