

ern Inland Lock Navigation company would surrender their rights and interest to the people of this state.

‘III. *And be it further enacted*, That the said commissioners shall be and hereby are empowered to employ engineers, surveyors, and such other persons as in their opinion may be necessary in order to enable them to fulfil the duties imposed on them by this act, and to pay them for their respective services such sums as may be reasonable.

‘IV. *And be it further enacted*, That the said commissioners shall be and they are hereby required to report to the Legislature at their next session an account of the whole of their proceedings.

‘V. *And be it further enacted*, That the treasurer shall pay to the order of a majority of the said commissioners, out of any moneys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, any sum or sums not exceeding fifteen thousand dollars, and for which the said commissioners shall account to the comptroller of this state.’

Secondly—The application of the commissioners appointed by said act to Congress, December, 1811, p. 88, same vol.

*‘To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives
of the United States in Congress assembled :*

‘The undersigned commissioners of the State of New York, respectfully represent,

‘That by a law of which they have taken the liberty to transmit an exemplified copy to the President, they are, among other things, directed to make application to the Congress of the United States, for their co-operation and aid in making a canal navigation between the great lakes and Hudson’s river; which, in the opinion of the Legislature of New York, will encourage agriculture, promote commerce and manufactures, facilitate a free and general intercourse between different parts of the United States, tend to the aggrandizement and prosperity of the country, and consolidate and strengthen the Union.

‘To these powerful incentives, we feel it a duty to add our conviction, that in a fiscal point of view, this object is not unworthy of public regard; seeing that by a navigation from the lakes to the ocean, and by that alone, the speedy sale of and payment for many million acres, of the public lands can be effected.

‘We might add other considerations, but as doubts may, in the course of the business arise, and explanations be required; we have deemed it advisable to depute two of our members, Gouverneur Morris and De Witt Clinton, to be the bearers of this application to the seat of government, with instructions, to enter, from time to time, into all needful expositions.

‘We crave, on the part of the State of New York, the credence and favorable notice of their representations. And as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.’