

take it, we have no more concern, than either of you, gentlemen; I say, passing over all these matters as foreign to this trial; let us state evidence appearing even from the crown witnesses.

*Mr. Quincy* then took up the evidence against the prisoners, pointing out the circumstances which favored them; and then stated the points he expected to exhibit on the part of the prisoners, to show that all which they did was necessary and proper in self defense.

#### THE WITNESSES FOR THE PRISONERS.

*James Crawford.* On the night of March 5th, in going home, I met uncommon numbers of people with sticks—not common walking sticks, but large cudgels.

*Archibald Gool.* That evening I saw people from all corners running with sticks in their hands—uncommon sticks.

*Archibald Wilson.* That night I saw a great number of people come from the north-end; they made two or three sundry attacks up the lane where the barracks were; they had sticks or staves, I do not know what they are called; they cried fire; I said it was very odd to come to put out a fire with sticks and bludgeons.

*William Hunter.* Was in my own house, and Mr. Wilson, witness, with me; Mr. Mitchelson came in and told us there was a disturbance amongst the inhabitants and soldiers; saw great numbers coming up from the north end, with large sticks in their hands.

*David Mitchelson.* That night saw a large number of people assembled together; the bells rang; people thought it was fire; heard it proposed to attack the guard; saw a man with a red cloak and

white wig haranging the crowd.

*John Short.* The evening of the 5th of March, after the nine o'clock bell had rung, heard the bells ring again; supposed for fire; went up as far as Faneuil Hall, and to Mr. Jackson's shop; there were a number of people in Cornhill at the time.

*Benjamin Davis.* I heard a number of people and great noises; saw the people collected close to Boylston's alley, and learned that it was the town's people and soldiers quarreling; the sound was like people fighting with clubs; two young men came up, and said, "Will you go and help us to fight the soldiers?" I said, "No"; one of them had a cloak, and said, "If you will not go, hold my cloak," and went away with the other, inquiring where were any clubs or cord-wood sticks; they hallooed, "Fire! fire!"

*Sheudel Hewes.* Heard the fire bells; they told me it was no fire, but the people quarreling; saw a lot of young people pulling the legs out of the stalls in the market.

*James Selkirk.* Saw a considerable number of people coming from the North End, all armed