

# Dart

Corvette

Massachusetts Privateer Schooner

(1) Commander Lemuel Perkins

28 August 1781-

(2) Commander William Gray

12 December 1781-

(3) Commander Silas Smith

5 March 1782-

(4) Commander Zenas Cook

10 July 1782-

Commissioned/First Date:

28 August 1781

Out of Service/Cause:

[October 1782]/captured by the British

Owners:

Nathaniel Brookhouse et al of Marblehead, Massachusetts; Nathan Goodale et al of Salem, Massachusetts; Benjamin Needham et al of Salem, Massachusetts; Nathan Goodale et al of Salem, Massachusetts

Tonnage:

25

Battery:

Date Reported: 28 August 1781

Number/Caliber Weight Broadside

2/

Total: 2 cannon/

Broadside: 1 cannon/

Swivels:

Date Reported: 12 December 1781

Number/Caliber Weight Broadside

6/

Total: 6 cannon/

Broadside: 3 cannon/

Swivels:

Date Reported: 5 March 1782

Number/Caliber Weight Broadside

10/

Total: 10 cannon/

Broadside: 5 cannon/

Swivels:

Date Reported: 10 July 1782

Number/Caliber Weight Broadside

6/

Total: 6 cannon/

Broadside: 3 cannon/

Swivels:

Crew:

(1) 28 August 1781: 26 [total]

(2) 12 December 1781: 21 [total]

(3) 5 March 1782: 26 [total]

(4) 10 July 1782: 23 [total]

Description:

Officers:

Cruises:

Prizes: (1) Sloop [unknown], [March] 1782

Actions:

Comments: Massachusetts Privateer Schooner *Dart* was commissioned on 28 August 1781 under Commander Lemuel Perkins of Salem, Massachusetts. She was listed as having a battery of two guns and a crew of twenty-five men. *Dart's* \$20000 bond was signed by Perkins, and by Nathaniel Brookhouse and John Waitt, both of Marblehead, Massachusetts.<sup>1</sup> *Dart* was re-commissioned on 12 December 1781 (or 24 December, according to Massachusetts Council records), under Commander William Gray. The petition for commission was signed by Miles Ward for Nathan Goodale and others of Salem, Massachusetts. *Dart* was listed as measuring 25 tons, with a battery of six guns and a crew of twenty men.<sup>2</sup>

On 19 March 1782 Gray took a prize sloop into a harbor in New Jersey.<sup>3</sup>

On 5 March 1782 *Dart* received her third commission, under Commander Silas Smith of Salem. She was listed as having a battery of ten guns and a crew of twenty-five men. *Dart's* \$20000 bond was signed by Smith and by Benjamin Needham and Archelaus Putnam, both of Salem, Massachusetts.<sup>4</sup>

*Dart* was commissioned on 10 July 1782 under Commander Zenas Cook of Salem, Massachusetts. She was listed as having a battery of six guns and a crew of twenty-two men. *Dart's* \$20000 bond was signed by Cook, and by Miles Ward, Jr. and Joshua Goodale, Jr., both of Salem, Massachusetts.<sup>5</sup> *Dart* and Cook were captured by the British, but the schooner was recaptured<sup>6</sup> by Massachusetts Privateer Schooner<sup>7</sup> *Languedoc* (Commander Benjamin Hammond) and brought into Salem.<sup>8</sup>

For her next commission see *Dart* (Thomas Dexter).

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<sup>1</sup> NRAR, 262; Allen, *Massachusetts Privateers of the Revolution*, 108

<sup>2</sup> Allen, *Massachusetts Privateers of the Revolution*, 108

<sup>3</sup> Claghorn, *Naval Officers of the American Revolution*, 126

<sup>4</sup> NRAR, 262; Allen, *Massachusetts Privateers of the Revolution*, 108

<sup>5</sup> NRAR, 263; Allen, *Massachusetts Privateers of the Revolution*, 108

<sup>6</sup> Claghorn, *Naval Officers of the American Revolution*, 72

<sup>7</sup> NRAR, 368, although Hammond is not listed among her commanders there.

<sup>8</sup> Claghorn, *Naval Officers of the American Revolution*, 72. Claghorn says she was brought in in May 1783; but it must have been sooner, as she was again commissioned in December 1782. Claghorn, 136, apparently gives the date of the return to port with the prize as January 1782.