

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DOCUMENTS

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THE LEGISLATURE,

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

DURING ITS SESSION

**A. D. 1833.**

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**STATE OF MAINE.**

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }  
January 12th, 1833. }

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**THE** Committee on “Contested Elections” to whom was referred the remonstrance of sundry inhabitants of **Belgrade** and **Dearborn** against the right of **Alvan Bickford**, returned from the Representative class, composed of the towns of **Belgrade** and **Dearborn**, in the County of **Kennebec**, to a seat in this House, have had the same under consideration, and ask leave to report:—

That meetings were held in said towns of **Belgrade** and **Dearborn**, for the choice of a Representative, on the second Monday of Sept. last, and on the first Monday of Oct. following—and that no election was effected at either of said meetings; that a third meeting was held in said towns for the same purpose on the fourth Monday of October, and the votes given in were as follows:—

In Belgrade, for Alvan Bickford, - - -	92
“ “ Hiram Rockwood, - - -	136
“ “ John Pitts, - - -	10
	<hr/>
	238
In Dearborn, for Alvan Bickford, - - -	85
“ “ Hiram Rockwood, - - -	23
“ “ Jacob Main, - - -	2
	<hr/>
	110
	<hr/>
	348

being in all, 348—and requiring to effect a choice 175—of these votes Alvan Bickford received 177. It is alleged by the remonstrants, that the meeting held in the town of Dearborn on said fourth Monday of Oct. was illegal, because, the warrant of the Selectmen calling said meeting, did not contain any notice of the time and place, when, and where the Selectmen would be in session, to receive evidence of the qualifications of voters—as required by the “act regulating elections”—passed March 19th, 1821—and that the *proceedings* of said meeting were illegal, because, the names of the legal voters were not checked on the list, as required by law—and because, there were more votes cast than there were legal voters at said meeting.

Your committee are of opinion that the omission in the warrant, of notice of the time and place to receive evidence of the qualification of voters—although subjecting the Selectmen to a penalty—

does not affect the legality of the votes given in, and by said Selectmen received—more especially, as no elector was refused permission to vote, by reason of his name not being on the list.

And in relation to the illegality of the proceedings of said meeting—there was not sufficient evidence to satisfy your committee, that the votes given in, were greater in number than the legal voters in said town—and no evidence that illegal votes were given in, or received at said meeting—they are therefore of opinion, that Alvan Bickford, having received a majority of all the votes cast, is rightfully entitled to hold his seat in this house—and have directed me to report a **Resolve**, which is herewith submitted.

**DAVID C. MAGOUN**, *per order*.

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**State of Maine.**

*Resolved*, That, Alvan Bickford having been constitutionally, and legally elected a **Representative** from the class composed of the towns of **Belgrade** and **Dearborn**, is entitled to a seat in this **House**.

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }  
January 12, 1833. }

*Ordered,* That three hundred copies of the foregoing Report  
and Resolve be printed for the use of the Members.

[Extract from the Journal.]

Attest:

ASAPH R. NICHOLS, *Clerk.*