

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives
In General Court Assembled

The Petition of us the Subscribers poor Distressed Indians
Proprietors of Marshpee in the County of Barnstable Humbly
Shew. that some time in the last Sefion of the General Court
your Petitioners presented a Petition to your Honours repres=
=enting our troubles in part, which Petition we are informed was
read and Committed to a Committee and for want of time to transact
the more Important Buifnefs then before your Honours was refered
to your next Sefion, we your Petitioners thank your Honours for
your kindnefs and great care in making a Law in June last for the
Regulation of Marshpee which is well adapted for us under our cur=
=cumftances and are well satisfied with the same, as also highly
pleased with the Gentlemen appointed for our Guardians expecting
they would accept the Trust and call our old Masters the former
overseers to a Just Settlement who has Improved our Lands and
let others Improve them for more then Twelve years last past with
=out rendering to us an Account of the Monies rec^d by them, neither
have they relieved our wants when in great Distrefs your Honors
well know that poor Indians in time past obtained their Liveing most=
=ly by Hunting, Fishing and Fowling, which of late is out of our power
to get a Liveing by, our Lands being now almoste the only income we have
to Support ourselves, In our Petition now before your Honors we Prayed
that the Gentlemen last appointed our Guardians might be continued in
their appointment since which we find The Rev^d M.^r Hawley and Reuben
Fish decline accepting and Executing their trust as Guardians agreeable
to the said Law, Your Petitioners further Pray that Doc.^r Samuel
Savage and both of Barnstable being
perfons of good Character may be appointed Guardians in the Room
of said Hawley and Fish and that our Guardians may be inabled by a
Resolve of the General Court to Settle our Account with our former
overseers, Your Petitioners beg leave further to Reprefent that
Previous to the late War the Society in England maintained our
Mifionary and by their Annual Donations in some measure
relieved our Poor but as we are not to expect in future any
Afsistance of this kind our Lands is the only resourse, and
unlefs the Improvement of it is put under a better Regulation
then it has Stood upon before the late Act took place we
apprehend we shall be very little the better for it &c
as in Duty bound shall ever Pray

James
his x mark
Lewis
Levi mie
James mie
Joseph Squib
Abraham Minges

Juba Severs
Henry
his x mark
Deeds
Sippo Allen
Cezer
his mark
Cobb

Thomas Mogrego
Thomas
his x mark
Hatch
Hofiah
his x mark
Richard
Antonia
his x mark
Henfion

[verso:

his
Abraham x Squib
mark
his
Noah x Wapaquish
mark
his
Judah x Mofes
mark
his
Amos x badcock
Jeremiah badcock
his
Simon x Depenah
mark
his
Newport x Mie
mark
his
Gideon x Noatompam
mark
his
Quash x Bulkin
mark
Richard Cowet
Solomon attaquin
his
Joseph x Wepaquish
mark

We the Subscribers being desired by M.^r John Persivel one of the Guardians of the
Marshpee Indians to attend at said Marshpee in order to certify to the Signing of a
Petition which said Indians are about to send by him to the General Court we have
accordingly attended when Twenty Four of the Proprietors as they say of said Marshpee, Signed
their Names or Signatures to the within Petition which was distinctly read to them all of
whom appeared to us to be intirely free from Intoxication neither have we seen any
Spirituos Liquors amongst them during the day or any undue Influence used to Induce
them to Sign said Petition
Joseph Nye JP
Sturgis Gorham
JP
Marshpee Decem.^r 29th 1788

[folio 2:

Indians of Marshpee
Petition Decem.^r
1788

M.^r Nafson
M.^r Thompson
M.^r Curtis (E. Sudbury
~~M.^r Choate~~
M.^r Bailey.

[verso:

Petition of Indians
Dec.^r 29. 1788

Dec 29. 1788

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