

1 Barnstuble June 11 the 1752 y^{ea}.r
 2 woj quttiantammoe nussontimmomunnonog kah wom[[.]]mosue sontimmoog ut
 3 Boston massuchusit bay yeu ut [[n]] New Eng Land missikkenue nanauunnukkig
 4 assootimmoook ut Boston sontimmoog woj woj sontimmoog nootainnan yeueu woj kenau
 5 nennauun kuttummongke Indiansog matta pahke nuttohtoomun panupe wohwahntammooonk
 6 & waantammooonk newage yeueu koowehquttimmaunnumun kenau woj Boston sontimmoog
 7 woj nootammajinnean nummoongganun & nootammajinnean koowehquttammawinoonganin & woj
 8 kah [[mo]] nomppohhummainean yeu koowehquttimmaunnooonganin woj sontimmoog Boston
 9 nennauun kuttummungke Indiansog utt marshpe [[n]] in Barnstuble County

 10 yeueu [[qu]] koowehquttimmaunnumun uttoh woh nuttissemin wutche papaume [[.]]
 11 nuttohkein neannummaunnumkup yeug negone nussontimmominnanuk neanninumauqueogkup
 12 yeu kodchuhkoj ohkuh & ohke yeu nuttinnunnumungqunnanannup Indianne sachumooog
 13 negonne Indianne nussontimmomunnonuk ussoowesug wuttammohkin sachum wonoh
 14 quettatsett sachum ut Barnstuble County marshpe indian ayeuonk yeu indianohkomuk
 15 [[m.tta p.sh]] yeu nuttinnunnumungqunnanannup yeug [[s]] nussontimmomunnanuk matta pish
 16 nummagoonan asuh matta pish onkquadtaetue [[na]] magooun asuh matta pish namaukauhittein qut
 pish
 17 micheme nuttauohkonan uttohsake pomontamwog nennauun & weche wame nunnechanunnoog
 18 & nunnechanunnonog wunnechannooah & nuppometuonganunnoog & weche wame
 19 uppometuonganooah pish wame wuttauhkonau uttohsake pumontog peantammoe
 20 Indiansog yeuoh pish nuttauohkonan micheme micheme. Qut kuttuma wame
 21 wunnohteae wunnoowaog [[n]] magunnat asuh onkquattaattue magunnat Qut yeueu
 22 asquam nukqut [[noow]] noonwomun wame nennauun Indiansog wah magunnat
 23 asuh onkquattaatue magunnat asuh naumohkauhidtinnat yeu Indianohkomuk asuh
 24 marsh asuh mussash ke pahkeyoe yeu nussomppowommun asquam numagoonanash

 25 Qut yeueu pahke yeu nissinnan neennauun Indinsog In kenau wame
 26 nussontimmominnonog ut Boston nennauun [[k]] kuttummungke indiansog ut
 27 marshpe In Barnstuble County nennauun wunnummohkit moochukke
 28 nootammantahikkummin yeug neteahteamongganunnonog englishmonsog yeu ut
 29 nuttahkenannit wonoh noomarsheinnannit numuhtukqunnonit nashpe matta
 30 noowekontammooonganun yeug englishmonsog yeush nunnemmunnumungqunnonog
 31 nuttahkenan nagumau wutchippinnummauatinneau wanoh marsh weche nashpe matta
 32 nennauun noowekontammooonganin wonoh nussepoominnanash matta wunnohteae
 33 nuttinnannummukoononog wunnohteae nootammagquag missaj nuttattogkamukqunannog
 34 wonoh wekuttamwog ut nuttohkenannut nashpe matta noowekontammooonganin
 35 wunnummohkut yeu nuttinnantammun nennauun kuttummungk Indiansog pasue matta pish
 36 nuttahtoomun uttoh pish appeog weche kuttummungke nunnechanunoonog newutche
 37 moochuke [[nut]] nootamhukqunannog yeug Englishmansog ut yeu nuttajyeuonganunonut
 38 ut [[p.sh]] mashpe Barnstuble County

 39 newage yeueu woj kenau [[womm]] wommossue sontimmoog ut Boston
 40 marssuchusit bay yeueu koowehquttimmaunnumun kenootamwanshinnan
 41 onk woh matta kooche woh nootamhukoonannog ut nuthohkenannut

154. Massachusetts State Archives (M.A. 32:278, recto); Mashpee; original.

Petition from Indians at Mashpee to the Massachusetts General Court.

