

<b>Title:</b>	The Dying speeches of several Indians.
<b>Rights/Permissions:</b>	To the extent possible under law, the Text Creation Partnership has waived all copyright and related or neighboring rights to this keyboarded and encoded edition of the work described above, according to the terms of the CC0 1.0 Public Domain Dedication ( <a href="http://creativecommons.org/publicdomain/zero/1.0/">http://creativecommons.org/publicdomain/zero/1.0/</a> ). This waiver does not extend to any page images or other supplementary files associated with this work, which may be protected by copyright or other license restrictions. Please go to <a href="http://www.textcreationpartnership.org/">http://www.textcreationpartnership.org/</a> for more information.
<b>Print source:</b>	<i>The Dying speeches of several Indians.</i> Eliot, John, 1604-1690, tr. [Cambridge, Mass.: Printed by Samuel Green?, ca. 1685]
<b>Subject terms:</b>	Indians of North America -- Massachusetts -- Missions.
<b>URL:</b>	<a href="http://name.umdl.umich.edu/N00266.0001.001">http://name.umdl.umich.edu/N00266.0001.001</a>
<b>How to cite:</b>	For suggestions on citing this text, please see <a href="#">Citing the TCP</a> on the Text Creation Partnership website.

[The Dying speeches of several Indians. \(umich.edu\)](#)

The Dying Speeches of several Indians.  
By John Eliot ca. 1685

**Here be But a few of the Dying Speeches  
& Counsels Of such *Indians* as dyed in the Lord.**

It is an humbling to me that these be no more, it was not in my heart to gather them, but Major *Gookins* hearing some of them rehearsed, He first moved that *Daniel* should gather them, in the Language as they were spoken, and that I should translate them into English; And here is presented what was done that way.

These things are Printed, not so much for Publishment, as to save charge of writeing out of Copyes for those that did desiere them. *John Eliot*.

**Waban.**

Waban was the first that received the Gospel, our first meeting was at his house; the next time we meet, he had gathered a great Company of his friends to hear the Word, in the which he hath been stedfast. When we framed our selves in Order in way of Government, he was chosen a Ruler of *fifty*, he hath approved him selfe to be a good Christian in Church Order, and in Civil Order, he hath approved himselfe to be a Zealous, faithfull and stedfast Ruler to his death.

*His speech as followeth,*

I now rejoyce though I be now a dying, great is my affection in this world, but I hope that God doth so afflict me, only to try my praying to God in this world whether it be true and strong or not, but I hope God doth gently call me to Repentance, and to prepare to come unto him; therefore He layeth on me great pain and affliction, though my body be almost broken by sickness, yet I desire to *remember thy name* Oh my God, untill I dy I remember those words *Job* 19.23, to 28. *Oh that my, words were now written, oh that they were printed in a book that they were graven with an iron pen and lead in a rock for ever. For I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth. And though after my skin, has been destroyed this body, yet in my flesh I will see God. &c.*

I desire not to be troubled about matters of this world, a little I am troubled,  
I desire you all my brethren

and you also my children, do not greatly weep and mourn for me in this world, I am now almost dying, but see that you do strongly pray to God, and do you also prepare and make ready to die, for every one of you must come to dying: Therefore confess your sins, every one of you, and believe in Jesus Christ, I believe that which is written in the Book of God Consider truly, and repent and believe: Then God will pardon all your great and many sins.

God can pardon all your sins as easily as one, for God's free mercy and glory do fill all the world. God will on no wise forget those that in this world do sincerely repent and believe: Very truly this is love Oh my God.

Therefore I know that God will do this for me, though in my body I have pain: As for those that died afore times. I have no hope about them, now I believe in God in ... Heaven: and there in Heaven are many believers some being. Therefore I pray you do not overmuch grieve for me, when I die in this world, but make ready your selves ready to die, and follow me, and there we shall see each other in Eternal glory, in this world we live but a little while; therefore we must be always preparing, that we may be ready to die.

