

At the General Assembly of the Province of Nova Scotia, begun and holden at Halifax, on Thursday, the Eighth day of January, 1824, in the Fourth year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Fourth, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith &c. &c. being the Fourth Session of the Twelfth General Assembly, convened in the said Province.

4 George IV – Chapter 22

An Act in addition to, and amendment of, an Act, made and passed in the fifty-seventh year of His late Majesty's reign, entitled, "An Act for regulating Elections of Representatives to serve in General Assembly."

Whereas, doubts exist as to the power of the sheriff, or other officer, holding elections, to appoint a time for closing the poll on each day during such election, and in particular on the last day thereof, to remove which:

I. Be it enacted by the Lieutenant-Governor, Council and Assembly, that, from and after the publication hereof, it shall be imperative on each and every sheriff, or other officer holding polls for the election of representatives to serve in general assembly, to close the poll on each day during such election, if between the twenty-second day of September and twenty-second day of March, at four of the clock in the afternoon; and if between the twenty-second day of March and the twenty-second day of September, inclusive, at six of the o'clock in the afternoon, except on the last day, allowed by law, for holding such poll, on which day it shall be imperative on such sheriff or other officer to close the poll at three of the clock in the afternoon, at all times of the year. Provided always, that nothing herein contained shall prevent the poll from being closed upon proclamation, or upon any agreement or arrangement entered into and agreed to by all the candidates, or those who may appear for them, and entered on the sheriff's poll book, that may not go to extend the holding of such poll beyond the times herein mentioned, or to prevent any scrutiny or adjournment, or removal, of the poll taking place in case the same may have been demanded:

And whereas, much vexation and expense doth happen, as well to the freeholders as candidates of those counties wherein an adjournment or removal of the poll and the second opening thereof, and so in respect to the third opening of such poll, for remedy whereof:

II. Be it further enacted, that, upon application for the removal or adjournment of the poll, the sheriff or other officer holding such poll, shall proceed in manner as prescribed by the act, of which this is in addition, and instead of giving notice, that the poll shall be held at the place to which the same may be adjourned or removed on the twelfth day from the first opening of such poll, as by the said act is specified, shall give notice that he will on the eighth day after such first opening of the poll, inclusive, continue the same at the place to which the said poll may be so removed, and shall give like notice in case of a second removal of said poll.

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And whereas, the population and settlement of the township of St. Mary's, in the county of Sydney, has of late increased so rapidly in and about Sherbrooke Village, in the said township, as to render it inconvenient for the majority of the freeholders of the said township to assemble as heretofore, at Country Harbour, in the said township, for the purpose of being polled, for remedy thereof:

III. Be it further enacted, that in future the poll, upon adjournment from Guysborough, in the county of Sydney, shall be opened and held in Sherbrooke Village, aforesaid, and not at Country Harbour as heretofore, any law, usage or custom, to the contrary notwithstanding.

And whereas, it will be of great convenience to freeholders of the eastern part of Hants that a poll be opened at or near the house of John Singer, Jun. in the township of Douglas:

IV. Be it therefore enacted, that hereafter, at any election to be held in and for the county of Hants, for members to serve in the general assembly, the sheriff or other officer shall, if thereto required, as by law directed, give notice according to law, that the poll will be adjourned and opened at or near the house at present occupied by John Singer, Junior, in the township of Douglas, and shall there continue the said poll for the space of three days, or until the freeholders then and there present be polled.

And whereas, by the tenth section of the said act, it is declared that when the poll is removed from one part of a county or district to another part of a county or district, that the sheriff shall proceed for the space of four days to take the poll, or until the electors then and there present be polled.

And whereas, in the district of Pictou, four days have been found insufficient to enable all the electors to be polled:

V. Be it therefore enacted, that the said poll, when so removed to the district of Pictou, shall be held open for six days, or until all the electors then and there present be polled.

VI. And be it further enacted, that all and every person or persons holding any lands within the island of Cape Breton, under and by virtue of any crown lease, or license of occupation, which had been granted or issued by the former government of that island, and which were uncanceled and in force at the time the said island was re-annexed to this province, or under and by virtue of any deeds, purporting to be conveyances of freehold estates, made from the said titles, shall be entitled to vote as freeholders.

VII. And be it further enacted, that it shall and may be lawful for the sheriff of the county of Shelburne, or his deputy, at any future election of members to represent the said county, if thereunto required by either candidates, on the first day of the opening of the poll at Argyle, and upon giving the like notice, and for the same space of time as is required by law, on the removal of the poll from Shelburne to Argyle, to remove and adjourn the said poll to the

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court-house in the town of Yarmouth, there to be held for the space of four days, unless sooner closed according to law.