

calamity. The war of 1812 was especially so to those interested in commercial business, England then being the great naval power of the world. The war was most violently and bitterly opposed by many residing in the larger commercial portions of the country. When a people become so sordid and selfish as to submit to National insult and indignity without resentment or resistance, from pecuniary considerations, they forfeit the respect of the world. The war continued three years, and its incidents and results are detailed in the written history of the country.

In the year 1808, the town of Lincolnville, at a meeting held on the 12th day of September, voted to choose a committee to petition the President of the United States to suspend the embargo either wholly or partially. John Wilson, Samuel A. Whitney and Abner Heal were chosen the committee. The following is the petition, drafted by the committee:

To his Excellency the President of the United States:

The inhabitants of the town of Lincolnville, in the county of Hancock and District of Maine, in legal town meeting assembled: Respectfully represent that we live in a section of the United States where the hardness of soil, severity of the climate, and newness of the country oblige us to depend chiefly on our lumber, fishing, and navigation for support: That by industry and perseverance in their respective avocations they have to a small degree, improved their situation, and indulged the fond belief of being soon able to pay for their lands and supporting themselves in a more comfortable manner; but the laws of the last Congress, laying an embargo on the ships and vessels of the United States, has blasted our hopes and imprisoned our energies; the farmers and mechanics who were in a sure