

Minutes of the last preceding Meeting have first been read over and confirmed or corrected as may be necessary.

XIV.

And We do hereby authorise and empower you, with the advice and consent of Our said Executive Council, from time to time, as need shall require, to summon and call General Assemblies of the Freeholders and Householdors within the said Island and its Dependencies, in such manner and form, and according to such powers and authorities as are hereinafter appointed by these Our Instructions, or according to such further powers and authorities as shall be at any time hereafter granted or appointed under Our Sign Manual and Signet, or by Our Order in Our Privy Council, and according to the Laws of Our said Island in that behalf made and provided; and Our will and pleasure is that the persons thereupon duly elected by the major part of the Freeholders and Householdors of the respective Towns and Districts, and so returned, shall, before their sitting, take the Oath commonly called the Oath of Allegiance, which Oath you shall commission fit persons under the Seal of Our said Island and its Dependencies to tender and administer unto them; and until the same shall be so taken, no person shall be capable of sitting, though elected. And We do hereby declare that the Persons so elected and qualified, shall be called and deemed the General Assembly of Our said Island of Newfoundland; and that you, by and with the advice and consent of the said Legislative Council and Assembly, or the major part of them respectively, shall have full power and authority to make, constitute and ordain Laws, Statutes, and Ordinances, for the public peace, welfare and good government of Our said Island and its Dependencies and the People and Inhabitants thereof, and such others as shall resort thereto, and for the benefit of Us, Our Heirs and Successors; which said Laws, Statutes and Ordinances, are not to be repugnant, but as near as may be agreeable, to the Laws and Statutes of this Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

Governor empowered to summon General Assemblies of Freeholders.

Oath of Allegiance to be administered to Members.

General Assembly empowered to enact Laws, &c.

XV.

And whereas by a Commission under the Great Seal of Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, bearing date the second day of March, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty Two, in the Second Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King William the Fourth, and by Instructions under His Royal Sign Manual and Signet, bearing date the Twenty Seventh day of July, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty Two, His said late Majesty did authorise and empower Sir Thomas John Cochrane, Knight, then Governor of Newfoundland, to summon General Assemblies of Freeholders and Householdors within the said Island. And Whereas General Assemblies were afterwards elected and holden in and for the said Island, under and by virtue of the said last-mentioned Commissions and Instructions, and under and by virtue of other Commissions and Instructions from time to time issued by Us: And Whereas by an Act passed in the Sixth Year of Our Reign, intituled "An Act for amending the Constitution of the Government of Newfoundland," it was enacted amongst other things, that it should be lawful for Us, in the manner therein provided, to establish a qualification in respect of income or property, in right of

Constitution of the Government.