AMERICAN REVOLUTION

BOSTON MASSACRE

"A Short Narrative Of The Horrid Massacre In Boston, Perpetrated In The Evening Of The Fifth Day Of March, 1770. By Soldiers Of The XXIXth Regiment; Which With The XIVth Regiment Were Then Quartered There: With Some Observations On The State Of Things Prior To That Catastrophe."

Published: 1770

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A 1770 copy of the publishing of , "A short narrative of the horrid massacre in Boston, perpetrated in the evening of the fifth day of March, 1770. By soldiers of the XXIXth regiment; which with the XIVth regiment were then quartered there: with some observations on the state of things prior to that catastrophe."

Published by the Committee to Prepare a Particular Account of the Massacre 1770.

Bowdoin, James, 1726-1790;
Pemberton, Samuel, 1723-1799;
Warren, Joseph, 1741-1775.

No. Ezra Stiles

A Short

NARRATIVE

OF

The horrid Maſſacre in BOSTON,

PERPETRATED

In the Evening of the Fifth Day of *March*, 1770;

BY

Soldiers of the XXIXth Regiment;

WHICH WITH

The XIVth Regiment

Were then Quartered there:

WITH SOME

OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

STATE OF THINGS

PRIOR TO THAT

CATASTROPHE.

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CITY OF BOSTON

BOSTON, ss. *At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of* Boston, *duly qualified and legally warned, in public Town-Meeting assembled at* Faneuil-*Hall, on Monday the 12th Day of March,* Anno Domini, 1770.

THAT Article in the Warrant, for calling this Meeting, *viz.* "What Steps may be further neces- "sary for obtaining a particular Account "of all Proceedings relative to the Mas- "sacre in King-Street on Monday Night "last, that a full and just Representation "may be made thereof," was read,

Whereupon,

VOTED, That the Honorable *James Bowdoin,* Esq; Doctor *Joseph Warren,* and *Samuel Pemberton,* Esq; be a Committee for this important Business; and they are desired to report as soon as may be.

Attest. WILLIAM COOPER, *Town-Clerk.*

THE following Report, containing a Narrative of the late Massacre, is submitted to the Town. In the Name of the Committee,

JAMES BOWDOIN.

AT the Town Meeting held on the 19th of March, 1770, *by Adjournment.*

THE aforementioned Report was Read and Conſidered, whereupon *Voted Unanimouſly*, That the ſame be accepted, and that it be immediately Printed, and the Committee are deſired to tranſmit Copies thereof as ſoon as poſſible to the following Gentlemen, viz. The Right Honorable *Iſaac Barré*, Eſq; one of his Majeſty's moſt Honorable Privy Council; *Thomas Pownall*, Eſq; late Governor of the Maſſachuſetts; *William Bollan*, Eſq; Agent for his Majeſty's Council; *Dennys DeBerdt*, Eſq; Agent for the Houſe of Repreſentatives; *Benjamin Franklin*, Eſq; L. L. D. and *Barlow Trecothick*, Eſq; a Member of Parliament for the City of London.

Atteſt.

William Cooper, *Town-Clerk.*

A ſhort Narrative of the horrid Maſſacre in *Boſton*, perpetrated in the Evening of the Fifth Day of *March*, 1770, by Soldiers of the XXIXth Regiment; which with the XIVth Regiment were then quartered there: with ſome Obſervations on the State of Things prior to that Cataſtrophe.

IT may be a proper introduction to this narrative, briefly to repreſent the ſtate of things for ſome time previous to the ſaid maſſacre: And this ſeems neceſſary in order to the forming a juſt idea of the cauſes of it.

At the end of the late war, in which this Province bore ſo diſtinguiſhed a part, a happy union ſubſiſted between Great-Britain and the Colonies. This was unfortunately interrupted by the Stamp-Act: but it was in ſome meaſure reſtored by the Repeal of it. It was again interrupted by other acts of parliament for taxing America; and by the appointment of aBoard of Commiſſioners, in purſuance of an act, which by the face of it was made for the relief and encouragement of commerce, but which in it's operation, it was apprehended, would have, and it has in fact had, a contrary effect. By the ſaid act the ſaid Commiſſioners were "to be reſident

in

in ſome convenient part of his Majeſty's dominions in America".—This muſt be underſtood to be in ſome part convenient for the whole—But it does not appear, that in fixing the place of their reſidence, the convenience of the whole was at all conſulted, for Boſton being very far from the centre of the colonies, could not be the place moſt convenient for the whole.—Judging by the act, it may ſeem this town was intended to be favoured, by the Commiſſioners being appointed to reſide here; and that the conſequence of that reſidence would be the relief and encouragement of commerce: but the reverſe has been the conſtant and uniform effect of it: So that the commerce of the town, from the embaraſſments in which it has been lately involved, is greatly reduced. For the particulars on this head, ſee the ſtate of the trade not long ſince drawn up and tranſmitted to England by a committee of the merchants of Boſton.

The reſidence of the Commiſſioners here, has been detrimental not only to the commerce, but to the political intereſts of the town and province; and not only ſo, but we can trace from it the cauſes of the late horrid maſſacre. Soon after their arrival here in November 1767, inſtead of confining themſelves to the proper buſineſs of their office, they became partizans of Governor Bernard in his political ſchemes; and had the weakneſs and temerity to infringe upon one of the moſt eſſential rights of the houſe of commons of this province——that of giving

their

their votes with freedom, and not being accountable therefor but to their conſtituents. One of the members of that houſe Capt. Timothy Folgier, having voted in ſome affair contrary to the mind of the ſaid Commiſſioners, was for ſo doing diſmiſſed from the office he held under them.

Theſe proceedings of theirs, the difficulty of acceſs to them on office-buſineſs, and a ſupercilious behaviour, rendered them diſguſtful to people in general, who in conſequence thereof treated them with neglect. This probably ſtimulated them to reſent it: and to make their reſentment felt, they and their coadjutor Governor Bernard, made ſuch repreſentations to his Majeſty's miniſters as they thought beſt calculated to bring the diſpleaſure of the nation upon the town and province: and in order that thoſe repreſentations might have the more weight, they are ſaid to have contrived, and executed plans for exciting diſturbances and tumults, which otherwiſe would probably never have exiſted; and when excited, to have tranſmitted to the miniſtry the moſt exaggerated accounts of them.

Theſe particulars of their conduct his Majeſty's Council of this province have fully laid open in their proceeding in council, and in their addreſs to General Gage, in July and October 1768; and in their letter to Lord Hillſborough of the 15th of April 1769.—Unfortunately for us, they have been too ſucceſsful in their ſaid repreſentations, which in conjunction with Governor Bernard's, have occaſioned his Majeſty's faithful

ſubjects

ſubjects of this town and province to be treated as enemies and rebels, by an invaſion of the town by ſea and land: to which the approaches were made with all the circumſpection, uſual where a vigorous oppoſition is expected. While the town was ſurrounded by a conſiderable number of his Majeſty's ſhips of war, two regiments landed and took poſſeſſion of it; and to ſupport theſe, two other regiments arrived ſome time after from Ireland: one of which landed at Caſtle Iſland, and the other in the town.

Thus were we, in aggravation of our other embarraſſments, embarraſſed with troops, forced upon us contrary to our inclination —contrary to the ſpirit of Magna Charta,— contrary to the very letter of the Bill of Rights, in which it is declared, that the raiſing or keeping a ſtanding army within the kingdom in time of peace, unleſs it be with the conſent of parliament, is againſt law—and without the deſire of the civil magiſtrates, to aid whom was the pretence for ſending the troops hither: who were quartered in the town in direct violation of an act of parliament for quartering troops in America: and all this in conſequence of the repreſentations of the ſaid Commiſſioners and the ſaid Governor, as appears by their memorials and letters lately publiſhed.

As they were the procuring cauſe of troops being ſent hither, they muſt therefore be the remote and a blameable cauſe of all the diſturbances and bloodſhed that have taken place in conſequence of that Meaſure. But

But we ſhall leave them to their own reflections, after obſerving, that as they had ſome months before the arrival of the troops, under pretence of ſafety to their perſons, retired from town to the Caſtle, ſo after the arrival of the troops, and their being quartered in the town, they thought proper to return: having anſwered, as they doubtleſs thought, the purpoſe of their voluntary flight.

We ſhall next attend to the conduct of the troops, and to ſome circumſtances relative to them.—Governor Bernard without conſulting the Council, having given up the State-houſe to the troops at their landing, they took poſſeſſion of the chambers, where the repreſentatives of the province and the courts of law held their meetings; and (except the council-chamber) of all other parts of that houſe: in which they continued a conſiderable time, to the great annoyance of thoſe courts while they ſat, and of the merchants and gentlemen of the town, who had always made the lower floor of it their exchange. They had a right ſo to do, as the property of it was in the town: but they were deprived of that right by meer power.—The ſaid Governor ſoon after, by every ſtratagem and by every method, but a forcible entry, endeavored to get poſſeſſion of the manufactory-houſe, to make a barrack of it for the troops: and for that purpoſe cauſed it to be beſieged by the troops, and the people in it to be uſed very cruelly; which extraordinary proceedings created univerſal un-

easineſs, ariſing from the apprehenſion; that the troops under the influence of ſuch a man would be employed to effect the moſt dangerous purpoſes: but failing of that, other houſes were procured, in which, contrary to act of parliament, he cauſed the troops to be quartered. After their quarters were ſettled, the main guard was poſted at one of the ſaid houſes, directly oppoſite to, and not twelve yards from, the State-houſe, (where the General Court, and all the Law Courts for the County were held) with two field pieces pointed to the State-houſe. This ſituation of the main guard and field pieces ſeemed to indicate an attack upon the conſtitution, and a defiance of law; and to be intended to affront the legiſlative and executive authority of the province.

The General Court, at the firſt Seſſion after the arrival of the troops, viewed it in this light, and applied to Governor Bernard to cauſe ſuch a nuſance to be removed; but to no purpoſe. Diſguſted at ſuch an indignity, and at the appearance of being under dureſſe, they refuſed to do buſineſs in ſuch circumſtances; and in conſequence thereof were adjourned to Cambridge, to the great inconvenience of the members.

Beſides this, the challenging the inhabitants by centinels poſted in all parts of the town before the lodgings of officers, which (for about ſix months, while it laſted) occaſioned many quarrels and great uneaſineſs ——

Capt.

Capt. Wilſon's, of the 59th, exciting the negroes of the town to take away their maſters lives and property, and repair to the army for protection, which was fully proved againſt him. —The attack of a party of ſoldiers on ſome of the magiſtrates of the town—the repeated reſcues of ſoldiers from peace officers—the firing of a loaded muſket in a public ſtreet, to the endangering a great number of peaceable inhabitants—the frequent wounding of perſons by their bayonets and cutlaſſas, and the numerous inſtances of bad behaviour in the ſoldiery made us early ſenſible, that the troops were not ſent here for any benefit to the town or province, and that we had no good to expect from ſuch conſervators of the peace.*

It was not expected however, that ſuch an outrage and maſſacre, as happened here on the evening of the fifth inſtant, would have been perpetrated. There were then killed and wounded, by a diſcharge of muſquetry, eleven of his Majeſty's ſubjects, viz.

Mr. Samuel Gray, killed on the ſpot by a ball entering his head.

Criſpus Attucks, a molatto, killed on the ſpot, two balls entering his breaſt.

Mr. James Caldwell, killed on the ſpot, by two balls entering his back.

* The inhabitants, inſtead of making application to the military officers on theſe occaſions, choſe rather to oppoſe the civil authority and the laws of the land to ſuch offenders; and had not the ſoldiery found means to evade legal puniſhments, it is more than probable their inſolence would have received a check and ſome of the moſt melancholy effects of it been prevented.

Mr. Samuel Maverick, a youth of ſeventeen years of age, mortally wounded: he died the next morning.

Mr. Patrick Carr mortally wounded: he died the 14th inſtant.

Chriſtopher Monk and John Clark, youths about ſeventeen years of age, dangerouſly wounded. It is apprehended they will die.

Mr. Edward Payne, merchant, ſtanding at his door: wounded.

Meſſi'rs John Green, Robert Patterſon and David Parker: all dangerouſly wounded.

The actors in this dreadful tragedy were a party of ſoldiers commanded by Capt. Preſton of the 29th regiment: This party, including the Captain, conſiſted of eight, who are all committed to goal.

There are depoſitions in this affair which mention, that ſeveral guns were fired at the ſame time from the Cuſtom-Houſe; before which this ſhocking ſcene was exhibited. Into this matter inquiſition is now making.—In the mean time it may be proper to inſert here the ſubſtance of ſome of thoſe depoſitions.

Benjamin Frizell, on the evening of the 5th of March, having taken his ſtation near the weſt corner of the Cuſtom-Houſe in Kingſtreet, before and at the time of the ſoldiers firing their guns, declares (among other things) that the firſt diſcharge was only of one gun, the next of two guns, upon which he the deponent thinks he ſaw a man ſtumble: the third diſcharge was

of

of three guns, upon which he thinks he ſaw two men fall, and immediately after were diſcharged five guns, two of which were by ſoldiers on his right hand, *the other three, as appeared to the deponent, were diſcharged from the balcony, or the chamber window of the* CUSTOM-HOUSE, *the flaſhes appearing on the left hand, and higher than the right hand flaſhes appeared to be, and of which the deponent was very ſenſible*, altho' his eyes were much turned to the ſoldiers, who were all on his right hand.

Gillam Baſs, being in King-ſtreet at the ſame time, declares that they (the party of ſoldiers from the main guard) poſted themſelves between the cuſtom-houſe door, and the weſt corner of it; and in a few minutes began to fire upon the people: *Two or three of the flaſhes ſo high above the reſt, that he the deponent verily believes they muſt have come from the* CUSTOM-HOUSE *windows.*

Jeremiah Allen declares, that in the evening of the 5th day of March current, being at about nine o'clock in the front chamber in the houſe occupied by Col. Ingerſoll in King-ſtreet, he heard ſome guns fired, which occaſioned his going into the balcony of the ſaid houſe.—That when he was in the ſaid balcony in company with Mr. William Molineux jun'r. and John Simpſon, he heard the diſcharge of four or five guns, the flaſhes of which appeared to be to the weſtward of the centry box, and immediately after, he the deponent *heard two or three more guns and ſaw the*

the flashes thereof from out of the house, now called the CUSTOM-HOUSE, *as they evidently appeared to him*, and which he the said deponent at the same time declared to the aforesaid Molineux and Simpson being then near him, *saying to them*, (at the same time pointing his hand towards the custom-house) *there they are out of the custom-house.*

George Coster being in King-street at the time above mentioned, declares that in five or six minutes after he stopped, he heard the word of command given to the soldiers *fire*, upon which one gun was fired, which did no execution, as the deponent observed, about half a minute after two guns, one of which killed one Samuel Gray a ropemaker, the other a molatto man, between which two men the deponent stood, after this the deponent heard the discharge of four or five guns more, by the soldiers; immediately after which *the deponent heard the discharge of two guns or pistols, from an open window of the middle story of the* CUSTOM-HOUSE, near to the place where the centry box is placed, and being but a small distance from the window, he heard the people from within speak and laugh, and soon after saw the casement lowered down; after which the deponent assisted others in carrying off one of the corps.

Cato, a Negro man, servant to Tuthill Hubbart, Esq; declares, that on Monday evening the fifth of March current, on hearing the cry of fire, he ran into Kingstreet, where he saw a number

of

of people assembled before the Custom-House, that he stood near the centry-box and saw the soldiers fire on the people, who stood in the middle of said street; directly after which *he saw two flashes of guns, one quick upon the other, from the chamber window of the* CUSTOM-HOUSE; and that after the firing was all over, while the people were carrying away the dead and wounded, *he saw the Custom-House door opened, and several soldiers (one of whom had a cutlass) go into the Custom-House* and shut the door after them.

Benjamin Andrews declares, that being desired by the committee of enquiry to take the ranges of the holes made by musquet balls, in two houses near opposite to the Custom-House, he finds the bullet hole in the entry door post of Mr. Payne's house (and which graz'd the edge of the door, before it enter'd the post, where it lodged, two and a half inches deep) *ranges just under the stool of the westernmost lower chamber window of the* CUSTOM-HOUSE.

Samuel Drowne, towards the end of his deposition (which contains a pretty full account of the proceedings of the soldiers on the evening of the 5th instant) declares, that *he saw the flashes of two guns fired from the* CUSTOM-HOUSE, *one of which was out of a window of the chamber westward of the balcony, and the other from the balcony; the gun (which he clearly discerned) being pointed through the ballisters, and the person who held the gun, in a stooping posture with-*

draw

drew himſelf into the houſe, having a handkerchief or ſome kind of cloth over his face.

Theſe depoſitions ſhew clearly that a number of guns were fired from the Cuſtom-Houſe.—As this affair is now enquiring into, all the notice we ſhall take of it is, that it diſtinguiſhes the actors in it into Street-Actors and Houſe-Actors; which is neceſſary to be obſerved.

What gave occaſion to the melancholy event of that evening ſeems to have been this. A difference having happened near Mr. Gray's ropewalk, between a ſoldier and a man belonging to it, the ſoldier challenged the ropemakers to a boxing match. The challenge was accepted by one of them, and the ſoldier worſted. He ran to the barrack in the neighbourhood, and returned with ſeveral of his companions. The fray was renewed, and the ſoldiers were driven off. They ſoon returned with recruits and were again worſted. This happened ſeveral times, till at length a conſiderable body of ſoldiers was collected, and they alſo were driven off, the ropemakers having been joined by their brethren of the contiguous ropewalks. By this time Mr. Gray being alarmed interpoſed, and with the aſſiſtance of ſome gentlemen prevented any further diſturbance. To ſatisfy the ſoldiers and puniſh the man who had been the occaſion of the firſt difference, and as an example to the reſt, he turned him out of his ſervice; and waited on Col. Dalrymple, the commanding officer of the troops, and with him concerted meaſures for

preventing

preventing further miſchief. Though this affair ended thus, it made a ſtrong impreſſion on the minds of the ſoldiers in general, who thought the honor of the regiment concerned to revenge thoſe repeated repulſes. For this purpoſe they ſeem to have formed a combination to commit ſome outrage upon the inhabitants of the town indiſcriminately ; and this was to be done on the evening of the 5th inſtant or ſoon after : as appears by the depoſitions of the following perſons, viz.

William Newhall declares, that on Thurſday night the firſt of March inſtant, he met four ſoldiers of the 29th regiment, and that he heard them ſay *there were a great many that would eat their dinners on Monday next, that ſhould not eat any on Tueſday.*

Daniel Calfe declares, that on Saturday evening the 3d of March a camp-woman, wife to James McDeed a grenadier of the 29th, came into his father's ſhop, and the people talking about the affrays at the rope-walks, and blaming the ſoldiers for the part they had acted in it, the woman ſaid, the ſoldiers were in the right ; adding *that before Tueſday or Wedneſday night they would wet their ſwords or bayonets in New-England people's blood.*

Mary Brailsford declares, that on Sabbath evening the 4th March inſtant a Soldier came to the houſe of Mr. Amos Thayer where ſhe then was. He deſiring to ſpeak with Mr. Thayer was told by Mrs. Mary Thayer, that her bro-

ther was engaged, and could not be ſpoke with. He ſaid, your brother as you call him, is a man I have a great regard for, and I came on purpoſe to tell him to keep in his houſe, for *before Tueſday night next at Twelve o'clock, there will be a great deal of bloodſhed, and a great many lives loſt :* and added, that he came out of a particular regard to her brother to adviſe him to keep in his houſe, for then he would be out of harm's way. He ſaid, your brother knows me very well : my name is Charles Malone. He then went away.— Of the ſame import, and in confirmation of this declaration, are the depoſitions of Mary Thayer and Aſa Copeland, who both live with the ſaid Mr. Thayer, and heard what the ſoldier ſaid as abovementioned. It is alſo confirmed by the depoſition of Nicholas Ferriter.

Jane Uſher declares, that about 9 o'clock on monday morning the 5th of March current, from a window ſhe ſaw two perſons in the habit of ſoldiers, one of whom being on horſe back appeared to be an officer's ſervant. The perſon on the horſe firſt ſpoke to the other, but what he ſaid, ſhe is not able to ſay, though the window was open, and ſhe not more than twenty feet diſtant : the other replied, *He hoped he ſhould ſee blood enough ſpilt before morning.*

Matthew Adams declares, that on monday evening the 5th of March inſtant between the hours of 7 and 8 o'clock, he went to the houſe of corporal Perſhall of the 29th regiment, near Quaker-lane, where he ſaw the corporal and his wife

wife, with one of the fifers of faid regiment. When he had got what he went for, and was coming away, the corporal called him back, and defired him with great earneftnefs to go home to his maſter's houſe as ſoon as buſineſs was over, and not to be abroad on any account that night in particular, for *the ſoldiers were determined to be revenged on the ropewalk people ; and that much miſchief would be done.* Upon which the fifer (about 18 or 19 years of age) ſaid, *he hoped in God they would burn the town down.* On this he left the houſe, and the ſaid corporal called after him again, and begged he would mind what he ſaid to him.

Caleb Swan declares, that on monday night the 5th of March inſtant, at the time of the bells ringing for fire, he heard a woman's voice whom he knew to be the ſuppoſed wife of one Montgomery, a grenadier of the 29th regiment, ſtanding at her door, *and heard her ſay, it was not fire ; the town was too haughty and too proud ; and that many of their arſes would be laid low before the morning.*

Margaret Swanſborough declares, that a free woman named Black Peg, who has kept much with the ſoldiers, on hearing the diſturbance on monday evening the 5th inſtant ſaid, *the ſoldiers were not to be trod upon by the inhabitants, but would know before morning, whether they or the inhabitants were to be maſters.*

Joſeph Hooton, junr. declares, that coming from the South-end of Boſton on monday even-

ing the 5th of March inſtant, againſt Dr. Sewall's meeting he heard a great noiſe and tumult, with the cry of murder often repeated. Proceeding towards the town-houſe he was paſſed by ſeveral ſoldiers running that way, with naked cutlaſſes and bayonets in their hands. He aſked one of them what was the matter, and was anſwered by him, by God you ſhall all know what is the matter ſoon. Between 9 and 10 o'clock he went into King-ſtreet, and was preſent at the tragical ſcene exhibited near the Cuſtom-houſe; as particularly ſet forth in his depoſition.

Mrs. Mary Ruſſell declares, that John Brailsford a private ſoldier of the *fourteenth* regiment, who had frequently been employed by her (when he was ordered with his company to the Caſtle, in conſequence of the murders committed by the ſoldiers on the evening of the 5th of March) coming to the deponent's houſe declared, that THEIR *regiment were* ORDERED *to hold themſelves in readineſs, and accordingly was ready* THAT EVENING, *upon the inhabitants firing on the ſoldiery, to come to the aſſiſtance of the ſoldiery.* On which ſhe aſked him, if he would have fired upon any of the inhabitants of this town. To which he replied, yes, if he had orders: but that if he ſaw Mr. Ruſſell he would have fired wide of him. He alſo ſaid, *it's well there was no gun fired by the Inhabitants, for had there been,* WE *ſhould have come to the ſoldiers aſſiſtance.*

By the foregoing depoſitions it appears very clearly, there was a general combination among the

the ſoldiers of the 29th regiment at leaſt, to commit ſome extraordinary act of violence upon the town; that if the inhabitants attempted to repel it by firing even one gun upon thoſe ſoldiers, the 14th regiment were ordered to be in readineſs to aſſiſt them; and that on the late butchery in King-ſtreet they actually were ready for that purpoſe, had a ſingle gun been fired on the perpetrators of it.

It appears by a variety of depoſitions, that on the ſame evening between the hours of ſix and half after nine (at which time the firing began) many perſons, without the leaſt provocation, were in various parts of the town, inſulted and abuſed by parties of armed ſoldiers patroling the ſtreets: particularly ——

Mr. Robert Pierpont declares, that between the hours of 7 & 8 in the ſame evening, 3 armed ſoldiers paſſing him, one of them who had a bayonet gave him a back-handed ſtroke with it, on complaint of this treatment he ſaid the deponent ſhould ſoon hear more of it, and threatned him very hard.

Mr. Henry Baſs declares, that at 9 o'clock a party of ſoldiers came out of Draper's alley leading to and from Murray's barracks, and they being armed with large naked cutlaſſes, made at every body coming in their way, cutting and ſlaſhing, and that he himſelf very narrowly eſcaped receiving a cut from the foremoſt of them, who purſued him.

Samuel Atwood, declares, that 10 or 12 ſoldiers armed with drawn cutlaſſes, bolted out of the

the alley leading from Murray's barracks into dock-ſquare, and met the deponent, who aſked them if they intended to murder people? they anſwered, yes, by God, root and branch; ſaying here is one of them; with that one of them ſtruck the deponent with a club, which was repeated by another: the deponent being unarmed turned to go off, and he received a wound on the left ſhoulder, which reached the bone, diſabled him and gave him much pain. Having gone a few ſteps the deponent met *two officers*, and aſked them, gentlemen, what is the matter? *they anſwered, you will ſee by and by;* and as he paſſed by Col. Jackſon's he heard the cry, turn out the guards.

Capt. James Kirkwood, declares, that about nine of the clock in the evening of the fifth day of March current, he was going by Murray's barracks: hearing a noiſe he ſtopt at Mr. Rhoads's Door, oppoſite the ſaid barracks, where ſaid Rhoads was ſtanding, and ſtood ſome time and ſaw the ſoldiers coming out of the yard from the barracks, armed with cutlaſſes and bayonets, and ruſhing thro' Boylſtone's alley into cornhill, two officers, viz. Lieuts. Minchin and Dickſon came out of the meſs houſe, and ſaid to the ſoldiers, my lads come into the barracks and don't hurt the inhabitants, and then retir'd into the meſs houſe. Soon after they came to the door again, and found the ſoldiers in the yard; and directly upon it, *Enſign Mall* came to the gate of the barrack yard and *ſaid to the ſoldiers, turn*

out

out and I will ſtand by you ; this he repeated frequently, adding, *kill them ! ſtick them ; knock them down, run your bayonets thro' them,* with a great deal of language of like import. Upon which a great number of ſoldiers came out of the barracks, with naked cutlaſſes *headed by ſaid Mall,* and went thro' the aforeſaid alley, that ſome officers came & got the ſoldiers into their barracks, and that *Mall with his ſword or cutlaſs drawn in his hand, as often had them out again,* but were at laſt drove into their barracks by the aforeſaid Minchin and Dickſon.

Mr. Henry Rhoads's declaration agrees with Capt. Kirkwood's.

Mr. Matthias King of Halifax in Nova Scotia, declares, that in the evening of the fifth day of March inſtant about nine of the clock, he was at his lodgings at Mrs. Torrey's near the town pump, and heard the bells ring and the cry of fire ; upon which he went to the door and ſaw ſeveral ſoldiers come round the ſouth ſide of the town houſe, armed with bayonets, and ſomething which he took to be broad ſwords ; that one of thoſe people came up almoſt to him and Mr. Bartholomew Kneeland ; and that they had but juſt time to ſhut the door upon him ; otherwiſe he is well aſſured they muſt have fell victims to their boundleſs cruelty. He afterwards went into the upper chamber of the ſaid houſe, and was looking out of the window *when the drum and the guard went to the barrack,* and he ſaw one of the guards kneel and preſent his piece with

with a bayonet fixed, and heard him ſwear he would fire upon a parcel of boys who were then in the ſtreet, but he did not: He further declares, that *when the body of troops was drawn up before the guard houſe (which was preſently after the maſſacre) he heard an officer ſay to another, that this was fine work, and juſt what he wanted;* but in the hurry he could not ſee him, ſo as to know him again.

Robert Polley declares, that on monday evening the 5th inſtant, as he was going home, he obſerved about ten perſons ſtanding near Mr. Taylor's door, after ſtanding there a ſmall ſpace of time he went with them towards Boylſton's alley oppoſite to Murray's barracks; we met in the alley about eight or nine arm'd ſoldiers, they aſſaulted us, and gave us a great deal of abuſive language, we then drove them back to the barracks with ſticks only; we looked for ſtones or bricks, but could find none, the ground being covered with ſnow; ſome of the lads diſperſed, and he the ſaid Polley with a few others were returning peaceably home, when we met about nine or ten other ſoldiers armed: one of them ſaid, "Where are the ſons of bitches": They ſtruck at ſeveral perſons in the ſtreet, and went towards the head of the alley. Two officers came and endeavored to get them into their barracks; one of the lads propoſed to ring the bell; the ſoldiers went thro' the alley, and the boys huzza'd and ſaid they were gone thro' royal exchange lane into Kingſtreet. Samuel

Samuel Drowne declares, that about nine of the clock of the evening of the fifth of March current, ſtanding at his own door in Cornhill, he ſaw about 14 or 15 ſoldiers of the 29th regiment, who came from Murray's barracks arm'd with naked cutlaſſes, ſwords, &c. and came upon the inhabitants of the town, then ſtanding or walking in Cornhill, and abuſed ſome, and violently aſſaulted others as they met them; moſt of whom were without ſo much as a ſtick in their hand to defend themſelves, as he very clearly could diſcern, it being moon light, and himſelf being one of the aſſaulted perſons. All or moſt of the ſaid ſoldiers he ſaw go into King-ſtreet, (ſome of them through Royal Exchange lane) and there followed them, and ſoon diſcovered them to be quarrelling and fighting with the people whom they ſaw there, which he thinks were not more than a dozen, when the ſoldiers came there firſt, armed as aforeſaid. Of thoſe dozen people, the moſt of them were gentlemen, ſtanding together a little below the Town-Houſe, upon the exchange. At the appearance of thoſe ſoldiers ſo arm'd, the moſt of the twelve perſons went off, ſome of them being firſt aſſaulted.

