

WALTER M'KENZIE,  
J. S. BUCHANAN,  
WILLIAM HEATLIE,  
W. F. GOODING,

[A true copy.]

GEORGE MOORE,  
HENRY CARROLL,  
RICHARD BROWN,  
JOHN FRAZER.

J. B. ASKIN, C. Peace.

## Report on Petition, &c.

*To their Worships the Magistrates of the District of London Assembled in  
General Quarter Sessions of the Peace in April 1839.*

BY ORDER, 12th of April, 1839, a printed Petition to the Magistrates, bearing the Subscription of John Burwell, J. P. was referred to a Committee to examine and Report, and by two orders of 13th April, the same Petition with further signatures and a letter accompanying the same was also referred.

The reference to your Committee is confined to the duty of examining into the allegations contained in the Petition, which would render irrelevant any observations your Committee were otherwise disposed to make on the means taken to circulate the accusations contained in it.

Your Committee find as stated in the Petition, that 27 Magistrates were present at the April General Quarter Sessions for 1837, and that a Committee of 7 was appointed to agree upon a Scale of Fees, and to report, also that the Chairman made out some Extracts of Fees, but these on reference were found to be incorrect by the Committee and afforded them no assistance in the prosecution of their labours.

Your Committee have called before them and examined Mr. Whitehead the Chairman of the Committee on the Table of Fees, who has stated several reasons for the delay which has occurred, and which he has informed your Committee are entered at full length in a report from that Committee about to be presented.

But whatever may have been the conduct of the Committee on Fees, your Committee cannot but condemn the strong language made use of in the Petition, as regards the want of a Table of Fees; a measure adopted in all Courts merely as matter of convenience, that the time of those appointed to examine accounts, may not be unnecessarily taken up in discussing charges for duties of every day occurrence, for whether there be a Table of Fees or not, all accounts require to be audited.

When therefore your Committee look at the pompous verbosity of the 1st and 2d Reasons, stating the acknowledged truism of the pure source of Justice and the necessity for its equal administration, and find it gravely stated that the purity of the stream may be sullied, or the balance of the Beam destroyed by the discussion, whether a constable shall be paid 6d or 4d per mile for apprehending a thief, your Committee think that Mr. Burwell has arrived at a "most lame and impotent conclusion."