

“The undersigned would not be understood as in the slightest degree complaining of the intelligence and far reaching sagacity of the people of Boston. It is not only their right, but emphatically their duty as citizens of Massachusetts, to endeavor to aggrandize and enrich by all honourable means, their own commercial city, and thereby their State at large.

“Weighing all the evidence and arguments that have been presented, considering the history of this road from its infancy, and the relation it sustains not only to our own State and to those of New England, but to the British Provinces, the undersigned cannot but regard this application as in a great degree suicidal to the interests of the State of New York to permit the construction of this bridge :

“Because it would, beyond all doubt, greatly injure and probably circumscribe a navigation that now is a great and growing tributary to our public works.

“Because it would divert the commerce of the Canadas, a great part of which now finds its way to the seaboard through the Champlain canal, into other channels.

“Wisdom, justice, and sound policy would seem most strongly to forbid this self-sacrifice of the interests of our people, however magnanimous it might be regarded to promote the interests and claims of another State, in their revenues and commerce, a rival people.

“The interests of New York imperiously demand that their Legislature shall do nothing to destroy, injure, or impede the navigation of those streams and lakes which the God of Nature made navigable for their enjoyment.”