

(Enclosure.)

Questions upon which an opinion is desired.

1. Are the holders of Crown Lands under Quit Rent entitled to vote at Elections, seeing that the License of occupation granted to them contains the following clause:—"That no right of property whatever shall be acquired by the said John Jones in the said Land, nor shall it be competent to him to make any transfer of his interest therein, until all the said instalments shall have been paid, and a grant of the said land obtained as hereinafter mentioned?"

2. If such License does give the right to vote to the original holder thereof, can he transfer such an interest to another as to entitle that other person to vote?

3. Does the purchaser, holding a License in the form herewith sent, derive such an interest in the premises as to qualify him to vote before the whole of the purchase money is paid, and a Patent obtained from the Crown?

4. If it does give such right, can such holder convey to another person such an interest in the land as to entitle that other person to vote before Patent obtained?

5. Is a purchaser of real estate, whose only title is a Bond for a Deed, and who has paid the whole purchase money, entitled to vote?

6. Is such a person entitled to vote, when the whole of the purchase money is not paid up?

7. Is it lawful to keep the Poll open on a Holiday, such Holiday not being a Sunday?

8. Is it requisite that the Clerk of the Poll be an Elector, seeing that in case of the death or illness of the Returning Officer, the Clerk is required to continue the Poll, taking the same Oath of Office as the Returning Officer?

9. Under what circumstances may an Alien-born be admitted to vote?

Copy of License referred to in the 3rd Question.

By the Honorable William Bowman Felton, commissioned for the sale and management of Crown Lands in the Province of Lower Canada.

Whereas, John Thomas has paid into the hands of the Treasurer of this Department the sum of £9 12s. 1d. C'y, being the deposit money, or first instalment on £38 8s. 6d. C'y, the value of 73 acres of land contained in the East end of Clergy lot No. 15, in the 6th Range of the Township of Shefford, sold to the said John Thomas under certain conditions on the 30th day of June, 1832.

I do hereby authorize the said John Thomas, to occupy the said East end of Clergy lot No. 15, in the 6th Range of the Township of Stanbridge, containing 73 acres, more or less, with the usual allowance for highways; and to hold the same, subject to the conditions expressed in the terms of sale, viz:

First.—That he shall pay into my office at Quebec, or to the Treasurer or Receiver of Rents at Shefford the sum of £28 16s. 4d. C'y, in three equal annual instalments, without interest, commencing on the first day of July, 1833.

Secondly.—That no right of property whatever shall be acquired by the said John Thomas in the said land, nor shall it be competent to him to make any transfer of his interest therein, until all the said instalments shall have been entirely paid and satisfied, and a grant of the said land obtained as hereinafter mentioned.

Thirdly.—That if the instalments are not regularly paid the deposit money shall be forfeited, and the land again referred to sale.

Fourthly.—That whenever the whole of the purchase money shall be paid, the purchaser shall be entitled to a grant of the land by Patent under the Great Seal of the Province, free of any expense, except the fees on making out the Patent, and uncumbered with any further conditions of improvement or settlement.

Given under my Hand and Seal, at the City of Quebec, this 10th day of September, 1832.

L. S.

(Signed,) W. B. FELTON.

Letter from Mr. Chief Secretary Murdoch to the Returning Officer for Shefford.

Government House,
Montreal, 5th March, 1843.

SIR,

Having laid before the Governor General your letter of the 3rd Instant proposing certain questions in regard to the performance of your duties as Returning Officer for the County of Shefford, I am directed to express to you in reply His Excellency's regret that it is not in his power to afford you any assistance in the matter. To express an opinion as to the mode of Polling, or the qualification of Individuals as Electors, would on the part of the Executive Government be an interference with the freedom of Elections and the privileges of the Legislative Assembly, which would be justly open to animadversion.

His Excellency must therefore on these points leave you to follow your own discretion, assisted by the provisions of the Law and the information you may derive from other sources.

I have, &c.

(Signed,) T. W. C. MURDOCH,
Chief Secretary.

Letter from James Hallowell, Esquire, (appointed Returning Officer for the County of Sherbrooke,) to Mr. Chief Secretary Murdoch.

Sherbrooke, 4th March, 1841.

SIR,

I was honored by the last Post with a Commission, appointing me Returning Officer of and for the Town of Sherbrooke, bearing date the nineteenth February last; but find, on looking into the oath required to be taken by the person appointed to that office, previous to the execution of the Writ of Election, that it will unfortunately be impossible for me to execute it, as I have no property in this Town sufficient to qualify me as an Elector, which