or estimated to be necessary to defray the expenses incurred by them in the execution and superintendence of such regulations, or in paying off any loan incurred by them under the second section of the Act of the session of the forty-sixth and forty-seventh years of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter fifty-nine; and all the provisions of the Acts for the relief of the poor in Ireland relative to the division of rates between owners and occupiers of rateable hereditaments, and as to deductions from rent on account of rate, shall apply to such separate item as if it were a rate for the relief of the poor.

CHAPTER 70.

An Act for the better Prevention of Corrupt and Illegal Practices at Municipal and other Elections.

[14th August 1884.]

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, as follows; (that is to say,)

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the Municipal Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) Act, 1884.

Corrupt Practices.

Definition and punishment of corrupt practice at municipal election.

2. (1.) The expression "corrupt practice" in this Act means any of the following offences, namely, treating, undue influence, bribery, and personation as defined by the enactments set forth in Part One of the Third Schedule to this Act, and aiding, abetting, counselling, and procuring the commission of the offence of personation.

(2.) A person who commits any corrupt practice in reference to a municipal election shall be guilty of the like offence, and shall on conviction be liable to the like punishment, and subject to the like incapacities, as if the corrupt practice had been committed in reference to a parliamentary election.

Incapacity of candidate reported guilty of corrupt practice. 45 & 46 Vict. c. 50.

3. (1.) Where upon the trial of an election petition respecting a municipal election for a borough or ward of a borough it is found by the report of an election court made in pursuance of section ninety-three of the Municipal Corporations Act, 1882, that any corrupt practice, other than treating and undue influence, has been proved to have been committed in reference to such election by or with the knowledge and consent of any candidate at such election, or that the offence of treating or undue influence has been proved to have been committed in reference to such election by any candidate at such election, that candidate shall not be capable of ever holding a corporate office in the said borough, and if he has been elected his election shall be void; and he shall further be subject to the same incapacities as if at the date of the said report he had been convicted of a corrupt practice.

(2.) Upon the trial of an election petition respecting a municipal election for a borough or ward of a borough in which a charge is

made of any corrupt practice having been committed in reference to such election, the election court shall report in writing to the High Court whether any of the candidates at such election has been guilty by his agents of any corrupt practice in reference to such election, and if the report is that any candidate at such election has been guilty by his agents of a corrupt practice in reference to such election, that candidate shall not be capable of being elected to or holding any corporate office in the said borough, during a period of three years from the date of the report, and if he has been elected, his election shall be void.

Illegal Practices.

Certain expenditure to be illegal practice.

4. (1.) No payment or contract for payment shall, for the purpose of promoting or procuring the election of a candidate at a municipal election, be made—

(*a*) on account of the conveyance of electors to or from the poll whether for the hiring of horses or carriages, or for railway fares, or otherwise; or

(*b*) to an elector on account of the use of any house, land, building, or premises for the exhibition of any address, bill, or notice, or on account of the exhibition of any address, bill, or notice; or

(*c*) on account of any committee room in excess of the number allowed by this Act (that is to say), if the election is for a borough one committee room for the borough, and if the election is for a ward one committee room for the ward, and if the number of electors in such borough or ward exceeds two thousand, one additional committee room for every two thousand electors and incomplete part of two thousand electors, over and above the said two thousand.

(2.) Subject to such exception as may be allowed in pursuance of this Act, if any payment or contract for payment is knowingly made in contravention of this section either before, during, or after a municipal election, the person making such payment or contract shall be guilty of an illegal practice, and any person receiving such payment or being a party to any such contract, knowing the same to be in contravention of this Act, shall also be guilty of an illegal practice.

(3.) Provided that where it is the ordinary business of an elector as an advertising agent to exhibit for payment bills and advertisements, a payment to or contract with such elector if made in the ordinary course of business, shall not be deemed to be an illegal practice within the meaning of this section.

Expense in excess of maximum to be illegal practice.

5. (1.) Subject to such exception as may be allowed in pursuance of this Act, no sum shall be paid and no expense shall be incurred by or on behalf of a candidate at an election, whether before, during, or after an election, on account of or in respect of the conduct or management of such election, save that in the case of an election of a councillor a sum may be paid and expense incurred not in excess of the maximum amount following; (that is to say,)

The sum of twenty-five pounds, and, if the number of electors in the borough or ward exceeds five hundred, an additional

amount of threepence for each elector above the first five hundred electors.

(2.) Any candidate or agent of a candidate or person who knowingly acts in contravention of this section shall be guilty of an illegal practice.

(3.) Where there are two or more joint candidates at an election the maximum amount of expenses shall, for each of such joint candidates, be reduced by one fourth, or if there are more than two joint candidates by one third.

(4.) Where two or more candidates at the election, by themselves or any agent or agents, hire or use the same committee rooms for such election, or employ or use the services of the same clerks, messengers, or polling agent at such election, or publish a joint address or joint circular or notice at such election, those candidates shall be deemed for the purposes of this enactment to be joint candidates at such election: Provided that—

(*a.*) The employment and use of the same committee room, clerk, messenger, or polling agent, if accidental or casual, or of a trivial and unimportant character, shall not be deemed of itself to constitute persons joint candidates:

(*b.*) Nothing in this enactment shall prevent candidates from ceasing to be joint candidates:

(*c.*) Where any excess of expenses above the maximum allowed for one of two or more joint candidates has arisen owing to his having ceased to be a joint candidate, or to his having become a joint candidate after having begun to conduct his election as a separate candidate, and such ceasing or beginning was in good faith, and such excess is not more than under the circumstances is reasonable, and the total expenses of such candidate do not exceed the maximum amount allowed for a separate candidate, such excess shall be deemed to have arisen from a reasonable cause within the meaning of the enactments respecting the allowance by the High Court or election court of an exception from the provisions of this Act which would otherwise make an act an illegal practice, and the candidate may be relieved accordingly from the consequences of having incurred such excess of expenses.

Voting by prohibited persons and publishing of false statements of withdrawal to be illegal.

6. (1.) If any person votes or induces or procures any person to vote at a municipal election, knowing that he or such person is prohibited, whether by this or any other Act, from voting at such election, he shall be guilty of an illegal practice.

(2.) Any person who before or during a municipal election knowingly publishes a false statement of the withdrawal of a candidate at such election for the purpose of promoting or procuring the election of another candidate shall be guilty of an illegal practice.

(3.) Provided that a candidate shall not be liable, nor shall his election be avoided, for any illegal practice under this section committed without his knowledge and consent.

Punishment on conviction of illegal practice.

7. A person guilty of an illegal practice in reference to a municipal election, shall on summary conviction be liable to a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds and be incapable during a period of five years from the date of his conviction of being registered as an elector or voting at any election (whether it be a parliamentary

election or an election for a public office within the meaning of this Act) held for or within the borough in which the illegal practice has been committed.

Incapacity of candidate reported guilty of illegal practice. 45 & 46 Vict. c. 50.

8. (1.) An illegal practice within the meaning of this Act shall be deemed to be an offence against Part Four of the Municipal Corporations Act, 1882, and a petition alleging such illegal practice may be presented and tried accordingly.

