

Upper Canada
Midland District
Talbot (?)

Benjamin Fairfield of the town of Bath, District and Province aforesaid, Esquire, maketh oath and saith that on or about the month of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twelve, the American Fleet consisting of seven or eight armed vessels in pursuit of one of His Majesty's vessels of war, the *Royal George*, lay off the harbour of the said Town of Bath, and having sent a flag of truce on shore, demanded a Certain Schooner, the property of this Deponent, and then lying in the said harbour which said schooner this Deponent before the said flag of truce was so sent on shore, had (apprehensive of her capture) endeavored to render unmanageable by cutting the rigging of the said schooner. And this Deponent further saith that according to the demand so made as aforesaid, and having no means of opposing the enemy, Deponent surrendered the said schooner. And this Deponent further saith that shortly after the surrender of the said schooner, to wit on the same day and place aforesaid, the said schooner was set on fire by the Enemy and totally destroyed, as this Deponent believes from the rigging of (the said?) schooner having been cut and injured as aforesaid. And this Deponent further saith that the value of the said schooner at the time of the capture of the same was Two Hundred and Fifty Pounds, and Deponent's loss by the capture of the same (on account of the [great rise?] of property of all kinds ahead for some time after the capture of the said Schooner,) to have been Three Hundred Pounds, -

Sworn before me this
19th day of February,
1824 at Bath, -

Benjamin Fairfield

George Ham, J.P.

Statement of Witnesses to Petition;
Upper Canada
Midland District,
Talbot (?)

John George of the township of Ernestown, Seaman, and Peter Davy of the village of Bath, Innkeeper, hereby make oath and say that on or about the month of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twelve, the American Fleet consisting of seven well-armed vessels in pursuit of the *Royal George*, one of His Majesty's vessels of war, lay off the harbour of the Village of Bath, and sent a flag of truce on shore demanding a schooner belonging to Benjamin Fairfield, Esquire, then in the harbour of the said Village of Bath, threatening in case of refusal to destroy the said Village. - and these Deponents further severally say that having no means to oppose the Enemy, the said Benjamin Fairfield to save the said Village of Bath from destruction, delivered up the said Schooner according to the demands aforesaid made. - And these Deponents further severally say that on the day of the said surrender the Enemy set fire to the said Schooner and thereby totally destroyed it. - And they the said Deponents further severally say that they believe the value of the said schooner at the time of the surrender of the same to have been Two Hundred and Fifty Pounds, and the loss sustained by the said Benjamin Fairfield Esquire to have equaled if not exceeded the said sum.

Sworn before me at Bath
This 18th day of February 1824

John ^{his} George
+
mark

George Ham, J.P.

Peter Davy

The contents of this affidavit read and explained to John George, one of the above deponents, before signing the (same?)

George Ham J.P.
Dept. of Finance, UpperCanada, War of 1812
Losses Claims
RG 19 E 5 (a) File 2