

BOUNTY TRANSCRIPT

Speaker 1 (00:25):

Hello folks, welcome to the Old State House and to the Governor's Council Chamber. This is the oldest public building in Boston.

Speaker 2 (00:36):

I've had dreams before about our ancestors running through the woods. Didn't know what we were running from.

Speaker 3 (00:44):

I bring my children in this room because they can see these dark things, but they know that there's a real strength and resilience in our people.

Tim (00:55):

Charlie, do you understand why we're here today?

Charlie (01:28):

Because we want to be on TV.

Tim (01:33):

That has a lot to do with this proclamation here, Charlie.

Charlie (01:35):

I know.

Dawn (01:37):

So what do you think about this word right here? Perfidious.

Kaden (01:40):

He probably meant wild and dirty or horrible.

Maulian (01:47):

These orders came from the government. They were sick of our tribe resisting colonization and not following rules.

Dawn (01:54):

Most times the rules of engagement for wars and stuff like that, kids aren't supposed to be killed.

Maulian (02:01):

It's easier to feel comfortable with killing other people and wars or, and genocidal acts when you see them as less than humans.

Tim (02:10):

BOUNTY TRANSCRIPT

Well, this proclamation was written a long time ago. They declared the Penobscot people enemies.

Charlie (02:18):

And then he died?

Tim (02:19):

Yeah, a lot of our ancestors. That's why this paper exists.

Maulian (02:24):

Does it make you feel anything? Actually being here?

Carmella (02:27):

Makes me realize how resilient our people are, and how we're still here.

Speaker 2 (02:34):

A proclamation. Whereas the tribe of Penobscot Indians have in a perfidious manner acted contrary to their solemn submission unto His Majesty long since made and frequently renewed.

Tim (02:48):

I have therefore thought fit to issue this proclamation and to declare the Penobscot tribe of Indians to be enemies, rebels, and traders of His Majesty King George II.

Maulian (03:01):

And I do hereby require His Majesty subjects of this province to embrace all opportunities of pursuing captivating, killing and destroying all and every of the four aforesaid Indians.

Kaden (03:17):

For every male Penobscot Indian above the age of 12 years old, 50 pounds.

Dawn (03:25):

In today's money that's \$12,000.

Carmella (03:29):

For every scalp of a male Penobscot Indian above the age of aforesaid, brought in as evidence of their being killed as aforesaid, 40 pounds.

Tim (03:38):

For every female Penobscot Indian taken and brought in as aforesaid, 25 pounds.

Layla (03:45):

For every sculpt, scalp of such female, Indian or male Indian under the age of 12 years, that shall be killed and brought in as evidence of their being killed, as aforesaid, 25 pounds. 20 pounds in what?

BOUNTY TRANSCRIPT

Maulian (04:03):

Pounds is like dollars.

Layla (04:07):

I'd be sold?

Maulian (04:08):

Yep. They had trading posts where people would bring bags of these scalps, or they would bring bodies of Penobscot people, and they would tally them up just like if they were animal skins, and they would get money for them.

Layla (04:23):

You would sell me?

Maulian (04:24):

I wouldn't sell you. The government told the colonist to go do this.

Dawn (04:27):

A female Penobscot Indian was worth half as much as a man. That's patriarchy right there.

Maulian (04:36):

We weren't seen as people, we were seen as animals basically in that you could quantify based on the size of us.

Dawn (04:45):

There was this study they put these mice into mazes. They traumatized them by giving them an electrical shock. But before they issued the electrical shock, they sprayed orange blossom scent. What the scientist found was that those mice who had been traumatized, their kids and their grandkids and their great grandkids, all had the same traumatic response to orange blossom, even though they had never been given an electrical shock with it. The memory of being hunted like this is in our blood, and it still scares us.

Maulian (05:36):

This proclamation which is essentially a call to exterminate the Penobscot people through hunting and scalping and murdering was signed in this very room that we are sitting in.

Speaker 2 (06:34):

They tried to bury us, but they didn't know that we were seeds.

Dawn (06:42):

Anybody got a lighter?

BOUNTY TRANSCRIPT

Dawn (06:46):

(Singing)