

To His Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq^r: Cap^t: General, Govern^r
 our, &c. and to the Honourable his Maj^{ty}: Council, and Houfe
 of Representatives in General Court afsembled --- ---

The humble Petition of us the Subscribers, Indian Inhabitants
 of Okokamy or Christian-Town, humbly sheweth

That whereas we your Petitioners, being with others Proprietors of S^d Town,
 are very much aggrieved by several ill disposed Persons among us, who cut down, and
 fell off large Quantities of the Wood growing on s^d: Lands, without any Order first
 legally obtained of s^d. Proprietors, and to their great Grief and Disturbance,
 there being a Prospect, that if a Stop be not seasonably put to the ill Practice
 above expressed, it will prove the Ruin of our Town, not only because we are
 like in a few Years, if this Trade goes on, to have no Fire-Wood and Fencing. Stuff
 left for our Use; but also because a great Part of fst Wood and Timber is con=
 verted into strong Drink, and brought about to the great Hurt of our People
 And this being a Matter we cannot see any way to prevent, and our Land
 not being dividable as other Properties commonly are, we therefore, your -----
 Petitioners do humbly pray, that Your Excel^{cy} and Y^r: Hono^{rs} would take
 our Case into your wise Consideration, and do as in your great Wisdom you
 may think proper and expedient: and if it may be, put a Stop to a
 Practice so grievous and prejudicial to us and our Neighbours. _____

At least we pray that if nothing else can be done at present, Your
 Excel^{cy} and your Hono^{rs} would please to put a Stop to the cutting and
 carrying away any more of our Wood, till there can be some Hearing of our
 Case in our Court at the Fall Sessions; for we perceive there is a Design to
 cut and carry off some Hundreds of Cords besides the vast Quantities that
 have already been carried away. --- If Your Excel^{cy} and Yo^r Hono^{rs} shall
 Please to give us, Yo^r humble Petitioners hereunto subscribing, some
 Relief in this our difficult Case, we, as in Duty bound, shall
 ever pray &c. -----

Elizapeth ombny	Zachriah hoswet	ye mark of	the mark of
Repakah Hunnet	Joseph ongrat	Ruth Qunhet	Jed supofen
	pash ombny	Thomas Samson	Sam ^{ll} ompany
	Nead Chommok	obediah nonaunit ^s	Amof Janoscfo Juner
	Dorrity benter	y ^e mark of	David cape
	John kerotommau	moses Charles	Samuel Speofin Juner
	Rachel Chrles	Isaac micah ^{fener}	John Robin
	[tear]ngmon Toby	Samuel Soopofin ^r	Solomon Ned
	[tear]rulha Toby	Dannel So[tear]ofin	
		hannah [tear]	

[verso:

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In Council July 23. 1741; Read & In answer to this Petition

Ordered that all Persons whatsoever be & hereby are forbidden from Cutting, Felling or Destroying or carrying off any of the Timber, Trees, or Wood growing ^{or being} on the common & undivided Land within the Town called Okakamy or Christian Town in the Island of Marthas Vineyard, Excepting the Indian Proprietors of the said Land, & then only for their own Use. And John Allen

as Agents in the name & behalf of the said Proprietors

Esq. & Mr. William Tilton are hereby authorized and impowered to prosecute in the Law all Persons that shall cut fell or destroy or carry off any of the said Timber, Trees, or Wood, contrary to the true Intent of this Order. Sent down for Concurrence J. Willard Secty.

In the House of Rep^{ts} Aug^t. 4. 1741

Read and concur'd

J Hobson Spkr

Consented to

J Belcher

Indians Petition
1741.

Indian [faded]
of Christian [faded]
Pet [faded]
Aug. 4. 1741

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