The violent proceedings of this party, and their going into King-ſtreet, "quarrelling and fighting with the people whom they ſaw there" (mentioned in Mr. Drowne's depoſition) was immediately introductory to the grand cataſtrophe.

Theſe aſſailants, who iſſued from Murray's

barracks (ſo called) after attacking and wounding divers perſons in Cornhill, as above mentioned, being armed, proceeded (moſt of them) up the Royal Exchange lane, into King-ſtreet; where making a ſhort ſtop, and after aſſaulting and driving away the few they met there, they brandiſhed their arms, and cried out, where are the Boogers! where are the Cowards. At this time there were very few perſons in the ſtreet beſide themſelves.——This party in proceeding from Exchange lane into King-ſtreet muſt paſs the centry poſted at the weſterly corner of the Cuſtom Houſe, which butts on that lane and fronts on that ſtreet. This is needful to be mentioned, as near that ſpot and in that ſtreet the bloody tragedy was acted, and the ſtreet-actors in it were ſtationed: Their ſtation being but a few feet from the front ſide of the ſaid Cuſtom Houſe.——The outrageous behavior and the threats of the ſaid party occaſioned the ringing of the meeting houſe bell near the head of King-ſtreet: which bell ringing quick as for fire, it preſently brought out a number of the inhabitants, who being ſoon ſenſible of the occaſion of it, were naturally led to King-ſtreet, where the ſaid party had made a ſtop but a little while before: and where their ſtopping had drawn together a number of boys, round the centry at the Cuſtom-Houſe. Whether the boys miſtook the centry for one of the ſaid party, and thence took occaſion to differ with him, or whether he firſt affronted them, which is affirmed in ſeveral depoſitions.

ſitions,—however that may be, there was much foul language between them: and ſome of them in conſequence of his puſhing at them with his bayonet, threw ſnow balls at him:* which occaſioned him to knock haſtily at the door of the Cuſtom-Houſe. From hence two perſons thereupon proceeded immediately to the main guard, which was poſted (oppoſite to the State-houſe) at a ſmall diſtance near the head of the ſaid ſtreet. The officer on guard was Capt. Preſton, who with ſeven or eight ſoldiers with fire arms, and charged bayonets, iſſued from the guard houſe, and in great haſte poſted himſelf and his ſoldiers in the front of the Cuſtom Houſe near the corner aforeſaid. In paſſing to this ſtation the ſoldiers puſhed ſeveral perſons with their bayonets, driving through the people in ſo rough a manner that it appeared they intended to create a diſturbance. This occaſioned ſome

 ſnow

* Since writing this narrative, ſeveral depoſitions have appeared, which make it clear, that the centry was firſt in fault.——He overheard a barber's boy, ſaying that a captain of the 14th (who had juſt paſſed by) was ſo mean a fellow as not to pay his barber for ſhaving him; upon this the centry left his poſt and followed the boy into the middle of the ſtreet, where he told him to ſhew his face; the boy pertly reply'd, I am not aſham'd to ſhew my face to any man: Upon this the centry gave him a ſweeping ſtroke on the head with his muſket, which made him reel and ſtagger and cry much. A fellow apprentice aſked the centry what he meant by this abuſe? He reply'd, damn your blood, if you do not get out of the way I will give you ſomething; and then fixed his bayonet and puſhed at the lads, who both run out of his way. This diſpute collected a few perſons about the boy, near the cuſtom-houſe. Preſently after this, the party above-mentioned came into king-ſtreet, which was a further occaſion of drawing people thither, as above related. (See depoſition of Benja. Broaders and others.)

ſnow balls to be thrown at them: which ſeems to have been the only provocation that was given. Mr. Knox (between whom and Capt. Preſton there was ſome converſation on the ſpot) declares, that while he was talking with Capt. Preſton, the ſoldiers of his detachment had attacked the people with their bayonets; and that there was not the leaſt provocation given to Capt. Preſton, or his party: the backs of the people being towards them when the people were attacked. He alſo declares, that Captain Preſton ſeemed to be in great haſte and much agitated; and that according to his opinion there were not then preſent in King-ſtreet above ſeventy or eighty perſons at the extent.

The ſaid party was formed into a half circle, and, within a ſhort time after they had been poſted at the Cuſtom-Houſe, began to fire upon the people.

Capt. Preſton is ſaid to have ordered them to fire, and to have repeated that order. One gun was fired firſt: then others in ſucceſſion, and with deliberation, till ten or a dozen guns were fired; or till that number of diſcharges were made from the guns that were fired. By which means eleven perſons were killed, and wounded, as above repreſented.

Theſe facts with divers circumſtances attending them, are ſupported by the depoſitions of a conſiderable number of perſons: and among others, of the following viz. Meſſr's. Henry Baſs Samuel Atwood, Samuel Drowne, James Kirkwood,

wood, Robert Polley, Samuel Condon, Daniel Uſher, Joſiah Simpſon, Henry Knox, Gillam Baſs, John Hickling, Richard Palmes, Benjamin Frizzel, and others; whoſe depoſitions are in the appendix.

Soon after the firing, a drum with a party from the main guard went to Murray's and the other barracks, beating an alarm as they went, which with the firing had the effect of a ſignal for action. Whereupon all the ſoldiers of the 29th regiment, or the main body of them, appeared in Kingſtreet under arms; and ſeemed bent on a further maſſacre of the inhabitants, which was with great difficulty prevented. They were drawn up between the State Houſe and main guard: their lines extending acroſs the ſtreet and facing down Kingſtreet, where the town-people were aſſembled. The firſt line kneeled; and the whole of the firſt plattoon preſented their guns ready to fire, as ſoon as the word ſhould be given. They continued in that poſture a conſiderable time. But by the good Providence of God, they were reſtained from firing.

That they then went into Kingſtreet with ſuch a diſpoſition will appear probable by the two following depoſitions.

Mrs. Mary Gardner, living in Atkinſon ſtreet, declares, that on Monday evening the 5th of March current, and before the guns fired in Kingſtreet, there were a number of ſoldiers aſſembled from Green's barracks towards the ſtreet, and oppoſite to her gate; that they ſtood very

ſtill

ſtill until the guns were fired in Kingſtreet, then they clapped their hands and gave a cheer, ſaying, *this is all that we want.* They ran to their barrack, and came out again in a few minutes, all with their arms, and ran towards Kingſtreet.

William Fallaſs declares, that (after the murder in Kingſtreet) on the evening of the 5th inſtant, upon his return home he had occaſion to ſtop oppoſite to the lane leading to Green's barracks, and while he ſtood there, the ſoldiers ruſhed by him with their arms, towards Kingſtreet, ſaying, *this is our time or chance:* and that he never ſaw men or dogs ſo greedy for their prey as thoſe ſoldiers ſeemed to be, and the ſergeants could hardly keep them in their ranks.

Theſe circumſtances with thoſe already mentioned, amount to a clear proof of a combination among them to commit ſome outrage upon the town on that evening; and that after the enormous one committed in Kingſtreet, they intended to add to the horrors of that night by making a further ſlaughter.

At the time Capt. Preſton's party iſſued from the main guard, there were in Kingſtreet about two hundred perſons, and thoſe were collected there by the ringing of the bell in conſequence of the violences of another party, that had been there a very little while before. When Captain Preſton had got to the Cuſtom-houſe, ſo great a part of the people diſperſed at ſight of the ſoldiers, that not more than twenty or thirty then remained in Kingſtreet, as Mr. Drowne declares,* and

* See his Depoſition.

and at the time of the firing not seventy, as Mr. Palmes thinks.*

But after the firing, and when the slaughter was known, which occasioned the ringing of all the bells of the town, a large body of the inhabitants soon assembled in Kingstreet, and continued there the whole time the 29th regiment was there under arms, and would not retire till that regiment and all the soldiers that appeared, were ordered, and actually went, to their barracks: after which, having been assured by the Lieutenant Governor, and a number of the civil magistrates present, that every legal step should be taken to bring the criminals to justice, they gradually dispersed. For some time the appearance of things was dismal. The soldiers outrageous on the one hand, and the inhabitants justly incensed against them on the other: both parties seeming disposed to come to action. In this case the consequences would have been terrible. But by the interposition of his Honor, some of his Majesty's council, a number of civil magistrates, and other gentlemen of weight and influence, who all endeavoured to calm and pacify the people, and by the two principal officers interposing their authority with regard to the soldiers, there was happily no further bloodshed ensued; and by two o'clock the town was restored to a tolerable state of quiet. About that time, Capt. Preston, and a few hours after, the party that had fired, were committed to safe custody. One

* See his Deposition.

One happy effect has arisen from this melancholly affair, and it is the general voice of the town and province it may be a lasting one—All the troops are removed from the town.——They are quartered for the present in the barracks at Castle-Island; from whence it is hoped they will have a speedy order to remove intirely out of the province, together with those persons who were the occasion of their coming hither.

In what manner this was effected, it is not foreign from the subject of this narrative to relate.

The morning after the massacre, a town-meeting was held; at which attended a very great number of the freeholders and other inhabitants of the town. They were deeply impressed and affected by the tragedy of the preceding night, and were unanimously of opinion, it was incompatible with their safety that the troops should remain any longer in the town. In consequence thereof they chose a committee of fifteen gentlemen to wait upon his Honor the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, to request of him to issue his orders for the immediate removal of the troops.

The message was in these words:

That it is the unanimous opinion of this meeting that the inhabitants and soldiery can no longer live together in safety; that nothing can rationally be expected to restore the peace of the town and prevent further blood and carnage, but the immediate removal of the troops; and that we therefore most fervently pray his Honor, that his power and influence may be exerted for their instant removal.

His

His Honor's reply, which was laid before the town then adjourned to the old ſouth meeting-houſe, was as follows:

Gentlemen,

I am extremely ſorry for the unhappy differences between the inhabitants and troops, and eſpecially for the action of the laſt evening, and I have exerted myſelf upon that occaſion, that a due enquiry may be made, and that the law may have its courſe. I have in council conſulted with the commanding officers of the two regiments who are in the town. They have their orders from the General at New York. It is not in my power to countermand thoſe orders. The Council have deſired that the two regiments may be removed to the Caſtle. From the particular concern which the 29th regiment has had in your differences, Col. Dalrymple, who is the commanding officer of the troops, has ſignified that that regiment ſhall without delay be placed in the barracks at the caſtle, until he can ſend to the General and receive his further orders concerning both the regiments, and that the main-guard ſhall be removed, and the 14th regiment ſo diſpoſed, and laid under ſuch reſtraint, that all occaſion of future diſturbances may be prevented.

The foregoing reply having been read and fully conſidered—the queſtion was put, Whether the report be ſatisfactory? Paſſed in the Negative (only one diſſentient) out of upwards of 4000 voters.

A reſpectable committee was then appointed to wait on his Honor the Lieutenant Governor, and inform him, *that it is the unanimous opinion of this meeting, that the reply made to a vote of the inhabitants preſented his Honor in the morning, is by no means ſatisfactory; and that nothing leſs will ſatisfy, than a total and immediate removal of all the troops.*

The committee having waited upon the Lieut. Governor, agreeable to the foregoing vote, laid before the inhabitants the following vote of Council received from his Honor.

His Honor the Lieutenant Governor laid before the Board a vote of the town of Boſton, paſſed this afternoon, and then addreſſed the Board as follows:

Gentlemen of the Council,

"*I lay before you a vote of the town of Boſton, which I have juſt now received from them, and I now aſk your advice what you judge neceſſary to be done upon it.*"

The Council thereupon expreſſed themſelves to be unanimouſly of opinion, "*that it was abſolutely neceſſary for his Majeſty's ſervice, the good order of the town, and the peace of the province, that the troops ſhould be immediately removed out of the town of Boſton, and thereupon adviſed his Honor to communicate this advice of the Council*

to

to Col. Dalrymple, and to pray that he would order the troops down to Caſtle William." The committee alſo informed the town, that Col. Dalrymple, after having ſeen the vote of Council, ſaid to the committee,

" That he now gave his word of honor that he would begin his preparations in the morning, and that there ſhould be no unneceſſary delay until the whole of the two regiments were removed to the Caſtle."

Upon the above report being read, the inhabitants could not avoid expreſſing the high ſatisfaction it afforded them.

After meaſures were taken for the ſecurity of the town in the night by a ſtrong military watch, the meeting was diſſolved.

WITH respect to the securing the town by a military watch, which was a very necessary measure, our implacable enemies, in pursuance of their plan of misrepresentation, have taken pains to misrepresent it, by declaring it to have been contrary to the mind of the Commander in Chief, and against Law.

This matter will be judged of, by stating the fact, and producing the Law.

When the Committee, who had waited on the Lieutenant Governor, had reported to the Town, that the Troops would be removed to Castle-Island, (at which time it was near night) it was thought necessary for the safety of the Town, and for preventing a rescue of the persons committed to goal for firing upon, and killing a number of, his Majesty's subjects, that there should be a military watch: and divers Gentlemen were desired to take the needful steps for that purpose. It being then night, it was impossible a regular notification should issue from the officers of the militia: a considerable number of respectable persons therefore offered themselves voluntiers, and did the duty of a military watch under the direction of the Lieutenant-Colonel, who attended that service with the approbation of the chief Colonel of the Boston regiment. The next day, with two of the Selectmen of the Town, the chief Colonel went to the Lieutenant-Governor, & they informed him it was apprehended absolutely necessary for the safety of the Town, there should be a military watch kept; and that the Colonel then waited upon him to receive his orders. The Lieutenant Governor declined giving any orders concerning it, but said the Law was clear, that the Colonel, as chief officer of the regiment, might order a military watch; and that he might do about it as he thought fit. In consequence of this, and knowing the Law gave him such a power, the Colonel issued his orders for that purpose, & a regular watch was kept the following night. The next

next day the Lieutenant Governor ſent for the Colonel, and let him know, that he was in doubt about the legality of the appointment of the military watch: and recommended to the Colonel to take good advice, whether he had a right by Law to order ſuch a watch.

This being quite unexpected, occaſioned the Colonel to expreſs himſelf with ſome fervor. He alſo ſaid, he had already taken advice, and had no doubt of his own power; but had the preceeding day waited upon his Honor as Commander in Chief to receive his orders: which as his Honor had declined giving, and left the matter with himſelf, he had appointed a military watch: and judged it a neceſſary meaſure to quiet the fears and apprehenſions of the town. The interview ended with the Lieut. Governor's recommending again, that the Colonel would take care to proceed according to law; and without his forbidding a military watch.

This military watch was continued every night, till Col. Dalrymple had cauſed the two Regiments under his command to be removed to the barracks at Caſtle-Iſland. During the continuance of the watch, the Juſtices of the Peace in their turns attended every night: and the utmoſt order and regularity took place through the whole of it.

This is the ſtate of the fact, upon which every one is left to make his own obſervations.

Now for the Law: with reſpect to which nothing more is neceſſary than juſt to recite it. It runs thus, "That there be military watches appointed and kept in every town, at ſuch times, in ſuch places, and in ſuch numbers, and under ſuch regulation, as the chief military officers of each town ſhall appoint, or as they may receive orders from the chief officer of the regiment."*—This needs no comment. It clearly authorizes the chief officer of the regiment to appoint military watches. The late military watch in Boſton being founded on ſuch an appointment was therefore according to Law.

* See a Law of the Province for regulating the Militia, made in the 5th year of William and Mary, Chap. 7. Sect. 10.

THE

THE extraordinary conduct of the Commiſſioners of the Cuſtoms ſince the 5th of March, and their perſeverance in it, make it neceſſary to beſtow a few obſervations upon it; and upon divers matters, with which it ſeems to be connected.*

The ſaid Commiſſioners (excepting Mr. *Temple*) have all retired from the town: and we find, on particular enquiry, they have not held a meeting of their board ſince the ninth of March. How they have diſpoſed of themſelves ſince that time we ſhall here relate.

Mr. *Robinſon* is gone to England: He ſailed the 16th of March, and went not only without the leave but (as 'tis ſaid) contrary to the minds of his ſuperiors, ſignified to him from home. None but the few, entruſted with the ſecret, knew any thing of his going till after the departure of the veſſel in which he went.

Mr. *Paxton* retired to Cambridge, four Miles from Boſton, and for the moſt part has continued there. He has divers times however viſited the town ſince that retiring.

Mr.

* The Copies of this Narrative, ſent to England and other Parts, conclude with the foregoing page. Since they were ſent, it has appeared neceſſary to add a few pages to the remaining Copies: to do which an opportunity has been given by the reſtraint laid on the publiſhing of the ſaid Narrative here. The reaſon of that reſtraint will appear by the following Vote of the Town, paſſed at the Town-Meeting held the 26th of March, viz.

"The Committee appointed to prepare a true State of Facts, relating to the execrable Maſſacre perpetrated on the Evening of the 5th Inſtant, in order that the ſame be tranſmited to Great Britain, having accordingly reported, and the Report being accepted by the Town, and ordered to be printed: And whereas the publiſhing of the ſaid Narrative with the Depoſitions accompanying it, in this County, may be ſuppoſed by the unhappy Perſons, now in Cuſtody for Trial, as tending to give an undue Bias to the minds of the Jury, who are to try the ſame.

"Therefore Voted, That the Committee reſerve all the printed Copies in their Hands, excepting thoſe to be ſent to Great-Britain, till the further Order of the Town.

Atteſt, WILLIAM COOPER, Town Clerk."

Mr. *Hulton* ſometime ago purchaſed a place at Brooklyn, five Miles from Boſton, and has ever ſince reſided there.

Mr. *Burch* with his wife has retired to Mr. *Hulton*'s, who, together with Mr. *Burch* (leaving their wives behind them) are now on a tour to Portſmouth, in the province of New-Hampſhire, where the laſt account from thence left them. It is now above ſix weeks ſince a board of Commiſſioners was held: and it is utterly uncertain when there will be another.

From their firſt eſtabliſhment here to the 11th of June 1768, they held their boards regularly four days every week. They then retired on board the Romney man of war, and from thence to the caſtle: for what purpoſe, their letters and memorials lately publiſhed have ſufficiently informed the world. From their re-eſtabliſhment in Boſton in Nov. 1768, to the 5th of March 1770, they held their boards in the ſame regular manner. Since that time there have been but two board-meetings, the laſt of which was on the 9th of March.

Now what do all theſe manœuvres ſince the 5th of March indicate? Is it poſſible to ſuppoſe they indicate any thing leſs than a deſign to take occaſion from the outrages and murders committed on the evening of that day by the ſoldiers (aſſiſted perhaps from the cuſtom-houſe) to repreſent the town in a diſadvantageous light? And does not their former conduct render this highly probable?—Beſides, it is a fact, that depoſitions have been taken in a ſecret manner, relative to that unhappy affair, to the prejudice of the town; and it is no way improbable, that Mr. Robinſon is gone home with memorials and letters from the Commiſſioners and others, accompanying ſuch depoſitions.

By ſome eſcapes, as well as by what the circumſtances above mentioned make probable, a pretty good judgment may be formed of the ſubſtance of thoſe Memorials, Letters and Depoſitions, viz. that the cuſtom-houſe was attacked—the revenue cheſt in danger, but ſaved by the firing upon the *mob*—the King's troops compelled to leave the town—the commiſſioners thence obliged for their ſafety to quit it alſo—the conſequent impoſſibility of their holding boards—the detriment thence ariſing to the revenue and his Majeſty's ſervice—all government at an end, and the Province in a ſtate of rebellion.

If theſe be, either in whole or in part, the ſubjects of the diſpatches ſent home, it is very proper a few obſervations ſhould be made upon them.

The

The cuſtom-houſe attacked—a falſehood. The people drawn into kingſtreet, were drawn thither by the cry of fire, and the outrages of the ſoldiers, which occaſioned it. From the firſt appearance of the people in kingſtreet, to the time of the firing upon them, there had not paſt fifteen minutes. It might with as much truth be affirmed, that they made an attack upon the cuſtom-houſe in London, as upon the cuſtom-houſe in Boſton: of which latter there was not even a pane of glaſs broken.

The revenue cheſt in danger—a falſehood. It is not probable the cheſt is kept at the cuſtom-houſe: but if it be, there was, and is, at leaſt as much danger of it from ſome of the out-door people employ'd under the Commiſſioners, as from any body elſe. It is certain that ſome of them are of an infamous character.

The troops compelled to quit the town—a falſehood. They quitted the town by the orders of their commanding officer, in conſequence of a *requeſt* from the Lieut. Governor, who was adviſed by the council to *pray* the ſaid officer to remove the troops. This *requeſt* and this *prayer* was obtained by an application from the town to the Lieut. Governor. Into what times are we fallen, that the government of the province is reduced to the humiliating condition of making *ſuch a prayer!*

But ſuppoſing the troops had been compelled vi et armis to quit the town. It would have been a meaſure juſtifiable in the ſight of God and man. When the ſoldiers, ſent hither for the declared purpoſe of aſſiſting the civil magiſtrate to keep the peace, were themſelves in a remarkable manner the breakers of the peace—When inſtead of aſſiſting, they inſulted him; and reſcued offenders of their own corps from juſtice—when they frequently abuſed the inhabitants in the night—when they had entered into a combination to commit ſome extraordinary acts of violence upon the town, and in conſequence of it, on the evening of the maſſacre, attacked the inhabitants wherever they met them; afterwards firing upon, and killing and wounding a number of them. When all this had been done, and more threatned, it was high time they ſhould be removed from the town. If there had been no other means of getting rid of them, the inhabitants would have had a right by that law of nature, which ſuperceeds all other laws, when they come in competition with it—the law of ſelf-preſervation—to have compelled them to quit the town. This

law

law is radical in our nature, indelible from it, and uniformly operating, where it can operate, to the removal or deſtruction of every thing incompatible with it; and is abrogable by no other lawgiver than GOD himſelf, the great author of it. Therefore, although the reſiſting the King's troops in any thing they have a right by law to do, may be adjudged treaſon, yet when they act contrary to law, eſpecially in ſo outrageous a manner as in the preſent caſe, and retain a diſpoſition to repeat it, whereby the lives of the King's ſubjects are in danger, they then ceaſe to be the King's troops: that is, they are not the King's troops for any ſuch purpoſe, but ſo far become traitors; and on the failure of other means of riddance from them, which the time and circumſtances may make eligible and are lawful, they may (by the principles of all law, as well as by the great law above-mentioned, into which thoſe principles are reſolvable) be reſiſted and expelled: and not to do it, where it can be done, is a ſpecies of treaſon againſt the conſtitution, and conſequently treaſon in an equal degree againſt the King, and all his ſubjects.

The Commiſſioners obliged for their ſafety to quit the town.—If one falſehood can be more ſo than another, this is the greateſt yet mentioned, and is as ridiculous as it is falſe. Their conduct and ſuch a declaration by no means agree. Would they in that caſe occaſionally viſit the town? Would they truſt themſelves in the environs of it? Could they think themſelves ſafe at Cambridge and Brooklyn? Could they think themſelves ſafe any where in the province, or indeed in America? Muſt they not know, if any evil were really intended them, it might eaſily overtake them any where and every where on this ſide of the Atlantic? Some other reaſon than their ſafety muſt therefore be looked for to account for their retiring, and diſcontinuing their boards. A ſimilar proceeding of theirs in June 1768, and their letters and memorials, lately publiſhed, give occaſion at leaſt to conjecture what that reaſon may be. Is it not probable it was to corroborate the ſaid depoſitions, and thence induce adminiſtration to think it neceſſary, not only that the troops already here ſhould be continued, but that a further number ſhould be ſent to ſtrengthen and ſupport them? If this meaſure cannot be effected, and ſhould the Commiſſioners be ſo unfortunate as to remain here unattacked in the abſence of the troops, it might naturally be thought they could have remained here

without

without them in 1768; and therefore that they had put the nation to a very great expence, for no other purpose than further to alienate the affections of the Americans, and to give them an additional reason to wish themselves independent of it: And hence the Commissioners might have cause to expect a national resentment against them.—However injurious to us the effects of such policy may be, we cannot but applaud it (on the principles of the Machiavilian system) as it stands related to themselves. If they thought their own existence in danger, considered as Commissioners, how natural was it to use the means to support it? And what fault could be found with the means, if those principles justified them? Why need they trouble their heads about consequences that would not affect themselves? or, if they would, and such existence appeared precarious without those means, was it not necessary they should be used, and the consequences disregarded?——If the means be successful to the end for which they seem designed, it requires no prophetic spirit to foretell that the consquences may be————bad enough. Whether the present Commissioners, or any Board of Commissioners at all (whose appointments are fully equal to any benefit the nation or colonies are likely to reap from them, and whose usefulness hitherto may be valued by some of the negative quantities in algebra) are *things* of importance enough to hazard those consequences, or any ill consequence at all, is humbly submitted to the wisdom of administration to determine.

The consequent impossibility of their holding boards—— This impossibility was of their own creating. If they had continued in town (from whence they had not the least reason to depart, unless to answer purposes they would choose to conceal) they might have held their boards as usual.

The detriment thence arising to the revenue, and his Majesty's service——If any such detriment has arisen, the fault is their own. *His Majesty's service* is a cant term in the mouths of understrappers in office. Many of them either do not know the meaning of it, or abuse it to answer their own corrupt purposes. It is used to express something distinct from the service of the people. The King and People are placed by it in opposite interests. Whereas, by the happy constitution we are under, the interest of the King is the interest of the people, and his service is their service: Both are

one

one, and conſtitutionally inſeperable. They who attempt to ſeperate them attempt to deſtroy the conſtitution. Upon every ſuch parricide may the vengeance both of King and People deſcend.

Government at an end——This has been the cry ever ſince the ſtamp-act exiſted. If the people ſaw they were going to be enſlaved; if they ſaw Governor Bernard (from whom they had a right to expect that he would do nothing to promote it) was zealous & active to rivet the chains; and that *his* government, in its principles and conduct, tended to the eſtabliſhment of a tyranny over them, was it unnatural for them in ſuch a caſe to reluct? was it unreaſonable to refuſe an acquieſcence in ſuch meaſures? Did an oppoſition to them indicate a diſregard to government? If government, in the true idea of it, has for its object the good of the governed, *ſuch* an adminiſtration could not be called government: and an oppoſition to it by no means included an oppoſition to government. From ſuch an oppoſition has ariſen the cry, that government is at an end. The ſooner *ſuch* government is at an end the better.

When a people have loſt all confidence in government, it is vain to expect a cordial obedience to it. Hence irregularities may ariſe, and have ariſen. But they will ceaſe, when the true ends of government are ſteadily purſued. Then, and not till then, may it be expected, that men of weight and influence will exert themſelves to make government reſpected. Nay, ſuch exertions will then be needleſs, for mankind cannot help reſpecting what is in itſelf reſpectable, eſpecially when it is at the ſame time ſo promotive of their own good as good government is.

The province in a ſtate of rebellion——Into this ſtate its enemies, on both ſides of the atlantic, have been endeavoring to bring it. When they could not make it ſubſervient to their intereſt and views; and when their meaſures had raiſed a ſpirit of oppoſition to them, that oppoſition was made the lucky occaſion to repreſent the province in a ſtate of rebellion, or verging towards it. To juſtify ſuch a repreſentation the more fully, they endeavored to drive it into that ſtate: whereby in the end they might hope to gratify both their malice and avarice: their malice, by injuring it moſt eſſentially; and their avarice, by the ſubjection of it to their tyranny and pillage. But nothing can be more falſe than ſuch a repreſentation: nothing more foreign from this people than a diſpoſition to rebellion.

bellion. The principles of loyalty were planted in our breasts too deep to be eradicated by *their* efforts, or any efforts whatever: and our interest co-operated with those principles.

It is humbly hoped his Majesty will not be influenced, by *such* representations, to think unfavorably of *his faithful subjects of this province*: and *that* hope is grounded upon their innocence: of which they have the highest evidence in their own consciousness; and of which they have given their adversaries no other cause to doubt, than what arises from an opposition to *their* measures. Measures, not only ruinous to the province, but hurtful to Great-Britain, and destructive of the union, and commercial intercourse, which ought always to subsist between her and her colonies.

The foregoing Observations appeared necessary to vindicate the Town and Province from the aspersions so unjustly cast upon them. The few, that follow, refer to the present and future state of Great Britain and her Colonies.

HOW happy is Britain with regard to situation, and many internal circumstances; and in her connection with her Colonies.

Seperated from the rest of the world, and possessed of so large a naval force, she is secure from foreign invasions: her government (well administred) is the best existing; her manufactures are extensive, and her commerce in proportion. To the two latter the Colonies have in a considerable degree contributed. By these means she has risen to her present opulence & greatness, which so much distinguish her among the powers of Europe. But however great and opulent she may be, she is capable of being still more so; and so much more so, that she may be deemed at present in a state of minority, compared with what she will one day probably be, if her own conduct does not prevent it. The means of this greatness are held out to her by the Colonies; and it is in her power, by a kind and just treatment of them, to avail herself of those means.

