

To the Hon^{le} the Senate & the Hon^{le} the House
of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Mafsachusetts
in General Court afsembled

The subscribers, Overseers & Guardians, of the Indian. Molotto &
& Negro proprietors of Gayhead, on Marthas Vineyard humbly
represent that this improvement of land belonging to said Proprietors
being under our care & direction, and are made accountable for
the same – it frequently happens, that we find it necefsary to
afsign in pasturage or other improvement, lands to the Proprietors
more than their individual proportion, and to all if they desire
it their proportion – but their rights are filld up in many
instances by Cattle from people, who have demands against
the proprietors, and when the rent becomes due for the Land,
the stock is withdrawn, and we left to obtain it, from any
property the Proprietor may have, which often is no
more than his Labour – by which the Proprietary suffers &
their profits which are a fund, out of which the Poor are
to be supported fails – We therefor pray the Hon^{le}
Court, that the Law appontg guardians may be so far
altered, or that the Overseers & Guardians may have a lien
on the stock actually depastured, for the pay ment of
Rent – and that the sum may be held liable for the
some – or that the Overseers & Guardians may have
all the Powers of Collectors of Taxes, to distrain the
stock actually depastured for rent in arrears and
as in duty bound will ever pray –

May 18 1813

Simon Mayhew	}	Overseers of Gayhead Proprietors
Nathaniel Mayhew		
William Mayhew		

[verso:

Petition
of
Guardians of Gayhead
Proprietors

Comm^d
Mefs Whitman Pem
Daggett Edg
Brownell West

Tuesday 9 o'clock
3^d Reading

to be engrosed

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