

*Resolved*, That no Petition of a private nature, be received after Monday the first day of December next.

A Petition of William Cochran, Esq. was presented by Mr. Pyke and read, setting forth, that the Petitioner, together with Edward Mortimer, S. W. G. Archibald, S. B. Robie, and William Lawson, Esquires, were Candidates at the last Election for four Members to serve in General Assembly for the County of Halifax, that, at the close of the said Poll, the number of votes, as they stood on the Sheriff's books, were as follows : Edward Mortimer, 1,049; S. W. G. Archibald, 962; Simon B. Robie, 904; William Lawson, 712; and, the Petitioner, William Cochran, 614; the Petitioner having the fifth greatest number of Votes. That at the opening of the Poll at Halifax, it was well known the said William Lawson was not qualified, in point of property, required by the Laws of the Province; and at the close of the Poll at Pictou, the Petitioner protested against the Sheriff, for returning the said William Lawson duly elected. it being notorious that the said William Lawson, had not any Freehold Estate in said County; that, notwithstanding these proceedings, the said William Lawson, has been returned as one of the Representatives for the County of Halifax, although as the Petitioner now begs leave to set forth to the House, the said William Lawson, hath not, within the said County, an Income of forty shillings per annum in Freehold Estate, or a dwelling house with the ground whereon the same stands; or one hundred acres of land, whereof five are cultivated, or any other Freehold Estate to qualify him to be elected for the said County, which fact was well known to the Freeholders of said County, so, that the Votes given for the said William Lawson, under the circumstances herein stated were of no force or effect, and the Petitioner having the next greatest number of Votes, was duly elected and ought to have been returned; and praying the House would take the premisses into consideration, and order the Sheriff of the county of Halifax, to amend his return, by inserting the name of the Petitioner, in the place of the said William Lawson, or grant the Petitioner such relief, as to the House, in their wisdom, may appear just.

A Petition of Thomas Law Dixon, was presented by Mr. Pyke, and read; setting forth, that at the late Election for the Township of Amherst, of a Representative in the present House of Assembly, the Petitioner, and Mr. Edward Baker, stood Candidates. That the said Mr. Baker, at the time of such Election, and Return, was not eligible to serve as a Member of Assembly, for the said Township of Amherst, according to the intent and meaning of an Act, passed in the 37th year of his present Majesty's Reign, intituled an Act, in amendment of an Act, passed in the 29th Year of his present Majesty's Reign, intituled, an Act for the better regulation of Elections; and the Petitioner, did at the time of the Election, object to the eligibility of the said Mr. Baker, for the reasons aforesaid. And the Petitioner, humbly conceives that the Election and Return of the said Mr. Baker is void. That many illegal practices were made use of, by, for, and on behalf of, the said Mr. Baker, in order to procure him to be elected a Representative for the said Township of Amherst. That several women and persons, having no legal qualification, were polled for the said Mr. Baker, although objected to by the Petitioner. That the Poll was closed by Proclamation, at 40 minutes past six o'Clock in the Evening, although there were several Freeholders who would have voted for the Petitioner, had the Poll been kept open another day; there was also a Freeholder present, who tendered his vote for the Petitioner, which was objected to by Mr. Baker, unless he took the oath of qualification, which he conscientiously declined doing, on account of his not knowing whether his Title Deed, was registered, although he had left it for that purpose with the Deputy Register, the Father of Mr. Baker, the Candidate; and the said Deputy Register, who was present, refused to inform him, or go to his Office with him, until the next day, before which time the Sheriff, closed the Poll, as aforesaid, and praying that the House would order the Sheriff of the County of Cumberland, to amend his return, by striking out