

To His Excellency Joseph Dudley Esq.<sup>r</sup> Capt Genera[ *torn* ]  
 and Governour in Chief in and over her Majesties~  
 Province of the Maffachufetts Bay And To the Hono.<sup>ble</sup> the  
 Council and House of Representatives now in General Court  
 afsembled May 26<sup>th</sup>. 1708/~

The Humble Petition of James Coffin Esq.<sup>r</sup> in  
 behalf of the English Inhabitants & Proprietors of  
 the Island of Nantuckett.

Sheweth

That Whereas by an order of this Great and Generall Court  
 now about give years since viz.<sup>t</sup> 1703. there was a Committee  
 appointed to hear the severall Claims of fundry Indians to Land  
 upon Nantuckett Marthas Vineyard xtc and upon hearing the pleaf  
 and allegations of both English and Indians concerned; they made  
 their Report as more at large will appear by a Copy thereof  
 hereto annexed, and (among other things) reported That as  
 concerning the Conteft between the fachems and English on Nantu[ *torn* ]  
 ett ab.<sup>t</sup> food of Cattle It appears to us by Deeds that the English  
 have purchased the Herbage of Jophtha spotts, and Wawinnett  
 fachems share; And that the Will or Writing produced by the [ *torn* ]  
 Indians to prove the former Conveyance of it to them by their f[ *illegible* ][ *torn* ]  
 the Enquired into the truth of it, and found by the Confefcion of the  
 fcribe that Wrote It, And by other the witnesses that they did not  
 agree neither to the time nor place where it was Writt (together  
 with other <sup>^of their</sup> papers) which gives us Caufe to believe that they were  
 not true but falfe<sup>2</sup> & forged<sup>1</sup>.

But now for as much as the f<sup>d</sup> Report altho returned in  
 to the General Court, hath never yet had the approbation & Confirmation –  
 of the f<sup>d</sup> Court,

Yo<sup>r</sup> Petitioner therefore now humbly prays the favor  
 that the f<sup>d</sup> Report may b Accepted Ratify[ *torn* ]  
 by this Great & General Court or Afsembly.

And yo<sup>r</sup>: Petitioner (as in duty bound) fhall  
 ever pray xtc/

James Coffin

In Council:

24<sup>th</sup>. June. 1708

Read and sent down.

June 16: 1708. Read

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[verso:

In the Houfe of Reprefentatives.  
June 25: 1708. Read &  
Ordered That the Praier of the Petition be Granted

Sent up for Concurrence.      Thomas Oliver fpeaker

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