Therefore Oh my God, I humbly pray, receive my Soul by thy free mercy in Jesus Christ my Saviour and Redeemer, for Christ hath died for me and for all sins in this world committed.

My great God hath given me long..., and therefore I now am willing to die.

*Oh Jesus Christ help my soul and save me soul, I believe that my sickness doth not arise out of the dust, nor cometh at peradventure but God sendeth it.*  
Joh. 5, 6, 7.

By this sickness God calleth me to repent of all my sins, and to believe in Christ, now I confesse my selfe a great sinner, Oh pardon me and helpe me for Christ his sake.

Lord thou callest me with a double calling sometimes by Prosperity and mercy, sometimes by affliction. And now thou callest me by sickness, but let me not forget thee Oh my God. For those that forget thy Name, thou wilt forsake them, As *Psalm. 9.17. All that forget God shall be cast to Hell*, therefore let not me forget thee Oh my God.

I give my soul to thee Oh my Redeemer Jesus Christ: Pardon all my sins & deliver me from Hell: Oh doe thou help me against death, and then I am willing to dy: and when I dy Oh helpe me and receive me.

*in so saying he dyed.*

### **Piambohou,**

HE was the Second man next *Waban*, that received the *Gospel*, he brought with him to the second meeting at *Wabans house* many, when we formed them into *Government*, he was chosen Ruler of ten, when the Church at *Hassenamessut* as gathered, he was called to be a Ruler then in that Church, when that was scattered by the *warr*, they came back to *Natick* Church, so many as survived, and at *Natick* he dyed.

*His speech as followeth,*

I rejoyce and am content and willing to take up my sorrows and sicknesse: many are the years of my life: long have I lived, therefore now *I* look to dy. But I desire to prepare my self to dy well. *I* beleive Gods promise, that he will forever save all that belive in Jesus Christ. Oh Lord Jesus helpe me, deliver me and save my soul from Hell, by thine own bloud, which thou hast shed for me,

when thou didest dy for me, and for all my sins: Now helpe me sincerely to confesse all my sins, Oh pardon all my sins: I ... beg in the Name of Jesus Christ, a pardon for all my sins: for thou Oh Christ, are my Redeemer and deliverer, Now I hear Gods word and I doe rejoyce in what I hear, ... not see, yet I hear and rejoyce that God hath confirmed for as a minister in this Church of *Natek*, he is our watchman. And ... you people deal well with him, both *men*, *women* and *children*, hear him every *Sabbath* day, and make strong your praying to God, and all you of *Hassonamessut*, restore your Church and praying to God there.

Oh Lord helpe me to make ready to dy, and then recieve my soul, I hope I shall dy well by the help of Jesus Christ: Oh Jesus Christ deliever and save my soul in everlasting life in heaven, for I doe hope thou art my Saviour. Oh Jesus Christ.

*so he dyed.*

## **Old Jacob,**

*HE* was among the first that Prayed to God, he had so good a *memory*, that he could rehearse the whole *Catechize*, both Questions and Answers, when he gave thanks at meat, he would sometimes only pray the *Lords Prayer*.

*His speech as followeth,*

MY Brethren: now hear me a few words, stand fast all you people in your praying to God, according to that word of God 1 *Cor.* 16.13. *Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men and be strong in the Lord.* Especially you that are *Rulers* and *Teachers*: Fear not the face of man, when you judg in a Court together, help one another, agree together: Be not divided one against another, remember the parable of ten brethren that held together, they could not be broken, nor overcome: but when they divided one against another, then they were easily overcome: and all you that are Rulers, judg right judgment, *for you doe not judg for man, but for God in your Courts.* 2 *Chron.* 19.6, 7. Therefore judg in the fear of God.

