

this determination of the House, persons holding offices which would disqualify them from holding seats in the British Parliament, were returned at the last general election for several towns and counties; treating at elections and other undue means of influencing the minds of Electors were also in some places resorted to.

*First Report.*

The resolution unavailing.

In the County of York the former representatives, who have been again returned, were taunted as being penurious, by a candidate holding office under the executive, on account of their refusal to imitate him in the practice of keeping open houses. The uncertainty attending upon the true meaning and interpretation of that Act by which English Law was made the rule of decision in Upper Canada, (in consequence of the contradictory explanations of Judges and Lawyers) is productive of many bad effects. To put the matter beyond dispute, it appears to your committee that it is expedient to adopt certain specific regulations and place them on the Statute Book, to regulate elections, and as guards against corruption and bribery. The provision in the present election law of Lower Canada, marked D. in the Appendix, appears to your committee to be deserving of the consideration of the House.

Consequences of interferences of officers of government at elections.

Lower Canada Election Law.

Members accepting Office after their Election by the people, ought to be sent back to their Constituents as in England.

Members accepting offices.

In the appendix, marked E, there is a table containing the names of members of the House of Assembly holding offices of profit and emolument, with a list of the offices they hold, and the tenure under which they are holden.

Members holding offices of profit (table of.)

From that table, it appears that the four towns authorised to send members to the House of Assembly, to the representatives of which no wages are paid, are represented by the two crown officers, the sheriff of the Home District, and the postmaster of Brockville; that 1 attorney general, 1 solicitor general, 1 sheriff, 1 district court judge, 1 clerk of the peace, 1 inspector of licences, and two collectors of the customs, are members of the Assembly, holding at the same time their several offices during the pleasure of the executive; and that 1 district treasurer holding office under the district justices, 7 postmasters appointed during the pleasure of the deputy postmaster general at Quebec, three military officers on half pay or retired allow-

Quality of town members.

Lists of public functionaries in the House of Assembly.