

**JOHN SALTER**

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**Mariner**

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PEPPERRELL HOUSE

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# JOHN SALTER

MARINER

341  
1468

BY

WILLIAM TIBBITS SALTER

MEMBER OF THE PEPPERRELL FAMILY ASSOCIATION, THE SOCIETY OF COLONIAL WARS,  
THE SONS OF THE REVOLUTION, AND THE NAVAL ORDER  
OF THE UNITED STATES

*Certum voto pete finem*

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JOHN HIGHLANDS

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## JOHN SALTER, MARINER.

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THE *London Graphic* says : “ The earliest record of the Salters Company is a deed dated the seventeenth year of Richard II. (1394), granting license to the Company of Salters to be a guild or fraternity in honor of ‘ the Body of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Church of All Saints, commonly called Allhallows, Broad Street.’ ”

“ About half a century later Thomas Beaumont, an eminent citizen, left the company their first hall, and appointed by his will certain religious services to be performed by the priest, brethren, and sisters of the guild. Some years later an attempt was made to prove that the religious guild and the Salters Company were two distinct corporations, and that Beaumont intended to bequeath the property to the religious body exclusively ; but it was decided by law that the ‘ Religious Guild and the Salters Company were identical.’ ”

“ On the feast of the patron saint the brothers and sisters of the company met, and, after various religious services, high mass, processions, etc., dined together in the company’s hall. In some of the companies it was the rule that every brother should bring his wife or ‘ a maiden ’ to the feast—not to sit in a gallery, as is now the fashion, and look down upon their lords and masters feeding below, but to sit at the table and to take part in the feast.

“ There were some very singular ceremonies observed

by the guilds and companies. The Salters Company, for instance, were enjoined by the will of Thomas Salter to go annually to the Church of St. Magnus for the purpose of keeping an obit, and there they performed the quaint ceremony of knocking upon the grave, and each person saying: 'How do you do, Brother Salter?' This practice was only discontinued early in the present century."

The Parliamentary Commission to investigate the guilds of London, over seventy in number, report the Salters Company and the shipwrights as founded in 1380. During the reign of James I. the Salters Company owned in Ulster, Ireland, 10,900 acres. These lands were originally owned by the O'Neills, and were confiscated during the reign of Elizabeth and James I. Under the Ashbourne act nearly the whole of the county of Londonderry was transferred by the guilds of London to the tenants, the Salters Company holding 250,000 acres.

J. E. Stillwell, M.D., says the Salter family may justly lay claim to considerable antiquity. In the reign of Henry VI., temp. 1423, there lived one William Salter, who was possessed of good estate and whose ancestors had resided at and were the lords for over two hundred years of a manor called Bokenhamis, in England. Walter Salter lived in the time of Richard III., temp. 1482. At the upper end of the south aisle in the church of Tottengen, in the county of Norfolk, there is erected to himself and lady a tablet with the following inscription:

"Orate pro animabus  
Walter Salter et Alice uxoris ejus  
Et pro quibus tenentus."

"Pray for the souls of Walter Salter and Alice his wife and for the souls of all that belong to them."

In 1524 Henry Salter was one of the sheriffs of Norwich. In 1655 John Salter was mayor of Norwich. In 1663 the charter was renewed by Charles II., and John Salter was one of the twenty-four aldermen who were appointed. He died November 20, 1669, aged seventy-seven years, and was buried in the Church of St. Andrew.

Bridget, wife of Mathew Salter, died December 31, 1670, aged forty-two years. She was interred in the Church of St. Ethelred, and from her tomb is copied the following quaint epitaph :

“ Tho dead yet dear  
Tho dead yet dear to me  
Dead is her body  
Dear her memorie.”

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It is doubtless from some of the foregoing persons that the Salters in this country are descended. If Mrs. Bridget was, as is positively asserted, the mother of twenty-two children, it was no wonder that some of them wanted to leave. In England at the present time the name, though not common, is still considerably met with in certain localities, especially in the vicinity of Norfolk.

In America there are several distinct families of the name, whose arrival dates back to the latter part of the seventeenth century.

The descendants of John Salter, who settled at Odiorne's Point, N. H., and Richard Salter, the early settler in Monmouth County, New Jersey, have been the most prominent in point of numbers, as well as the most conspicuous in social and political life.

A family of the name residing in North Carolina

during the Revolution contributed a commissary to the army and two members to the Provincial Congress. Another residing in New York City during the post-revolutionary period was engaged in mercantile pursuits, and I have been written that in 1878, while the Rev. William Salter, D.D., of Burlington, Iowa, was travelling in Colorado, he met the Rev. Charles C. Salter, who stated that his grandfather came to this country in 1794 from Tiverton, Devonshire.

Sampson Salter was admitted a freeman March 20, 1638, at Newport, R. I.

The first Salter enrolled as a freeman under the charter of the Massachusetts Bay Colony was Will Salter, May 25, 1636. He was born in 1607, was well educated, kept the prison, and was witness to many wills now on record in Boston. In those good old times the pious men of Boston captured Indians, sold them as slaves to the planters in the West Indies, and hung Mrs. Hibbins for being a witch. Will Salter witnessed her will. He died August 10, 1675, and was buried in the King's Chapel yard. Mary Salter, his widow, was made executrix. In his will he mentions his son John, "who has gone away, but if he returns he shall have five acres of land."

John Salter and Henry Salter were enrolled as soldiers in King Philip's war, and on October 9, 1720, Rev. Thomas Foxcraft, of Boston, married John Salter, aged eighty years, to Abigail Durrant, so he must have returned for his five acres.

On January 30, 1598, at Aston Clinton, County Berks, England, Mary, daughter of Henry and Alice Baldwin, was married to Richard Salter.

In 1622 Alice Baldwin left forty shillings each to her seven grandchildren, and ten pounds to "my daughter,

Mary Salter." Her executors were Richard Salter and Richard Baldwin. The latter, when he died, in will dated February 18, 1632, left his sister, Mary Salter, ten pounds, and the same to each of her four children—Mary, John, Sarah, and David.

David Salter, in his will, April 11, 1669, made his widow, Sarah Salter, sole legatee, but no trace of John Salter can be found in the English records, and it is quite possible that with the money received by the will dated in 1632 he came to New England. His age is fixed by the fact that his father, Richard Salter, was married thirty-four years previous.

The great plague of London came in 1664. Twenty-five per cent. of the population died and emigration was stopped.

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War-dances were regularly held every season, but kissing and kissing games were unknown and unheard of in New Hampshire until Martin Pring, in June, 1603, sailed ten miles up the Piscataqua in the ship *Speedwell*, fifty tons, and bark *Discoverer*, twenty-six tons, carrying forty-three men. He did not see any Indian girls, if his log-book can be trusted, but Samuel de Champlain landed July 15, 1605, at Odiorne's Point, the Plymouth Rock of New Hampshire, and found savages of all kinds. They drew for him a map of the adjacent coasts.

After Champlain came Captain John Smith, in 1614, who christened the country "New England," referred to by an old English poet, George Wither :

"In that rude garden you New England style."

Captain Smith found a large Indian population on both shores of the Piscataqua, but regardless of the

savages the first emigrants pitched their tents and commenced fishing.

John Odiorne settled at Odiorne's Point, in 1623, and gave it the name it has borne to this day.

The tradition handed down to the Portsmouth Salters is that John Salter, the first of that name in New England, came from the west of England, near Exeter, to the Isles of Shoals, and later settled at Odiorne's Point. John Salter probably brought his wife with him, as maidens were scarce in the colonies at that period.

Samuel Hinckes writes, July 19, 1724: "The 14 instant went hence volenters from Piscatt after indian pirets as also Sundryes and one Capt Salter from the Shoales & 4 met at green Islands, said Salter (since Parting from his consorts who arrived here to Day) informs me he meet with the indian Privateer a sconer once of marblehead full of indians Extraordinary well fitted who Chased them 3 hours & she Takes all she Can come vp with, so that the fishermen dont go East of this Place or scarce to sea."

In July, 1729, Captain John Salter and Thomas Manery appeared before the Royal Council relative to a cruise "after ye Eastern Indians."

The latter testified: "Ye Indian Scooner first discovered under ye Eastermost Green Island to ye Westward of Manpomecus last Fryday between 3 and 4 o'clock P.M. and that Capt John Salter was then abt a league and a half distant to ye Eastwd and to windward withall, and yt ye deponent tackd his vessel to speak wth his consort Salter and came up wth him and spoke wth him in less than half an hour, and then told that under yonder Green Island were the Enemy they came to seek for, and asked him if he would go and see him; to which Capt

Salter replyd he would; and upon sd Salter's so saying ye Deponent shot along ahead of him toward ye Indn scooner, and Salter followd on."

