

Monday, 24th March, 1800.

A BILL for erecting a Bridge over the River *Jacques Cartier*, was read for the second time.

On motion of Mr. *Attorney General*, seconded by Mr. *Young*,
RESOLVED, that the said Bill be committed to a special Committee of five Members, three whereof to form a *Quorum*, with power to send for persons and papers, and that the said Committee do meet on Wednesday morning next, at ten of the clock, in one of the Committee-Rooms.

ORDERED, that Mr. *Attorney General*, Messrs. *Lees*, *Coffin*, *De Bonne* and *Berthelet*, do compose the said Committee.

A Petition of *George Waters Allsopp*, Esquire, a Member of this House, Seignior of the Fief and Seignior of the River *Jacques Cartier*, was presented to the House by Mr. *Young* : and the same was brought up and read :

SETTING FORTH—That a Bill being actually before this House, intitled, “ Bill for erecting a Bridge over the River *Jacques Cartier* :”—The Petitioner, so very far from contending the Principle of the Bill, or the great utility of a Bridge over that River, gives the measure his entire and unqualified approbation as a public benefit ; but at the same time the erection of such Bridge will deprive him in his quality of “ *Seignior haut Justicier du droit de Passage et de bac sur la dite Riviere*,” a right, possessed and enjoyed by him and his Predecessors, in good faith, in virtue of his Titles, by the custom of the Province, from the first establishment of Ferries for a long series of years, if not from time immemorial.

That the profits arising from the Ferry in question, tho’ very moderate and inconsiderable, were nevertheless a principal consideration with him in the purchase of the said seignior as exceeding the annual *Cens et Rentes* thereof.

That instead of reaping any pecuniary benefit from the erection of the Bridge in question, his mill will incontestably lose the custom of the Inhabitants of the Fief and Parish of *Ecureuils*, to which the said River has been hitherto a bar, whilst his own tenants have been accommodated at all times with a free passage over it.

That ever since the present Constitution took place, the legislature has