Indians - Gay Head et al.

Idgartown, fan. 28. 1860. My Dear Sir, Deacon Simon johnson of Lay flend is now with me and expresses some anxiety for the intirests of his people. He trinks that form one has written Im, to the purport that the profile of Lay Head desire a division of the land will not promote the best interests of the people, but will be injurious to them and his , thank is the opinion of most of the people there when who are not foreigners. The Committee on the Indians in Dukes bunty in 1827 reported a Bill which was ordered to be printed and distributed among the Indiand for whose benefit the Bill was intended . March. 10. 1827. I trust that no final action will be taken on any till relative to the Indians, till they shall have an apportunity to examine its provisions. change, especially relative to the Indians of Lay Head who are differently situated than any others, upictally, from their isotated portition ,

I should be glad to envene with in on this interesting and difficult subject, but feel confi-dent that You will recommend any thing that you do not think conducive to the milfart of the Indiand .

Ting raspectfully Four Friend, Favill Maatter,

Mon. John Milton Carle, Indian Commissioner,

P.S. * tune Stelly Joseph of Chappequiddic wishes me state to You her claims against lus tro sisters, deceased, Viz. Againes Betacy Carter, for services 40 136.00 306.00 " Jeggy teters, for board de Altho you how no authority to settle the above, not such a case shows that form provision should be made by the State, that she should perform all her bligations The indians have been and are quasi sninots and Wards of His State, who has voluntarily assumed Quardia shit ovor tiem. Formisty auns Nelly Goodorich nor pant Nelly Joseph

BI am not surprised that you was not prepared for the statement of the In artices of the lehelp. and Christian trino A the Indian Commissioners in 18248 was true thew, and is equally true err, especially of the propendidic Indiand. Mr Marchant, to say the least, had done thim a grievous wring. Lewitt Chatter,



Leavitt Thayton

8

My Dear Sir,

Deacon Simon Johnson of Gay Head is now with me, and expresses some anxiety for the interests of his people. He thinks that some one has written you, to the purpose that the people of Gay Head desire a division of the lands.

The Deacon thinks a division of the land will not promote the best interests of the people, but will be injurious to them, and this I think is the opinion of most of the people there, who are <u>not</u> foreigners.

The Committee on the Indians in Duke's County in 1827 reported a Bill which was ordered to be printed and distributed among the Indians for whose benefit the Bill was intended – March 10, 1827.

I trust that no <u>final</u> action will be taken or any bill relative to the Indians, till they shall have an opportunity to examine its provisions.

I fear the consequences of any material change, especially relative to the Indians of Gay Head, who are differently situated than any others, especially, from their isolated position.

I should be glad to converse with you on this interesting and difficult subject, but I feel confident that You will not recommend any thing that you do not think conducive to the welfare of the Indians.

Very respectfully,

Your Friend,

Leavitt Thaxter

Hon. John Milton Earle Indian Commissioner P.S. *Aunt Eleanor Nelly Joseph of Chappequiddic wishes me [to] state to You her claims against her two sisters, deceased,

Against Betsey Carter, for services.		\$36.00
"	Peggy Peters, for board.	\$306.00

Altho You have no authority to settle the above, yet such a case shows that some provision should be made by the State, that she should perform all her obligations.

The Indians have been and are quasi minors and wards of the State, who has voluntarily assumed Guardianship too them.

I am not surprised that You w[ere] not prepared for the Guardian of the Chap. and (Christiantown Indians. My answer to Question 1 on p. 72 of the Report of the Indian Commissioners in 1848 was <u>true then</u> and is <u>equally true now</u>, especially of the Chappequiddic Indians. Mr. Merchant, to say the least has done them a grievous wrong.

Leavitt Thaxter

* Formerly Aunt Nelly Goodrich, now Aunt Nelly Joseph