

he has nothing more at heart than the prosperity of the city of Montreal, and that it is very much in want of a market at that spot where he possesses some land. It may be, and I dare say it is so; but I object to the mode in which the petitioner proposes to remedy the inconvenience. After trying our credence* as to his anxiety to promote the public welfare, the petitioner prays that he may be permitted to establish a market? A public market? No. It is that he may be permitted to open a private market, to erect a market house, and build stalls, &c. but the whole to remain for ever his property. If, sir, this were an ordinary application, I should not object to the wording of the motion, "by bill or otherwise," but before coming to the ulterior point as to this market, I am anxious to decide the new principle proposed in the petition, viz. the establishment of private markets. It may be a good measure, but it is altogether a novelty in this country; for we only know of public markets. Those at Quebec, Montreal, and Three Rivers, are all public markets, and I must give some consideration to the expediency of erecting private ones, before I consent to the measure. The premises and conclusion of this position differ very materially. From the premises I expected the anxiety of the petitioner to benefit Montreal, was so great, that he intended to make a present of the ground to the corporation or town of Montreal, upon condition that an act to establish a public market should be obtained and carried into effect; but the conclusion is widely different. I do not say the motion before the house is contrary to rule, but, the petition being a novelty, it ought not to be granted of course, and I shall therefore move, in amendment, that the words, "by bill or otherwise" be struck out of the said motion.

After some further conversation the motion as amended, passed *nem. con*

On Tuesday the 14th. After some preliminary business, among which was the presentation by Mr. Cuvillier of the report of the commissioners of the La Chine canal, the house proceeded to the order of the day on the motion of Mr. Taschereau to change the quorum, by reducing it from 26 to 15. The house resolved itself into a committee of the whole to consider of the subject; Mr. Clouet was called to the chair, and the question upon the motion being put, Mr. Louis Lagueux, after a few preparatory remarks, proposed the number 19 as an amendment.

These propositions occasioned a short but animated debate in which Messieurs Blanchet Cuvillier, Oldham, Taschereau, and Bourdages, took part. Upon motion of Mr. Bourdages, that the chairman do leave the chair, report progress, &c. the committee divided. Yeas, 23, Nays, 5. Leave was given to

* I think I should have said "taxing our credulity."