

The BLOODY MASSACRE perpetrated in King—j—Street BOSTON on March 5<sup>th</sup> 1770 by a party of the 29<sup>th</sup> REG<sup>t</sup>



Engrav'd Printed & Sold by PAUL REVERE BOSTON

Unhappy Boston! see thy Sons deplore,  
 Thy hallow'd Walks beset with guiltless Gore,  
 While faithless P—n and his savage Bands,  
 With murderous Rancour stretch their bloody hands,  
 Like fierce Barbarians grinning o'er their Prey,  
 Approve the Carnage, and enjoy the Day.

If scalding drops from Rage from Anguish Wring,  
 If speechless Sorrows lab'ring for a Tongue,  
 Or if a weeping World can ought appease  
 The plaintive Ghosts of Victims such as these:  
 The Patriot's copious Tears for each are shed,  
 A glorious Tribute which embalms the Dead.

But know Eternity summons to that awful Goal,  
 where JUSTICE strips the Murderer of his Soul:  
 Should venal C—ts the scandal of the Land,  
 Snatch the relentless Villain from her Hand,  
 Keen Execrations on this Plate inferrib'd,  
 Shall reach a JUDGE who never can be brib'd.

The unhappy Sufferers were Mess<sup>rs</sup> SAM<sup>l</sup> GRAY SAM<sup>l</sup> MAVERICK, JAM<sup>s</sup> CALDWELL, CRISPUS ATTUCKS & PAT<sup>l</sup> CARE  
 Killed Six wounded: two of them (CHRIST<sup>l</sup> MONK & JOHN CLARK) Mortally



Paul Revere by John Singleton Copley

## Account of the Boston Massacre

*Source: The Boston Gazette and Country Journal, March 12, 1770*

A few minutes after nine o'clock four youths, named Edward Archbald, William Merchant, Francis Archbald, and John Leech, came down Cornhill together, and separating at Doctor Loring's corner, the two former were passing the narrow alley leading to Mr. Murray's barrack in which was a soldier brandishing a broad sword...A person of mean countenance. armed with a large cudgel (heavy stick) bore him company. Edward Archbald admonished Mr. Merchant to take care of the sword, on which the soldier turned round and struck Archbald on the arm, then pushed at Merchant. Mr. Merchant then struck the soldier with a short stick he had; and the other person ran to the barrack and brought with him two soldiers, one armed with a pair of tongs, the other with a shovel. He with the tongs pursued Archbald back through the alley.. The noise brought people together; and John Hicks, a young lad, coming up, knocked the soldier down but let him get up again; and more lads gathering, drove them back to the barrack where the boys stood some time as it were to keep them in. In less than a minute ten or twelve of them came out with drawn cutlasses, clubs, and bayonets and set upon the unarmed boys and young folk who stood them a little while but, finding the inequality of their equipment, dispersed.

On hearing the noise, one Samuel Atwood came up to see what was the matter; he met the ten or twelve soldiers rushing down the alley

towards the square and asked them if they intended to murder people? They answered Yes! and with that one of them struck Mr. Atwood with a club which was repeated by another. Retreating a few steps, Mr. Atwood met two officers and said, gentlemen, what is the matter? They answered, you'll see by and by.

Thirty or forty persons, mostly lads, being by this means gathered in King Street, Capt. Preston with a party of men with charged bayonets, came from the main guard to the commissioner's house, the soldiers pushing their bayonets, crying, make way! They took place by the custom house and, continuing to push to drive the people off pricked some in several places, on which they were clamorous and, it is said, threw snow balls. On this, the Captain commanded them to fire; and more snow balls coming, he again said, fire, be the consequence what it will! One soldier then fired, and a townsman with a cudgel struck him over the hands with such force that he dropped his firelock; and, rushing forward, aimed a blow at the Captain's head which grazed his hat and fell pretty heavy upon his arm. However, the soldiers continued the fire successively till seven or eight or, as some say, eleven guns were discharged.

By this fatal manoeuvre three men were laid dead on the spot and two more struggling for life; but what showed a degree of cruelty unknown to British troops, at least since the house of Hanover has directed their operation, was an attempt to fire upon or push with their bayonets the persons who undertook to remove the slain and wounded!

Mr. Benjamin Leigh, now undertaker in the Delph manufactory, came up and after some conversation with Capt. Preston relative to his conduct in

this affair, advised him to draw off his men, with which he complied. The dead are Mr. Samuel Gray, killed on the spot..and a mulatto man named Crispus Attucks, who was born in Framingham, but lately belonged to New-Providence and was here in order to go for North Carolina, also killed instantly... Mr. James Caldwell, mate of Capt. Morton's vessel, in like manner killed....

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