

FRIDAY, February 4, 1848.

MR. N. Conroy, in his place, presented to the House, the Light Duty Account for Cascumpec, for the past year.

Ordered, That the said Account be referred to the Committee appointed to examine and report on the Public Accounts.

The Order of the Day, for the House in Committee of Privileges and Elections, being read;

The House accordingly resolved itself into the said Committee.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Jardine took the Chair of the Committee.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

Mr. *Jardine* reported, that the Committee had come to two Resolutions, which he was directed to submit to the House whenever it shall be pleased to receive the same.

Mr. *Jardine* also acquainted the House, that in the course of debate, in the Committee, the following words were used by Mr. D. Maclean—"he was told the letter was a forgery, and he believed it to be a fact,"—and he, the Chairman, had been directed by the Committee to take them down, and report the same to the House.

Ordered, That the Report of the Committee be now received.

The Resolutions reported from the Committee, were then read at the Clerk's Table, and are as follow :

1. **RESOLVED**, That the permission hitherto allowed by this House to the Hon. *George Coles*, to take a seat within the Bar, during the discussion of the matters pertaining to the Return made by the Sheriff to the Writ for the return of a Member for the First Electoral District of Queen's County—the said Hon. *George Coles* not having been returned by the Sheriff—is not in accordance with the known usages and Privileges of the Imperial Parliament, or of this House; and that such permission shall not be considered, or in any manner deemed a precedent, to bind this House upon any future occasion.

2. **WHEREAS**, it appearing to this Committee, that the Writ issued on the twenty-seventh day of April last, for the return of a Member to serve in the General Assembly of this Island, for the First District of Queen's County, in room of the Hon. *George Coles*, having been made returnable on the tenth day of May then next; and at the Election held thereunder, that objections had been taken by the said Hon. *George Coles*, a Candidate thereat, and entered against the votes of forty persons who had voted as electors at the said election; and that objections had been taken by James M'Callum, Esquire, the other Candidate at the said Election, and entered against the votes of fifty-four persons who had voted as electors at the said election; and it appearing to this Committee that the time limited by the said writ for the return thereof was not sufficient to admit the Returning Officer to enter upon and complete the scrutiny of votes demanded by the said James M'Callum, Esquire, and that neither of the said Candidates has been returned by the said Returning Officer as duly elected :

Resolved, therefore, That a new Writ do issue for the return of a Member for the said District, in room of the said Hon. *George Coles*, and that the Speaker of the House do proceed thereupon accordingly.

And the First of the said Resolutions being again read, and the question put thereon, it was agreed to by the House.

The Second of the said Resolutions being again read :

Mr. *Rae* moved, in amendment thereto, that all be struck out, and the following substituted :

"*Resolved*, That it is inexpedient to enter on the examination of the procedure as to the re-election last May of the Hon. *George Coles*, for this reason: that his seat ought not to have been declared vacant.

1st. "That because in no similar instance in this Colony was any Member of Assembly required to vacate his seat; and that the cases of the present Speaker of the House of Assembly, of *Edward Palmer*, Esquire,