

the inhabitants to the south of the *St. Lawrence*, who have to pay the said dues, have the honor to report,

That the Honorable *John Young*, Chairman of the Corporation of the Harbour Commissioners of *Montreal*, admits that the dues imposed by the Harbour Commissioners of *Montreal* on Farmers' horses and carts are too high, and that the said Commissioners were, therefore, unanimous in making a reduction of fifty per cent. thereon; but that the said Commissioners, after having consulted their legal adviser on the subject of the interpretation of the Act 18 Vic., c. 143, re-imposed *in toto* the excessive dues of which the farmers complain by their petition; that the Honorable Mr. *Young* declared that of late years he had commuted these dues, and that the Commissioners have still a legal right so to do.

That *A. M. Delisle* and *M. Marchand*, Esquires, of the City of *Montreal*, ex-Harbour Commissioners of *Montreal*, are of opinion that the dues in question, levied by the said Commissioners, are excessive, and that the said Commissioners have not the right, under the Act above cited, to levy rates or dues on the horses and carts of Farmers and others used for the conveyance of their produce and other effects.

That *J. L. Beaudry*, Esquire, Mayor of the City of *Montreal*, and *ex-officio* one of the Harbour Commissioners of *Montreal*, is also of the same opinion as Messieurs *Delisle* and *Marchand* as to the interpretation of the said Act, and Mr. *Beaudry* is also of opinion that the dues imposed on the horses and carts of farmers and others are excessive.

That it has been ascertained that the dues which will be levied on a single steamer plying between *Longueuil* and *Montreal* at the foot of the current during the present season will amount to five or six thousand dollars for about two hundred days, which sum is in part the amount of a tax levied on the horses and carts of farmers and others by the said Harbour Commissioners of *Montreal*, as above mentioned.

Wherefore, Your Committee is of opinion, after mature deliberation, that the Act 18 Victoria, cap. 143, ought to be amended or explained in such manner as to remove all doubts as to its interpretation and not to expose Farmers and others to the payment in future of the excessive dues imposed by the Harbour Commissioners of *Montreal* as above mentioned, whether they have that right or not.

All which is respectfully submitted.

J. O. BUREAU,
Chairman.

(For Evidence, Vide Appendix No. 2.)

On motion of the Honorable Mr. *Bureau*, seconded by the Honorable Mr. *Wilson*, it was

Ordered, That the said report and the evidence taken before the said Committee be referred to the Joint Committee of both Houses on Printing.

On motion of the Honorable Mr. *Ross*, seconded by the Honorable Mr. *Campbell*, it was

Ordered, That the 62nd Rule of this House be dispensed with in so far as it relates to the Bill intituled, "An Act to appoint Trustees to wind up the Estate of the late *Alexander MacDonell*, according to the terms of his last will and testament."

The Honorable Mr. *Bossé* presented to the House a Bill intituled, "An Act to amend the Act respecting the ordinary Procedure in the Superior and Circuit Courts of Lower Canada."

The said Bill was read for the first time.

Ordered, That the said Bill be read a second time to-morrow.

The Honorable Mr. *Allan* moved, seconded by the Honorable Mr. *Matheson*, That the 53rd Rule of this House be dispensed with in so far as it relates to the application for the passing of a Bill intituled, "An Act to legalize certain assessments within the City of *Toronto*, and to enable the said City to recover the taxes rated and charged."

The question of concurrence being put thereon, the same was resolved in the affirmative.

Then the Honorable Mr. *Allan* presented to the House a Bill intituled, "An Act to legalize certain assessments within the City of *Toronto*, and to enable the said city to recover the Taxes rated and charged."