I Joseph Butterfield of a place called Indian Otstown in the county of Sanobocat do testify on my oath that I have resided at Otstown since the year 1803 and that the fish called salmon shad and alevis were abundantly plenty in the Sanobocat River until about 1813 since which time they have been rapidly decreasing every season so that by this time there is scarce any to be taken in the season of the year when they are most plenty which has led me to believe that they have been unreasonably destroyed and in endeavouring to find out the cause I am led to believe that it is owing to the vast number of destructive machines used in the tide waters and other places that has produced this evil, particularly the Mars built annually.

I put on enquiry that said Mars were first begun to be used about 1809 but it was not discovered that they were entirely destroying the runs of fish in the river until 1813 now from my own observation I feel assured that the principal diminution of the said fish is owing almost entirely to the obstructions they meet with in the tidewaters of the peninsula at the season of the year when they resort hither to cast their spawn, it is now a fact that at Otstown falls where I reside...
that used to be considered one of the greatest places for taking fish on the river, where the Penobscot Indians procured at least half of their living annually. That now they cannot take a sufficient quantity for their families to eat even in the best part of the season and many of the white people who used to take plenty for their own use cannot get any by any means whatever.

Done at Oxford this 5th day of January 1822.

Joseph Butterfield

Subscribed & sworn to before me Jackson Davis Justice of Peace

me this 5th day of January 1822

The subscriber hereby certify that I have lived at sunnecyes in the neighbourhood of Oxford for the space of Twenty-two Years last past and I can say from my own experience that the above statement subscribed by Joseph Butterfield is in substance true.

Paul Dudley

The subscriber was born & brought up in the Township of Penobscot & am now forty one years of age & have been since the above Statement was made by Joseph Butterfield to the correct.

Edward Wilson