

The siege of Boston continued during the summer and autumn of 1775, and there would appear to be no reason why an experienced captain like John Salter, at that time thirty-five years old, should not go to sea in a privateer. Tibbits refers to his many voyages before this date as a master of vessels.

John Salter writes Lane, Son & Fraser that he sailed September 6, 1775, from Newburyport in the ship *Crisis*, bound to Antigua, and two days later he was fired upon by H. B. M. ship *Lively* and taken to Boston. "My ship lies with her cargo in her yet and what will be done with it I cannot write at present. I am kept here, and not permitted to go home nor proceed on my voyage: I have not heard from Col Boyd since I have been here. Such times New England never saw before. I hope in God that something will be done in England this winter to make up this unhappy affair and that we may hear of no more blood spilt amongst us." Captain Salter stayed on shore until the Revolution was over.

Brewster, in his *Rambles*, says: "There are in Portsmouth harbor more than a dozen other islands of various sizes, adding much to the beauty of the water landscape as viewed from various points. As seen from the Auburn Cemetery, the most prominent is Salter's Island, a handsome swell of land, on which is a house sitting very pleasantly in the basin on the east, near Frame's Point, where the Newcastle bridge connects with Portsmouth. It was for many years the residence of Captain John Salter, mariner, who died in 1814, at the age of seventy years."

Captain Salter was engaged in foreign commerce before the Revolution. He once left this port for England on a vessel in which was a large number of boxes of Spanish