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## HOUSE.....No. 4.

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### Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, JUNE 1, 1831.

The Committee of Finance, to whom was referred so much of the Governor's Speech as relates to the Valuation,

### REPORT;

That in their opinion it is expedient that a Committee of this Legislature should be appointed to sit previous to the commencement of the first session of the next General Court, upon the subject of the next Valuation;—that this Committee consist of thirty-two members on the part of the House, with such as the Senate may think proper to join on their part—

The members of this Committee to be selected on the part of the House as follows, viz.—From Suffolk, three; Essex, four; Middlesex, three; Worcester, four; Hampden, Hampshire and Franklin, five; Berkshire, two; Norfolk, Plymouth and Bristol, eight; Barnstable, Nantucket and Duke's County, three.

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That this Committee be required to meet at the Senate Chamber in the City of Boston, on Wednesday, the twenty-third day of November next, in order to receive the returns of the Assessors of the City of Boston and of the several Towns, Districts, and other places within this Commonwealth, of the Polls and Estates within the same, agreeably to an Act passed on the nineteenth day of March last, entitled, "An Act to ascertain the Rateable Estate within this Commonwealth."

That this Committee be authorized, and that it be made their duty, to examine and consider said returns, and equalize the same according to their best judgment and discretion—And they shall estimate the Polls therein contained, of sixteen years old and upwards (excepting paupers), at the rate of one mill and a quarter of a mill each, on the thousand dollars of tax, and shall estimate all the Estate contained therein at its true and just value. And if any such Assessors shall neglect to make a return as aforesaid, conformably to said Act, said Committee shall ascertain the Polls and Estates which ought to have been returned, according to the best information they can obtain respecting such Polls and Estates, and shall thereupon proceed to estimate and equalize the same as aforesaid, and shall also make an addition thereto of twenty five per centum on the amount thereof.

And said Committee shall be authorized to take such measures as they may think proper, to correct any informal, imperfect, or erroneous returns, and shall make report of their doings therein to the first session of the next General Court;—That the Secretary be directed to furnish said Committee with all the books, papers

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and other documents relating to former Valuations, as well as all other documents which said Committee may find necessary in the discharge of their duties, and that they be authorized to appoint a Clerk.

All which is respectfully submitted.

Per order of the Committee,  
ROBERT RANTOUL, *Chairman.*

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and other documents relating to former Valuations, as well as all other documents which said Comptroller may find necessary in the discharge of their duties, and that they be authorized to appoint a Clerk.

All which is respectfully submitted.  
Per order of the Commission,  
ROBERT HANFORD, Chairman.