

## Testimony of John Parker on the Battle of Lexington

I John Parker, of Lawful age, and commander of the militia in Lexington, do testify and declare, that on the 19th instant, in the morning about one of the Clock, being informed that there were a number of regular officers riding up and down the road, stopping and insulting people as they passed the road, and also was informed that a number of regular troops were on their march from Boston, in order to take the province stores at Concord, ordered our militia to meet on the common in said Lexington, to consult what to do, and concluded not to be discovered nor meddle or make with said regular troops (if they should approach) unless they should insult or molest us, and upon their sudden approach, I immediately ordered our militia to disperse and not to fire. Immediately said troops made their appearance and rushing furiously, fired upon and killed eight of our party, without receiving any provocation therefore from us.

John Parker

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Middlesex. April 25th, 1775

The above named *John Parker*, personally appeared and after being duly cautioned to declare the whole truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition by him subscribed, before us,

William Reed

Josiah Johnson

William Stickney