(2.) Upon the trial of an election petition respecting a municipal election for a borough or ward of a borough in which a charge is made of any illegal practice having been committed in reference to such election, the election court shall report in writing to the High Court whether any of the candidates at such election has been guilty by himself or his agents of an illegal practice in reference to such election, and if the report is that a candidate at such election has been guilty by himself or his agents of an illegal practice in reference to such election, the candidate shall not be capable of being elected to or of holding any corporate office in the said borough during the period for which he was elected to serve, or for which if elected he might have served, and if he was elected, his election shall be void; and, if the report is that such candidate has himself been guilty of such illegal practice, he shall also be subject to the same incapacities as if at the date of the report he had been convicted of such illegal practice.

Illegal Payment, Employment, and Hiring

Providing of money for illegal practice or payment to be illegal payment.

9. Where a person knowingly provides money for any payment which is contrary to the provisions of this Act, or for any expenses incurred in excess of any maximum amount allowed by this Act, or for replacing any money expended in any such payment, except where the same may have been previously allowed in pursuance of this Act to be an exception, such person shall be guilty of illegal payment.

Employment of hackney carriages, or of carriages and horses kept for hire.

10. (1.) A person shall not let, lend, or employ for the purpose of the conveyance of electors to or from the poll at a municipal election, any public stage or hackney carriage, or any horse or other animal kept or used for drawing the same, or any carriage, horse, or other animal which he keeps or uses for the purpose of letting out for hire, and if he lets, lends, or employs such carriage, horse, or other animal, knowing that it is intended to be used for the purpose of the conveyance of electors to or from the poll, he shall be guilty of illegal hiring.

(2.) A person shall not hire, borrow, or use for the purpose of the conveyance of electors to or from the poll any carriage, horse, or other animal which he knows the owner thereof is prohibited by this section to let, lend, or employ for that purpose, and if he does so he shall be guilty of illegal hiring.

(3.) Nothing in this Act shall prevent a carriage, horse, or other animal being let to or hired, employed, or used by an elector, or several electors at their joint cost, for the purpose of conveying him or them to or from the poll.

(4.) No person shall be liable to pay any duty or to take out a license for any carriage by reason only of such carriage being used

without payment or promise of payment for the conveyance of electors to or from the poll at an election.

Corrupt withdrawal from a candidature.

11. Any person who corruptly induces or procures any other person to withdraw from being a candidate at a municipal election, in consideration of any payment or promise of payment, shall be guilty of illegal payment, and any person withdrawing in pursuance of such inducement or procurement shall also be guilty of illegal payment.

Certain expenditure to be illegal payment.

12. (1.) No payment or contract for payment shall, for the purpose of promoting or procuring the election of a candidate at a municipal election, be made on account of bands of music, torches, flags, banners, cockades, ribbons, or other marks of distinction.

(2.) Subject to such exception as may be allowed in pursuance of this Act, if any payment or contract for payment is made in contravention of this section, either before, during, or after an election, the person making such payment shall be guilty of illegal payment, and any person being a party to any such contract or receiving such payment shall also be guilty of illegal payment if he knew that the same was made contrary to law.

Certain employment to be illegal.

13. (1.) No person shall, for the purpose of promoting or procuring the election of a candidate at a municipal election, be engaged or employed for payment or promise of payment for any purpose or in any capacity whatever, except as follows (that is to say),

(*a*) a number of persons may be employed, not exceeding two for a borough or ward, and if the number of electors in such borough or ward exceeds two thousand one additional person may be employed for every thousand electors and incomplete part of a thousand electors over and above the said two thousand, and such persons may be employed as clerks and messengers, or in either capacity; and

(*b*) one polling agent may be employed in each polling station:

Provided that this section shall not apply to any engagement or employment for carrying into effect a contract bonâ fide made with any person in the ordinary course of business.

(2.) Subject to such exception as may be allowed in pursuance of this Act, if any person is engaged or employed in contravention of this section, either before, during, or after an election, the person engaging or employing him shall be guilty of illegal employment, and the person so engaged or employed shall also be guilty of illegal employment if he knew that he was engaged or employed in contravention of this Act.

(3.) A person legally employed for payment under this section may or may not be an elector, but may not vote.

Name and address of printer on placards.

14. Every bill, placard, or poster having reference to a municipal election shall bear upon the face thereof the name and address of the printer and publisher thereof; and any person printing, publishing, or posting, or causing to be printed, published, or posted, any such bill, placard, or poster as aforesaid, which fails to bear upon the face thereof the name and address of the printer and publisher, shall, if he is a candidate, be guilty of an illegal practice, and if he is not the candidate, shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds.

Saving for creditors.

15. The provisions of this Act prohibiting certain payments and contracts for payments, and the payment of any sum, and the incurring of any expense, in excess of a certain maximum, shall not affect the right of any creditor who, when the contract was made or the expense was incurred, was ignorant of the same being in contravention of this Act.

Use of certain premises for committee rooms or meetings to be illegal hiring.

16. (1.) (*a.*) Any premises, which are licensed for the sale of any intoxicating liquor for consumption on or off the premises, or on which refreshment of any kind (whether food or drink) is ordinarily sold for consumption on the premises, or

(*b.*) Any premises where any intoxicating liquor is supplied to members of a club, society, or association, or any part of any such premises,

shall not, for the purpose of promoting or procuring the election of a candidate at a municipal election, be used either as a committee room or for holding a meeting, and if any person hires or uses any such premises or any part thereof in contravention of this section he shall be guilty of illegal hiring, and the person letting or permitting the use of such premises or part thereof, if he knew it was intended to use the same, in contravention of this section, shall also be guilty of illegal hiring.

(2.) Provided that nothing in this section shall apply to any part of such premises which is ordinarily let for the purpose of chambers or offices or the holding of public meetings or of arbitrations, if such part has a separate entrance and no direct communication with any part of the premises on which any intoxicating liquor or refreshment is sold or supplied as aforesaid.

Punishment of illegal payment, employment, or hiring.

17. (1.) A person guilty of an offence of illegal payment, employment, or hiring shall, on summary conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds.

(2.) Where an offence of illegal payment, employment, or hiring is committed by a candidate, or with his knowledge and consent, such candidate shall be guilty of an illegal practice.

Avoidance of election for extensive illegal practices, &c.

18. Where upon the trial of an election petition respecting a municipal election for a borough or ward of a borough it is found by the election court that illegal practices or offences of illegal payment, employment, or hiring, committed in reference to such election for the purpose of promoting the election of a candidate at that election, have so extensively prevailed that they may be reasonably supposed to have affected the result of that election, the election court shall report such finding to the High Court, and the election of such candidate, if he has been elected, shall be void, and he shall not, during the period for which he was elected to serve, or for which, if elected, he might have served, be capable of being elected to or holding any corporate office in the said borough.

Excuse and Exception for Corrupt or Illegal Practice or Illegal Payment, Employment, or Hiring.

Report exonerating candidate in certain cases of corrupt and illegal practice by agents.

