Juliet 22d. Feb. 1838

To the Commissioners of the
Illinois & Michigan Canal

Messrs.

Since the Commission of the outrages by the Irish at my work on the Canal on the 19th & 20th Inst. and the Course that has been pursued in relation to the Matter, I Conceive that it would be unsafe for me at this time to go upon my work. And if it were safe for me to go upon my work I am unable at present to do so, on account of the injury received from the Irish. I have a large amount of property on and about my works, which is Exposed to the rapacity of the Irish, and I have no men who Can, or who dare to take Measures to preserve my property.

The men who were arrested are now at liberty, and under Existing circumstances I Conceive it to be my duty to apply to you, gentlemen, to take such Measures as you in your wisdom may think proper to preserve my property on the Canal and to restore order

My Foreman is Dennis D. Kelly, living at Hay Town

As soon as I am able to ride, I shall be at Lock Port to see you

Very respectfully your
Obt. Servt.

James Brooks