In 1728 John Salter's name appears among the taxpayers in New Castle, and in 1731 he asked the General Assembly to be set off to Rye. Odiorne's Point is still in Rye.

December 1, 1743, among the list of men who borrowed £25,000 the name of John Salter appears for £125. John Frost received £25 and Jotham Odiorne, Jr., £200.

January 5, 1748, John Salter and William Frost sign a protest against an election return.

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#### WILL OF JOHN SALTER.

*Probated at Exeter, N. H., 1755.*

In the name of God amen. This 12th day of May in the year of our Lord 1752. I. John Salter of Rye in the province of N. H. Gent. being sensible of my mortality and being advanced in years, but of sound disposing mind and memory do make and ordain this to be my last Will and Testament.

I recommend my soul into the hands of God hoping for salvation and happiness in and through the mercy of Jesus Christ and my body I commit to the earth to be buried in a decent manner by my executor hereafter named. And touching my worldly estate I give demise and dispose thereof in mannner following

I will and order that my just debts and funeral charges be paid in convenient time after my decease by my Executor

I give unto my Beloved Wife Amy the sum of Twenty-five pounds. I also give her one cow, and all the swine

I shall have at the time of my death and all the provisions that shall be in my house at that time. Also all my beds and bedding and household furniture, all the aforesaid to be at her own disposal. I also give her the interest of all the money I shall leave, debts and funeral charges being paid during the time she shall continue my widow. I also give her the use and improvement of the new end of my dwelling house during the time aforesaid and I will and order that the principal sum aforesaid be equally divided among my children upon the death of my wife, or upon her marrying again which shall first happen.

I give and devise unto my son Richard and my son Titus the sum of five shillings each. I give unto my grandson John Randall ten pounds. I given unto my daughters Mary Mace, Elizabeth Ruby, Charity Leach, Margery Hall, Martha Sanborn, and Sarah Sloper the sum of five shillings each.

I will and order that my two acres of Salt Marsh at Little Harbor so called, lying near salt marsh of James Clarkson Esq and also my two oxen be sold by my Exec. as soon as may be after my decease and that out of the money that shall be raised thereby ten pounds be paid unto my grandson John Salter, a son of my son Alex. Salter deceased and to whom I give ten pounds, and three pounds fifteen shillings unto Mary Salter and three pounds fifteen shillings unto Lucy Salter daughter of my son Alex. Salter deceased to whom I give three pounds fifteen shillings each.

I give and demise that tract of land at Rye where I now live containing about thirty acres which I bought of one Joseph Morrell with the buildings thereon unto my grandson Alex. Salter son of my son Alex Salter deceased and unto his heirs and assigns forever if he shall

arrive unto the age of twenty-one years, but if he shall not arrive at that age, I give and devise the same unto my grandson John Salter before mentioned and unto his heirs and assigns forever if he shall arrive unto the age of twenty-one years, but if he shall not arrive at that age I give and demise the same unto my two grand daughters Mary and Lucy Salter before mentioned and unto their heirs and assigns forever equally divided.

I will and order that my wife Amy and my daughter in law Elizabeth the widow of my son Alexander deceased have the use and improvement of the said tract of land so long as they continue widows towards the bringing up of the children of my son Alex. deceased, but not to commit any strip or waist thereon. And as to the rest and residue of my estate both real and personal wheresoever and whatsoever I give and bequeath the same unto my children equally divided between them. And I desire and request, James Marden and Stephen Marden both of Rye aforesaid to be guardians unto the children of my son Alex. deceased. And I hereby constitute and appoint my wife Amy and my son Titus Salter to be Exec. of this my last will and testament hereby ratifying this and no other to be my last will and testament. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year first above written

JOHN SALTER

Witnesses

ABNER COLE

JOHN JONES

JOHN JONES JR.

MATHEW LIVERMORE.

If John Salter, of Rye, gent., were advanced in years in 1752, when his son Richard was forty-three, he must have

been born as early as 1672, at Odiorne's Point. There should be some record in Exeter to show what year he bought the farm of thirty acres left to his grandson, Alexander Salter, eight years old (named after his father), in Rye, where he died November 14, 1801, aged fifty-seven.

In the North Church records there is a baptism of John, son of John and Martha Salter, October 4, 1730. Martha had probably died before the will was made. A daughter had died, as a grandson, John Randall, receives ten pounds. Nine children are remembered in the will. Amy was the second wife, and probably young, as she was to have the use of the mansion until she married again. Ebenezer Sanborn, born July 25, 1712, married in June, 1740, Martha, named after the first wife.

Titus Salter, the executor, did good service in the Revolution. In 1765 a petition for a light-house at Odiorne's Point was signed by Titus Salter, Richard Salter, and John Salter, and they were requested to report on the estimated cost. Four days after the fight at Bunker Hill, June 21, 1775, the schooner *Ann*, owned by Titus Salter, was seized by H. B. M. ship *Scarborough*, but on October 2d Captain Titus Salter retaliated and seized the ship *Prince George*, bound to Boston with 1892 barrels of flour for General Gage's army. The farmers made good soldiers, but it was left to the privateers and the few armed boats in the navy to supply the hungry soldiers with food and clothing intercepted *en route* to Boston.

General Washington was very much pleased with Titus Salter for his capture of flour, even if it were fifty miles away from camp, and wrote William Whipple to send him 1200 barrels. The name of William Whipple appears

on the only file of Boston papers of this period in the Lenox Library.

January 5, 1776, Captain Titus Salter was instructed to enlist ninety men for the garrison of Fort Washington, and also to order every one on the Isles of Shoals to leave.

The Committee of Safety in Exeter, July 8, 1779, appointed Titus Salter captain of the armed ship *Hampden* in the Penobscot expedition.

In 1783, at the end of the war, the thanks of the General Assembly were voted to Captain Titus Salter for all his good services for the State.

March 11, 1790, Titus Salter made a contract with the State of New Hampshire, and on November 18, 1790, renewed the contract with Alexander Hamilton, Secretary of the Treasury, to erect and maintain a light-house at the entrance to Portsmouth harbor.

Titus Salter was born in October, 1722. He died September 20, 1798. He married Elizabeth Bickford, July 11, 1745.

Alexander Salter, referred to, was on the muster-roll of Captain Francis Locke's company, July 2, 1746, at Fort William and Mary. His son, Alexander, was mustered in Captain Joseph Parsons' company of minute-men, November 22, 1775. In December, 1789, Alexander signed a petition for a bridge at New Castle, and on December 18, 1797, joined Titus and John Salter in a petition for a bridge at Sagamore.

The will refers to a grandson, John Salter. On the pay-roll of a company of light-horse volunteers, commanded by Colonel John Langdon in the expedition to Rhode Island, in August, 1778, the name of John Salter appears. There was a fight at Quaker Hill, Rhode Island, August 29th.

John Salter, son of Titus Salter, was appointed second lieutenant of the privateer General Sullivan, November 17, 1778. He died in 1794.

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This will is the earliest reliable record that we can find of John Salter. His name is not mentioned in his son's family Bible, printed in Oxford in 1738.

“ Richard Salter his book January 23, 1739

“ Richard Salter was born March 14, 1709

“ Elizabeth Odiorne Salter

“ his wife born February 21, 1709

“ This cople was married October 8, 1731”

Richard Salter died at Halifax, N. S., April 10, 1768 ; his wife died in September, 1748, on Salter's Island, Portsmouth harbor.

When the first settlement was made at New Castle is unknown, but as early as 1650 it was already a place of considerable importance. Its proximity to Odiorne's Point, just across Little Harbor, where the first house in New Hampshire was built, in 1623, is sufficient ground to suppose that this island must have been occupied very soon after the landing of the first settlers. In 1660 John Odiorne received forty-two acres in New Castle in a division of public lands. For many years New Castle was the seat of business of Portsmouth, the most populous and the most aristocratic part of the town. New Castle became a port of entry about 1686, and for one hundred years after the shipping business was extensive.

John Odiorne was born in 1627. He married Mary, daughter of James Johnson, and died at New Castle in 1707. His son Jotham, who was born in 1675, married Sarah Bassum, and died in 1748. His Majesty George

II. signed a warrant July 11, 1724, admitting him to "ye council of this Province." Our grandmother was then fifteen years old.

Hannah Wentworth at different times had all these dates engraved on the bottom of her large silver waiter for the benefit of Elizabeth's grandchildren :

CHILDREN OF RICHARD SALTER AND ELIZABETH  
ODIORNE.

Elizabeth born July 6 1732 died 1772 Married Richard Mills

Her daughter Anne married Moses Copp.

John born 1735 died an infant

Mehitable born 1738 Married Israel Tibbits and had 3 children

And John Moulton and had 2 children John and Nabby.

