

REPORT ON THE PETITION OF GEORGE ROLPH.

The Committee to whom was referred the Petition of George Rolph, complaining of the conduct of a number of the Gore Magistrates in removing him from the office of the Clerk of the Peace, respectfully submit the following Report :

It appears that the following magistrates, John Willson, William Procter, Elijah Secord, John Secord, Robert Land, Richard Beasley, William B. VanEvery, William McCoy, Nathaniel Bell, Daniel O'Reilly, James McBride, Alexander Proudfoot, George Patten, Thomas Fyfe, William Scollick, William Ellis, James Racey, William Holme, Matthew Crooks, Daniel K. Servos, ——— Smith, and ——— Brewster, Esquires, met at a tavern in Hamilton the day preceding Mr. Geo. Rolph's removal, when Mr. Matthew Crooks produced the charges, a copy of which is annexed, upon which it was proposed on the day following to remove Mr. Rolph from the office of Clerk of the Peace.

These charges had been previously prepared ; and however extraordinary it may appear, it will be found from the evidence of James McBride, Esquire, and other Magistrates present at this meeting, that a large majority of those present consented not to receive any evidence of the truth of the charges or allow the accused any defence. This does not rest upon questionable recollection ; for James McBride, Esquire, and others prove that the injustice of such proceedings was pointed out with a spirit and conscientiousness much to their credit. It was urged that a copy of the charges should be given to Mr. Rolph and a time and place appointed to hear his defence against all the charges, or, such of them as he should choose to repel.— These remonstrances were of no avail, for notwithstanding objections openly made to the conduct as unjust, oppressive, and corrupt, they persisted in it. Mr. McBride retired in disgust desiring not to have any further participation in such proceedings. Of the magistrates present, James McBride, William Scollick, William Ellis, & Thomas Fyfe, Esquires, dissented from the course pursued, and the rest of the magistrates mentioned in the commencement of this report, Hugh Willson, William Procter, Elijah Secord, John Secord, Richard Beasley, William B. VanEvery, William McCoy, Nathaniel Bell, Daniel O'Reilly, Alexander Proudfoot, George Patten, James Racey, William Holme, Matthew Crooks, Daniel K. Servos, ——— Smith, and ——— Brewster, Esquires, combined to effect Mr. Rolph's removal in the manner above mentioned.