The Colonists are husbandmen, and till lately have manufactured but a small part of their cloathing, and the other articles with which they had been usually supplied from Great-Britain. But they have been taught by experience they can supply themselves; and *that* experience (which has been forced upon them) has demonstrated most clearly, that they have within themselves the

the means of living conveniently, if not with elegance, even if their communication with the reſt of mankind were wholly cut off. This, however, could not be an eligible ſtate: but no one intitled to and deſerving the liberties of an Engliſhman, can heſitate a moment to ſay, that it would be preferable to ſlavery; to which the Coloniſts have apprehended themſelves doomed, by the meaſures that have been purſued by adminiſtration.

If the Coloniſts might be permitted to follow their inclinations, with which at the ſame time their intereſt co-incides, they would be huſbandmen ſtill, and be ſupplied as uſual from Great-Britain. The yearly amount of thoſe ſupplies (as appears by the exports from Britain) is very conſiderable,† and might

† The value of the exports from Britain to the Colonies in 1766, which was leſs than in 1765, ſtood thus:

To New-England - -	£. 409,642
New-York - - -	330,829
Pennſylvania - - -	327,314
Virginia and Maryland	372,548
Carolina - - - -	296,732
	£. 1,737,065

This is taken from *The preſent State of the Nation:* in which there is an account of the ſaid exports for the years 1765 and 1766 only.

Now, ſuppoſing the obſervation juſt, that the Coloniſts (whoſe number by the ſaid pamphlet is eſtimated two millions) double every twenty years, and the exports from Great-Britain to the Colonies ſhould encreaſe in that proportion, the value of the ſaid exports and the number of the Coloniſts, at the end of five ſuch periods after 1766, will ſtand thus:

	Value of exports.	
In 1766	£. 1,737,065	for two millions of Coloniſts,
1786	3,474,130	for four millions,
1806	6,948,260	for eight millions,
1826	13,896,520	for ſixteen millions,
1846	27,793,040	for thirty-two millions,
1866	55,586,080	for ſixty-four millions of Coloniſts.

The

might be in future in proportion to the increaſe of the Coloniſts. Their increaſe is rapid: they are daily emigrating from the old towns, and forming new ones; and if they double their numbers every twenty years, as 'tis ſaid they will continue to do, ſo long as they can form into families by procuring the means of ſubſiſtence at an eaſy rate, which probably will be the caſe, till America ſhall be well peopled, there will be in a ſhort time a prodigious addition to his Majeſty's ſubjects; who, if not compelled to manufacture for themſelves, will occaſion a proportionable demand for the manufactures of Great-Britain. If it be conſidered too, that America, from its different ſoils and climates, can raiſe perhaps all the productions of other countries in the ſame latitudes: which being remitted in exchange would moſt of them be rough materials for Britain to manufacture, what a fund of wealth

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The laſt mentioned numbers are ſo large, that 'tis likely the principles on which they are formed, may be called into queſtion. Let us therefore take only one quarter part of thoſe numbers: and then the value of exports from Britain to the Colonies, in 1866, will be more than thirteen millions ſterling for ſixteen millions of Coloniſts. It is highly probable, by *that* time there will be at leaſt that number of Coloniſts in the Britiſh Colonies on this continent. Now, in caſe there be no interruption of the union and harmony that ought to ſubſiſt between Great-Britain and her Colonies, and which it is their mutual intereſt ſhould ſubſiſt and be maintained, what good reaſon can be given why ſuch exports ſhould not bear as great a proportion to the number of the Coloniſts as they do at this time? If they ſhould, the value of ſuch exports (which will be continually increaſing) will be at leaſt thirteen millions per annum. A ſum far ſurpaſſing the value of all the exports from Great-Britain at this day.

In what proportion ſo vaſt a trade with the Colonies would enlarge the other branches of her trade; how much it would encreaſe the number of her people, the rents and value of her lands, her wealth of every ſpecies, her internal ſtrength, her naval power, and particularly her revenue (to enhance which in a trifling degree has occaſioned the preſent uneaſineſs between her and the Colonies) are matters left to the calculation and deciſion of the political arithmeticians of Great-Britain.

wealth and power will America be to her. Her inhabitants of every denomination, by finding employment, and the conſequent means of ſubſiſtence, will greatly encreaſe; and her trade and navigation be in proportion. She might then view with indifference the interdiction of her trade with other parts of the world; though ſhe would always have it in her power, from the ſuperiority of her naval force, which ſuch a trade and navigation would enable her to ſupport, to do herſelf juſtice, and command univerſal reſpect.

Connected with her Colonies, ſhe would then be a mighty empire: the greateſt, conſiſting of people of one language, that ever exiſted.

If theſe obſervations be not wholly viſionary, and a mere reverie, they poſſibly may not be unworthy the conſideration of Parliament: whoſe wiſdom will determine, whether any revenue whatever, even the greateſt that America could poſſibly produce, either without or with her good will, would compenſate the loſs of ſuch wealth and power; or juſtify meaſures that had the leaſt tendency to bring them into hazard: or whether for ſuch a revenue it would be worth while to hazard even the preſent advantages, reſulting to Great Britain from an union and harmony with her Colonies.

APPENDIX

APPENDIX

Containing the several Depositions referred to in the preceeding NARRATIVE; and also other Depositions relative to the Subject of it.

(No. 1.)

I John Wilme of lawful age, testify that about ten days before the late massacre, Christopher Rumbly of the 14th regiment was at my house at the north part of the town, with sundry other soldiers; and he the said Rumbly did talk very much against the town, and said if there *should be any interruption, that the grenadiers company was to march up King-street*; and that if any of the inhabitants would join with them, the women should be sent to the castle, or some other place; and that he had been in many a battle; and that he did not know *but he might be soon in one here*; and that if he was, he would level his piece so as not to miss; *and said that the blood would soon run in the Streets of Boston*; and that one Sumner of the same regiment did say that he came here to make his fortune; and that he would *as soon fight for one King as another*; and that the two gaps would be stop'd, said one of the soldiers; and that they *would soon sweep the streets of Boston.*

And further saith, that he heard a soldier's wife, named Eleanor Park say, that if there should be any disturbance in the town of Boston, and that if any of the people were wounded, she would take a stone in her handkerchief & beat their brains out, *and plunder the rebels*—And further I say not. JOHN WILME.

Suffolk, ss. *Boston, March* 21, 1770. John Wilme *above-named, after due examination, made oath to the Truth of the aforesaid Affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the Thing.*

Before, JOHN RUDDOCK, Just. Peace & of the Quorum.
And, JOHN HILL, Jus. Peace.

No.

(No. 2.)

I Sarah Wilme of lawful age, testify that about ten days before the late massacre, Christopher Rumbly of the 14th regiment was at our house at the north part of the town, with sundry other soldiers; & he the said Rumbly did talk very much against the town, and said if there should be any interruption, that the grenadiers company was to march up King-street; and that if any of the inhabitants would join with them, the women should be sent to the castle or some other place; and that he had been in many a battle; and that he did not know but *he might be soon in one here*; *and that if he was, he would level his piece so as not to miss*; *and said that the blood would soon run in the streets of Boston*; and that one *Sumner* of the same regiment did say that he came here to make his fortune, and that *he would as soon fight for one King as another*; and that the two gaps would be stop'd said one of the soldiers; and *that they would soon sweep the streets of Boston.* And further saith not.

SARAH WILME.

Suffolk, ss. *Boston, March* 21, 1770. Sarah Wilme *above-named, after due examination, made oath to the Truth of the aforesaid Affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the Thing.*

Before, JOHN RUDDOCK, Just. Peace & of the Quorum.
And, JOHN TUDOR, Justice Peace.

(No. 3.)

I David Cockran of lawful age, testify that I went to the house of Mr. John Wilme to pay him a visit in the evening about ten days before the late massacre, and there I found 4 or 5 soldiers, and after some time the said *Wilme told me not to be out in the night of such a day* (though I cannot positively say what day) whereupon I asked him what he meant, and *he told me that there would be disturbances, or words to that effect*; *and that one of said soldiers* took me by the arm, and *said the blood would soon run in the streets of Boston.* And further saith not.

his
Attest. ELISHA STORY. David ℔ Cockran.
Mark.

Suffolk, ss. *Boston, March* 21, 1770. David Cockran *above-named, after due examination, made oath to the Truth of the aforesaid Affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the Thing.*

Before, JOHN RUDDOCK, Just. Peace & of the Quorum.
And, JOHN HILL, Jus. Peace.

No.

(No. 4.)

WILLIAM NEWHALL, living in fish-street, of lawful age, testifies and says, that on Thursday night, being the first of March instant, between the market and Justice Quincey's, he met four soldiers of the 29th regiment, all unarm'd, and that he heard them say, *there was a great many that would eat their dinners on monday next, that should not eat any on tuesday.* WILLIAM NEWHALL.

Suffolk, ss. *Boston, March* 21, 1770. WilliamNewhall *abovenamed, after due examination, made oath to the Truth of the aforesaid Affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the Thing.*

Before, JOHN RUDDOCK, Just. Peace & of the Quorum.
And, JOHN HILL, Jus. Peace.

(No. 5.)

I Nicholas Feriter, of lawful age testify, that on Friday the second instant, about half after 11 o'clock, A. M. a soldier of the 29th regiment came to Mr. John Gray's ropewalks, and looking into one of the windows said, *By God i'll have satisfaction!* with many other oaths; at the last he said he was not afraid of any one in the ropewalks. I stept out of the window and speedily knock'd up his heels. On falling his coat flew open, and a naked sword appeared, which one John Willson following me out took from him, and bro't into the ropewalks. The soldier then went to Green's barrack, and in about twenty minutes return'd with 8 or 9 more soldiers armed with clubs, and began as I was told with three or four men in Mr. Gray's warehouse, asking them why they had abused the soldier aforesaid? These men in the warehouse passed the word down the walk for the hands to come up, which they did, and soon beat them off. In a few minutes the soldiers appeared again at the same place, reinforced to the number of 30 or 40, *armed with clubs and cutlasses*, and headed by a tall negro drummer with a cutlass chained to his body, with which at first rencounter I received a cut on the head, but being immediately supported by nine or ten more of the rope-makers, armed with their wouldring sticks, we again beat them off. And further I say not.

NICHOLAS FERITER.

Suffolk, ss. *Boston, March* 20, 1770. Nicholas Feriter *abovementioned, after due examination, made oath to the aforesaid Affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the Thing.*

Before, JOHN RUDDOCK, Jus. Peace & of the Quorum.
And, JOHN HILL, Jus. Peace.

No.

(No. 6.)

I Jeffrey Richardſon, of lawful age, teſtify and ſay, that on Friday the ſecond inſtant, about eleven o'clock, A. M. eight or ten ſoldiers of the 29th regiment, armed with clubs, came to Mr. John Gray's rope-walks, and *challenged all the rope-makers to come out and fight them.*—All the hands then preſent to the number of 13 or 14, turn'd out with their wouldring ſticks, and beat them off directly. They very ſpeedily returned to the ropewalk, reinforced to the number of thirty or forty, and headed by a tall negro drummer, again challenged them out, which the ſame hands accepting, again beat them off with conſiderable bruiſes. And further I ſay not. JEFFREY RICHARDSON.

Suffolk, ff. *Boſton, March* 19, 1770. Jeffrey Richardſon *above-named, after due examination, made oath to the Truth of the above Affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the Thing.*

Before, Ri: Dana, Juſt. of Peace & of the Quorum.
And, John Hill, Jus. Peace.

(No. 7.)

JOHN Fiſher, of lawful age, teſtifies and ſaith, that on the ſecond day of March, between eleven and twelve o'clock, A. M. he ſaw about ſix ſoldiers going towards Mr. John Gray's rope-walk, ſome with clubs; they had not been there long, before they returned quicker than they went and retreated into their barracks, and bro't out the light infantry company, with many others, and went againſt the rope makers again; but were ſoon beat off as far as Green's-lane, the ſoldiers following and chaſing many perſons they could ſee in the lane with their clubs, and endeavoring to ſtrike them, when a corporal came and ordered them into the barracks.—And further ſaith that on Saturday the third inſtant, he ſaw the ſoldiers making clubs; and by what he could underſtand from their converſation, *they were determined to have ſatisfaction by Monday.* And further ſaith not. JOHN FISHER.

Suffolk, ff. *Boſton, March* 17, 1770. John Fiſher *above-named, after due examination, made oath to the Truth of the above Affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the Thing.*

Before, Ri: Dana, Juſt. of Peace & of the Quorum.
And, Sam. Pemberton, Juſt. Peace.

No,

(No. 8.)

I JOHN Hill, aged ſixty-nine, teſtify, that in the forenoon of Friday the ſecond of March current, I was at a houſe the corner of a paſſage way leading from Atkinſon's-ſtreet to Mr. John Gray's rope-walks, near Green's barracks ſo called, when I ſaw eight or ten ſoldiers paſs the window with clubs. I immediately got up and went to the door, and found them returning from the ropewalks to the barracks. Whence they again very ſpeedily re-appeared, now increaſed to the number of thirty or forty, armed with clubs and other weapons. In this latter company was a tall negro drummer, to whom I called, you black raſcal, what have you to do with white people's quarrels? He anſwered, I ſuppoſe I may look on, and went forward. *I went out directly and commanded the peace, telling them I was in commiſſion; but they not regarding me, knock'd down a ropemaker in my preſence, and two or three of them beating him with clubs, I endeavoured to relieve him; but on approaching the fellows who were mauling him, one of them with a great club ſtruck at me with ſuch violence, that had I not happily avoided it might have been fatal to me.* The party laſt mentioned ruſhed in towards the rope-walks, and attacked the rope-makers nigh the tar-kettle, but were ſoon beat off, drove out of the paſſage-way by which they entered, and were followed by the rope-makers, whom I perſuaded to go back, and they readily obeyed. And further I ſay not.

JOHN HILL.

Suffolk, ſſ. *Boſton, March* 19, 1770. John Hill, *Eſq*; *above-named, after due examination, made oath to the Truth of the aforeſaid Affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the Thing.*

Before { RI: DANA, / JOHN RUDDOCK. } Juſtices of the Peace and of the Quorum.

(No. 9.)

I JOHN Gray, of lawful age, teſtify and ſay, that on the Saturday preceeding the maſſacre on the Monday evening of the 5th inſtant, Middleton the chimney-ſweeper being at my houſe, ſaid to my maid, as ſhe informed me, that he was well acquainted with the ſoldiers, and they had determined to have their revenge of the rope-walk people; being alarmed with this news, I determined to ſee Col. Dalrymple on Monday morning. At ſabbath noon I was ſurpriz'd at hearing that Col. Carr, and his officers had enter'd my rope-walk, open'd the windows, doors, &c. giving out that they were ſearching for a dead ſerjeant of their regiment; this put me upon immediately waiting upon Col. Dalrymple, to whom I related

what I underſtood had paſſed at the rope-walk days before, he reply'd it was much the ſame as he had heard from his people; but ſays he, "your man was the aggreſſor in affronting one of my people, by aſking him if he wanted to work, and then telling him to clean his little-houſe." For this expreſſion I diſmiſſed my journeyman on the Monday morning following; and further ſaid, I would do all in my power to prevent my peoples giving them any affront in future. He then aſſur'd me, he had, and ſhould do every thing in his power to keep his ſoldiers in order, and prevent their any more entering my incloſure. Preſently after, Col. Carr came in, and aſked Col. Dalrymple what they ſhould do, for they were daily loſing their men; that three of his grenadiers paſſing quietly by the rope-walks were greatly abus'd, and one of them ſo much beat that he would die. He then ſaid he had been ſearching for a ſerjeant who had been murder'd; upon which, I ſaid, Yes Colonel, I hear you have been ſearching for him in my rope-walks; and aſked him, whether that ſerjeant had been in the affray there on the Friday; he reply'd, no: for he was ſeen on the Saturday. I then aſked him, how he could think of looking for him in my walks; and that had he apply'd to me, I would have waited on him, and opened every apartment I had for his ſatisfaction. JOHN GRAY.

Suffolk, ſſ. *Boſton, March* 22, 1770. John Gray *above named after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above-written affidavit. Taken to perpetuate the Remembrance of the Thing.*

Before, Ri: Dana, Juſtice of the Peace and of the Quorum.
And, John Hill, Jus. Peace.

(No. 10.)

ARchibald M'Neil, jun. of lawful age, teſtifies and ſays, that on Saturday the third inſtant, about half an hour after four in the afternoon, the deponent with two apprentices were ſpinning at the lower end of Mr. M'Neil's ropewalk, three ſtout grenadiers, armed with bludgeons, came to them, and addreſſing the deponent ſaid, *You damn'd dogs, don't you deſerve to be kill'd? Are you fit to die?* The deponent and company being quite unarmed gave no anſwer. James Bayley, a ſeafaring young man, coming up, ſaid to the deponent, &c. Why did you not anſwer? One of the grenadiers, named Dixſon, hearing him, came up to Bayley and aſked him if he was minded to vindicate the cauſe? Bayley alſo unarmed did not anſwer till James Young came up, who, tho' equally naked, ſaid to the grenadier, Damn it, I know what a ſoldier is.

That

That grenadier ſtood ſtill, and the other who had threatened the deponent came up and ſtruck at him, which Young fended off with his arms, and then turning aimed a blow at the deponent, which had it reached might probably have been fatal. Patrick ———, Mr. Winter Calef's journeyman, ſeeing the affray, went into the tan-houſe, and bringing out two batts gave one to a byſtander, who together with Patrick ſoon cleared the walk of them, and further ſaith not,

ARCHIBALD McNEIL.

Suffolk, ſſ. Boſton, March 17. 1770. *Archibald McNeil above named, after due examinatoin, made oath to the above affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Juſt. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſt. of Peace.

(No. 11.)

MAry Thayer of lawful age teſtifies and ſays, that on Sabbath day evening, the 4th current, a ſoldier of the 29th named Charles Malone, came into Mr. Amos Thayer's houſe, brother to the deponent, and ſent a young lad belonging to Mr. Thayer up ſtairs to his maſter, deſiring him to come down to him. Mr. Thayer refuſed to come down or have any thing to ſay to him. The deponent going down on other occaſion, ſaid ſhe would hear what the ſoldier had to ſay. And coming to the ſoldier told him her brother was engaged. The ſoldier ſaid, *your brother as you call him is a man I have a very great regard for, and came here to deſire him to keep in the houſe and not be out, for there would be a great deal of diſturbance and blood between that time and Tueſday night at 12 o'clock.* He repeatedly ſaid he had a greater regard for Mr. Thayer than any one in Boſton, and on that account came *to deſire him to keep in the houſe*, which if he did there would be no danger. After repeating the above frequently, he even turned at the door, and ſaid my name is Charles Malone, your brother knows me well, and inſiſted very earneſtly that the deponent would not neglect informing her brother, and further ſaith not.

MARY THAYER.

Suffolk, ſſ. Boſton, March 17. 1770. *Mary Thayer above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Juſt. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſt. of Peace.

(No. 12.)

I Mary Brailsford of lawful age teſtify and declare, that on Sunday evening the 4th inſtant, a perſon knocked at the door of Mr. Thayer's houſe; Mr. Thayer's lad went to ſee who it was, the boy went up ſtairs to his maſter and the ſoldier came into the room where I then was, Miſs Mary Thayer and the boy came down ſtairs into the ſame room. Miſs Thayer told the ſoldier, her brother was engaged and could not be ſpoke with, he ſaid "*your brother as you call him is a man I have a great regard for, and I came on purpoſe to tell him to keep in his houſe, for before Tueſday night next at twelve o'clock there will be a great deal of blood ſhed, and a great many lives loſt,*" and added, that *he came out of particular regard to her brother to adviſe him to keep in his houſe for then he would be out of harms way,* he ſaid your brother knows me very well, my name is Charles Malone, he then went away. And further ſaith not,

her
MARY *M* BRAILSFORD,
Atteſt, Wm. Palfrey. Mark.

Suffolk, ſſ. Boſton, March 17. 1770. *Mary Brailsford above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above-written affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Juſt. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſt. of Peace.

(No. 13)

I Aſa Copeland of lawful age teſtify and declare, that on Sunday evening the 4th inſtant, a ſoldier named Malone, came to the houſe of my maſter, Mr. Amos Thayer, and aſked for the young man that lived in the houſe. I aſked him what young man he meant; he ſaid, the young man a carpenter. I ſuppoſing he meant my maſter, told him he was up ſtairs. He then aſked me to go and call him, and ſaid he wanted to ſpeak with him: I then went up and told my maſter that Malone was below and wanted to ſpeak with him. My maſter told me to tell him he was engaged and could not go down, and ſaid if he had any thing to ſay he muſt ſay it to his ſiſter Miſs Mary Thayer. I then went down and heard ſaid Malone ſaying to Miſs Thayer. "I would have him keep in for I have a greater regard for Mr. Thayer than for any other perſon in town," and added, *I would have him keep in his own place, for by Tueſday night next before twelve o'clock there will be a great many lives loſt, and a great deal of blood ſhed, which he re-*

peated

peated several times. As he was going out of the door he turned back and said Mr. Thayer knew him very well, and had drank with him, that his name was Charles Malone. And further saith not. ASA COPELAND.

Suffolk, ss. Boston, March 17. 1770. *Asa Copeland above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Just. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Just. Peace.

(No. 14.)

I John Brailsford of lawful age testify, that on Monday evening the 5th instant as I was passing by the centry at Col. Dalrymple's house in Green's Lane, I asked a soldier named *Swan* of the 29th regiment, what was the reason of their people's going about armed with clubs in such a manner, and troubling the *town*'s people. *Swan* told me *you will see, you had better go home*, and more to the same purpose. When the guns were fired I returned back and asked *Swan* what that could mean; *Swan* waving his head, said it's the guards, there is no shot there: *You had better go home*, and by all his behaviour and discourse he manifested his full acquaintance with the whole affair, and further saith not. JOHN BRAILSFORD.

Suffolk, ss. Boston, March 21. 1770. *John Brailsford above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above-written affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before JOHN RUDDOCK, Just. Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Just. Peace.

(No. 15)

Nathaniel Noyes of lawful age testifies and says, that on last Sabbath evening, the 4th day of March current, a little after dark, he saw five or six soldiers of the 14th and 29th regiments, each of them with clubs, passing thro' Fore-street, and heard them say, that if they saw any of the inhabitants of this town out in the street after nine o'clock, *they swore by God, they would knock them down, be they who they will.*

NATH. NOYES.

Suffolk, ss. Boston, March 16. 1770. *Nathaniel Noyes above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above-written affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Just. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Just. Peace. Richard

(No. 16.)

RIchard Ward, of lawful age, does teſtify and ſay, that on the Lord's-day evening preceeding the fifth day of March inſtant, about duſk, he went to ſee one Mr. Dines (who is a ſoldier in the twenty-ninth regiment, and who worked, when he was not upon duty, in Mr. John Piemont Perukemaker's ſhop with the deponent a journeyman to ſaid Piemont) the ſaid Dines lives near the barracks at New-Boſton; when your deponent was there, he heard *one of the officers* of the ſaid 29th regiment *ſay to the ſerjeants, Don't let any of your people go out unleſs there be eight or ten together.* RICHARD WARD.

Suffolk, ſſ. Boſton, March 16. 1770. *Richard Ward above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above-written affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Juſt. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſt. Peace.

(No. 17.)

JAne Uſher of lawful age teſtifies and ſays, that about nine of the clock in the morning of Monday the fifth day of March current, ſhe being in the front chamber of the houſe of John Scollay, Eſq; on Dock-ſquare; from the window ſaw two perſons in the habit of ſoldiers, one of whom being on horſe back appeared to be an officer's ſervant: The perſon on the horſe firſt ſpoke to the other, but what he ſaid ſhe is not able to ſay, tho' the window was open, and ſhe not more than twenty feet diſtant; the other replied, *he hoped he ſhould ſee blood enough ſpilt before morning.* JANE USHER.

Suffolk, ſſ. Boſton, March 16. 1770. *Jane Uſher above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above written affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Juſt. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſt. Peace.

(No. 18.)

MAtthew Adams (living with Mr. John Arnold) being of lawful age, teſtifies and ſays, that on Monday evening the fifth day of March inſtant, between the hours of ſeven and eight of the clock, he went to the houſe of corporal Perſhal, of the twenty ninth regiment, near Quaker-lane, where he ſaw the corporal and his wife, with one of the fifers of ſaid regiment; when he had got what he went for, and was coming away, the corporal called him back, *and deſired him with great earneſtneſs*

earneſtneſs to go home to his maſter's houſe as ſoon as buſineſs was over, and not be abroad on any account that night in particular, for the ſoldiers were determined to be revenged on the ropewalk people; and that much miſchief would be done; upon which the fifer (about eighteen or nineteen years of age) ſaid *he hoped in God they would burn the town down*; on this he left the houſe, and the ſaid corporal called after him again, and begg'd he would mind what he had ſaid to him, and further ſaith not.

MATTHEW ADAMS.

Suffolk, ſſ. Boſton, March 20. 1770. *Matthew Adams above named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the aforeſaid affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before JOHN RUDDOCK, Juſt. Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſt. Peace.

(No. 19.)

CAleb Swan, of lawful age, teſtifies and ſays, that laſt Monday night, the 5th of March 1770, being at Mr. Sample's door, at the north part of the town near the north battery, at the time of the bells ringing for fire, he heard a woman's voice, whom he knew to be the ſuppoſed wife of one Montgomery, a grenadier of the twenty-ninth regiment, ſtanding at her door, and heard her ſay it was not fire; the town was too haughty and too proud; that *many of their arſes would be laid low before the morning*: Upon which Suſanna Cathcart ſaid to her, I hope your huſband will be killed. On which the woman replied, My huſband is able and will ſtand his ground.

CALEB SWAN.

Suffolk, ſſ. Boſton March 21. 1770. *Caleb Swan above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before JOHN RUDDOCK, Juſt. Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſt. Peace.

(No. 20.)

MArgaret Swanſborough, of lawful age, teſtifies and ſays, that a free woman, named Black Peg, who has kept much with the ſoldiers, on hearing the diſturbance on Monday evening the fifth inſtant, ſaid, *The ſoldiers were not to be trod upon by the inhabitants, but would know before morning, whether they or the inhabitants were to be maſters.* Since which time, the ſaid Black Peg has ſold off her houſhold ſtuff and left the town, on her hearing what ſhe had ſaid before, was given in to the committee of enquiry,

her
Margaret + Swanſborough,
mark.

Suffolk,

Suffolk, ss. Boston, March 20. 1770. *Margaret Swansborough aforenamed, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the aforesaid affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before JOHN RUDDOCK, Just. Peace & of the Quorum.
BELCHER NOYES, Justice o'Peace.

(No. 21.)

ROBERT Pierpont of lawful age testifies and says, that going to see a sick neighbour between the hours of seven and eight on Monday evening the fifth current, two soldiers arm'd, one with a broad sword, the other with a club passed him near the hay market, going towards the town-house, seeming in great haste. In a few minutes they returned and hallowed very loud, Colonel. Before the deponent reached Mr. West's house, where he was going, they passed him again, joined by another, with a blue surtout, who had a bayonet with which he gave the deponent a back-handed stroke, apparently more to affront than hurt him. On complaint of this treatment, he said, *the deponent should soon hear more of it, and threatned him very hard*, and further saith not. ROB. PIERPONT.

Suffolk, ss. Boston, March 16. 1770. *Robert Pierpont, above named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above written affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Just. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Just. Peace.

(No. 22.)

JOhn Brown of lawful age testifies and says, that coming homewards about nine of the clock on Monday evening the fifth current, he fell in with Nathaniel Bosworth, and walking slowly together, a little to the southward of Liberty-tree so called, they met a parcel of soldiers about six or seven in number, walking very fast into town, one of the foremost said, *damn you stand out of the way*, and struck the deponent a blow on the breast, which made him stagger and fall nearly to the ground, tho' he had sheared out of the way. The soldiers pressed along *cursing and damning*, towards the town-house with naked bayonets in their hands. JOHN BROWN.

Suffolk, ss. Boston, March 17. 1770. *John Brown, above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Just. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL. Just. Peace.

The following Depoſition ſhould have immediately preceeded No. 5.

(No. 23.)

SAmuel Boſtwick, of lawful age, teſtifies and ſays, that on Friday the ſecond inſtant, between 10 and 11 o'clock in the forenoon, three ſoldiers of the 29th regiment, came up Mr. Gray's ropewalk, and William Green, one of the hands, ſpoke to one of them, ſaying, Soldier, will you work? The ſoldier replied, Yes. Green ſaid, then go and clean my ſ—t-houſe. The ſoldier ſwore by the Holy Ghoſt that he would have recompence, and tarried a good while ſwearing at Green, who took no further notice of him, and then went off, and ſoon after returned to the ropewalk with a party of thirty or forty ſoldiers, headed by a tall negro drummer, and challenged the ropemakers to come out. All hands then preſent, being about 13 or 14, turn'd out and beat them off, conſiderably bruiſed. And further ſaith not.

SAMUEL BOSTWICK.

