

36. Petitions and Returns to be presented are sent to the Clerk for endorsement. Petitions, &c., go to clerk. Returns to Addresses and other papers may likewise be laid on the Table at the same time, but it is better to bring them up after the Reading of Petitions. [In the House of Lords; Returns to Orders or under Acts of Parliament are forwarded to the Clerk, and are entered in the Minutes or Journal, as if presented by some Cabinet Minister.] Regarding documents placed before the House by the Clerk, the Speaker is supposed to inform the House that such is the case, and an entry is made accordingly. M. 624, sqq.; B. 245-248.

37. One sitting-day must intervene between the presenting and the reading of a Petition, when read. Petition. A Petition is read and is then considered received. [In both Houses of the Imperial Parliament and in the Commons here, after the endorsement or prayer has been read, the Clerk pauses, holds up the Petition, and turns to the Speaker who says: "Shall this Petition be received?" The Clerk reads the next Petition, and the same formality is observed.]