Again, You that are judges, see that ye have not only humane wisdom, for mans wisdom is in many things contrary to the wisdom, of God counting it to be foolishnesse. Doe not judg that right, which only seemeth to be tight, and consider *Matt.* 7.1- 2. *Judg right, and God will be with you, when you so die.*

Again I say to you all the people, make strong your pray|ing to God, and be constant in it. 1 *Thes.* 5.17. *Pray continually.*

Again Lastly I say to you *Daniel* our Minister be strong in your work. As *Matt.* 5.14.16. *You must bring Light into the world, and make it to shine, that all may see your good work, and glorify your heavenly Father.*

Every preacher that maketh strong his work, doth bring precious perles: As *Matt.* 13.52. *And thou shalt have everlasting life in so doing.*

I am neer to Death, I have lived long enough, I am about 90 years old, I now desire to dy, in the presence of Christ. Oh Lord I commit my soul to thee.

**Antony.**

*HE* was among the first that Prayed to God, he was studious to read the *Scriptures* and his *Catechise*, so that he learned to be a Teacher, but after the *warrs*, he became a lover of strong drink, was often admonished, and finally cast out from being a Teacher.

*His dying speeches follow,*

I am a sinner, I doe now confesse it, I have long prayed to God, but it hath been like an *Hipocrite*: thô I was a confessing church member, yet like an *Hipocrite*, then I was a *Teacher* yet like a backsliding *Hipocrite*, I was after drunk, Love of strong drink is a lust I could not over come; thô the Church did often admonish me, and I confessed, and they forgive me, yet I fell againe to the same sin, the *Major Gookins* and Mr. *Eliot* often admonished me: *I* confessed, thay were willing to forgive me, yet I fell againe.

Now Death calls for me, and I desire to prepare to dy well. I say to you *Daniel*, beware that you, love not strong drink as I did, and was therby undone. Strengthen your Teaching in and by the word of God; take heed that you defile not your work, as I did, for I defiled by Teaching by Drunkenesse.

Againe I say to you my Children, forsake not praying to God, goe not to strange places, where thay pray not to God, but strongly pray to God as long as you live: both you and your Children.

Now I desire to dy well, thô I have been a sinner, I remember that word that saith, that thô your sins be many and great, yet God will pardon the penitent, by Jesus Christ our Redeemer Oh Lord save me ... diliver me



by Jesus Christ, in whom I beleive: send thy *Angels* when I dy, to bring my poor soul to thee, and save my poor sinfall soul in thy heavenly Kingdom.

## **Nehemiah.**

THis very hopefull young man was going out to hunt, with a companion, who fell out with him, and stabbed him mortally, and killed him. *A little was gathered up spoken by him, as followeth;*

I am ready to dy now, but know not of it even now when I went out of my dore; I was only going to hunt: but a wicked man hath killed me, I see that word is true, *He that this well to day, may be dead to morrow, He that laughed yester day, may sorrow to day.*

My misery overtook me in the woods. *No man knoweth the day and time, when his misery cometh.*

Now I desire patiently to take up my crosse and misery. I am but a man, and must feel the crosse. Oh Christ Jesus help me, thou ... my Redeemer, my Saviour, and my deliverer: I confesse my selfe a sinner; Lord Jesus pardon all my sins, by thy own blood, when thou dyedest for us, O Christ Jesus save me from Hell: Save my soul in heaven, Oh help me, help me.

*so he dyed, the wicked murderer is fled.*

**John Owussumug sen.**

*HE* was a young man when they began to pray to *God*, he did not at the present joyn with them, he would say to me, I will first see into it, and when I understand it, I will answer you, he did after a while enter into the *Civil Covenant*, but was not entered into the *Church Covenant* before he dyed, he was propounded to joyn to the *Church*, but was delayed, he being of a quick passionat temper, some witty littigations prolonged it, till his sickness, but had he recovered, the Church was satisfied to have received him ... finished well.

*His speech as followeth,*

NOw I must shortly dy. I desired that I might live, I sought for mediens to cure me, I went to every English doctor, at *DadXam*, *MeXfeilX*, *Concord*, but none could cure me, in this world.

