To the Hon the Board of Trustees
of the Ills and Michigan Canal

The undersigned, wholesale Grocers of the City of Chicago would respectfully represent to your Hon Board that the commercial trade between Chicago and St Louis in the articles of Sugar and Molasses could be very considerably increased by a concession on the part of transporters in their rate of freights, and they believe that this can only be accomplished by a reduction of Tolls on these articles from Eight to say four or five Mills —

They would further represent that they have observed for the last three years that nine tenths of the Hhds Sugars sold in the Chicago market have been brought from the Eastern Cities. When at the same time the Southern markets have ruled at prices nearly or quite as advantageous to Buyers —

Believing that such a reduction would in its results not only benefit themselves but greatly increase the revenue derived from tolls on these articles. Your petitioners sincerely hope that your Board may deem proper to concur with their views —

H Norton & Co
Chas L G Wicker
J C Williams & O F Avery
J R Goggett & Co
M D Gilman
S M Mann

Hinsdale Gould & Haddock
C. L. Harmon & Co
Eli T Brothers
Smith & Pollard
Gray & Densmore
Lewis & Smith
Obadiah Jackson