

To y^e Honourable Generall Assembly to be holden at Hartford
in y^e County of Hartford on y^e Second Thursday of may^{18^a} Next—
the petition of y^e Pequod Indians in y^e town of Groton in y^e County
of NewLondon who petition by their overseers John Morgan and
James Avery both of S^d Groton Humbly Sheweth—
that y^e S^d Indians Ever sence y^e Conquest of them have been true
and faithfull to y^e English and Served them against y^e Common
Enemy with their Dearest Lives in all y^e attempts by y^e English made
upon Canada and that as Vollenteers & upon freecoft
that they had in Reward for their faithfull Service Set out
to them in S^d Groton a tract of Land Called Malhuntuxit Con
taining about 1700) acres for them to Live upon and in that y^e
Same is very broken and uneven tis but Juft Sufficient for them
Improve for planting firing &c—
that when y^e town of NewLondon (Inclusive of Groton) took
their patent y^e S^d Land was reServed to y^e Indians ~~have improved~~
y^e Same as is Expreft in ^{their} patent & y^e S^d Indians have improved
y^e Same now for Sixty years Laft past—
that in y^e year 1731 the General Assembly of this Colony Paf
an act prohibiting y^e Laying out S^d Land by y^e English or record
ing y^e Same which wee took ~~as a fatherly~~ as a great favour and
an Instance of ^{y^e} fatherly Protection of y^e Honourable Assembly
that in y^e year 1732 the proprietors of S^d Groton at y^e Generall
Assembly held at Hartford obtained a Commitee to come to S^d Groton
to veiw y^e Circumstances of S^d Malhuntuxet Land and make Report
to y^e Generall assembly who accordingly Reported y^t y^e one half of S^d
Land was Sufficient for S^d indians to dwell upon and Cut firewood
and that y^e tother half was attended to be Laid out in fifty acre Lots
and y^e Same to be fenced to Secure y^e feed and y^e Indians Corn to referv^e
10 acres of wood on Each fifty acres for firewood and tother half
to ly Common for y^e Indins to plant on &c it would very we^{ll}
accomondte y^e Indins which Report was Excepted by y^e Generall
Assembly held at New Haven in october 1732 and y^e proprie
tors (allowed Dureing the Court Pleasure) to fence y^e Same in
fifty acre Lots and to Clear y^e Same as p^r S^d Report at
Large appears—

Now your Honours poor petetioners humbly beg that your
Honours would be pleased to Declare to S^d proprietors y^t they
Shall no Longer Improve S^d Land as by S^d Report is allowed
and that for y^e following Reafons (Viz) firft y^e Committ was
miftaken in Suposing that y^e one half of S^d Land was suffi^{ent}
for us to dwell upon Cut firewood &c there not being
more then Sixty acres of Land y^t by any means will do to

²⁴ ~~p^r~~ plant y^e rest being very hilly rocky and mountainofs

2 ly they y^e proprietors have in two or three Instances Acted
Contrary to Licence Given them by S^d act they have not Left
10 acres of wood on Every 50 acres of S^d Land but, have

[verso:

Diftroyed almoft all y^e timber on Several of S^d 50 acres Lots — they
have alfo plowed Conſiderable of S^d Land and have built houſes

18b

thereon which they had no right to do they have alfo Sometimes
cut y^e Stalks of y^e Indians Corn before y^e Corn was hard by which
y^e Corn was almoſt Spoiled and Commonly what Corn they plant
in y^e Engliſh Encloſures is all Deſtroyed Neither have they Left
one half of S^d Land but have Laid out ^a great deal more then one
half your Honours petetioners therefore Humbly pray y^t they may
be reſtored to y^e Injoyment there Land y^t So they be able to Live near
to gether that they may be able to attend y^e preaching of y^e word of
God and to have there Children Schooled which tis impoſſible
to attain So Long at their Land is taken away from them and they
muſt be obliged to Seek habitations Somewhere Elſe and thus
having Laid before your Honours y^e State of our Affairs &
humbly hope for releiff Sence we have not Like our Nieghbou^{rs}
given your honours vaſt trouble by Repe^d applications on y^e
tother Side y^e waters and your Honours Petetioners as in Duty
bound Shall &c————

Dated In Groton April y^e 28th 1741

Ateſted true Copey of the prayer to the Jeneral aſembly
by me Jabez Smith Conſtabel

Copy for
Nath^l Brown
Duplicate

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