John born Nov 14 1740

Titus

His son Titus married Abigail Frost.

His grandson John Lake Salter married four times.

William not married

Captain of the brig William in 1768

Richard Married Elizabeth Ayres

and Elizabeth Tuesdall.

Harriet C. Salter said that when she was a girl she went with her mother to the funeral of the first wife, who was fifty-four and Uncle Richard about sixty. After the services her mother told Betsy Tuesdall, then about fifty, she would make a good wife for Uncle Richard, and in the course of a year they were married. In the North burying-ground are the stones to the memory of Elizabeth, wife of Captain Richard Salter, died July 25, 1805, aged

fifty-four, and Elizabeth, widow of Captain Richard Salter, died June 17, 1836, aged eighty-two.

Richard Salter had ten children. Three named Elizabeth and two named John (who died in infancy), and Richard, Perkins, Thomas, Joseph, and Nancy.

Nancy Salter, born 1778, died 1825, married her first cousin, Titus Salter, son of the executor, Titus Salter, referred to. They had four children: Ann, married C. S. Toppan; Mary, married J. M. Tredick; Charlotte; Henry Perkins Salter (father of Thomas P. Salter).

The letter-of-marque brig of eight guns called the *Scorpion* was commanded by Captain Richard Salter.

In May, 1777, Richard Salter got into trouble, and his sloop, the *Friends Adventure*, was seized in Massachusetts waters because he had altered his papers to escape capture by British cruisers in the West Indies. His friends thought he was justified in resorting to any device to get home.

#### CAPTAIN JOHN SALTER, MARINER.

Born November 14, 1740; died September 28, 1814.

##### *Married First.*

Dorothy Bickford, December 13, 1762. She was born May 13, 1740; died March 18, 1776.

##### *Married Second.*

Elizabeth, April 14, 1778. She was born June 26, 1745.

##### *Married Third.*

Jane Frost, November 1, 1783. She was born March 7, 1757; died December 10, 1837

The siege of Boston continued during the summer and autumn of 1775, and there would appear to be no reason why an experienced captain like John Salter, at that time thirty-five years old, should not go to sea in a privateer. Tibbits refers to his many voyages before this date as a master of vessels.

John Salter writes Lane, Son & Fraser that he sailed September 6, 1775, from Newburyport in the ship *Crisis*, bound to Antigua, and two days later he was fired upon by H. B. M. ship *Lively* and taken to Boston. "My ship lies with her cargo in her yet and what will be done with it I cannot write at present. I am kept here, and not permitted to go home nor proceed on my voyage: I have not heard from Col Boyd since I have been here. Such times New England never saw before. I hope in God that something will be done in England this winter to make up this unhappy affair and that we may hear of no more blood spilt amongst us." Captain Salter stayed on shore until the Revolution was over.

Brewster, in his *Rambles*, says: "There are in Portsmouth harbor more than a dozen other islands of various sizes, adding much to the beauty of the water landscape as viewed from various points. As seen from the Auburn Cemetery, the most prominent is Salter's Island, a handsome swell of land, on which is a house sitting very pleasantly in the basin on the east, near Frame's Point, where the Newcastle bridge connects with Portsmouth. It was for many years the residence of Captain John Salter, mariner, who died in 1814, at the age of seventy years."

Captain Salter was engaged in foreign commerce before the Revolution. He once left this port for England on a vessel in which was a large number of boxes of Spanish

dollars. Encountering a storm about Christmas time, he was driven on the rocks at the mouth of the Kennebec River. His vessel was gotten off somewhat damaged, and he went into a neighboring harbor, where he was compelled to remain until March. During all this time he was unable to send a communication to or receive a word from Portsmouth, and no notice of the disaster was received there until the vessel arrived at London. At that time there was no communication along the coast except such as was made by vessels.

One event in the early life of Captain Salter, although not of much importance, shows his calculating cast when a boy. A stranger of some show and bluster one day called at Frame's Point, and, desirous of visiting New Castle, asked the boy to row him down. Nothing was said about pay, and so the young ferryman, to test his liberality, landed him on Goat Island on the way. The man supposing, as the boy wished he should, that he had reached New Castle, jumped on shore. Bowing to the lad, he said, as he ascended the beach, "I shall pay you when we meet in town some day." The boat was put off speedily. The stranger looking around soon discovered himself the sole inhabitant of the little island, and called, "Young man, come back!" The cautious boatman, however, with a "Perhaps we shall meet in town some day," left him, a Robinson Crusoe on his Juan Fernandez.

In June, 1787, John Salter and Richard S. Tibbits signed a petition to the General Court complaining of the duties on imports. On December 10, 1799, John Salter signed another petition to incorporate St. John's Lodge in Portsmouth. Captain Salter built the house in Washington Street, Portsmouth, where he lived many years.

In the Cotton burying-ground are monuments to the

memory of John Salter, aged seventy-three years, and Jane Salter, aged eighty-one years.

Jane Frost apparently had a lover in the Continental Army in the siege of Boston, in 1775, and kept one letter from him in the family Bible. Jane was eighteen, and her sister Dorothy sixteen. Samuel Haven was expected to forward letters from Clarissa to Lysander. As we hear no more about Philadelphia militia armed with tomahawks, we fear that Lysander must have been killed in the Revolution. Jane Frost did not seem disposed to marry at this period of the war. She certainly had no interest in John Salter, who was living on his farm at Salter's Island, close to her home in New Castle.

John Salter lost his wife in 1776, and two years later married Elizabeth March, who was thirty-three, while Jane Frost was only twenty-one, and the "lovely Lucinda" nineteen. After the treaty of peace was signed, Jane Frost became the third wife of John Salter, and Dorothy married James Jewett.

New Castle was the scene of the first important aggressive armed action of the Revolutionary patriots. Before Paul Revere—the original Rough Rider—made his famous ride to Lexington and Concord, he had taken a much longer one, if not so celebrated. December 13, 1774, he rode express from Boston to Portsmouth, despatched by the Boston Committee of Safety. The next day the Portsmouth Sons of Liberty, with the patriots of New Castle, in all about 400, under command of Major John Sullivan, proceeded to the fort and carried off one hundred barrels of gunpowder. Most of it was used at Bunker Hill. Trevelyan says they also carried away in broad daylight sixteen cannon.

Lysander writes, July 26th, when Gage was in com-

mand in Boston and expecting the flour that Titus Salter seized in the *Prince George* (the "base wretches" were probably the officers in the New Castle fort):

#### To Miss Jenny Frost In Newcastle

My last was committed to the care of a worthy Clergyman and I hope got safe to hand but not a word from Clarissa yet! Why may not Lysander be gratified with intelligence how and where she and the lovely Lucinda (her sister D) have spent these last 2 months. Can they be taken up so much with their last winters acquaintance, their minds so much engrossed with the Company and Conversation of their new friends as to forget and neglect their former ones? However amiable these Gentlemen may be in their private Character Heaven forbid any Daughter of America should treat them with even common civility so long as their professed design of being here is the unnatural unrighteous and disgraceful Business they are now upon; but if you are yet at your own Home you will say your situation is peculiarly difficult, that there must be a free Complaisance even to such base Wretches. I acknowledge it my lovely friends and can say no more; the Ladies I know will raise many scruples about writing to the Gentlemen but can there be any impropriety in an epistolary Correspondence with One who has been as it were of your own family and whom you have so long honour'd with your acquaintance but perhaps the most material Objection will be the unsteadiness of my Abode; by way of reply would say I generally leave word at the place I leave where I expect to make my next Stage and I doubt not but any letter so directed to me would find me. A letter left with Mr. Saml Haven I should hope to receive. I perceive that the Curiosity of

many Ladies has so far overcome the timidity so natural to your Sex as to induce them to visit the Army, but things are in such a confus'd state as to afford hardly any Accommodations.

We have nothing very special, but I will give you the principal news. One Company of riflemen consisting of 107 who left Pennsylvania the 1st ins arrived yesterday. What I observed peculiar in them I shall just mention viz their frock with a kind of Cape, their indian Stockings using a Tomahawk and not a Bayonet and their rifle gun.

We had a Regular come in who deserted from the enemies Lines at Charlestown this morning. Letters have been lately receiv'd from the Selectmen of Boston yet in that town by their Brethren out purporting that there are 200 persons in the Almshouse. 30 of them so bad as not to be able to be mov'd, that Gage wants to be rid of them and will furnish water carriage for their removal.

Application has been made with success for the Salem Hospital and I suppose after obtaining the approbation of the Gen. Court they will be transported there. Have just been to Corporal Frost's Tent and found him retailing a little of the good creature to cheer the spirits of his fellow soldiers. He had just receiv'd a Letter from his Sister Nabby and told me they were all well ; does the Education of the Youth still go on ? what is become of my successor ? is the plan of my former agreeable residence entirely forsaken ? a thousand things I want to know ; pray inform the anxious

LYSANDER.

