

Dated at Groton Indian Town April 22d 1857

29A

To the Honorable General Assembly of the  
State of Connecticut to be in Session at Hartford  
in said State May 1857

The humble Petition of the Pequot Tribe of Indians  
Now residing on the reservation of said Tribe in the  
Town of Ledyard and County of New London and State  
of Connecticut Whose names are undersigned in behalf  
of themselves and others belonging to Said Tribe

Humbly Sheweth

That we the Pequots as aforesaid again approach the  
Legislature with a statement of the Grievances under  
which we labour and of which we do most respectfully  
But at the same time most firmly Solicit the effectual  
redress our wrongs are so notorious and so numerous  
that their minute detail is quite unnecessary and would  
indeed be impossible were it deemed expedient to place <sup>them</sup>  
within this little space Ages of persecution on one hand  
and of patience on the other Sufficiently attest our suffering  
to an enlightened world Privations have been answered only  
by Petition, indignities by remonstrance injuries by forgiveness  
But it has been at least a great misfortune to us to have  
suffered by the act of the Legislature in 1855  
an act which we know nothing about an act which we  
never gave one word towards framing neither was we ever  
asked to sign a Petition for the Sale of our lands neither  
were we ever notified to appear at the Legislature or  
speak for our selves and tell our own grievances and  
wants and defend our own rights which has always  
been our privilege in such a case as afore  
mentioned

[verso:

an act that was supposed to be intended for our benefit  
and for the preservation of our land and property as it is  
titled an act which was supposed to be passed for the  
Extrication of our deplorable state of immorality and  
privation But that act instead of performing that  
benevolent office which it was intended to fill has  
proved to be through the misrepresentation of some persons  
the death for to our name under the pretence of giving  
it assistance while in fact it has double riveted our  
chains of bondage anew and sunk us lower in  
degradation and corrupted our minds more with  
immorality and buried us deeper in privations than ever  
those very persons which misrepresented our people to

the Legislature in 1855 are the very persons who  
climbs that act to support them in gorging their  
ravenous and brutal rapine and the memorial of  
our last infirmity we have suffered we have been  
berieved of our native land we have been torn from  
the breast of our Mother Country which has nursed  
our generations for many a century yet not withstanding  
all this our bosom treasures has been torn from our  
arms without our consent and our bread has been  
torn from our mouth without any Justification  
what ever and we ourselves differing to great number  
then was presented to the Legislature in the year 1855  
a number amounting to 30 or 40 the greater part of  
which are to be driven off from our native land and  
pened up in one corner of their reservation like  
a horde of vermin upon a little piece of land not

[folio 2:

Exceeding two hundred acres these to perish without <sup>29B</sup>  
bread or water in a den of red snakes is this consistent  
is it just to make our present State more deplorable  
and our condition more helples by baring up every  
avenue to laudable ambition by denouncing industry  
and battering every energy for Personal interest or Public  
improvement which might perhaps bring about better  
Days of civilization which seems to the slight [ *illegible* ]  
upon <sup>which</sup> our antagonists rested to do all they have don  
And now what have <sup>we</sup> don in those years that has pafsed  
but never to be forgotten when your eastern <sup>shores</sup> was invaded  
by a ruthles foe when the highyest energies of your  
bravest men were called fourth to shield your countries  
virtues from that impending Storm of destruction  
Then in that dark day your noblest patriots found us  
Sustaining the Power which now spurns us Then it  
was the time that we nerved the arm which has now  
smote us what more have we don we have lavished  
or strength our talent our treasure and <sup>the</sup> noblest blood  
of Heroism in those dark days of yours that has pafsed  
but always to be remembered we have don more which  
is to be prized above everything else in this world we have  
sacrificed hundred of acres of land to your government to  
Secure our selves a little permanent reservation to live upon  
what more have we don we have help Bouy up on the  
prodigal effusions of your blood the Triumphant Ark of  
the united States Liberty and independence  
We then with confidance approach an enlightened Legislature  
& in the name of nature we ask our right as men

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In the name of the Constitution of the united States and the Supreme laws of nations we ask the possession of our land and privilege to enjoy it has we have don before 1855 and now on the authority of that Power which overruls all things we ask the sacred protection of the State as she has before secured to us our reservation by permanent bounds Then in behalf of ourselves and others belonging to the Pequot Tribe we call upon this Legislature to anihilate the odious bondage which Bows down the mental Physical and moral energies of our Tribe and people and in the name of humanity which breaths charity to all we ask the free use of our whole reservation as before may it therefore please this Honorable House to take into consideration our humble request and abolish or repeal that disabling law of the year of 1855 which infringes upon our natural right and human liberty and freedom we ask it in name of your authority

And your Petitioners will ever Pray

Hannah X Fagans	Herrit x George
Nancy X Fagans	Benjamin x H Babcock
Mary Ann X Sears	Mark D. Babcock
Persilia X Lawrance	Lucy Ann George
Rody X Cottrel	Edward x Sears
Claricy L X Lawrance	Susan X hall
Carline X Wheller	
Capt. Peter X George	

her

Betsey x Wheller

mark

Esther X Lawrance  
Charles x H Babcock  
Salley X Babcock  
Sarah X Congdon  
Ellin X Congdon  
Samuel x Congdon  
Lewis x Congdon

[folio 2:

Petition of  
Hannah Fagan & others  
of Pequot tribe of Indians

For

Restoration of Lands

No 70

Entered May Sefsion 1857

J J Dimock Clk for

O H Platt

Sec State}

Senate May 11<sup>th</sup> 1857  
Refd to Jt Stg Com on the  
Sale of Lands  
E B Trumbull  
Clk

H of R May 12<sup>th</sup> 57  
Concur

I H Bromley  
Clk

Senate May 22<sup>d</sup> 1857

Leave to withdraw

E B Trumbull

H of R June 2 57 Clk

28 Concur

I H Bromley

38 [ *illegible* ] Clk

[verso:

29C

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