

“ Still, Mr. Flint calls to the man to do his office. So before and in the time of his pulling of my clothes, I continued speaking, telling them that I had so learned that for all Boston I would not give my body into their hands thus to be bruised upon another account, yet upon this I would not give the hundredth part of a wampum peague† to free it out of their hands, and that I made as much conscience of unbuttoning a button as I did of paying the 30*l.* in reference thereunto. I told them, moreover, the Lord having manifested his love towards me in giving me repentance towards God and faith in Jesus Christ, and so to be baptized in water by a messenger of Jesus Christ into the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, wherein I have fellowship with him in his death, burial, and resurrection, I am now come to be baptized in afflictions by your hands, that so I may have further fellowship with my Lord, and I am not ashamed of his sufferings, for by his stripes am I healed. And as the man began to lay the strokes upon my back, I said to the people, though my flesh should fail, and my spirit should fail, yet God will not fail. So it pleased the Lord to come in and so to fill my heart and tongue as a vessel full, that with an audible voice I brake forth praying unto the Lord, not to lay this sin to their charge; and telling the people, that now I found he did not fail me, and therefore now I should trust him forever who failed me not; for in truth, as the strokes fell upon me I had such a spiritual manifestation of God’s presence as the like thereto I never had nor felt, nor can with fleshy tongue express, and the outward pain was so removed from me that, indeed, I am not able to declare it to you; it

“ indulgency of tender-hearted friends, without my consent, and contrary to my judgment, the sentence and condemnation of the court of Boston (as is reported), have been fully satisfied on my behalf, and thereupon a warrant hath been procured by which I am secluded the place of my imprisonment, by reason whereof I see no other call at present but to my habitation, and to those near relations which God hath given me there; yet, lest the cause should hereby suffer, (which I profess in Christ), I would hereby signify, that if yet it shall please the honored magistrates or general court of the colony to grant my former request under their secretary’s hand I shall cheerfully embrace it, and, upon your motion shall, through the help of God, come from the island to attend it, and hereunto I have subscribed my name 11th d. 6th m., 1651. JOHN CLARK.”

† A kind of money current among the Indians, value one-sixth of a penny.