

of meal, to the 20th day of May inst. Gov. Trumbull has issued a proclamation notifying the same.
May 18. A terrible fire broke out in Boston about 9 o'clock last evening and raged a long time. We hear it began just above the draw-bridge, and burnt along the town-dock. A great number of buildings are doubtless consumed; but it is not possible to collect the particulars for this paper.

Last Wednesday Capt. Andrews arrived at Marblehead from Halifax, and we hear he brings intelligence that twenty tons of hay being about to be shipped from thence for the use of the ministerial army in Boston, the people found means to set it on fire; by which it was near all happily consumed.

The inhabitants of Boston are permitted to come out but very slow; numbers are not permitted to come out on any terms. The distress of the inhabitants on account of provisions is shocking indeed.

WORCESTER, (Massachusetts Bay,) May 10.

It is confidently asserted, that several houses in Boston belonging to persons who had moved out of that distressed town have been plundered of effects left therein, by the soldiery. The Hon. John Hancock, Esq's house, we hear was entered by a number of soldiers, who began to pillage and break down the fences; but upon complaint being made by the selectmen to General Gage, he ordered the fences to be repaired, and Earl Percy to take possession of the house.

All accounts agree that 5 or 600 marines, to reinforce the King's troops, arrived at Boston on Saturday last from Halifax.

Our army have began an entrenchment at Cambridge. General Gage is making Boston as secure from an attack as he possibly can. However it is thought by some that the bulwarks are not so strong as to be impregnable.

May 17. Lord Percy had not taken possession of Mr. Hancock's house in Boston, when our last advices came away.

NEW-YORK, May 22.

Friday night last capt. Reynolds arrived here from Portsmouth, in New-Hampshire, last Monday, off Cane Anne, he was boarded by capt. Greaves, in a tender, who had come out of Boston the day before, and informed him that three transports arrived there the 6th instant, from England, with troops, and that many more were hourly expected; that several vessels were then in sight, which he imagined was part of the fleet, and several guns had been heard in the Offing.

Thursday capt. Reynolds spoke with capt. Lyndsfay, in the Falcon sloop of war, who acquainted him, that having advice that a sloop lay at a place called Sandwich, that had carried some provisions to Providence, &c. for the use of the Boston provincials, he dispatched his lieutenant, with his tender and 20 men, and two other officers, to take possession of her; which they accordingly did; but, before they could carry her off, she was retaken, as also the tender, by some boats from the country, and the lieutenant lost an arm. the gunner wounded in the head, and the doctor's mate in one of his legs. The seamen were sent prisoners into the country.

By a gentleman that arrived here last Saturday from Cambridge, we learn, that the troops in the provincial camp at Boston, consisted of about 7000 men, but that they were daily increasing from New-Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Connecticut; were in high spirits, and abounded with provisions.

The Asia man of war of 64 guns is hourly expected here from Boston.

PHILADELPHIA.

In CONGRESS, May 17, 1775.

Resolved unanimously,

That all exportations to Quebec, Nova-Scotia, the Island of St. John's, Newfoundland, Georgia, except the parish of St. John's, and to East and West-Florida, immediately cease; and that no provisions of any kind, or other necessaries, be furnished to the British fisheries on the American coasts, until it be otherwise determined by the congress.

A true copy from the minutes,

CHARLES THOMSON, secretary,

On Wednesday last the Hon. Peyton Randolph, Esq; set off for Virginia, in order to attend in his place, as speaker of the honourable house of burgesses of that colony, called by proclamation to meet at Williamsburg on Thursday the 1st of June next; and the Hon. John Hancock, Esq; was appointed president of the congress in his room.

Affidavits and depositions relative to the commencement of the late hostilities in the province of Massachusetts-bay, transmitted to the congress now sitting in this city, and published by their order.

WE Solomon Brown, Jonathan Loring, and Elijah Sanderson, all of lawful age, and of Lexington in the county of Middlesex and colony of the Massachusetts-Bay in New-England, do testify and declare, that on the evening of the eighteenth of April, inst. being on the road between Concord and Lexington, and all of us mounted on horses, we were about 10 of the clock, suddenly surprized by nine serjeants, whom we took to be regular officers, who rode up to us mounted and armed, each having a pistol in his hand, and after putting pistols to our breasts, and seizing the bridles of our horses, they swore that if we stirred another step, we should be all dead men, upon which we surrendered ourselves: they detained us until two o'clock the next morning, in which time they searched and greatly abused us, having first enquired about the magazine at Concord, whether any guards were posted there, and whether the bridges were up, and said four or five regiments of regulars, would be in possession of the stores soon---they then brought us back to Lexington, cut the horses bridles and girths, turned them loose, and then left us.
Lexington, April 25, 1775.

Solomon Brown, Jonathan Loring, Elijah Sanderson.

I Elijah Sanderson, above named, do further testify and declare, that I was in Lexington common, the morning of the 19th of April aforesaid, having been dismissed by the officers abovementioned, and saw a large body of regular troops advancing toward Lexington company, many of whom were then dispersing---I heard one of the regulars whom I took to be an offi-

cer say, damn them we will have them, and immediately the regulars shouted aloud, run and fired on the Lexington company, which did not fire a gun before the regulars discharged on them. Eight of the Lexington company were killed, while they were dispersing, and at considerable distance from each other, and many wounded, and although a spectator, I narrowly escaped with my life.
Lexington, April 25, 1775.

