

*Account #1*

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WE John Hoar, John Whithed, Abraham Gearfield, Benjamin Munroe, Isaac Park, William Hosmer, John Adams, Gregory Stone, all of Lincoln, in the county of Middlesex, Massachusetts Bay, all of lawful age, do testify and say, that on Wednesday last we were assembled at Concord in the morning of said day, in consequence of information received, that a brigade of regular troops were on their march to the said town of Concord, who had killed six men at the town of Lexington ; about an hour afterward we saw them approaching, to the number of 1200 ; on which we retreated to a hill about 80 rods back ; and the said troops then took possession of the kill where we were first posted. Presently after this, we saw the troops moving towards the North Bridge, about one mile from the said Concord Meetinghouse. We then immediately went before them, and passed the bridge, just before a party of them, to the number of about 200, arrived. They there left about one half of their 200 at the Bridge and proceeded with the rest towards Col. Barrett's, about two miles from the said Bridge. We then seeing several fires in

the town, thought the houses in Concord were in danger, and marched towards the said Bridge ; and the troops who were stationed there, observed our approach, marched back over the Bridge, and then took up some of the planks. We then hastened our march towards the Bridge ; and when we had got near the Bridge they fired on our men first, three guns one after the other ; they also fired a considerable number more ; and then, and not before (having orders from our commanding officer not to fire till we were fired upon) we fired upon the regulars, and they retreated. On their retreat through this town, Lexington, to CharlesTown, they ravaged and distressed private property, and burnt three houses, one barn, and one shop.

The above affidavit was signed by the persons whose names are mentioned at the beginning of it, and sworn before William Reed, John Cuming, Jonathan Hastings, and Duncan Ingraham, Esqrs. four of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace. And Nathaniel Gorham, Notary Public, certifies that full faith is to be given to the transactions of the said Justices.

*Account #2*

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*Lexington, April 23.* I James Barrett, of Concord, Colonel of a regiment of militia in the county of Middlesex, do testify and say, that on Wednesday morning last, about day-break, I was informed of the approach of a number of the regular troops to the town of Concord, where were some magazines belonging to this province, and where there were assembled some of the militia of this and the neighbouring towns, when I ordered them to march to the North Bridge (so called) which they had passed, and were taking up. I ordered said militia to

march to said Bridge, and pass the same, but not to fire on the King's troops unless they were first fired upon. We advanced near said bridge, when the said troops fired upon our militia, and killed two men dead on the spot, and wounded several others, which was the first firing of guns in the town of Concord. My detachment then returned the fire, which killed and wounded several of the said king's troops.

JAMES BARRET. Sworn before Wm. Reed, Jonathan Hastings, and Duncan Ingraham, Justices of the Peace.

*Account #3*

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*Lexington, April 23.* We Bradbury Robinson, Samuel Spring, Thadeus Bancroft, all of Concord, and James Adams, of Lincoln, all in the county of Middlesex, all of lawful age, do testify and say, that on Wednesday morning last, near ten of the clock, we saw near one hundred of regular troops, being in the town of Concord, at the North Bridge in the said town (so called) and having passed the same, they were taking up the said bridge, when about three hundred of our militia were advancing

towards, the said bridge, in order to pass the said bridge, when without saying anything to us, they discharged a number of guns on us, which killed two men dead on the spot, and wounded several others, when we returned the fire on them, which killed two of them, and wounded several, which was the beginning of hostilities in the town of Concord.

Sworn before W. Reed, W. Stickney, and Jon. Hastings, his Majesty's justices of the Peace.

*Account #4*

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*Lincoln, April 23.* I John Bateman, belonging to the fifty-second regiment, commanded by Colonel Jones, on Wednesday morning, on the 19th of April instant, was in the party marching for Concord, being neigh the meeting home in said Lexington, there was a small party of men gathered together in that place, when our said troops marched by ; and I testify and declare,

that I heard the word of command given to the troops to fire, and I saw one of the said small party lie dead on the ground, nigh the said meeting house ; and I testify, that I never heard any of the inhabitants so much as fire one gun on the said troops.

Sworn before John Cuming and Duncan Ingraham, Justices of the Peace.

*Account #5*

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*Concord, April 23.* I James Marr, of lawful age, testify and say, that in the evening of the 18th instant, I received orders from George Hutchinson, Adjutant of the fourth regiment of regular troops stationed at Boston, to prepare and march, to which orders I attended, and marched to Concord, where I was ordered by an officer, with about one hundred men, to

guard a certain bridge there ; while attending that service, a number of people came along, in order, as I suppose, to cross the said bridge, at which time a number of the regular troops first fired upon them.

Sworn before Duncan Ingraham, and Jones Dix, Justices of the Peace.

