

I, *John McEwan*, Esq., Returning Officer for the County of *Essex*, do hereby certify,

That, in obedience to Her Majesty's Writ to me directed, dated the sixteenth day of May, A.D. 1863, and after the notice and formalities prescribed by law had been given and observed, I did, on the thirteenth day of June last, proceed to hold the Election for the County of *Essex*; and on that occasion, among other persons, *John O'Connor* the younger, and *Arthur Rankin*, were named by some of the electors as candidates therefor; and thereupon, the show of hands being in favor of the said *John O'Connor* the younger, a Poll was demanded by the said *Arthur Rankin*, and thereupon such Poll was holden at the several places prescribed by law; and afterwards, on the twenty-seventh day of June aforesaid, being the day fixed for closing the election, I proceeded to ascertain the state of the General Poll, as by law directed; whereupon it appeared that the said *John O'Connor* the younger had the greatest number of the said votes; but, having reason to believe that a certain Poll Book for the Township of *Anderdon*, in the said County, had been altered, injured, or obliterated, or that additions had been made thereto, I then adjourned the proceedings, for the purpose of establishing the facts in manner prescribed by law, until the second day of July, instant; and I then summoned before me the Deputy Returning Officer and Poll Clerk for the said Township, and examined them, on oath, as to such suspected alteration, injury, obliteration, or addition, and as to the contents of such Poll Book, and took the said examination in writing, which examination is annexed to this my Return; and I certify that I am unable to establish the facts as required by law, and I cannot find in such evidence or otherwise, whether the said Poll Book has or has not been altered, injured, obliterated, or added to, and that therefore I cannot say which of the said candidates has the majority of votes at the said election, and cannot return either of the said candidates elected.

Given under my hand and seal, this second day of July, A.D., 1863.

(Signed,) JOHN MCEWAN,
Returning Officer of the County of *Essex*.

True Copy. L. R. FORTIER,
Clerk of the Crown in Chancery.

Quebec, 28th July, 1863.

Examination of *William Kelly*, Poll Clerk at the last Election for the Township of *Anderdon*, County of *Essex*, taken at my office, in the Town of *Sandwich*, this 29th day of June, A.D. 1863, at one o'clock p.m., the Deputy Returning Officer having so far failed to appear.

The said *William Kelly*, being sworn, saith: I was Poll Clerk for the Township of *Anderdon* at the election on Monday and Tuesday last. I cannot say positively who *Edward Brooks* voted for. I cannot remember at all who he voted for, or how he voted. I did not make the erasure which appears to have been made opposite his name. I do not know who made such erasure, or that any erasure was made.

The erasure opposite the name of *Laurent O'Dette* I made myself: I was told to do so by the Deputy Returning Officer, Mr. *McGuire*, immediately after the man had voted. *Charles Maloney* did not take the oath; he was brought there in a covered carriage, being ill, and refused to take the oath, on account of being in such a delicate state of health. Mr. *William McGuire*, of *Amherstburgh*, agent for Mr. *Rankin*, declined to press the oath; and that he voted for *John O'Connor*, jr., and I so entered it, as appears on the book.

Joseph Renau, No. 138. There was considerable of a fuss when he came to vote; some said he had a good vote, but he refused to take the oath. His father said the vote was good, and unless they accepted of his vote without swearing, not to vote at all; that to the best of my belief, I took his vote down for *O'Connor*, as I thought his vote was as good as *Maloney*, taken down before. I did not correct the votes myself; took the statement as to the number from the Returning Officer, Mr. *McGuire*, and swore to the affidavit.