

To the Hon the Senate and House of Representatives  
in General Court assembled.

The undersigned Indians and People of Colour, resident  
at Chapequiddic in the County of Duke's County res-  
pectfully represent that they are grateful for the Guardian  
Care exercised over them by the Legislature and especially  
for providing for the instruction of their Children, who  
are now obtaining such Knowledge as will soon enable  
them to transact their own business. That Your petitioners  
are under great disadvantage from not having had the  
means for gaining Knowledge which our children now have  
and that we need counsel and assistance to enable us to  
live among a People who Know much more than Your  
petitioners. That thro' the Kind and fatherly care and as-  
sistance of our present Guardian, who have been able  
for the four years last past to get along without any  
difficulty, and to make a comfortable living for ourselves  
and our families. Your Petitioners have learned with deep  
regret that a proposition has been made in the Legis-

[verso left blank:

[folio 2:

lature to take of the Guardianship, and especially that  
some of our white neighbours have petitioned (we Know not  
for what reasons) that the Guardianship may be abolished,  
representing that the undersigned desire <sup>it</sup>, against which  
representation Your Petitioners earnestly but respectfully  
remonstrate. Your Petitioners farther represent, that most  
of our Young men are employed in the Whale fishing,  
and often need assistance in settling their voyages - that  
Your petitioners would suffer many other evils by the  
removal of the Guardianship at the present time

Wherefore Your petitioners, fully understanding the meaning  
and representation of this our petition, pray Your Honourably  
Body that the Guardianship may not be removed at present.

Chapequiddic,  
March. 9. 1840.

Isaiah Belain }  
Abram Brown } Present  
Lawrence Prince Constable  
for the Indian aforesaid

[verso:

Remonstranc  
Isaiah Belain  
Against Removing  
the Guardianship

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of the  
Chappequiddic  
Indians.  
D. Davis  
Edgartown

H. of R. March 12. 1840. Referred  
to the Comm<sup>ee</sup>. on the Re-  
duction of Salaries.  
L.S. Cushing  
Clk

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