

it, but refers me to the Committee, and time will not permit the calling, & my going before the Committee for that purpose at this time.

I am informed, that you charge my oath against you, as the principal cause of your present troubles. This is to assure you that I never to my knowledge swore an oath against you that could in any opinion injure you, as it fairly laid before the Haverhill Convention, nor indeed could I with truth. I cannot now charge my memory what the several questions were that was asked me about you in Committee, or what my particular answers, if I said anything that was construed to show, that you intended to go on board any of the fleet under the command of Lord Drummer, introduce the King's forces or raise an army to join them. I do now solemnly declare that I never intended so to be understood, and if called upon would at any time make affidavit of it. But as I before said, I scarce know the particulars of my oath before the Committee, as being a close prisoner and under much fear and apprehension. Yet be assured, I was not so scared or surprized as to have sworn what I understood you have heard of.

I have the best love sent

Wm Barclay Townsend.

Josiah Robins

November 16th 1775.

The Deposition of Edward Pettitt being of full age do depose and saith that he lay at Josiah Robins the last night and waking before day about an hour (as he apprehended) he heard some person come to the house in which W. Robins got up and asked him to let down by the fire upon which he heard the said Robins and the person then come talking but did not give attention till he heard the said Robins say, talk easy, Pettitt is up stairs, upon which this deponent got up and went down immediately and asked who had been there. ~~so~~ early and Robins said Benjamin Butler, this deponent said he was early, Robins said he only came on an errand and was gone and said he was afraid the horses were in the field and went out hastily, upon which the said Pettitt told him if he would drive them up his lane, would follow and then went to one of the Neighbours; when he came back said Robins was gone, he then asked Mr Robins where her husband was, she was slow in answering till she sent the boys out and then told this deponent that her husband was gone to William Barclay Townsends; that Levin Townsend had been on board the Man of War and brought powder and shot enough to his father and what they called forps were all meeting in order to have it delivered as it would not be safe to keep it in one place and when they had divided the same they were to give the Man of War notice and he was to send up to their assistance that the matter might be put an end to in a short time, sometime between this and Christmas.

Taken before John Selby.

Edward Pettitt

November 15th 1775.

Mary Robins (wife of Josiah Robins) being sworn in the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God do depose and saith that on the 15th of November 1775, in the morning of the same day, Benjamin Butler came to the house of her said husband and enquired whether there was anyone in his house except his family; her husband made answer