

To the Governor and Council of Maine

We the undersigned, agents for the Penobscot tribe of Indians; represent; that in the latter part of last summer, fully to ascertain their situation and circumstances, made a general visit to their families, on their line of Islands, from Plot Town to Passadunkkey; a distance of twenty two miles; also, had an interview with their Lieutenant Governor, Neptune, and a number of his chiefs; in all which we endeavoured to impress their minds, with the advantages that would result to them, could they be induced to turn their attention more to farming, pointing out to them the means by which it might be carried into effect; to which they listened with attention, and appeared fully to concur with; as from the failure of their fisheries, and hunting, they appeared to be convinced of the necessity of a change of their mode of acquiring subsistence; at the same time remarking, as matter of grievance that by means of the wares, and seines, erected by the white people in the tide waters of the river, their valuable fisheries, which had been to them a great means of support; is now nearly annihilated.

They also stated to us, that as all the lands they have under cultivation, is on their Islands, that on account of the freshets it is difficult making a permanent fence to secure their cornfields - (where there was a fair prospect of their raising the last season at least four hundred and fifty bushels of corn) against the herds of cattle belonging to the white people, who turn them out to graze on the banks of the River; and when the river is low

they wade off to graze on their Islands, at which time their fields are liable to be destroyed; to prevent which many of them are under the necessity of watching their fields night and day, notwithstanding which some of them lost their whole fields the last season; they also state to us that in years past the beasts of the forests, Moose and Deer, (Moose especially,) were very plenty about the head branches of the Penobscot and Kennebeck Rivers, that in consequence of the white people killing them off merely for the sake of their skins, they have now become nearly extinct; and in order that their growth should be again propagated, the Indians on their part have come to a conclusion to kill no more of the aforesaid game, Moose and Deer at present, that whether it will not be prudent on the part of government to pass an act in like manner prohibiting the white people from killing those beasts in future. —

Though they did not mention ^{to us} the subject of ardent spirits as a grievance, yet in an interview of one of the undersigned, with the Catholic priest who has the immediate care of said tribe, he mentioned among the disadvantages under which they laboured, and which he most lamented, was that of the white people selling them ardent spirits. —

Now your agents, in the discharge of the trust reposed in them beg leave to suggest; whether there ought not something ^{farther} to be done in a legislative capacity, to prevent the recurrence of the several evils above complained of —

Saml. H. Hufsey } Indian
Moses Sleeper } Agents
Jackson Davis }