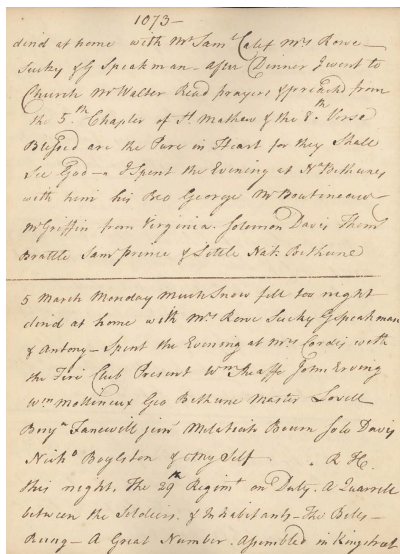


History SOURCE

John Rowe's diary entry, 5 March 1770

Context: John Rowe was a politically active Boston merchant who maintained friendships with many patriots and loyalists. In his diary, Rowe recorded the years leading up to the Revolution, revealing frustration with perceived British overreach and skepticism about the violence the Sons of Liberty used to advance their cause. Rowe did not witness the Boston Massacre, but recorded what he heard and thought that night, and the next day.



5 March Monday

much snow fell too night... The 29th Regimt on Duty. A Quarrell between the soldiers & Inhabitants - The Bells-Rung -- A Great Number Assembled in Kingstreet

A Party of the 29th under the Command of Capt Preston fired on the People they killed five -- wounded Several Others-- particularly Mr. Edw Payne in his Right Arm, -- Capt Preston Bears a good Character-- he was taken in the night & Committed also Seven more of the 29th--the Inhabitants are greatly enraged and not without Reason --

6 March Tuesday.

Most all the Town in Uproar & Confusion. The Govr. & Council met The Cryer went abo. to warn a Town Meeting at Eleven of Clock-- The Inhabitants met at Fanewill Hall. they chose A Respectable Committee to wait on his Honor the Lieut. Governour to desire the Troops might be Removed from the Town. Upon which he -- Consulted Colo Dalrymple & Colo. Kerr the Lieut. Governour Returned for Answer that the 29th Regiment should go to the Castle & the 14th Regiment Remain in Town. I went home to Dinner...afternoon the Inhabitants met at the Old South Meeting House and after Some Debate they Unanimously Voted not to Accept the Lieut Governour's Proposals but Chose another Committee of Seven to wait on him again & Insist on all the Troops Being Removd from the Town & without this is Complied with it would not be Satisfactory -- to the Inhabitants The Committee went & Returnd that His Honor would Order Both Regiments to the Castle & Colo Dalrymple consented to it this gave Great Joy to the Inhabitants & I believe a General Satisfaction -- so that they went from the meeting very Peacably to their Habitations...

Source: <https://www.masshist.org/database/552>