July 26. Wednesday Eveng  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 10 o'clock.

P. S. Our soldiers were order'd several Nights within this week to be on the parade before day and some Nights to lie on their arms but we have had no alarm.

## CHILDREN OF CAPTAIN JOHN SALTER, MARINER.

John, born January 20, 1779 ; died February 25, 1781 (infant).

Joseph March, born April 18, 1781 ; died October, 1837. Married Sarah Frost March 3, 1806. His son Joseph was in the Navy, and died in Columbus, Miss.

Dorothy, born August 29, 1782 ; died in 1853. Married John Frost October 30, 1826.

Elizabeth, born June 22, 1784 ; died October 24, 1808 (buried in Cotton burying-ground). Married W. H. Wilkins.

William, born January 23, 1787 ; died September 25, 1849 (buried in Cotton burying-ground). Married Mary Ewen. They had five children : William, Mary, Benjamin, Frances, and Charles.

John, born July 5, 1788 ; died January 10, 1858. Married Sarah Tibbits.

Maria Jane, born June 20, 1790. Married Samuel Cushman, member of Congress from New Hampshire.

Sarah Ann, born February 6, 1794 ; died, unmarried, in Portsmouth, October 18, 1876.

Benjamin Salter, born April 6, 1792, in Washington Street, Portsmouth. He attended the academy opened by Rev. Timothy Alden, Jr., in 1806, and at an exhibition, September 23, 1807, he gave a Greek oration. Harriet C. Tibbits appears on the programme as Leonora in "The Little Needle-woman," and as the Shop-girl Nancy in "Mrs. Dumford, the Milliner." On the same programme are the names of Hall J. Tibbits, Sarah Tibbits, Dorothy Salter, and the three sisters, Elizabeth, Maria Jane, and Sarah Ann. Benjamin Salter went to

Exeter Academy, graduated at Bowdoin College in 1814, and travelled in Europe in 1815. He returned about Christmas with a lot of toys he had bought on speculation. The following year he went into business with his brother William in Fayetteville, N. C. The firm was one of the first in the country to ship cotton to Europe. For a while he was President of the United States Branch Bank at Fayetteville. Returning to New York in 1825, his name appears as one of the founders of the Church of the Messiah. He was married August 23, 1821, by Rev. Nathan Parker, to Harriet Chase Tibbits, and went in a chaise on a bridal tour to Exeter. Later in the season he started for Fayetteville, and was a month driving there. Mails were slow in those days, and on one occasion a ship arrived in the night bringing him information that cotton had risen. The next morning he rushed out before breakfast and bought all the cotton in town. Benjamin Salter died in New York, September 8, 1858. Harriet Tibbits Salter died in New York November 1, 1872. George Salter died in Washington, August 15, 1895. They were all buried in the Portsmouth Cemetery.

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CHILDREN OF BENJAMIN SALTER AND HARRIET  
TIBBITS SALTER.

Mary, married by Rev. Orville Dewey, D.D., October 29, 1845, to Richard G. Porter.

Jane, married by Rev. Samuel Osgood, D.D., November 22, 1854, to Samuel W. Thomas.

George, married by Rev. Samuel Osgood, D.D., January 14, 1858, to Mary E. Keeler.

Caroline, married to Marcelo M. Delgado, April 22, 1861.

William, married by Rev. Henry W. Bellows, D.D., May 18, 1872, to Georgianna Harrison.

Harriet, married by Rev. O. B. Frothingham, February 26, 1875, to J. Freeman Howard.

Albert, married June 21, 1877, by Bishop Niles, of New Hampshire, to Frances Philbrook.

Three children died in infancy : William and Frances, each fourteen months old, buried in Cotton Cemetery, and Harriet, fourteen days old, buried in the Hudson Street Cemetery, New York.

#### GRANDCHILDREN OF BENJAMIN SALTER AND HARRIET CHASE TIBBITS.

Frank Porter, married Emma Hobart and Ida Stow.

Harry Porter, married Virginia Raney.

Edward Porter, married Josie Wakefield.

Elizabeth Porter, married George Ruge.

William Porter, married Effie Walker.

Richard Porter.

Rodman Porter, died January 18, 1881.

Frank Thomas, married Estelle Claremont.

Robert Thomas, married Mary Fletcher and Louise Shaw.

Agnes Thomas, married Wilmot Townsend.

Wesley Bray Salter, }  
 Jasper Colton Salter, } children of George Salter.  
 Mabel C. Salter, }

Huldah Jenness Salter, daughter of Albert Salter.

May Florence Salter, daughter of William T. Salter, died July 13, 1886.

GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN OF BENJAMIN SALTER AND  
HARRIET CHASE TIBBITS.

Children of Frank Porter : Edmund Hobart, Frances Rodman, and Marietta.

Children of Harry Porter : Harriet Frances, Mary Tibbits, Virginia Raney, Richard, Elizabeth Lamar, and Gilbert Rodman.

Children of Edward Porter : Ethel, Edward Barnard, Josephine, and Eleanor Wakefield.

Children of Elizabeth Porter Ruge : Herman, Earnest, Edwin Weed, and Olive.

Children of William Porter : Mary, Richard, Walker, and Leila.

Children of Agnes Thomas Townsend : Susana Bell and Janet Salter.

Children of Robert Thomas : Virginia Fletcher, Ruby Louise, and Ruth.

PEPPERRELL.

Everett Pepperell Wheeler says :

“Colonel Pepperrell, a native of Devonshire, England, was left an orphan at an early age, without resources of any kind except his own indomitable courage. He came from England during the reign of William and Mary, and was apprenticed to the captain of a fishing schooner employed on the coast of Newfoundland. When he finished his term of service he took up his abode on the Isles of Shoals, at that time inhabited by fishermen, who sought these lonely isles for security from the Indians, and who found in their adventurous trade the means of

earning a livelihood, and in one instance at least the means of acquiring the beginnings of a fortune.

“The Colonel had three sisters probably with him at the Shoals, which had a population at one time of six hundred, supported an able minister, and sent two delegates to the General Court of Massachusetts.

“After the Colonel married and settled at Kittery, about 1680, a garrison house was erected and maintained at the Point, to which families might resort when threatened by sudden assaults from Indians, and as early as 1700 a fort was erected which went by his name. Colonel Church, in 1704, had orders to send his sick and wounded to Pepperrell’s Fort. In 1714 the province of Massachusetts made Kittery Point a port of entry, and erected a fort, with six guns. Pepperrell had command of this fort, also a company of militia, and rose to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.”

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#### MARGERIE BRAY.

Kittery obtained a charter in 1647, and about 1660 John Bray, ship-builder from Plymouth, County of Devon, England, arrived at the Piscataqua, bringing with him his wife, Joanna, and his daughter, Margery, a year old.

King Philip’s war broke out in 1675, and on the return of peace John Bray was able to extend his business upon a large and lucrative scale. Ship-building, which he followed during a long life, was an early and an extensive branch of industry on the Piscataqua. It was rendered particularly profitable by the policy of the home government which favored ship-building more than any other trade, insomuch that the ship carpenters on the



Col. William Pepperrell



Thames complained in 1724 that their business was hurt and their workmen emigrated, caused by the building of so many vessels in New England.

Margery had arrived at the age of seventeen when she first saw Colonel Pepperrell, who, smitten with her youthful charms, was not slow in making his impressions known; but he was so poor that Margery would not listen to him, and the prosperous ship-builder did not favor the young fisherman from Appledore. However, in a few years, by his industry and frugality, he acquired enough to send out a brig, which he loaded to Hull, England. By this time Margery was out of her teens, and her father gave his consent. They were married and built the Pepperrell mansion at Kittery, which is still used as a dwelling-house. In the next half century the largest fortune then known in New England was accumulated in this house.

Colonel Pepperrell's letters to his captains are written in a good hand:

“Pascataqua 1 day May 1712 John Vennard you beeing now master of ye sloupe Mirram now riding in ye harbor of Pascataqua by God's grace bound to Antego my order is for you to imbrace ye first fare wind God shall send and saile derectly for Antego and being thare arrived my order is for you to adres your selfe to Mr Anthony Mountero and to him deleavre my letters and goods.”

“Copey of this I reed which by God's assistance I intend to follow.” Signed

JOHN VENNARD.

Colonel Pepperrell educated his children in the best manner the time and place permitted:

Andrew, born July 1, 1681. Married Jane Elliot.

They had two daughters : Sarah, married Charles Frost ; Margery, married William Wentworth. When Andrew died his widow married another Charles Frost.

Mary, born September 5, 1685.

