

To the Hon:^{ble} The Senate & House of Representatives of the
Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court Assembled at
Boston October y^e 1787:

The Humble Petition of Fortune Burnee a Negro man
of Grafton in the County of Worcester Humbly Sheweth That
he holds by Curtesy of the Estate of his late wife Abigail Daughter
of Ami Printer ~~one~~ ^{one} of the original Proprietors of the
Hafanamisco Indians that the Said Abigails Natural Heirs are
Supposed to be all dead that by the providence of God his Dwel-
-ling House in Said Grafton was Intirely Consumed by Fire and
all his House hold Goods that he is left destitute of almost all
the Necessaries of Life is destitute of a House to Secure him from
the Clemency of the weather that he is almost Ninety Years of age
and under the Extraordinary decays of Nature
That their is about Sixteen acres and one hundred Pole of land
Set off to Fortune Burnee Jun^r: [^] Son of the said Abigail in the Indian Hundred Acres of land
So Called that the Said Fortune Burnee Jun^r has not been heard of within
near Ten years within any of the united states and is Supposed to be
dead: and your Petitioner prays that the Said Sixteen Acres
& 120 poles of Land may be Sold and the proceeds of the sale be laid
out in ReBuilding a house where the former House was burnt which
Stood on land Set off to the Said Fortune Burnee Jun^r to be for
the use and Improvement of the petitioner Dureing his life and
after his Decease to be to the use of the Said Fortune Burnee Jun^r if he ever
Returns; and to be under ~~the care of the Guardians~~ ^{Such} Instructions and
Restrictions as to your Honours shall Seem meet as
your Humble Petitioners In Duty Bound Shall ever
Pray

His
Fortune X Burnee
mark

October y^e 1787
We the Subscribers Guardians
to the Grafton Indians do hereby
Certify that the Facts Set fourth in the
Above Petition are true & that
it is necessary the above Petition
Should be Granted for the reasons
above mentioned

Edw^d Rawfon
Willis Hall

[verso:

Resolve on the Petition
of Fortune Burnee
Authorizing the Guardians
of the Grafton Indians
to sell the Land
mentioned
Nov. 19.t 1787
1 Copy for Col Luke Drury
059 88

Petition of Fortune
Burnee Negro man
of Grafton
report

Deacon Tucker
M.^r Hubbard
M.^r Newell

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