Suffolk, ſſ. Boſton, March 19. 1770. *Samuel Boſtwick, above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Juſt. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſ. Peace.

(No. 24.)

I William Tyler, of lawful age, do teſtify and ſay, that on the evening of the fifth of March, a little after nine o'clock, as I was coming up kingſtreet, juſt before I got to the cuſtom-houſe *I ſaw the centinel running after a boy, and immediately heard him cry out as tho' in great diſtreſs.* I aſked the boy what was the matter, he told me *the centinel had ſtruck him with his gun and bayonet* becauſe he aſk'd Capt. Goldfinch for ſome money that he owed him. The centinel ſaid that he ſhould not uſe an officer ill in the ſtreet. Soon after the boy left the centinel and went away, and immediately ten or twelve ſoldiers came running up Silſby's alley, crying out, where are your *Sons of Liberty?* and went from thence to Cornhill. I further teſtify that when the above complaint was made of the centinel's ſtriking the barber's boy, there were *few people* in the ſtreet. *I ſaw but five or ſix about them, who immediately diſperſed.* I then left Kingſtreet and went up to Cornhill.

WILLIAM TYLER.

Suffolk, ss. Boston, March 21. 1770. *William Tyler, abovenamed, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the aforesaid affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before JOHN RUDDOCK, Just. Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Just. Peace.

(No. 25.)

HEnry Bass of lawful age testifies and says, that going from his house in Winter-street, on Monday evening the fifth of March, to see a friend in the neighbourhood of the Rev. Dr. Cooper's meeting-house; that the bell was ringing for nine o'clock when he came out of his house, and that he proceeded down the main-street, and going near Draper's alley, leading to Murray's barracks, thro' which he purposed to pass, heard some boys huzzaing, and imagines that there were *six or seven of them and not more*; and presently after he saw two or three persons in said alley with weapons, but cannot positively say what they were.—Soon after several more came into the alley and made a sally out, and those that came out were soldiers, and thinks were all grenadiers, as they were stout men, and *were armed with large naked cutlasses; they made at every body coming in their way, cutting and slashing*; the said deponent very narrowly escaped receiving a cut from the foremost of them, who pursued him below Mr. Simpson's stone shop, where he made a stand; presently after, going up Cornhill he met an oyster man, who said to the deponent, *damn it, this is what I got by going up, and shewed the deponent a large cut he had received from one of the soldiers with a cutlass over his right shoulder*; said deponent thinking it not safe but very dangerous for him to go through the alley, he returned home by the way of Kingstreet through Royal Exchange lane, and passed by the centinel at the corner of the Custom-house; and said deponent further says, that *he never saw fewer persons in Kingstreet, considering the pleasantness of the evening, and verily believes there was not twelve persons between the Crown Coffee-house and the bottom of the Town-house*; he imagines it to be then about fifteen or twenty minutes after nine: After said deponent got to the head of the Town-house, he met a great many persons who enquired of him about the affair; the said deponent told them there had been an affray by Murray's barracks, but that it was then over, and further this deponent saith not.

HENRY BASS.

Suffolk,

Suffolk, ss. Boston, March 16. 1770. *The above-named Henry Bass personally appearing, and being carefully examined and duly cautioned to testify the whole truth, maketh solemn oath to the fore-written deposition by him subscribed, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Just. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Just. Peace.

(No. 26.)

I William LeBaron of Boston, of lawful age, testify and say, that on Monday evening the fifth day of this instant March, about ten minutes after nine o'clock, being in kingstreet with my brother Francis LeBaron, saw a soldier; the centry of the custom-house door, running after a barber's boy, the boy called out as if he was in distress, and the soldier pursuing him with his firelock told him if he did not hold his tongue *he would put a ball thro' him*, after which the soldier returned to his post; immediately after this I heard a great noise in Silsby's lane, so called, and immediately about thirteen or fourteen soldiers appeared in kingstreet, near the watch-house, with their drawn swords, cutlasses and bayonets, calling out, *where are the damn'd boogers, cowards, where are your Liberty boys*; at which time there was *not more than eight or ten persons in kingstreet*; one of the soldiers came up to me, damn'd me, and *made several passes at me with a drawn sword*, the last of which, the sword went between my *arm and breast*, and then I run, as I had nothing to defend myself, and was pursued by a soldier with a naked bayonet, *who swore he would run me through*; at which time your deponent cry'd Fire! and soon after the bells rung, and further your deponent saith not.

WILLIAM LeBARON.

Suffolk, ss. Boston, March 19. 1770. *William Le Baron above named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above-written affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Just. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Just. Peace.

(No. 27.)

William Lewis testifies and says, that on the evening following Monday the fifth instant, about nine o'clock, he passing through Kingstreet in order to go into Cornhill street, while he was crossing Kingstreet heard some people wrangling at the Custom-house door, and he immediately see four

ſoldiers of the 29th regiment jump out from between the Watch-houſe and the Town-Houſe ſteps, at the eaſt end of the houſe, in their ſhort jackets *with drawn ſwords in their hands*, two of whom run after the deponent and purſued him cloſe until he got to his home in Cornhill ſtreet, where juſt as he entered the door *one of the ſoldiers ſtruck at him either with his ſword or bayonet*, but the deponent rather thinks it was the latter, as he afterwards found a three ſquare hole cut in the ſkirt of his ſurtout, which he verily believes was made by the blow that the ſoldier ſtruck at him; and further ſaith not.

WILLIAM LEWIS.

Suffolk, ſſ. Boſton, March 20. 1770. *William Lewis above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before JOHN RUDDOCK, Juſt. Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſt. Peace.

(No. 28.)

NAthaniel Thayer, of lawful age, teſtifies, that on Monday evening the 5th of March, about nine of the clock, as he ſat in his houſe in Cornhill he heard a great noiſe, at which he went to the door, and ſaw a number of people by Mr. Quincy's door, near Murray's barracks, where he heard the ſticks and clubs going, upon which fire was cry'd, and preſently ran 5 ſoldiers as he ſuppoſes from the main-guard, with ſwords or cutlaſſes, ſwearing and damning, and ſaying "where are they? *cut them to pieces.*" The ſoldiers in their waiſtcoats came to his door and inſulted him; ſo he ſhut his door and went in.

NATH. THAYER.

Suffolk, ſſ. Boſton, March 19. 1770. *Nathaniel Thayer above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Juſt. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſt. Peace.

(No. 29.)

I Iſaac Parker, of lawful age, teſtify and ſay, that being at Mr. Richard Salter's houſe on the evening of the fifth current, heard a great noiſe in the ſtreet, upon which I went to the entry door and ſaw a great number of ſoldiers in their jackets without ſleeves, *having naked cutlaſſes in their hands*, flouriſhing them over their heads, one of whom aſſaulted me with

with a naked cutlaſs, aiming a ſtroke at my head, which I happily avoided by a ſudden retreat in-doors.

ISAAC PARKER.

Suffolk, ſſ. Boſton, March, 19. 1770. *Iſaac Parker, above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above-written affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Juſt. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſt. Peace.

(No. 30.)

I Bartholomew Kneeland, of Boſton, merchant, being of lawful age, teſtify and ſay, that on Monday evening the fifth inſtant, (being at my lodgings at the houſe of my ſiſter Mrs. Mehetabel Torrey, widow of the late Mr. Samuel Torrey, deceaſed) about fifteen minutes after nine of the clock, hearing a bell ring, which I ſuppoſed was for fire, went immediately to the front door, followed by Mr. Matthias King, Mrs. Torrey and two others of the family; ſtanding at the door for the ſpace of four or five minutes, *I ſaw a number of ſoldiers with broad ſwords and bayonets in the main ſtreet near the town pump, making a great noiſe*; one of the ſaid ſoldiers, when nearly oppoſite to me, ſpake to me the following words, viz. *Damn you, what do you do there? get in:* To which I made no anſwer; *the ſame ſoldier immediately croſſed the gutter, and coming up to me pointed his naked bayonet within ſix inches of my breaſt*; I told him to go along, and then I retired into the houſe. In about half an hour's time after the above, I heard a volley of ſmall arms fired off in Kingſtreet; and upon enquiry was told that three men were killed & one wounded. BART. KNEELAND.

Suffolk, ſſ. Boſton, March 12. 1770. *Bartholomew Kneeland above-named, after due examination, made oath to the above-written affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Juſt. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſt. Peace.

(No. 31.)

I Nathaniel Appleton, of lawful age, teſtify, that on Monday evening the 5th inſtant, between nine and ten o'clock, I was ſitting in my houſe in Cornhill, heard a noiſe in the ſtreet, I went to my front door and ſaw ſeveral perſons paſſing up and down the ſtreet, I aſked what was the matter? was informed that the ſoldiers at Murray's barrack were quarrelling

with

with the inhabitants. Standing there a few minutes, I saw a number of soldiers, about 12 or 15, as near as I could judge, come down from the southward, running towards the said barrack *with drawn cutlasses*, and appeared to be passing by, but on seeing me in company with Deacon Marsh at my door, they turned out of their course and *rushed upon us with uplifted weapons, without our speaking or doing the least thing to provoke them*, with the utmost difficulty we escaped a stroke by retreating and closing the door upon them.

I further declare, that at that time my son, a lad about 12 years old, was abroad on an errand, and soon came home and told me that he was met by a *number of soldiers with cutlasses in their hands, one of which attempting to strike him*, the child begg'd for his life, saying, pray soldier save my life, on which the soldier reply'd, *No damn you, I will kill you all, and smote him with his cutlass*, which glanced down along his arm and knocked him to the ground where they left him, after the soldiers had all passed, the child arose and came home, having happily received no other damage than a bruise on the arm—I further declare that the above related transactions happened but a few minutes before the soldiers fired upon the people in Kingstreet, and further saith not. NATH. APPLETON.

Suffolk, ss. Boston, March 20. 1770. *Nathaniel Appleton, above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before JOHN RUDDOCK, Just. Peace and the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Just. Peace.

(No. 32.)

JEremiah Belknap of lawful age testifies and says, that on the first appearance of the affray in Cornhill on Monday evening the fifth instant, hearing a noise he ran to his door and heard Mr. William Merchant say he had been struck by a soldier, and presently saw to the number of eight or nine soldiers come out of Boylstone's alley into the street, *armed with clubs and cutlasses*. The deponent went out into the street and desired them to retire to their barracks, upon which one of them with a club in one hand and cutlass in the other, with the latter made a stroke at the deponent; when finding there was no prospect of stopping them, the deponent ran to the main guard, and called for the officers of the guard. The reply was, there is no officer here. Several of the soldiers came out of the guard house, and the deponent told them if

there

there was not a party sent down there would be bloodshed: Just as the deponent spoke these words he was attacked by two soldiers *with drawn cutlasses* supposed of the party from Murray's barracks, *one at his breast and the other over his head.* One of the guards said this is an officer, meaning the deponent, I believe a Constable; on which the two assailants retired and put up their cutlasses, and further saith not.

JEREMIAH BELKNAP.

Suffolk, ss. Boston, March 16. 1770. *The above-named Jeremiah Belknap personally appeared, and being carefully examined, and duly cautioned to testify the whole truth, maketh solemn oath to the forewritten deposition by him subscribed. Taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Just. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Just. of Peace.

(No. 33.)

I John Coburn of lawful age testify and say, that on the evening of the 5th of March instant being alarmed by the cry of fire, and ringing of bells, ran out of my house with my bags and buckets; upon going to Mr. Payne's door, he told me it was not fire it was a riot, I sent my buckets home again, and went to Mr. Amory's corner with Mr. Payne, and Mr. Walker the builder came along and said the soldiers were in the street in Cornhill and dock-square, with their *drawn cutlasses, cutting and slashing every body in their way*, and the inhabitants wanted help, and said, pray gentlemen run, or words to that purpose. I returned again to my house, and a few minutes after, at the head of royal exchange lane, in the street, I saw a few, *not exceeding fifteen or twenty persons*, stop, as I supposed talking what had happened. I went to Mr. Payne's door and stood in his entry with him, I believe, about ten or fifteen minutes, and heard some words with the people and the centinel, such as, Do fire if you dare, but no further than words, not so much as to touch him, as I saw, neither did I see more than *five or six* that had so much as sticks in their hands, *all entirely unarmed, without any weapons.* Mr. Harrison Gray, jun. came into the entry to us, and upon this immediately came an officer with a party of six or seven men with their guns breast-high and clear'd the way, and by their behaviour I did not know but they would fire, I said it was not prudent to tarry there, went directly into my own house and called all my family in. To the best of my judgment, there was not more than *fifty or sixty people* in the street when the party came

and

and I believe it was not exceeding two minutes from the time that I left Mr. Payne to the firing of the guns and farther your deponent saith not. JOHN COBURN.

Suffolk. ff. Boston, March 16. 1770. *The above-named John Coburn personally appearing and being carefully examined and duly cautioned to testify the whole truth, maketh solemn oath to the afore-written deposition by him subscribed, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Just. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Just. Peace.

(No. 34.)

I Robert Polley of lawful age testify and declare that on Monday evening the 5th instant as I was going home observed about ten persons standing near Mr. Taylor's door, after standing there a small space of time I went with them towards Boylston's alley opposite to Murray's barracks; we met in the alley about *eight or nine soldiers some of whom were armed with drawn swords and cutlasses, one had a tongs, another a shovel with which they assaulted us*, and gave us a great deal of abusive language, we then drove them back to the barracks with sticks *only*; we looked for stones or bricks but could find none, the *ground being covered with snow*: Some of the lads dispersed, and myself with a few others were returning peaceably home, when we met about *nine or ten other soldiers armed with a naked cutlass in one hand and a stick or bludgeon in the other*. One of them said, "*Where are the sons of bitches?*" *They struck at several persons in the street* and went towards the head of the alley. Two officers came and endeavoured to get them into the barracks. One of the lads proposed to ring the bell. The soldiers went thro' the alley, and the boys huzza'd and said they were gone thro' royal exchange lane into kingstreet. Myself and some of the boys then went into kingstreet, I saw two or three snow-balls strike the side of the custom-house, near which a centinel stood. The centinel kept the boys off with his bayonet charged breast-high, *which he frequently pushed at them.* I then saw eight or nine soldiers with a leader come from the main guard towards the custom-house, where they drew up, three facing up the street and three fronting the street. *They kept continually striking and pushing with their bayonets at the people* who pressed towards them, *without offering any insult as I saw.* I then went down royal exchange lane, when I was in the middle of the lane I heard the discharge of a gun, which

which was immediately followed by about seven others. And further saith not,

his
Robert ✣ Polley.
mark.

Attest. Wm. Palfrey.

Suffolk, ss. *Boston. March* 17, 1770. Robert Polley *above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above Affidavit. Taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before, Ri: Dana, Jus. of Peace and of the Quorum.
John Hill, Justice Peace.

(No. 35.)

SAMUEL Atwood of Welfleet, of lawful age, testifies and says, that a few minutes after nine of the clock on Monday evening last, lying on board a vessel in the town dock, he heard a noise and disturbance at the upper end of DockSquare, and going up he found the soldiers and inhabitants engaged in the narrow passes round Murray's barracks so called; the latter being mostly boys unarmed, dispersed, on which ten or twelve soldiers armed with drawn cutlasses, clubs and bayonets bolted out of the alley into the square and met the deponent, who asked them if they intended to murder people? *They answered, yes, by God, root and branch, saying here is one of them*; with that one of them struck the deponent with a club, which was repeated by another: the deponent being unarm'd turned to go off, and he received a wound on the left shoulder, which reached the bone, disabled him, and gave him much pain. Having gone a few steps, the deponent met two officers, and asked them, Gentlemen, what is the matter? *They answered you will see by and by*; and as he passed by Colonel Jackson's, he heard the cry, *Turn out the guards.*

SAMUEL ATWOOD.

Suffolk, ss. *March* 16, 1770. *The above-named* Samuel Atwood *appeared before us, two of his Majesty's Justices of the peace for the said county of Suffolk, and being carefully examined, and duly cautioned to declare the whole truth, made oath to the truth of the above testimony by him subscribed. Taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before, Ri: Dana, Justice of Peace, and of the Quorum.
John Hill, Justice Peace.

(No 36.)

CAPTAIN James Kirkwood, of lawful age, testifies and says, that about nine of the clock in the evening of the

fifth day of March current, he was going by Murray's barracks, hearing a noiſe, ſtopt at Mr. Rhoads's door, oppoſite to ſaid barracks, where ſaid Rhoads was ſtanding, and ſtood ſome time and ſaw the ſoldiers coming out of the yard from the barracks, armed with cutlaſſes and bayonets, and ruſhing thro' Boylſton's alley into cornhill. Two officers, viz. Lieuts. Minchin and Dickſon came out of the meſs-houſe and ſaid to the ſoldiers, my lads come into the barrack and don't hurt the inhabitants, and then retir'd into the meſs-houſe. Soon after they came to the door again, and found the ſoldiers in the yard; and directly upon it, *Enſign Mall* came to the gate of the barrack yard, and *ſaid to the ſoldiers, turn out, and I will ſtand by you! this he repeated frequently, adding, kill them! ſtick them! knock them down, run your bayonets thro' them, with a great deal of language of like import.* Upon which a great number of ſoldiers came out of the barracks, with naked cutlaſſes, *headed by ſaid Mall*, and went thro' the aforeſaid alley, ſome officers came and got the ſoldiers into their barracks; and that Mall with his ſword or cutlaſs drawn in his hand, as often had them out again; but they were at laſt drove into their barracks by the aforeſaid Minchin and Dickſon.

JAMES KIRKWOOD.

Suffolk, ſc: *Boſton, March* 21, 1770. James Kirkwood *above named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the aforeſaid affidavit. Taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before, JOHN RUDDOCK, Jus. Peace and of the Quorum.
And, JOHN HILL, Jus. Peace.

(No. 37.)

MATTHIAS King, of Halifax in Nova-Scotia, of lawful age, teſtifies and ſays, that in the evening of the fifth day of March inſtant, about nine of the clock, he was at his lodgings at Mrs. Torrey's near the town pump, and heard the bells ring and the cry of fire; upon which he went to the door, and ſaw ſeveral ſoldiers coming round the ſouth ſide of the town-houſe armed with bayonets, and ſomething which he took to be broad-ſwords; that one of thoſe people came up almoſt to him and Mr. Bartholomew Kneeland; and they had but juſt time to ſhut the door upon him, otherwiſe he is well aſſured they muſt have fell victims to their boundleſs cruelty: He afterwards went into the upper chamber of the ſaid houſe and was looking out of the window when the drum and the guard went to the barrack; and he ſaw one of the guards kneel and preſent his piece with a bayonet fixed, and heard

him

him ſware he would fire upon a parcel of boys who were then in the ſtreet, but he did not. He further declares, that when the body of troops was drawn up before the guard-houſe, (which was preſently after the maſſacre) he heard *an officer ſay to another, that this was fine work, and juſt what he wanted;* but in the hurry he could not ſee him, ſo as to know him again. MATTHs. KING.

Suffolk, ſc. *Boſton, March* 17, 1770. Matthias King *above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above affidavit. Taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before, Ri: Dana, Juſt. of Peace, and of the Quorum.
John Hill, Jus. Peace.

(No. 38.)

BArtholomew Broaders, of lawful age, teſtifies and ſays, that on Sunday evening being the 4th inſtant preceding the maſſacre, he went up to ſee Patrick Dines, a ſoldier of the 29th regiment, who work'd with Mr. Piemont, and in Dawſon's room heard ſerjeant Daniel's ſay, that *the officers ſaid,* ſince patience would not do, *force muſt.*—And that the ſoldiers muſt not bear the affronts of the inhabitants any longer, but *reſent them, and make them know their diſtance*; and further, that the inhabitants would never be eaſy, and that he ſhould deſire to make the *plumbs fly about their ears, and ſet the town on fire round them,* and then they would know who and who were of a ſide. Said Daniel's aſked Edward Garrick, fellow-apprentice to the deponent, if he knew where he could get a ſtick that would bear a good ſtroke? Garrick replied, you muſt look for one. And the deponent further ſaith, that about eight o'clock on Monday evening he went down King-ſtreet & met twelve of the Town's people with clubs, who ſaid that they had been attack'd by the ſoldiers; that he followed the town's people to the conduit, and then returned home. Soon after Mr. Green's maid and his daughter called him out of the ſhop, and aſked him to go to the apothecary's; and then they with the *deponent* returned to the cuſtom-houſe; in going he met his fellow-apprentice, and they went & ſtood upon the cuſtom-houſe ſteps, and Mr. Hammond Green came out, ſaying, come in girls; then *the deponent and his fellow apprentice,* by the maid's invitation, *went in alſo*—Soon after Sawny Irving, ſo called, *came in* as he thought without a hat, ſeemed a little angry, & he thinks aſked for a candle (the maid has ſince told him he did aſk for one) then he went thro' the room along with Hammond Green, the latter return'd into

the kitchen, then he left the houſe and went home ; after which the deponent came down Kingſtreet, and went thro' Quaker-lane, and coming up the lane again, ſaw the centinel at the cuſtom-houſe leave his poſt and come into the middle of the ſtreet, and ſaid to the deponent's fellow-apprentice, who he thought had ſaid ſomething of an officer's not paying his debts, let me ſee your face ; the boy anſwered, I am not aſham'd to ſhow my face ; immediately upon which the centinel fetched a ſweeping ſtroke with his gun, upon the ſide of his head, which made him reel and ſtagger about, and cry much. The deponent aſked what he was ſtruck for ; he anſwered for nothing. he then aſked the centinel what he meant by thus abuſing the people. He reply'd, damn'd your blood, if you do not get out of the way, I will give you ſomething ; he then fixt his bayonet, and puſh'd at them, & they both run—then one Richard Ward, another fellow-apprentice, aſked the one ſtruck, what it was for, and endeavoured to get his ſtick to ſtrike the centinel, but he told him not to, & came away ; then he heard a huzza or two, and as he got up Silſby's alley, up came a number of grenadiers, as he tho't about ten, with clubs, cutlaſſes and bayonets, crying out, where are the damn'd Yankeys. He reply'd, what is the matter—they anſwer'd, we will let you know.—He then run into his maſter's entry, & as running in, ſaw near twenty other ſoldiers with bayonets, &c. flouriſhing coming from the guard houſe as he tho't ; immediately after, he heard the bells ring, and then as he took it, the ſame party with a ſerjeant at their head, came running by, knocking down and ſlaſhing all the town's people they met with ; then he heard people who were running, aſk where the fire was. He told them it was no fire, but the ſoldiers near Juſtice Quincey's were fighting with the inhabitants.—He then went towards Juſtice Quincey's, and found the ſoldiers had retired to their barracks, when 3 cheers were given by the inhabitants—He then went down to Kingſtreet, and heard the people talking of the abuſe his fellow-apprentices had received from the centinel, but ſaw no inſult offered the centinel, the people being in the middle of the ſtreet.—One came up with a cane, appeared a gentleman, and ſpoke to the centinel, and then went away ; then the centinel went up the ſteps of the cuſtom-houſe and pointed his gun ; ſome of the inhabitants then ſaid he is going to fire —then he took down his gun and loaded it, while he was loading, one Thomas Greenwood a waiter went into the cuſtom houſe door, and it was ſhut immediately ; and then Mr. Green's ſon John ſaid the centinel was a going to fire ; but he ſaw no abuſe offered him, or any danger he was in. He then

went

went down royal-exchange-lane, met a number of people who were alſo diſperſing near dock ſquare. He then ſaid to one Cox, and the people, that the ſoldiers were going to fire upon the inhabitants at the commiſſioners ſteps; ſome of the people went up upon this news to Kingſtreet; another man came from Kingſtreet, and ſaid to them, come up into Kingſtreet. He then went up Silſby's alley, and when he got to Mrs. Euſtis's ſhop, heard a gun go off, and afterwards ſeveral others in a ſhort ſpace of time after one another. Soon after he was told that three men were killed; then heard the bells ring, and ſaw the people aſſemble faſt in Kingſtreet. The deponent further ſaith, that on the night aboveſaid, the Snow was deep upon the ground, and well remembers that when the centry called for the main guard, there were not above 10 or 20 people in Kingſtreet near the cuſtom houſe. And further ſaith not.

BARTHOLOMEW BROADERS.

Suffolk, ſſ. *Boſton, March* 19, 1770. Bartholomew Broaders *above-named, after due examination, made oath to the Truth of the above-written Affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the Thing.*

Before, Ri: Dana, Juſt. of Peace & of the Quorum.
And, John Hill, Jus. Peace.

(No. 39.)

JOHN Goddard of Brookline teſtifies and ſays, as he was paſſing the ſtreet on Saturday laſt, being the 3d inſtant, he ſtopped near the barracks in Water-ſtreet, and ſold ſeveral of the barrack people ſome potatoes about five of the clock in the afternoon, and found by their diſcourſe ſome of the ſoldiers had returned from a Fray near the ropewalks, and a number of ſoldiers came out of the barracks, he ſuppoſed about 20, with clubs, ſeemingly much enraged; and one in a profane manner ſwore he would be revenged on them, if he fired the town.

JOHN GODDARD.

Suffolk, ſſ. *Boſton, March* 22, 1770. John Goddard *above-mentioned, after due examination made oath to the Truth of the aforeſaid Affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before John Ruddock, Juſt. Peace and of the Quorum.
And John Hill, Juſt. Peace.

(No. 40.)

DAniel Calfe of lawful age teſtifies and ſays, that on Saturday evening the third inſtant, a camp woman, wife to James

James McDeed, a grenadier in the 29th, came into Daniel Calfe's shop, father to the deponent, and the people talking about the affrays at the ropewalk, and blaming the soldiers for the part they had acted in it. The woman said *the soldiers were in the right, adding that before Tuesday or Wednesday night they would wet their swords or bayonets in New-England people's blood.* The deponent further says, that on the evening of the fifth current, hearing the bells ring, which he took for fire, he went out, and near the old south meeting house heard the soldiers were fighting with the inhabitants in Kingstreet, whereupon he came into kingstreet,, and seeing a number of people *(about one hundred)* he went up to the custom-house, where were posted about a dozen soldiers with an officer. That this deponent *heard said officer order the soldiers to fire, and gave the second word to fire before they fired*; and upon the officers ordering the soldiers to fire the second time this deponent ran off abont thirty feet distance when turning about he saw one Caldwell fall and likewise a molatto man.

DANIEL CALFE.

Suffolk, ff. *Boston, March* 21, 1770. Daniel Calfe *abovenamed, after due examination, made oath to the Truth of the aforesaid Affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the Thing.*

Before, John Ruddock, Just. Peace & of the Quorum.
And, John Hill, Jus. Peace.

(No. 41.)

I Thomas Marshall, of lawful age, do testify and declare, that on Monday night the fifth of March, four or five minutes after nine o'clock, coming from Col. Jackson's house on dock-square to my house in kingstreet, next door to the custom-house, *I saw no person in the street but the centinel at the custom-house in perfect peace*; after I had been in my house ten or twelve minutes, being in my shop in the front of the house, I heard the cry of Murder at a distance, on which I opened the door, but *saw no person in the street*; but in half a minute I saw several persons rushing out from the main guard house, crying out, *Damn them, where are they?* They came down as far as the corner of Mr. Phillips's house; I saw their swords and bayonets glitter in the moon-light, *crying out as before, and by Jesus let them come*; at which time I was called into the house by one of my family, but returned again in half a minute, and saw ten or twelve soldiers, in a tumultuous manner, in the middle of kingstreet, opposite to royal exchange lane, flourishing their arms,

arms, and *saying damn them where are they*, and crying fire; the bells then rung as for fire; I was then called in again for half a minute, and returning again to the door, the inhabitants began to collect.—Soon after a party of soldiers came down the south side of king-street and cross'd over to the custom-house centinel, and form'd in a rank by him, *nor did I see any manner of abuse offered the centinel, and in three minutes at the farthest they began to fire on the inhabitants*, by which several persons were killed, and several others were wounded. Some time after this, the party march'd off very leisurely, *and without molestation*, and presently after the main guard was drawn out in ranks between the guard-house and town-house, and was joined by the piquet in the same manner, with fixed bayonets and muskets shouldered, except the front rank, who stood with charged bayonets, until the Lieutenant-Governor came up.—And I do further declare, as near as I could judge, *there was not more than* 100 *persons in the street, at the time the guns were discharged.*

THO. MARSHALL.

Suffolk, ss. Boston, March 20. 1770. *Thomas Marshall, Esq; above named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the afore-written affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Just. of Peace and of the Quorum.
SAM. PEMBERTON, Just. Peace.

(No. 42.)

