

To the Honorable the Senate and House of
Representatives in Legislature assembled

The petition of Captain Joseph and that
in behalf of themselves and their Governor and all the
Captains and Chiefs of Indians, humbly sheweth that your
petitioners and the tribe to which they belong have from the
commencement of the revolutionary war ^{been} the faithful
and steady friends to the United States and to the Govern-
ment of this State - and that for the services we rendered this
Government the British Government took from your pete-
tioners all the land they owned their possessions have been seized and
confiscated for ever on the English side of the river St. Louis - And
that by these and many other losses your petitioners have become
very poor - And your petitioners would beg leave further to state
that the game and fish were formerly plenty in their possessions
and were of great advantage to your petitioners - but of late years
they have been deprived of this advantage by the fish in the river
being mostly destroyed and little or no game being left in the for-
est or streams for hunting - And for your petitioners humbly pray
Your Honorable Body to take their Governor and tribe under the
protection of the Government of this State and grant to your pe-
tioners such assistance as you in your wisdom may judge

Petition of Decun
Jacobson in behalf
of Sagamuqueddy
Tribe of Indians
respecting their fish-
eries, lands &c
House of Reps
Jan. 31. 1821
Read & committed
to Messrs. Emory, Luck &
Hammond -

And your petitioners further state that they are in great
want of pieces of wood for the purpose of getting more in the
winter for the use of the elderly Indians, their wives and children
as they have no power of having either Newborn or new when they can -
And because where the wood is for the distance of thirty miles
is covered by private individuals - Your petitioners further pray
that a stop may be put to the destruction of the fish in the Delaware
river and that such laws may be ~~passed~~ made as will preserve and
increase the fish in river and in its branches - Your petition-
ers further beg leave to represent that the constant destruction of
the game is detrimental to the justice interest and very injuri-
ous to your petitioners therefore your petitioners wish to represent
that if no law were, or a number were allowed to be taken or
destroyed by any white man except from the first day of April to the
first day of May in each year that it would preserve ~~the game~~
from being much of great benefit to the Indians - Your
petitioners further beg leave to state that they are distressed of
a power to check them and their families and although in
great need of one to afford them instruction yet in their human
distraction have no the means to supply themselves they there-
fore pray Your Honorable Body to grant them such assistance
as you in your wisdom may deem of benefit - Your petition-
ers further wish to state that many of their tribe have a great
desire to become farmers and settle on their lands but being poor
and inexperienced in the art of farming they are unable to

make such improvements as would enable them to live on their
lands without any assistance which would encourage many
of the tribe to become farmers and which is humbly submitted -
Your petitioners would further state that as the con-
tinuance of the late war between this country and Great Brit-
ain they were obliged to leave their possessions by many in the En-
glish Government if they would leave their possessions in this
State and settle ~~on the~~ on the English side of the river St. Louis
which offers some relief by our Governor and his ~~commission~~
ing ourselves as belonging to this State and as having not only
to this State but also to the United States both by the ties of duty
and of friendship - And which we pray your Honorable Body
to take into consideration and grant us such relief as you in
your wisdom may judge necessary -
And as duty bound we ever pray -

Decun Jacobson