

day came Benjamin Butler to his house and after he had been there some time, he asked this Deponent if there was any body there besides his own family and he made answer that Pettit was up stairs, he then gave this Deponent a touch and desired him to walk out and upon his going out with said Butler said Butler told this Deponent that Levin Townsend had come home and that it was said he had been on board the Man of War at Norfolk and that he had brought salt and ammunition and it was to be had there and requested this Deponent to bring his gun as there was to be a muster there, in consequence of which this Deponent went immediately off to Townsends and arrived there as he believes about 9 oclock at which time there was there about 15 people some of whom were armed, and that Levin Townsend asked this Deponent as this Deponent believes to go up stairs and then told him he must swear to keep secret what should be discovered to him and at the same time asked him if he did not want salt; this Deponent asked him where the Salt was to be had, he told him it was no matter and immediately swore him; that this Deponent heard W^m B. Townsend say that salt would not do without ammunition and that Deponent heard some of the company say that they heard Levin Townsend say that when they returned they would not come alone.

before John Selby.

Josias Robins.

N^o 4

November 25th 1775.

Joshua Selby of lawfull age being called upon by the Committee deposeth as follows, that he was at W^m B. Townsend's on Sunday the 12th Instant, when he heard Levin Townsend say that he had been on board the Man of War five days, that M^r William Allen was at the said William B. Townsend's & endeavoured to persuade him to appear before the Committee, that said Townsend declared that he would die before he would be taken or submit to the punishment which he supposed the Committee would inflict on him, and this Deponent further says that early on the Wednesday morning following Benjamin Butler came to this Deponent and ask'd him to go down to W^m B. Townsends, that there was salt to be got there cheaper than it could be got at Snow Hill, that Butler told him the orders they had, was to carry loaded guns, that this Deponent accordingly went to Townsend's that when he got there he was carried up stairs, and sworn to keep secret by Levin Townsend (son of W^m B. Townsend), that on his being sworn he asked said Townsend for what purpose it was, Townsend replied to keep secrecy that they were going for salt: this Deponent asked when they were going, Townsend replied it