

1803

To the honorable the Senate and House of
Representatives of the Commonwealth of
Massachusetts, in General Court assembled, at
Boston, January, 1803 : humbly represent, the
subscribers, inhabitants of the town of Pittston in
the District of Maine

Town of Pittston

David Cobb

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To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in General Court assembled, at Boston, January, 1803—

HUMBLY represent, the subscribers,
Inhabitants of the town of *Pittston* in the District of *Maine*,

THAT they have long been deeply impressed with the importance, and convinced of the expediency, of erecting the District of MAINE into a separate and independent Commonwealth.

THAT this impression does not result from any aversion to the Constitution or Government of the State with which they have so long been happily connected; but from certain natural and immutable principles which ~~ever~~ ^{unequivocally} dictate the propriety of such a measure.

THOSE positions which, without the aid of reasoning, are accredited as truths by every unprejudiced mind, need not be enforced by detailed argument or labored investigation.

THAT the District of MAINE ought to become a State, whenever its population and property should be sufficient to render its Government respectable, has ever been received as a self-evident proposition.

THAT its population is now sufficient, is proved by the late census, which gives upwards of one hundred and fifty thousand inhabitants to this District.

THAT it has property to support a Government, is proved by the recent valuation, which is among the public records.

THAT a territory having three hundred miles of sea coast; for one of its boundaries, the British dominions for two others, and the State of New-Hampshire for the fourth, with 150,000 inhabitants, will be accommodated, improved and enriched, by making its own Laws, and having its own Legislature, instead of being a distant member of a Commonwealth separated from it by the ocean, and by an independent State and territory, will in our opinion be doubted only by those who have not paid a due consideration to the subject.

A MAJORITY of the people have declared their wish upon the subject. The years that have passed since that declaration, have, in the opinion of your petitioners, greatly increased that majority.

YOUR petitioners would do nothing without the sanction of the government. They therefore pray that measures may be taken to put in execution the wish of the inhabitants of this District, as heretofore expressed to the Legislature on this subject.

AND they humbly suggest that the best mode will be for the Legislature to authorize a Convention of Delegates from all the towns in the District, at some central and convenient place, which Convention shall have power to declare the sense of their constituents, to frame a Constitution of Government, and to do and transact all things which may be necessary to the perfect establishment of a separate and independent State.

Barzillai Gannett	Rufus Gay	Benja Chamberlin
Wm Swan	Daniel Watson	John Stone
Stephen Jewett	Edward Swan	Mattiah Lawrence
Sam ^l Jewett	Jesse Jewett	Jeress Wakefield
Quincy B. Tobant	John Clark	Simon Braestruet
Isaac Clark	Elezar Tarbox	Kathaniel Wells
Joseph Bradstreet	Samuel Clark	Jacob Davis
Will ^m Barker	John Nelson	Benja Davenport
Benja Follansbee	Jonathan French	Caleb Stearns
Seto Gay	Simon Reed	Jeth. Hunt
Eliab Byram	Reginon Hazen	John Biglow
Sewall Brown	John Parkman	William Nutter
	John Goudin	Thomas Edgong
		Jeremiah Tiffl

Archiv
flat

In Senate, Feb 9th 1803. Read and with the several Petitions
accompanying, committed to William Tudor and Enoch Titcomb, Esq^r
with such as the Hon. House may join, to consider and report

Sent down for concurrence
David Cobb Secy.

In the House of Representatives Feb 9. 1803
Read & concurred and

Mr Prescott - Mr. Vose & Mr. Tillinghast are joined

Wm. Tillinghast
W. Vose

^{Pillsbury}
Barzillai Gannett.

Other Petition

Mr Tudor

Mr Titcomb

Prescott

~~Engg~~

Vose

Tillinghast

Sett 27

Pillsbury