

President Quincy .

Boston Feb 1 1834

Dear Sir,

The Bearer of the Letter is one Nathan Pocknet, an Indian of Marshpee, and one of its oldest Inhabitants, with one William Amos, another Indian of that Tribe, who have come up to Boston as Remonstrants to a Petition of one William Apes a Pequot Indian, who has removed his family on that Plantation, and who has endeavoured under the pretence of preaching to subvert the Government of the Plantation, to dismiss Mr Fish & the Guardians & totally to change Rules & Orders of the Overseers of that Tribe.

He has committed a Riot on the Plantation has been apprehended, indicted, convicted and punished for the offence, by imprisonment, served his time out in Gaol for the offence, and is now returned to his family on the Plantation, ready for new scenes of Riot and disturbance-

The Bearer of this Letter, has one for you which he is directed to deliver, and will answer any questions you may wish to ask him, respecting Mr. Fish; and believing you may wish to know the proceedings that have taken place on the Plantation, and what Apes & his followers are doing in the General = Court, I send you Copies, as far as they are printed, of the Petition and Documents by which you will perceive, that the removal of the Revd Mr. Fish, from his office as Missionary & the removal of the Board of Overseers, and the management of the affairs of the Plantation by Apes, is contemplated. As one of the Overseers of that Plantation for the last ten years, and all that time, well acquainted with Mr. Fish. I must say his conduct has been good, his exertions to fulfill as a Minister his duties, unabated, and his example such, is as becomes a Minister of the Gospel, and though his Creed is not so liberal, as President Kirkland supposed, when he attended his ordination- yet I believe him sincere, pious and devout, and I enquire no further

This man ought to be protected in the discharge of the duties of his Office, from the attacks of an

[verso:

Imposter & Fanatic and such a man I believe Apes to be; but such is the age in which we live, and such the unsettled condition of Our Clergy- that there is very little that may not be expected from the times- My solicitude therefore that Mr Fish should not be injured in his usefulness, much less removed from his station is great, for it is my opinion, it is not his fault, he has no more Hearers or a larger Church.

You will Sir pardon this trouble I have given you- as it arises from a sense of duty as

an Overseer of that Tribe & from an anxiety to have some  
 exprefion from you, that may have a bearing on the  
 investigation that will be had next week, before a joint  
 Committee of the General Court, of which Mr Barton of the  
 Senate is Chairman- with much respect & esteem  
 I am your friend & humble servant.

William Whitman

NB. Papers sent are as follows-

- Nº 1 Petition to the Governor & Council - - - - - May 21 1833
- 2 Report of Committee of Council - - - - - June 25 Dto
- 3 Commifion of Governor Lincoln to Hon<sup>bl</sup> Josiah J Fiske June 30 Dto
- 4 Letter of Governor Lincoln to Mr Fish N<sup>o</sup> 1 - - - - June 30 Dto
- 5 Letter of Dto - - - Dto N<sup>o</sup> 2 - - - June 5 Dto
- 6 Report of the Hon<sup>bl</sup> Mr. Fish the Commifioner. lately Reported-
- 7 A copy of the charges made by Apes & his followers to  
 Mr Fisk ~~them~~ or extracts from them, & the answer to them July 9th } Dto  
 made by the Overseers, on their being presented as Marshpee
- 8 The Memorial of the Marshpee Indians, the present } Jan<sup>y</sup> 1834  
 General Court, & which is now pending before them ⊕ }
- 9 The Memorial of the Revd Phineas Fish, one other } Dec 30 1834  
 being in the hand of the Printer, presented to this Legislation }
- 10 The Remonstrance of Nathan Pocknet, & fifty one } Jan<sup>y</sup> 1 1834  
 others, to the Petition of Israel Amos & 78 others &c }

⊗ The Copy is marked by me and was intended to be used at the  
 hearing before the Committee next week, but having no other copy, I forward  
 it ~~this~~ underscored as it is - that you may have all the Documents that are printed

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Hon<sup>bl</sup> Josiah Quincy  
 President of Harvard College

Cambridge

1. Dec. 1834  
 Indians  
 Introducing  
 Whitman

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