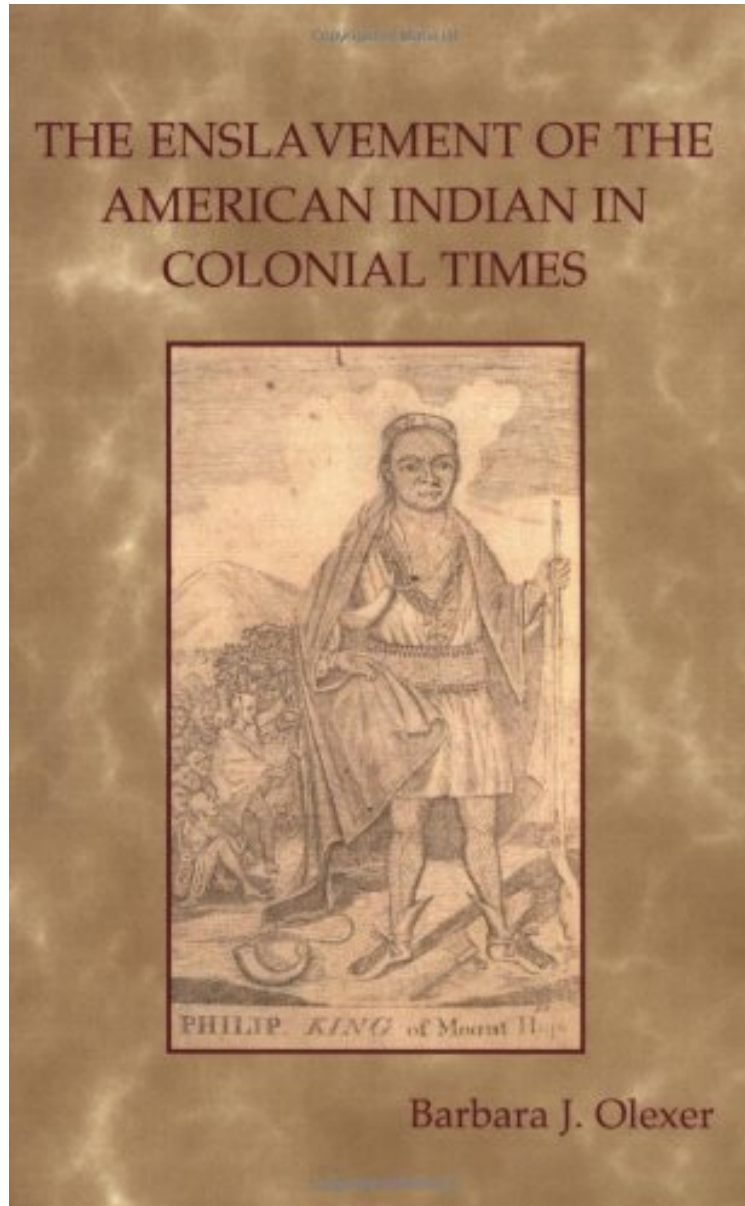


(Download) The Enslavement of the American Indian in Colonial Times

The Enslavement of the American Indian in Colonial Times

Barbara J. Olexer

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Barbara J. Olexer : The Enslavement of the American Indian in Colonial Times before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Enslavement of the American Indian in Colonial Times:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. An enlightening look at an oft-ignored subject!By Kelly GarbatoIn