19. Where, upon the trial of an election petition respecting a municipal election, the election court reports that a candidate at such election has been guilty by his agents of the offence of treating and undue influence, and illegal practice, or of any of such offences,

in reference to such election, and the election court further report that the candidate has proved to the court—

(*a.*) That no corrupt or illegal practice was committed at such election by the candidate or with his knowledge or consent, and the offences mentioned in the said report were committed without the sanction or connivance of such candidate; and

(*b.*) That all reasonable means for preventing the commission of corrupt and illegal practices at such election were taken by and on behalf of the candidate; and

(*c.*) That the offences mentioned in the said report were of a trivial, unimportant, and limited character; and

(*d.*) That in all other respects the election was free from any corrupt or illegal practice on the part of such candidate and of his agents;

then the election of such candidate shall not, by reason of the offences mentioned in such report, be void, nor shall the candidate be subject to any incapacity under this Act.

Power of High Court and election court to except innocent act from being illegal practice, &c.

20. Where, on application made, it is shown to the High Court or to a municipal election court by such evidence as seems to the Court sufficient—

(*a.*) that any act or omission of a candidate at a municipal election for a borough or ward of a borough, or of any agent or other person, would, by reason of being in contravention of any of the provisions of this Act, be but for this section an illegal practice, payment, employment, or hiring; and

(*b.*) that such act or omission arose from inadvertence or from accidental miscalculation or from some other reasonable cause of a like nature, and in any case did not arise from any want of good faith; and

(*c.*) that such notice of the application has been given in the said borough as to the Court seems fit;

and under the circumstances it seems to the Court to be just that the said candidate, agent and person, or any of them, should not be subject to any of the consequences under this Act of the said act or omission, the Court may make an order allowing such act or omission to be an exception from the provisions of this Act which would otherwise make the same an illegal practice, payment, employment, or hiring, and thereupon such candidate, agent, or person shall not be subject to any of the consequences under this Act of the said act or omission.

Sending in claims and making payments for election expenses.

21. (1.) Every claim against any person in respect of any expenses incurred by or on behalf of a candidate at an election of a councillor on account of or in respect of the conduct or management of such election shall be sent in within fourteen days after the day of election, and if not so sent in shall be barred and not paid, and all expenses incurred as aforesaid shall be paid within twenty-one days after the day of election, and not otherwise, and any person who makes a payment in contravention of this section, except where such payment is allowed as provided by this section, shall be guilty of an illegal practice, but if such payment was made without the sanction or connivance of the candidate, the election of such candidate shall not be void, nor shall he be subject to

any incapacity under this Act by reason only of such payment having been made in contravention of this section.

(2.) Every agent of a candidate at an election of a councillor shall, within twenty-three days after the day of election, make a return to the candidate in writing of all expenses incurred by such agent on account of or in respect of the conduct or management of such election, and if he fails so to do shall be liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding fifty pounds.

(3.) Within twenty-eight days after the day of election of a councillor every candidate at such election shall send to the town clerk a return of all expenses incurred by such candidate or his agents on account of or in respect of the conduct or management of such election, vouched (except in the case of sums under twenty shillings) by bills stating the particulars and receipts, and accompanied by a declaration by the candidate made before a justice in the form set forth in the Fourth Schedule to this Act, or to the like effect.

(4.) After the expiration of the time for making such return and declaration the candidate, if elected, shall not, until he has made the return and declaration (in this Act referred to as the return and declaration respecting election expenses), or until the date of the allowance of such authorised excuse, as is mentioned in this Act, sit or vote in the council, and if he does so shall forfeit fifty pounds for every day on which he so sits or votes to any person who sues for the same.

(5.) If the candidate without such authorised excuse as is mentioned in this Act fails to make the said return and declaration he shall be guilty of an illegal practice, and if he knowingly makes the said declaration falsely he shall be guilty of an offence, and on conviction thereof on indictment shall be liable to the punishment for wilful and corrupt perjury, and such offence shall also be deemed to be a corrupt practice within the meaning of this Act.

(6.) The county court for the district in which the election was held, or the High Court, or an election court, may, on application either of the candidate or a creditor, allow any claim to be sent in and any expense to be paid after the time limited by this section, and a return of any sum so paid shall forthwith after payment be sent to the town clerk.

(7.) If the candidate applies to the High Court or an election court, and shows that the failure to make the said return and declaration, or either of them, or any error or false statement therein, has arisen by reason of his illness or absence, or of the absence, death, illness, or misconduct of any agent, clerk, or officer, or by reason of inadvertence, or of any reasonable cause of a like nature, and not by reason of any want of good faith on the part of the applicant, the court may, after such notice of the application and on production of such evidence of the grounds stated in the application, and of the good faith of the applicant, and otherwise as to the court seems fit, make such order for allowing the authorised excuse for the failure to make such return and declaration, or for an error or false statement in such return or declaration, as to the court seems just.

(8.) The order may make the allowance conditional upon compliance with such terms as to the court seems calculated for carrying into effect the objects of this Act, and the order shall relieve the applicant from any liability or consequences under this Act in respect of the matters excused by the order.

(9.) The date of the order, or if conditions and terms are to be complied with, the date at which the applicant fully complies with them, is referred to in this Act as the date of the allowance of the excuse.

(10.) The return and declaration sent in pursuance of this Act to the town clerk shall be kept at his office, and shall at all reasonable times during the twelve months next after they are received by him be open to inspection by any person on payment of the fee of one shilling, and the town clerk shall, on demand, furnish copies thereof or of any part thereof at the price of twopence for every seventy-two words.

(11.) After the expiration of the said twelve months the town clerk may cause the return and declaration to be destroyed, or if the candidate so require shall return the same to him.

Disqualification of Electors.

Prohibition of persons guilty of offences from voting.

22. Every person guilty of a corrupt or illegal practice or of illegal employment, payment, or hiring at a municipal election is prohibited from voting at such election, and if any such person votes his vote shall be void, and shall be struck off on a scrutiny.

Application of ss. 37 & 38 of 46 & 47 Vict. c. 51.

23. So much of sections thirty-seven and thirty-eight of the Corrupt and Illegal Practices Prevention Act, 1883, as is set forth in Part Two of the Third Schedule to this Act, shall apply as part of this Act.

List in burgess roll of persons incapacitated for voting by corrupt or illegal practices.

24. (1.) The town clerk in every municipal borough shall annually in July make out a list containing the names and description of all persons who, though otherwise qualified to be enrolled as burgesses of such borough, have under this Act, or under the Corrupt and Illegal Practices Prevention Act, 1883, or under any other Act for the time being in force relating to a parliamentary election or an election to any public office, become after the commencement of this Act, by reason of conviction of a corrupt or illegal practice, or of the report of any election court or election commissioners, incapable of voting at a municipal election in such borough or any ward thereof, and the town clerk shall state in the list (in this Act referred to as the corrupt and illegal practices list), the offence of which each person has been found guilty.

(2.) For the purpose of making out such list he shall examine the report of any election court or election commissioners who have respectively tried an election petition or inquired into an election where the election (whether a parliamentary election or an election to any public office) was held in the said borough or in the county in which such borough is situate.