Wrongly described in the index to M.A. 32 as the Indian version of an English petition of September 8, 1753, which is on the same subject and in the same hand (see Appendix).

The reverse has: "Mashpee Indians | Peⁿ | Ordered to Lye on y^e Table."

The reference to "understanding" and "wisdom" (ll. 5-6) echoes Biblical passages, notably "And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding" (waantam^onk kah wohwohtam^onk, 1 Kings 4:29; cf. Prov. 4:5); see the textual note.

In the translation Oh! renders the interjection woj (i.e. woi, q.v.). The form translated "which was conveyed to you by [them]" (ne=annummauunnunkkup, l. 11) is unique but implies a second-person object. The form with the queried translation "what they conveyed to you" (ne=anninnumaqueogkup, l. 11) could refer to either a first plural or second plural object (see the Grammatical Sketch, VERB, Conjunct Preterite, Inverse Theme Sign and Theme 4).

The hand has Italian letter shapes, except for long s, and generally joins the letters of a word together; word-initial i and I have a lead-in stroke beginning with a small curl or loop (I is transcribed for the larger variety, even if dotted); a and o are often impossible to distinguish, since the linking stroke after o may dip down like that after a; 8 is not distinctively written, and oo is transcribed where the intended value is 8 or oo even when one o resembles an a.

The writer uses some island dialectal features; the ones noted that do not otherwise appear in mainland documents are: the spelling ohkuh for ohke "land" (l. 12; see textual note); ke "consequently, then" (l. 24); wanoh, wonoh "and" (ll. 13, 29, 31, 32, 34). The form pomontamwog, if correctly read (see textual note), may show a hyper-correct writing of mw for m in emulation of the mainland dialect (see the Grammatical Sketch, PHONOLOGY AND ORTHOGRAPHY, Special cases of loss and variation, Loss of post-consonantal [w]).

2 wom[[.]]mosue : one letter blotted.

3 [[n]] : blotted.

5 wohwahntamooonk : waantamooonk "wisdom" was first written; then woh was added above the line and h was written over the second a, to make (Bible norm) wohwohtam^onk "understanding".

6 kenau : u changed from y.

8 [[mo]] : crossed out.

9 utt : tt changed from n. [[n]] : in with a stroke missing, crossed out.

10 [[qu]] : u not completed; apparently a false start. [[.]] : letter(s) crossed out by a large mark.

12 yeu kodchuhkoj ohkuh & ohke : This does not make very good sense as it stands ("this piece of land and land"); the translation assumes that the writer intended to correct his island dialect form ohkuh to the mainland form ohke (see above). sachumoog : mis is written above the mo.

13 ussoowesuog : u written over something, perhaps a less clear u.

14 ayeuonk : an e is written above the e.

15 [[m.tta p.sh]] : crossed out and blotted. nuttinnunnumungqunnanannup : an m is written above the second m, which resembles an n. [[s]] : false start, but not crossed out.

16 [[na]] : crossed out. magooun : a k is written above the g.

17 pomontamwog : the w(?) suggests a hesitant writing of the second w in wekuttamwog (l. 34).

21 [[n]] : false start, crossed out.

[Notes continued on next page.]

1 Barnstable, June 11, 1752.
 Oh! Our honorable gentlemen and kind gentlemen in
 Boston in Massachusetts Bay, here in New England, the great ones who oversee
 the colony in Boston, gentlemen. Oh!, Oh!, gentlemen, hear us now, Oh! ye,
 5 us poor Indians. We do not clearly have thorough understanding
 and wisdom. Therefore we now beseech you, Oh!, Boston gentlemen.
 Oh! Hear our weeping, and hear our beseeching of you, Oh!,
 and answer this beseeching of you by us, Oh!, gentlemen of Boston,
 us poor Indians in Mashpee in Barnstable County.

