December 3, 1814
ADM 1/508/43[illegible] - 46
Hotham - Croker

(1)

To John Wilson Croker Esq[re]
Secretary of the Admiralty

No. 12

Superb at Halifax
3[rd] December 1814

(Recd 14 Jan[y])

Treaty of Ghent already signed

Sir,

Having considered the nature of the floating Battery to be moved by the effect of Steam which the Enemy has constructed at New York to oppose His Majesty's Ships in Long Island Sound (of which I did the honor to send you a description in my letter No. 11[illegible] for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty) it has appeared that the best mode of assailing her will be by endeavours to set Her on fire by Hot shot, and Carcasses; I have therefore applied to Rear Admiral Griffith and Commissioner Wodehouse, to have two Vessels fitted for that purpose, which they propose to have done in such manner as the means of the Naval Yard at this Port, and the season of the year will admit, and I have provided the Superb with Carcasses to fire from her Main Deck Guns, and with implements for using Hot Heated in the Galley and Forge; but as these means may not be fully adapted to the purpose, I beg leave to request, in the absence of Sir Alexander Cochrane the Commander in Chief, you will submit to their Lordships the expediency of Vessels being fitted in England and sent to this Station early in the Spring for that Service: and I would venture to suggest that they