I John Leach jun'r. of lawful age do testify and say that on Monday night between the hours of nine and ten in the evening of the 5th instant three youths & myself were passing thro' the alley leading from Justice Quincey's to Murray's barracks (so called) when we had got about half way thro' the alley a soldier of the 29th regiment with a dirty looking man overtook us, the soldier being armed with a *cutlass or sword*, and the man with a short thick club and rushing thro' us, one of the youths asked what the matter was—by that the man that had the club *struck one of the youths on the shoulder*, another of the youths asked him what he meant, by that the soldier came up and *struck the youth with his sword or cutlass* on his arm which did him considerable damage, then we all ran up the alley and asked for assistance, when soon came up some more soldiers out of their barracks thro' the alley armed with *cutlasses, swords, shovels and tongs, cutting and slashing* that we were obliged to run up the alley and stand at the head of the alley and

and keep them in as long as we could—but there were so many that we were obliged to run, but they immediately made after us & *knocked several of us down, myself for one*—some time after 2 officers of the 29th regiment came up the alley & drove the soldiers home to their barracks, and then *the people chiefly dispersed*, myself for one, as I was going down dock square to go home I heard a number of people hallow run up Kingstreet, for the soldiers are knocking people down, after some time considering what the matter was I ran up Royal Exchange alley, so called, when I had got to the head of the alley, I saw about eight soldiers standing round the centry box by the Custom-House with their guns levelled breast high and a considerable number of people stand in Kingstreet, when I had been there about three minutes I heard the word *fire* (but who it came from I cannot say) but nobody seemed to mind it, about half a minute after I heard the word *fire* again, and some other words but could not tell what they were; directly the soldier on the right hand *fired*, I had a blow on my back which I tho't was from the *butt of a gun*, I was then a-going off when *I heard five or six guns go off* which I took to be nothing but powder at first till I see *two men drop* by this the people seemed to *disperse*, then I was going up by the Town House when I saw the people bringing along two dead men, a little while after the whole of the 29th regiment drew up by the Town House I stay'd a little while longer and made the best of my way home. and further I say not. JOHN LEACH. Jun.

Suffolk, ss. *Boston, March* 21, 1770. JohnLeach, jun. *above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the aforesaid Affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the Thing.*

Before, JOHN RUDDOCK, Jus. Peace & of the Quorum.
And, JOHN HILL, Jus. Peace.

(43)

I The subscriber, of lawful age, testify and say, That on Monday evening the 5th instantMarch 1770, being at the south part of the town between the hours of nine and ten o' clock, I heard the bells in the centre of the town ring, and fire cry'd, ran immediately for kingstreet, where I supposed it was, and to my great astonishment I saw a number of soldiers with presented bayonets, commanded by an officer whom I did not hen know; the soldiers formed a semi-circle round the centinel box to the custom house door—I went immediately up

to

to them and ſpoke to the fourth man from the corner, who ſtood in the gutter, and aſked him if the ſoldiers were loaded, he reply'd Yes! I then aſked (addreſſing myſelf to the whole) if they intended to *fire*, was anſwered poſitively, *Yes, by the Eternal God.* I then look'd round to ſee what number of inhabitants were in the ſtreet, and computed them to be about *fifty, who were then going off as faſt as poſſible*; at the ſame time I obſerved a tall man ſtanding on my left-hand, who ſeemed not apprehenſive of the danger he was in, and before I had time to ſpeak to him I heard the word *Fire!* and immediately the report followed, the man on my left hand dropt, I aſked him if he was hurt, but received no anſwer, I then ſtooped down and ſaw him gaſping and ſtruggling with death.—I then ſaw another man laying dead on my right-hand, but further advanced up the ſtreet. I then ſaw the ſoldiers loading again, and I ran up the ſtreet to get ſome aſſiſtance to carry off the dead and wounded. Doctor Joſ. Gardner and David Bradley came down with me to the corps, and as we were ſtooping to take them up, the ſoldiers preſented at us again; I then ſaw an officer paſſing buſily behind them.—We carried off the dead without regarding the ſoldiers. I then ſaw an officer paſs before the ſoldiers and hove up their arms, and ſaid ſtop firing, don't fire any more, upon which they ſhouldered. —I then went cloſe up to them, and addreſſing myſelf to the whole, told them I came to ſee ſome faces that I might be able to ſwear to another day—Capt. Preſton, who was the officer, turned round and anſwered (in a melancholy tone) perhaps you may. After taking a view of each man's face I left them. They ſoon after ran up to the main guard houſe. I have nothing farther to ſay. BENJ. BURDICK, jun.

Suffolk, ſſ. *Boſton, March* 20, 1770. Benjamin Burdick, jun. *above-named, after due examination, made oath to the Truth of the aforeſaid Affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the Thing.*

Before, JOHN RUDDOCK, Juſt. Peace & of the Quorum.
And, JOHN HILL, Jus. Peace.

(No. 44.)

I Charles Hobby of lawful age teſtify & ſay, that on Monday evening the 5th inſtant, between the hours of 9 & 10 o'clock being in my maſter's houſe, was alarmed with the cry of fire, I ran down as far as the town-houſe, and then heard that the ſoldiers and the inhabitants were fighting in the alley by

Dr. Cooper's meeting-house, I went thro' the alley, I there saw a number of soldiers about the barracks, some with musquets, others without, I saw a number of officers at the door of the mess-house, almost fronting the alley, and some of the inhabitants intreating the officers to command the soldiers to be peaceable and retire to their *barracks*. One of the officers, viz. Lieut. *Minchin*, reply'd, that the soldiers had been abused lately by the inhabitants, and that if the inhabitants would disperse, the soldiers should follow the example. Capt. Goldfinch was among the rest of the officers in or about the steps of the mess-house door, but did not command the soldiers. I then left them and went to king-street. I then saw a party of soldiers loading their musquets about the custom-house door, after which they all shouldered. I heard some of the inhabitants cry out, *heave no snow balls*; others cry'd they dare not fire. Captain Preston was then standing by the soldiers, when a snow ball struck a grenadier, who immediately fired, *Capt. Preston standing close by him. The Captain then spoke distinctly, Fire, Fire!* I was then within four feet of Capt. Preston and *know him well, the soldiers fired as fast as they could one after another.* I saw the Molatto fall, and Mr. Samuel Gray went to look at him, one of the soldiers, at the distance of about four or five yards, *pointed his piece directly for the said Gray's head and fired.* Mr. Gray, after struggling, turned himself right round upon his heel and fell dead. Capt. Preston some time after ordered them to march to the guard-house. I then took up a round hat and followed the people that carry'd him down to a house near the post-office. And further saith not. CHARLES HOBBY.

Suffolk, ss. *Boston, March* 20, 1770. Charles Hobby *above-named, after due examination, made oath to the Truth of the aforesaid Affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the Thing.*

Before, JOHN RUDDOCK, Just. Peace & of the Quorum.
BELCHER NOYES, Justice o'Peace.

(No. 45.)

I WILLIAM Tant, of lawful age, testify and say, that on Monday 5th instant, being then in a house on the Long Wharff, hearing a bell ring, imagined it was for fire: whereupon I run up King-street, and inquiring the cause, was informed, that there had been a number of the inhabitants of the town insulted by the soldiers in different places: As I got a-breast of Quaker lane, I met a number of persons, to the amount

amount of *thirty or forty, moſtly boys, and youngſters,* who aſſembled in King-ſtreet, before the cuſtom-houſe, and gave three cheers, and ſome of them being near the centry, at the cuſtom-houſe door, damn'd him, and bid him fire and be damned; and ſome ſnow balls were throwed, or other things: whereupon the centry ſtept on the ſteps of the cuſtom-houſe door, and loaded his piece, and ſtruck the butt of it againſt the ſteps, preſented it at the people ſeveral times: at length the people drawing nearer to him, he knocked at the cuſtom-houſe door, and *I ſaw it open'd about half-way.* In the ſpace of ſix or ſeven minutes, I ſaw a party of ſoldiers come from the main guard, and draw themſelves up in a line from the corner of the cuſtom-houſe to the centry-box; the people ſtill continued in the ſtreet, crying, fire, fire and be damn'd, and hove ſome more ſnow-balls: Whereupon I heard a muſket go off, and in the ſpace of 2 or 3 ſeconds, I heard the word fire given, but by whom I know not, and *inſtantly the ſoldiers fired one after another.* I then ſtood between the centry-box and the cuſtom-houſe door. And further I know not.

WILLIAM TANT.

Suffolk, ſſ. *Boſton, March* 20, 1770. William Tant *above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the aforeſaid affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before, JOHN RUDDOCK, Jus. Peace, and of the Quorum.
BELCHER NOYES, Juſtice o'Peace.

(No. 46.)

I THOMAS Cain of lawful age, teſtify and ſay, that on monday the 5th inſtant, being in a houſe on the long wharff, I heard a bell ring, which I imagined was for nine o'clock, but being informed by a perſon in my company that it was 12 minutes paſt that hour by his watch, I then concluded the bell rung for fire, ſo I run up King-ſtreet, in company with Mr. William Tant, and aſking a few people whom I met, the cauſe of the bell's ringing, was anſwered the ſoldiers had inſulted ſome of the town's people by the ropewalks. I then went down Quaker-lane as far as juſtice Dana's houſe, where I met a number of people coming up, and aſked them if there had been any diſturbance at or near the ropewalks, they anſwered me that there had been ſeveral people inſulted, and knocked down by the ſoldiers in different parts of the town. I then came up into King-ſtreet, where they aſſembled together below the town houſe, (to the beſt of my knowlege) *between* 30 & 40 *perſons, moſtly youngſters or boys,* and when

there, they gave three cheers, and aſked where the ſoldiers where, (I imagine they meant them that had inſulted them) ſome of the people aſſembled being near the centry at the Cuſtom-houſe door, damn'd him, and I ſaw ſome ſnow balls or other things throw'd that way, whereupon the centry ſtepped on the ſteps at the cuſtom-houſe door and loaded his piece, and when loaded ſtruck the butt of his firelock againſt the ſteps three or four times, in the interim the people aſſembled, continuing crying fire, fire and be damn'd, and ſome of them drawing near to him he knocked at the cuſtom-houſe door very hard, whereupon *the door was opened about half way, and I ſaw a perſon come out*, which I imagined to be a ſervant without a hat, his hair ty'd and hung down looſe.

In the ſpace of about five minutes, to the beſt of my remembrance, I perceived a party of ſoldiers come from the main guard directly through the concourſe of people that was then in Kingſtreet, with their muſkets and fixed bayonets, puſhing too and fro, ſaying, make way; when they had got a-breaſt of the Cuſtom-houſe they drew up in a line from the corner of royal-exchange lane to the centry box at the Cuſtom-houſe door, and being in that poſition for the ſpace of five or ſix minutes, with their muſkets level'd breaſt high and pointed at the people that was ſtill in the ſtreet, huzzaing, &c. and crying fire, as before, and ſome more ſnow balls or other things being hove, I heard and ſaw the flaſh of a gun that went off near the corner of the aforementioned lane, and in the ſpace of two ſeconds I heard *the word fire given*, but by whom I cannot aſcertain, but *the ſoldiers fired regularly one after another, and when diſcharged, loaded again*; I then ſtood behind the centry box, between the ſoldier next it and the Cuſtom-houſe.

THOMAS CAIN.

Suffolk, ſſ. *Boſton, March* 20, 1770. Thomas Cain *after due examination, made oath to the Truth of the aforeſaid Affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before, JOHN RUDDOCK, Jus. Peace and of the Quorum, BELCHER NOYES, Jus. o'Peace.

(No. 47.)

I Peter Cunningham, of lawful age, teſtify that on Monday evening the 5th current, on the cry of fire, a few minutes after 9 o'clock, coming into King ſtreet, I ſaw Capt. Preſton, ſtanding before the door where the main guard was kept, and heard him ſay, *Turn out the guard!* Then I paſſed down Kingſtreet, and ſaw the centry at the cuſtom-houſe with his bayonet

bayonet charged, dodging it about as if puſhing at the boys, who ſeemed to be laughing at him, and *none of them within 12 or 15 feet of him.* In a few minutes after, *Capt. Preſton* arrived with a party of ſoldiers, perhaps 7 or 8, and took poſt between the cuſtom-houſe door and the weſt corner of ſaid houſe, round the centry box. *As ſoon as* they had taken their poſt, they began to *puſh their bayonets at the people, tho' none ſeemed to offer them any offence.* The captain quickly commanded them to prime and load, which being effected, they began to puſh as before. The captain came before them and put his arm under three or four of their pieces, and puting them into an upright poſture, then retired from my ſight; and preſently they again levelled and the firing began, and proceeded till ten or eleven pieces were diſcharged. On the people's ſcattering a little, I ſaw two men near me lay dead on the ſtreet, and obſerved the ſoldiers to load again, and moved off. And further I ſay not.

PETER CUNNINGHAM.

Suffolk, ſc. *Boſton, March* 20, 1770. Peter Cunningham *above named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the aforeſaid affidavit. Taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before, JOHN RUDDOCK, Juſtice of Peace & Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſtice Peace.

(No. 48.)

I SAMUEL Condon of lawful age teſtify and ſay, that on the night of the 5th inſtant March, being on the long wharff, between the hours of 9 and 10 o'clock, and hearing the bells ring as for fire, I ran up Kingſtreet, on my coming nigh the town-houſe I ſaw a number of people, about 30 *or* 40, *chiefly conſiſting of boys and lads,* who proceeded down ſaid ſtreet oppoſite the Cuſtom-houſe; the centinel on their approach plac'd himſelf on the cuſtom-houſe ſteps, and charg'd his muſket and preſented the ſame againſt the body of the people *who offer'd him no inſult or violence,* in a few minutes after, a party came down from the main guard, conſiſting of about eight ſoldiers with their guns and bayonets in a charg'd poſition, headed by an officer, and poſted themſelves by the weſt corner of the Cuſtom-houſe round the centry box in a half circle; at this time I ſtood near the door of the royal exchange tavern, but apprehending danger as the ſoldiers ſtood with their muſkets and bayonets in a charg'd or preſented poſition, mov'd from thence down ſaid royal exchange lane, and ſtood nigh the weſt end of the cuſtom-houſe, during this interim

terim *I saw no violence offer'd the soldiers*, in a few minutes after having placed myself as aforesaid, a musket was fir'd by the soldier who stood next the corner, in a few seconds after, another was fir'd, and so in succession till the whole was discharg'd, to the number of 8 or thereabouts, while the muskets where discharging I walk'd down the lane, and when the firing ceas'd I turn'd and went up to the head of the lane when I saw the people carrying off one dead person, and two more laying lifeless on the ground about two muskets length from the said soldiers, inhumanly murder'd by them, the blood then running from them in abundance ; a person asked the soldier who fired first, the reason for his so doing, the soldier answer'd, *damn your bloods you boogers, I would kill a thousand of you !* the soldiers were then charging their muskets again in order for a second discharge in case any insult had been offer'd them. SAMUEL CONDON.

Suffolk, ff. *Boston, March* 20, 1770. Samuel Condon *above-named, after due examination made oath to the truth of the aforesaid Affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before, JOHN RUDDOCK, Just. Peace and of the Quorum.
And, JOHN HILL, Just. Peace.

(No. 49)

EBENEZER Hinckley, of Boston, of lawful age, declares, that on Monday evening the 5th of March current, that being at home in his house, he heard the bells ring, and came out, and came through Cornhill-street, to the corner of King-street, near the main-guard house ; immediately as he turn'd the corner, he saw a party of soldiers come out of the main guard house, and he the deponent then saw an officer, as he thought, look out of the chamber window, and *call to them, and said fire upon them, damn them, fire upon them.* The deponent then followed them, viz. the said party of soldiers, to the place where they were posted, being before the centry box in a half circle, near the custom house ; they reaching forward pushing their bayonets, and *endeavouring to stab people*, provok'd a few boys to throw two or three snow-balls, and challeng'd them to fire : In about a minute after, the deponent heard the word *Fire*, and then saw a stick thrown which hit a soldier's gun, whereupon *the corner soldier fired, and the rest followed in the firing*—when the firing was, the deponent verily believes there was *not more than fifty or sixty persons in that part of the street*—And it appeared to the deponent, that the soldiers going down to the custom house in so hostile a manner, was

the

the occaſion of drawing the moſt of thoſe people there.—And the deponenent further ſaith, that thro' the whole, he ſaw not one brick bat or ſtone thrown, and believes *that it was naturally impoſſible to come at any, as the ſnow was conſiderably deep.*

Memorandum. After the party of ſoldiers were got to their place, he ſaw Capt. Preſton who commanded them, whom he knew very well—And further ſaith not.

EBENEZER HINCKLEY.

Suffolk, ſſ. *Boſton, March* 20, 1770. Ebenezer Hinckley *above-named, after due examination, made oath to the Truth of the above Affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the Thing.*

Before, JOHN RUDDOCK Juſt. of Peace & of the Quorum.
And, JOHN HILL, Juſt. Peace.

(No. 50)

FRANCIS Archbald, jun. of lawful age, teſtifies and ſaith, that on Monday evening the fifth of March inſtant at about ten minutes paſt nine of the clock of ſaid evening, as he was going thro' the alley that leads from Cornhill to Brattle-ſtreet (ſo called) with ſeveral others with him, he ſaw a ſoldier with a cutlaſs flouriſhing it about in ſaid alley, and a mean looking fellow with him, with a club in his hand; then the deponent heard ſomebody outſide of the alley ſpeak to the ſaid ſoldier, and told him to put up his cutlaſs, for it was not clever to carry ſuch a weapon in the night without it was in a ſcabboard, whereupon ſaid ſoldier came up to him the deponent, with his cutlaſs pointing towards his breaſt, and damn'd him, and aſked him what he had to ſay againſt it, whereupon the deponent told him to ſtand off. The ſaid ſoldier then went up to one of the lads that was with him and ſtruck him, (as the deponent thought) the deponent then went out of ſaid alley and hallowed to ſome lads who were ſtanding near the town-houſe, when they came to the deponent's aſſiſtance, they made ſaid ſoldiers retire thro' ſaid alley to the barracks; in about five or ſix miuutes after, about twelve or fifteen ſoldiers came out of ſaid barracks (as I heard the next day they were encouraged and ſet on by Enſign Mall belonging to the 29th regiment) *with cutlaſſes, tongs and clubs, and came up to them and damn'd them & ſaid where is the yankey boogers? when they began to ſtrike the people in the ſtreet with ſaid weapons.* And as the deponent was ſtanding with Mr. John Hicks, one *of the ſoldiers came up with a pair of tongs, and juſt going to make a ſtroke at ſaid deponent, ſaid Hicks knock'd him down,* whereupon the deponent when ſaid ſoldier got up, knock'd him down

down again and broke his wriſt (as he was informed afterwards) then the deponent was going home to the ſouth-end. Juſt as he got to the town-houſe he looked down *King-ſtreet and ſaw about fifty or ſixty people ſtanding in the middle of ſaid ſtreet*, oppoſite the cuſtom-houſe, then the deponent went down to ſee what was the matter. When he got down ſaid ſtreet he ſaw a party of ſoldiers coming from the main-guard (amongſt which was one *Matthew Kilroy* of the 29th regiment) going to the centinel that was ſtanding at the cuſtom-houſe: Then the deponent went over to the ſide of the way and there ſtood about two minutes, when he ſaw the flaſh, and heard the report of a gun that was fired from ſaid centinel's poſt, and *ſix or ſeven fired directly afterwards*. Then the deponent ſaw *three men laying near ſaid centinel's poſt dead*. And the deponent further adds, that at the time of his ſtanding there as aforeſaid, *he ſaw no body moleſt or trouble ſaid centinel or party of ſoldiers (as aforeſaid) in any ſhape whatever*. And further the deponent ſaith not. FRANs. ARCHBALD, jun.

Boſton, March 17th, 1770.

Suffolk, ſſ. *Boſton, March* 17, 1770. Francis Archbald, jun. *above-named, after due examination, made oath to the Truth of the above-written Affidavit. Taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the Thing.*

Before, RI: DANA, Juſt. of Peace, & of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſtice Peace.

(51)

I Nathaniel Foſdick, of lawful age, teſtify and ſay, that on the night of the fifth inſtant, betwixt the hours of nine and ten o'clock, being in my houſe with my family, hearing the bells ring for fire ran out to aſſiſt the inhabitants, ran towards the north; when I came to the town-houſe I ſee the people running down kingſtreet, I followed, when I came by the guard-houſe I ſee ſome ſoldiers come out and fix their bayonets, I ran to know where the fire was, after I had got into kingſtreet I made a halt, as I ſtopt I was puſhed behind, I turn'd round and ſaw ſome ſoldiers with their bayonets charged, which came againſt me. I aſked them if this was the fire that is cry'd; they made no anſwer. I aſk'd them what they meant by coming on me in that manner; their anſwer was, *Damn you, ſtand out of our way*. I told them I would not move for no man under the heavens. I offended no one. Therefore they paſſed me, ſome on my right and ſome on my left. I followed behind them, they went to the centry-box and

and faced round and form'd in a half-circle. I saw a number of people near the middle of kingstreet, about twenty yards from the centry-box. I spoke out and desired that no disturbance might be betwixt the inhabitants and the soldiers, for if the soldiers were in fault, there was their officer, which I look'd upon to be the officer of the day, and he could settle the affair in one minute; then I spake to two men to speak to the officer; then I see two or three advance towards the officer. I heard some words pass, what they were I know not, I turned round and spake to the people to step off and let them that went to the officer settle the dispute, the people standing still, *I turned towards the officer and see him fall into the regular circle, then I heard the word* FIRE, on my left one gun was fir'd off by a soldier on their right. Upon which I rushed in, then seeing the first soldier that fired run at some persons and fall upon the ground, I hallow'd to take his gun from him, then *I received three pushes by their bayonets, two in my left arm and one in my breast, that at my breast I struck off with a stick, and the gun went off instantly.* Then I drew back, and finding one dead, as I thought, on my left and one on my right, I then run over to quaker-lane, where I saw a number of people, I desired them to step out and keep the soldiers from getting off; from thence I went over to the other side the street, to the lane near the town watch-house, where I desired the people to step out, and not to let the soldiers get off, for I would go home and get my gun and bring a party against them, which I did, but meeting some of the inhabitants returning, they told me the soldiers were gone off and affairs would be settled to-morrow, on that I went home. NATH. FOSDICK.

Suffolk, ss. Boston, March 17. 1770. *Nath. Fosdick, above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above written affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Just. of Peace and of the Quorum.
SAM. PEMBERTON, Just. Peace.

(No. 52)

JOseph Hooton, jun. of lawful age testifies and says, that coming from the south end of Boston, on Monday evening the 5th instant, against the old south meeting-house he heard a great noise and tumult, with the cry of murder often repeated. Proceeding towards the town-house the deponent

paſſed by ſeveral ſoldiers running that way *with naked cutlaſſes and bayonets in their hands.* The deponent aſked one of them what was the matter, and was anſwered by him, *by God you ſhall all know what is the matter ſoon!* Between 9 and 10 o'clock the deponent came into Kingſtreet and ſtood about the middle of the ſtreet, or nearer the cuſtom-houſe, in the direction of Quaker and Royal Exchange lanes, and ſaw about eight or ten ſoldiers drawn up near the cuſtom-houſe, and an officer which he ſince underſtands was *Capt. Preſton*, between the ſoldiers and the cuſtom-houſe. There was much noiſe and huzzaing among the boys and people, and ſome of the boys the deponent obſerved drew near to the ſoldiers. In this hurry and confuſion the deponent heard many aſk each other whether they thought they would fire? and it was generally concluded they would not. But in about five minutes after the deponent firſt ſtood there, he *heard the officer give the word* FIRE, they not then firing, *he again ſaid* FIRE, which they ſtill diſobeying, *he ſaid with a much higher voice,* DAMN YOU FIRE BE THE CONSEQUENCE WHAT IT WILL! *Soon after this one of the guns went off—in a few ſeconds another, and ſo on, till ſix or ſeven were diſcharged.* Near the deponents left hand dropt a man, which he ſince learns was Mr. James Caldwell, on which he left the place, and further ſaith not.

JOSEPH HOOTON, jun.

Suffolk, ſſ. Boſton, March 15. 1770. *The ſaid Joſeph Hooton, jun. perſonally appearing, maketh ſolemn oath to the truth of the fore written depoſition, by him ſubſcribed.*

Before me, EDM. QUINCY, Juſt. Pacis.

(No. 53)

I Richard Palmes of Boſton, of lawful age, teſtify and ſay, that between the hours of nine and ten o'clock of the 5th inſtant I heard one of the bells ring, which I ſuppoſed was occaſioned by fire, & enquiring where the fire was, was anſwered that *the ſoldiers were abuſing the inhabitants*; I aſked where, was firſt anſwered at Murray's barracks, I went there and ſpoke to ſome officers that were ſtanding at the door, I told them I was ſurprized they ſuffered the ſoldiers to go out of the barrack after eight o'clock; I was anſwered by one of the officers pray do you mean to teach us our duty; I anſwered I did not, only to remind them of it; one of them ſaid you ſee that the ſoldiers are all in their barracks, and why do not you go to your

your homes; Mr. James Lamb and I ſaid, Gentlemen let us go home, & were anſwered by ſome, home, home; accordingly I aſked Mr. William Hickling if he was going home, he ſaid he was, I walked with him as far as the poſt-office, upon my ſtopping to talk with two or three people, Mr. Hickling left me; I then ſaw Mr. Pool Spear going towards the town-houſe, he aſked me if I was going home, I told him I was; I aſked him where he was going that way, he ſaid he was going to his brother David's. But when I got to the town-pump, we were told there was a rumpus at the cuſtom-houſe door; Mr. Spear ſaid to me you had better not go, I told him I would go and try to make peace; I immediately went there and ſaw *Capt. Preſton* at the head of ſix or eight ſoldiers in a circular form, with guns breaſt high and bayonets fixed; the ſaid Captain ſtood almoſt to the end of their guns. I went immediately to Capt. Preſton (as ſoon as Mr. Bliſs had left him) and aſked him if their guns were loaded, his anſwer was they are loaded with powder and ball; I then ſaid to him I hope you do not intend they ſhall fire upon the inhabitants; his reply was, by no means. When I was aſking him theſe queſtions my left hand was on his right ſhoulder; Mr. John Hickling had that inſtant taken his hand off my ſhoulder, and ſtept to my left, then inſtantly I ſaw a piece of ſnow or ice fall among the ſoldiers, on which the ſoldier at the officer's right hand ſtept back and *diſcharged his gun*, at the ſpace of ſome ſeconds the ſoldier at his left *fired* next, and the others one after the other. After the firſt gun was fired, I heard the word *Fire*, but who ſaid it I know not; after the firſt gun was fired the *ſaid officer had full time to forbid the other ſoldiers not to fire, but I did not hear him ſpeak to them at all*; then turning myſelf to the left I ſaw one man dead, diſtant about ſix feet; I having a ſtick in my hand made a ſtroke at the ſoldier who fired, and ſtruck the gun out of his hand. I then made a ſtroke at the officer, my right foot ſlipt, that brought me on my knee, the blow falling ſhort, he ſays I hit his arm; when I was recovering myſelf from the fall I ſaw the ſoldier that fired the firſt gun endeavoring *to puſh me through with his bayonet*, on which I threw my ſtick at his head, the ſoldier ſtarting back, gave me opportunity to jump from him into exchange-lane, or I muſt been inevitably run thro' my body. I looked back and ſaw three perſons laying on the ground, and perceiving a ſoldier ſtepping round the corner as I thought to ſhoot

me, I ran down Exchange lane, and so up the next into King-ſtreet, and followed Mr. Gridley with ſeveral other perſons with the body of Capt. Morton's apprentice up to the priſon houſe, and ſaw he had a ball ſhot through his breaſt; at my return I found that the officer and ſoldiers were gone to the main guard. *To my beſt obſervation there were not ſeventy people in King ſtreet at the time of their firing, and them very ſcattering*, but in a few minutes after the firing there were upwards of a thouſand; finding the ſoldiers were gone I went up to the main-guard and ſaw there the ſoldiers were formed into three diviſions, the front diviſion in the poſture of platoon firing, and I expected they would fire. Hearing that his Honor the Lieutenant Governor was going to the Council-chamber, I went there, his Honor looking out of the door deſired the people to hear him ſpeak; he deſired them to go home and he would enquire into the affair in the morning, and that the law ſhould take its courſe, and ſaid, I will live and die by the law. A gentleman deſired his Honor to order the ſoldiers to their barracks, he anſwered it was not in his power, and that he had no command over the troops and that it lay with Col. Dalrymple and not with him, but that he would ſend for him, which after ſome time he did; upon that a gentleman deſired his Honor to look out of the window facing the main-guard, to ſee the poſition the ſoldiers were in, *ready to fire on the inhabitants, which he did after a good deal of perſwaſion*, and called for Col. Carr and deſired him to order the troops to their barracks in the ſame order they were in; accordingly they were ordered to ſhoulder their guns, and were marched off by ſome officers, and further ſaith not.

RICH. PALMES.

Suffolk, ſſ. Boſton, March 17. 1770. *Richard Palmes, above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Juſt. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL. Juſt. Peace.

(No. 54.)

