

plish the work of taking the testimony in the brief period of the sitting of your Honorable Body. Your memorialist, however, is actively engaged in doing so, and expects to be able to lay the result before you at an early day, until which time he humbly craves your indulgence. He will content himself with presenting to you only such facts as will be sufficient to enable you to settle the principles upon which he claims that his election should be sustained. His inquiries, you will observe, have been confined to the frauds committed by the Registration Officers in Somerset county, but he doubts not that if time and opportunity were allowed him, he could readily show that fraudulent and arbitrary practices to an equal extent, existed in the counties of Worcester and Dorchester, whereby his vote was very largely impaired.

In the county of Dorchester, in some of the districts, the judges of election did not qualify according to law, and their returns will show great irregularities, copies of the poll books of said districts will be submitted to you for inspection.

Upon the foregoing points and facts, and such others as the testimony may disclose, your memorialist prays your Honorable Body to examine the case made by the contestant, and respectfully submits himself to your judgment.

JOHN R. FRANKLIN.

*January 12, 1866.*