PETITION

OF

INHABITANTS OF MARLBOROUGH

IN FAVOUR OF THE

"PICTON RAILWAY BILL."

To the Honourable the House of Representatives, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of the Province of Marlborough:—

Humbly Sheweth-

That the Provincial Council of Marlborough, during its last session, unanimously passed a resolution authorising the Superintendent to introduce a Bill to your Honourable House, praying for leave to construct and maintain a Railway, connecting the harbour and port of Picton with the Wairau plain.

That a Bill, authorising the Government to raise by way of loan the sum of Sixty thousand pounds, for the purpose of constructing the said Railway, passed the Provincial Council without a

dissentient voice.

That your Petitioners believe the proposal to connect the only available port of the Province—viz., Picton—with the Wairau plain, is an undertaking that meets the hearty approval of four-

fifths of those having any stake in the welfare of Marlborough.

That, until the harbour of Picton is connected with the Wairau plain by means of a Railway or Tramway, its inhabitants will still, as heretofore, suffer serious loss and inconvenience through the totally inadequate means of accommodation afforded by the only class of vessels that can cross the bar of the Wairau river, and will still be liable to the charges and risk consequent on the transhipment of all goods imported from or exported to England and Australia.

Your Petitioners are satisfied that the outlay required for the undertaking is fully justified by the amount of the returns that would accrue from traffic, in conjunction with many other

advantages it will secure to the Province, amongst which may be enumerated-

1st, A certain and rapid increase of the population;

2nd, A reduction of at least 100 per cent. in the present cost of carriage to and from the port of Picton;

3rd, The increase it will cause in the value of all property, both that of private individuals and the unsold waste lands of the Province;

4th, A saving of at least Ten thousand pounds in the outlay that will have to be incurred in the formation, and wear and tear, of the present line of road before it can be rendered available for the amount of traffic it would have to sustain should the Picton and Wairau Railway Bill not receive the sanction of your Honourable House;

5th, At least half the amount of the cost of the undertaking will be expended in land, timber, nd articles of home production: thus adding to the permanent capital available in the increase of the trade and production of the Province, a sum, the interest of which, at 10 per cent., will amount to little short of two-thirds of the outlay required to meet the charges for interest and sinking fund on the whole amount of the loan.

Your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray that your Honourable House will take this Petition into your favourable consideration, and give your sanction to the Picton and Wairau Railway Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

A. P. Seymour, M.P.C. Cyrus Goulter, M.P.C. Joseph Ward, M.P.C. John Godfery, M.P.C. Edward Faron, Edward C. Morgan, John Smith, Thomas Maxtea, John McLoughlan, Thomas Andrew, Thomas D. Nicolson, Alfred Sparks, Samuel Éves, C. Eves, John Newman, Joe. Mitchel, W. Blackmore, John Fuller, D. Wilson, G. Gougle, C. Cowst, John Levys, J. Geraid, J. W. Barker, J. A. R. Greensil,

Samuel Buckman, W. Pipe, Frederick A. Slow, William Ockley, J. Bonnington, William Reay, Nicholas Kelly, Francis Walls, George Cook, Robert Robinson, William Robinson, T. M. Humffreys, William Robinson, junr. Simon Ponson, Thomas Murphy, Thomas Hart, G. Asher, C. M. Palmer, E. O. Palmer, William Thornton, Alben Close, John Barrough, Donald McPherson, Frank V. Bell, John Tindall,

William Thomson, John Kennedy, John Kernan, James Cotter, William Whitehouse, John Adams, Joseph Hannon, John Murray, William Hall, William Marsh, John Thompson, George Watson, Robert Guest, John Griffith, William Smith James Ford Hathaway, Howard Lakeman, Arch. H. Lakeman, Isaac Jenkin, John Armstrong, John Dayly, Robert Carnwall, J. M. C. Lester, George Storry, H. Godfrey, W. Brydon, Edwin Gear, William Strachen, Henry Cook, Daniel G. Boyd, John Miller, William Gary, Soloman Holroyd, Thomas Bain, Isaac Simson, James A. Henderson, John Jones, William Crisp, T. W. Downes, J.P. B. S. H. Broughton. James Kilgour, Phillip Bevan, William Freeth, Henry Peterson, James Fuller, John Walker, Thomas Evenett, James Williams, Isaiah Parker, Rich. N. Samkey, William Crowther, Joseph Taylor, William Beeres, Thomas Jones, William Bright, Henry G. Clark Richard Howard, Charles Evans, Edward Caldwell, John Edwards, J. W. Callcott, J. W. Neale, E W. Clemens, David Greig, . Henry Bright, John Brooke, James Boon, H. Bonnington, Frederick Hill, Thomas Dockery,