I William Wyat of Salem, coaſter, teſtify and ſay, that laſt Monday evening, being the fifth day of March current, I was in Boſton, down at Treat's wharf, where my veſſel was lying, and hearing the bells ring ſuppoſed there was a fire in the town, whereupon I haſtened up to the town-houſe, on the

ſouth

south side of it, where I saw an officer of the army lead out of the guard-house there seven or eight soldiers of the army, and lead them down, in seeming haste, to the custom-house on the north side of kingstreet, where I followed them, and when the officer had got there with the men, he bid them face about. I stood just below them on the left wing, and *the said officer ordered his men to load*, which they did accordingly, with the utmost dispatch, then they remained about six minutes, with their firelocks rested and bayonets fixed, but not standing in exact order. I observed *a considerable number of young lads, and here and there a man amongst them, about the middle of the street*, facing the soldiers, but not within ten or twelve feet distance from them; I observed some of them, viz. the lads, &c. had sticks in their hands, laughing, shouting, huzzaing, and crying fire; but could not observe that any of them threw any thing at the soldiers, or threatened any of them. Then the *said officer* retired from before the soldiers and steping behind them, towards the right wing, *bid the soldiers fire*; they not firing, he presently again bid 'em fire; they not yet firing, *he stamp'd and said, damn your bloods, fire, be the consequence what it will*; then the second man on the left wing fired off his gun, then, after a very short pause, they fired one after another as quick as possible, beginning on the right wing; the last man's gun on the left wing flash'd in the pan, then he prim'd again, and the people being withdrawn from before the soldiers, most of them further down the street, *he turn'd his gun toward them and fired upon them.* Immediately after the principal firing, I saw three of the people fall down in the street, presently after the last gun was fired off, the said officer, who had commanded the soldiers (as above) to fire, sprung before them, waving his sword or stick, said, Damn ye, rascals, what did ye fire for, and struck up the gun of one of the soldiers who was loading again, whereupon they seemed confounded and fired no more. I then went up behind them to the right wing, where one of the people was lying, to see whether he was dead, where there were four or five people about him, one of them saying he was dead; whereupon one of the soldiers said damn his blood he is dead, if he ever sprawl again I will be damned for him.—And I remember as *the said officer* was going down with the soldiers towards the Custom-House, a gentleman spoke to him and said *Capt. Preston*, for God's sake keep your men in order and mind what you are about. And further I say not.

March 7. 1770. WILLIAM WYAT.

Suffolk,

Suffolk, ss. Boston, March 13. 1770. *William Wyatt, abovenamed, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above written affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Just. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN TUDOR, Just. Peace.

(No. 55.)

I Henry Knox of lawful age testify and say, that between nine and ten o'clock P. M. the fifth instant I saw the centry at the Custom-House charging his musket and a number of young persons crossing from Royal Exchange to Quaker lane, seeing him load, stopt and asked him what he meant? and told others, the centry was going to fire. They then huzza'd and gather'd round him at about ten feet distant. I then advancing went up to him, and *the centry snap'd his piece upon them*, Knox told him if he fired he died. The centry answered he did not care, or words to that purpose, *damning them* and saying, if they touched him, he would *fire*. The boys told him to fire and be damned: Immediately on this I returned to the rest of the people and endeavoured to keep every boy from going up, but finding it ineffectual went off thro' the crowd and saw a detachment of about eight or nine men and a corporal headed by *Capt. Preston*. I took Capt. Preston by the coat and told him for God's sake to take his men back again, for if they fired his life must answer for the consequence; he replied he was sensible of it, or knew what he was about, or words to that purpose; and seemed in great haste and much agitated. *While I* was talking with *Capt. Preston* the soldiers of his detachment had *attacked the people with their bayonets. There was not the least provocation given to Capt. Preston or his party, the backs of the people being towards them when they were attacked.* During the time of the attack I frequently heard the words *damn your blood and such like expressions.* When *Capt. Preston* saw his party engaged he directly left me, and went into the crowd and I departed: the deponent further says that *there was not present in Kingstreet above seventy or eighty people at the extent*, according to his opinion.

HENRY KNOX.

Suffolk, ss. Boston, March 17. 1770. *Henry Knox, abovenamed, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above-written affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Just. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Just. Peace.

Edward

(No. 56.)

EEward Payne of Boſton, merchant, teſtifies and ſays, that on the evening of the fifth inſtant, on hearing the bells ring, he ſuppoſed there was fire, but on going out he was informed there was not any fire, but *a riot of the ſoldiers*, and that the ſoldiers were cutting down Liberty-tree.—That he went into Kingſtreet, where he met Mr. Walker the ſhipwright, who informed him, that the ſoldiers at Smith's barracks had ſallied out upon the inhabitants, and *had cut and beat a number of perſons*, but were drove back to their barracks.—That he (the deponent) then went to the eaſt end of the Town-houſe, where he heard the ſame report from divers perſons.—That whilſt he ſtood there, a number of perſons, *not exceeding twenty*, ſome of them with ſticks in their hands, came up the lane by Silſby's into Kingſtreet, at which time there was, as near as he can judge, about the *ſame number in Kingſtreet*, when a lad came up from the cuſtom-houſe, and informed the people, that the centinel there had knocked down a lad belonging to their ſhop, upon which the people moved that way, and ſurrounded the centinel,—That this deponent then went home, and ſtood upon the ſell of his entry door, which is nearly oppoſite to the eaſt end of the cuſtom-houſe, where he was ſoon joined by Mr. George Bethune and Mr. Harriſon Gray, that the people round the centinel were then crying out Fire, Fire, damn you why don't you Fire, ſoon after, he perceived a number of ſoldiers coming down towards the centinel, with their arms in a horizontal poſture, and their bayonets fixed, who turned the people from before the cuſtom-houſe, and drew up before the door, the people, who ſtill remained in the ſtreet and about the ſoldiers, continued calling out to them to fire. In this ſituation they remained ſome minutes, when he heard a gun ſnap, and preſently a ſingle gun fired, and ſoon after ſeveral others went off one after another, to the number of three or four, and then heard the rammers go into the guns as tho' they were loading; immediately after which three or four more went off in the ſame manner; at which time a ball paſs'd through the deponent's right arm, upon which he immediately retired into the houſe. That at the time of the centinel's being ſurrounded, and at the time of the firing, it appeared to the deponent, that there were from *fifty to an hundred perſons in the ſtreet, and not more.* The deponent further ſaith not. EDWARD PAYNE.

Teſt. Mr. Payne ſubſcribed his name with his left hand.

John Amory.

Suffolk,

Suffolk, ss. Boston, March 21. 1770. *Edward Payne, abovenamed, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the aforesaid affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before JOHN RUDDOCK, Just. Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Just. Peace.

(No. 57.)

JOhn Gammell of lawful age testifies and says, that soon after the bells rang on Monday evening the 5th instant, he stood by the Town-house, and saw a party consisting of about fifteen or sixteen soldiers, come out of the main guard, and a serjeant or corporal ordered them to prime and load, which they did, and a detachment of about six men with a corporal filed off to Williams's court, as was said to *call Captain Preston*, and the rest to *the Custom-House*: A few minutes after, they took their post by the custom-house, the deponent went down and saw them pushing at the people with their bayonets and telling them to stand off or they would fire upon them; the people laughed at them; and told them they dared not to fire. Not long after the deponent heard the word FIRE, and quickly the man on the right wing fired, and successively several more. —On this the deponent walked off through Quaker lane: And further saith not. JOHN GAMMELL.

Suffolk, ss. Boston, March 17. 1770. *John Gammell, abovenamed, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Just. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Just. of Peace.

(No. 58.)

I Charlotte Bourgate, of lawful age, an indented servant to *Edward Manwaring, Esq*; being at my master's lodgings at Mr. Hudson's at the north end, on the night of the horrid massacre in Kingstreet, of the 5th instant, heard the bells ring, which I took to be for fire, (about half an hour before the bells rung my *master*, with one Mr. *Munro*, said they would go to the *custom-house* and drink a glass of wine) then I went out, there being *nobody in the house that I knew of, but Mr. Hudson & wife*; then I went up to the *custom-house door* and knocked, when a young man, which I have since heard was named Hammond Green, *let me in* and locked the door, when I saw *my master and* Mr.

Mr. *Munroe* ſaid they would go to the *Cuſtom-Houſe* and drink a glaſs of wine. Then I went out, there being *nobody in the houſe that I knew of but Mr. Hudſon and wife*; then I went up to the *Cuſtom-houſe door* and knocked, when a young man, which I have ſince heard was named Hammond Green, *let me in* and locked the door, when I ſaw *my Maſter and Mr. Munroe* come down ſtairs, and go into a room, when four or five men went up ſtairs pulling and haleing me after them, and ſaid, *my good boy come*; when *I was carried into the chamber*, there was but *one light in the room*, and that *in the corner of the chamber*, when I ſaw a tall man *loading a gun* (then *I ſaw two guns in the room*) my maſter not being in the chamber, there was *a number of gentlemen in the room*: After the gun was loaded, the tall man gave it to me and told me to *fire*, and ſaid he *would kill me if I did not*; I told him *I would not*. He *drawing a ſword out of his cane*, told me, if I did not *fire* it, he *would run it thro' my guts*. The man putting the gun out of the window, it being a little open, *I fired it ſide way* up the ſtreet; the tall man then *loaded the gun again*. *I heard the balls go down*. The man then laid it on the window again, and told me to *fire* it. I told him *I would not fire* again; he told be again, he *would run me thro' the guts if I did not*. Upon which I *fired the* ſame way up the ſtreet. After I *fired the ſecond gun*, *I ſaw my maſter in the room*; *he took a gun and pointed it out of the window*; *I heard the gun go off*: Then a tall man came and clapp'd me on the ſhoulders above and below ſtairs, and ſaid that's my good boy, I'll give you ſome money to-morrow. I ſaid, I don't want any money. There being a light in the lower room, and the door being upon the jarr, I ſaw it was the tall man that clapp'd me on the ſhoulder; then the young man *Hammond Green* let me out of the door, there being *two or three people in the entry*, when I got out of the houſe, I ſaw a number of people in the ſtreets. And I ran home as faſt as I could, and ſet up all night in my maſter's kitchen. And further ſay, that *my maſter licked me the next night for telling Mrs. Waldron about his firing out of the Cuſtom houſe*. *And for fear that I ſhould be licked again*, I did deny all that I ſaid before Juſtice *Quincy*, which I am very ſorry for. And further I ſay not.

his

Atteſt. Eliſha Story, Charlotte × Bourgate

Edward Crafts. Mark.

Suffolk, ſc. *Boſton, March* 23, 1770. Charlotte Bourgate *above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above affidavit, Edward Manwaring, Eſq; and John Munroe above named, were notified and preſent*;

ſent; and interrogated the deponent. Taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.

Before, JOHN RUDDOCK, Jus. Peace and of the Quorum.
And, JOHN HILL, Jus. Peace.

(No. 59.)

GILLAM Baſs of lawful age teſtifies and ſays, that being in Kingſtreet on monday night the 5th inſtant, after nine of the clock, *he ſaw about an hundred people gathered about the cuſtom houſe*, and preſently came a party of armed ſoldiers, with bayonets fixed from the main guard keeping on the ſouth ſide of kingſtreet, 'till they came nearly oppoſite the cuſtom-houſe, and then paſſed over driving through the people in ſo rough a manner, that it appeared to the deponent that they intended to create a diſturbance. They poſted themſelves between the cuſtom-houſe door and the weſt corner of it; and *in a few minutes began to fire upon the people.* Two or three of the flaſhes ſo high above the reſt, that the deponent verily believes they *muſt have come from the cuſtom-houſe windows*: And further ſaith, that *he obſerv'd no violence to the ſoldiers at or before the firing, or to the cuſtom-houſe, by the people.*

GILLAM BASS.

Suffolk, ſc. *Boſton, March* 16, 1770. Gillam Baſs *above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above affidavit. Taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before, RI: DANA, Juſt. of Peace, and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Jus. Peace.

(No. 60.)

BENJAMIN Alline, of lawful age, teſtifies and ſays, that on Monday evening the 5th current, hearing the bells ring after nine o'clock, he came into Kingſtreet, and ſaw the cuſtom houſe centry ſtanding quietly in his place. About 4 or 5 minutes after, the boys in the ſtreet came up near to him, and made a noiſe, on which the ſoldier returned to the cuſtom houſe ſteps. The deponent quickly after this *ſaw the cuſtom houſe door open*, and the centry turn that way, and ſoon ſhut again. The centry then faced the boys and waved his gun about as if to keep them off, and in a few minutes 8 or 9 ſoldiers came down with an officer at their head, and placed themſelves round the centry, and in a few minutes after, he heard the word *Fire, and they fired in ſucceſſion, one after the other.* The deponent further ſaith, that when he firſt arrived at the cuſtom houſe, there did not ſeem to be more *than* 30 *or* 40

people

people round it, mostly boys, and *they offered no violence as he observed*, only making a noise and huzzaing. And further saith not. BENJAMIN ALLINE.

Suffolk, ss. *Boston, March* 17, 1770. Benjamin Alline *abovenamed, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above-written Affidavit, taken to perpetuate the Remembrance of the thing.*

Before, Ri: Dana, Jus. of Peace and of the Quorum.
John Hill, Justice Peace.

(No. 61.)

I Francis Read of lawful age testify, that on monday evening the 5th instant, hearing the bells ringing in the center of the town, I came into kingstreet and found *near an hundred people mostly boys* standing round at about 7 or 8 yards distance from the custom-house, before which stood a soldier on centry. In a few minutes I saw a little man in a grey surtout with his hair clubb'd *open the custom-house door and go in, and quickly after the centry went to said door then a little open, and seemed to speak with somebody in the house, after which the door was shut*, and the centry loaded his piece. In about 3 or 4 minutes I saw a party of soldiers come down from the main guard with an officer, which were posted in a semicircle from the door round the centry box to the southwest corner of the custom-house. About 5 or 6 minutes after they were posted, I heard the word *fire from among the soldiers, and in a little time after the soldiers fired*; first one gun, then another, sometimes two at once, 'till 8 or 10 were fired. Casting my eyes about after the firing was over, *I saw the smoke of two discharges high above the rest.* On this I left the place, and further say not. FRANCIS READ.

Suffolk, sc: *Boston, March* 20, 1770. Francis Read *abovenamed, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the aforesaid affidavit. Taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before, John Ruddock, Jus. Peace and of the Quorum.
And, Belcher Noyes, Just. o'Peace.

(No 62.)

I DIMOND Morton, of lawful age, testify and say, that on Monday night the 5th instant, between the hours of nine and ten I heard the cry of Fire by my house. Immediately I ran out towards the town house; when I got between the Old-South Meeting and the Old-Brick Meeting, I met some people, they told me there was no fire, but people ga-

ther'd in Kingſtreet; immediately I left them and came towards the town-houſe, when I ſaw a number of people go round the Brazen-head corner, ſome crying they are this way, and I run in amongſt them, and came down before the cuſtom houſe, and there I ſaw a centinel walking backwards and forwards before the door. Soon after I ſaw the centinel retreat back upon the ſtone of the cuſtom houſe door, waving his bayonet breaſt high all the way. When he got on the ſtone he drew his cartridge to load his gun; whilſt he was loading his gun, I ſaw Thomas Greenwood a waiter to the commiſſioners run out from the people where I was, and run behind the centinel, and knock at the door of the cuſtoms, and was ſoon let in: By that time the centinel had his gun loaded. Then the people cry'd, you dare not fire; and others ſaid, fire and be damn'd; then the boys gave two or three cheers. Upon that I ſaw *Capt. Preſton marching and leading down from the main guard eight or ten ſoldiers, with their bayonets fix'd, ſwinging their guns.* When they paſſed me, I followed them down to the cuſtom houſe. In about two minutes, Capt. Preſton or ſome other perſon ordered them to load, which they did; then I went towards Quaker-lane, when I ſaw the flaſh of a gun from the ſoldiers at the cuſtom houſe, and a man fall before me; the guns being repeatedly fired, I looked round and ſaw two or three men lay down on the ſnow. When I found there were three dead, and a number of others wounded, in about ten or fifteen minutes afterwards, I ſaw the ſoldiers march towards the main guard—the ſnow being at that time near a foot deep——And I further ſay, that I did not ſee *any inſult offered to the centinel from the inhabitants; and at the time the guns were fired, there were not above ſixty or ſeventy perſons ſtanding before the cuſtom houſe door.*——And further I ſay not.

DIMOND MORTON.

Suffolk, ſſ. *Boſton, March* 17, 1770. Dimond Morton *above-named, after due examination, made oath to the Truth of the above-written Affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the Thing.*

Before, Ri: Dana, Juſt. of Peace & of the Quorum.
And, John Hill, Jus. Peace.

(No. 63.)

BENJAMIN Frizel, of Pownalborough, in the County of Lincoln, mariner, of lawful age, teſtifieth and ſaith, that in the evening of the 5th day of March current, going to Capt. Joſeph Henſhaw's at the ſouth part of Boſton, in his way thither, under Liberty-Tree, exactly at eight o'clock of ſaid

ſaid evening, he ſaw there, eleven ſoldiers, and an officer met them, dreſs'd in a blue ſurtout; upon his ſpeaking to them, they appear'd very ſubmiſſive, the officer ordering them to appear at their reſpective places *at the time*, and if they ſhould ſee any of the inhabitants of the town, or any other people not belonging to them, with arms, clubs or any other warlike weapons, *more than two*, being aſſembled together, *to order them to ſtop, and aſk them their buſineſs, and where they were going*; if they refuſed to ſtop, or tell them their buſineſs or ſeperate themſelves, *to ſtop them* with their firelocks, *and all that ſhall take their part*: after giving theſe orders, the officer went off to the northward, and the ſoldiers ſouthward; upon which the deponent proceeded about his buſineſs as far as Wheeler's point, and while there, the bell rang as uſual for fire, and he with others ran to the town-houſe, two engines being there drawn, the men attending, left them on the weſt end of the town-houſe, and going with others into kingſtreet, *were ſtop'd* by two centinels of the main guard, *and forbid to paſs on their peril, and ſaid if they did, they would fire on them*; but one man ſomewhat bolder than the reſt, ſaid as the bells rang for fire, and all the inhabitants of the town had good right to paſs thro' any ſtreet or lane of the town he ſhould paſs, and ſhouldering a ſtick he had in his hand, went forward and was followed by the deponent and many others into kingſtreet, the deponent taking his ſtation at the weſt corner of the houſe now called the cuſtom-houſe, and between the corner and the centry box, where ſtanding about two or three minutes, he ſaw ſix or ſeven ſoldiers come from the oppoſite ſide of the ſtreet, near to the head or opening of royal-exchange lane, where they halted, and ſome of them ſpoke to the centry at the cuſtom-houſe and faced about, in which poſture they ſtood about two minutes, and in that time he heard *nothing ſaid to them, or of them, by any of the inhabitants*; but heard two or three cheers given by the people, and two or three boatſwain's *calls* piped, upon the laſt of which *the ſoldiers began their fire*, the deponent ſtill ſtanding at the corner of the cuſtom-houſe, the firſt diſcharge being only one gun, the next of two guns, upon which the deponent thinks he ſaw a man ſtumble; the third diſcharge was of three guns, upon which he thinks he ſaw two men fall, and immediately after were diſcharg'd five guns, two of which were by ſoldiers on his right hand, the other three, as appear'd to the deponent, *were diſcharg'd from the balcony or the chamber window of the cuſtom-houſe*, the flaſhes appearing on the left hand and higher than the right hand flaſhes appeared to be, and of which the

deponent

deponent was very ſenſible, altho' his eyes were much turn'd to the ſoldiers who were all on his right hand; ſoon after this, the deponent ſaw five men on the ground, three whereof appeared to be dead, and the other two to be ſtruggling; for the ſpace of two minutes following all action ceas'd; after which the general cry was, let us pick up the dead, and not let the ſoldiers have them, and thereupon the deponent aſſiſted in ſupporting and ſteadying one who was wounded 'till a chair was brought to carry him off. BENJAMIN FRIZEL.

Suffolk, ſſ. *Boſton, March* 22, 1770. Benjamin Frizel *above-mention'd, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the aforeſaid Affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the Thing.*

Before, JOHN RUDDOCK, Jus. Peace & of the Quorum.
And, JOHN HILL, Jus. Peace.

(No. 64.)

JEREMIAH Allen, of lawful age, teſtifies and ſays, that in the evening of the fifth day of March current, being at about nine o'clock in the front chamber in the houſe occupied by Col. Ingerſol in Kingſtreet, he heard ſome guns fired, which occaſioned his going into the balcony of the ſaid houſe—That when he was in the ſaid balcony, in company with Mr. William Molineux, jun. and John Simpſon, he heard the diſcharge of four or five guns, the flaſhes of which appeared to be to the weſtward of the centry box; and immediately after, he the deponent heard two or three more guns, and ſaw the flaſhes thereof from out of the houſe now called *the Cuſtom-Houſe*, as they evidently appeared to him, and which he the ſaid deponent at the ſame time declared to the aforeſaid Molineux and Simpſon, being then near him, ſaying to them, at the ſame time *pointing his hand toward the Cuſtom-Houſe, there they are out of the Cuſtom-Houſe.*—And further the deponent ſaith not, JEREMIAH ALLEN.

Suffolk, ſſ. *The above-named* Jeremiah Allen *perſonally appearing, and being carefully examin'd, and duly cautioned to teſtify the whole truth, maketh ſolemn oath to the fore-written depoſition by him ſubſcrib'd, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before, RI: DANA, Juſtice of Peace, and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſtice Peace.

(No. 65)

JOSIAH Simpſon of lawful age, teſtifieth and ſaith, that on the evening of the 5th of March current, at about nine of the

the clock, he heard a bell ringing at the ſouth part of the town, which cauſed him to leave his ſhop to make enquiry.—Soon after, he heard that the ſoldiers had roſe upon the inhabitants; that when he had got as far as Faneuil-Hall, ſeeing a number of gentlemen ſtanding together, the deponent made up to them, and aſked them what the diſturbance was; they anſwered him that two young men had been abuſed by the ſoldiers—but that the ſoldiers had now returned to their barracks—he then proceeded with a number of others up royal exchange lane: at the head of the lane ſome of the perſons with him cry'd out here is a ſoldier and huzza'd; immediately the ſoldier who was centry near to the box before the cuſtom houſe, repaired to the *cuſtom houſe door*; at which, with the knocker the ſoldier gave three very hard ſtrokes; upon which *ſome perſon within ſide opened the door and ſpoke to him remarkably ſhort, and then ſhut it again.*—The ſoldier then directly loaded his gun, knocking the breech twice hard upon the ſtone ſteps: at the ſame time ſeven ſoldiers (as the deponent judges) with a commanding officer came and cry'd clear the way as he came along: then forming them into a half circle, ordered them to load: the deponent then made up as he could to the officer, and ſaid for God's ſake don't fire upon the people, he made him no anſwer: then turning to the inhabitants he the deponent expreſſed himſelf in the following manner; for God's ſake don't trouble theſe men for they are upon duty and will fire: turning about to the ſoldiers he ſaw them making up to the inhabitants with their bayonets fixed (about ten feet off) directing them to ſtand off, attempting to drive them away with their bayonets: then he withdrew himſelf to the other ſide of the way, where ſeeing a man attempt to throw a club, he beg'd that he would not; adding that if he did the ſoldiers would fire, and he did not: the deponent then ſtanding by Warden and Vernon's ſhop on the ſouth ſide of King-ſtreet with his back to the ſoldiers; immediately after heard the word *preſent*; at which word he ſtooped down.—A little ſpace of time enſued, and then he heard the words, *damn you, fire;* the ſound of which words ſeemed to proceed from the left of all the ſoldiers, and very near to the centry box; upon *this order* he judged two guns were diſcharged, and immediately three more, and then two more; one of the two laſt guns went about five or ſix inches over the deponent's back: after which he ſtood up, and another gun was diſcharged which wounded one Robert Patterſon in the arm, and the blood was ſprinkled upon the deponent's hand and waiſtcoat: after the firing the deponent ſaw four perſons drop: then looking

looking towards the ſoldiers the deponent ſaw them making *towards the inhabitants with their fixed bayonents*; upon which he retired down Quaker-lane, and went round into the main ſtreet homewards where he met a number of people going up royal exchange lane—from thence he retired home.

JOSIAH SIMPSON.

The deponent further ſaith *that he is ſatisfied there was not more than ſeventy or eighty people in King-ſtreet who offered no violence to the ſoldiers or to any other perſons nor threatened any.*

JOSIAH SIMPSON.

Suffolk, ſc. *Boſton, March* 16, 1770. Joſiah Simpſon *above-named, after due examination, made oath to the Truth of the aforewritten Affidavit. Taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the Thing.*

Before, Ri: Dana, Juſt. of the Peace, & of the Quorum.
And, John Hill, Jus. Peace.

(No. 66.)

I John Wilſon of lawful age teſtify, that on monday evening the 5th current, I was at Mr. Burdett's at the head of long-lane, and heard the bells ring and fire cried, and thereupon went in company with others to king-ſtreet, and ſaw no diſturbance there, hearing the bells ſtill ringing, I aſked what was the matter? The people ſaid the ſoldiers had inſulted the inhabitants, on which I went to Cornhill, where the buſtle had been, and found no ſoldiers there. Then I came down King-ſtreet oppoſite the cuſtom-houſe, and ſaw a man with a light colour'd ſurtout coming from the main guard go up to the centry, and lay his hand on his ſhoulder and ſpeak ſome words to the centry, and then *enter the cuſtom-houſe door*. On this the centry grounded the breech of his gun, took out a cartridge, primed and loaded, and ſhoulder'd his firelock. After this I drew back oppoſite Mr. Stone's, & in a few minutes ſaw a party of ſoldiers headed by *an officer* coming down from the main guard, crying to the inhabitants, *Damn you, make way you boogers!* I not moving from my place was ſtruck by one of them on the hip with the butt of his muſquet, which bruiſed me ſo much that it was next day very ſore, and much diſcoloured. *The officer* ſeeing the ſoldier ſtrike me *ſaid to the ſoldier in an angry manner why don't you prick the boogers?* The party drew up before the cuſtom-houſe door, and ranged to the weſt corner in a half circle, and charged their pieces breaſt high. Some ſmall boys coming up made a noiſe to the ſoldiers, on which *the officer ſaid to them why don't you fire? Damn you fire!* They hereupon fired and two men fell dead

in

in my ſight. I then left the place, and went over the ſtreet and aſſiſted Patterſon the wounded man in getting home. The deponent further ſaith, that when he got into kingſtreet he ſaw nobody but the centry walking backwards and forwards by the cuſtom-houſe, and then went to Cornhill as above ; and at the time of firing he verily believes there were *not above fifty perſons in the ſtreet near the cuſtom-houſe, the ſnow being at that time near a foot deep*, and further I ſay not.

JOHN WILLSON.

Suffolk, ſſ. *Boſton, March* 19, 1770. John Willſon *above-named, after due examination, made oath to the Truth of the above-written Affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the Thing.*

Before, Ri: Dana, Juſt. of the Peace & of the Quorum.
And, John Hill, Juſt. Peace.

(No. 67.)

GEORGE Coſter, of the Bay of Bulls, in the iſland of Newfoundland, Mariner, of lawful age, teſtifieth and ſaith, that being in Boſton, about nine of the clock, in the evening of the 5th day of March current, he the deponent was ſtanding in Kingſtreet, near the middle of ſaid ſtreet, and while there ſtanding, among a large number of other people, in about 5 or 6 minutes after he ſtopt, he heard the word of command given to the ſoldiers *fire*, upon which one gun was fired, which did no execution, as the deponent obſerv'd. About half a minute after *two guns, one of which killed one Samuel Gray a ropemaker, the other a molatto man*, between which two men, the deponent ſtood, after this the deponent heard *the diſcharge of four or five guns more, by the ſoldiers ; immediately after which the deponent heard the diſcharge of two guns or piſtols from an open window of the middle ſtory of the cuſtom-houſe, near to the place where the centry box was placed*, and being but a ſmall diſtance from the window, he heard the people from within ſpeak and laugh, and ſoon after he ſaw the caſement lower'd down ; after which the deponent, aſſiſted others in carrying off one of the corps.

his
GEORGE V. ⅂ COSTER
Mark.

Suffolk, ſſ. *Boſton, March* 16, 1770. George Coſter *above-named, after due examination, made oath to the Truth of the above-written Affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before, Ri: Dana, Juſt. of Peace, & of the Quorum.
John Hill, Juſtice Peace.

(No. 68.)

