

Mr. *Viger* presented the Draught of a Report, which was approved.

From the information collected by your Committee, it appears that since the year one thousand eight hundred and twelve, it has been decided in Causes in the Superior Term of the Court of King's Bench for the District of *Quebec* for civil matters, and in the Court of Appeals, that the Writ of Summons to a Defendant, requiring his appearance in Court, ought to be in the English Language whenever an Inhabitant of this Country born since the Conquest is to be summoned, as being an English born Subject. With respect to the Inferior Term in the same District, it appears that similar Decisions were for the first time rendered in the month of July last in Circuit, and that Writs to summon the Defendant to appear in the Inferior Term, have since that time been issued in English exclusively, by virtue of a Verbal Order given by one of the Judges to the Clerk of that Court. It appears that in the Courts for the Districts of *Montreal* and *Three-Rivers* the practice of issuing Writs of Summons in English or in French, according to circumstances, has been continued.

The Decisions of the Courts are in this Country seldom given to the public, through the Press, and they therefore often remain unknown to a large majority of its Inhabitants. The Provisions of the Provincial Ordinance of one thousand seven hundred and eighty five respecting the Language of the Writ of Summons continued to be observed in the Inferior Term for *Quebec* until last July, and in the two other Districts, in both Terms. It appears to be those Decisions of the month of July last which have excited public attention on the subject.

Were the meaning of the terms which appear to have been used in explaining the motives of decisions connected with such high considerations of interest and public Law, strictly investigated, it might be said that