Margery, born in 1689, married Peletiah Whitmore and Elihu Gunnison.

Joanna, born June 22, 1692. Married George Jackson.

Miriam, born September 3, 1694. Married Andrew Tyler.

William, born June 27, 1696. Married Mary Hirst.

Dorothy, born July 23, 1698. Married Andrew Watkins and Joseph Newmarch.

Jane, born in 1701. Married Benjamin Clark and William Tyler (another case of two sisters marrying two brothers).

William Pepperrell, who married Mary Hirst, March 16, 1723, was the leading merchant of New England, and by his great popularity obtained the command of the expedition against Louisburg, with four thousand men. In 1747 he visited England, and was greeted by King and people as the hero of Louisburg. He was made a Baronet for his services, and appointed Lieutenant-General February 20, 1759. During the latter part of his life he was the most prominent man in America, George Washington alone excepted.

The following notice of our grandmother's death appeared in the *Boston Post Boy* :

“ Kittery, April 30, 1741. Last Friday, after a short illness, departed this life, and this day was decently interred, Madam Margery Pepperrell, of this place, in the eighty-first year of her age. She was born in Plymouth, in Old England, came hither with her parents in infancy, who left their native country for the free enjoyment of



Lieutenant-General Sir William Pepperrell



their religious principles. She was, through the whole course of her life, very exemplary for unaffected piety and amiable virtues, especially her charity, her courteous affability, her prudence, meekness, patience, and her unweariness in well-doing. As it pleased God to afford her worldly advantages and a large capacity for doing good, so she improved them to the honor of God and the service of her generation—being charitable without ostentation, and making it her constant rule to do good to all as she had opportunity. She was not only a loving and discreet wife and tender parent, but a sincere friend to all her acquaintances. She hath left behind her one son and five daughters and many grandchildren, who rise up and call her blessed. She was justly esteemed while living, and at death as much regretted. As she lived a life of faith and constant obedience to the Gospel, so she died with great inward peace and comfort, and the most cheerful resignation to the will of God.”

Colonel Pepperrell held the office of Justice of the Peace from 1690 to 1725. In 1715 he and Charles Frost were appointed Judges of the Court of Common Pleas. August 10, 1730, Colonel Pepperrell writes Thomas Salter, enclosing account sales for two hundred and ninety pounds: “I do not desire to keep any man’s money. I shall pay ye money down or give orders for it at Boston. Am afraid to come to Boston for feare of ye small pocks.” Colonel Pepperrell died February 15, 1734, aged eighty-seven years, and left each of his six daughters five hundred pounds. His two sons, Andrew and William, carried on the lumber business, as appears by the letter of Major-General Bradstreet, Governor of Newfoundland, who died in New York in 1774.

ST JOHN May 29, 1748

Dear Sir

This is the first oppertunity which has offerd this spring for New England wch I embrace with great pleasure ; first to assure you of my sincere regards as also to let you see I hold my good friend always in remembrance. The two letters you wrote me from Louisburg last fall I rec'd and fully answered in a few days after wch no doubt you have rec'd. As to publick news shall not troble you with any as what we have hear is of no shorter time than the beginning of April which no doubt you must have had. We look for the ffeet in every day from England. On the 24 inst brocke out a fire in this Town which has consumed to the value of twenty thousand pounds sterling and had not the wind favor'd us greatly the whole town must have been Burnt Down ; if Brother Andrew has any Lumber Vessels he cannot send them here in a better time than this for their is not any in the Harbor and is greatly wanted. I am at work watching the motion of the french on the North part of this Island where they carry on a fishery I am not without hopes of ouer having a trick at them this summer if they come their.

I suppose now you will be quite easey with regard to the affairs of your regiment as you are so greatly better'd in your Liut.-Colo. I hope you have had a plesent winter and that your Lady Pepperrell and family have injoyd perfect health. My wife has been as bad as any person could be for this two months past but thank God she is recovering and joins with me in our sincer complements to you and your Lady and family. I am with the greatest sincerity and regard sir your Most Obedt and most humble Servt

JNO BRADSTREET.

The Honble Sir Willm Pepperrell Bart.



Mary Bray Pepperrell



## NICHOLAS FROST.

Nicholas Frost was born about 1585, in Tiverton, Devonshire, England, and when forty-five years old married Bertha Cadwalla, aged twenty years. They arrived at Little Harbor in June, 1634, and Elliot, Maine, in 1636. Nicholas Frost was a farmer, esteemed a trustworthy, judicious citizen, and appointed constable in 1640. October 16, 1649, he was on the grand jury that met at Gorgeana. He died July 20, 1663, leaving five children: John, Nicholas, Catharine, Elizabeth, and Charles.

The latter, born in Tiverton, July 30, 1631, received the homestead and five hundred acres of land. The howling of wolves around his father's cabin was his evening entertainment, and from the neighboring hill-top his morning vision could survey the curling smoke arising from the numerous Indian villages on the tributary stream of the Piscataqua. The savage yell and war-whoop awakened no fearful throbbings in his youthful heart, but rather served to enkindle a zeal for daring and heroic achievements. He early evinced a fondness for military exercises and parades, and being enrolled as a soldier at sixteen he gradually rose through successive grades to be commander-in-chief of the militia of Maine. The Major became a distinguished man in civil and military life. Maine being a province of Massachusetts, he was chosen to represent it at the General Court in 1658, when he was twenty-six years of age. He held the office five years, and in 1669 he was sent again and placed in command of six companies of Maine militia. He commanded a company in King Philip's war, which broke out in 1675, and for two years was actively engaged

in fighting the Indians, who had burnt a vast number of houses on the Piscataqua and killed two hundred and sixty settlers. King William's war began in 1688, and raged with great fury. August 23, 1689, in the reign of William and Mary, Charles Frost, was appointed Major of the military forces of the province. In 1693 the war raged with increased barbarity, and continued until his death, July 4, 1697, within a mile of his dwelling.

Colonel Pepperrell writes to Captain Hill at Saco, November 12, 1696: "I think it may be safer and better to bend her sails before you launch her so as to leave immediately, for Sir it will be dangerous tarrying there on account of hostile savages in the vicinity. I send you a barrel of rum and there is a cask of wine to launch with."

Joseph Storer writes from Wells: "It hath pleased God to take away Major Frost. The Indens waylad him last Sabbath day as he was cominge whom from meeting at night; and killed him and John Heards wife and Denes Downing and John Heard is wounded. Mistress Frost is very full of sory and all her children Cousin Charles and John was with their father and escaped wonderfully."

Two hundred years later a tablet was erected in memory of Major Frost, and an address delivered by Rev. William Salter, D.D., of Burlington, Iowa.

Major Frost married Mary Bolles, of Wells. Her father is mentioned in the will of John Bolles, of St. James, Clerkenwell, Middlesex, dated July 1, 1665: "I given unto my brother, Joseph Bolles, living in New England, three hundred pounds."

Joseph Bolles was town clerk of Wells, 1654 to 1664, and his house was burned by the savages, and volume one of the town records destroyed, so Mistress Frost must

have had some sad experiences with the horrors of Indian warfare during a long-life. Major Frost died in February, 1678, aged seventy years, leaving a large estate to his widow, who died in November, 1704, to six daughters : Sarah, Abigail, Mehitable, Lydia, Mary, and Elizabeth, and three sons : Charles (who had ten children) ; Nicholas (who left a widow and two children), and John.

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HON. JOHN FROST . .

Was born March 1, 1681, and while a boy with a loaded musket watched for Indians while his father worked on the farm. On one occasion an alarm was given and the house was surrounded by savages, who were finally driven off. John escaped wonderfully, as the record says, returning from church, at the age of sixteen years, when his father was killed. When he was twenty-one years of age he fell in love with the beautiful daughter of Colonel Pepperrell. He was married by the Rev. Joseph Hammond, September 4, 1702, to Mary on her seventeenth birthday, and they had seventeen children. John Frost commanded H. B. M. frigate *Edward* in 1709. He afterward pursued the profession of a merchant in New Castle, where he soon rose to eminence, held a high rank, became wealthy, was much distinguished, and highly respected in civil life. He was sworn in as a Royal Councillor, July 26, 1724, by order of George II., the same year as Jotham Odiorne.

At a council held in Portsmouth July 15, 1717, Captain John Frost, in command of the ship *Bonetta Pinck*, complained of a pirate called *Le Grand*, two hundred and fifty tons burden, carrying twenty guns and one hundred and seventy men. They celebrated the Fourth

of July by taking from him forty hogsheads of rum, several barrels of sugar, and a negro man—presumably to mix the drinks. The cargo came from Barbadoes, and was bound to Portsmouth. All captains at this time brought slaves to New England.

