Transcription

Pamlico the 23th of 9ber [September] 1699
Articles of agreement made & concluded
on by & between Daniel Akehurst Caleb
Calloway Thomas Blount & Henry Slade
of on parte in behalfe of the Goverment of
North Carolina & Sothell King of the Bear
River Indians [of the Bear] with his Great men on
behalfe of the sa[id] nation of the other [222]
[222] Part as followeth

1ly The sa[id] Indians shall at all times if they are
accused by any English men or Indians of
Murdering any of the Kings Subjects they
shall send the said Indians soe accused
in to the English Goverment or to sum office
or to answer the sa[id] Accusation.

2ly If any shipp or vessell shall be Cast away on
any shore & any of the men shall be found
that have escaped the seae they shall
releive them with Provisions & Cunduct them
to sum English Plantation for which they shall
ha[ve a matchcoat reward for each man soe
page torn conducted & what Goods they find on the Sea Shore.

[torn they] shall deliver to the English Goverment & they
[torn shall a]llow them reasonable salvage for the same.

[torn 3rdly. As to the]goods they can take up that are ruin &
torn for all they] shall bring into the English as aleged the

Reflect & Discuss

There are multiple versions of this document online, which may help in deciphering the missing portions of text from this damaged copy. How might you find a full transcription from a reliable source?

A matchcoat is rectangular piece of cloth or animal skin wrapped around the body and usually fastened with a belt (image).
Interactions between Colonists and Native Americans: Articles of Agreement, 1699

[torn] or vessel in which they are & Goods
[torn] shall have a Match Coat for each
[torn man] taken up.

[torn 4thly. The In]dians shall at all times assist the
[torn] English in all trouble with all Indians as shall offer,
[torn are not to fight again]st the English or any Indians
[torn who fight with them.

5ly. The said king or sum of his Great men shall
yearly & every year make their appearance
at the Genirall Corte to be holden in July & then
& their pay to pair of skins as a tribute to the [E]
English Goverment

King Sothell
Signum
Mathews
Signum
Edmund Welly
Signum
Capt[ain] Gibbs
Signum

This document lists many benefits for the English. What benefits did the Indians receive? Why might they have made this agreement?

According to part 4 of this agreement, the Bear River Indians must fight any other tribe that opposes the English. What could be the effect of the English pitting different tribes against one another?

Consider that Native Americans had no written language before contact with European colonists. What might it mean for King Sothell to sign this document?

What do you think the penalty might be if either the Indians or the English broke this agreement?

Source: Colonial Court Record 194, box 1, Folder 12 Concerning Native Americans. State Archives of North Carolina. Call no. SR.401.6. Digital ID CCR_194_B1F12_Concerning_Native_Americans_1697_1769_078.