

II. RECOGNIZANCES.

he shall cause the Chief Clerk of the House to put up an acknowledgment thereof, in some conspicuous part of his office, and shall appoint a day for hearing such objections, not less than *three* nor more than *five* days from the day on which he received such statement; and the petitioner and his agent shall be allowed to examine and take copies of every such objection. 5

Speaker to
decide on
objections.

XXII. And be it enacted, That at the time appointed, the Speaker of the said House shall enquire into the alleged objections, on the grounds stated in the notice of objection, but not on any other ground; and for the purpose of such enquiry, he may examine upon oath any persons tendered by either party for examination by him, and may also receive in evidence any affidavit relating to the matter in dispute before him, sworn before him, or before any Justice of the Peace, and the said Speaker may if he think fit, adjourn the said enquiry from time to time until he decide on the validity of such objection; and he may if he think fit award costs to be paid by either party to the other, which costs shall be taxed and recovered as hereinafter provided for the costs and expenses of prosecuting or opposing Election Petitions, and the decision of the Speaker shall be final and conclusive against all parties. 10 15 20

Provision in
case of the
death of any
surety.

XXIII. And be it enacted, That if any surety die, and his death be stated as a ground of objection before the end of the time allowed for objecting to recognizances, the petitioner may pay into the hands of the Chief Clerk of the Commons House of Legislative Assembly of this Province on the account of the Speaker, the sum for which the deceased surety was bound; and upon the delivery of the receipt or certificate of the said Chief Clerk for such sum to the Speaker, within three days after the day on which the statement of such objection was delivered to the said Speaker, the recognizances shall be deemed unobjectionable if no other ground of objection thereto be stated within the time before mentioned for stating objections to recognizances. 25 30 35

Speaker to re-
port his deci-
sion to the
House, and it
shall be final.

XXIV. And be it enacted, That if the Speaker have received any statement of objection to the recognizances of any such Election Petition, and have decided that such recognizances are objectionable, he shall forthwith report to the House, that such recognizances are objectionable, but if he shall have decided that such recognizances are unobjectionable, or if he have not received any statement of objection, then as soon as the time hereinbefore allowed for stating any such objection has elapsed after the presentation of the petition, or as soon thereafter as he has decided upon the statement of objection, he 40 45