

To his Excellency Caleb Strong Governour
of the Commonwealth of Mafsachusetts
and the Honorable the Council, Humbly
Shews, we the Subscribers Indian
natives , and People of Colour, now inhabit_
=ants on the Island of Chapequiddick
in said County, that by a Law made
& pafsed January 26th, 1789, being an Act
to Set off to the Patentees & other purcha
=ers certain lands on said Island &
by which said Law it was enacted that
the Indians & their decendants were ~~not~~
never to be held or obliged to make __
maintain or repair any fence or fences
on the line or lines made and & established
by said act, & by an additional Law
afterwards made there is a penalty annexed
on the person that neglets to make &
maintant faid fence or fences, being
~~Surer~~-[*crossout*] ^{^Circumscribed} by said Law we wish to hold
the small interest allotted to us in peace
notwithstand the white people or proprietors
have not hitherto erected and maintained
said fences and many of them say that
they will not do it, we have often made
application to the Guardians over us, to
cause the fences to be erected without any
redrefs and by their neglect, we are
greatly injured, by reason of the Cretures
Trespafsing upon us,

Therefore

[verso:

Therefore we humbly pray that said –
Guardians may be removed, because they
do not, nor will not pay any attention to
our Complaints, or Otherwise that your
Excellency & Honours, will appoint—
Some suitable person as our agent to
whom we may apply as occasion may
require to afford us rerdrefs according to
Law & justice, we and our wives Children
and conections wish to enjoy that
which ^{^are} allotted us in peace, we are poor
have no money to waste, being thus
embarrafsed, soe humbly seek redrefs—
from your Excllency & Honours, because
if matters remain in the present—

State of the improvement of our Lands
they will be of little or no use to us
and we must starve or rely upon
Charity, ~~which~~ and we further say that
in case we have Justice done to us agreeable
to Law with our industry we shall be
able to afford a comfortable support for our
selves, we beg your Excellency and
Honours to pay particular attentions
to our request & in duty bound will
ever pray,

Edgartown.
June 1st 1805

Simon Porredge
Samuel Peters
Johnson Peters
Betsy Carter
his
Leuies X Cook
mark
Philip [*illegible*]
his
Joseph x Simpson
mark
Thaddeus Cook
William x Johnson
in
Aden Simpson

[folio 2:

Petition of the
Inhabitants of
Chapequiddick --
for removal of their
guardians
June 1, 1805

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