

Halifax 1779

U.N.B. ARCHIVES

The administration of Government in this place is curious — 'tis beyond ^{the} comprehension of common sense — at the same time that the American Privateers are taking vessels within ^{the} Light house — there are ships of war & light armed vessels lying as quietly in the harbour as tho' it was in profoundest peace — There is not even an attempt made to keep the coast clear — But ~~the more~~ if any one ~~speaks~~ animadverted facetly on such stupid conduct. they are very active to brand him with a name of disaffection & Rebell — a few days ago there was a very extraordinary stretch of power exercised on a Capt Caspell who was taken in a brig abt. 3 weeks ^{ago} after he was within the Light — & for which I hope the Actors will pay severely — He had spoke his mind pretty facetly on a neglect there was about keeping the coast clear & probably reflected personally on some

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four people in Power — I am told he threatened to make representations when he should get home — Well — The evening before the Robust sailed ^{was on} for York week ^{Thursday} & 30 Sept. 3 days ago The Governor sent to his lodgings & desired him to come to him immediately — that he wanted to speak with him — Caspell saw ^{nothing} expecting nothing — went — as soon as he came into the House — He was seiz'd upon by a party of the Robust's crew & carried on board their ship — next day the Governor sent an order to his lodgings for his Chest & bedding which was sent on board ship so that he is carried away to York —

Another curious Anecdote — some time ago arrived here a W^m H. S. from England — formerly a merchant in Boston — He proposed to going to England where he has a family & an Estate —