10 Now we beseech you, what can we do with regard to
 our land, which was conveyed to you by these former sachems of ours. What they conveyed to
 you(?)
 was this piece of land {land}. This was conveyed to us by Indian sachems.
 Our former Indian sachems were called Sachem Wuttammohkin and
 Sachem Quettatsett, in Barnstable County, the Mashpee Indian place. This Indian land,
 15 this was conveyed to us by these former sachems of ours. We shall not
 give it away, nor shall it be sold, nor shall it be lent, but we shall
 always use it as long as we live, we together with all our children,
 and our children's children, and our descendants, and together with all
 their descendants. They shall always use it as long as Christian Indians live.
 20 We shall use it forever and ever. Unless we all
 peacefully agree to give it away or to sell it. But as of now
 not one of all of us Indians has yet agreed to give away,
 or sell, or lend this Indian land, or
 marsh, or wood. Fairly, then, it is this: we state frankly we have never conveyed them away.

25 But now clearly we Indians say this to all you
 gentlemen of ours in Boston: We poor Indians in
 Mashpee, in Barnstable County, we truly are much
 troubled by these English neighbors of ours being on this
 land of ours, and in our marsh and trees. Against
 30 our will these Englishmen take away from us {these}
 what was our land. They parcel it out to each other, and the marsh along with it, against
 our will. And as for our streams, they do not allow us peacefully
 to be when we peacefully go fishing. They beat us greatly,
 and they have houses on our land against our will.
 35 Truly we think it is this: We poor Indians soon shall not
 have any place to reside, together with our poor children, because
 these Englishmen trouble us very much in this place of ours
 in Mashpee, Barnstable County.

Therefore now, Oh! you kind gentlemen in Boston,
 40 in Massachusetts Bay, now we beseech you: defend us,
 and they would not trouble us any more on our land.

[Notes to doc. no. 154, continued.]

22 [[noow]] : crossed out.

26 [[k]] : crossed out.

30 yeush : Assumed to be a false start, but not crossed out. nunnemmunnumungqunnonog : m
 added above; the apparent line through the preceding nu is a slip of the pen.

36 appeog : e changed from o, or perhaps e was written unclearly and wrongly changed to o.
 nunnechanunoonog : the o(?) is flat and blotted closed, perhaps intended to be deleted.

37 [[nut]] : crossed out.

38 [[p.sh]] : crossed out. Barnstuble : u has an extra stroke.

39 [[womm]] : crossed out.

B16. Congregational Society Library, Boston, Massachusetts; Eliot Bible (Eames no. 16, Pilling 1891:160); Nantucket; original.

Marginal annotations.

The margins of the pages were cut down during the modern binding affecting the text of the marginalia in some places.

The study of the different hands is incomplete; a few notes are given, generally where there are clearly different hands on the same page.

Single letters have not been transcribed, nor have such marginalia as the eight fancy capital As at Joshua 13. The alphabets have not been treated completely. Typically they begin with A or Aa, lack j and y, and have long s. Some end with &; the two at Judges 9 lack y and others often lack x.

B16

Judges

- 1.1 [---...c]o[m]
 1.2 [Q] nishnoh pasuk [.....]me sausa

 2.1 nedombaog [...]andammook
 2.2 asquam koo[..]mmonmoyeu

1 Samuel

- 1.1 nen [J-.umu]n en yeu nutta[--]

 2.2 John

 3.1 nenauwun kuttumooke missininu-
 3.2 og ninoonequuttammumun neah nuttis-
 3.3 senninonit

1 Chronicles

- 1.1 S Saul nuppooi

Psalms

- 1.1 [-]nneau
 1.2 [--.]ish-
 1.3 [--.]onsam-
 1.4 [--]kah wa-
 1.5 [--]maa

[Continued two pages below.]

B16

Judges

- 1.2 [--] every one [- ? -]
 2.1 my friends, [remem]ber,
 not yet you (?) [- ? -]

1 Samuel

- 1.1 I J[- ? -] [- ? -] this I [- ? -]
 2.1 John
 3.1 We are poor people.
 We are unable to do that (?).

