

## Movie Notes – John Adams

### 1. Mr. Robert Goddard

1. Claimed the crowd was only throwing snowballs at the crowd.
2. Said Captain Preston was standing behind his men.
  - Snowballs are no match for guns – the soldiers were armed
  - Said he heard Captain Preston order his men to fire
  - Said the crowd had clubs, but the clubs were used by rope makers for their job
  - Seemed sarcastic and testimony not serious at times

### 2. Mr. Andrew Holmes

1. Said the crowd was throwing oyster shells and ice.
2. Said that the crowd encouraged the soldiers to shoot. They yelled, “Fire, damn you, fire!” and “Fire if you dare!”
  - Admitted he was throwing things at the soldiers
  - Said he saw nearly 200 men and boys in the crowd
  - Seemed scared, intimidated to testify, but tried to answer the questions honestly

### 3. Mr. Richard Palmes

1. Said Captain Preston was standing in front his men.
2. Said that he was talking to Captain Preston when the shot was fired.
3. Said that Captain Preston did not order his men to fire their guns.
  - His coat was stained with musket fire – showed he and the Captain were in front of the soldiers
  - Said he heard shouts of fire only after the first shot was fired
  - He thought shouts of fire came from behind the soldiers, but could not swear to it

### 4. Captain Thomas Preston

1. Said he did not order his men to fire their weapons.
2. Said that he was standing in front of his men when the first shot fired
3. Said the British Private Montgomery’s gun fired after he was hit by a club and fell to the ground.
  - Private Montgomery had a cut and bruise on his face from the club
  - Believed the first shot was an accident – shot when Montgomery dropped his musket
  - Said crowd was throwing clubs, bats, and planks at the soldiers
  - Said he heard shouts of fire from the ally behind his men