

In the Honorable  
the Govno & Council sitting at Boston this 13<sup>th</sup> of the 6<sup>th</sup> 1775  
the humble petition of John West

Sheweth

That the trade of taking away such Indians, unto the Ilands for y<sup>e</sup> perpetual slaves, who  
shall yett us of blood to your mercy, is like to be an effectual glorification of the warre  
in such an exagitation of  $\gamma$ , as may be seen we know not what evil consequences, upon  
all the Land. As it hath said, blessed are the mercifull for  $\gamma$  shall obtaine mercy.  
the usage of  $\gamma$  is w<sup>o</sup>lve & death. to put to death w<sup>o</sup>lves & have colord to  $\gamma$ , is an or-  
dinance of God, & a blessing is  $\gamma$  in it. it may be done in Faith, the de-  
signe of death in these last dayes, is not to extirpate nations, but to evangelize  
as will spread the gospel round the world about. vs. 11. 18. the kingdoms of the world  
are become the kingdom of the Lord & of his Christ. his Sonnes hand, a quere  
hath brought the gospel into these dark places of the earth. when we came, we de-  
clared to the world, & it is now, you are now invited by a letters Patent  
fr<sup>o</sup> the Kings Majesty, that the endeavour of the Indians conversion, not  
their extirpation, was our great end of our enterprise, in coming to these  
parts of the earth. The Lord hath so succeeded  $\gamma$  work, as that (by his  
grace) they have the holy Scriptures, a fund of themselves able to touch  
their countrymen, the god knowledge of God. The light of the gospel is  
e<sup>o</sup> for among those  $\gamma$  set in darkness, & in the region of the shadow of death  
And howe so some of  $\gamma$  have refused to receive the gospel, & now are incensed  
in their spirits unto a warre against the English: yet by  $\gamma$  god grace  
vs. 2. 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. &c. I doubt not but the meaning of Christ is, to open a  
door for the free passage of the gospel among  $\gamma$ , & to the Lord will please  $\gamma$ , we  
vs. 6. yet have I set my hand, my anointed, on my holy hill of Syon, though some rage  
at it. My humble request is, if you would follow Christ his designe, in this matter  
to quiet the free passage of religion among  $\gamma$ , & not to distress  $\gamma$ . To send  
 $\gamma$  away fr<sup>o</sup> the light of the gospel, wh<sup>o</sup> Christ hath graciously given them,  
unto a great, a state, away of spiritual darkness, to the eternal ruine of their  
soules, is (as I apprehend) to act contrary to the mind of Christ, ~~and~~  
Gods command is, I will send my angels to enlarge the kingdom of Jesus Christ, vs. 4. 2. enlarge the  
place of thy tent. it seemeth to me, to be  $\gamma$  away fr<sup>o</sup> slaves is to hinder the  
enlargement of his kingdom. how can a Christian soule yield to act in carrying a  
way their soules, for  $\gamma$ , Christ hath, in an eminent hand guided an offer of  
the gospel. to sell soules for money seemeth to me a dangerous merchandise  
if  $\gamma$  distress to  $\gamma$ , it is far better to be put to death under Gods word, who  
will take religious care, if money may be had,  $\gamma$   $\gamma$  may, positively. to sell  
 $\gamma$  away fr<sup>o</sup> all means of grace is Christ hath guided means of grace for  
 $\gamma$ , is the way for us to be active in the distressing their soules, when we are  
highly oblig'd to save their conversion, & salvation, & have opportunity in our  
hands, to do so. And vs. 5. 6. a legitimate servant for a papen master, might  
not be delivered to his master, but to stand in  $\gamma$  fr<sup>o</sup> the good of his soule. how  
much less lawful is it to sell away soules fr<sup>o</sup> under the light of the gospel,  
into a condition where their soules will be utterly lost, so far as apprehend unto man.  
all - on (of reading) and sent the Spaniard for cruelty upon this point in distressing more  
& depopulating the land. the country is large enough, & there is land enough for them  
to live in. vs. 4. 2. in the multitude of people is the kings honour, it will be much  
to the glory of Christ, to have many brought in to worship his great name.  
I beseech the hono<sup>r</sup>able Council to pardon my boldness, & let the case of conscience  
be display'd openly before the King be acted. could my weaknesse, & wish the  
reason a religion of labors in this great act of conscience.