William Pugh,

Richard Maxted, Alfred Amos, William Wells. James Pickering. Donald Campbell, Charles Cass. John Kewly, John Larey, Alix Smith, Thomas Stickell, S. Wolf, Jacob Essen Richard H. Toll, Cordock Beauchamp, James Jackson, William Keenan, John Keenan, William Keenan, junr. Phillip Himes, L. H. Burns, Daniel Love, Daniel Harrison, James Jackson, Peter Brown, Hector Martin, George Kise, Charles Lucas, John Hipelite, Thomas Thoms, James Norton, C. T. Sawyer, Isaac Wallace, Joseph Baker, T. J. Bowden, J. N. Flood, F. O. Western, John Smith, J. Ewart, John Blaymiers, James Twiddale, J. A. Maplesden, Josane Heard, Charles Thompson, T. Matterson, W. Whitelock, Thomas Wotts, John Peek, R. Maxted, E. W. Pasley, R. C. Pasley, J. R. Gordon, Joseph Taylor, C. H. Jennings, John Colyer, Francis J. Blundell, John Robert Shephard, Thomes Carter, William Allison, James Carter, Joseph Carter, W. Baillie, T. G. Maxted, Thomas McKinley, William Hadfield. William Blaymires, Henry Warrick, John Mills, Cornelius Murphy, W. D. Smith, W. H. Hyde,

A. Rankin,

William Clark, George Jones Thomas King Smith, William Craig, Abednego P. Jones, T Sullivan, John McKenna, John Gilson, Charles Maidment, John Hilbourne, John Burton, Charles A. Wylie, Adam Jackson, Robert Thompson, F. Nicholas, John Barton, Isaac Gifford, John T. Hughes, J. S. Ball. James Mudford, A. Vaughen, W. Moore, John Ward, C. Maddock, James Thomas, W. Haynes, C. Young, James Clims, John Climo, T. Herford, C. Masters, Simon Moen, B. Herford, J. Johnson, W. Hinds, C. Rumble, W. Tannahill, David Bell, H. Hill. John F. Basford, Wm. Membery, James Wilson, James Basford, Frederick Smith, Robert Bennett, E. Bennett, George Freeman, F. Hambrook, James Powick, Robert Fiddler, Joseph Law, Henry Humphreys, George Landers, Robert Carver, William Overend, John Kenynon, G. Booth, C. H. Morgan, R. J. Wortley, T. G. Baillie, J. Kennedy, George Beere, David Bays, G. Russell, William Welford, William Neal, Arthur Beauchamp,

Evan Jones, Patrick Dunn, Samuel Harris, William Sabery, Alfred Bragg, Nathaniel Bragg, Richard Bragg, Thomas Philpotts, William Jeffery, John Allen, Mathew Jas. Goodman, John J. White, James McBeath, Robert Beauchamp, John Lingar Neeve, J. H. Brewer, Thomas Webster, James Cole, George Hambrook, John Procter, John R. Hornby, George Petherick, Thomas Freeland, Frederick Hebberly, George James, James Avis, Henry Godsiff, David Lloyd, Donald McCormick, Robert Blaymears, John Caute, Clement Brought, Philip Spowart, Daniel Heard, William Taylor, Frederick Martello, T. R. Hackett, Andrew McArtney, William Seller, James Alexander, T. W. Millington, John Nic. Humphries, Courtnay Kenny, J.P. Joseph Baymiers, Joseph Clapham, James Coleman, John Somers, David Scutir, Widcomb Nichols, Thomas Hall, J. Glenryingheint, Henry Clyne, William Cullen, Joe Firth. John Master, William Tarrent, William Coleman, James Gullery, Peter Doreen, senr. Peter Doreen, junr. Hugh Cutherbertson, William Esson, Patrick McMahon, Edmond Muagways, George McEwen, George Heard.