

state of progression in the support of their families and the payment of their debts, are now arrested in their progress; many of their families reduced to want and their property sacrificed for half its value to satisfy the demands of their creditors. We feel it our duty to submit to the laws of our country; we believe the measures of the administration generally to have been founded in wisdom, and it has been with pride and pleasure that we have acted in unison with them. But when the pressure of an act of government has acted with a paralyzing influence upon us, we feel it a duty we owe ourselves, our children and our country, respectfully to express our opinion and petition for a redress of grievances. Your memorialists therefore, respectfully request your Excellency that you will, in pursuance of the powers vested in you by Congress, suspend the embargo, at least so far as that the citizens of the United States may be permitted to enjoy the benefits of a free commerce with Spain, Portugal, and their dependencies, and, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Voted, that the selectmen sign the petition for and in behalf of said town, and transmit the same by mail to the President of the United States.

Signed,

SAMUEL A. WHITNEY,
ABNER MILLIKEN,
ABNER HEAL.

Selectmen of Lincolnville.

This petition was mild and respectful and, in all probability, truthful in its statements; but the general government took no immediate satisfactory action on such memorials. Accordingly on the 8th day of Feb. 1809, at a town meeting held at the house of Phillip Ulmer, another committee was chosen to draft a petition to present