In the island referred to, in a census taken by order of his Excellency, Sir Jonathan Atkins, in 1679, Richard Salter was reported as having two hundred and seventeen acres of land, four white servants, and one hundred and twenty negroes. There would appear to be no necessity for so many hands on a small farm unless he was supplying the rich people of New Castle with household servants.

In the burying-ground at New Castle, close to the road, may be seen three graves, viz. :

“Here lyes the body of the Hon. John Frost, Esq., who departed this life Feb. 25, 1732, aged 50 years, 11 mos and 24 days.”

“Here lyes buried the body of Joseph Frost, Esq., who departed this life Sept. ye 14th, 1768, aged 50 years and 11 months.”

“Sarah, widow of the late Capt. Richard S. Tibbits and youngest daughter of Joseph and Margaret Frost, aged 85.”

John Frost's widow married again, and died April 18, 1766, aged eighty years, and was buried in Danvers.

Joseph Frost's widow married again, and died July 15, 1813, aged eighty-nine years, and was buried in Somersworth.

Captain Tibbits died in the West Indies.

Mary Pepperrell Frost lived in elegance at New Castle after her marriage in 1702. Her best bed was covered with white tabby silk. Her father and husband were rich, and she accumulated an enormous quantity of silver



Hon. John Frost,  
Commanding H. B. M. Frigate "Edward"



for the times. There was enough to fill a large closet, and when she married again it all went with her to Boston. William Tyler writes to Sir William Pepperrell, July 5, 1745: "Your sister Frost came to town to see her son Joseph who was thought would have died and Rev. Dr. Colman has persuaded her to come and live with him and they are to be married in thirty days from this date."

The news of the capture of Louisburg had reached Boston two days before, and a general illumination took place. Mary Pepperrell Frost had been a widow thirteen years, and was now sixty years old, twelve years younger than Parson Coleman. They were married by Rev. Joseph Sewall, D.D., August 12, 1745. Dr. Colman, the first pastor of the Brattle Street Church was one of the most distinguished ministers in New England. In high intellectual cultivation he had but few equals. To nature as well as to culture he was indebted for a most graceful and winning manner and pleasing address, which constituted one of his most distinguishing accomplishments. Born in Boston October 19, 1673, graduated at Harvard at nineteen, he spent four years in London, where he was ordained August 4, 1699, and at once returned to Boston and commenced to preach. He was invited to be President of Harvard in 1724, but declined.

The parsonage must have been well stocked with silver after the arrival of the third wife of the popular parson. Wedding-gifts were always numerous to the clergy in colonial times, when they occupied a much higher position in political life than they do now. His colleague says: "The music of his voice, the propriety of his accent, and the decency of his gestures showed him one

of the most graceful speakers of the age. He composed with great rapidity and elegance, and his pre-eminent talents in this respect were in constant requisition to draft letters and addresses from the churches to the General Court, the King and his ministers." He married in 1700, when he was twenty-seven years old, Jane Clark, aged thirty-one years. Later he married Sarah.

Sarah had her trunks filled with spoons, and must have been the most fascinating woman in Boston. Her charms of person or purse were such that she was irresistible. Born September 15, 1672, Sarah married at twenty-three William Harris, treasurer of the Brattle Street Church, a rich and influential merchant. After his death, in 1721, Sarah married the Hon. and Rev. John Leverett, President of Harvard, a widower. After the death of the President, the Hon. John Clarke appeared, and he was united to Sarah, then forty-three, by Parson Colman. John died, and Sarah, though a year older than the parson, captured him. Sarah died April 24, 1744, aged seventy-one. Parson Colman lived only two years after his third marriage, dying August 29, 1747, aged seventy-four. On October 6, 1748, his widow married, for the third time, Judge Benjamin Prescott, and became step-mother to her son William, and her relatives for years after talked about the chests of silver-plate from the parsonage, contributed at so many weddings, that all went to Danvers never to return. Lieutenant-General Pepperrell, who died July 6, 1759, visited his sister at her home on his return from Boston in the spring of 1759.

Our grandmother died April 18, 1766, aged eighty.



Mary Pepperrell-Frost-Colman-Prescott



## CHILDREN OF JOHN FROST AND MARY PEPPERRELL.

Margery, born February 1, 1704 ; died in infancy.

William, born August 20, 1705 ; married Elizabeth, daughter of Rev. Benjamin Prescott, who married his mother October 6, 1748.

John, born May 12, 1709 ; married Sarah Gerrish.

Charles, born August 27, 1710 ; married Joanna Jackson and Sarah Jackson.

Mary, born August 19, 1711 ; died in infancy.

Sarah, born February 1, 1713 ; married Rev. John Blunt, of New Castle.

Mary, born February 16, 1714 ; died in infancy.

Andrew, born April 12, 1716 ; was many years blind.

Joseph, born September 29, 1717 ; married Margaret Colton.

Abigail, born May 26, 1719 ; not married.

George, born April 26, 1720 ; married an English woman, and second wife Widow Smith, of Durham.

Samuel, born August 19, 1721 ; died in infancy.

Benjamin, born May 15, 1725 ; died in infancy.

Jane, born May 15, 1725 ; married Andrew Watkins.

Miriam, born October 8, 1722 ; married Elliot Frost and Alexander Raitt.

Mary, born July 2, 1726 ; died in infancy.

Dorothy, born August 21, 1727 ; married Captain Clifford, of Salem.

(Note.—Three infants named Mary died.)

John Albee says Rev. John Blunt married into a notable family, whose name has been honorably associated with New Castle from about 1700. Madame Sarah Blunt wrote poetry. Her sisters were celebrated for their

amiability and intelligence. Abigail died in the splendor of early womanhood, January 30, 1742, aged twenty-two.

Released from cares at rest she lies,  
 Then peaceful slumbers close her eyes.  
 Her faith all trials did endure  
 Like a strong pillar firm and pure.  
 Did adverse winds tempestuous roll  
 Hope was the anchor of her soul.  
 We by the olive in her hand  
 Her peaceful end may understand.  
 And by the coronet is shown  
 Virtue at last shall wear the crown.

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#### JOSEPH FROST.

Born September 29, 1717, died September 14, 1768. He married Margaret Colton, October 20, 1744, and the year following he was so ill in Boston that his mother came to see him, and a month later gave him her house. in New Castle, as she had concluded to reside in Boston.

December 9, 1749, "Joseph Frost, mariner, of New Castle, bought of Alec Clarke's widow four thousand acres of land that she got from Geo. Davie." This deed is witnessed by Elizabeth Prescott, who married William Frost, November 24, 1750; also by William and George Frost, and recorded by Daniel Moulton, in liber 28. In liber 2, folio 45, is the record by Walter Phillips of the sale of this tract to George Davis by Nicodeshant Queese-meck and Obias for the sum of twelve pounds, dated December 21, 1663, in the "15th year of the reign of our Lord King Charles the second by the Grace of God of England Scotland France and Ireland King and defender of the faith." The land is described as lying on the west or north side of Wicheaseke Bay, west or north side of Mount Swedes Bay.

## COLTON.

Thomas and Margaret Bliss were married in England, which they left on account of religious persecution. They had six children born in England and four in America. Their son Lawrence came to this country with his father in 1635, and died in 1676. He married, October 25, 1654, Lydia, nineteen years old, daughter of Samuel Wright, one of the first settlers in the Connecticut Valley, at Springfield, and the Wright sort of a wife for colonial days, when every man took his gun to church and sat at the foot of the pew ready to rush to the door when the guards posted outside gave the alarm. Elder Brewster could preach and pray, but never hesitated a moment when it became necessary to go on Indian campaigns and fight the savages. It was only a question of life or death, and there was no time to lose. The Indians owned the country, and the white folks were driving them out, but the ministers overlooked all questions of morals and principles when savages were concerned, and joined their parishioners in the fights.

The Deerfield massacre sent a thrill of horror throughout New England. Husbands did not last long in those terrible Indian wars of King Philip. Lydia had four lovers, married them all, and died a widow at the age of sixty-four, December 17, 1699. Her father had been killed by the Indians at Northfield in 1675, and on October 31, 1678, Lydia married John Norton. On January 7, 1688, she married John Lamb, and on March 1, 1692, it was George Colton's opportunity, and he had Bliss for seven years, until February 13, 1699, and then for ten months Lydia was left alone with her four gold wedding rings.

Dr. Colton says that our American Adam, George Colton, from Sutton, England, has honorable mention in the Springfield, Mass., town records of 1645. Was representative in 1669. Died February 13, 1699. Married Deborah Gardner and had five sons and four daughters.

Lawrence Bliss had a sister, Hannah Bliss, who married Thomas Colton, son of George Colton. Lydia and Hannah were sisters-in-law until the fourth marriage, when Lydia became mother-in-law to Hannah.