(3.) The town clerk of any municipal borough shall, not less than fourteen days before the first day appointed by law for the publication of the parish burgess lists in such borough, send the corrupt and illegal practices list to the overseers of every parish wholly or

partly within the borough, and the overseers shall publish that list together with the parish burgess lists, and shall also, in the case of every person in the corrupt and illegal practices list, omit his name from the list of persons entitled to be enrolled as burgesses or to be elected councillors, or, as circumstances require, add "objected" before his name in the list of claimants published by them, in like manner as is required by law in any other cases of disqualification.

(4.) Any person named in the corrupt and illegal practices list may claim to have his name omitted therefrom, and any person entitled to object to any parish burgess list may object to the omission of the name of any person from such first-mentioned list. Such claims and objections shall be sent in within the same time and be dealt with in like manner, and any such objection shall be served on the person referred to therein in like manner, as nearly as circumstances admit, as other claims and objections under the enactments relating to the enrolment of burgesses.

(5.) The revising authority shall determine such claims and objections and shall revise such list in like manner, as nearly as circumstances admit, as in the case of other claims and objections and of any parish burgess list and list of persons entitled to be elected councillors.

(6.) Where it appears to the revising authority that a person not named in the list is subject to have his name inserted in the corrupt and illegal practices list, he shall (whether an objection to the omission of such name from the list has or has not been made, but) after giving such person an opportunity of making a statement to show cause to the contrary, insert his name in that list and expunge his name from any list of burgesses or of persons entitled to be elected councillors.

(7.) A revising authority in acting under this section shall determine only whether a person is incapacitated by conviction or by the report of any election court or election commissioners, and shall not determine whether a person has or has not been guilty of any corrupt or illegal practice.

(8.) The corrupt and illegal practices list shall be appended to the burgess roll, and shall be printed and published therewith wherever the same is printed or published.

(9.) Any town clerk or overseer who fails to comply with the provisions of this section shall be liable to the like fine as he is liable to under section seventy-five of the Municipal Corporations Act, 1882, for any neglect or refusal in relation to a parish burgess list as therein mentioned. 45 & 46 Vict. c. 50.

Proceedings on Election Petitions.

25. (1.) A municipal election petition complaining of the election on the ground of an illegal practice may be presented at any time before the expiration of fourteen days after the day on which the town clerk receives the return and declaration respecting election expenses by the candidate to whose election the petition relates, or where there is an authorised excuse for failing to make the return and declaration then within the like time after the date of the allowance of the excuse. Petition for illegal practice.

Time for presentation of petition alleging illegal practices.

(2.) A municipal election petition, complaining of the election on the ground of an illegal practice, and specifically alleging a payment of money or other act made or done since the election by the candidate elected at such election, or by an agent of the candidate, or with the privity of the candidate, in pursuance or in furtherance of such illegal practice, may be presented at any time within twenty-eight days after the date of such payment or act, whether or not any other petition against that person has been previously presented or tried.

45 & 46 Vict. c. 50.

(3.) Any election petition presented within the time limited by the Municipal Corporations Act, 1882, may, for the purpose of complaining of the election upon an allegation of an illegal practice, be amended with the leave of the High Court within the time within which a petition complaining of the election on the ground of that illegal practice can, under this section, be presented.

(4.) This section shall apply notwithstanding the illegal practice is also a corrupt practice.

Withdrawal of election petition.

26. (1.) Before leave for the withdrawal of a municipal election petition is granted, there shall be produced affidavits by all the parties to the petition and their solicitors, but the High Court may on cause shown dispense with the affidavit of any particular person if it seems to the court on special grounds to be just so to do.

(2.) Each affidavit shall state that, to the best of the deponent's knowledge and belief, no agreement or terms of any kind whatsoever has or have been made, and no undertaking has been entered into, in relation to the withdrawal of the petition; but if any lawful agreement has been made with respect to the withdrawal of the petition, the affidavit shall set forth that agreement, and shall make the foregoing statement subject to what appears from the affidavit.

(3.) The affidavits of the applicant and his solicitor shall further state the ground on which the petition is sought to be withdrawn.

(4.) If any person makes any agreement or terms, or enters into any undertaking, in relation to the withdrawal of an election petition, and such agreement, terms, or undertaking is or are for the withdrawal of the election petition in consideration of any payment, or in consideration that the seat shall at any time be vacated, or in consideration of the withdrawal of any other election petition, or is or are (whether lawful or unlawful) not mentioned in the aforesaid affidavits, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be liable on conviction on indictment to imprisonment for a term not exceeding twelve months, and to a fine not exceeding two hundred pounds.

(5.) Copies of the said affidavits shall be delivered to the Director of public prosecutions a reasonable time before the application for the withdrawal is heard, and the court may hear the Director of public prosecutions or his assistant or other representative (appointed with the approval of the Attorney-General), in opposition to the allowance of the withdrawal of the petition, and shall have power to receive the evidence on oath of any person or persons whose evidence the Director of public prosecutions or his assistant, or other representative, may consider material.

(6.) Where in the opinion of the court the proposed withdrawal of a petition was the result of any agreement, terms, or undertaking

prohibited by this section, the court shall have the same power with respect to the security as under section ninety-five of the Municipal Corporations Act, 1882, where the withdrawal is induced by a corrupt consideration. 45 & 46 Vict. c. 50.

(7.) In every case of the withdrawal of an election petition, by leave of the election court such court shall report in writing to the High Court whether, in the opinion of such election court, the withdrawal of such petition was the result of any agreement, terms, or undertaking, or was in consideration of any payment, or in consideration that the seat should at any time be vacated, or in consideration of the withdrawal of any other election petition, or for any other consideration, and if so, shall state the circumstances attending the withdrawal.

(8.) Where more than one solicitor is concerned for the petitioner or respondent, whether as agent for another solicitor or otherwise, the affidavit shall be made by all such solicitors.

Continuation of trial of election petition.

27. The trial of every municipal election petition shall, so far as is practicable consistently with the interests of justice in respect of such trial, be continued de die in diem on every lawful day until its conclusion.

Attendance of Director of public prosecutions on trial of election petition, and prosecution by him of offenders.

28. (1.) On every trial of a municipal election petition the Director of public prosecutions shall by himself or by his assistant, or by such representative as herein-after mentioned, attend at the trial, and it shall be the duty of such Director to obey any directions given to him by the election court with respect to the summoning and examination of any witness to give evidence on such trial, and with respect to the prosecution by him of offenders, and with respect to any person to whom notice is given to attend with a view to report him as guilty of any corrupt or illegal practice.

(2.) It shall also be the duty of such Director, without any direction from the election court, if it appears to him that any person is able to give material evidence as to the subject of the trial, to cause such person to attend the trial, and with the leave of the court to examine such person as a witness.

(3.) It shall also be the duty of the said Director, without any direction from the election court, if he thinks it expedient in the interests of justice so to do, to prosecute, either before the said court or before any other competent court, any person who has not received a certificate of indemnity and who appears to him to have been guilty of a corrupt or illegal practice at a municipal election.

