

PETITION FOR THE ERECTION OF A LIGHT-HOUSE;

ADDRESSED TO THE ASSEMBLY, JUNE 14, 1765

The humble Petition of Sundry Merchants & others of
Portsmouth and other Adjacent places Concerned in Trade Shews
That the Necessity of a Light house at Some Suitable
place near the Mouth of Piscataqua harbor has been a long time
acknowledged and desired, and is Obvious to every One,
acquainted with the Situation - For Building of which,
Provision was made by the Act commonly called the Loan Act,
above twenty years ago, which would Probably then have nearly
Effectuated the thing, considering the Price of Labour & value of
the bills Emitted by that Act. But if Such a building was
then Estimated of such Importance, to the Safety of Navigation
& benefit of Trade it is much more So now by the Increase of
both - That the burthens & Difficulties now attending Trade of
which every One is Sensible more than when said Act was passd
is as Your Petitioners humbly Conceive a very weighty
Additional Motive to countenance any lawful Scheme that
carries a favorable Aspect towards it, and the Events of the
last Winter & Spring are strong presumptive evidences that the
Light house proposed would be such, and Prevent in a few Years
many heavy losses. - That there is a Society of Gentlemen in
Portsmouth aforesaid formd under the Name of the Marine
Society who are more Intimately acquainted with the

Circumstances and Incidents attending the Navigation of this River than others, who if consulted would more Particularly Demonstrate the Necessity & Advantage of this matter and might be of Service in their advice in the Premises -

Wherefore Your Petitioners humbly request that this affair may be taken under Consideration what was formerly done Considered and such further Measures Determined on and Pursued Especially Such additional Sums Granted as shall best Carry the proposal Into Execution and Your Petitioners Shall ever Pray &c

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| George Boyd | James Stoodly | Samll Dalling |
| John Penhallow | Joseph allcock | Giles Seaward |
| Jonathan Warner | Willm Torrey | Wm Knight |
| Temple Knight | Richd Hart | Nat Barrell |

Members of the Marine Society Vizt --

| | | |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Gregory Purcell | James McDonogh | Wm Langdon |
| Saml Appleton | George Turner | Pierse Long |
| Hugh Hall Wentworth | Geo: Janvrin | Nathl Adams |
| Daniel Rindge | Jno Parker | Edward Emerson |
| Titus Salter | Joseph Hixon | Joseph Mead |
| Nat Sherburne | Samuel Moffatt | Dl Warner |
| Saml Warner | John Leye | Jas Nevin |
| Wm Whipple | | |

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| Thomas Wentworth | Samuel Tripe | Hall Jackson |
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| Thos Packer | Thomas Hatch | Peter Shores juner |
| John Sherburne | Richard Salter | John Griffeth |
| D Peirce | John Wendell | Mark Duckett |
| John Mewmarch | Richard Childs | Timy Mountford |
| Charles Treadwell | Zeb Foss | Wm Odiorne |
| J: Tufton: Mason | James Guppy | E. Russell |
| Nathl Treadwell | Joshua Wentworth | William Parker |
| A R Cutter | Joseph Simes | thos Wibird |
| W Clagett | Geo: Wentworth | Philip Hooker |
| John Shackford | Joseph Cotton | Noah Parker |
| Daniel Rogers | Stephen Batson | Jno Sullivan |
| Paul march | Jno Blunt | Sam Hale |
| H Wentworth | John Huggett | Wm Hart |
| Samuel Wentworth | John Salter | John Noble |
| Mark Hg Wentworth | Wm Shackford | George Marshall |
| Saml Cutts | Jno Bartlett | John marshall |
| Jos: Whipple | Mark Fernald | Ephr Ham |
| John Stavers | Daniel Sherburne | Wm Gibs |
| John Moffatt | Batt Staves | Ebnzer Dearing |
| Tobias Lear | Shad Bell | John Wheelwright |
| John Beck | Clemt Jackson Senr | Joseph Tapley |

[In council, June 18, 1765, the foregoing petition was "Read Recommended & Ordered to be sent down to the Honble House" In H. of Rep., June 19, 1765, "This petition being Read - Ordered that the petitioners have leave by Messrs Jno Sherburne, Jona Warner, Daniel Rindge, Saml Cutts, Thomas Wentworth, Gregory Purcell, Titus Salter and George Janvrin to take a view of Odiorns Point & any other place wh they may think more suitable to erect a light house on that they prepare a plan of the building, make an estimate of the cost thereof & ye annual expence of supporting it consider what materials will be most suitable for such a Building & make report to the General Assembly as soon as may be" Council concurred. Ed.]

From Town Papers, NHSP XIII, pp. 269-271.

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