



1795

By this point (possibly already in the previous year), **ROBERT VOORHIS**, the man who would wind up his life as a hermit in **RHODE ISLAND**, had escaped from his enslavement in Charleston by hiding away on a ship that had a **QUAKER** master. He made it from Boston to Charlestown MA to Lynn to Salem, where he enlisted as a common seaman aboard a ship bound for India. He would be a seaman for approximately the following nine years. During this time, while in home port, he evidently would get a girl in the family way and would need to marry with her, for he would say in regard to his marriage before Justice Putnam of Danvers that he was being “strongly urged so to do by those who undoubtedly had the authority to use compulsory means had I declined.” –However, upon his return from his next voyage, to and from Canton, China, for whatever reasons his bride would no longer feel affection for him.



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