(4.) Where a person is prosecuted before an election court for any corrupt or illegal practice, and such person appears before the court, the court shall proceed to try him summarily for the said offence, and such person, if convicted thereof upon such trial, shall be subject to the same incapacities as he is subject to under this or any other Act, upon conviction, whether on indictment or in any other proceeding for the said offence; and further, may be adjudged by the court, if the offence is a corrupt practice, to be imprisoned, with or without hard labour, for a term not exceeding six months, or to pay a fine not exceeding two hundred pounds, and if the offence is an illegal practice, to pay such fine as is fixed by this Act for the offence:

Provided that, in the case of a corrupt practice, the court, before proceeding to try summarily any person, shall give such person the option of being tried by a jury.

(5.) Where a person is so prosecuted for any such offence, and either he elects to be tried by a jury or he does not appear before the court, or the court thinks it in the interests of justice expedient that he should be tried before some other court, the court, if of opinion that the evidence is sufficient to put the said person upon his trial for the offence, shall order such person to be prosecuted on indictment or before a court of summary jurisdiction, as the case may require, for the said offence; and in either case may order him to be prosecuted before such court as may be named in the order; and for all purposes preliminary and of and incidental to such prosecution the offence shall be deemed to have been committed within the jurisdiction of the court so named.

(6.) Upon such order being made,

(*a.*) if the accused person is present before the court, and the offence is an indictable offence, the court shall commit him to take his trial, or cause him to give bail to appear and take his trial for the said offence; and

(*b.*) if the accused person is present before the court, and the offence is not an indictable offence, the court shall order him to be brought before the court of summary jurisdiction before whom he is to be prosecuted, or cause him to give bail to appear before that court; and

(*c.*) if the accused person is not present before the court, the court shall as circumstances require issue a summons for his attendance, or a warrant to apprehend him and bring him before a court of summary jurisdiction, and that court, if the offence is an indictable offence, shall, on proof only of the summons or warrant and the identity of the accused, commit him to take his trial, or cause him to give bail to appear and take his trial for the said offence, or if the offence is punishable on summary conviction, shall proceed to hear the case, or if such court be not the court before whom he is directed to be prosecuted shall order him to be brought before that court.

(7.) Any order or act of an election court under this section shall not be subject to be discharged or varied under sub-section six of section ninety-two of the Municipal Corporations Act, 1882.

45 & 46 Vict. c. 50.

(8.) The Director of public prosecutions may nominate, with the approval of the Attorney-General, any barristers or solicitors of not less than ten years standing, one of whom shall, when required, act as the representative for the purposes of this section of such Director, and when so acting shall receive such remuneration as the Treasury may approve. There shall be allowed to the Director and his assistant or representative, for the purposes of this section, such allowance for expenses as the Treasury may approve.

(9.) The costs incurred in defraying the expenses of the Director of public prosecutions under this section (including the remuneration of his representatives) shall, in the first instance, be paid by the Treasury, and so far as they are not in the case of any prosecution paid by the defendant, shall be deemed to be expenses of the election court, and shall be paid as the expenses of that court are

directed by section one hundred and one of the Municipal Corporations Act, 1882, to be paid; but if for any reasonable cause it seems just to the court so to do, the court shall order all or part of the said costs to be repaid to the Treasury by the parties to the petition, or such of them as the court may direct. 45 & 46 Vict. c. 50.

Power to election court to order payment by borough or individual of costs of election petition.

29. (1.) Where upon the trial of a municipal election petition it appears to the election court that a corrupt practice has not been proved to have been committed in reference to the election by or with the knowledge and consent of the respondent to the petition, and that such respondent took all reasonable means to prevent corrupt practices being committed on his behalf, the court may make one or more orders with respect to the payment either of the whole or such part of the costs of the petition as the court may think right as follows;

(*a.*) if it appears to the court that corrupt practices extensively prevailed in reference to the said election, the court may order the whole or part of the costs to be paid by the borough; and

(*b.*) if it appears to the court that any person or persons is or are proved, whether by providing money or otherwise, to have been extensively engaged in corrupt practices, or to have encouraged or promoted extensive corrupt practices in reference to such election, the court may, after giving such person or persons an opportunity of being heard by counsel or solicitor and of examining and cross-examining witnesses to show cause why the order should not be made, order the whole or part of the costs to be paid by that person, or those persons or any of them, and may order that if the costs cannot be recovered from one or more of such persons they shall be paid by some other of such persons or by either of the parties to the petition.

(2.) Where any person appears to the court to have been guilty of the offence of a corrupt or illegal practice, the court may, after giving such person an opportunity of making a statement to show why the order should not be made, order the whole or any part of the costs of or incidental to any proceeding before the court in relation to the said offence or to the said person to be paid by the said person to such person or persons as the court may direct.

(3.) The rules and regulations of the Supreme Court of Judicature with respect to costs to be allowed in actions, causes, and matters in the High Court shall in principle and so far as practicable apply to the costs of petition and other proceedings under Part Four of the Municipal Corporations Act, 1882, and this Act, and the taxing officer shall not allow any costs, charges, or expenses on a higher scale than would be allowed in any action, cause or matter in the High Court on the higher scale, as between solicitor and client. 45 & 46 Vict. c. 50.

Miscellaneous.

General provisions as to prosecution of offences under this Act.

30. Subject to the other provisions of this Act, the procedure for the prosecution of a corrupt or illegal practice or any illegal payment, employment, or hiring committed in reference to a municipal election, and the removal of any incapacity incurred by reason of a conviction or report relating to any such offence, and the duties of the Director of public prosecutions in relation to any such offence, and all other proceedings in relation thereto (including the grant to

a witness of a certificate of indemnity), shall be the same as if such offence had been committed in reference to a parliamentary election; and sections forty-five and forty-six and sections fifty to fifty-seven (both inclusive), and sections fifty-nine and sixty of the Corrupt and Illegal Practices Prevention Act, 1883, shall apply accordingly as if they were re-enacted in this Act with the necessary modifications, and with the following additions :—

46 & 47 Vict. c. 51.

(*a.*) Where the Director of public prosecutions considers that the circumstances of any case require him to institute a prosecution before any court other than an election court for any offence other than a corrupt practice committed in reference to a municipal election in any borough, he may, by himself or his assistant, institute such prosecution before any court of summary jurisdiction in the county in which the said borough is situate or to which it adjoins, and the offence shall be deemed for all purposes to have been committed within the jurisdiction of such court; and

45 & 46 Vict. c. 50.

(*b.*) General rules for the purposes of Part Four of the Municipal Corporations Act, 1882, shall be made by the same authority as rules of court under the said sections; and

s. 94. (7.)

(*c.*) The giving or refusal to give a certificate of indemnity to a witness by the election court shall be final and conclusive.

Person incapacitated by conviction or report to vacate seat or office.

31. If any person, in consequence of conviction or of the report of an election court under this Act, becomes not capable of being elected to or sitting in the House of Commons, or of being elected to or holding any public or judicial office, and such person, at the date of the said conviction or report, has been so elected or holds any such office, then his seat or office, as the case may be, shall be vacated as from that date.

