

To his Excellency the Governor, and the Honourable Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. - - -

The Petition of the Indians, and other People of Couler, inhabiting the Island of Chappaquidick in the County of Dukes County for, and in Behalf of themselves, and other Coulered People of the Said Island, do hereby humbly Represent, to your Excellency and Honours; that by a Special Law, Passed January the Twenty Eighth, one Thousand, Seven hundred and Eighty Nine, there was a Certain Part of the said Island, set off, and assigned to the said Indians, to be by them improved as Tenants in Common, - the Patentees and other Purchers on the Said Island ^{to be} ~~shall~~ at the Sale, and whole Charge and Expence of making, maintaining & Repairing the Divisional Fence and Fences Between themselves and the said Indians; in which Law, it is Likewise Provided that his Excellency the Governor by, and with the Consent of Council is Empowred, and Requested to appoint Two White Persons and One Indian as Guardians to have the Care, and oversight of the said Indians, and their interest on the Said Island; and that there has, from time to time been Guardians appointed for that Purpose: -- yet Notwithstanding which; your Petitioners humbly Conceive, that the Present Guardians, (viz) messrs Jethro Worth, Martin Pease and Jonson Peters, have not Performed their Trust therein as they ought to have Don in the following Particulars, (viz^t)

They have Neglected to order, and see, that there was, a Lawfull and Sufficient Fence Erected, and kept in Repair Between the Patentees and Purchers, and the said Indians agreeable to an additional act Passed June ye 19th 1790, by which Neglect, the said Indians have Repeatedly Sustained great Damages in their Corn Rie and Pasturage, by Cattle, Sheep and other Creatures ^{giting in} ^{and} upon their Land, and Destroying the Same; and when the Indians have taken Creatures Damage feasant, and Impounded them, and made application to the Guardians; they, the said Guardians, took no notice of their Grevaciences, but ordered the said Creatures to be Liberated without Rendring any Compensation to the Persons impounding them, — also, the said Guardians have hived, or Rented out for Pasturage, a Tract of Wood Land Set off to the said Indians, for their Wood and firing, which Land was Partly inclosed with Stuff taken off the said Wood Land by the Persons who improved the same, by the Consent of the said Guardians; by which means, or the Pasturing of the said Land, the growth of the Wood was much damaged, by the Cattle, and other Creatures Browsing the same. - that your Petitioners have often applied to George Janson, one of the Late Guardians to Perambulate the Lines Between the Patentees, and Indians, which he has always Refused to do, and which has Neecessitated the Indians to do the same at their own Expence, & by which Survey, they have found a Certain Tract of their

Land inclosed and improved by other People. - - -
turn over

[verso:

that the Present Guardians have assigned and set off to Isaiah Janson, a Tract of Land within about sixteen Rods of the House of Joseph Simson, which the said Simson Cleared out; the said Jonson Living about one mile from Simsons House, which Ocasioned a Law Suit Between them, which Suit was Supported on the Part of Jonson, by the Guardians, and in Consequence of which Suit, the Said Simson had Two Swine, and his Small Boat taken from him to Pay the Dam=
=age and Cost of Suit; and in Coneiquence of which, his Famaly is much Distrefsed, and he obliged to go to sea, & Run in Debt for the Support of his Famaly, it being very Large. - - - - -

That William Jonson, and Fereley Boes were Prosicuted under the Direction of the Guardians, by Wattham Wayen the Daughter of George Jonson, for Tedring their Cattle on Land ^{and meadow} improved by Charlotte Matteson, and Cleared out by William Matteson her Late Husband, she being Poor, and having five Children to support. - - - -

and Elisabeth Carter Complains that she has been at the Expençe of Clearing a Tract of Land, which the Guardians have taken out of her improvement, and assigned the same, to Peter Beland, a son in Law to the Said George Janson. - - - -

and in General, that the Present Guardian have shewed an undue Degree of ~~Parshatiy~~ Partiality in favour of the said George, and his Famaly by assigning to them, several Tracts of Land for their improvement of which your Petitioners think they ought to have the Benefit, as they have been at the Expençe and Labour of Clearing the same, - - - - -

your Petitioners therefore Humbly Pray that your Excell=
=ency and Honours would take ~~of~~ our Complaint and Petition into your Wise Consideration, and Grant us Relief therein, so far that you would Remove the Present Guardians from their said Trust; and would humbly Purpose that Mefures Jethro Daggett, and Thadeis Cook & Benjⁿ Smith may be appointed; in whome, we trust we should be Better United, and from whome we should Expect a more Punctual Compliance with the Law, and a more Eiquil Distrubution of the Lands ~~for~~ for our futer Improvement, and we would farther observe y^t it was not generally Known, or approved by the Natives of their Being appointed. - all which is Humbly submitted, and as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray

Dated y^e 14th day of May 1809

Thaddeus Cook Jaen Sandrs
Samuele Peters Jefse Weepquish

Thomas Laten
Hannah Parredg
Willam Jonson
Sela Jonson

Sarah Weepquash
Jeney Sandrs
Philip gutridg
Nelly gutridg
Peggy Peters

[folio 2:

Clara Johnson
frances Peters
ferebea Boos
Charlott Matteson Widow
Pooly cook
Elisabeth Carter – Widow
Pacence Coddody
her
Sara X Cordner
mark
his
Thomas X Cordner
mark
Ranient x Simson
her
Henrearittee x Simson
mark
x her
Martha x Pepenu
mark
Luis x Cook
Olive Cook
Mary cook wife
Eliz guthrig
josph Simson juner

[verso:

Petition to the Governor
and Council

[folio 3:

Remonstrance

Petition