

That your Memorialist, however, has been informed that, at the instance of the said North-West Company, a bill of indictment was preferred in September last, at Sandwich, in the Western District of Upper Canada, against his son, for the said alleged conspiracy, but that the Grand Jury at that place did not find the same to be a true bill. That, shortly afterwards, however, an Act was introduced and hastily passed through the Legislature of that Province, in consequence of which the North-West Company have contrived to prefer another bill of indictment against him, upon the same charge, and supported by the same witnesses,—but brought in another district, where it would not have been cognizable without the passing of the said Act; and that the second bill of indictment, so preferred, has been found by a Grand Jury at York, in Upper Canada, against your Memorialist's son, who is now abroad on public service.

Your Memorialist, therefore, most humbly prays that Your Royal Highness in Council will be pleased to withhold your Assent from the said Act, and that means may be taken to quash the said indictment, and wipe off the wanton and unfounded imputation thus cast upon your Memorialist's son, who has nothing to depend upon for his success in life, but his professional character and conduct,—which your Memorialist hopes he will not be deemed over-presumptuous in asserting, have never, in any shape, or upon any occasion, been reasonably or justly impeached.

And your Memorialist, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

ALEXANDER BECHER.

16th August, 1819.