Payment and recovery of costs.

32. (1.) Where any costs of a petition are, under an order of a municipal election court, to be paid by a borough, such costs shall be paid out of the borough fund or borough rate.

(2.) Where any costs or other sums are, under the order of an election court or otherwise under this Act, to be paid by any person, those costs shall be a simple contract debt due from such person to the person or persons to whom they are to be paid, and if payable to the Treasury shall be a debt to Her Majesty, and in either case may be recovered accordingly.

Service of notices.

33. Where any summons, notice, or document is required to be served on any person with reference to any proceeding respecting a municipal election in any borough or ward of a borough, whether for the purpose of causing him to appear before the High Court or any election court, or otherwise, or for the purpose of giving him an opportunity of making a statement, or showing cause, or being heard by himself, before any such court, for any purpose of this Act, such summons, notice, or document may be served either by delivering the same to such person, or by leaving the same at, or sending the same by post by a registered letter to, his last known place of abode in the said borough, or, if the proceeding is before any court, in such other manner as the court may direct, and in proving such service by post it shall be sufficient to prove that the letter was prepaid, properly addressed, and registered with the post-office.

34. In this Act expressions have the same meaning as in the Municipal Corporations Act, 1882, and in the Corrupt and Illegal Practices Prevention Act, 1883; except that the words "borough," "election petition," "election court," and "candidate," shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the meaning given by the Municipal Corporations Act, 1882, and not the meaning given by the Corrupt and Illegal Practices Prevention Act, 1883; and except that "election" shall, unless the context otherwise requires, mean a municipal election. Definitions. 45 & 46 Vict. c. 50. 46 & 47 Vict. c. 51.

For the purposes of this Act the number of electors shall be taken according to the enumeration of the electors in the burgess roll.

35. This Act and Part IV. of the Municipal Corporations Act, 1882, shall apply to a municipal election in the city of London, subject as follows:— Application to city of London of Act and of Part IV. of 45 & 46 Vict. c. 50.

(1.) For the purpose of such application "municipal election" means an election to the office of mayor, alderman, common councilman, or sheriff, and includes the election of any officer elected by the mayor, aldermen, and liverymen in common hall, and the expression "corporate office" includes each of the aforesaid offices, and the expression "borough" shall be deemed to apply to the said city:

(2.) The expression "burgess" means, in relation to each municipal election, any person entitled to vote at such election:

(3.) Any costs or expenses directed to be paid out of the borough fund or borough rate shall, if incurred in respect of the election of an alderman or common councilman for any ward, be paid out of the ward rate of that ward, and in any other case shall be paid by the chamberlain of the said city out of the city's cash:

(4.) The enactments relating to personation, polling agents, and disclosure of votes shall not apply, save that if any person commits any offence under the City of London Municipal Elections Amendment Act, 1867, in relation to the declaration required by that Act to be made at the poll, he shall, in addition, be deemed guilty of a corrupt practice under this Act: 30 Vict. c. 1.

(5.) A vacancy in any office created by the decision of an election court shall be filled by a new election, and every summoning officer is hereby authorised and required to summon the electors for such election:

(6.) In the case of an election of an alderman and common councilman a sum may be paid and expense incurred not in excess of the maximum fixed by this Act for the election of a councillor.

(7.) In the case of an election by liverymen in common hall a sum may be paid and expenses incurred, if a poll be not demanded, not exceeding forty pounds, and, if a poll be demanded, then not exceeding two hundred and fifty pounds, and, in the event of a poll being demanded, such poll shall take place on the third day after the demand for a poll be made, unless such third day be a Sunday, in which case the poll shall take place on the fourth day, and the poll shall last for one day only, and commence at the hour of eight in the morning and close at six in the evening.

(8.) The town clerk shall send the corrupt and illegal practices list, when made out by him, to the ward clerk of each ward not less than fourteen days before the day on which the list of persons entitled to vote in such ward is required to be made out, and the aldermen and common councilmen of each ward shall omit from such last-mentioned list the names of all persons mentioned in the corrupt and illegal practices list, and the corrupt and illegal practices list shall be printed and appended to every copy of the list of persons entitled to vote in such ward.

Application of Act to other elections.

Application of this Act and Part IV. of 45 & 46 Vict. c. 50. to other elections.

36. (1.) Subject as herein-after mentioned, the provisions of this Act and of Part Four of the Municipal Corporations Act, 1882, as amended by this Act, shall extend to elections for the offices mentioned in the first column of the First Schedule to this Act as if re-enacted herein and in terms made applicable thereto, and petitions may be presented and tried, and offences prosecuted and punished, and incapacities incurred in reference to each such election accordingly.

Provided that in the application of the said provisions to any such election:

(*a.*) The area, officer, and rate mentioned opposite to the office in the second, third, and fourth columns of the said schedule, shall be deemed to be substituted for the borough or ward, town clerk, and borough fund or rate respectively.

(*b.*) The expression "corporate office" in the said provisions shall mean an office mentioned in the said schedule, and in relation to the election of a guardian of a union includes any such office in the union, and "a municipal election" shall mean an election to such office, and the expressions "municipal election court," "municipal election list," and "municipal election petition" shall be construed accordingly.

(*c.*) No corrupt and illegal practices list shall be made for any such election.

(*d.*) Vacancies created by the decision of an election court shall be filled by a new election.

(*e.*) A petition relating to the election of a guardian of a union may be tried at any place within the union.

(*f.*) Nothing in the said provisions shall render it unlawful to hold a meeting for the purpose of promoting or procuring the election of a candidate to any office mentioned in the said schedule on any licensed or other premises not situate in an urban sanitary district or in the Metropolis;

(*g.*) Where the poll at any election to an office in the said schedule is taken by means of voting papers, such of the said provisions as relate to personation, polling agents, disclosure of votes and conveyance of voters, shall not apply; but any offence in relation to voting papers or to personation or to voting at such election which is punishable on summary conviction (that is to say,) the offences mentioned in section three of the Poor Law Amendment Act, 1851, and in rule sixty-nine of Schedule Two to the Public Health Act, 1875, shall, without prejudice to the punishment under such section and rule of a

14 & 15 Vict. c. 105.
38 & 39 Vict. c. 55.

person guilty of such offence, be deemed to be an illegal practice within the meaning of the said provisions.

(*h.*) The Local Government Board shall have the same power as heretofore under section eight of the Poor Law Amendment Act, 1842, to determine any question arising as to the right of a person to act as guardian, except that the Board shall not have power— 5 & 6 Vict. c. 57.

(a.) To determine, until after the expiration of twenty-one days after the election of a person as guardian, any question which can be determined upon an election petition under this section; nor

(b.) To determine any question which is raised by an election petition under this section, and is either awaiting decision or has been decided by an election court; nor

(c.) To determine any question of general corruption, or of any corrupt or illegal practice, except so far as appears to such Board necessary for determining the validity of any vote.