1 Chronicles

- 1.1 Saul died.

Psalms

- 1.1-5 [- ? -]

[Translation continued two pages below.]

Notes.

Judg 1.1 First part cut off. m : or perhaps ne.

2 Damaged parts are torn.

2.1-2 Rubbed.

1 Sa 1.1 Cut off; some letters precede.

3.1-2 In gutter of left page.

3 In gutter of right page.

1 Ch 1.1 Written neat and small; the ooi is linked. This is copied from 1 Chr. 10:5: Saul nupp8i.

Psal 1 At Ps. 108; edge cut.

1.1 a : e was begun, then changed to a.

2 [.] : could be p.

3 [.] : perhaps e.

5 a : perhaps e changed to a by adding a loop below.

1 att September ' the ' 5 year -- 1749
2 att Gayhead maueog kuttummake Indiansog wuttohkemeyakish ayumog hohpoe buttission
3 nashpe wawapunnutchaeonk en kennau quohtaianumukquessuewe Commissionors boston
4 & wonk General Court hohboe kunnanabassumunmun nenawun kuttumake Indiansog Gay-
5 head wuttohkemeyakish moocheke kunnotamanishshinnan wutche nuttohkeen Gayhead
6 ne anue wannekik nukquennauehukunnan ongatog kottumm8ash nish payom8ukkish woh
7 nuttittannahkehkonnan ne mache nogkohkauweh8wahittit Gardeausog [[nuk..]] nequttoh tasshe
8 kottummae yowutche wuske nogkohkauwehettin ut october the ' 20 year -- 1747 & anue
9 moocheke nukkuttummakeyeumun yawutche ohquombai toh pache yu kasukoh asquam
10 nuttohto8mun poonnashshummoonk paiachummoowe toh woh attannattuppehittit
11 nunnettassumunnanog wepe nuttattaammun p8nnashshummoonk pache yeu kasukoh
12 negone matta unnanub asquam payont yo wuske unnamatueonk nuttohtomun wame
13 ohquombai wamat p8nnashshummoonk & wonk tonnohkehteakonkash newai hohpoe
14 nunnanabannomun woh [[nuttompp.]] nuttompponnummonteanan nuttohkeen ne mache
15 nogkohkauwehittumuk [[nun]] nissimun nussauwunnumumun kooche attaannat p8n-
16 nashshummoonk & yeu kottumm8 wame nuttauwohkonnann ne matta nogkohkauweh-
17 hoowahhittit & ongatog kottumm8 matta [[wuttohto8mun]] ahto8wog tonnohkehteakonk
18 kuttummake Indiansog newai hohboe nunanabannomun woh ammannoh yo
19 wuske unnamatueonk wutche nohhoganonut wutcheyai asquam payont yo wus-
20 ke unnamatueonk n8nequttampannek yeug chaquaquassog nuttinnehukqun-
21 nan neanne teappennamhittit [[noh asquam payont yo wuske unnama-]]
22 [[tueonk yeug chaquaquassog noonequttampanne nuttohkeen toh neit auwoh-]]
23 [[konnat]]
24 ut yeu nuttohkeen newai nussimun our king George unnomatueonk wepe
25 woh [[n....]] nuttouwohkonchannan ut yeu nuttohkeen Gayhead
26 & wonk nissimun wutche yeu nuttohkeen gayhead nemache nogkahkauhoo-
27 wahittit Gardeausog nuttass8koohkemmeteamun wutche ne money payom8uk
28 nishnoh kottumm8 peyom8 four hundred & sixty & five pounds & wonk ongatog
29 nuttohtomun wossuskehtueash & neque chuppai wonk [[nogkau]] nogkahkauwehittit wepe
30 [[che]] wutche ' 2 ' 0 - 0 & wonk [[og]] ongatog pasuk mannamussuh munnohanne wossuskeh
31 nunnemmunnumaqunna chaquaquassog
32 & wutche wame yeu money ne payomooouk aggussueog wosketompaog & wonk
33 muttimususog & mukeiessog ohtooog usshaan yeu neque kottumm8 mache payo-
34 moouk nishnoh pasuk wosketomp & muttumusus & mukeiessog wepe ahtou
35 half year ' 0 - 15 - 0 & wonk ongatog half year : ohtou nishnoh pasuk 0 - 14 - 0
36 onk monaog missinninueog wosketompaog & wonk muttimussussog & mukeiessog
37 matta [.] unnummauwaog usshaan wutche ne money payom8uk --
38 & wame keteahogonog Indiansog Gayhead wosketomp & muttumusus & mukeiessog
39 [[P]] papaume tass8og 165
40 & wame Indiansog gayhead nunnettassumunnanog papaume tassueog 400 ' toh
41 woh neit unnagemut ne woh annakemut sheepsog yeug matta ahto8g tan-
42 nattuoppoonk paiachummoowe wepe nuttattaammun poonnashshummoonk
[Continued three pages below.]

