

PETITION.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of Canada, in Provincial Parliament Assembled:

THE HUMBLE PETITION OF WILLIAM LYON MACKENZIE, OF
TORONTO, PRINTER,

SHEWETH :—

That Your Petitioner is a creditor of the Government for interest on his salary, as Resident Welland Canal Director, from the time when his claim was audited and settled and acknowledged as due, till the time when it was paid.

That your Petitioner rendered service to the late Province of Upper Canada, during eighteen months in England, for which he refused recompense then, and desires none now.

That expenses were incurred, leaving a balance due of about £500 ; that the Legislative Assembly appointed a Committee of its members to audit that claim, who did so, by an unanimous vote. Mr. Thorburn, Indian Agent, a member of that Committee, is, or was a few days since, at Quebec.

That the award, and interest thereon, are unpaid, and that your Petitioner laid the case before His Excellency, the Governor in Council, in a memorial, given in last Nov. 27th, of which an official copy received from the Clerk of the Executive Council, is in the following words, namely :

To His Excellency, James, Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, Governor General of Canada, in Council.

THE HUMBLE PETITION OF WILLIAM LYON MACKENZIE, OF
TORONTO, EDITOR AND PRINTER,

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioner, (then a member of the Legislature of Upper Canada, for the County of Peel,) was legally appointed Government Director of the Welland Canal, in 1835, and directed by Special Resolution, as reported by a Committee of the House, to perform the duties of an Acting Commissioner, for investigating its affairs, which duties were arduous, and occupied his whole time for a twelvemonth.

That the other Commissioner, Mr. Thorburn, received \$4 per diem, when occasionally on Canal business, but Petitioner left his claim to the special audit of a Committee of nine members, chosen next year, to examine Canal matters. They awarded £250, which Petitioner applied for, but Government could not pay, for the Annual Supply Bill had failed in Assembly.

The account thus passed upon, in 1836, was not paid till 1851. Petitioner considers that he was as justly entitled to interest, till paid, on an admitted claim for the fulfilment of an official duty, as if he had held a debenture, past due, and of which payment had been refused.

The following is a copy of a letter to Petitioner, correctly stating his case :

“SECRETARY’S OFFICE.

“TORONTO, 6th March, 1851,

“SIR,—I am commanded by the Governor General to inform you that His
“Excellency in Council, has had under his consideration, your letter to me, dated.