*Medford, April 25.* I Edward Thornton Gould, of his Majesty's own regiment of foot, being of lawful age, do testify and declare, that on the evening of the 18th instant, under the orders of General Gage, I embarked with the Light Infantry and Grenadiers of the Line commanded by Colonel Smith, and landed on the marshes of Cambridge, from whence we proceeded to Lexington. On our arrival at that place, we saw a body of provincial troops armed, to the number of about sixty or seventy men. On our approach they dispersed, and soon after firing began ; but which party fired first I cannot exactly say, as our troops rushed on shouting and huzzaing, previous to the firing, which was continued by our troops so long as any of the provincials were to be seen. From thence we marched to Concord. On a hill near the entrance of the town, we saw another body of provincials assembled. The light infantry companies were ordered up the hill to disperse them. On our approach they retreated

towards Concord. The grenadiers continued the road under the hill towards the town. Six companies of light infantry were ordered down to take possession of the bridge, which the provincials retreated over. The company I commanded was one. Three companies of the above detachment went forward about two miles. In the mean time, the provincial troops returned, to the number of about three or four hundred. We drew up on the Concord side of the bridge. The Provincials came down upon us, upon which we engaged and gave the first fire. This was the first engagement after the one at Lexington : A continued firing from both parties lasted through the whole day. I myself was wounded at the attack of the bridge, and am now treated with the greatest humanity, and taken all possible care of by the Provincials at Medford.

EDW. THORNTON GOULD, Lieutenant of the King's own regiment. Sworn before Justices Thad Mason, Josiah Johnson, Simon Tufts.

*Lexington, April 25.* Simon Winship, of Lexington, in the county of Middlesex and province of Massachusetts Bay, New England, being of lawful age, testifieth and faith, that on the nineteenth of April instant, about four o'clock in the morning, as he was passing the public road, in said Lexington, peaceably and 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 stopped by some Officers of said troops, was commanded 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 *minute-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, when 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 Capt. 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!*—*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.

SIMON WINSHIP. Sworn before William Reed and Josiah Johnson, Justices of Peace.

*Account #8*

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*Lexington, April 25.* Wel, Nathaniel Mulliken, Philip Russel, Moses Harrington, jun. Thomas and Daniel Harrington, Wm. Grimes, William Tidd, Isaac Hastings, Jonas Stone, jun. James Wyman, Thaddeus Harrington, John Chandler, Joshua Reed, jun. Joseph Symonds, Phinehas Smith, John Chandler, jun. Reuben Lock, Joel Viles, Nathan Reed, Samuel Tidd, Benjamin Lock, Thomas Winship, Simeon Snow, John Smith, Moses Harrington the third, Joshua Reed, Ebenezer Parker, John Harrington, Enoch Wellington, John Hosmer, Isaac Green, Phineas Starn, Isaac Durant, and Thomas Hadley, jun. all of lawful age, and inhabitants of Lexington, in the county of Middlesex, and colony of Massachusetts Bay in New England, do testify and declare, that on the 19th of April instant, about one or two o'clock in the morning, being informed that several officers of the regulars had the evening before been riding up and down the road, and had detained and insulted the inhabitants passing the same ; and also understanding that a body of regulars were marching from Boston towards Concord, with intent (as it was supposed) to take the stores belonging to the

colony in that town, we were alarmed, and having met at the place of our company's parade, were dismissed by our Captain, John Parker, for the present, with orders to be ready at the beat of the drum. We further testify and declare, that about five o'clock in the morning, hearing our drum beat, we proceeded towards the parade, and soon 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, to our knowledge, on the regulars, before they fired on us, and they continued firing until we had made our escape.

The foregoing affidavit was also signed with the names of the persons mentioned in the beginning of it, and sworn before William Reed, Josiah Johnson, and William Stickney, Esqrs. three of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace, whose veracity is also certified by Nathaniel Gorham, Not. Pub.

*Account #9*

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*Wednesday April 19,  
near Ten o'Clock, Watertown.*  
To all Friends of American Liberty let it be known,  
That this morning before day-break a brigade of about 1000 or 1200 men landed at Phips's farm at Cambridge, and marched to Lexington, where they found a company of our colony militia in arms, upon whom they fired without any provocation and killed six men and

wounded four others. By express from Boston we find another brigade are upon their march, supposed to be about 1000. The bearer, Israel Bessell, is charged to alarm the country quite to Connecticut ; and all persons are desired to furnish him with fresh horses as they may be needed. I have spoke with several who have seen the dead and wounded.

T. PALMER, one of the Committee,  
N.BALDWIN, Town Clerk.

*Account #10*

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*Thursday April 20, three o'clock, P.M.*

I am this moment informed by express from Woodstock, taken from his own mouth, that arrived there at two o'clock this afternoon, that the contest between the first brigade that marched to Concord was still continuing this morning at Lexington, to which place the said brigade had retired ; that another brigade, said to be the second mentioned in the letter this morning, had landed with a quantity of artillery at the place where the first did. The provincials

were determined to prevent the two brigades from joining if possible, and remain in great need of succour. The regulars when in Concord burnt the Court-house, took two pieces of cannon, and began to take up Concord Bridge, on which Capt. -----, who with many on both sides were soon killed, then made an attack on the King's troops, on which they retreated to Lexington.

I am, your's, &c.

EBENEZER WILLIAMS.

*Account #11*

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To Col. Obad. Johnson, Canterbury.

P.S. Mr. McFarland, of Campfield, Merchant, has just returned from Boston by way of Providence, who conversed with an express from Lexington, who further informs, that about 4000 of our troops had surrounded the first brigade, who were on a hill in Lexington ; that the action continued, and about 50

provincials were killed, and about 150 regulars, as near as they could judge. It will be expedient for every man to go who is willing and fit. The above is a true copy as received by express from Newhaven, and attested by the committee of correspondence from town to town. Test. Jon. Sturges, And. Rowland, Silleck Silliman, Thad. Burr, Job Bartram.