

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Common Wealth of
Mafsachufetts in General Court Afsembled - - - - -

The Petition of Joseph Parker of Natick, in the County of Middlefex
Humbly Sheweth - That your Petitioner, when little more than twenty
one years of age, having by Dint of labour, and the Stricteft frugality, acqui-
-red some perfonal property; and being Defirous of procuring a freehold of his
own - had an oppertunity of buying twenty acres of unimproved land, in the
wefterly part of said Natick - And on the 21.st day of April 1778, receiv^d
a Deed of the same, for the Confideration of one hundred and eighty pounds
lawful money, of one Cefar Farrit - who had a few days before purchafed
the same of one Sarah Ahorton an Indian woman refiding in Bridgewa=
=ter in the County of Plymouth - Which sum was the full value of the said
land - and was then Tranfmitted to the said Sarah, the original owner, when
the money was valuable, and was greatly wanted for her support and
Comfort: And as you Petitioner was not brought up in Natick, nor
had lived there when the said Purchase was made - And being youth
had never heard of any laws againft Indians Selling their lands With=
=out Special licence of the General Court - nor of any Guardians
being Appointed to Superintend Indian Affairs - nor any prohibiti
=ons relating to fuch Sales : That he is not defirous of obtaining
a Support for himfelf and family by any indirect or unjuftifiable
means - being det^{er}mined to obferve a Strict regard to the laws &
refolutions of this commonwealth - And to deferve the approbation
of all good men; Your Petitioner, in the moft humble manner, cloth
acknowledge^ye breach of thofe laws, & the in fufficiency of his Title
to the said twenty Acres of land - And had prepared a Petition Similar to
this near two years ago, but was Difwaded from prefenting the same
by reafon of the prefure of Publick bufinefs -: And Since the said
Sarah, then was | and probably now is | in a weak ftate, and under
the decays of age and infirmity - and being in want of money, recev^d,
the same -: And as this was the firft, and only land he has ever pur-
chafed - And his money all exhaufted in paying for the same -.

And as thofe laws were not know to your Petitioner ~~and~~ there
fore the involuntary violation thereof will be Considered by this Court
in a favourable light : From all which Confiderations, Your Petitioner
is Encouraged to Pray, That the said Twenty acres of land may be
Confirmed to him - Or that he may have his ^{sd} Property Secured to
him in fuch other ways and means, as this Honorable Court

[verso:

Court, in their great Wifdom and goodnefs Shall Devife .--
. And Your Humble Petitioner as in Duty bound, Shall ever
Pray -

Joseph parker

Signed January. 1.st 1781

Petition of Joseph Parke

Deacon Brown
Mr. Whitney
Major Horner
Boston
Stoughton

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