

Copy

To His Excellency
 Sir John Coape Sherbrooke Knight of
 the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, Lieutenant
 Governor and Commander in Chief in and over His
 Majesty's Province of Nova Scotia, and its
 Dependencies; and to the Honorable His
 Majesty's Council.

The Petition of the Subscribers, Merchants and
 Inhabitants of Halifax in the Province of Nova Scotia.
 Humbly Sheweth

That your Petitioners being extensively engaged
 in the British and West India Trade have for some time
 past derived great advantage from the sale of British
 Merchandise and West India produce for exportation to the
 United States. That the British Government deeming it advise-
 able to encourage such Trade, His Royal Highness the Prince
 Regent on the 13th day of October 1812 the same day that war was
 declared against the United States, by an order in Council, issued
 under the authority of an act of Parliament, did authorize the Lieut.
 Governor of this Province, to grant Licences to export, on any Ship
 or vessel, not belonging to France or the Subjects thereof, to any
 port belonging to the United States of America from which British
 Ships are excluded, any goods, wares or Merchandise being the
 growth produce or Manufacture of the United Kingdom of Great
 Britain or Ireland, or any of the British Colonies Plantations
 or Settlements in the West Indies, upon proof being made that
 such articles had been legally imported into the Port of Halifax
 in British vessels, and also to grant Licences to import certain
 enumerated Articles in any Ship or vessel except as aforesaid
 from the United States of America into this Province notwithstanding
 the present Hostilities, no exception of Blockaded Ports being
 made in the said order.

That your Petitioners since the commencement of
 Hostilities, have derived great advantage from an intercourse with
 the United States, under such Licences, to which Country they
 have exported large quantities of British Merchandise, and West
 India