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Selection of Brill's new history primary source project started in London's National Archives

5. October 2011 - 14:13 | Admin

On Monday October 3rd, when the population of Leiden was celebrating its liberation from the Spanish oppressors, former Brill trainee Sanne Muurling started selecting documents from the Prize Papers of the High Court of Admiralty. She was courteously received by officials of The National Archives in Kew (London). The project, which aims to digitize thousands of handwritten interrogations of 17th and 18th century sailors captured by British privateers and Navy, to be offered as a Brill online product in the near future, was initiated by Marti Huetink and Perry Moree (the latter took Sanne's picture). These unpublished primary sources are of the highest importance to research on (amongst others) maritime history, migration studies and social and economic history. The papers also contain an unsurpassed amount of new historical data on ships from the United States during their War of Independence, and also from other nations conquered by British sea power.