Margaret Colton, daughter of Samuel Colton and Margaret Bliss, of Springfield, and great-granddaughter of George Colton, the ancestor of all the Coltons of New England, was born April 19, 1724, and attended school in Boston. Margaret was married at home at the age of twenty, and rode on horseback behind her husband all the way from Springfield to New Castle

Joseph Frost died in 1768, twenty-four years after his marriage. Margaret remained a widow twenty-four years, and at the age of sixty-eight, in 1792, she married Judge Rollins, of Rollinsford, N. H., who died eight years later.

Our grandmother passed her childhood in a section of the country that had witnessed the fiercest Indian battles recorded in colonial times. Then she moved to Boston during the great excitement caused by the French war. She was visited by her mother-in-law in 1745, when Joseph was ill. At that time news had come of the great victory achieved by the four thousand soldiers raised in New England, commanded by her husband's uncle. Our grandmother was in New Castle during the Revolution, and probably had many friends in the army. Reference is made to Corporal Frost in the letter to her daughter Jenny. In the war of 1812 our grandmother was at

Rollinsford, where she died, July 15, 1813, aged eighty-nine.

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CHILDREN OF JOSEPH FROST AND MARGARET COLTON.

Margaret, born December 8, 1747 ; died in 1805. Married John Wentworth and John Waldron.

Joseph, born May 3, 1749 ; died in 1830. Married Sarah Simpson.

George, born November 24, 1750 ; died in 1808. Married Abigail Bell.

Mary, born January 29, 1752 ; died in 1819. Married Stephen Chase.

Miriam, born February 11, 1755 ; died in 1756.

Jane, born March 17, 1757 ; died in 1837. Married John Salter.

Dorothy, born February 27, 1759 ; died in 1838. Married James Jewett.

Samuel, born January 27, 1760 ; died in 1827.

Abigail, born September 6, 1762 ; died in 1848.

William, born September 16, 1764 ; died at sea.

Sarah, born June 11, 1766 ; died January 4, 1852. Married Richard S. Tibbits.

Our grandmother, Sarah Tibbits, who was two years old when her father died, was the last survivor of a large family. She and Abigail Frost lived together many years in the Pleasant Street House, opposite the hill. Her sister Mary married Stephen Chase, April 28, 1771. Their grandson, Noah Tibbits, has a son of the same name living in Brooklyn.

Masson, in the *Yankee Navy*, published in 1898, says : " Historians have rarely done justice to the services of our navy during the war of the Revolution. In addition to the government ships of war, hastily improvised and

in great part recruited from the merchant vessels, the colonies fitted out privateers of their own, aided in many instances by private citizens, and there can be no doubt that our success in the war could not have been accomplished except by the co-operation of these daring navigators. They kept the army supplied with arms, ammunition, and clothing captured from the enemy, and many a time when the spirit of our troops was at the lowest ebb, some bold naval exploit served to revive their courage. Most of the battles fought by the Americans were fought with implements captured from the British vessels. The principal things the Continental Army lacked were guns, ammunition, clothes, and money. In order to pamper the soldiers with luxuries of this sort it was necessary to capture them from the enemy. So Commodore Hopkins sailed away in his fleet in February, 1776, to the Bahama Islands, and in March took New Providence and secured a hundred cannon and some valuable stores. On his return with the spoils, after taking two vessels, the commodore retired from the service. In 1776 the *Mellish* was captured with ten thousand British uniforms. It is needless to say that these were very welcome to our impoverished army."

In 1776 the American Navy had twenty-five vessels, carrying four hundred and twenty-two guns, to oppose the British fleet of seventy-eight, mounting 2078 guns. But, with the aid of privateers owned by individuals or the colonies, they captured eight hundred British merchantmen. During the eight years' war the American loss in gunboats was twenty-four, while the British was one hundred and two ships of war. At the close of the war three gunboats were left, and they were promptly disposed of, in order to rid the country of any semblance of

a navy. The navy was a relic of the past, good while it lasted, but of no further consequence. Young republics had no need of them. A Senator from Pennsylvania said the navy is a menace to our republican institutions, and "eleven unfortunate men now in slavery in Algiers is the pretext for fitting out a fleet." Up to the year 1793, Portugal, who kept a strong fleet at Gibraltar, agreed to protect American vessels. In 1795 a peace was arranged with Algiers. Not having a navy we were obliged to buy our sailors back. It cost about a million dollars to do it, and an annual tribute of twenty-two thousand dollars to Algiers. Then Congress woke up, and by a majority of two ordered the *Constitution* and twenty other gunboats. Our naval war with France lasted from May 28, 1798, to February 3, 1801.

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### TIBBITS.

LIEUTENANT RICHARD SALTER TIBBITS, U. S. NAVY.

Israel Tibbits came from London to Portsmouth, and married, in 1759, Mehitable Salter, then twenty-one years old. She was a daughter of Richard Salter. They lived in the Deering home, opposite South Mill bridge, between South and New Castle Streets. Mehitable had three children : Sarah, born May 29, 1760 ; Richard, born May 10, 1762 ; Hannah, born January 18, 1765. Israel died in 1771, and his widow married Mr. Moulton, of Moultonboro, and had two more children, John and Nabby.

Captain Salter took his nephew, when eight years old, to London to be educated. He later took him to sea with him as an apprentice. The battle of Lexington was

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

letters. August 5, 1781, he writes Sarah Buxell, near School-house Lane, Ratcliff Highway, London, for the address of George Boyd, late merchant of Portsmouth, but now living in London. Although but nineteen, he says :

“ Dear Miss Buxell : The ancient friendship that has subsisted between you and myself has induced me to take the liberty to address a few lines to you, as your father’s Christian name has escaped my memory, to acquaint you and your father of my being at present confined in this place. There is no prospect at present of being released from my unhappy situation. I had little expectation of such a dismal prison as this being my residence when I left your father’s house.”

Then follows a copy of a letter to George Boyd :

“ SIR : My present unfortunate and distressed situation of captivity I hope will in some respect apologize for the reason of my present address. The knowledge I have of your ever humane and benevolent disposition, together with the intimacy and friendship that had hitherto subsisted between yourself and my connexions are the principal motives that induce me to state to you in part my situation, in hope thereby to excite your commiseration and to meet your favor and bounty. I had the very unhappy and singular misfortune to be committed here on account of being taken in a letter-of-marque brig under the command of Captain Samuel Gerrish, and am here now about a year, and no more prospect of redemption than the day I was brought here ; my distress increases with my time in captivity, for when first imprisoned had saved some little, that on being sold contributed to my relief, but Time by her woeful experience, hath, notwithstanding a becoming prudence, made way with the whole for some time past, and my situation is such as is scarcely

to be described, having barely a sufficiency of even the common necessities 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

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

that she could intercept our retreat. She then began to make sail and gave us chase. We had a fresh breeze and were running almost before the wind ; the masts and spars of each vessel would about bear all we could crowd upon them. It was an eventful period with us, for we saw that she was determined to come up with us, and we had every reason to believe she was an enemy, and that she had too many guns for us. I presume there never was a fairer chase. I do not now record the distance from Guadaloupe to Montserrat, but be it more or less she chased us from one island even into the harbor of the other. The chase continued from 8 or 9 in the morning until 3 or 4 P.M.

“ Our pursuer was the brig *Bee*, mounting sixteen guns, and reputed a very fast sailer. She was within a mile of us when the chase began, and after having chased us several hours a heavy squall in which she was obliged to douse a considerable number of her sails, brought her within forty rods, yet she did not fire a gun. We had as many hands—eighteen—as was necessary to work our vessel, and I question whether there was ever a vessel worked in a more masterly manner. The same squall which struck the *Bee* in turn struck us also, but we having had opportunity to observe its weight and effect upon the privateer were better prepared for it. We being in complete readiness, every man having a perfect knowledge of his business, we took in our studding-sails, clewed up our top-gallant sails and let run our topsails, jib, and staysails, and immediately commenced setting them again. The *Scorpion* now left the *Bee* as fast as the *Bee* had gained on the *Scorpion* in the time of the squall. The *Bee*, notwithstanding, hurriedly continued even into the harbor of Montserrat. The *Bee* kept French colors flying

during the whole chase, but I am not certain whether we showed any colors. We ran as near the shore as we dared, and let go an anchor. She came within a hundred yards of us, hove ship, and hailed us. While laying under our stern, broadside to, she had opportunity to have done us considerable injury by raking us ; but her commander had the humanity and generosity to refrain from injuring us except to frighten us, and more specially the French pilot and his boat's crew, who by this time had got on board and seeing the *Bee* laying broadside to us, her ports up and guns out, were in expectation of receiving a broadside. Some of them jumped below and others fell upon their faces, crying out, '*Foutre d'Anglais.*' The *Bee* stood to sea again under all the sail she could set. The fort immediately commenced firing upon her, but she seemed to bid them defiance, by hauling down her French colors and displaying the English flag, and made her escape without receiving any injury." This extraordinary chase and manœuvring must have been highly interesting to a disinterested spectator. Sherburne says they sailed with a cargo for Alexandria, Va., and were captured by his Majesty's ship *Amphion*, forty guns, at two in the morning. "We were standing directly for each other. As soon as we discovered her we hove about, but all our endeavors to escape her were abortive, for we were within musket shot. The discharge of a few of the heavy cannon accomplished her object. Our Captain Tibbits and three others continued on board the *Scorpion*, which was afterward cast away, but I believe no lives were lost. Thirteen of us were put on board the *Amphion*, and two weeks later we arrived at the prison-ship in New York."

