

A Petition of divers inhabitants of the City and Suburbs of *Quebec*, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House by Mr. *Blackwood*, and the same was received and read ;—**SETTING FORTH :**—That they are obliged, for their subsistence, to pay, this season, the most exorbitant prices for every kind of produce, even the common necessaries of life ; the cause of the encreased prices, is occasioned by a number of persons, who, by a covetous desire, injurious to their fellow-subjects, speculate upon articles the most essential; particularly the ferry-men of *Pointe Levi*, the tavern-keepers and pedlars of the different parts of this district, and even a number of tradesmen, quit their different professions, to assume those of regraters and monopolizers, as better calculated to satisfy their avidity, and go into the country to buy up provisions, which they afterwards sell again to their fellow-citizens, at most immoderate prices.—The Ordinance of 1777, is not sufficient to obviate these abuses, which are so prejudicial and burthensome to all classes of people. The petitioners therefore pray, that the House will be pleased to take the contents of the present petition into its serious consideration, and pass such laws, as in its wisdom it may deem expedient, tending to correct abuses, so generally practised, and carried to such a degree as to be seriously alarming.

RESOLVED, that the said petition be referred to a Committee of five Members, with power to send for persons and papers, and to report thereon, by Bill, or otherwise, with all convenient speed.

ORDERED, that Mr. *Blackwood*, Mr. *Durocher*, Mr. *Langlois*, Mr. *Huot*, and Mr. *Blanchet*, do compose the said Committee.

Mr. *Bedard* reported, that accompanied by the other Messengers, they had, in obedience to the orders of the House, waited upon his Excellency the Governor in Chief, to know his Excellency's pleasure, when he would receive the House with their humble Addresses, to His Majesty, the House of Lords and the House of Commons, and also the Address of this House to his Excellency ; and that his Excellency was pleased to appoint Friday next, at two of the clock in the afternoon, to receive the House at the Castle of *Saint Lewis*.

Mr.