

committed

on no

as it is obvious that this measure is intended to enable them to carry
the war against Canada, it must therefore be equally obvious that
the Interest of Great Britain to prevent by every possible means
deriving that advantage, which they must do if that is not
Northern States are left open to the neutral Trade. The action of
the executive Government of the United States are not limited to the
Canadas, if they fall New Brunswick and Nova Scotia must soon
follow, it therefore becomes the Interest of all those attached to the
mother country, to make a partial sacrifice of a temporary
advantage to secure their future security, and I have every con-
fidence in the patriotism of the Gentlemen who signed the
resolution to Your Excellency, that upon due consideration they
will view the institution of a General Blockade as a necessary
measure, calculated to destroy the Enemy, and for the permanent
security of the British colonies. When Government committed
to my ^{predecessor} predecessor the power to place the ports of the United States
in a state of strict Blockade, they must have been one of the
objects they had in contemplation. The Neutral Powers
have a just reason to complain if their vessels were prevented from
entering the Blockaded Ports when a licensed British Trade
was permitted from the British colonies, this would be a measure
novel in the extreme, and in opposition to any system hitherto
observed in like cases. That Your Excellency may be aware
how far it is from being approved of by His Majesty's Govern-
ment, I send you a copy of a letter written by command of
Lord of the Council to the Secretary of the Admiralty, in consequence
of permission having been given for a British
blockade for a vessel to pass a Blockaded Port, that desiring the
grain to all officers commanding Blockading Squadrons on any
account to grant such permission. On this ground, my
present opinion is, that no licensed Trade can be carried on
with the Ports of the United States. In ^{order} to prevent as much
possible any loss that might arise to merchants shipping cargoes
in England for the United States upon the ground of the
continuance of the embargo I despatched a vessel of war from
England, the day after I ordered the Blockade, and the
execution of my former orders.

Lains of

requesting