

Petitions read.

confirm the nomination of a Trustee chosen by their Tribe, who may be thereby authorized to proceed in their behalf in the recovery of their debts, and in guarding their interests.

Of *Pierre Benjamin Dumoulin*, of the Town of *Three Rivers*, Esquire, Advocate; setting forth:—That the Petitioner was a candidate with *Antoine Polette*, of the Town of *Three Rivers*, Esquire, Advocate, at the Election lately held for the purpose of choosing a Member to represent the said Town in the Legislative Assembly of this Province: That *James Dickson*, of the said Town of *Three Rivers*, Esquire, Merchant, was and acted as the Returning Officer at the said Election: That the nomination of the candidates took place on the twenty-ninth day of December last, and the Poll for the said Election was fixed for the third and fourth days of January then next, and now last past: That the said *James Dickson*, Esquire, since his appointment as Returning Officer, and after having taken the oath as such on the Holy Evangelists before a Justice of the Peace, and during the whole time of the said Election, and especially on the day of the nomination of the said candidates, and the two polling days, did openly shew himself a partial and most zealous partisan of the said *Antoine Polette*, Esquire, and during all the said time conducted himself in the most partial manner, and against the interests of the Petitioner, the other candidate, to such an extent, that the partiality and injustice of the said *James Dickson* towards the Petitioner were publicly remarked, and even noticed by the partisans of the said *Antoine Polette*, Esquire: That among a number of other unjust and partial acts of the said *James Dickson*, Esquire, towards the Petitioner, are the following:—First, That the said *James Dickson*, Esquire, is one of the persons who requested the said *Antoine Polette*, Esquire, to come forward as a candidate, and that he even allowed his name to appear as such at the top of the list of signers of the requisition attached to the letter of the said *Antoine Polette*, Esquire, to the electors, printed on the fifteenth of December last, and distributed throughout the said Town of *Three Rivers*, several days afterwards, when the said *James Dickson*, Esquire, must have taken the oath as Returning Officer, as aforesaid: Secondly, That during and before the said Election, after having taken the oath, the said *James Dickson*, Esquire, constantly sought for and solicited votes for the said *Antoine Polette*, Esquire, and always expressed himself in flattering terms in favor of the said *Antoine Polette*, Esquire; while, on the other hand, he was calumniating and speaking ill of your Petitioner, both with respect to his character and to his fortune: Thirdly, That on the day of the nomination of the said candidates, to wit, on the twenty-ninth December last, when the said *James Dickson*, Esquire, had called for the show of hands in favor of the said *Antoine Polette*, Esquire, he, the said *James Dickson*, Esquire, was so partial, and shewed so little circumspection, as to say to the Electors, "Thank you, Gentlemen;" but took great care not to say the same thing to the partisans of the said *Pierre Benjamin Dumoulin*, the Petitioner: Fourthly, That on the first day of polling, the third of January last, the said *James Dickson*, Esquire, obstinately refused to take the vote of a duly qualified Elector, *François Pichette*, who offered it in favour of the Petitioner, under the false pretext that there was a warrant of arrest against the said *François Pichette*, and after it had been agreed upon by the two candidates with the said *James Dickson*, that the execution of the said warrant would be suspended, and perfect tranquillity prevailed at the time,—an entry was then made in the Poll Book of the refusal of the said *James Dickson*; the object of the said *James Dickson* being, very evi-

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dently, to try by that means to leave the Petitioner in the minority on the first day, as it is generally acknowledged in the said Town that the candidate having the minority on the first day is certain of being defeated: Fifthly, That the Petitioner had a minority of twelve votes on the evening of the first day, and that on the following day until about three o'clock in the afternoon, he was still in a minority of ten, and that the said *James Dickson* then declared that he had never seen an Election so well contested and so well and peaceably conducted; but that about half or three quarters of an hour afterwards, fourteen of the Petitioner's friends having come forward to poll their votes, gave the Petitioner a majority of four in about a quarter of an hour; that the said *James Dickson*, Esquire, became then very much annoyed, and immediately, as he said, proceeded privately to draw up a Special Return under the dictation of the said *Antoine Polette*, Esquire, and at four o'clock, one hour before the time prescribed by law, with the consent of and accompanied by the said *Antoine Polette*, left the hustings without in the least notifying the Petitioner, who in fact only discovered that the said *James Dickson* and *Antoine Polette*, Esquires, had retired, on being informed thereof by some of his friends, as the hustings were held in a room apart from the crowd, and that the said *James Dickson* did not declare the Petitioner duly elected, nor did he give any information to the Electors respecting the state of the Poll, or his proceedings: That the Petitioner further represents, that he remained at the hustings until five o'clock in the afternoon, that several persons came forward to vote for him, but that their votes could not be enregistered on account of the absence of the said Returning Officer; and praying that the House will take this Petition into consideration, and do justice to him in the premises, and that for that purpose the said *James Dickson*, Esquire, be ordered to render an account of his partial and unjust conduct towards the Petitioner as aforesaid, and that the Petitioner be permitted to prove the truth of the allegations of this his Petition.

Of Mrs. *Elizabeth L. Cushing*, of the City of *Montreal*; representing that her husband, the late Doctor *F. Cushing*, died of typhus fever contracted by him whilst in attendance as Medical Officer at the Emigrant Hospital in this City, during the past year, and praying for a pension.

Of *William Evans*, of *Côte St. Paul*, in the Parish of *Montreal*; representing the embarrassment which has resulted to him in consequence of the devotion of his time and money to the promotion of the interests of Agriculture, and praying relief.

Of *M. A. Primeau* and *A. H. Trottier*, of the Parish of *St. Martine*, in the County of *Beauharnois*, merchants; praying the passing of an Act to authorize them to build a Toll Bridge over the River *Chateauguay*.

Of *John Molson*, Esquire, Chairman of the Committee of management of the Company of proprietors of the *Champlain* and *St. Lawrence* Railroad; praying to be relieved from the operation of the 48th clause of the Act 8 Vic. cap. 59, amending the Act Incorporating the City of *Montreal*,—or for a general law to relieve all corporate bodies having a right to hold Ferries from the operation of the said clause.

Of *Luc Hyacinthe Masson* and others, of the Township of *Dundee*, in the County of *Beauharnois*; praying that their complaints and charges as School Commissioners, and the proceedings had thereon against *John M^r Gibbon*, may be laid before the House, and that they may be relieved from their obligation to pay School Teachers hired by them as such Commissioners.

Of *Hugh C. Baker*, President, and others, the Vice President and Directors of the *Canada Life*