

HOUSE....No. 119.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 19, 1856.

The Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred an Order relating to the manner of conducting elections, and ascertaining the results thereof, have considered the same, and report the accompanying Bill.

For the Committee,

JOHN CODMAN.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and fifty-
Six.

AN ACT

Concerning the Election of Civil Officers.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1 SECT. 1. In order to determine the result of any
2 election of any civil officer or officers in this Com-
3 monwealth, the whole number of persons who voted
4 at such election shall first be ascertained by counting
5 the whole number of separate ballots given in, and
6 the person or persons who shall receive the highest
7 number of votes shall be deemed and declared to be
8 elected; and in all returns of elections the whole
9 number of ballots given shall be distinctly stated, but
10 blank pieces of paper shall not be counted as ballots.

1 SECT. 2. If at any election where more than one
2 civil officer is to be elected to the same office, any
3 two or more candidates shall receive an equal number
4 of votes, being a plurality, by reason whereof the
5 whole number to be elected cannot be completed, the
6 candidates having such equal number of votes shall be
7 deemed not to be elected.

1 SECT. 3. All acts or parts of acts, inconsistent
2 herewith, or with the fourteenth article of the amend-
3 ments to the Constitution of Massachusetts, are re-
4 pealed.