49. Massachusetts State Archives (M.A. 31:645); Gay Head; original (Zachary Hossueit).

For the contemporary translation, see Appendix.

Petition from the native proprietors of Gay Head to the Commissioners of the New England Company and to the General Court of the Massachusetts Bay Colony concerning the leasing of Gay Head lands.

Document no. 153 is on the verso.

For the hand of Zachary Hossueit, see the note to document no. 7.

2 Indiansog : a changed from n.

7 nogkohkouwehowahittit : h changed from u.

8 nogkohkouwehettin : o perhaps changed from a; h changed from u.

14 [[nuttompp.]] : crossed out.

15 [[nun]] : crossed out. nissimun : i changed from u, twice.

16 nashshummooonk : the second two os are linked, but the first two are closer together.

& : crowded in. nogkohkouweh- : hk changed from uh.

17 [[wuttohtoomun]] : o added above; word crossed.

21-23 Bracketed section crossed out.

24 George : e added above.

25 [[n...]] : blotted.

26 nissimun : i changed from u, twice.

29 [[nogkau]] : crossed out.

30 [[che]] : rubbed off. [[og]] : rubbed.

32 wosketomopaog : perhaps a(?) was changed from o, and o changed from something.

33 muttimususog : u added above. mukeiessog : e added above.

37 [.] : rubbed.

39 [[P]] : blotted.

[Notes continued two pages below.]

1 September the 5, 1749.
 At Gayhead the poor Indians met together, we who are the proprietors. They made a humble
 petition,
 by vote, to you, the honorable Commissioners in Boston,
 and also the General Court. Humbly we beseech you, we the poor Indians
 5 who are the proprietors of Gayhead: defend us much more regarding our land at Gayhead.
 We need what (will) be better ("for us") other years that (will) come. We would
 plant our gardens on (the land) that the Guardians have leased out for six
 years, from when it was first leased out on October the 20, 1747. And
 10 we become poorer and poorer, from that time until today. No longer
 do we have pasturage freely where our animals can feed,
 except if we rent ("buy or hire") pasturage, to this day.
 Previously it was not so. Before this new law came we had at all
 times enough pasturage and also gardens. Therefore we humbly
 pray that there may be released to us our land that has
 15 been leased out. We say we are weary of renting ("hiring") more pasturage.
 And this year we (shall) use everything they do not lease out,
 and another year the poor Indians (will) not have gardens.
 Therefore humbly we pray that this new law may be taken away
 from us, because before this new law came
 20 these Englishmen were unable ("had not the power") to treat us
 as they pleased [[noh before this new law came
 these Englishmen were unable then (?) to use our land.]]
 24 on this land of ours. Therefore we say (we) would (have) only the law of our King George
 25 used for us on this land of ours at Gayhead.
 And we also say regarding this land of ours at Gayhead that has been leased out by
 the Guardians, that we are deceived regarding the money that comes (from it).
 Every year there comes four hundred and sixty-five pounds. And also
 we have other meadows and there is a part of that that they have also leased out
 30 for only £ 2 - 0 - 0. And also one other thing: the island meadow at Menemsha
 the English took away from us.
 And from all this money that comes, few men and also
 women and children have a share. This one year that has come
 each one, man and woman and children, had
 35 for the half year only £ 0 - 15 - 0, and also for the other half year each one has
 £ 0 - 14 - 0.
 And many people, men and also women and children,
 were not given a share from the money that came.
 And all the Indian souls at Gayhead, man and woman and children,
 number about 165.
 40 And all the animals of us Indians at Gayhead number about 400 --
 if the sheep could be counted that is how many would be counted. These have no
 foddering place freely, except if we rent ("buy") pasturage
 [Translation continued two pages below.]

