

The Committee to whom was refer'd the Petition
of Ephraim Williams Capt: of Fort Massachusetts —
refer'd to this Court in Jan'y last, having view'd —
the Land petitioned for, and being really of Opinion
that it would be of great Advantage to the Province,
as also an Encouragem^t. to the Settlers of the Towns
lately laid out, one of which the Fort stands on, That
a good Grist Mill be built in some suitable Place in said
Township; therefore report as their humble Opinion that
there be a Grant of one hundred & ninety Acres of the
Land petitioned for, made to the Petitioner, his Heirs
& Assigns for ever; the Com^{tee} apprehending it would be
of Advantage for the Govern^t. to reserve ten Acres of the
Land adjoining to the Land already reserved round said
Fort for the Use of the Province — Provided he do
within the Term of two Years build & erect a good

mill upon the ^{Wich River,} ~~Wich River,~~ much
better than in the Place petitioned for, as was proposed,
And he to keep the same in good Repair for the Space
of twenty Years from the time of its being erected, Pro-
vided the same should not be destroyed by the Enemy,
in Case of a War happening, or some other extraordinary
Casualty, And the Com^{tee} are of Opinion that there be
a further Grant of ten Acres more of Land at the Place,
he shall build said Mill including the same; And that
he return a Plan of said Land by a Surveyor & Chainmen
upon Oath within twenty Months ^{from this time} for Confirmation.

All which is humbly submitted James Minot & Order
In Council Feb'y 12. 1730 - Read, & sent down.

In

In the House of Representatives Feb. 15. 1750.
Read & Ordered that this Report be so far accepted
as that one hundred & ninety Acres of the Land
petitioned for be & hereby is granted to the
within named Ephraim Williams his Heirs & Assigns
for ever. — Provided he doth within the Term of
two Years from this time erect & finish for Service
a good Grist Mill & Saw Mill on the North Branch
of Hoosuck River (so called) And that he keep the
same in good Repair for the Space of twenty Years
from the time of their being erected — Provided also
that he return a Plan of said Land by a Surveyor and
Chainmen upon Oath within twenty Months from this
time for Confirmation. — Sent up for Concurrence.
T. Hubbard Spk.

In Council Feb. 16. 1750 - Read & Concurred

Copy examined & approved Secy.

Sho cut out of
was so
I took it out of an
old attic. R. H. W. P.
1911

The Depost of y^e Court upon
my Petition for 200 Acres of
Land in Massachusetts

1750
February

Report

From the Committee of the General Court regarding the petition of Ephraim Williams, Captain, of Fort Massachusetts, as to a grist mill to be built.

Signed by T. Hubbard, Spkr.

Attested by J. Willard, Secty.

This document bears the endorsement of Ephraim Williams, Jr., "Report of ye Comtt. upon my Petition 200 Acres at Fort Massachusetts".

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Thomas Hubbard (1702-1773) of Boston. Speaker of the House of Representatives (1750-1758). Treasurer of Harvard College for twenty years.

Josiah Willard (-1756) of Boston. Commissioned Secretary of the Province by George I. 1717. Held that important office until his death in 1756, and was affectionately called "The Good Secretary".

EPHRAIM WILLIAMS, JR.

1744-1745 Representative to the General Court.

"His politeness and address procured him a greater influence at the General Court than any other person at that day possessed. He was attentive and polite to all descriptions and classes of men, but especially to gentlemen of dignified characters; and sought the company and conversation of men of letters". (Historical Sketch of the Life and Character of Colonel Ephraim Williams)

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