

Primary Source: Debating War with Britain: Against the War ^[1]

The document here is an opinion piece in the Carolina Federal Republican of Raleigh, published just after Congress declared war on Great Britain in 1812. Newspapers at that time were partisan, meaning that they openly supported one party or the other. The Carolina Federal Republican was a Federalist paper, and so it supported the policies of that party and opposed those of the President, James Madison — including the war.

[The returns from all the Counties of the State of New-York except two, give to the Federalists a majority](#) of twenty one in the House of Representatives of the State Legislature.

[The sums subscribed to the Eleven Millions Loan](#), opened on the first instant, in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore, fall below four millions of dollars — With all that Virginia, and the States south of her can do, half the sum asked for will not be [subscribed](#) ^[2].

What stronger evidence can be given of the preference of the People of Peace over War, and of Free Trade over [Embargo](#) ^[3]? — At every Election by the people since the War and Embargo projects of the present Congress have been brought forward, the [Democratic](#) Candidates have been rejected: — [And in States where twenty millions are eagerly offered to subscriptions for Banks, one fourth of that sum is refused to the Democratic Administration.](#)

These are [gratifying](#) ^[4] proofs of the returning [virtue](#) ^[5] and good sense of the people, — Determined no longer to be led blindfold, they will judge for themselves of the conduct of their agents, will dismiss from their service, their democratic representatives who have abused their confidence, and once again under the [benign](#) ^[6] influence of [the principles of WASHINGTON](#), our affairs will be [prosperous](#) ^[7] and our people happy.

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[Federalist party](#) ^[8]

[history](#) ^[9]

[newspapers](#) ^[10]

[North Carolina](#) ^[11]

[North Carolina History](#) ^[12]

[Page](#) ^[13]

[politics](#) ^[14]

[Students](#) ^[15]

[Teachers](#) ^[16]

[war](#) ^[17]

[War of 1812](#) ^[18]

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3 January 2018

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