THE ENSLAVEMENT OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN IN COLONIAL TIMES, author Barbara J. Olexer examines the subject of American Indian slavery. While she does trace the roots of American Indian slavery back as far as 1013, her discussion primarily focuses on the colonial period, particularly the 1600s and 1700s. THE ENSLAVEMENT OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN... offers an illuminating look at what, sadly, is a little-known subject. Given the dearth of books on this topic, Ms. Olexer's tome makes a welcome addition to the existing literature. Starting with the Norsemen's "discovery" of America in the tenth century, THE ENSLAVEMENT OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN... explores the topic of American Indian slavery. What started as the kidnappings of individual American Indians eventually escalated into an American Indian slave trade, albeit on a smaller scale than the African slave trade. The trade reached its height during the 17th and 18th centuries, but had largely ceased by the 1780s. The reasons for the American Indian slave trade were many. Commonly, colonists instigated warfare between already unfriendly tribes, as a means of weakening their enemies as well as obtaining American Indian slaves "legally." Additionally, trading in American Indian slaves was another tool with which to rob the Indians of their land. American Indians were often tricked into slavery, ambushed by unscrupulous colonists, or simply kidnapped and "exported." By the end of the Revolutionary War, however, American Indian populations were decimated to such a degree that slavery was no longer necessary. Nor was it profitable; Africans were more plentiful and made for more obedient and resilient slaves. THE ENSLAVEMENT OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN... covers both the scale of and the reasons underlying the American Indian slave trade. The book is divided into eleven chapters: It Began as Kidnapping; The Pilgrims and the Pequots; King Philip's War; The French in Canada; The English and the Westo; The Traders and the Neophytes; The Tuscarora and Yamasse Wars; The End of the Trade in Carolina; The French in Louisiana; The French and the Natchez; and Conclusion. As you can see from the chapter titles, Ms. Olexer looks at the French as well as the English settlers, and also examines Spanish-Indian relations. A number of American Indian groups make an appearance, including the Huron, Eskimo, Pequot, Narragansett, Saconnet, Nipmuc, Mohegan, Iroquois, Seneca, Tuscarora, Westo, Powhatan, Catawba, Chowan, Yamasse, Cherokee, Creek, Chickasaw, Waccamaw, Natchez, Sauk and Fox tribes, as well as the Wampanoag Federation and the Five Nations. Geographically, the discussion concentrates on the north- and south-east of the United States. Several chapters are devoted to the Carolina region in particular. Although schools and scholars are finally beginning to acknowledge our forbearers' brutal treatment of the Americas' original inhabitants, the subject of American Indian slavery still merits little attention. Indeed, I don't recall learning of the topic at all during elementary, junior, or high school. Unfortunately, few books exist that tackle this significant topic. Barbara Olexer's THE ENSLAVEMENT OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN... helps to fill this void, and makes a great addition to the history buff's bookshelf. It's a must-read for anyone interested in the American Indian experience or the history of slavery. An added bonus: the author donates a portion of the proceeds to the National Museum of the American Indian. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Essential Reading in American History By Phillip A. Nickel Barbara J. Olexer's book, THE ENSLAVEMENT OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN IN COLONIAL TIMES, should be required reading in our school's American History classes. She tracks the long interaction between 'new world' explorers/settlers and various Indian tribes east of the Rocky Mountains; often providing information of later (seventeenth century) anti-Indian action and current remaining Native groups. Her discourse, based upon extensive research, paints a comprehensive picture of the actual aspects of European's relationship with Indians, beginning with the "Norsemen's discovery of America in the tenth century." Previously, the record of our country's background of Indian mistreatment has been ignored; or twisted to give an acceptable perspective of the struggle by so-called civilized newcomers against the indigenous population who were called "savages", "barbarous enemies" who, like others would, fought to protect their lives and livelihood, their culture and religious ways. By using quotes from both sides obtained from various archives, Barbara reveals the real savages with the attitude "that it appears visibly that God wishes that they yield their place to new peoples." These Indian nations and tribes who were to 'yield' revered nature, had social structure, were peaceful, content, helpful and generous. One firsthand observation came from a colonist captured and released: "There was never any lack of food...they shame the Christians; are more generous...they keep their word exactly as promised. They are not avaricious, not so haughty, do not quarrel quickly. Among the young, also, I did not notice anything improper." This book is vital in establishing a true record of our nation's colonial past and early westward expansion. Phillip A. Nickel. Ph. D. mynickelsworth5@aol.com 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Amazing Tribal History By Ruby Doyle Olexer does a good job of reporting the Pequot War, King Phillip's War, and the numerous Indian wars that followed. At times my reading was impeded because I kept shaking my head, thinking, "This is amazing, why didn't I ever hear about the Indian slave trade before?" One special feature of the book that I liked is that she gives a brief (very brief) account of the many tribes that are still extant. A lot of them are prospering and some are flourishing. The Pequots, for instance, after being reduced to three survivors on their reservation, have recovered sufficiently to have donated fifty million dollars to the new National Museum of the American Indian.

A nonfiction account of how the colonists, in what is now the eastern and southern United States and Canada, used enslavement as a weapon of war in an effort to destroy the Indian nations and obtain the land for their own use. The

practice began before Columbus kidnapped Indians to take to Spain and continued until about the end of the Revolutionary War. The English, Dutch, French, and Spanish colonists all employed enslavement of Indians as a policy.

About the Author Barbara J. Olexer has written more than twenty books and screenplays. She is a fourth-generation Oregonian; her formative years were spent in small farming towns and a backwoods logging camp. Barbara's life has been a tapestry of changes as she has lived and worked in some of the country's biggest cities, such as San Francisco, Hollywood, Baltimore, and Washington, D.C. Her heart remains in rural Oregon. While her two grown sons and five grandchildren live in Oregon, Barbara lives in Columbia, Maryland with her husband and pug dog, Chad.