

Petitions read.

proceeding, on the part of the Returning Officer, the County has been taken by surprise, and many freeholders prevented from recording their votes: That the Petitioners have to complain of the injustice that has been done to the Electors of the County of *Stormont*, by *James Pringle*, Esquire, the Returning Officer for the said County of *Stormont*, who instructed the Deputy Returning Officer of the Township of *Cornwall* to record the votes of those persons who polled their votes on property situated within the Town Plot of *Cornwall*, which said Town is represented in the Provincial Assembly; and such proceeding is the more glaring on the part of the Returning Officer, as the said parties had, at the same period, voted for the return of a Member to represent the said Town of *Cornwall*: That such proceeding on the part of the Returning Officer, is, in the opinion of the Petitioners, in direct contravention of the following enactments, viz.: the 31st of *George* 3rd, chapter 31, and the 3rd and 4th of *Victoria*, chapter 35; and also, of a certain other Act passed by the Legislature of the Province of *Canada*, the 10th day of February, 1845, defining the limits of Counties and Districts in *Upper Canada*: That the Petitioners also complain that *James Pringle*, of the Town of *Cornwall*, Esquire, who had been appointed as Returning Officer for the County of *Stormont*, could not legally discharge the duty of Returning Officer for the said County, as he is not a freeholder in the said County, nor has he resided therein for twelve months prior to the Election, as is required by the 13th section of an Act of the Provincial Legislature, intituled, "An Act to provide for the freedom of Elections throughout this Province, and for other purposes therein mentioned:" That the Petitioners are prepared to prove that many votes polled for the sitting Member, *Alexander McLean*, were not entitled to vote for the return of a Member to represent the County of *Stormont* in the third Provincial Assembly of the Province of *Canada*, exclusive of such voters who polled upon property within the Town Plot of *Cornwall*, and that the conduct of the Returning Officer has been illegal and unjust: And that, on the sixteenth day of December, the day of nomination for candidates for the representation of the County of *Stormont* in the Provincial Assembly, that *R. K. Bullock*, one of the Deputy Returning Officers, did use force and violence to intimidate the friends of *Donald Æ. Macdonell*, a candidate as aforesaid, by seizing in a violent manner one of the said *Donald Æ. Macdonell's* friends, and drawing him from the place where the nomination took place; and praying that the premises may be enquired into by the House, and that the return of *Alexander MacLean*, as Representative to the Provincial Assembly for the County of *Stormont* may be cancelled, and that *Donald Æneas Macdonell*, a candidate for the said County of *Stormont*, may be declared duly elected, as having a majority of the legal votes of the County of *Stormont*; or that a Writ may forthwith issue for a new Election for the said County of *Stormont*.

Of *Charles Rattray*, Esquire, and others, Electors of the Town of *Cornwall*, setting forth:—That the Petitioners are, and, at the last Election of a Member for the Town of *Cornwall* to serve in the Legislative Assembly, were freeholders and leaseholders in the said Town, and claim to have had a right to vote at the said Election, wherein the Honorable *John Hillyard Cameron* was elected, and returned by a majority of sixteen votes, to serve in Parliament as a Member for the said Town: That the notice of eight days required by law, to be given previously to the Election, was not given,—the time between its publication and the Election being seven days: That the return of the said *John Hillyard Cameron*

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was effected partly through means of bribery, corruption, and intimidation; that a number of illegal votes were polled in his favour; that a Member of the Legislative Council was allowed to record his vote in favor of the said *John Hillyard Cameron* on that occasion; and that several votes were recorded in his favour upon property under the value fixed by law: That other votes were recorded in his favour, upon lots on which small wooden frames, unfit for the habitation of any human being, had been but a few hours previously drawn for the purpose of making votes; that one of such houses was used as a slaughter house but a few days previously, and was in such a state of dilapidation as to render it scarcely safe to risk its removal; that it was drawn from its place to a vacant lot during the Election, although it contained neither window, floor, chimney, partition or roof; that its alleged owner was permitted to regard it as a dwelling house, and to record his vote upon it as such for the said *John Hillyard Cameron*; and next day it was dragged back to its former place and use: And, lastly, that although the said *John Hillyard Cameron* was personally present at such Election, his qualification was made before a Magistrate, and not before the Returning Officer: That under such circumstances the Petitioners consider themselves aggrieved; and feel that by the return of the said *John Hillyard Cameron*, as aforesaid, their rights as voters had been set aside; and praying such relief in the premises as to the wisdom of the House may seem just.

Of *David Bruce* and others, of the Town of *Pictou*, in the District of *Prince Edward*; praying that the Act incorporating the said Town may be repealed.

Of the Municipal Council of the District of *Victoria*; praying that the expenses of the Administration of Justice in *Canada West* may be defrayed out of the Provincial Chest, as they are in *Canada East*.

Of the Municipal Council of the District of *Victoria*; praying aid for the construction of a Road from *Belleville* through the said District to its rear.

Of the Municipal Council of the Home District; praying for a reduction of the fees and emoluments of the Registrars of the Counties, and that they may be empowered to erect buildings suitable for Registry Offices.

Of *Nathan S. Coho* of *Middleton*, in the District of *Talbot*; representing that he is still suffering from a wound received in the Militia Service, during the War of 1812, and praying a Pension.

Of *William Davis* and others, of the City of *Toronto*, tavern-keepers; praying for the passing of a law to prevent the selling of Beer, Ale, and other Liquors without a license.

Of *James Robertson* and others, of the Townships of *Clarke* and *Hope*, in the District of *Newcastle*; praying to be incorporated as "the President, Directors, and Company of the *Port Granby Harbour*," with certain rights and privileges.

Of the *St. Lawrence* and *Atlantic Railroad Company*; praying for the passing of an Act to secure Public Provincial Aid to the said Company.

Of the Mayor and Secretary of the Municipal Council of the County of *Rimouski*; praying that the said County may be divided for the purposes of registration, and the sale of Crown Lands.

Of the Mayor and Secretary of the Municipal Council of *Rimouski*; praying that a sufficient number of the Acts referring to the duties of Parish Officers be printed and distributed among the Municipal Councils.

Of the Reverend *P. Routier* and others, of *St. Louis de Kamouraska*; praying for an Act to prevent shooting certain Game at improper seasons of the year.