

COUNTY OF BEAUHARNOIS.

Robert H. Norval, Returning Officer.

"I, *Robert Howden Norval*, Esquire, duly nominated and appointed by His Excellency the Right Honorable *James*, Earl of *Elgin* and *Kincardine*, by an instrument, under his hand at seal at arms, bearing date at the Government House at the City of *Montreal*, in the Province of *Canada*, the sixth day of December last past, to be Returning Officer of and for the County of *Beauharnois*, and duly sworn before *Lawrence George Brown*, Esquire, one of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the District of *Montreal*, at *Beauharnois*, on the twenty-second day of December last past, did proceed, after due proclamation thereof as required by law, to hold the Election for the said County of *Beauharnois*, at the Village of *Durham*, in the said County, on Thursday the thirteenth day of January instant, where, after making the proclamations and observing the formalities required by law, I did call on the Electors of the said County, then and there present, to make choice of a fit and proper person to represent the said County in the Legislative Assembly of this Province; whereupon three Candidates, namely, *Jacob DeWitt*, *Campbell Sweeney*, and *James Conolly*, Esquires, were severally proposed and seconded; a show of hands being taken, the majority of the Electors present appeared to be in favor of the said *Campbell Sweeney*, Esquire. A Poll was then duly demanded by three Electors for each of the other Candidates. I thereupon made proclamation that Polls would be held according to law, at each and every polling place in the said County, on Tuesday the eighteenth, and Wednesday the nineteenth of January instant, for the purpose of receiving and recording the votes of the Electors thereof, and then adjourned the proceedings to Saturday the twenty-second of January instant. On the said thirteenth day of January instant, by warrants under my hand and seal, I appointed eleven Deputy Returning Officers, and eleven Poll Clerks, for the eleven polling-places in the said County; and on the following day, the fourteenth of January instant, by precepts under my hand and seal, I required each of the said Deputy Returning Officers to proceed to receive and record the votes of the said Electors at each and every of the said polling places in the said County, on the said eighteenth and nineteenth days of January instant, and to make due return thereof to me under their hands and seals at *Durham* aforesaid, on the twenty-second day of January instant, transmitting to each and every of the said Deputy Returning Officers the Poll Book as directed by law.

"And, on the said twenty-second day of January instant, being at *Durham* aforesaid, where I had repaired for the purpose of receiving the returns aforesaid, from each and every of the said Deputy Returning Officers, and of proceeding to sum up and ascertain and declare the state of the general Poll of the said Election for the said County of *Beauharnois*, when *John Mcintosh*, Esquire, Deputy Returning Officer for the Parish of *St. Anicet*, one of the polling places in the said County, delivered to me a deposition signed by him, and sworn to before *R. B. Somerville*, Esquire, one of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the District of *Montreal* aforesaid, at *Huntingdon*, on the twenty-first day of January instant, in which he the said *John Mcintosh* deposes, that when proceeding from *Huntingdon* aforesaid to *Durham* aforesaid, in company with *Donald McRae*, Esquire, of *Dundee*, the Poll Book and Return for the said Parish of *St. Anicet* was from him, the said *John Mcintosh*, forcibly and feloniously taken, stolen,

"and carried away by some person or persons unknown to the said deponent, as will more fully and clearly appear by the said deposition sent herewith.

"And at the same time and place, on the day aforesaid, personally came and appeared, *Donald McRae*, Esquire, of the Township of *Dundee*, Poll Clerk for *Dundee*, another of the polling places in the said County, for which *John Mcintosh*, Esquire, was appointed Deputy Returning Officer, and stated to me that the said Deputy Returning Officer was unable, by reason of sickness, to proceed to *Durham* aforesaid in person, and had charged him, the said *Donald McRae*, to take charge of and deliver to me the said Returning Officer for the said County, the Poll Book and Return for the said Township of *Dundee*, together with a letter from the said Deputy Returning Officer, explaining the cause of his absence; and the said *Donald McRae* did then and there deliver to me a deposition signed by him, the said *Donald McRae*, and duly sworn to at *Durham* aforesaid, on the said twenty-second day of January instant, in which he, the said *Donald McRae*, deposes, that when proceeding from *Huntingdon* aforesaid, to *Durham* aforesaid, on the afternoon of the twenty-first day of January, instant, in company with the said *John Mcintosh*, Esquire, of *St. Anicet*, the said Poll Book and Return, with the said letter and other papers, were from him, the said deponent, forcibly and feloniously taken, stolen, and carried away by some person or persons unknown to the said deponent, as will more fully and clearly appear by the said deposition sent herewith.

"Wherefore, I the said Returning Officer, for the said County of *Beauharnois*, not being prepared on the said twenty-second day of January instant, by reason of the said Poll Books and Returns for the said Parish of *St. Anicet*, and the said Township of *Dundee*, not being returned to me, to proceed to sum up, ascertain and declare the state of the general Poll of the said Election, for the said County, as the law directs, did thereupon, at *Durham* aforesaid, on the day aforesaid, declare in a public manner to *Campbell Sweeney*, Esquire, one of the Candidates for the said County, then and there present, and to *Charles DeWitt*, Esquire, also present, and representing *Jacob DeWitt*, Esquire, another of the said Candidates for the said County, and to the Electors then and there present, why I was unable to declare to them the said Candidate, representative of a Candidate, and Electors, that any person was duly elected and returned to represent the said County in the Legislative Assembly of the said Province of *Canada*.

"And I now make the present special Return, transmitting herewith the several Returns from the Deputy Returning Officers of the nine other polling places in the said County, with their Poll Books; also, a protest made and delivered to the Deputy Returning Officer for the Parish of *St. Jean Chrysostome*, the qualifications of the Candidates, the oaths of the Election Clerk, and of me the said Returning Officer, the two depositions aforesaid, and the Writ of Election to me addressed.

"Given under my hand and seal at *Beauharnois* aforesaid, this twenty-second day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight.

(Signed,)

"R. H. NORVAL,
"Returning Officer,
"County of *Beauharnois*."