

and others, subscribers to the *Toronto* General Dispensary Fund.

By Mr. *Jobin*.—The Petition of the Sisters of the Holy Cross of the Parish of *St. Laurent*, County of *Montreal*.

Petitions read.

Pursuant to the Order of the day, the following Petitions were read:—

Of *Adam J. Fergusson*, Esquire, and others, Electors of the County of *Waterloo*; setting forth:—That at the late Election in and for the County of *Waterloo*, of a Member to represent the said County in this Parliament, *James Webster*, Esquire, and the Petitioner, *Adam Johnston Fergusson*, were the candidates; and that the other Petitioners are, and at the time of the said Election were Electors of the said County, having a right to vote at the Election to which this Petition relates, and that they voted for the said *Adam Johnston Fergusson* at the said Election: That at the said Election the said *James Webster* was declared and returned as duly elected by the Returning Officer, on which occasion the said *Adam Johnston Fergusson* tendered to the said Returning Officer a written protest against the return of the said *James Webster*, which protest the said Returning Officer refused to receive: That the Petitioners have good reason to believe, and verily do believe, that a large majority of legal votes was recorded at the said Election in favor of the said *Adam Johnston Fergusson*, and that the majority of the said *James Webster* is only a colorable one, being composed of persons not entitled to the franchise: That Polls were held at the said Election in the Townships of *Arthur*, *Normanby*, *Egremont*, *Bentinck*, *Glenelg*, *Sullivan*, *Holland*, *Derby*, and *Sydenham*, which are situated in the extensive and newly settled territory commonly known as the *Owen's Sound* Tract, and that vast numbers of votes were recorded in these Townships for the said *James Webster*, whereby the large majority obtained by the said *Adam Johnston Fergusson* in the old-settled portion of the County, was overborne and outnumbered: That the Petitioners have reason to believe, and verily do believe, that great numbers of patents from the Crown were issued to inhabitants of these Townships immediately before the said Election, and for the express purpose of influencing the said Election in favor of the said *James Webster*: That the Petitioners have also reason to believe, and verily do believe, that a very great proportion of the persons who voted for the said *James Webster*, in those Townships, at the said Election, were not freeholders at the time of voting, and that the lands in right of which they were allowed to vote, were at the time vested in the Crown, no patents having ever issued therefor: That in the said Townships, no free, orderly, or peaceable Election was held on the said occasion; but, on the contrary, a general scene of outrage, intimidation and violence prevailed: That the most fearful threats, attended in some cases by actual violence, were offered to the supporters of the said *Adam Johnston Fergusson* in the said Townships, by the supporters of the said *James Webster*, whereby the former were, almost without exception, deterred and prevented from voting for the said *Adam Johnston Fergusson*, as they would otherwise have done: That the agents of the said *Adam Johnston Fergusson* in four of the said Townships, were seized, at the said Election, by the supporters of the said *James Webster*, and forcibly carried off and imprisoned by them; so that the said agents were unable to be present at the respective Polls which they had been appointed to attend, and the said *Adam Johnston Fergusson* was in consequence entirely unrepresented thereat: That others of the agents of the said *Adam Johnston Fergusson*, in the other

Townships of the said *Owen's Sound* Tract, were assaulted, threatened, and ill-treated by the supporters of the said *James Webster*, in order to prevent them from doing their duty as such agents: That the Deputy Returning Officers in all the said Townships of the *Owen's Sound* Tract admitted persons to vote for the said *James Webster* indiscriminately, and without regard to their property qualification: That the said Deputy Returning Officers, at such of the said Townships as the agents of the said *Adam Johnston Fergusson* were permitted to attend, generally refused to make the voters of the said *James Webster* swear to their freehold qualification, as required by law, though the same was expressly demanded by the agents of the said *Adam Johnston Fergusson*: That the said Deputy Returning Officers also refused, in many instances, to permit the said agents of the said *Adam Johnston Fergusson* even to ask the voters of the said *James Webster* whether they had deeds or not; and that many of the said voters openly admitted, at the time of voting, that they had no deeds; notwithstanding which, their votes were recorded by the said Deputy Returning Officers: That during the polling in the said Townships of the said *Owen's Sound* Tract, refreshments and intoxicating liquors were openly and profusely supplied to the voters at the polling places and elsewhere, by the agents and supporters of the said *James Webster*, for the purpose of promoting his Election; and that party flags and colors were also exhibited and used by the supporters of the said *James Webster*, in certain of the said Townships, at the said Election, contrary to the statute in that behalf: That in the Township of *Waterloo*, at the said Election, the Poll was not kept open a sufficient length of time to permit of all the Electors recording their votes, whereby a very great number of the Electors in the said Township of *Waterloo*, who were desirous of voting for the said *Adam Johnston Fergusson*, were deprived of an opportunity to record their suffrages; and that, from the absence of proper arrangements for the taking of the votes there, much crowding, confusion, and unnecessary delay occurred, to the prejudice of the said *Adam Johnston Fergusson*, and that much time was unnecessarily wasted there on the said occasion, from the want of due despatch in going through the business of the Election, and more especially from the putting of unnecessary questions to the Electors, and the inserting of unnecessary entries in the Poll book, to the like prejudice of the said *Adam Johnston Fergusson*; and praying for the above causes, that the said Election and Return of the said *James Webster* for the County of *Waterloo*, may be declared void, or amended, and that the said *Adam Johnston Fergusson* may be declared elected and returned in his place and stead, as the Member to represent the said County of *Waterloo* in this Parliament,—or if the same shall not be granted, then that a new Writ may be issued by the proper authority, for holding an Election for the said County of *Waterloo*,—or that the Petitioners may have such other relief in the premises as the nature of the case requires and deserves.

Of *William K. Mackenzie*, of *L'Orignal*, in the County of *Prescott*, Esquire; setting forth:—That the Petitioner is, and, at the last General Election of a Representative to represent the County of *Prescott* in the present Parliament, was a freeholder in the said County of *Prescott*, and claims to have had a right to vote, and did vote, at the said General Election, wherein *Donald McDonald*, *Neil Stewart*, and *Thomas Hall Johnson*, Esquires, were candidates for the representation thereof: That, at such Election, the said *Thomas Hall Johnson* was declared by the Returning Officer duly elected as the Representative of the said County of *Prescott*,