

*Recd of Secy of State
 on 10th Sept. 1859
 and is enclosed as to original & notations of Clerk*

TO the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

Your Petitioners, the inhabitants of the Town of Lexington, by their Selectmen, duly authorized therefor, would respectfully represent, That they have for more than a century and a half contributed to the support and maintenance of the Bridge over Charles River, between the city of Cambridge and the town of Brighton, formerly known as "the Great Bridge," that when the inhabitants of Lexington assumed the obligation to contribute to the support of said bridge, it was a part of the only thoroughfare into Boston over which they passed in going to and coming from market; but since the building of Charles River Canal and other bridges, and especially since these bridges are made free, and various railroads have been opened into Boston, shortening the distance several miles, the bridge in question is used so rarely by the citizens of Lexington, that, but for the annual tax imposed upon them, its very existence would be unknown to ninety-nine hundredths of our citizens at the present day. The consideration, therefore, having long since ceased, the obligation founded upon it can no longer be valid.

Your Petitioners would further represent, That it is totally repugnant to the established policy of the State, as well as to the principles of justice and equity, that any town should be called upon to support a public way which they never travel, when this way is out of their territorial limits and designed for the special benefit of the towns between which it is situated. Besides, the Legislature in its wisdom has exempted other communities more immediately interested in this bridge than the inhabitants of Lexington, from any further contributions to support the same, thereby increasing the burden which must fall upon our citizens.

Wherefore, your Petitioners respectfully but earnestly pray that your Honorable body may take such action in the case as will exempt them from a burden which they regard as oppressive and unjust.

In behalf of the Town of Lexington,
 CHARLES HUDSON, } Selectmen
 LORING S. FIERCE, }
 of
 DAVID A. TUTTLE, } Lexington.
 Lexington, Sept. 16, 1859.

I hereby approve of the publication of the above petition in the Cambridge Chronicle and the Boston Journal.
 OLIVER WARNER,
 Secretary of the Commonwealth.
 Secretary's Office, Boston, Sept. 16, 1859 83w sep 17

In Board of Alders, Sept. 20. 1859.

Read and placed on file.

attest, Justin A. Jacobs, City Clerk.

~~2074~~

~~750~~

~~1109~~

~~57~~

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~~906~~

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HA

Expenses = Portion of
to Leg^{re}
trucking
Great Bridge

rem? in City of Cambridge Sep. 26
1859.
at 12.50 p.m.