

State of New Hampshire } To the Honble the Committes of Safety for the
Rockingham Co } State of now sitting at Exeter

(201)

Sheweth Hugh Hunter of Portsmouth in the County
of Rockingham, Mariner, now a Prisoner at Fort-Sullivan in said State,
that he was born in Portsmouth, that he was brought up in the Family
of James Stoady Esq^r of said Portsmouth, and always lived in said Ports-
mouth, untill January 1775, that he took an early, and active Part
in Favour of America, particularly in Dismantling Fort William &
Maria in this State; that some Time in said January 1775 he shipped
for the West Indies and London with the Cap^t Alexander Rute, that he
sailed with him and was on his Arrival in London press'd on Board
a British Ship of War station'd in Uooper, that he continu'd on Board
said Ship fourteen Months, and then departed; he then shipped as first
Mate on Board a Brigantine bound from London to Halifax in
Expectation to get to Portsmouth by that Route, but in a severe Storm
and Shifts of Weather they were oblig'd to put the Brig away for the
West Indies, and in running down, they were taken by the Cumberland
and Fanna, two American Privateers, and immediately entred on
Board the Fanna & went into Martinico, when he was discharge'd
with all the Crew of the Fanna, the Brig was retaken, by a British Ship
of War and carried into Dominica, your Petitioner then by the Advice
of the Cap^t of the Fanna, with his own Captain went down to the
Place where she was carried into, in order to lay a Claim to said Brig
and get their Wages, which they did; your Petitioner then endeavour'd
to get a Passage to some Place, that he might easily make his Way
to these States; and having then an Offer to navigate the Schooner
Betsy to Halifax he thought the most ready & direct Way to get to
New Hampshire, when his Father notwithstanding, that during his Passage
he was captured by Cap^t Peverly in the Schooner Friends Adventure
and brought into Portsmouth; that during the whole Time of his
Absence from ~~this State~~, he has never aid against these States, either
directly or indirectly, but was employ'd in an unarmed Vessel, that
he now looks upon himself, as an American, & a Subject of this State
and is ready to give every convincing Proof of his Attachment to
his Country and the American Cause, that Reason may require;
Wherefore he prays a Discharge from his Imprisonment, & that
he may be permitted to go at large as other Subjects of this State
and as in Duty bound he well does Pray

Portsmouth June 17th 1778

Hugh Hunter

Cap^t Hunters
Petition

Petition of Capt^t Hugh Hunter
of Portsmouth,
June 17 1778

[Faint, mostly illegible cursive handwriting covering the majority of the page.]

Hugh Hunter
June 17 1778