

Lunæ 21^o die Junii.

Anno 4^o Victoriae Reginae, 1841.

Clerk Assistant to be appointed

On motion of Mr. *Simpson*, seconded by Captain *Steele*,
Ordered—That the Clerk of this House do appoint an Assistant Clerk.

A petition of divers Lumbermerchants &c. praying for a law appointing cullers and measurers

A Petition of divers Lumber Merchants and others, was presented to the House by Mr. *Cameron*, and the same was received and read ; setting forth :—That from 1000 to 1200 Vessels are annually loaded at the port of *Quebec* with timber—and that no law exists for the measuring or culling of the same—That the purchasers generally employ their own servants as Cullers and Measurers—persons in whom petitioners can have no confidence—to which proceeding petitioners must assent or contend with the wealthy merchant of *Quebec* at law, which would be ruinous to them ; and praying that a law may be passed putting the trade on a just and equitable footing, into the hands of men unconnected with the buyer or seller.

Ordered—That the said Petition do lie upon the table.

Petition of John C Moulton praying to be naturalized.

A Petition of *John Clough Moulton*, of the Township of *York*, was presented to the House by Mr. *Price*, and the same was received and read ; setting forth :—That Petitioner came from the *United States* in 1830, and has resided in this Province since that period.

That, between the years 1835 and 1840, Petitioner taught a common school in the *Home* District and participated in the public grant—from which latter period it was withheld in consequence of his not being a British subject.

That Petitioner is desirous of remaining in the province and of following the calling of a Schoolmaster, and therefore prays to be naturalized.

Ordered—That the said Petition do lie upon the table.

Petition divers Inhabitants of Home district referred to select Committee.

Resolved—That the Petition of divers Inhabitants of the *Home* District be referred to a special Committee of three members, to report thereon with all convenient speed, by Bill or otherwise, with power to send for persons, papers and records.

Ordered—That Mr. *Small*, Mr. *Cartwright* and Mr. *Boswell*, do compose the said committee.

Petition from the Montreal board of Trade praying for a partial repeal of the usury laws and the passing of an Act making it lawful to demand interest on bills and accounts from the period they become due

A Petition of the Board of Trade of *Montreal*, respecting usury, was presented to the House by the Honorable Mr. *Moffatt*, and the same was received and read ; setting forth :—That there exists in *Canada* a law regulating the rate of interest which shall be taken for the forbearance of the payment of money, fixing the said rate at not more than six per cent, but allowing less to be taken, and also annexing heavy penalties in case of the infraction of the law ; calling such infraction usury—That it appears to petitioners as fallacious to affix a value for the use of money, as it would be to affix a price for a barrel of flour or a yard of cloth—money being at one time worth more than at another—and a limit to the price causes, when scarce, a withdrawal from the market, and consequent ruin to many—That the law is every day evaded in every possible mode ; persons so evading the law, who may be borrowers, not only having to pay