

were against you; that the people about you, thought you came to dragoon them into obedience to statutes, instructions, mandates and edicts, which they thoroughly detested; that many of these people were thoughtless and inconsiderate, old and young, sailors and landmen, negroes and mulattos; that the soldiers had no friends about them, the rest were in opposition to them; with all the bells ringing, to call the town together to assist the people in King street, for they knew by that time, that there was no fire; the people shouting, huzzaing, and making the mob whistle, as they call it, which, when a boy makes it in the street, is no formidable thing, but when made by a multitude, is a most hideous shriek, almost as terrible as an Indian's yell; the people crying, "kill them," "knock them over!" heaving snow balls, oyster shells, clubs, white birch sticks three inches and an half in diameter. Consider yourselves in this situation, and then judge whether a reasonable man in the soldiers' situation, would not have concluded they were going to kill him. I believe, if I were to reverse the scene, I should bring it home to our own bosoms; suppose Colonel Marshall, when he came out of his own door, and saw these grenadiers coming down with swords, had thought it proper to have appointed a military watch; suppose he had assembled Gray and Attacks that were killed, or any other persons in town, and had planted them in that station as a military watch, and there had come from Murray's barracks thirty or forty soldiers, with no other arms than snow balls, cakes of ice, oyster shells, cinders and clubs, and attacked this military watch in this manner, what do you suppose would have been the feelings and reasonings of any of our householders? I confess I believe they would not have borne the one-half of what the witnesses have sworn the soldiers bore, till they had shot down as many as were necessary to intimidate and disperse the rest; because, the law does not oblige us to bear insults to the danger of our lives, to stand still with such a number of people round us, throwing such things at us, and threatening our lives, until we are disabled to defend ourselves.