

1755 Phips Proclamation

By His Honour
Spencer Phips, Esq;
Lieutenant-Governour and Commander in Chief, in and over His Majesty's Province of the
Massachusetts-Bay in New-England.

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS the Tribe of *Penobscot* Indians have repeatedly in a perfidious Manner acted contrary to their solemn Submission unto His Majesty long since made and frequently renewed;

I have therefore, at the desire of the house of representatives, with the advice of his Majesty's Council, thought fit to issue this proclamation, and to declare the Penobscot Tribe of Indians to be Enemies, Rebels and Traitors to his Majesty King George the Second: And I do hereby require his Majesty's Subjects of this province to embrace all Opportunities of pursuing, captivating, killing and destroying all and every of the aforesaid Indians....

...I do hereby promise, That there shall be paid out of the Province-Treasury to all and any of the laid forces, over and above their Bounty upon Fulfillment, their Wages and Subsistence, the Premiums or Bounty following,

For every Male Indian Prisoner above the Age of Twelve Years, that shall be taken and brought to Boston, *Fifty Pounds.*

For every Male Indian Scalp, brought in as Evidence of their being killed as aforesaid, *Forty Pounds.*

For every Female Indian Prisoner, taken and brought in as aforesaid, and for every Male Indian Prisoner under the Age of Twelve Years, taken and brought in as aforesaid, *Twenty-five Pounds.*

For every Scalp of such Female Indian or Male Indian under the Twelve Years of Age, brought in as Evidence of their being killed, as aforesaid, *Twenty Pounds.*

Given at the Council-Chamber in Boston, this Third Day of November 1755, and in the Twenty-ninth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord GEORGE the Second, by the Grace of GOD of Great-Britain, France and Ireland, KING, Defender of the Faith, etc

GOD Save the KING

BOSTON : Printed by *John Draper*, Printer to his Honour the Lieutenant-Governour and Council. 1755

Signed in the Old State House on State Street (known as King Street in the colonial era), the [Phips Bounty Proclamation](#) promised payment by the colonial government for every Penobscot man, woman, and child captured, or for his or her scalp, and brought to Boston. The average annual salary of a master of school at the time was £120 and for a town treasurer, £100.



By His HONOUR

S P E N C E R P H I P S, Esq;

Lieutenant-Governor and Commander in Chief, in and over His Majesty's Province of the Massachusetts-Bay in New-England

A P R O C L A M A T I O N

WHEREAS the Tribe of *Penobscot* Indians have repeatedly in a perfidious Manner acted contrary to their solemn Submission unto His Majesty long since made and frequently renewed;

I have therefore, at the desire of the house of representatives, with the advice of his Majesty's Council, thought fit to issue this proclamation, and to declare the *Penobscot* Tribe of Indians to be Enemies, Rebels and Traitors to his Majesty King George the Second: And I do hereby require his Majesty's Subjects of this province to embrace all Opportunities of pursuing, captivating, killing and destroying all and every of the aforesaid Indians.

AND WHERE AS the General Court of this Province have voted that a Bounty or Incouragement be grated and allowed to be paid out of the Publick Treasury, to the marching Forces that shall have been employed for the Defence of the *Eastern* and *Western* Frontiers, from the *First* to the *Twenty-fifth* of this Instant *November*;

I have thought fit to publish the same; and I do hereby promise, That there shall be paid out of the Province-Treasury to all and any of the laid forces, over and above their Bounty upon Fulfillment, their Wages and Subsistence, the Premiums or Bounty following, ^{vs.}

For every Male *Penobscot* Indian above the Age of Twelve Years, that shall be taken within the Time aforesaid and brought to *Boston*, *Fifty Pounds*.

For every Scalp of a Male *Penobscot* Indian above the Age aforesaid, brought in as Evidence of their being killed as aforesaid, *Forty Pounds*.

For every Female *Penobscot* Indian taken and brought in as aforesaid, and for every Male Indian Prisoner under the Age of Twelve Years, taken and brought in as aforesaid, *Twenty-five Pounds*.

For every Scalp of such Female Indian or Male Indian under the Age of Twelve Years, that shall be killed and brought in as Evidence of their being killed as aforesaid, *Twenty Pounds*.

Given at the Council-Chamber in *Boston*, this Third Day of *November* 1755, and in the Twenty-ninth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord GEORGE the Second, by the Grace of GOD of Great-Britain, France and Ireland, KING, Defender of the Faith, etc

By His Honour's Command,

F. Willard, Secr. **S. Phips**

GOD Save the KING

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