

INDIANS WERE STOLID.

**Descendants of Original Montauks,
When Tried for Trespass, Would
Only Grunt and Say Nothing.**

(Special to the Eagle.)

Riverhead, L. I., November 18—Ebenezer Pharaoh, Samuel Pharaoh, John J. Butler and George Butler, so-called Montauk Indians, were all found guilty of malicious trespass in Justice Mulligan's court at Easthampton on Wednesday. The first named was fined \$5 or five days in jail, and sentence was suspended on the other three.

The men were charged with illegally trespassing on lands of the Montauk Company at Montauk, property once owned by the redskins, and which is still claimed by some of their lineal descendants. When the men were arrested for the present offense they asked for an adjournment of the case that they might institute a proceeding to test their rights to the big peninsula.

The adjournment was granted. Wednesday they asked for further adjournment, but it was denied them. They had no counsel at the hearing, but intimated that they had engaged one.

All of the men were as stolid, non-committal and silent as their forebears were a century ago. They refused to be sworn in the hearing, refused to testify, refused to say what steps they had taken as to engaging a lawyer to test their rights to Montauk, and in fact they merely grunted and said nothing. It being impossible to get anything out of them one way or the other the justice promptly found them guilty as charged, after hearing the prosecution side of the case. Their present "chief" is a man named Pharaoh (not the man arrested) and he was present at the hearing and in conference with the accused Indians; but he would say nothing, either. This man is said to be a direct descendant from the first Indian chief.

It was charged that the men built a wigwam on the Montauk property, shot birds on the property, committed various other forms of trespass and then roundly cursed the superintendent when ordered away from the land on which they were trespassing. Nathan O. Petty of Riverhead represented the land company in the trespass suit.

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