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To His Excellency the Right Honorable James
Bruce, Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, Governor General
of British North America, &c. &c. &c.

The petition of John Williams of the Township
of Thorold, in the District of Niagara, Yeoman
Humbly Sheweth

Your petitioner is again constrained in
justice to himself and family, to lay his case
(which he considers one of extreme hardship)
before your Excellency in Council - The peculiar
hardship of which, he cannot upon due reflection
think that your Excellency as Representative of
our Gracious Queen, would permit an act of injustice
to be done to one of Her faithful Subjects,

Your petitioner received from the
Commissioner of Crown Lands, copy of a Report of a
Committee of the Executive Council dated 10th April
1845 'stating that if the Committee were to recommend
"a grant to your petitioner, it would be encouraging
"applications which would render the former proceedings
"of Government in relation to old Locations, nugatory" -
"But that the only ground of distinction in your petitioner's
"favor, was the Recognition of the Secretary of the
"Lieutenant Governor in 1822, an immediate Right
"to a Deed, but fear that would not be a solid distinction"

Your petitioner never for a moment could
have believed, that so far, so just, and so equitable
a Claim, as his, could by any Government, (but more
particularly such a Government, as it is the boast of
Britons to live under) be rejected, when all the
necessary Disputations on his part had been fulfilled
and complied with - Your Memorialist actually
deprived himself and family of many necessities
at the time, in order to raise means to get the
settlement duties performed, which he did at a
cost of about Thirty pounds Currency, the necessary
Certificates and affidavits, were procured, and
deposited in the Surveyor General's Office

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agreeable to the Regulations in force at that time, thereby feeling perfectly satisfied, that a just Government, would not do, or cause an injustice to be done, to deprive one of its Subjects of his legal Right -

Your petitioner, on Reference to the Land Act (so called) of the 4 & 5th Victoria, Cap. 100 which has but recently been promulgated, and not having appeared in the Statute Book, is but little known and understood in the Country - By the 2^d sec. it is enacted "that except as therein provided no free grant of Public Land shall be made to any person or persons whomsoever; and Sec: 12, it says provided always, and so it enacted that nothing in this Act contained shall be held to alter the Law as respects Rights to Land Located &c &c - Your petitioner would respectfully submit, that this, is no new Claim, and comes within the proviso of the said Act - He does not come forward with any new Claim for Lands, but merely to assert his Right for Land already granted and Located, and upon which he has been at great expence in having the required settlement duties performed at the time of his location, which require-ments were fulfilled and vouchers to that effect filed in the Land office - Consequently from the very peculiar Circumstances of his Case, he once more appeals to your Excellency for a reconsideration of his Claim, in full expectation that justice will still be done -

Your Memorandist considers his Case, one of extreme hardship - as at that time the Settlers in the Province laboured under every difficulty - No market for Produce, Wheat the staple article, would not bring two Shillings of Price. every thing was to suffer and barter - and having a large family of young Children, unable to assist your petitioner, it was

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with extreme difficulty, that he succeeded in ^{30p}
getting the required settlement duty performed.

Your petitioner therefore prays that your
Excellency may be pleased to take the subject
of his petition into favorable consideration, and
grant him other Lands or such equivalent in
Land Scrip, as may be deemed just and equitable,
under the Circumstances set forth.

And your petitioner as on duty bound
will ever pray

Thosd S. Monk
1847 -

John Williams

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