

LXXXIX. In case of the loss, destruction or abstraction of any ballot box, before it shall have been delivered, the Returning Officer shall consider as correct and exact the sum of the votes, as stated in the *procès-verbal* of the Deputy Returning Officer of the electoral municipality or division, the box for which shall have been destroyed, lost or carried away.

Provision in case of the loss of the ballot box.

XC. If the copy of the *procès-verbal* have not been delivered to him, he shall without delay apply for a copy thereof to the Deputy Returning Officer who shall transmit the same to him forthwith, as provided by section LXXXVI.

If the copy of the *procès-verbal* has not been delivered to him.

XCI. If one or more ballot boxes and the *procès-verbaux* of one or more municipalities or electoral divisions have not been received by him in time to proceed to the scrutiny of the votes given by the Electoral College, before the day fixed for the proclamation of the elected candidates, the Returning Officer shall postpone the said proclamation for six days.

Proclamation postponed in certain cases.

XCII. As soon as he shall have received the ballot boxes and the *procès-verbaux* from the Deputy Returning Officers for the several divisions and municipalities of the Electoral Colleges the Returning Officer, in the presence of the persons appointed under section LXXXVII, shall proceed to open each of the said boxes, to examine the *procès-verbaux* accompanying them, to examine whether the number of voting tickets in each box corresponds with that stated in each *procès-verbal* and to ascertain the legality of the said voting-tickets.

Opening of the boxes and verification of the tickets, &c.

XCIII. He shall then add up the number of legal votes given to each candidate and shall declare which of the candidates has or have obtained the majority of the votes.

Adding up the votes

XCIV. He shall submit this operation to the examination of the persons selected as provided by article LXXXVII and shall prepare a *procès-verbal* of the whole proceeding, which he shall sign and cause to be signed by at least four of the said persons.

*Procès-verbal* of the result.

XCV. Upon the day fixed for the proclamation, the Returning Officer shall declare the candidates who shall according to the *procès-verbal* by him prepared, have received the greatest number of votes, duly elected to represent the Electoral College in the Legislative Council or Assembly as the case may be, and he shall transmit the said proclamation, the *procès-verbal* and the poll books with the writ of election.

Proclamation of the candidates elected.

Return.

XCVI. If at the expiration of the delay referred to in section XCI, the Returning Officer shall not have received all the ballot boxes or *procès-verbaux* from the municipalities or electoral divisions, he shall proceed as provided by section XCII, to open the boxes and examine *procès-verbaux* received.

If all the boxes are not received.

XCVII. He shall add up the number of votes given to each candidate, ascertain in whose favor the majority of votes has been given, according to the *procès-verbaux* received, as provided by section XCIII, and shall in all respects conform to the provisions of section XCIV.

Addition of votes, &c.