

inalienable, and never to be purchas'd out of their Hands, than which nothing could more demonstrate the Colony's Care and Concern for the Natives.

I thought my self oblig'd to make this Preface to the main Argument, that I might wipe off an unworthy Asperſion that has been caſt on the firſt Settlers of *New-England*, that they never treated the Savages well, but encroach'd on their Land by Degrees, till they fraudently and forcibly turn'd them out of all. It was far otherwiſe, as I have ſhown; yet nothing could oblige the *Indians* to Peace and Friendſhip. They were alarm'd with the ſtrong Jealouſies of the growing Power of the *Engliſh*, and therefore began a War with a Reſolution to extirpate them, before they had too well eſtabliſh'd themſelves. Yet as terrible as this Proſpect was to two or three young Colonies, who had work enough to defend themſelves againſt Famine, which in a cold barren Country, ſurrounded with Enemies, ſtar'd them in the Face, they nevertheleſs made no Application to the Crown for Aſſiſtance, but drew up Articles of Confederacy among themſelves, by the Name of the *United Colonies of New-England*, for their mutual Defence. This done, they took the Number of all the Males in the ſeveral Plantations, and raiſing a Poll Tax according to each Perſons reſpective Ability, they with one Conſent laid aſide their Ploughſhares and Pruning Hooks for the Sword and the Spear, and under the Command of Major-Generals, whom they choſe after the manner then in *England*, march'd directly to the Enemy's Head Quarters, and ſtrongeſt Fortifications, from whence they drove them with great Precipitation. Nor did they ſtop there, but purſu'd them through all their Receſſes, 'till they oblig'd them to enter into a ſolemn Treaty of Peace. Such however was the perfidious Nature of the *American* Savages, that they ſoon renew'd the Hoſtilities, tho' to their own fatal Coſt. For if the *Engliſh* experienc'd a Variety of Fortune, as could not but be expected in the Viciffitudes of War, yet they were for the moſt part Victorious, and in the Courſe of ſome Years, after many terrible Slaughters of the Enemy, ſubdu'd and utterly extirpated Seven or Eight fierce and populous Nations.

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