Elijah Sanderson.

I Thomas Price Willard of lawful age, do testify and declare, that being in the house of Daniel Harrington, of said Lexington, on the 19th instant, in the morning, about half an hour before sunrise, looked out at the window of said house and saw, (as I suppose) about four hundred of regulars, in one body, coming up the road, and marched towards the north part of the common back of the meeting-house of said Lexington, and as soon as said regulars were against the east end of the meeting house, the commanding officer said something which I know not, but upon that the regulars ran till they came within about eight or nine rods of about an hundred of the militia of Lexington, who were collected on said common, at which time the militia of Lexington dispersed, then the officers made a huzza, and the private soldiers succeeded them: directly after this an officer rode before the regulars, to the other side of the body and shouted after the militia of said Lexington, and said "lay down your arms damn you, why don't you lay down your arms." And that there was not a gun fired till the militia of Lexington were dispersed; and further testified.

Lexington, April 23, 1775.

Thomas Price Willard.

Simon Winship of Lexington in the county of Middlesex, and province of Massachusetts-bay, New-England, being of lawful age, do testify and declare, that on the 19th of April instant about four o'clock in the morning as he was passing the public road in said Lexington peaceably unarmed, about two miles and an half distant from the meeting-house in said Lexington, he was met by a body of the king's regular troops, and being shot by some officers of said regular troops, was compelled to dismount; upon asking why he must dismount, he was obliged by force to quit his horse, and ordered to march in the midst of the body, and being examined whether he had been warning the militia men he answered no but had been out, and was then returning to his father's. Said Winship further testifies, that he marched with said troops until he came within about half a quarter of a mile of said meeting-house, where an officer commanded the troops to halt, and then to prime and load; this being done, the said troops marched on till they came within a few rods of captain Parker's company, who were partly collected on the place of parade; when said Winship observed an officer at the head of said troops flourishing his sword, and with a loud voice giving the word fire, which was instantly followed by a discharge of arms from said regular troops; and said Winship is positive and in the most solemn manner declares, that there was no discharge of arms on either side till the word fire was given by said officer as above.

Lexington, 25th of April 1775.

Simon Winship.

I John Parker of lawful age, and commander of the militia in Lexington, do testify and declare, that on the 19th instant, in the morning, about one of the clock, being informed that there were a number of regular officers riding up and down the road, stopping and insulting people as they passed the road; and also was informed, that a number of regular troops were on their march from Boston, in order to take the province stores at Concord, ordered our militia to meet on the common in said Lexington, to consult what to do, and concluded not to be discovered, nor meddle or make with said regular troops (if they should approach) unless they should insult or molest us, and upon their sudden approach I immediately ordered our militia to disperse and not to fire; immediately said troops made their appearance and rushed furiously, fired upon and killed eight of our party, without receiving any provocation therefor from us.

Lexington, April 25, 1775.

John Parker.

I John Robins, being of lawful age, do testify and say, that on the nineteenth instant, the company under the command of capt. John Parker, being drawn up, (sometime before sunrise) on the green or common, and I being in the front rank, there suddenly appeared a number of the king's troops, about a thousand, as I thought, at the distance of about 60 or 70 yards from us huzzaing, and on a quick pace towards us, with three officers in their front on horseback, and on full gallop towards us, the foremost of which cried, "throw down your arms, you villains, you rebels," upon which said company dispersed. The foremost of the three officers ordered their men, saying, "fire, by God fire," at which moment we received a very heavy and close fire from them, at which instant being wounded, I fell, and several of our men were shot dead by me; capt. Parker's men, I believe, had not then fired a gun: and further this deponent saith not.

Lexington, April 24, 1775.

John Robins.

We Benjamin Tidd of Lexington, and Joseph Abbot of Lincoln, in the county of Middlesex, and colony of Massachusetts-bay in New-England, of lawful age, do testify and declare that on the morning of the 19th of April inst. about five o'clock being on Lexington common, and mounted on horse we saw a body of regular troops marching up to the Lexington company, which was then dispersing, soon after the regulars fired first a few guns, which we took to be pistols from some of the regulars who were mounted on horses, and then the said regulars fired a volley or two, before any guns were fired by the Lexington company, our horses immediately started and we rode off, and further say not.

Lexington, April 25, 1775.

Benjamin Tidd, Joseph Abbot.

We Nathaniel Mullekin, Philip Ruffel, Moses Harrington, jun. Thomas and Daniel Harrington, William Grimes, William Tidd, Isaac Hastings, Jonas Stone, jun. James Wyman, Thaddeus Harrington, John Chamber, Joshua Reed, jun. Joseph Simonds, Phineas Smith, John Chandler, jun. Reuben Lock, Joel Viles, Nathan Reed, Samuel Tidd, Benjamin Lock, Thomas Winship, Simeon Snow, John Smith, Moses Harrington, the 3d. Joshua Reed, Ebenezer Parker, John Harrington,

Lexington, April 25, 1775.

