

# STATEMENT,

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*To His Excellency H. S. Fox, Her Majesty's Minister at Washington.*

WEST FLAMBORO', 21st May, 1839.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

On the 27th of April last, I had the honor of submitting to your Excellency, through the kindness of His Excellency Sir George Arthur, Lieut. Governor of this Province, a summary respecting the seizure by an United States Vessel of War of a Schooner belonging to myself and my late brother William, now deceased, named the "*Lord Nelson*," so long ago as the year 1812, a short time *before* the declaration of War, which will make manifest to Your Excellency that great and aggravated injustice has been done us, and that although we have never ceased to urge our claim, yet we remain unindemnified to this day.

Finding myself to be as near receiving justice in this matter now as we were 27 years ago, and feeling the utter impossibility of any individual compelling an Independent Government to listen to his claim, I directed the papers connected with it to be sent to me, intending to lay them before the Legislature of this Province, at its last Session, in the hope that they would respectfully represent our case to Her Majesty's Government in England, and through its means be remunerated for a loss which no circumstance connected with it can palliate, and which on the part of the U. S. has no excuse, as in all cases when vessels of its citizens were seized by foreign Governments they gave them no rest till their loss was made up, and for which very large sums of money had been received, as well from France, as from other Countries.

Unfortunately these papers did not reach me till the very close of the Session of the Provincial Parliament, and after I had placed in our excellent Lieut. Governor's hands the summary mentioned above; they were therefore of no use to me, and I now beg leave to transmit them to Your Excellency, not doubting but that upon a perusal of them your Excellency will be of opinion with me, that we have, to say the least of it, been hardly dealt with. During the Session of the Provincial Parliament just closed, an address was carried unanimously in the Legislative Council, representing to Her Majesty the heavy losses sustained by the Inhabitants of this Province during the late incursions from the U. S. more particularly the burning of the Sir Robert Peel steam boat, in which address the "*Lord Nelson*," was also mentioned—and although no doubt is entertained that Her Majesty's Government will warmly espouse the cause of Her loyal subjects in this Province, yet I presume to address myself to Your Excellency, as being at the seat of Gov't. you will be better able, than they are in England, to inform yourself of the circumstances of our case and in the hope that if your Excellency is thereby impressed with the same sense of injustice towards us, that I feel Your Excellency will use