

ken the liberty to state, cannot but entertain a well grounded hope, that the House will take this subject into their serious consideration, and that they will pass such a Declaratory Act as will give force and efficacy to the Laws and Statutes which relate to this subject, and at the same time that the House will by such means as they think fit, secure to the owners a property in their slaves, and make such further regulations for the proper government of slaves as in their wisdom may be thought expedient.

And that it may therefore please this House to frame such an Act as will declare that slavery exists under certain modifications in this Province, and will completely vest the property in Panis and Negroes in the owners thereof; and further, that this House will provide such Laws and regulations for the government of slaves as in the wisdom of the House may be thought expedient.

On motion of *Mr. Papineau*, seconded by *Mr. Berthelot*,

ORDERED, that the said Petition, with the papers thereunto annexed, and also the one on the same subject, presented to this House on the 19th April of last year; be referred to a Committee of five Members, whereof three shall form a *Quorum*, to examine the matter thereof, and report thereon with all possible diligence; and that the said Committee do meet in one of the Committee Rooms to-morrow morning at Ten o'clock.

ORDERED, that Messieurs *Papineau*, *Grant*, *Craigie*, *Cuthbert* and *Dumas* do compose the said Committee.

And then on motion of *Mr. Dumas*, seconded by *Mr. Culbert*,

The House adjourned till Monday next.

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*Monday, 21st April, 1800.*

ON motion of *Mr. Berthelot*, seconded by *Mr. Bedard*,

ORDERED, that *Mr. Berthelot* have leave to bring in a Bill to provide Sheriffs