

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FORTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE.

No. 9.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS.

The Committee on Elections, to which was referred the remonstrance of Peter Charles Keegan against William Dickey of Fort Kent, requesting this House to seat said Keegan as one of its members from the district embracing the following places:—Fort Kent, Dickeyville, Madawaska, Grant Isle, St. Francis, St. John, Eagle Lake, Van Buren, Wallagrass, Hamlin, and Cyr, have had the same under consideration, heard the evidence and arguments of the parties, endeavoring to examine and ascertain what places in said district have complied with the requirements of law, and have made legal returns to the Secretary of State of all proceedings prescribed and required by revised statutes, chapter 4, sections 70, 71 and 75, the acts of 1859, chapter 106, section 2, and of 1867, chapter 103, and thus perfected organization qualifying them to vote for representatives, and such return of votes cast for representatives at the September election of 1869 as are necessary to entitle them to have their votes received and allowed, and the Committee submit for the consideration of the House the following

REPORT:

The returns of votes from the towns of Fort Kent, Dickeyville, Madawaska, Grant Isle, and the plantations of St. Francis, St. John, Eagle Lake, appear to have been made in conformity to the provisions of law. Said plantations as appears of record in the office of Secretary of State have been organized by a compliance with all the provisions of law relating to the organization of plantations for election purposes, and have made all the returns to the office of Secretary of State entitling them to have their votes received and allowed.

Wallagrass and Hamlin have complied with all the provisions of law except making returns of written description of limits required by revised statutes, chapter 4, section 71. In these, the limits are distinctly defined in the petition to and warrant issued by County Commissioner for their organizations, which appears of record in office of Secretary of State. But as the votes in Wallagrass and Hamlin, if allowed or rejected, would not change the result, we deem it unnecessary to express an opinion as to whether they ought to be allowed or not.

There was nothing before your Committee entitled to the weight of evidence, that Cyr has ever been organized, and we cannot find either statute provisions or legislative precedents authorizing the allowance of returns of votes from places without evidence of their organization, but revised statutes, chapter 4, section 77, requires such returns to be rejected. Besides no legal or official returns of the votes of Cyr have been made as is required by revised statutes, chapter 4, section 75. Your Committee, therefore, not feeling authorized to act in violation of law, but in obedience to the provisions thereof, have rejected the vote of said Cyr, and we find the state of the votes in the other places in this representative district to be as follows:

	William Dickey.	Peter Chas. Keegan.
Fort Kent.....	110	16
Dickeyville.....	115	87
Madawaska.....	19	108
Grant Isle.....	18	58
St. Francis.....	36	..
St. John.....	17	4
Van Buren....	27	84
Eagle Lake.....	36	..
Total vote for Wm. Dickey in above towns and plantations...		378
“ “ “ Peter Charles Keegan, “ “		357
Giving a majority to Wm. Dickey of.....		21

If the votes of Wallagrass and Hamlin be received, the state of the vote will then be as follows:

The whole number of votes for Wm. Dickey.....	431
The whole number of votes for Peter Chas. Keegan.....	417
Giving a majority for Wm. Dickey of.....	14

We therefore further report that the said Peter Charles Keegan have leave to withdraw.

C. M. POWERS,
ORRICK HAWES,
HENRY BRAWN,
L. H. STOVER,
E. SMITH, JR.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
January 26, 1870. }

Reported from the majority of the Committee on Elections, by
Mr. POWERS of Houlton, and ordered to be printed.

S. J. CHADBOURNE, *Clerk.*