

The Committee are of opinion the complaints of the petitioners of *Quebec* and *Montreal*, of an insufficient Police in their respective Cities are well founded, and that it may be expedient a Bill be introduced into the House to be carried through to a Law, granting more efficient powers to the Magistrates of *Quebec*, *Montreal* and *Three Rivers*, to establish and carry into execution such regulations as may be by them judged necessary for these places respectively; and in order to meet so much of the prayer of the petitions from *L'Assomption* and *William Henry* as relates to Police, as well as similar wants which may be experienced by other parishes, towns or villages throughout the Province, these regulations may be extended to all towns and villages where the inhabited houses shall amount to a certain number upon the majority of the householders requesting the same.

And they are further of opinion, that several of the other objects of the petitions are provided for in the different Bills now depending before the Legislature, and the residue of them do not appear to your Committee to be matter fit for immediate consideration.

Mr. *Young*, from the Committee to whom was referred the petition from sundry inhabitants of *Quebec*, under the name of the Benevolent Society; reported that the Committee had examined the same, with the draft of a Bill prepared by the petitioners, agreeable to the prayer of their petition, and the Act of Parliament of *Great Britain* referred to as the example from which they come forward to the Legislature for relief from the inconveniencies they represent their Society to lay under; and that he was directed by the Committee to report their opinion thereon to the House; and he read the report in his place, and afterwards delivered the same in at the table, where it was again read once throughout by the clerk.

Which report is as followeth:-

The Committee are of opinion; that from the evident utility of Friendly or Benevolent societies in providing relief for the Members thereof in old age, sickness and distress, and the experience of the good resulting from them in *Great Britain*, which has procured to them the countenance and protection of Parliament, it is desirable that the prayer of the petitioners be granted; by a Bill being brought in to be carried through to a Law, granting such societies, generally, the legal means of securing their funds for the uses thereof, and to make necessary regulations for their internal order and the management of their concerns, upon similar principles to those established for friendly societies in *Great Britain* by the Acts of the British Parliament, varying these only where the local circumstances of the Province may require.

Ordered, that the foregoing reports do lie upon the table.

On motion of Mr. *De Salaberry*, seconded by Mr. *De Bonne*,

The House adjourned till to-morrow at twelve o'clock at noon.

Saturday