(2.) The judges for the time being on the rota for the trial of parliamentary election petitions, or any two of those judges, may annually appoint as many barristers, not exceeding five, as they may think necessary to be commissioners for the trial of election petitions under Part Four of the Municipal Corporations Act, 1882, and this Act, and shall from time to time assign the petitions (whether relating to a municipal election or to any other election to which this Act extends) to be tried by each commissioner.

Exemption from provisions as to maximum expenses.

37. The provisions of this Act which prohibit the payment of any sum, and the incurring of any expense by or on behalf of a candidate at an election, on account of, or in respect of, the conduct or management of the election, and those which relate to the time for sending in and paying claims, and those which relate to the maximum amount of election expenses, or the return or declaration respecting election expenses, shall not apply to any of the elections mentioned in the First Schedule to this Act.

Repeal.

Repeal of Acts.

38. The Acts specified in the Second Schedule to this Act are hereby repealed as from the commencement of this Act to the extent in the third column of that schedule mentioned, but such repeal shall not affect anything duly done or suffered, or any right acquired or accrued, or any incapacity incurred, before the commencement of this Act; and any person subject to any incapacity under any enactment hereby repealed, or under any enactment for which such repealed enactment was substituted, shall continue subject thereto, and this Act shall apply to him as if he had become so subject in pursuance of the provisions of this Act.

Commencement of Act.

39. This Act shall come into operation on the first day of October one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four, which day is in this Act referred to as the commencement of this Act.

Extent of Act.

Act not to extend to Scotland or Ireland.

40. This Act shall not extend to Scotland or Ireland.

Duration of Act.

41. This Act shall continue in force to the end of the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty-six, and no longer.

SCHEDULES.

Section 36.

FIRST SCHEDULE.

ELECTIONS to which this Act extends.

In England.

Office.	Area.	Officer.	Rate.
Member of local board, as defined by the Public Health Act, 1875.	Local Government district or ward of such district.	Clerk to the local board, or person performing like duties.	The general district rate.
Member of Improvement Commissioners, as defined by the Public Health Act, 1875.	Improvement Act district or ward of such district.	Clerk to the Improvement Commissioners, or person performing like duties.	The general district rate or other rate out of which the expenses of the Improvement Commissioners are payable.
Guardian elected under the Poor Law Amendment Act, 1834.	Parish or ward of a parish or united parishes.	Clerk to the guardians, or person performing like duties.	The poor rate of the parish or united parishes.
Member of school board	School district or division of the metropolis.	Returning officer of school board.	The school fund.

Section 38.

SECOND SCHEDULE.

ENACTMENTS REPEALED.

A description or citation of a portion of an Act is inclusive of the words, section, or other part first and last mentioned, or otherwise referred to as forming the beginning or as forming the end of the portion comprised in the description or citation.

As to England.

33 & 34 Vict. c. 75. -	The Elementary Education Act, 1870.	Section thirty-three.
45 & 46 Vict. c. 50. -	The Municipal Corporations Act, 1882.	Section seventy-seven, from "corrupt practice" down to "or personation," and from "canvasser" down to "candidate at a municipal election." Section seventy-eight. Section seventy-nine. Section eighty. Section eighty-two. Section eighty-three. Section eighty-four. Section ninety-two, sub-section four, from "and those judges" down to the end of the sub-section. Section ninety-four, sub-sections five, six, seven, and eight. So much of section ninety-eight, sub-section two, as relates to the principles of taxation.

THIRD SCHEDULE.

Section 2.

PART I.

Enactments defining Corrupt Practices.—Enactments defining the Offence of Bribery.

The Corrupt Practices Prevention Act, 1854, 17 & 18 Vict. c. 102. sections 2 and 3.

Bribery defined.

S. 2. The following persons shall be deemed guilty of bribery, and shall be punishable accordingly:—

(1.) Every person who shall, directly or indirectly, by himself or by any other person on his behalf, give, lend, or agree to give or lend, or shall offer, promise, or promise to procure or endeavour to procure, any money or valuable consideration to or for any voter, or to or for any person on behalf of any voter, or to or for any other person, in order to induce any voter to vote or refrain from voting, or shall corruptly do any such act as aforesaid on account of such voter having voted or refrained from voting at any election.

(2.) Every person who shall, directly or indirectly, by himself or by any other person on his behalf, give or procure, or agree to give or procure, or offer, promise, or promise to procure or endeavour to procure, any office, place, or employment to or for any voter, or to or for any person on behalf of any voter, or to or for any other person, in order to induce such voter to vote or refrain from voting, or shall corruptly do any such act as aforesaid on account of any voter having voted or refrained from voting at any election.

(3.) Every person who shall, directly or indirectly, by himself or by any other person on his behalf, make any such gift, loan, offer, promise, procurement, or agreement as aforesaid, to or for any person, in order to induce such person to procure or endeavour to procure the return of any person to serve in Parliament, or the vote of any voter at any election.

(4.) Every person who shall, upon or in consequence of any such gift, loan, offer, promise, procurement, or agreement, procure, or engage, promise, or endeavour to procure the return of any person to serve in Parliament, or the vote of any voter at any election.

(5.) Every person who shall advance or pay, or cause to be paid, any money to or to the use of any other person with the intent that such money, or any part thereof, shall be expended in bribery at any election, or who shall knowingly pay or cause to be paid any money to any person in discharge or repayment of any money wholly or in part expended in bribery at any election: Provided always, that the aforesaid enactment shall not extend or be construed to extend to any money paid or agreed to be paid for on account of any legal expenses bonâ fide incurred at or concerning any election.

Bribery further defined.

S. 3. The following persons shall also be deemed guilty of bribery, and shall be punishable accordingly:—

(1.) Every voter who shall, before or during any election, directly or indirectly, by himself or by any other person on his behalf, receive, agree, or contract for any money, gift, loan, or valuable consideration, office, place, or employment, for himself or for any other person, for voting or agreeing to vote, or from refraining or agreeing to refrain from voting at any election.

(2.) Every person who shall, after any election, directly or indirectly, by himself or by any other person on his behalf, receive any money or valuable consideration on account of any person having voted or refrained from voting, or having induced any other person to vote or refrain from voting at any election.

The Representation of the People Act, 1867, 30 & 31 Vict. c. 102. s. 49.

Corrupt payment of rates to be punishable as bribery.

S. 49. Any person, either directly or indirectly, corruptly paying any rate on behalf of any ratepayer for the purpose of enabling him to be registered as a voter, thereby to influence his vote at the future election, and any candidate or other person, either directly or indirectly, paying any rate on behalf of any voter for the purpose of inducing him to vote or refrain from voting, shall be guilty of bribery, and be punishable accordingly; and any person on whose behalf and with whose privity any such payment as in this section is mentioned is made, shall also be guilty of bribery, and punishable accordingly.

Enactment defining the Offence of Personation.

The Ballot Act, 1872, 35 & 36 Vict. c. 33. s. 24.

Personation defined.