SAMUEL Drowne of Boston, of lawful age, testifieth and saith, that about nine of the clock of the evening of the fifth day of March current, standing at his own door in Cornhill, saw about 14 or 15 soldiers of the 29th regiment, who came from Murray's barrack, some of whom were armed with *naked cutlasses, swords or bayonets, others with clubs, fire shovels or tongs, and came upon the inhabitants of the town, then standing or walking in Cornhill, and abused some and violently assaulted others as they met them,* most of whom were *without so much as a stick in their hands to defend themselves,* as the deponent very clearly could discern, it being moon-light, and himself being one of the assaulted persons—All or most of the said soldiers he saw go by the way of Cornhill, Crooked-lane and Royal-exchange-lane into Kingstreet, and there followed them, and soon discovered them to be *quarrelling and fighting with the people* whom they saw there, which the deponent thinks were not more than *a dozen,* when the soldiers came there first, armed as aforesaid. *Of those dozen people, the most of them were gentlemen, standing together a little below the town-house upon the exchange.* At the appearance of those soldiers so arm'd, the most of the twelve persons *went off,* some of them being first *assaulted*——After which the said soldiers were observ'd by the deponent, to go towards the main-guard, from whence were at the same time issuing and coming into kingstreet five soldiers of said guard and a corporal arm'd with *firelocks,* who call'd out to the fore-mention'd soldiers arm'd with cutlasses, &c. and said to them go away, on which they dispers'd and went out of kingstreet, some one way and some another—by this time were collected together in kingstreet *about two hundred people,* and then the deponent stood upon the steps of the exchange tavern, being the next house to the custom-house; and soon after saw *Capt. Preston, whom he well knew,* with a number of soldiers arm'd with *firelocks* drawn up near the west corner of the custom-house; and *at that instant* the deponent thinks so great a part of the people were dispers'd at the sight of the armed soldiers, as that *not more than twenty or thirty remained in king street* ;* those who did remain

* *Mr. Drowne says there were collected together in King-street about two hundred persons, and that at the sight of the armed Soldiers, they so far dispersed, as that not more than twenty or thirty remained in King street.*

This Circumstance accounts for the diversity in some of the depositions, with regard to the number of persons in King street about that time: such Depositions probably referring to different moments.—Moments, because the whole disturbance in King-street, from its beginning to the firing, continued but a short space of time.

remain being moſtly ſailors and other perſons meanly dreſt, call'd out to the arm'd ſoldiers and dared them to fire, upon which the deponent heard *Capt. Preſton ſay to the ſoldiers, Damn your bloods! why don't you fire?* the ſoldiers not regarding thoſe words of their captain, he immediately ſaid FIRE. Upon which they *fired* irregularly, pointing their guns variouſly in a part of a circle as they ſtood: during the time of the ſoldiers firing, *the deponent ſaw the flaſhes of two guns fired from the cuſtom-houſe, one of which was out of a window of the chamber weſtward of the balcony, and the other from the balcony, the gun which he clearly diſcerned being pointed thro' the balliſters, and the perſon who held the gun in a ſtooping poſture, withdraw himſelf into the houſe, having a handkerchief or ſome kind of cloth over his face.* After this the deponent aſſiſted in carrying off the dead and wounded, as ſoon as the ſoldiers would permit the people ſo to do, for at firſt they were cruel enough to obſtruct the carrying them off.

SAMUEL DROWNE.

Suffolk, ſſ. *Boſton, March* 16, 1770. *The above named* Samuel Drowne *perſonally appearing, and being carefully examin'd and duly cautioned to teſtify the whole truth, maketh ſolemn oath to the fore-written depoſition by him ſubſcrib'd, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before, RI: DANA, Juſt. of the Peace & of the Quorum.
And, JOHN HILL, Jus. Peace.

(No. 69.)

I Robert Patterſon, of lawful age, teſtify and ſay, that on Monday night the 5th current, being at Capt. McNeill's at the North End, heard the bells ring, and fire cry'd. I immediately ran 'till I got into royal-exchange lane, it being about a quarter after 9 o'Clock. I ſaw a number of people in the lane. I aſked what was the matter; they told me that the ſoldiers were going to kill all the inhabitants. I immediately went thro' the lane, and ſtood in the middle of King-ſtreet about 10 or 11 minutes, (the centinel then ſtanding leaning againſt his box) when I ſaw an officer with 7 or 8 ſoldiers coming from the main guard, clearing the way with their guns and bayonets, go below the centinel box, and turn up & place themſelves around it, facing the people ſtanding oppoſite royal-exchange lane; when I ſaw a man with a light-coloured ſurtout *at the cuſtom-houſe door, the door being wide open, there ſtanding* with his ſhoulder againſt the ſide—then *I heard the officer order the ſoldiers to load; which they did*: After that I heard the people ſay, damn you, why don't you fire. In a-

bout a minute after, I heard the word *fire*, (but from whom I cannot say) *which the soldiers did*. Looking round *I saw three men lay dead on the snow*; *the snow being at that time near a foot deep*. Immediately they loaded again. The people then gave three cheers, and cry'd out, lets go in upon them, and prevent their firing again: Upon which they put on their hats and advanced towards them: My hand being rais'd to put on my hat, still advancing towards the soldiers, *the centinel up with his gun and fired, the balls going through my lower right arm, my hand immediately falling*; and finding myself wounded, made the best of my way home with help. And further I say not.

his
Attest. Elisha Story. Robert × Patterson,
Mark.

Suffolk, ss. *Boston, March* 20, 1770. Robert Patterson *above-named, after due examination, made oath to the Truth of the aforesaid Affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the Thing.*

Before, John Ruddock, Just. Peace & of the Quorum.
And, John Hill, Jus. Peace.

(No. 70.)

CATO, a Negro Man, servant to Tuthil Hubbart, Esq; being of lawful age, testifies and says, that on monday evening the fifth of March current, on his hearing the cry of fire, he ran into King-street, where he saw a number of people assembled before the custom-house; that he stood near the centry box and saw the soldiers fire on the people, who stood in the middle of said street, directly after which he saw two flashes of guns, one quick upon the other from the chamber window of the custom-house; and that after the firing was all over, while the people were carrying away the dead and wounded, *he saw the custom-house door opened, and several soldiers (one of whom had a cutlass) go into the custom-house and shut the door after them*, that before the soldiers fired he heard a voice saying, *damn you, why don't you fire*, but did not see who it was.

his
Test. John Edwards. Cato (c.
Mark.

Suffolk, ss. *Boston, March* 16, 1770. *The above named* Cato, *after careful examination, made oath to the Truth of the above-written Affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before, Ri: Dana, Just. Peace & of the Quorum.
And John Hill, Jus. Peace.

(No.

(No 71)

DANIEL Usher of lawful age, testifies and says, that coming into King-street about half after nine o'clock on monday evening the fifth current, he saw several persons mostly young folks gathered between the town house and coffee-house, some of whom were talking to the centinel at the commissioners or custom house; after some time the boys at a distance began to throw light snow balls at him, which he seemed much enraged at, & went on to the custom-house steps where he appeared to have charged his gun giving it a heavy stamp upon the door step as if to force down the lead, and then swore to the boys *if they came near him he would blow their brains out.* About ten minutes after this, the deponent saw *Capt. Preston leading seven or eight men from towards the town-house, and placed them between the custom house door and the centinel box.* About four or five minutes after they were posted, the snow balls now and then coming towards the soldiers, the Capt. commanded them to *fire.* Upon this *one gun quickly went off,* and afterwards *he said* FIRE BY ALL MEANS! others succeeding and the deponent being utterly unarm'd, to avoid further danger went up round the town-house till the fray was over. And further saith not.

DANIEL USHER.

Suffolk, ss. *March* 16, 1770. *The above named* Daniel Usher *personally appearing and being carefully examin'd and duly cautioned to testify the whole Truth, maketh solemn oath to the fore-written deposition by him subscribed, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before, Rt: Dana, Just. of the Peace & of the Quorum.
And, John Hill, Just. Peace.

(No. 72.)

I ROBERT Goddard, of lawful age, testify and declare, that on Monday evening the 5th instant, between the hours of 9 & 10 o'clock, being at my house at Wheeler's point, I heard the cry of *Fire.* I ran out and came thro' Long Lane into Kingstreet, right up to the north-west side of the Town-house; when I got there, I saw a number of gentlemen standing and talking, and heard them say, that there was a man stab'd through the arm, and that it was very hard that the people could not pass the streets without being stabb'd. Immediately after, I heard some people cry out for assistance. I then went down into Kingstreet, and in going down, overtook an officer (as I tho't) with 8 or 9 soldiers with bayonets charged

charged breaſt-high, the *officer holding a naked cutlaſs in his hand, ſwinging and calling, ſtand out of the way, and the ſoldiers curſing and damning, and puſhing their bayonets* to clear the way. They went down to the *Cuſtom-houſe*, and placed themſelves juſt above the *centinel box*, the officer then ordered the ſoldiers to place themſelves, which they did in a half circle; with that the boys came up near to the ſoldiers (ſtanding as before). The officer then ſaid, Boys go off, leſt their be ſome murder done; with that the boys removed back a little diſtance throwing ſnow-balls, the ſoldiers *puſhing them with their bayonets, ſaying, damn you, ſtand off*; with that the boys went forward again, and a man with a naked cutlaſs in his hand, who appear'd to be the commanding officer (as before) gave the word *Fire*, immediately a gun going off upon the left of me, I ſaw a man like a ſailor go up to the commander, and ſtrike him upon the left arm: Immediately he the ſaid *officer ſaid*, think I'll be uſed in this manner, *Damn you, Fire, which they did*, one after another. After they had all fired, *he ordered them to prime and load again*; after that he ordered his men in the middle of the ſtreet, *and told them to clear their way with their bayonets breaſt high*; with that looking round, I ſaw four men lay dead on the ſnow, *the ſnow being at that time near a foot deep*. Then I went and help'd the molatto man who was ſhot, into Mr. Stone's houſe. After we got him in there, I ſaw him give one gaſp. I then open'd his breaſt, and ſaw two holes, one in each breaſt, where the Balls had enter'd. After that went to the door, and look'd, and ſaw the ſoldiers ſtanding in the middle of the ſtreet, and ſaw two gentlemen talking with the officers and ſoldiers. Preſently after went to ſee the molatto again; and return'd back into the ſtreet, *ſaw all the ſoldiers at the main guard houſe out, with their bayonets charged breaſt high*; with that going home thro' quaker-lane into long-lane, about the middle of the lane, ſaw two ſoldiers, *who told me to ſtand out of the way or elſe they would ſtabb me*. I immediately got out of the way, and made the beſt of my way home. And further ſay, that the grand jury deſired me to go and ſee whether I ſhould know the officer again; one of them going with me, I went up, and when I came to the goal I ſaw ſeveral people in the room with him. The gentleman of the grand jury (who went up with me) aſked me which was the man, I told him that that gentleman (pointing to Capt. *Preſton*) looked very much like the man, and I verily believed he was the man that order'd the ſoldiers to *Fire*. Don't you ſay ſo, ſays he; yes ſir, ſaid I, you look very much like the man. If you ſay

ſo,

ſo, ſaid he, clapping his hands, I am ruined and undone. And further ſay, *that at the time of firing, there was but about fifty or ſixty perſons, moſtly boys, in Kingſtreet.*

ROBERT GODDARD.

Suffolk, ſſ. *Boſton, March* 22, 1770. Robert Goddard *afore-named, after due examination, made oath to the Truth of the aforeſaid Affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the Thing.*

Before, JOHN RUDDOCK, Juſt. of Peace & of the Quorum.
And, JOHN HILL, Juſt. Peace.

(No. 73.)

I JOHN Hickling being of lawful age, teſtify and ſay, that on monday the 5th day of March 1770, returning from New Boſton in the evening between the hours of nine and ten o'clock, I heard a noiſe and the cry of fire in King-ſtreet, and inquiring the cauſe was informed *the ſoldiers* intended to *fire on the inhabitants*, immediately proceeding to the place I ſaw eight or nine ſoldiers with fixed bayonets charged breaſt high ſtanding in a circular manner at the corner of the cuſtom houſe, and an officer ſtanding before them at the end of the bayonets between the ſoldiers and the inhabitants. *I ſaw but a few ſcattering people ſuppoſed to be about thirty in the ſtreet before them at that time* and therefore was at a loſs for the reaſon of ſuch an appearance; going up to the officer I found a young man named Bliſs talking with him. I inquired his name of Bliſs who informed me that it was *Preſton*. At that inſtant Mr. Richard Palmes came up and aſked the officer if he intended to fire upon the people? he anſwered by no means; Palmes aſked if the guns were loaded? Preſton anſwered in the affirmative. Palmes further aſked, with powder and ball? *Preſton anſwered they were. The ſoldiers* during this converſation aſſumed different poſtures *ſhoving their bayonets frequently at the people*, one in particular *puſhing againſt my ſide ſwore he would run me thro'*, I laid hold of his bayonet and told him that no body was going to meddle with them. Not more than ten ſeconds after this, I ſaw ſomething white reſembling a piece of ſnow or ice fall among the ſoldiers, which knock'd the end of a firelock to the ground. *At that inſtant the word fire was given*, but by whom I know not; but concluded it did not come from the officer aforeſaid, as I was within a yard of him and muſt have heard him had he ſpoke it, *but am ſatisfied ſaid Preſton did not forbid them to fire*, I inſtantly leap'd within the ſoldier's bayonet as I heard him cock his gun, which that moment went off between Mr. Palmes and myſelf,

I thinking there was nothing but powder fired ſtood ſtill, till upon the other ſide of Mr. Palmes and cloſe to him, *I ſaw another gun fired*, and the man ſince called Attucks fall. I then withdrew about two or three yards, & turning ſaw Mr. Palmes upon his knee, and the ſoldiers puſhing at him with their bayonets. During this the reſt of the guns were fired, one after another when I ſaw two more fall, I ran to one and ſeeing the blood guſh out of his head tho' juſt expiring, I felt for the wound and found a hole as big as my hand. This I have ſince learned was Mr. Gray. I then went to Attucks and found him gaſping, pulled his head out of the gutter and left him; I returning to the ſoldiers and aſked them what they thought of themſelves and whether they did not deſerve to be cut to pieces, to lay men wallowingin their blood in ſuch a manner, *they anſwered God damn them, they ſhould have ſtood out of our way.* The ſoldiers were then loading their muſkets and told me upon my peril not to come any nearer to them. *I further declare that I heard no other affront given them than the huzzaing and whiſtling of boys in the ſtreet.*

JOHN HICKLING.

Suffolk, ſſ. *Boſton, March* 16, 1770. *The above-named* John Hickling, *perſonally appearing and being carefully examined and duly cautioned to teſtify the whole Truth, maketh ſolemn oath to the fore-written depoſition by him ſubſcribed, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before, Rt. Dana, Juſt. of the Peace & of the Quorum.
And John Hill, Juſt. Peace.

(No. 74.)

I Obadiah Whiſton, of lawful age, teſtify and ſay, that on the evening of the 5th inſtant, being at a houſe in Pond-lane, on hearing the bells ring, ran towards Kingſtreet, and in going I met a perſon who ſaid there is no fire, but *the ſoldiers are fighting with the inhabitants.* I went down the north ſide of the Town-Houſe into Kingſtreet and there was *only a few ſcattering people in ſaid ſtreet*; I came up to the Brazen-head inCornhill, and ſaw a Barber's boy, who told me he had been *ſtruck by the ſoldiers*; then I went to the ſouth ſide of the Town-houſe and ſtood near the main-guard, where a conſiderable number of perſons ſtood; *Capt. Preſton* ſtanding by the guard-houſe door, ſaid *damn you turn out guard*, which they obeyed, and then took off 7 or 8 ſoldiers from the right, and went down Kingſtreet, where I with the chief of the people

ple followed, and in going down the ſoldiers puſh'd me and ſaid, ſtand out of the way; I followed them (to ſee where they were going) as far as the Cuſtom-houſe, where ſaid Preſton drew them up, and ſome boys being in the ſtreet, huzza'd; a few minutes after, as I ſtood there, I ſaw one gun go off, and ſeveral more were fired directly after; the people near me ſaid there were ſome perſons killed, after which I ſaw one man dead. OBADIAH WHISTON.

Suffolk, ſſ. Boſton, March 21. 1770. *Obadiah Whiſton, above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before JOHN RUDDOCK, Juſt. Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſt. Peace.

(No. 75.)

GEorge Robert Twelves Hewes, of lawful age, teſtifies and ſays, that on the laſt night, about one o'clock, as he was returning alone from his houſe to the town-houſe, he met ſerjeant Chambers of the 29th, with eight or nine ſoldiers, *all with very large clubs and cutlaſſes*, when Dodſon, a ſoldier, ſpoke to him and aſk'd him how he far'd, he told him very badly, to ſee his townſmen ſhot in ſuch a manner, and aſked him if he did not think it was a dreadful thing, ſaid *Dodſon ſwore by God it was a fine thing, and ſaid you ſhall ſee more of it*; and on perceiving I had a cane, he informed ſerjeant Chambers of it, who ſeized and forced it from me, ſaying I had no right to carry it; I told him I had as good a right to carry a cane as they had to carry clubs, but they hurried off with it into the main guard. GEORGE ROBERT TWELVES HEWES.

March 6. 1770. The deponent further adds, that juſt before the ſoldiers came from the main-guard to the cuſtom houſe there were about 15 or 16 little boys near the centry, who was ſtanding on the ſteps of the cuſtom-houſe; *and he ſaw a young man of a middling ſtature, with a grey coat and ſhort curl'd hair, preſs by the centinel towards the door of the Cuſtom-Houſe and knock at ſaid door, upon which ſome perſon came and opened the door and he went in and ſhut the door immediately after him; and at the ſame time the ſnow was near a foot deep in king-ſtreet.*

GEORGE ROBERT TWELVES HEWES.

Suffolk, ſſ. Boſton March 17. 1770. *George Robert Twelves Hewes, above-named, after due examination, made oath to*

the truth of the aforesaid affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.

Before RI. DANA, Just. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Just. Peace.

(No. 76.)

I Thomas Jackson jun'r. do testify and declare that on Monday the 5th instant in the evening, being in company, I heard, (as near as I can recollect) between nine and ten o'clock, a drum beat to arms, I immediately told the gentleman (with whom I was then engaged) I imagin'd there was some disturbance between the inhabitants and the soldiery, he replied, foh, I believe it is nothing but boys, I told him I was afraid there was something more in it than that, and desired him (as the drum approached us) to look out of the window to see whether they were soldiers, or not. He immediately opened the window, and told me they were soldiers. Upon this information, I immediately put on my hat and went out. I had not gone many paces before I met a man, of whom I enquired the reason of the drum beating. He told me there were six men killed in kingstreet by the military: I immediately hastened on in my way to kingstreet, and met another person by Concert-hall, of whom I likewise enquired as aforesaid; his answer to me corresponded with the other. When I got into kingstreet, I found a great number of people there assembled, and intended going into the custom-house, to find out the particulars of the affair. Upon my knocking at the custom-house door with the knocker, Mr. Hammond Green (who was then looking out of the window) ask'd me Who was there? I called him by name, and told him I wanted to come into the custom-house. *He told me he would not let me, nor even his father* (and I think he said) *nor one of the commissioners, into the house, for he had orders for so doing*, or to that effect. I immediately quitted the door and stay'd some time at the bottom, and then at the head of the town-house, where I met Capt. John Riordan. While we were conversing, a party of the 29th regiment came down Queenstreet and joined the regiment then at the town-house. Soon after that, I asked Capt. Riordan if he would spend an hour at the coffee-house, he complied and we immediately went, after spending some time there, I went home, and in going home, I found the inhabitants were gone off and the soldiers gone from the town-house. It was some time before I came into kingstreet, that the guns were fired,

fired, and when I knock'd at the cuſtom-houſe door, all the perſons I ſaw at the window over the centry box at the cuſtom houſe (which window was then open'd) was Mr. Hammond Green and ſome women. THO. JACKSON, jun'r.

Suffolk, ſſ. Boſton, March 16. 1770. *Thomas Jackſon, jun. above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above-written affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Juſt. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſt. of Peace.

(No. 77.)

I John Riordan, of lawful age, teſtify, that on Monday evening the fifth inſtant, between 10 and 11 o'clock, I was at the Britiſh coffee-houſe and heard *Mr. Wells, the maſter of the Roſe man of war, ſay that he had done more than ever he did in his life*, pointing to his hat, out of which he had pulled the cockade, and continued, that *all the boats were hoiſted out, the barge particularly, which had not been before for four months.* Said maſter had at the ſame time ſomething that appeared like arms under his coat, which he ſaid were good ſtuff—that *he knew of this before* (meaning as I thought the maſſacre of that evening) *and had ſent one boat after another on ſhore for orders, but having no return, had come himſelf in the barge.* JOHN RIORDAN.

Suffolk, ſſ. Boſton, March 20. 1770. *John Riordan above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the aforeſaid affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before JOHN RUDDOCK, Juſt. Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſt. of Peace.

(No. 78.)

ABraham Tuckerman, of lawful age, teſtifies and ſays, that James Vibart, quarter-maſter of the 29th regiment, about ten o'clock A. M. the eighth inſtant, ſaid, *the troubles here were nothing to what they would be in ſix months.* Being aſked why he thought ſo, replied, *This affair will get home, and the people here will be diſarmed as they are in Ireland.*

ABRAHAM TUCKERMAN.

Suffolk, ſſ. Boſton, March 16. 1770. *Abraham Tuckerman, above named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the afore-written affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Juſt. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſt. Peace.

(No. 79.)

SPencer Walker of Boston, taylor, of lawful age testifies and says, that on the evening of the fifth instant, (being a bright moon-light evening) immediately after the massacre in kingstreet, he was passing alone, by Murray's barrack, and *was attack'd* by a man of middle height and pretty lusty, a rough countenance and hair curl'd round his head, whom he took to be *an officer in disguise*; *that the said officer rush'd out of the gate from behind two soldiers with a drawn sword in his hand*, and seized the deponent first by the collar and asked him why he carried a stick, to which the deponent answered it was all he had to defend himself with; the officer then seized his stick and swore he would take it from him, the deponent said he should not; the officer then pull'd the stick three times and drew back his sword as tho' he would make a pass at him, upon which the deponent let go the stick and turned back and saw at the front door of the house another officer talking with a woman; the deponent ask'd the officer if he kept soldiers there to disarm people as they went about their proper business, upon which the officer laugh'd at him; the deponent then told the officer that he would think it very hard if any inhabitant had taken a gun from a soldier as he was going to relieve a centry, the officer again laugh'd at him; upon which a soldier came up and *struck the deponent on the hip with the breech end of his gun in the presence of the officer at the door*, and then the deponent retired. The deponent further says, that the next day *he saw the same person who took the stick from him (knowing him to be the same) in the dress of a commission-officer of the 29th regiment*

SPENCER WALKER.

Suffolk, ss. Boston, March 20. 1770. *Spencer Walker, above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above-written affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before JOHN RUDDOCK, Just. Peace & of the Quorum
JOHN HILL, Just. Peace.

(No. 80.)

JOnathan Mason, of lawful age, testifies and says, that on the evening of the 5th of March 1770, about 10 o'clock, being in kingstreet, Boston, standing near *his Honor the Lieut. Governor*, he heard him say to an officer at the head of the King's troops, who it was said was *Captain Preston*, Sir, you are sensible you had *no right to fire*, unless you had orders from

a magiſtrate. To which Capt. Preſton reply'd, Sir, we were inſulted, or words to that purpoſe, upon which Capt. Preſton deſired his Honor to go with him to the guard-houſe, which his Honor declined, and repaired to the council chamber.

JONA. MASON.

Suffolk, ſſ. Boſton, March 21. 1770. *Jonathan Maſon above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the aforeſaid affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before JOHN RUDDOCK, Juſt. Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſt. Peace.

(No. 81.)

I Iſaac Pierce of Boſton, of lawful age teſtify and ſay, that on Monday evening the fifth inſtant, hearing the bells ring, and that the main guard had fired on the inhabitants, repaired to Kingſtreet and found the 29th regiment drawn up between the State-houſe and main guard houſe and facing down ſaid ſtreet towards the inhabitants, and ſeeing his Honor the Commander in Chief appear, I went with him towards the ſoldiers, the front rank having their firelocks preſented with bayonets fixt; when we came near, I ſpoke to *Capt. Preſton*, then on the right, telling him *there* was his Honor the Commander in Chief; Capt. Preſton ſaid where, I ſaid (pointing to his Honor) *there*, and you are preſenting your firelocks at him, on which his Honor went round on the right flank, and coming to Capt. Preſton, ſaid Sir are you the commanding officer, who anſwered, yes Sir; his Honor then ſaid, do you know Sir, you have no power to fire on any body of people collected together, except you have a civil magiſtrate with you to give orders; Capt. Preſton anſwered, *I was obliged to, to ſave my centry*, on which I immediately ſaid, *then you have murdered three or four men to ſave your centry.*

ISAAC PIERCE.

Suffolk, ſſ. Boſton, March 21. 1770. *Iſaac Pierce, above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the aforeſaid affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before JOHN RUDDOCK, Juſt. Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſt. Peace.

(No. 82.)

I Ebenezer Dorr, of lawful age, teſtify and ſay, that on the evening of the 5th inſtant, hearing the bells ring in the center of the town, I came down to the town-houſe and ſaw

the

the 29th regiment under arms, between the town-house and main-guard, their lines extending across the street and facing down kingstreet, where the town's people were assembled, and that *the first rank was kneeling down, and the whole of the first platoon was presented, ready for firing on the word being given, and continued a considerable time in that posture*, but by the providence of God they were restrained from firing.

EBENEZER DORR.

Suffolk, ss. Boston, March 21. 1770. *Ebenezer Dorr, abovenamed, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the aforesaid affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before JOHN RUDDOCK, Just. Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Just. Peace.

(No. 83.)

I Edward Crafts, of lawful age, testify and say, that on Monday evening the fifth instant, between 11 and 12 o'clock, Mr. Joseph Ayers met me at my gate, and I asked him where he was going. He answered to call Mr. Thomas Theodore Bliss to attend at the council-chamber, to give evidence of the captain's giving the soldiers orders to fire on the inhabitants. On leaving Mr. Bliss's door, there passed by us two corporals with about twenty soldiers with musquets and fixed bayonets, and on their observing our moving towards the town-house, the soldiers halted, and surrounded us, saying we *were a pack of damn'd rascals, and for three coppers they would blow our brains out. One of the corporals (viz. Eustice) gave orders for one half the soldiers to cock, and the rest to make ready.* On which we told them we had nothing to say to them, but were on other business. *The corporal, Eustice, struck Mr. Haldan, then in company, and turning to me aimed a blow at my head with his firelock, which I took upon my arm, and then with all his might he made a pass at me with his fixed bayonet, with full intent to take my life, as I thought. This I also parried with my naked hand. Then a soldier step'd out from among the rest and presented his musquet to my breast, and six or seven more at about 8 or 10 feet distance also presented.* Upon this I called corporal McCan, who came to me with a drawn sword or cutlass in his hand and pushed the gun from my breast, saying, this is Mr. Crafts, and if any of you offers to touch him again I will blow your brains out. Corporal Eustice answered and said, he is as damn'd a rascal as any of them.

them. The next evening about dusk coming by Rowe's barrack I saw corporal McCan who saved my life. He asked me if my arm was broke? I answered no. He said *the gun with which Eustice struck me was broke to pieces. And continued, you would have been in heaven or hell in an instant if you had not called me by name: One man in particular would have shot you, seven more presented at you!* He also said, *his orders were, when the party came from the guard-house by the fortification, if any person or persons assaulted them, to fire upon them, every man being loaded with a brace of balls. And further I say not.* EDW. CRAFTS.

Suffolk, ss. Boston, March 17. 1770. *Edward Crafts, above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above-written affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Just. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Just. Peace.

(No. 84.)

JOseph Allen of lawful age testifies and says, that between the hours of nine & ten on Monday evening the fifth instant, being at the dwelling-house of Mr. Winniet at New-Boston, was there informed that the town was alarmed by an affray between the soldiers and inhabitants, he immediately left said house, and after arming himself with a stout cudgel at Mr. Daniel Rea's, passed by Murray's barrack near Doctor Cooper's meeting house, where were drawn up a party of soldiers with a number of officers in front; and passing them quietly in company with Edward Winslow, jun'r. was overtaken by a party of armed soldiers, one of whom laid hold of the deponent's neck of his coat and shirt, and tore the shirt, a second struck him over the shoulders, and either the latter or a third forcibly wrested the stick from him: Lieut. Minchin interposing prevented farther abuse, and entered into conversation with the deponent, complaining of the inhabitants for wrangling with the soldiers on the most trifling occasion. The deponent asked him if he thought a man could be inactive, when his countrymen were butchered in the street? Lieut. Minchin answered, that "Mr. Mollineux was the author of all this," after the conversation ended, or was nigh ending, Lieut. Minchin returned the deponent his stick, and further saith not.

JOSEPH ALLEN.

Suffolk,

Suffolk, ff. Boſton, March 16. 1770. *Joſeph Allen, above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above-written affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Juſt. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſ. Peace.

(No. 85.)

I William Fallaſs of lawful age teſtify and ſay, that after the murder was committed in Kingſtreet, on the evening of the fifth inſtant, upon my return home I had occaſion to ſtop oppoſite to the lane leading to Green's barrack, and while I ſtood there the ſoldiers ruſhed by me with their arms, towards Kingſtreet, ſaying, *this is our time or chance*; and that I never ſaw men or dogs ſo greedy for their prey as theſe ſoldiers ſeemed to be, and the ſerjeants could hardly keep them in their ranks. WILLIAM FALLASS.

Suffolk, ff. Boſton, March 16. 1770. *William Fallaſs, above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above-written affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Juſt. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſ. Peace.

(No. 86.)

MAry Gardner, living in Atkinſon-ſtreet, of lawful age, teſtifies and ſays, that on Monday evening the fifth day of March current, and before the guns fired in Kingſtreet, there were a number of ſoldiers aſſembled from Green's barrack towards the ſtreet and oppoſite her gate, that they ſtood very ſtill until the guns were fired in Kingſtreet, then they clapped their hands and gave a cheer, ſaying, *this is all that we want*, they then ran to their barrack and came out again in a few minutes, all with their arms, and ran towards Kingſtreet. MARY GARDNER.

Suffolk, ff. Boſton, March 20. 1770. *Mary Gardner, above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above-written affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Juſt. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſt. Peace.

John

(No. 87.)

