

To the Honourable Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled.

Respectfully represent the undersigned (being a Committee duly chosen by the Indians and people of colour resident on the Island of Chappequiddic in Duke's County, to petition the Legislature for aid to enable them to build division fences) that the length of the Divisional lines between said Indians and people of Colour is Two thousand Six hundred and fifty seven rods; that they are, and have been, laboring under very great disadvantages from the facts that their lands are not fenced; that there are on said lands, no materials of which to build a fence; and that they have been, and are, unable to buy materials for fencing; that consequently they are obliged to tether their cattle at considerable expense for ropes besides much extra care and labor; that their cattle sometimes break their tethering ropes and trespass on their neighbors, whereby ill feelings and sometimes litigation follows, thereby disturbing the peace and quiet of said Indians, &c. and Your Petitioners further represent, that if the lands of said Indians &c were fenced, it would contribute greatly to peace, happiness and prosperity of said Indians &c, and that <sup>they</sup> will be able thereby the better to improve their lands, and obtain a comfortable livelihood for themselves and their children.

[verso:

Wherefore, Your Petitioners, on behalf of said Indians and people of colour, pray the Honourable Court aforesaid, that they may be allowed the sum of Two thousand Dollars (\$2.000) for the purpose of buying fencing stuff to enable them to fence their lands, and, as in duly bound, will ever pray.

Edgartown,  
March. 7. 1857

Leavitt Thaxter  
Guardian  
Isaiah Belain  
Daniel T. Webquish

}  
Committee

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[ verso:

H of R March 17. 1851  
Concurred  
L E Jofselyn  
Afst Clk

Petition of Leavitt Thaxter  
Guardian of Chabbaquiddic  
Indians. Is<sup>a</sup>iah Belain  
and Daniel J. Webquish  
Committee of the same, Asking  
aid from the State to enable  
them to build division fences.

Presented by S.P. Coffin  
of Edgartown  
Ho' of Rep March 14<sup>th</sup>, 1851.

Referred to Committee on  
Public Expenditures,

Sent up for concurrence  
L E Jofselyn

Afst Clk

In Senate March 15. 1851.  
Non Concurred. and petition  
referred to Com. on Claims.  
Sent down for Concurrence  
C.L. Knapp Clk

H of R March 17. 1857  
Concurred L Joselyn Clk

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