S. 24. A person shall, for all purposes of the laws relating to parliamentary and municipal elections, be deemed to be guilty of the offence of personation who, at an election for a county or borough, or at a municipal election, applies for a ballot paper in the name of some other person, whether that name be that of a person living or dead, or of a fictitious person, or who, having voted once at any such election, applies at the same election for a ballot paper in his own name.

Enactments defining the Offences of Treating and Undue Influence.

The Corrupt and Illegal Practices Prevention Act, 1883, 46 & 47 Vict. c. 51. ss. 1 and 2.

What is treating.

S. 1. Any person who corruptly by himself or by any other person, either before, during, or after an election, directly or indirectly gives or provides, or pays wholly or in part the expense of giving or providing any meat, drink, entertainment, or provision to or for any person for the purpose of corruptly influencing that person or any other person to give or refrain from giving his vote at the election, or on account of such person or any other person having voted or refrained from voting, or being about to vote or refrain from voting at such election, shall be guilty of treating.

And every elector who corruptly accepts or takes any such meat, drink, entertainment, or provision, shall also be guilty of treating.

What is undue influence.

S. 2. Every person who shall directly or indirectly, by himself or by any other person on his behalf, make use of or threaten to make use of any force, violence, or restraint, or inflict or threaten to inflict, by himself or by any other person, any temporal or spiritual injury, damage, harm, or loss upon or against any person in order to induce or compel such person to vote or refrain from voting, or on account of such person having voted or refrained from voting at any election, or who shall by abduction, duress, or any fraudulent device or contrivance impede or prevent the free exercise of the franchise of any elector, or shall thereby compel, induce, or prevail upon any elector either to give or to refrain from giving his vote at any election, shall be guilty of undue influence.

Enactment defining the Offences of Bribery, Treating, Undue Influence, and Personation.

The Municipal Corporations Act, 1882, 45 & 46 Vict. c. 50. s. 77.

Definitions.

S. 77. "Bribery," "treating," "undue influence," and "personation" include respectively anything done before, at, after, or with respect to a municipal election, which, if done before, at, after, or with respect to a parliamentary election, would make the person doing the same liable to

any penalty, punishment, or disqualification for bribery, treating, undue influence, or personation, as the case may be, under any Act for the time being in force with respect to parliamentary elections.

PART II.

Enactments relating to Disqualification of Electors.

Section 23.

The Corrupt and Illegal Practices Prevention Act, 1883, 46 & 47 Vict. c. 51. sections 37 and 38.

Prohibition of disqualified persons from voting. 35 & 36 Vict. c. 60. 45 & 46 Vict. c. 50.

S. 37. Every person who, in consequence of conviction or of the report of any election court or election commissioners under this Act, or under the Corrupt Practices (Municipal Elections) Act, 1872, or under Part IV. of the Municipal Corporations Act, 1882, or under any other Act for the time being in force relating to corrupt practices at an election for any public office, has become incapable of voting at any election, whether a parliamentary election or an election to any public office, is prohibited from voting at any such election, and his vote shall be void.

Hearing of person before he is reported guilty of corrupt or illegal practice, and incapacity of person reported guilty.

S. 38. (1.) Before a person, not being a party to an election petition nor a candidate on behalf of whom the seat is claimed by an election petition, is reported by an election court * * * to have been guilty, at an election, of any corrupt or illegal practice, the court * * * shall cause notice to be given to such person, and if he appears in pursuance of the notice, shall give him an opportunity of being heard by himself and of calling evidence in his defence to show why he should not be so reported.

* * * * * *

(5.) Every person who, after the commencement of this Act, is reported by any election court * * * to have been guilty of any corrupt or illegal practice at an election, shall, whether he obtained a certificate of indemnity or not, be subject to the same incapacity as he would be subject to if he had at the date of such election been convicted of the offence of which he is reported to have been guilty * * *

(6.) Where a person who is a justice of the peace is reported by any election court * * * to have been guilty of any corrupt practice in reference to an election, whether he has obtained a certificate of indemnity or not, it shall be the duty of the Director of Public Prosecutions to report the case to the Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain, with such evidence as may have been given of such corrupt practice, and where any such person acts as a justice of the peace by virtue of his being or having been mayor of a borough, the Lord High Chancellor shall have the same power to remove such person from being a justice of the peace as if he was named in a commission of the peace.

(7.) Where a person who is a barrister or a solicitor, or who belongs to any profession the admission to which is regulated by law, is reported by any election court * * * to have been guilty of any corrupt practice in reference to an election, whether such person has obtained a certificate of indemnity or not, it shall be the duty of the Director of Public Prosecutions to bring the matter before the Inn of Court, High Court, or tribunal having power to take cognizance of any misconduct of such person in his profession, and such Inn of Court, High Court, or tribunal may deal with such person in like manner as if such corrupt practice were misconduct by such person in his profession.

(8.) With respect to a person holding a license or certificate under the Licensing Acts (in this section referred to as a licensed person) the following provisions shall have effect:—

(*a.*) If it appears to the court by which any licensed person is convicted of the offence of bribery or treating that such offence was committed on his licensed premises, the court shall direct such conviction to be entered in the proper register of licenses:

(*b.*) If it appears to an election court * * * that a licensed person has knowingly suffered any bribery or treating in reference to any election to take place upon his licensed premises, such court * * * (subject to the provisions of this Act as to a person having an opportunity of being heard by himself and producing evidence before being reported) shall report the same; and, whether such person obtained a certificate of indemnity or not, it shall be the duty of the Director of Public Prosecutions to bring such report before the licensing justices from whom or on whose certificate the licensed person obtained his license, and such licensing justices shall cause such report to be entered in the proper register of licenses:

(*c.*) Where an entry is made in the register of licenses of any such conviction of or report respecting any licensed person as above in this section mentioned, it shall be taken into consideration by the licensing justices in determining whether they will or will not grant to such person the renewal of his license or certificate, and may be a ground, if the justices think fit, for refusing such renewal.

* * * * * *

Section 21.

FOURTH SCHEDULE.

Form of Declaration by Candidate as to Expenses.

I , having been a candidate at the election of councillor for the borough [or ward] of , on the day of [and my agents do hereby solemnly and sincerely declare that I have paid] for my expenses at the said election, and that, except as aforesaid, I have not, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, no person, nor any club, society, or association, has on my behalf, made any payment, or given, promised, or offered any reward, office, employment, or valuable consideration, or incurred any liability on account of or in respect of the conduct or management of the said election.

And I further solemnly and sincerely declare that, except as aforesaid, no money, security, or equivalent for money, has to my knowledge or belief been paid, advanced, given, or deposited by anyone to or in the hands of myself, or any other person, for the purpose of defraying any expenses incurred on my behalf on account of or in respect of the conduct or management of the said election.

And I further solemnly and sincerely declare that I will not at any future time make or be a party to the making or giving of any payment, reward, office, employment, or valuable consideration for the purpose of defraying any such expenses as last mentioned, or provide or be a party to the providing of any money, security, or equivalent for money for the purpose of defraying any such expenses.

Signature of declarant *C.D.*

Signed and declared by the above-named declarant on the day of , before me.

(Signed) *E.F.*

Justice of the Peace for .