

it is requisite, as you will perceive, that the Returning Officer should himself possess. The fact is, that the land which I occupy in Sherbrooke is the property of my brother. Mr. Robert Hallowell, of Montreal; and, though I have some real property in other parts of the Province, I have none of my own within the limits of the Town which would, as you are aware, be necessary, in order to give me the qualification of an Elector for this place.

On considering the circumstances of the case, it has appeared to me that it might probably tend to save some trouble to His Excellency, if I should look around for the names of such persons as might be found in this community, who would be capable of executing the duties of a Returning Officer, and who would be likely to possess a sufficient degree of impartiality to qualify them for that purpose,—at the present crisis; and it appears to me, as might be expected, there are but very few who would be, in all respects, sufficiently eligible for such duties. There are three gentlemen, however, resident in this Town and its vicinity, either of whom might, as I think, be appointed, with a certain degree of confidence, with regard to the mode in which it would probably be executed: Thomas Austin, Esquire, late a member of the Special Council, John Felton, Esq., Receiver of the Rents of the Crown Lands, and William Lloyd, Esquire, a Lieutenant in the Royal Navy, and a gentleman standing high in the community here.

I perceive, on looking into the documents transmitted to me, that the Writ of Election being directed to "the Returning Officer of the Town of Sherbrooke," without mentioning his name, need not be renewed but will answer the purpose as well on my handing it over to any other gentleman whom His Excellency may be pleased to appoint as a Returning Officer by a new Commission, as if it had been executed by myself, so that the Commission is the only document which it will be necessary to renew, but which ought to be dated on the same day as the present one addressed to myself, viz., the 19th February, which is also the day of the teste of the Writ

I would beg leave to remark, however, that it appears to me that it will be necessary to postpone the Election, which is now directed by the Instructions contained in the Commission to be holden on the 22nd March, for three or four days longer in order that there may be time to give the necessary notice of eight days for that purpose.

You will oblige me by respectfully communicating to His Excellency my grateful acknowledgements for the honor which he has done me, and the confidence which he appears to have reposed in me by an appointment of so much importance to the Public welfare at the present critical period, as that which he has been graciously pleased to confer on me; and I hope that he will accept my assurance that any favorable opinion which he may at any time evince by charging me with any public duties which it may be in my power to execute, will not be found to be misplaced.

I have only to add that I shall immediately hand over the Writ of Election which now remains in my hands, to any gentleman His Excellency may please to appoint a Returning Officer for the Town of Sherbrooke, on receiving a letter from you containing instructions to that effect.

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
Your most obedient servant,

(Signed,) JAS. HALLOWELL.

T. W. C. Murdoch, Esq.,  
Chief Secretary,  
Montreal.

*Note accompanying the Document which follows it.*

New Glasgow

DEAR SIR,

We have sent the accompanying suggestion to His Excellency, and beg you will have the goodness to direct the bearer to the proper Officer for its delivery. If you approve of it, you would do well to second its prayer.

We are,

Wishing you every success,  
Yours truly,

(Signed,)

HOYES LLOYD,  
A. MACDONALD,  
JOHN LLOYD.

*Document accompanying the preceding Note.*

At New Glasgow, this eighteenth day of March 1841, We, the Subscribers, humbly beg leave to approach your Excellency, representing that, in anticipation of the approaching Election, evil and seducing machinations have been set on foot by a disloyal faction amongst us. The apostles of seduction have travelled throughout the County encouraging and exciting the disaffected Canadians (who are not few in number) to come *en masse* to control the Election, and take summary vengeance on the Loyal portion of the people who oppose their rebellious schemes.

In this state of things, as the inhabitants of New Glasgow and New Paisley, by their manly, daring and loyal demeanor, operated as a check during the late troubles; they have, therefore, become obnoxious to the rebellious and disaffected. Therefore, we dread tumult and the probable loss of life and property. Even if the loyal portion of the Electors should prevail, the Canadians and the disaffected amongst us would take refuge in the Tannery which has been notable for infidelity and disaffection to Government since it existed, for which cause, its destruction would be inevitable; and, on the other hand, should our brave and loyal friends be overpowered by numerical force, unsparing vengeance would be the consequence.

Submitting these considerations to Your Excellency, we humbly beg leave to suggest, that as it is easier to prevent an evil than to cure it, that it would be advisable to send a party of Military to this place, to be stationed at the houses of Wm. Furze and James Monteith, which are situated nearly three miles from the place where the Poll is to be held.

The passage of the military through the County would damp rebellious ardor, and make J. Baptiste shrug his shoulders, and after passing to the Poll, would tend to overawe them, as the places mentioned above are on the road side leading to and from the Poll.

We beg Your Excellency to excuse our interference in the above case, as we beg to assure Your Excellency that it is dictated by an earnest desire to preserve life and property, and the furtherance of Your Excellency's judicious administration.

We have the honor to be,  
Your Excellency's most obedient  
and humble servants,

(Signed)

HOYES LLOYD, J. P.,  
A. MACDONALD, Capt.,  
New Paisley Volunteers,  
JOHN LLOYD, Capt. Militia.