Enoch Willington, John Horner, Isaac Green, Phineas Stearns, Isaac Durant, and Thomas Headley, jun. all of lawful age, and inhabitants of Lexington in the county of Middlesex, and colony of Lexington in the bay in New-England, do testify and declare, that on the 19th of April inst. about one or two o'clock in the morning, being informed that several officers of the king's regulars, had the evening before been riding up and down the road, and had detained and insulted the inhabitants of regulars were marching from Bolton towards Concord, with intent (as it was supposed) to take the stores belonging to the colony in that town, we were alarmed, having met at the place of our company's parade were dismissed by our capt. John Parker, for the present, with orders to be ready to attend at the beat of the drum---we further testify and declare that about five o'clock in the morning hearing our drum beat, about five o'clock towards the parade, a drum found that a large body of troops were marching towards us, some of our company were coming up to the parade, and others had reached it; at which time the company began to disperse, whilst our backs were turned on the troops, we were fired on by them and a number of our men were instantly killed and wounded---not a gun was fired by any person in our company on the regulars, to our knowledge before they fired on us, and they continued firing until we had all made our escape.

Signed by each of the above deponents.

We, Nathaniel Carkhurst, Jonas Parker, John Munroe, jun. John Winship, Solomon Pierce, John Murry, Abner Meeds, John Eridge, jun. Ebenezer Bowman, William Munroe, 3d. Micah Hager, Samuel Sanderson, Samuel Hastings, and James Brown of Massachusetts-Bay, in New-England, and all of lawful age, do testify and say, that, on the morning of the nineteenth of April inst. about one or two o'clock, being informed that a number of regular officers had been riding up and down the road the evening and night preceding, and that some of the inhabitants, as they were passing, had been insulted by the officers, and stopped by them, and being also informed that the regular troops were on their march from Boston, in order (as it was said) to take the colony stores, then deposited at Concord; we met on the parade of our company in this town; after the company had collected, we were ordered by capt. John Parker (who commanded us) to disperse for the present, and be ready to attend the beat of the drum; and accordingly the company went into booths near the place of parade. We further testify and say, that about five o'clock in the morning we attended the beat of our drum, and were formed on the parade; we were faced towards the regulars then marching up to us; and some of our company were coming to the parade with their backs towards the troops; and others on the parade began to disperse when the regulars fired on the company, before a gun was fired by any of our company on them; they killed eight of our company, and wounded several, and continued their fire until we had all made our escape.

Lexington, April 25, 1775.

I Timothy Smith, of Lexington, in the county of Middlesex, and colony of Massachusetts-Bay, in New-England, being of lawful age, do testify and declare, that on the morning of the 19th of April inst. being at Lexington-common as a spectator, I saw a large body of regular troops marching up towards the Lexington company, then dispersing, and likewise saw the regular troops fire on the Lexington company, before the latter fired a gun; I immediately ran, and a volley was discharged at me, which put me in imminent danger of losing my life: I soon returned to the common, and saw eight of the Lexington men who were killed, and lay bleeding at a considerable distance from each other; and several were wounded, and further saith not.

Lexington, April 25, 1775.

Timothy Smith.

We, Levi Mead and Levi Harrington, both of Lexington, in the county of Middlesex, and colony of the Massachusetts-Bay, in New-England, and of lawful age, do testify and declare, that on the morning of the nineteenth of April, being on Lexington-common as spectators, we saw a large body of regular troops marching up towards the Lexington company, and some of the regulars on horse, whom we took to be officers, fired a pistol or two on the Lexington company, which was then dispersing. These were the first guns that were fired, and they were immediately followed by several volleys from the regulars, by which eight men belonging to said company were killed, and several wounded.

Lexington, April 25, 1775.

Levi Mead, Levi Harrington.

I, William Draper, of lawful age, and an inhabitant of Colrain, in the county of Hampshire, and colony of Massachusetts-Bay, in New-England, do testify and declare, that, being on the parade of said Lexington, April 19th instant, about half an hour before sunrise, the king's regular troops appeared at the meeting-house of Lexington. Capt. Parker's company, who were drawn up back of said meeting house, on the parade, turned from said troops, making their escape by dispersing; in the mean time, the regular troops made a huzza, and ran towards capt. Parker's company, who were dispersing, and immediately after the huzza was made the commanding officer of said troops (as I took him) gave the command to the said troops, "fire! fire! damn you fire!" and immediately they fired before any of capt. Parker's company fired, I then being within three or four rods of said regular troops. And further say not.

Lexington, April 25, 1775.

William Draper.

I, Thomas Fessenden, of lawful age, testify and declare, that being in a pasture near the meeting-house at said Lexington, on Wednesday last, at about half an hour before sunrise, I saw a number of regular troops pass speedily by said meeting house, on their way towards a company of militia of said Lexington, who were assembled to the number of about one hundred in a company, at the distance of eighteen or twenty rods from said meeting-house, and after they had passed by said meeting-house, I saw three officers on horseback advance to the front of said regulars, when one of them

Signed by each of the above deponents.

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