CAP. LVII.

An Act for the Prevention of Bribery at Elections. [22d *June* 1841.]

'WHEREAS the Laws in being are not sufficient to 'hinder corrupt and illegal Practices in the Election of 'Members to serve in Parliament;' be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That whenever any Charge of Bribery shall be brought before any Select Committee of the House of Commons appointed to try and determine the Merits of any Return or Election of a Member or Members to serve in Parliament, the Committee shall receive Evidence upon the whole Matter whereon it is alleged that Bribery has been committed; neither shall it be necessary to prove Agency, in the first instance, before giving Evidence of those Facts whereby the Charge of Bribery is to be sustained; and the Committee in their Report to the House of Commons shall separately and distinctly report upon the Fact or Facts of Bribery which shall have been proved before them, and also whether or not it shall have been proved that such Bribery was committed with the Knowledge and Consent of any sitting Member or Candidate at the Election.

Evidence of Bribery to be given on the whole Matter without first proving Agency.

CAP. LVIII.

An Act to amend the Law for the Trial of controverted Elections. [22d *June* 1841.]

'WHEREAS an Act was passed in the Session holden in 'the Second and Third Years of the Reign of Her 'present Majesty, intituled *An Act to amend the Jurisdiction for 'the Trial of Election Petitions:* And whereas the Provisions of 'the said Act have been found in some respects defective, and 'it is expedient therefore to repeal the said Act, and to enact as 'follows:' Be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That the said recited Act shall be and the same is hereby repealed, except as to Things done or Proceedings commenced under the same before the passing of this Act, and which may be dealt with or proceeded in, and shall have the same Effect, as if the said Act had not been repealed.

2 & 3 Vict. c. 38.

Recited Act repealed.

II. And be it enacted, That an Act passed in the Ninth Year of the Reign of King *George* the Fourth, intituled *An Act to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to the Trial of controverted Elections or Returns of Members to serve in Parliament*, and also so much of an Act passed in the Forty-second Year of the

Suspension of 9 G. 4. c. 22. and Part of 42 G. 3. c. 106. and 47 G. 3. c. 14.