

To the Honorable, the Senate and House
of Representatives of the Commonwealth
of Massachusetts in General Court as
Sembled: -

The undersigned respectfully represent that
whereas they have very recently had the high
satisfaction of learning that measures have
been adopted by your Honourable Body tend
ing to the investigation of the Indian Guar
dianship in this (Dukes) County, with a
view to determine on the practicability and
propriety of abolishing the same; and whereas
they believe the said Guardianship to be in
several respects an unjust and anti-republic
an system – a species of barbarism; circum
scribing the natural and inalienable rights
of its subjects; therefore they respectfully re
quest that the said Indian Guardianship
may be utterly abolished with ^{the least} possible
delay. And as in duty bound will ever pray.
Edgartown Mafs. Feb. 29. 1840.

Freeman Sanders
William Vinson
James M Crowely
Alfred Chase
Joseph T. Pease
John R. Norton
Kilborn Smith

Chase Pease
Hebron Vincent
Sirson P Coffin
Seth Cleveland
Sam^l G. Vincent ^{2d}
Henry Marchant
Edgar M. Baylies
Ellis Lewis
Ezra Cleveland

[verso:

746
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The petition of
Sanders and others,
praying for the abolition
of the guardianship of
the Indians within the
County of Duke's
E.P. Norton
of Edgartown

H. of R. March 7. 1840.
Referred to the Comm^{ee}
on the Reduction of Sala
ries. L.S. Cushing
Clk

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