CHAPTER 72.

An Act to suspend for a limited period the holding of an Election of a Member or Members to serve in Parliament for the City of Norwich, and to disfranchise certain voters for the said City, and also certain voters for the Borough of Boston. [15th August 1876.]

WHEREAS Commissioners appointed under a commission of Her Majesty, dated the twelfth day of July one thousand eight hundred and seventy-five, for the purpose of making inquiry into the existence of corrupt practices at the election of a member to serve in Parliament for the city of Norwich held in the month of March one thousand eight hundred and seventy-five (in this Act called the Norwich Commissioners), reported to Her Majesty amongst other matters—

That corrupt practices extensively prevailed in Norwich at the said election;

That the several persons named in the schedule marked I. and annexed to their said report were guilty of bribery at the said election;

That the several persons named in the schedule marked II. and annexed to their said report were bribed at the said election;

That the person named in the schedule marked III. and annexed to their said report was guilty of the offence of personation within the meaning of section twenty-four of the Ballot Act, 1872; and

That the several persons named in the schedule marked IV. and annexed to their said report were guilty of procuring the commission of the offence of personation within the meaning of section twenty-four of the Ballot Act, 1872:

And whereas Commissioners appointed under a commission of Her Majesty, dated the eleventh day of May one thousand eight hundred and seventy-five, for the purpose of making inquiry into the existence of corrupt practices at the election of members to serve in Parliament held for the borough of Boston in the month of February one thousand eight hundred and seventy-four (in this Act called the Boston Commissioners), reported to Her Majesty amongst other matters that the persons whose names are set forth in schedule A. annexed to their said report were guilty of bribery at the said election; and that the person named in schedule B. annexed to their said report was guilty of corruptly influencing voters by treating at that election:

And whereas it is expedient to make the provision herein-after mentioned with respect to the city of Norwich, and the persons named in the schedules to the said reports:

Be it therefore 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:

Suspension of writ for Norwich.

1. An election of a member or members to serve in Parliament for the city of Norwich shall not be held until after the end of this present Parliament.

Disfranchisement of certain voters for the city of Norwich and borough of Boston.

2. The persons following, namely,—

(1.) Those named in the schedules marked I. and II. and annexed to the said report of the Norwich Commissioners as having been guilty of bribery, or as having been bribed at the said election held in the month of March one thousand eight hundred and seventy-five; and

(2.) Those named in the schedules marked III. and IV. and annexed to the same report as having been guilty of personation or of procuring personation; and

(3.) Those named in the schedules marked A. and B. and annexed to the said report of the Boston Commissioners,

shall be incapable during the period of seven years next after the passing of this Act of being registered as voters and voting at any election of a member or members of Parliament.

Evidence of reports.

3. Any copy of the said reports made by the Norwich Commissioners and by the Boston Commissioners respectively, with the schedules thereunto annexed, purporting to be printed by Her Majesty's printers, shall be deemed to be sufficient evidence of the said reports and schedules.

Short title.

4. This Act may be cited as the Norwich and Boston Corrupt Voters Act, 1876.

CHAPTER 73.

An Act to amend the Pensions Commutation Act, 1871. [15th August 1876.]

34 & 35 Vict. c. 36.

WHEREAS by section ten of the Pensions Commutation Act, 1871, it is provided, that if any pension holder whose pension has been commuted in pursuance of that Act accepts any public employment, such deduction on account of his commuted pension as is therein mentioned shall be made from the salary or pension payable in respect of such employment:

And whereas it is expedient to exempt from the provisions of that section an officer in the army on half pay who retires in the manner herein-after mentioned:

Be it therefore 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:

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the "Pensions Commutation Act, 1876." This Act and the "Pensions Commutation Act, 1871," may be cited together as the "Pensions Commutation Acts, 1871 and 1876."

Exemption of certain half-pay officers of army from 34 & 35 Vict. c. 36. s. 10.

2. Where an officer being on half pay has either before or after the passing of this Act been permitted to retire from the army by commutation of his half pay, and received under section three of the Regulation of the Forces Act, 1871, the sum which, in addition to the said commutation, amounted to the regulation price of the saleable commission held by him, and such officer has either before or after the passing of this Act accepted any public employment, no deduction on account of the half pay so commuted shall be made under section ten of the Pensions Commutation Act, 1871, from the salary payable, or any pension granted to him in respect of such employment.

Application of 35 & 36 Vict. c. 83. to officers of telegraph companies receiving annuities, to cease after 31 Dec. 1876.

3. An officer or clerk of any telegraph company (the undertaking of which has been purchased by the Postmaster-General) who is entitled to receive an annuity during his life from the Postmaster-General, by way of compensation for the loss of his office, shall not be entitled to commute that annuity in pursuance of the Pensions Commutation Act, 1872, unless his application for commutation is forwarded to the Postmaster-General before the first day of January one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven.

CHAPTER 74.

An Act for amending so much of the Agricultural Holdings (England) Act, 1875, as relates to the Governors of the Bounty of Queen Anne for the Augmentation of the Maintenance of the Poor Clergy. [15th August 1876.]

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:

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as "The Agricultural Holdings (England) Act (1875) Amendment Act, 1876."