

FOR FURTHER STUDY: A CLOSER LOOK AT THE NATIVE SLAVE TRADE DURING KING PHILIP'S WAR THROUGH PRIMARY SOURCE DOCUMENTS

1. At the end of 1675, Massachusetts authorities ordered a number of Native men to be sent "out of the country" into slavery. In a hearing on November 5, 1675, the magistrates offered a choice to the wives, mothers, and children of the convicted to accompany their men. *Memorandum from the Committee of the Massachusetts Court Regarding the Wives and Children of Indian Captives*, 1675.11.05.00, available at <http://jake.library.yale.edu:8080/neips/data/html/1675.11.05.00/1675.11.05.00.html>.
2. News of New England's "Indian rebellion" soon reached English shores. Sir Joseph Williamson, Charles II's great spymaster, regularly gathered information from post office officials in port towns, where a ship's captain and crews might be the first to tell of current affairs in the colonies. That one such postal officer, Morgan Lodge, shares what he learned from a New England captain with Williamson indicates that the Crown knew quite early on about the Indian slave trade. *Letter from Morgan Lodge to Sir Joseph Williamson*, 1675.11.17.00, available at <http://jake.library.yale.edu:8080/neips/data/html/1675.11.17.00/1675.11.17.00.html>.
3. The taking of English captives by Native combatants was also common during King Philip's War. Often their release was negotiated by colonial officials, as is indicated in the case of William Smeed. However, not all are as fortunate as William. The same letter indicates that slavery was on the horizon for George, an Indian from Saybrook. *Letter from John Allyn to Edmund Andros*, 1676.03.08.00, available at <http://jake.library.yale.edu:8080/neips/data/html/1676.03.08.00/1676.03.08.00.html>.
4. Orders given John Talcott by Governor William Leete regarding the prosecution of the war. *Letter from William Leete to Major John Talcott*, 1676.07.15.00, available at <http://jake.library.yale.edu:8080/neips/data/html/1676.07.15.00/1676.07.15.00.html>
5. By December of 1675, a number of the enslaved New England Indians had been brought to Cadiz in Spain, where they were sold to the English Navy, as rowers on Charles II's galley ships at Tangier or as workers in constructing the breakwater at Tangier, known as the Mole. A list of the slaves in February 1676 included ten Indian men among almost seven times their number of Moor prisoners. *A List of Slaves Belonging to His Majesty's Bagnio at Tangiers*, 1677.02.20.00, available at <http://jake.library.yale.edu:8080/neips/data/html/1677.02.20.00/1677.02.20.00.html>.
6. Although colonial authorities had a great financial interest in being in charge of the sale of captive Indians, much of the Indian slavery trade was conducted illegally. One such violator, William Waldron, was convicted of conveying away the Abanaki Indian sagamore Waron and his wife, non-combatants in the war, without government approval. This action did little to calm the tension between Indians and colonists along Massachusetts' northern frontiers. In fact, the kidnapping helped spread the war deeper through Indian country. *William Waldron's Petition to the Massachusetts Council*, 1676.08.24.00, available at <http://jake.library.yale.edu:8080/neips/data/html/1676.08.24.00/1676.08.24.00.html>
7. In July of 1676, Waron and his wife were redeemed from their captivity and brought back to New England by Captain Joseph Nash and financed by Bernard Trott, with the understanding that Trott would be reimbursed for his expenses. By 1704, the bill was still outstanding. So, Trott petitioned Joseph Dudley, the Governor of Massachusetts Bay, for payment of expenses incurred

in returning fifteen Indians who had been brought to the Azores Islands by William Waldron. *Petition of Bernard Trott to Joseph Dudley*, 1704.10.02.00, available at <http://jake.library.yale.edu:8080/neips/data/html/1704.10.02.00/1704.10.02.00.html>

#### Suggested Readings:

- Alan Galloway, ed., *Indian Slavery in Colonial America* (2009)
- Patrick M. Malone, *The Skulking War of War: Technology and Tactics Among the New England Indians* (2001)
- Margaret Ellen Newell, "The Changing Nature of Indian Slavery in New England, 1670-1720" in Colin Calloway and Neal Salisbury, eds. *Reinterpreting New England Indians and the Colonial Experience* (2003)
- Eric B. Schultz and Michael Tougas, *King Philip's War: The History and legacy of America's Forgotten Conflict* (2000)
- Jill Lepore, *The Name of War: King Philip's War and the Origins of American Identity* (1999)
- James D. Drake, *King Philip's War: Civil War in New England, 1675-1676* (1999)
- John A. Sainsbury, "Indian Labor in Early Rhode Island," *New England Quarterly* 48 (1975)

#### Suggested Video:

- *King Philip's War: The History & Legacy of Americas' Forgotten Conflict*, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jxVvD-0Jwjs>
- Colonial King Philip's War  
Part I: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UxE-o63v-A>  
Part II: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DCFIJ26EaI>  
Part III: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7GMV00QjGsM>
- *We Shall Remain: After the Mayflower* (10 parts) [King Philip's War: Episodes 8, 9] <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL7E86CD79FEA1D0F8>
- Nanepashemet interview for Kevin Costner's *500 Nations*  
Part I: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vbs\\_yX0cEsM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vbs_yX0cEsM)  
Part II: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9IbZBqd12U8>

