

Stonington, N^o Parish 15. March
1757—

To the Hon^{le} & Rev^d
Commissioners for Indian
Affairs, in Boston -- }

Gentlemen,

In this Society, about Four Miles from my Dwelling house, and Three from our Meeting House, there is a small Indian Town consisting of Sixteen Houses & Wigwams; in which there are Seventy One Persons; great & Small; which are One Branch of the Pequot Tribe, Brethren of those in Groton. I formerly Preachd to them, at times; and have lately reviv'd my Labours among y^m, Lecturing once a Fortnight, which I purpose to continue as long as it appears to be the Will of Providence. They have hitherto given a very Gen^l and serious attendance __ Profess Satisfaction, and a Desire of further Instruction. They have Twenty One Children of a Suitable Age to be put to School; and the Parents are very desirous of having them taught to read English: in order to wh^h it necessary that they should have a School Master steadily among y^m. But they are poor, and altogether unequal to y^e Charge of a School. Whereupon they have made Applicatons to me, desiring that I woud forward their Request to your Hon.^{rs} for Assistance. For though [^] ^{yy} live on Lands, devoted to their use by the Coloney, which are somewhat Profitable (Though the Profits have not fully come into their hands till now,) yet as they tell me, and I cant say but with good reason, They shall really need the most or all the Profits of their Lands, for several years at least, to defray other necessary Charges.—

Wherefore, in their behalf, I woud humbly ask your Help for the support of a School among y^m, if it is in your power & consistant with your Trust: hoping that by this Means the Ignorance, in wh^h their poor Children are growing up, may be happily exchanged for the knowledge of Truth. The Indian Parents profess a Willingness to submit to your Orders, respecting the
School

[verso:

School proposed, if they may obtain your help. And, if no better hand presents, I shall readily take all needfull Care of y^m, touching the school, or any thing you may direct, as far as Ability serves. If any further Infor-

mation, respecting particular Circumstances, should be
thought proper, Your Command shall be chearfully
complied with, by your Hon^{rs}. most Obed. & Hum^{ll} Serv.^{ts}

Joseph Fish

PS. A Line p the Bearer, Doctr Woodbridge,
signifying your Pleasure, would be very gratefull
and Obliging.—If the School should be set up
they will need a number of Books suitable for
Beginners, which would be very Acceptable.—

Y^{rs} humbly J.F.

As the Indians above have increas'd from 7 or 8 houses
to 16 within Five or Six Years past So they are still
growing. Two or three Families more, with Eight or
Ten Children, are Coming to Join yr [^] Brethren this Spring
wh I forgot to Observe in its place. —

Rev. & Jos. Fish to the Commif-
-fioners for Indian Affairs
March 1757

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