

To the Governor-General in Council.

The Petition of CHARLES BREMNER, of Bresaylor, in
the District of Saskatchewan, in the North West
Territories, Trader and Farmer.

HUMBLY SHEWETH.

1. In July, 1881, the Petitioner settled at Bresaylor, a small settlement situated 22 or 25 miles from Battleford, and consisting in 1885 of about twenty or thirty families.

2. That the Petitioner was a Farmer, Trapper and Trader, owning land, house, store, stock-in-trade, farm stock and implements, household furniture, and a very large quantity of furs.

3. That until the beginning of April, 1885, when they first heard of the rebellion which had broken out in the North West Territories, all the settlers at Bresaylor and the Petitioner were living quietly on their farms, following in peace their daily vocations.

4. The Bresaylor settlers were of two classes, the Protestant English and the Roman Catholic. The English on hearing of the uprising of the Indians, at once decided to go the Barracks at Battleford for protection, and Edward Payton, one of their number, notified the Petitioner at midnight, that they, the English settlers, were to start for Battleford that night.

5. The Petitioner's family (including his mother, 95 years old,) were all at Bresaylor, but his horses were grazing 18 miles away, and he therefore would not have been able to remove his family before next evening. Payton and the other English settlers (10 or 12 families) refused to wait, saying that the Indians were coming and would kill them if they remained.

6. Although diligent search was made, the Petitioner's horses were not found the next day. Father Cochin, the Priest of the Roman Catholic Class, above referred to, advised the said class, the Petitioner being one of them, to send a letter to the Chief of the Mounted Police at Battleford, asking for advice and assistance, begging for an answer, and stating that the settlers were ready to come in if he said so. This letter was written by Father Cochin, and signed by the Petitioner and another.

7. No answer was received to the Petitioner's letter, and nothing further was heard by the settlers. The Indians were not disturbing the remaining settlers, and acting still under the advice of the Missionary, Father Cochin, who stated that he thought the Indians were quieted down, and that it would be all right to remain where they were and till the farms. The