

and keep his Sabbath, our children and young men learn to read, and many of our people from a distance have joined us. We now want the fish in our river that we may keep our children at home to go to school and not to go many miles back to hunt for provisions.

We also catch salmon and sell them very cheap to industrious white men who bring us flour and other provisions and cattle, and they say it is much better than to fish themselves -

But now I tell you we will tell you how wicked white men have used us, these, almost all lazy drunken white men, who will not work - they come in the fall and spring and encamp for many weeks close by our village, they burn and destroy our fences and boards in the night, they watch the salmon and take them as fast as they come up, they swear & get drunk and give a very bad example to our young people and try to persuade them to be wicked like themselves, and particularly on the Sabbath their wicked ways give us much trouble & make our hearts sorry; - then go to the mouth of the river and catch all the salmon, they put the offals of salmon in the water to keep the fish from jumping up, that they may take them with a seine near the mouth in the lake, and often in the dark they set gill nets in the river and stop all the fish - By these means we are much injured & our children are deprived of bread.

Now I tell you all the fish in these rivers and in these lakes, and all the deer in these woods were ours, but your old children only ask you to make laws to keep these back from away from our fishery at the river mouth, from Mr. Barry's line to the mouth of the river, and along the lake shore one mile on each side of the river as far as our land extends, with to punish those who attempt to fish here - we will not fish on Saturday night, Sunday night and Sunday, but will let the fish pass up to our white brothers up the river - And we your children as in duty bound will ever pray -

Signed

James Agitans
Peter Jones
Joseph Sawyer
John Jones
and forty nine others

Pinner Creek
Jan'y 31st 1829

Note - The House of Assembly passed a law in the winter 1829 - in compliance with the above Petition.

1867
1829
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