But Oh Jesus Christ, doe thou heal my soul, now I am in great paine, I have no hope of living in this world a whole year I have been afflicted: I could not goe to the Publick Sabbath worship to hear Gods word; I did greatly love to goe to the Sabbath worship.

Therefore I now say to all you *men*, *women* and *childrens* love much, and greatly to keep the Sabbath. I have been, now long hindred from it, and ... I ... all, my ... & children ... among ...

Love and Obey the Rulers, and submit unto their judgment, hear diligently your menisters: be obedient to *Major Gookins* and to *Mr. Eliot*, and *Daniel*.

I as now almost dead, and I exhort you strongly to love each other, be at ..., and be ready to forgive each ....

I desire now rightly to prepare my self to dy, for God hath given me warning a whole year, by ly sicknesse, I ... I am a ...: my heart was proud, and therby all ... were in my heart, I knew that by birth I was a ... I ..., and *Xart*, and *pXougX* like an *English man*, and by all these things my heart was proud.

Now God calleth me to repentance, by my sicknesse this whole year. Oh Christ Jesus help me, that according as I make my ..., So through thy grace I may obtaine a pardon of all my sins: for thou Lord Jesus didest dy for us, to deliver us from sin. I feare and believe, that thou hast dyed for many: Therefore I desire to cast away all worldly hindrances, my *Lands* and *Goods*, I cast them by, they cannot help me now, I desire truely to prepare to dy: My sons, I hope Christ will help me to dy well: Now I call you my souls, but in heaven we shall all be Brethren, this I learned in the *Sabbath worship*, all miserys in this world upon Believers. ... only joy and blessing in Jesus Christ: Therefore Oh Christ Jesus help me in all my miserys, and deliver me for I trust in thee, and save my soul in thy heavenly kingdom, now behold me and looke upon me who am dying.

*so he dyed.*

## **John Speen.**

*HE* was among the first that prayed to God, he was a diligent Reader, he became

a *Teacher*, and carried well for diverse yeares, untill the Sin of strong drink did infect us, and then he was so farr infected with it, that he was deservdly layd aside from Teaching, *His last speeches were as followeth.*

NOW I dy, I desire you all my friends, forgive him thXXXurt me, for the word of God saith in *Matthew 6.3, 4: For give them that have done you wrong, and your heavenly Father will forgive you, but if you doe not forgive them, your heavenly Father will not forgive you,* Therefore I intreat you all my friends, forgive ... that did me wrong, (for *John NXXusquXXit* beat him and hurt him much a little before his sicknes) now I desire to dy well, now I confess all my sins, I am a sinner, especially I loved strong drink too well, and Some times I was mad drunke, though I was a *Teacher*, I did offend against praying to God, and Spoyled my *Teaching*; all these my sins and drunkenness Oh I pray you all forgive me, Oh Jesus Christ help me now and deliver my soule, and help me that I may not go to Hell, for thou O Christ art my deliverer and Saviour, Oh God help me, Lord though I am a sinner, Oh Lord do not forget me.

*and so he dyed.*

### **Black James.**

*HE* was in former times, reputed by the *English* to be a *Pawaw*, but I cannot tel,

this, I know he renounced and repented of all his former *wayes*, and desired to come to *Christ*, and pray to *God*, and died well, as appears *in what followeth*.

NOw I Say, I almost dy, but you all my sons, and all you that pray at *ChabanXkongkoXXk* take heed, that you leave not off to pray to God, for praying to God is exceeding good, for praying to God is the way that will bring you to the heavenly kingdom; I belive in Christ, and we must follow his Steps.

Especially you my sons, beware of drunkenness, I desire you may Sand fast in my room, and Rule well, I almost now dead, and I desire to dy well, Oh Lord Jesus Christ help me, and deliver my Soul to dy well.

*so he dyed.*

FINIS.