[Doc. no. 49, continued.]

43 wutche nunnettassumunnang ya wutche ohquombai yo payont wuske unnama-
 44 tueonk pache yeu kasukoh
 45 & yeu kottumm8 kuttumake Indiansog Gayhead matta unnunnummauwaog money
 46 pache toh yeu kasukoh & mache mennuhkeohquombai monaog poskonnattammog matta
 47 ahto8g meettussueonk & moocheke ohquombai [[ou]] moncheog en Gardeaussog nattinnah-
 48 hammog money matta unnunnummauwaog money asuh nanne chaquoh & washa
 49 yo wuske unnamatueonk payont nohhoganonut kooche anue nukkuttummakeyeumun
 50 newaiche hohboe nannabonnommun woh ammannoh yo wuske [[unmamat]] unnamatueonk
 51 [[Mr. Elisha tupper kunnanabassumunnumun kunn8tamannishshinnan yeu papaume]]
 52 Joseph panue pilat sauwamog elis henry
 53 Jude hossueit phillip wossonan mary qunish
 54 Ephraim abram Joseph Joel Ezther pomit
 55 Jeremiah sauwamog Joseph pomit Markit Cottoote
 56 Jemes Tallmon Jonathan akoochik Sarah paul
 57 [[proporitors]]
 58 John akoochik Thomas tohqun Martha henry
 59 Samuel pomit Jonathan Elisha buthiah pomit
 60 Isaac hossueit Jeremiah Allmih Ledey ontukque
 61 Labon hossueit [[..]] Darcus amos
 62 barapus Isaac bettey Ekill
 63 Joseph paul
 64 Noah kesuk
 65 mathew ontukque
 66 proporitors
 67 Zachary hossueit Clerk att Gayhead
 68 [[a ture]] a ture buttission

[Notes to doc. no. 49, continued.]

- 46 mennuhkeohquombai : e added above the o.
 47 [[ou]] : crossed out.
 49 nohhoganonut : a changed from o; o(?) changed from a.
 51 Crossed out by vertical strokes, with heavy cross-strokes through the name.
 57 At the right, crossed out.
 60 Jeremiah Allmih : in a different hand and ink, presumably signed by himself.
 61 [[..]] : blotted and rubbed.
 66-68 See photograph for arrangement.
 68 [[a ture]] : rubbed.

43 for our animals, from that time when this new law came
until today.
45 And this year the poor Indians of Gayhead have been given no money
to this day and already for a long time. Many are starving ("suffering for want").
They have no food. And many times they go to the Guardians (and) seek
money, (but) they are not given money or anything. And since (?)
this new law came to us we are even poorer.
50 Therefore humbly we pray that this new law may be taken away.
[[Mr. Elisha Tupper, we beseech you, defend us about this.]]

Joseph Ponue	Pilat Sauwamog	Elis Henry
Jude Hossueit	Phillip Wossonan	Mary Qunish
Ephraim Abram	Joseph Joel	Ezther Pomit
55 Jeremiah Sauwamog	Joseph Pomit	Markit Cottoote
Jemes Tallmon	Jonathan Akoochik	Sarah Paul
		[[<u>proprietors</u>]]
John Akoochik	Thomas Tohqun	Martha Henry
Samuel Pomit	Jonathan Elisha	Buthiah Pomit
60 Isaac Hossueit	Jeremiah Allmih	Ledey Ontukque
Labon Hossueit		Darcus Amos
Barapus Isaac		Betty Ekill
Joseph Paul		
Noah Kesuk		
65 Mathew Ontukque		
		<u>Proprietors.</u>
		<u>clerk at Gayhead.</u>
	Zachary Hossueit,	
	<u>A true petition.</u>	