Sherburne writes : "The war being ended, I shipped on board the ship *Lydia*, commanded by my old friend

Captain R. S. Tibbits, bound to North Carolina, then to Lishon.

“ Nothing uncommon occurred until we made the land on the coast of Portugal. We stood along the coast under easy sail ; it being toward night we did not wish to approach very near the land. The weather was very pleasant and the wind light.

“ The Algerines at this time were committing depredations on our commerce. It was but little before this that Captain O'Brien had been taken, who, with his crew, were in slavery among them a number of years. We were in some fear of them and kept a bright lookout. I had gone below at 12 o'clock and turned in, but was not yet asleep. I thought I heard the distant sound of a human voice ; the captain was on deck and busy in talking. I heard the sound again, and began to feel alarmed, and was turning out, but discovered that they heard the sound on deck and were listening and looking out. The sound neared us fast. All hands were immediately on deck. There was now no question but the sound was from an Algerine galley, which was by this time within fifty yards of us. She hailed in several different languages, and Captain Tibbits having the helm, there being plenty of work for every one else, gave them indirect answers. Never were people more alarmed than we were now. Never did a crew make sail quicker ; we set our top-gallant sails, hauling our wind a little, and got out our studding-sails, etc., and by this time our pursuer was within twenty yards of us. She feigned herself in distress, and designed thereby to decoy us. She had laid under the land without having any sail set, and by that means could not be discovered by us before night ; while at the same time she could very plainly discover us, and, having

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,

1795, Sherburne was engaged by Captain John Salter, then living in Washington Street, Portsmouth, Colonel S. Sberburne and Joseph Aharman, to lay out the township of Success into one hundred acre lots. This township lies twenty miles north of the White Hills, and is bounded on the east by the State of Maine. The people in Kittery made application to the New Hampshire association for some supply in preaching, and Elder Simon Locke was appointed to visit them in August, 1790. In August, 1899, the Pepperrell Family Association made application to Mr. Joseph A. Locke, of Portland, to visit them in Kittery and arrange the articles of incorporation. In 1803, as a result of Elder Locke's preaching, Sherburne was ordained a minister in the Baptist Church, in his thirty-eighth year. In 1810 he was appointed assistant marshal to take the census of Kittery, and all the towns from the Piscataqua River to Saco then having a population of sixteen thousand. In April, 1823, Sherburne was in Philadelphia, and says he took the steamboat for Bordentown, then a stage through Trenton and Princeton to New Brunswick, and another steamboat to New York. He says: "I took an opportunity to visit the navy yard, directly opposite to which formerly lay that dismal ship, the old *Jersey*. I passed over her remains, some of which I could see lying in the bottom of the East River."

Tibbits's log-book reports another voyage in war times. On November 25, 1783, the British left New York, and on Thursday, May 28, 1783, the brig *Neptune*, Captain Shackford, left Long Wharf, Portsmouth, and sailed to the West Indies with a load of lumber, which was exchanged for puncheons of rum, and landed in Portsmouth in September. In July they were in Jacmel Bay (where

Tibbits died in 1821); Captain Shackford was taken down with the fever and was sick many days. At Port Antonio the Captain went ashore to the fort by desire of the commanding officer. Port Maria, Ocoya, Morro Castle, Havana, and other ports are mentioned. Another log shows Tibbits was near Havana April 6, 1812.

Lieutenant Tibbits was one of the first officers selected for the new navy of the United States. He had been educated abroad, accustomed to the sea all his life, and was considered a very skilful navigator. He entered the service December 5, 1798, during the war with France. John Adams, who was then President, signed his commission January 7, 1799. C. W. Goldsborough, for Secretary of the Navy, wrote him four days later: "The President of the United States by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, has appointed you a Lieutenant in the Navy of the United States. You will immediately repair on board the ship *Portsmouth*, commanded by Daniel McNeill." The *Portsmouth*, twenty-four guns, built in Portsmouth, carried a crew of two hundred and twenty men.

Lieutenant Tibbits died in Jacmel, Hayti, in October, 1821. He married Sarah Frost, December 7, 1787. His uncle, John Salter, married her sister, Jane Frost, November 1, 1783. Sarah Frost Tibbits, who was born June 11, 1766, lived for many years in Pleasant Street, Portsmouth, where she died January 4, 1852.

On a sheet of paper that had been sent to R. S. Tibbits there is copied an extract from a letter:

"August 26, 1784. Is not this strange weather? Winter absorbed the spring, and now autumn is come before we have summer. But let not our kindness for each other imitate the inconstancy of the seasons. To

wish you more time would not be kind, but what time you have you must bestow upon me. Since I was here I have two little letters from you, and have not had the gratitude to write, but every man is most free with his best friends, because he does not suppose that they will suspect him of intentional incivility. I thank you for your affectionate letter. I hope we shall both be the better for each other's friendship, and I hope we shall not very quickly be parted. Your letter was indeed long in coming, but it was very welcome. Our acquaintance has now subsisted long, and our recollection of each other involves a great space and many little occurrences which melt the thoughts to tenderness. Write to me therefore as frequently as you can."

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CHILDREN OF R. S. TIBBITS AND SARAH FROST.

First child, born April 20, 1789 ; died in infancy.

Richard, born April 25, 1790. Married, in 1822, Martha W. Mellen, and died July 19, 1838.

Hall, born April 25, 1790 ; died January 31, 1791.

Sarah Chase, born March 30, 1792. Married, in 1817, John Salter, and died April 16, 1867.

Harriet Chase, born March 20, 1795. Married, in 1821, Benjamin Salter, and died November 1, 1872.

Hall Jackson, born August 9, 1797. Married, in 1826, Jane C. Warner, and died August 24, 1872.

Dorothy Jewett, born July 22, 1801, and died January 17, 1848.

Mary Laurin, born August 25, 1803 ; died July 5, 1824.

William Cutter, born July 9, 1806 ; died in September, 1837.

Elizabeth, born July 9, 1806. Married, in 1837, John Lake Salter, and died October 15, 1874.

Caroline Augusta, born September 11, 1808. Married, in 1826, N. W. Merrill, and died October 18, 1877. Caroline was the last survivor of the children of R. S. Tibbits and Sarah Frost, and when she died seventeen nephews and nieces filed their claims for the Merrill ducats. Surrogate Calvin, after listening to an unusual number of distinguished people, viz., Cardinal McCloskey, General John A. Dix, Admiral Sylvanus W. Godon, General Rufus Saxton, Thurlow Weed, Cyrus W. Field, Stewart Brown, Moses Taylor, and others, rejected the will offered for probate.

The brothers and sisters of Caroline Merrill married and left families. Richard had three children: Augusta, Richard, and George. Hall had two children: George and Robert. Sarah had eight children: John, Ellen, Frances, Mary, Margery, Annie, Emily, and Augusta.

Elizabeth Tibbits married, May 27, 1837, her cousin, John L., son of Titus Salter. She had four children: John, Ellen, Abigail, and William. She died October 15, 1874.

John L. Salter, born May 21, 1806, in Portsmouth, died in Odell, Illinois, December 2, 1892. He married his second wife, Mary Jane Hall, October 7, 1875. She died February 6, 1877. Captain Salter then married his sister-in-law, Louisa A. Hall, September 11, 1877. She died January 4, 1892, and Captain Salter married again Jerusha Sprague.

William Tibbits Salter, the only surviving child of John L. Salter, was born in Maine, went West, and now lives in Lawrenceville, Illinois. He married Mary Ellen Holcomb, July 2, 1867. She died October 23,

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1891. On April 23, 1893, he married Lilian Mary Thompson. W. T. Salter has had ten children: John Henry, married Rose Robinson. Florence May, married Fred. Cook. Elizabeth Tibbits, married Warren B. Kilgore. Sarah Adeline, married John B. Stout. Clara Louise, Mary Frances, William Rymond, Stanley Wallace, George Everett, Georgie Ellen.

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