JOhn Allman, of lawful age, teſtifies and ſays, that after the party with the drum came from the main guard to Murray's barrack, he ſaw the ſoldiers there drawn up under arms, and *heard the officers, as they walked backwards and forwards, ſay Damn it, what a fine fire that was! how bravely it diſperſed the mob!*

JOHN ALLMAN.

Suffolk, ſſ. Boſton, March, 16. 1770. *John Allman, above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above-written affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before RI. DANA, Juſt. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſt. Peace.

(No. 88.)

I Benjamin Church, jun. of lawful age, teſtify and ſay, that being requeſted by Mr. Robert Pierpont the Coroner, to aſſiſt in examining the body of CriſpusAttucks, who was ſuppoſed to be murdered by the ſoldiers on Monday evening the 5th inſtant, I found two wounds in the region of the Thorax, the one on the right ſide which entered thro' the ſecond true Rib within an inch and an half of the Sternum, dividing the Rib and ſeperating the cartilaginous extremity from the Sternum, the ball paſſed obliquely downward thro' the Diaphragm and entering thro' the large Lobe of the Liver and the Gall-Bladder, ſtill keeping its oblique direction, divided the Aorta Deſcendens juſt above its diviſion into the Iliacs, from thence it made its exit on the left ſide of the Spine. This wound I apprehended was the immediate cauſe of his death. The other ball entered the fourth of the falſe Ribs, about five inches from the Linea Alba, and deſcending obliquely paſſed through the ſecond falſe Rib, at the diſtance of about eight inches from the Linea Alba; from the oblique direction of the wounds, I apprehend the gun muſt have been diſcharged from ſome elevation, and further the deponent ſaith not.

BENJ. CHURCH, Jun.

Suffolk, ſſ. Boſton, March 22. 1770. *Benjamin Church, jun. above-mentioned, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the aforeſaid affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before JOHN RUDDOCK, Juſt. Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſt. Peace.

(No. 89.)

I William Rhodes, of lawful age, teſtify and ſay, that on Tueſday March 6, 1770. the morning after the affair in Kingſtreet, ſome of the ſeamen belonging to the Roſe man of war, laying in the harbour of Boſton, came to my ſhop, and after my aſking them if they had heard of the affair that happened, they anſwered me yes, and that *all their boats were ſent on ſhore manned*, and that the maſter of the ſhip had kept them up all night, or the greateſt part; I then aſked them whether they were kept to their quarters, they anſwed no; I then aſked whether they had loaded their guns, they likewiſe anſwered no, but that they had been filling powder; ſome time after, I enquired of theſe ſame people whether their people when they came on ſhore on Monday night 5th March, were armed, they told me that the only perſon that had any arms was their maſter, who came aſhore in the barge, and that he had only a pair of piſtols, and that when they had got on the wharf that the ſaid maſter gave the piſtols to the Coxſwain of the barge, and further ſaith not. WILLIAM RHODES.

Suffolk, ſſ. Boſton, March 21. 1770. *William Rhodes, abovenamed, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the aforeſaid affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before JOHN RUDDOCK, Juſt. Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſt. Peace.

(No. 90.)

MAry Ruſſell of lawful age declares that John Brailsford, a private ſoldier of the 14th regiment, who had frequently been employed by her (when he was order'd with his company to the caſtle, in conſequence of the murders committed by the ſoldiers on the evening of the 5th of March) coming to the deponent's houſe, *declared that their regiment was ordered to hold themſelves in readineſs and accordingly was ready that evening upon the inhabitants firing on the ſoldiery to come to the aſſiſtance of the ſoldiery*: on which the deponent aſked him if he would have fir'd upon any of the inhabitants of this town, to which *he replied, yes, if I had orders*, but that if he ſaw Mr. Ruſſell he would have fired wide of him—he alſo ſaid its well there was no gun fir'd by the inhabitants, for had there been, we ſhould have come to the ſoldiers aſſiſtance. And further ſaith not.

MARY RUSSELL.

Suffolk,

Suffolk, ff. Boſton, March 17. 1770. *The above-named Mary Ruſſell perſonally appearing, and being carefully examined, and duly cautioned to teſtify the whole truth made ſolemn oath to the forewritten depoſition by her ſubſcribed. Taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before JOHN RUDDOCK, Juſt. Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſt. Peace.

(No. 91)

I Ephraim Fenno, of lawful age, teſtify, that on Friday the ninth inſtant, as I was going home by the hoſpital in the common, I ſaw Doctor Hall, ſurgeon of the 14th regiment, looking out of his window, who ſaid to me, Dirty travelling, neighbour! Yes Sir, returned I. He aſked me what news in town? I told him I heard nothing but what he knew already, that the talk was about the people that were murdered. He then aſked me if the people of the town were not eaſier? I replied, I believed not, nor would be till all the ſoldiers had left the town. He then aſked me, if I heard whether the 14th regiment was going? I anſwered yes—for the people would not be quiet till they were all gone. He ſaid, the town's people had always uſed the ſoldiers ill, which occaſioned this affair, and ſaid *I wiſh that inſtead of killing five or ſix they had killed five hundred, damn me if I don't.* And further I ſay not.

EPHRAIM FENNO.

Suffolk, ff. Boſton, March 19. 1770. *Ephraim Fenno, above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the aforeſaid affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before JOHN RUDDOCK, Juſt. Peace & of the Quorum.
and JOHN HILL, Juſt. Peace.

(No. 92.)

DAvid Loring, who was much employed in making ſhoes for the 14th regiment, declares, that being at the woodyard of the 14th regiment on the 9th or 10th of March talking with ſerjeant Whittey, he mentioned the unhappy affair of the murder committed by the ſoldiers on the evening of the 5th inſtant, and ſaid that he believed if the 14th regiment had been upon guard that day it would not have happened, and told him that he never liked the 29th regiment ſince they landed in Boſton, the ſerjeant aſked the reaſon why he did not like the 29th regiment as well as the 14th; he anſwered that they

ſeemed to be a ſet of blood thirſty men, and therefore did not like them,) and believed the affair would have never happened had it not been for the affray of the 29th regiment at the rope walks, a ſoldier of the 29th regiment named John Dudley being by, *ſaid it was a planned thing a month before.*

DAVID LORING.

Suffolk, ſſ. Boſton, March 16. 1770. *David Loring, above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the aforeſaid affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before JOHN RUDDOCK, Juſt. of Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſt. Peace.

(No. 93.)

I The ſubſcriber, being deſired by the committee of enquiry to take ranges of the holes made by muſquet balls in two houſes near oppoſite to the cuſtom-houſe, find that the bullet-hole in the entry door poſt of Mr. Payne's houſe, & which graz'd the edge of the door before it entered the poſt where it lodg'd, two and a half inches deep, ranges juſt under the ſtool of the weſternmoſt lower chamber window of the Cuſtom-houſe.

And that the hole made by another muſquet ball through the window ſhutter of the lower ſtory of the ſame houſe, and lodged in the back wall of the ſhop, ranges about breaſt-high from the ground and between the ſecond and third window from the weſt corner of the Cuſtom-houſe.

And that the holes made in the ſhop of Warden and Vernon thro' the outer ſhutter and back partition of the ſhop, ranged breaſt-high from the ground and with the weſternmoſt ſide of the firſt window weſt of the great door of the Cuſtom-houſe.

BENJ. ANDREWS.

Suffolk, ſſ. Boſton, March 20. 1770. *Benjamin Andrews, Eſq; above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the aforeſaid affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before JOHN RUDDOCK, Juſt. Peace and of the Quorum.
BELCHER NOYES, Juſtice o'Peace.

(No. 94.)

I John Green, of lawful age, teſtify and ſay, that on Monday evening the 5th inſtant, juſt after nine o'clock, I went into the Cuſtom-Houſe and ſaw in the kitchen of ſaid houſe two boys belonging to Mr. Piemont the barber, and alſo my brother Hammond Green; upon hearing an huzzaing and the bell ring, I went out, and there were but 4 *or* 5 *boys in king-*

ſtreet

ſtreet near the centinel, who was muttering and growling, and ſeem'd very mad. I ſaw Edward Garrick who was crying, and told his fellow apprentice that the *centinel had ſtruck him.* I then went as far as the Brazen-Head, and heard the people huzzaing by Murray's barrack, I went down kingſtreet again as far as the corner of royal exchange lane, by the centry, *there being about 40 or 50 people, chiefly boys, near the Cuſtom-houſe, but ſaw no perſon inſult, or ſay any thing to the centry,* I then ſaid to Bartholomew Broaders theſe words, viz. the centry (then ſtanding on the ſteps and loading his gun) is going to fire; upon which I went to the Cuſtom-houſe gate and tried to get over the gate, but could not; whilſt ſtanding there I ſaw Thomas Greenwood upon the fence, to whom I ſaid, open the gate; he ſaid that *he would not let his father in,* and then jump'd down into the lane and ſaid to the deponent follow me, upon which I went down the lane with him, and round by the Poſt-office, to the main-guard; he went into the guard-houſe *and ſaid turn out the guard,* but the guard was out before, and I heard that a party was gone to the cuſtom-houſe; I then heard the guns go off, one after another, and ſaw three perſons fall; immediately after a Negro drummer beat to arms, upon that the ſoldiers drew up in a rank, (and I did not ſee Greenwood again, until the next morning) after that *I ſaw the 29th regiment drawn up in a ſquare at the ſouthweſt corner of the town-houſe*; ſoon after I went home, and further I ſay not.

JOHN GREEN.

Suffolk, ſſ. Boſton, March 24. 1770. *John Green, above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above-written affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before JOHN RUDDOCK, Juſ. Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL. Juſt. Peace.

(No. 95.)

I Hammond Green, of lawful age, teſtify and ſay, that on the evening of the 5th day of March inſtant, between the hours of eight and nine o'clock, I went to the Cuſtom-houſe; when I came to the front door of the ſaid houſe, there were ſtanding two young women belonging to ſaid houſe, and two boys belonging to Mr. Piemont the barber; I went into the houſe and they all followed me, after that Mr. Sawny Irving came into the kitchen where we were, & afterwards I lighted him out at the front door, I then went back into the kitchen again,

again, and the boys above-mentioned went out; after that two other boys belonging to Mr. Piemont came into the kitchen, alſo my brother John, who had been in a little while before, he went to the back door and open'd it, ſaying that ſomething was the matter in the ſtreet, upon which, with the other three, I went to the corner of royal exchange-lane in kingſtreet, and heard an huzzaing, as I thought, towards Dr. Cooper's meeting, and then ſaw one of the firſt mentioned boys, who ſaid *the centry had ſtruck him; at which time there were not above eight or nine men and boys in king-ſtreet*, after that I went to the ſteps of the Cuſtom-houſe door, and Mary Rogers, Eliza. Avery, and Ann Green, came to the door, at the ſame time heard a bell ring, upon the people's crying fire, we all went into the houſe and I lock'd the door, ſaying, we ſhall know if any body comes; after that, Thomas Greenwood came to the door and I let him in, he ſaid, that there was a number of people in the ſtreet, I told him if he wanted to ſee any thing to go up ſtairs, but to take no candle with him; he went up ſtairs, and the three women aforementioned went with him, and I went and faſten'd the windows, doors and gate; I left the light in the kitchen, and was going up ſtairs, but met Greenwood in the room next to the kitchen, and he ſaid, *that he would not ſtay in the houſe, for he was afraid it would be pulled down, but I was not afraid of any ſuch thing*; I then went up ſtairs into the lower weſt chamber, next to royal-exchange lane, and *ſaw ſeveral guns fired in king-ſtreet, which killed three perſons which I ſaw lay on the ſnow in the ſtreet, ſuppoſing the ſnow to be near a foot deep*; after that, I let Eliza. Avery out of the front door, and ſhut it after her, and went up chamber again; then my father, Mr. Bartholomew Green came and knock'd at the door, and I let him in; we both went into the kitchen and he aſked me what was the matter, I told him that there were *three perſons ſhot by the ſoldiers who ſtood at the door of the Cuſtom-houſe*; he then aſked me where the girls were, I told him they were up ſtairs, and we went up together, and he opened the window and I ſhut it again directly; he then opened it again and we both look'd out; at which time Mr. Thomas Jackſon, jun. knock'd at the door, I aſk'd who was there? Mr. Jackſon ſaid, it is I, Hammond let me in; *I told him if my father was out, or any of the commiſſioners came, I would not let them in.* And further I ſay not.

HAMMOND GREEN.

Suffolk,

Suffolk, ff. Boſton, March 24. 1770. *Hammond Green, above named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above written affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before JOHN RUDDOCK, Juſt. Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſt. of Peace.

(No. 96.)

I Thomas Greenwood of lawful age, teſtify and ſay, that on Monday the 5th inſtant ſpending the evening at Mrs. Wheeler's, I was alarmed by the bells ringing and people's crying fire, upon which I turn'd out with Mrs. Wheeler's three ſons and help'd Mr. Wheeler's engine as far as the Old South meeting houſe, we met ſeveral people who told us it was not fire, but it was the *ſoldiers and inhabitants, fighting in kingſtreet and deſired them to go back and get their arms*, upon hearing this, I haſtened down to kingſtreet and coming near the weſt door of the town houſe, I fell in with a *number* of people, moſt of them that I ſaw had ſticks and clubs in their hands and huzza'd, after that we went round the north ſide of the town houſe, and ſtood between the eaſt ſteps of the town houſe and whipping-poſt, I heard a number of people ſpeaking, and *one perſon in particular* ſpoke to the two centinels, who were walking up and down the ſtreet on the ſide of the town houſe, uſing theſe words,* *come out and fight us if you dare*, calling them *Damn'd bloody back raſcals and ſcoundrels to come out and fight them*, if they dared, we are enough for you now, *but I do not know whether the above perſon belonged to the town*; I looked round and ſaw about twenty people before the cuſtom-houſe door, upon which I went down to the cuſtom houſe, I then heard two or three

* It may not be improper to remark here, that the deponent, Thomas Greenwood, is a hired ſervant to the Commiſſioners, on whom he is altogether dependent, and when before the Juſtices, he was ſeveral times detected in plain falſhoods; particularly in ſwearing firſt that the number of perſons who called the ſoldiers "bloody back raſcals," &c. was nine, then ſeven, and finally but one, as it now ſtands; and through the whole of his examination he was ſo inconſiſtent and ſo frequently contradicted himſelf, that all preſent were convinced no credit ought to be given to his depoſition, for which reaſon it would not have been inſerted had it not been known that a depoſition was taken relating to this affair, from this Greenwood, by Juſtice Murray, and carried home by Mr. Robinſon.

three perſons uſe theſe words, one after another,† *I wiſh I could get into the Cuſtom Houſe, I would make the money circulate amongſt us*, after that I went up to the cuſtom-houſe door and ſaw 2 or 3 ſnow balls fall on the flat ſtones near the ſteps of the door; I knock'd and Mr. Hammond Green came to the door, while I was ſpeaking to the centry, who ſtood upon the ſteps, I told him not to let any body come into the door and no perſon offer'd to come in; the ſaid Green aſk'd who was there, I anſwer'd 'tis Thomas, let me in Hammond, when I got in, the ſaid Green ſaid to me if I wanted to ſee any thing, go up ſtairs, I went into the back room and got the key of the little drawing-room, being the lower weſt corner chamber, and went up ſtairs, and Elizabeth Avery, Mary Rogers and Ann Green followed me into the room; we all looked thro' the glaſs, I ſaw ſome perſons ſtanding by the centry-box ſtriking with ſticks, *but did not ſee them hit any body, tho' a number of perſons were cloſe by them*; I told the women above mentioned that I would not ſtay, for I was afraid that the houſe would be pulled down, there being about *forty or fifty perſons conſiſting of men and boys*; *I ſaw no perſon throw any ſtones or attempt to break even a ſquare of glaſs, or get into the houſe (the next morning I found there was not a pane of glaſs broke in the ſaid houſe.)* Afterwards, I went down ſtairs and met Hammond Green in the middle room; he aſked me where I was going, I told him, I was going out, upon which I went into the kitchen and took my hat and went into the yard, got upon the wood pile and went to the fence; John Green being by the gate aſked me to open the gate and let him in, I told him I would not open the gate for any body, one perſon paſſing by, ſaid to me, heave over ſome ſhalales, I jump'd off the fence into royal exchange lane, went down the lane with John Green, and went round by the poſt-office to the main-guard; I told one of the ſoldiers if they did not go down

† As this deponent is the only perſon out of a great number of witneſſes examined, who heard any mention made of the Cuſtom-houſe, and as it is very uncommon for ſeveral people to repeat exactly the ſame words upon ſuch occaſions (for the deponent inſiſted that the identical words were uſed by each perſon) conſidering the character and connections of the deponent, and his own expreſs declaration in this affidavit, that he ſaw no perſon attempt even to break a ſquare of glaſs or to get into the Cuſtom-houſe, it may very juſtly be doubted whether ſuch words were uſed by any one.

down to the centry at the Cuſtom-houſe, ‡ *I was afraid they would hurt him, tho' I had not ſeen any perſon inſult him,* ſomebody ſaid they were gone; I ſtood with John Green near the guard-houſe, ſaw the guns go off and heard the report; afterwards *I heard a perſon ſay, which I took to be a ſoldier, that's right, damn them, kill them all, they have no buſineſs there,* and from thence I went to the houſe of Mr. Burch, one of the Commiſſioners, where I ſaw Mr. Burch and wife, Mr. Paxton another Commiſſioner, and Mr. Reeves ſecretary to the Board; one of the Commiſſioners aſked me what was the matter, I told him the ſoldiers had fired upon the inhabitants and had killed two or three, and wounded ſome more, upon which Mr. Reeves ſaid, God bleſs my ſoul, and then went into the other room. I left Mr. Burch's houſe and went to the barracks at Wheelwright's Wharf, and ſtaid there all night; *I heard ſeveral ſoldiers ſay they wiſh'd they were let out, for if they were, there ſhould not be many people alive in the morning*; the whole of the 14th regiment being under arms, and the piquet guard went to the main guard houſe about 12 o'clock that night.

THOMAS GREENWOOD.

Suffolk, ſſ. Boſton, March 24. 1770. *Thomas Greenwood, above-named, after due examination, made oath to the truth of the above-written affidavit, taken to perpetuate the remembrance of the thing.*

Before JOHN RUDDOCK, Juſt. Peace and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Juſt. Peace.

‡ It ſeems very difficult, according to Greenwood's account, to form even a conjecture of the reaſon of his fears, which he expreſſed for the centry, when in the ſame breath he declares that he had not ſeen any perſon inſult him.—But probably the true motives of his application to the main-guard were not of a nature to be made public.

BOSTON, the 22. March, 1770.

WE the ſubſcribers, two of his Majeſty's Juſtices of the Peace for the County of Suffolk (one being of the Quorum) hereby certify, that Col. William Dalrymple, chief commander of the ſoldiers in Boſton, William Sheaffe, Eſq; deputy collector of the cuſtoms, and Bartholomew Green, head of the family in the Cuſtom-Houſe in Boſton, were duly notified to attend the captions of the affidavits *in perpetuam*, &c. touching the Maſſacre by the ſoldiers in Boſton, taken before us on the 16th, 17th and 19th days of March current; and that the ſaid William Sheaffe and Bartholomew Green attended accordingly, on the 16th of March, and croſs-examined as many of the deponents as they thought fit and as long as they pleaſed, but declined giving any further attendance.

RI: DANA,
JOHN HILL.

E R R A T U M.

Dele the laſt five Lines and an half at the Bottom of P. 44. beginning at the Words [*Mr. Munroe*] which thro' Hurry were printed twice over.

Suffolk, ss. *Boston, March* 30, 1770.

WE do hereby Certify, That the several Copies contained in the annexed printed Collection of Affidavits, taken before us *in perpetuam, &c.* have been carefully compared by us with the Originals, and agree therewith.

RI: DANA, Justice of Peace, and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Justice of Peace.

WE do certify the like, respecting those Affidavits taken before us.

RI: DANA, Justice of Peace, and of the Quorum.
SAM. PEMBERTON, Justice of Peace.

WE do certify the like, respecting the Affidavit taken before us.

RI: DANA, Justice of Peace, and of the Quorum.
JOHN RUDDOCK, Justice of Peace, & of the Quorum.

WE do certify the like, respecting the Affidavit taken before us.

RI: DANA, Justice of Peace, and of the Quorum.
JOHN TUDOR, Justice of the Peace.

WE do certify the like, respecting those Affidavits taken before us.

JOHN RUDDOCK, Justice of Peace, and of the Quorum.
JOHN HILL, Justice of Peace.

WE do certify the like, respecting those Affidavits taken before us.

JOHN RUDDOCK, Justice of Peace, & of the Quorum.
BELCHER NOYES, Justice o'Peace.

WE do certify the like, respecting the Affidavit taken before us.

JOHN RUDDOCK, Justice of Peace, and of the Quorum.
JOHN TUDOR, Justice of Peace.

I do hereby certify, That the Copy of an Affidavit (contained in the annexed printed Collection of Affidavits,) taken before me, has been carefully compared by me with the Original, and agrees therewith.

EDM. QUINCY, J. Pacis.

SEAL.

T. HUTCHINSON.

By the Honorable THOMAS HUTCHINSON, *Esq; Lieutenant-Governor and Commander in Chief, in and over his Majesty's Province of* Massachusetts-Bay *in* New-England.

I Do hereby Certify that *Richard Dana* and *John Ruddock*, Esquires, are two of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace and of the Quorum for the County of *Suffolk*, within the aforesaid Province; and that *John Hill*, *Edmund Quincy*, *Belcher Noyes*, *John Tudor* and *Samuel Pemberton*, Esquires, are Justices of the Peace for the same County, and that full Faith and Credit is and ought to be given to their several Acts and Attestations (as on the annexed Paper) both in Court and without.

In Testimony whereof I have caused the Public Seal of the Province of *Massachusetts Bay* abovesaid to be hereunto affixed. Dated at *Boston* the Thirtieth Day of *March* 1770. In the tenth Year of his Majesty's Reign.

By his Honor's Command,
JOHN COTTON, D. Sec'ry.

☞ THREE original Certificates of the foregoing Tenor, with the Province Seal affixed to them, are signed by the Lieutenant-Governor, and annexed to three printed Copies of this Pamphlet.

Two of them will be sent to London for the Satisfaction of such Gentlemen in England as incline to see the Originals: viz. One of them to WILLIAM BOLLAN, Esq; and the other to DENNIS DEBERDT, Esq;——The third remains with the Committee.

AN

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IN Purſuance of a Vote of the Town of the 22d of March, the Committee ſent printed Copies of the foregoing Pamphlet, accompanied with Letters, to his Royal Highneſs the Duke of Glouceſter, his Royal Highneſs the Duke of Cumberland; and alſo to the Lords and other Perſons of Character, whoſe Titles and Names follow,* viz.

His Grace the Duke of Richmond.
Duke of Grafton.
The Right Honorable the Lord Camden.
The moſt noble the Marquis of Rockingham.
The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Rochford.
Earl of Halifax.
Earl of Dartmouth.
Earl Temple.
Earl of Northington.
Earl of Chatham.
Earl of Hilliſborough.
Earl of Shelburne.
Lord Viſcount Weymouth.
Lord Mansfield.
Lord Lyttleton——*Peers of the Realm.*
Sir John Cuſt, Speaker of the Houſe of Commons.
Sir Fletcher Norton, the ſucceeding Speaker.
The Marquis of Granby.
Sir Edward Hawke.
Sir George Saville.
George Grenville, Eſq;
Henry Seymore Conway, Eſq;
William Dowdeſwell, Eſq;
William Beckford, Eſq; Lord Mayor of London.
The Honorable Sir William Meredith.
Alexa. Mackay, Eſq; Col. of the 64th Regiment.
Richard Jackſon, Eſq;
John Wilkes, Eſq;
John Glynn, Eſq; } Knights of the Shire for Middleſex.
Edmund Burke, Eſq;
James Townſhend, Eſq;
John Sawbridge, Eſq;
Thomas Whately, Eſq; (Commons
Alexander Wedderburn, Eſq;—Members of the honorable Houſe of
The Right Honorable Sir John Earldly Wilmot.
The Society for the Support of Magna Charta, & the Bill of Rights.
Thomas Hollis, Eſq; F. R. S.
Mrs. Catharine Macaulay.
John Pomeroy, Eſq; Col. of the 65th Regiment, and a Member of Parliament in Ireland.
Doctor Charles Lucas, Member of Parliament in Ireland.

The Committee ſent like Copies, and alſo writ, to the Gentlemen mentioned in the Town-Vote prefixed to the foregoing Narrative.

* *This Liſt and the following Letter, are annexed to ſuch Copies only of this Pamphlet, as are intended for Publication in America.*

The

The following is a Copy of the Letter wrote by the Committee to the Duke of RICHMOND: *To which (excepting the laſt Paragraph of it) the other Letters,* mutatis mutandis, *correſpond.*

To his Grace the Duke of RICHMOND.

BOSTON, New-England, March 23, 1770.

MY LORD DUKE,

IT is in conſequence of the appointment of the Town of Boſton, that we have the honor of writing to your Grace, and of communicating the encloſed Narrative, relating to the Maſſacre in this Town on the 5th Inſtant.

After that execrable deed, perpetrated by ſoldiers of the 29th regiment, the town thought it highly expedient that a full and juſt repreſentation of it ſhould be made to perſons of character, in order to fruſtrate the deſigns of certain men, who, as they have heretofore been plotting the ruin of our conſtitution and liberties, by their letters, memorials and repreſentations, are now ſaid to have procured depoſitions in a private manner, relative to the ſaid Maſſacre, to bring an odium upon the town, as the aggreſſors in that affair: But we humbly apprehend, your Grace, after examining the ſaid Narrative, and the depoſitions annexed to it, will be fully ſatisfied of the falſhood of ſuch a ſuggeſtion; and we take upon ourſelves to declare upon our honor and conſciences, that having examined critically into the matter, there does not appear the leaſt ground for it.

The depoſitions referred to (if any ſuch there be) were taken without notifying the Select Men of the Town or any other perſons whatever, to be preſent at the caption, in behalf of the Town: of which conduct, as it has been juſtly complained of heretofore in other caſes, ſo the Town now renew their complaint in the preſent caſe; and humbly preſume

ſume ſuch depoſitions will have no weight, till the Town has been ſerved with copies of them, and an opportunity given the Town to be heard in their defence, in this matter; and in any other, wherein their character is drawn into queſtion, with a view of paſſing a cenſure upon it.

A different conduct was obſerved on the part of the Town: The Juſtices with a committee to aſſiſt them, made their examinations publicly; moſt of them at Faneuil-Hall, and the reſt, where any perſons might attend. Notifications were ſent to the Cuſtom-houſe, where the Commiſſioners of the Cuſtoms ſit, that they or any perſons in their behalf, might be preſent at the captions: Accordingly Mr. Sheaffe the deputy-collector, and Mr. Green, Tenant of the Cuſtom-houſe under the Commiſſioners, and employed by them, were preſent at many of them.*

One of the ſaid Commiſſioners, Mr. Robinſon, in a ſecret manner has embarked on board Capt. Robſon, and ſailed for London the 16th inſtant; which, with three of the other Commiſſioners retiring from the Town, and not having held a board for ſome time ſince the 5th inſtant,† gives reaſon to apprehend, they have planned, and are executing a ſcheme of miſrepreſentation, to induce adminiſtration to think, that their perſons are not in ſafety in this Town, in the abſence of the Troops. But my Lord, their ſafety is in no wiſe dependent on Troops: for your Grace muſt be ſenſible, that if any evil had ever been intended them, Troops could not have prevented it.

It was ſo apparently incompatible with the ſafety of the Town, for the Troops to continue any longer in it, that his Majeſty's Council were unanimous in their advice to the Lieutenant-Governor, that they ſhould be removed to the barracks at Caſtle-Iſland. And it is the humble and fervent Prayer of the Town, and the Province in general, that his Majeſty will graciouſly be pleaſed, in his great wiſdom and goodneſs, to order the ſaid Troops, out of the Province; and that his dutiful and loyal ſubjects of this Town and Province—dutiful and loyal, notwithſtanding any repreſentations

* See the Declaration of the Juſtices, in Page 78.

† No Board has been held from the 9th of March, to the Time of printing this Letter, viz. May 16th, and it is uncertain when there will be one.

tions to the contrary—may not again be diſtreſſed and deſtroyed by Troops; for preventing which, we beg leave in behalf of the Town, to requeſt moſt earneſtly the favour of your Interpoſition and Influence.

The candor and juſtice of your Grace ſo conſpicuous in the laſt Seſſion of Parliament, when your Grace was pleaſed to move in the Houſe of Lords, that the Reſolves then under Conſideration, and afterwards paſſed by that right honorable Houſe for cenſuring this Town and Province, ſhould be ſuſpended, till we could have an Opportunity of being heard on the ſubject of them, — the candor and juſtice ſo conſpicuous in that Motion will always endear to us the Perſonage that made it: And they give us the ſtrongeſt Reaſon to hope for your Patronage, in every thing not inconſiſtent with thoſe virtues. We have the Honor to be with the moſt perfect Regard,

My Lord Duke,

Your Grace's moſt Obedient

and very humble Servants,

JAMES BOWDOIN,
SAMUEL PEMBERTON,
JOSEPH WARREN.