

To the Honourable Samuel Smith, Esquire, Administering the Government of the Province of Upper Canada ;
THE PETITION OF LEONARD WILCOX—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :

That the said Leonard Wilcox has resided a number of years within this Province, and has erected commodious buildings on Yonge Street, 13 miles from York, for the purpose of keeping a house of public entertainment, and, upon making application, found that the oath could not be administered by a magistrate; therefore takes the liberty of petitioning your Honour for the privilege of taking the oath of allegiance for the purpose of obtaining a licence for the accommodation of travellers—And your Petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray for your prosperity.

We, the undersigned, being personally acquainted with the above-named Leonard Wilcox, have ever found him an honest, good, and industrious man; and having been at great expense in building convenient Houses for the accommodation of travellers, do recommend him as a fit person for a tavern license.

(Signed)	James Fulton, J. P.	James Fenwick, J. P.
	James Mustard.	W. R. Caldwell,
	John Button,	J. H. Chewitt,
	Thomas Stoyell,	Jonathan Shaw.
	George Playter,	

Yonge Street, August 12, 1817.

Markham, Aug. 10th, 1817.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,

At the request of Leonard Wilcox, of the Township of Vaughan, I take the liberty to represent that he requested me to administer the oath of allegiance to him soon after his arrival in this Province, but I told him that I was instructed to the contrary, unless he obtained a special order from the Lieutenant Governor's Office.

Mr. Leonard Wilcox has invariably supported the character of an honest and very industrious man during his residence in this neighbourhood; and, if he should be permitted to take the oath of allegiance, I verily believe he would prove to be an useful and a faithful subject.

I have the honor to be Your Honor's most obedient and very
 Humble Servant,

(Signed) **JAMES FULTON, Sen'r.**

To the above application and petitions no official *written* answer was given, but the Governor's Secretary informed me *verbally* that I could not be permitted to take the oath sought for. Seeing, therefore, that my singular case stood no chance of a favourable hearing, I yielded to circumstances, and made no further application until 1820, when I memorialized Sir P. Maitland, and received the following reply:—

Government House, 31st December, 1820.

SIR,—In reply to your Memorial of the 9th instant, praying for relief, I am commanded to inform you that his Excellency regrets that he cannot extend the relief prayed for at this distance of time.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient Servant,

(Signed) **G. HILLIER.**

Finding that I would not be allowed to take the Oath of Allegiance, although at the time town-clerk for the Township of Vaughan, and having acted as juror at the Sessions in the Home District at different times, and having embarked so large a capital in erecting and furnish