

most inhabited parts of this Island, requiring the Freeholders, Landholders and Resident Housekeepers of King's County, to appear before me at Georgetown aforesaid, on Wednesday the Thirteenth day of July instant, at the hour of Ten o'clock of the forenoon, for the purpose of electing and choosing one Member to represent the said County in the Lower House of Assembly, in the room of John Macdonald, Esquire, whose seat was declared vacant; at which day, hour and place, after taking the Oath required by Law, and administering the Oaths also required by Law to the Poll Clerks, and Proclamation made, a Poll was opened, and William Cooper, Angus Macdonald, and John Jardine, Esquires, were severally named and proposed as qualified and fit and proper persons to be elected to fill such vacancy; and I proceeded to take all such legal votes as were from time to time offered and tendered to me on the behalf of each candidate; and I kept the Poll open for two days, when the same was closed by consent of the candidates, and adjourned to St. Peter's, in the said County, to be there held on the Twentieth day of July instant, at Ten o'clock in the forenoon, giving seven days' notice thereof as prescribed by Law.—And I further certify, that at the last mentioned day, place and hour, I caused the said Poll to be again opened, and proceeded, after the usual and proper Proclamations being made, to take all such legal votes as were tendered and offered to me on behalf of either of the said Candidates, and continued so to do until six o'clock in the evening of the said Twentieth day of July instant, when the said Poll was adjourned until Ten o'clock of the forenoon of the Twenty-first day of July instant, being the day fixed by Law for finally closing the said Poll; and I further certify, that I opened the said Poll on the said last day at the hour to which the same was adjourned, when Thomas Irwin, Esquire, was proposed and nominated as a fit and proper person to fill the said vacancy; and, after making the usual and proper Proclamations, proceeded to take all such legal votes as were tendered and offered on behalf of either of the said Candidates, until about the hour of seven o'clock in the evening of the same day, when I was prevented from further obeying the commands of the said Writ, by actual violence, noise and riotous conduct of an assemblage of upwards of one hundred and fifty persons, who appeared to be gathered together for the express purpose of preventing a due and legal return of the said Writ, and who, by the casting and throwing of stones, sticks and rubbish, endangered my life, and the lives of the Poll Clerks and Constables employed in taking the said Poll, and who forcibly pulled down and demolished the Hustings there erected, throwing myself, the Candidates, and others thereon, to the ground; and after repeated attempts to preserve order and restore quiet, and after several notifications that I should be obliged to desist from further proceeding in the execution of the said

Writ, unless such violence, noise and riot ceased, finding it impossible to restore order, although I had for that purpose adjourned the Poll for half an hour, and had sworn in a number of special constables, and being several times driven from the building in which I had gone to hold the Poll after the destruction of the Hustings as aforesaid, by the throwing of sticks, stones and rubbish in at the doors of the same, and which repeatedly overturned the lights, and against which I had no means of protection, I was compelled, at about half-past nine o'clock of the evening last mentioned, to direct the Poll Books to be closed, without having declared any or either of the Candidates elected, or making or executing any Indenture to either, as required by Law. And I further certify, that at the time of closing the Poll Books, 317 votes were given for William Cooper, 243 votes for Angus Macdonald, 9 votes for Thomas Irwin, and 41 votes for John Jardine, making a majority of 74 votes in favour of William Cooper over Angus Macdonald, a majority of 308 votes over Thomas Irwin, and a majority of 276 votes over John Jardine. And I further certify, that a protest was made by Angus Macdonald, one of the Candidates, and one also by Thomas Irwin, another of the Candidates, which are duly entered on the Poll Books. And I further certify, that I could not execute the within Writ for the reasons and causes aforesaid.

“Given under my hand and seal, this Twentieth day of July, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty-one.

FADE GOFF,
Sheriff.”

Ordered, that the House do, on Monday next, resolve itself into a Committee of Privileges and Elections, for the purpose of taking the aforesaid Return into consideration.

Ordered, that Mr. John C. Sims, the Deputy Sheriff, have notice to attend the said Committee, on Monday next.

On motion of Mr. Brecken—Resolved, that the following be added to the Standing Orders of the House:

That an Order Book be kept by the Clerk, in which Members desirous of introducing any subject to the consideration of the House, unconnected with any measure actually in progress, shall be required to enter notice thereof, specifying the day in which the same shall be brought forward; giving at least 24 hours notice.—This Rule not to extend to questions of privilege.

Adjourned to 11 o'clock to-morrow.