

ANNO PRIMO

GEORGII IV. REGIS.

***

o'Clock on the Fifteenth Day, (Sundays, Christmas Day, and Good Friday excepted.)

Parliament for any County, City, Borough or other Place in *Ireland*, shall commence on the Day upon which the same shall be demanded, or upon the next Day after at farthest (unless such Day shall happen to be a *Sunday*, *Christmas Day*, or *Good Friday*, and in such Case on the Day then next after) and shall be duly and regularly proceeded in from Day to Day, for so many Hours of each Polling Day as the Returning Officer or Officers is or are by this Act directed to keep the Poll open (*Sundays*, *Christmas Day*, and *Good Friday* always and only excepted) until the same be finished; but so that no Poll for the Election of a Member or Members to serve in Parliament for any County, City, Borough or other Place in *Ireland*, shall continue more than Fifteen Days at the most (*Sundays*, *Christmas Day*, and *Good Friday* always excepted); and if such Poll shall continue until the Fifteenth Day, then the same shall be finally closed at or before the Hour of Three in the Afternoon of the same Day, and the Returning Officer or Officers at every such Election shall immediately after the final Close of the Poll, truly, fairly, and publicly declare the Name or Names of the Person or Persons who hath or have the Majority of Votes on such Poll, and shall forthwith make a Return of such Person or Persons.

Return shall be made on the Fifteenth Day.

Poll Books to be delivered to the Clerk of the Peace or other Person having Custody of the Records.

III. And be it further enacted, That in every Case in which a Poll shall take place as aforesaid, the Returning Officer shall, within Twenty-one Days of the final Close of such Poll, deliver all the Poll Books of such Election to the Clerk of the Peace for such County, County of a City, or County of a Town, if such Election shall be held for a County, County of a City, or County of a Town, or if in any other Place, then and in such Case to the Officer who has the Custody of the Records of such Place, verifying upon Oath (which Oath any Justice of the Peace for such County, County of a City, County of a Town or Place is hereby empowered to administer), that the Poll Books which he delivers in are the original Poll Books of such Election upon which the Return was founded, and that from the final Close of the Poll to the Time he delivers in the same there has not been any Obliteration, Erasure, Addition, or Alteration made therein, and such Poll Books shall be carefully kept amongst the Records of such County, County of a City, County of a Town, or Place; and the Production of such Poll Books by such Clerk of the Peace or Officer, or his Deputy, shall be deemed sufficient Evidence of the Authenticity thereof, unless the same shall be disproved.

Certification on the Back of the Return.

IV. And be it further enacted, That in every Case in which a Poll shall take place at any Election for any County, County of a City, or County of a Town or Place, the Returning Officer shall certify on the Back of such Return to the Writ for holding such Election the Names of the Candidates, the Numbers who voted for each Candidate as it appeared at the final Close of the Poll, and such Certificate shall be admitted as Evidence of the Truth of the Facts therein certified, unless disproved by contrary Evidence.

Sheriff shall indorse on Writs for County Elections

V. And be it further enacted, That immediately after the Receipt of the Writ for making an Election for any County, the Sheriff of such County shall, and he is hereby required to indorse thereon the

Date of receiving the same; and that such Sheriff shall, within Two Days after the Receipt of such Writ, cause Proclamation of the Time and Place of holding such Election, to be made at the Place where the ensuing Election ought by Law to be holden, between the Hours of Ten of the Clock in the Forenoon and Two of the Clock in the Afternoon; and that the said Sheriff on the same Day shall cause to be affixed on the Doors of the County Court House, Public Notice, signed by himself, of a Special County Court to be there holden for the Purpose of such Election only, and which shall be holden on some Day (*Sunday*, *Christmas Day*, and *Good Friday* excepted) not later from the Day of making such Proclamation and affixing such Notice, than the Sixteenth Day, nor sooner than the Tenth Day; and that the Mayor, Sovereign, Portrieve, Provost, Burgomaster, Bailiff, or Seneschal, of any Borough or other Place in such County, shall, from and after the First Day of *April* One thousand eight hundred and twenty, hold the Election for the same not later than Eight Days after he has received the Precept of the Sheriff of such County, having in the usual public Place in such Borough or other Place caused to be affixed a Notice under his Hand, of the Time and Place of holding such Election Four Days at the least preceding the Day of Election; and that the Sheriff or Sheriffs of a County of a Town, or a County of a City, shall, from and after the First Day of *April* One thousand eight hundred and twenty, hold the Election for such Town or City not later than Eight Days from the Day of receiving the Writ, having in the usual Place of such City or Town caused to be affixed Notice under his or their Hand of the Time and Place of holding such Election, Four Days at the least preceding the Day of the Election.

the Time of receiving thereof, and within Two Days shall make Proclamation of the Day for holding the Election; and affix Notice on the Court House.

Day of Election shall be between the Tenth and the Sixteenth Day after Proclamation.

VI. And be it further enacted, That whenever in any One Barony or Half Barony of any County, or in any County of a Town or County of a City, the Number of Freeholders appearing by the Books of the Clerk of the Peace capable of voting at any Election for the same, shall exceed Eight hundred Freeholders, it shall and may be lawful for the Returning Officer or Officers, and such Returning Officer or Officers is and are hereby required to provide Two or more Places of Polling for such Barony or Half Barony, or for such County of a Town or County of a City, and to make such a Division or Divisions of the Freeholders of such Barony or Half Barony, or of such County of a Town or County of a City, according to the First Letters of their Names, that it shall not be necessary for more than Eight hundred Freeholders to poll in any One Place of Polling, but so as not to divide the Names beginning with the same Letter of the Alphabet, and that it shall and may be lawful for the Returning Officer or Officers, and he and they is and are hereby required to provide as many more Places of Polling as may be necessary for this Purpose, and to appoint as many additional Deputies and Poll Clerks as shall be necessary to take the Poll in such additional Places of Polling, not exceeding One Deputy and One Poll Clerk for each such Place of Polling.

Whenever more than 800 Freeholders are registered in One Barony, an Alphabetical Division of the Freeholders shall be made, that not more than 800 shall poll at One Place of polling.

VII. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the Returning Officer or Officers, at any Election for a Member

Sheriff shall attend at a Booth sepa-

rate from Polling Booths, to decide disputed Questions.

ber to serve in Parliament for any County, City, Borough or other Place, and he and they is and are hereby required, to erect a Booth or hire a Building, unless there shall already be some fit and convenient Place for the Purpose, wherein he or they may and shall decide all the disputed Questions, and all the Objections to Votes, that may be referred to him or them, and which Booth or Building or other Place shall be separate from and exclusive of the Number of Booths or Buildings, or other Places necessary for the polling of the Electors; and such Returning Officer or Officers is and are hereby required to give his or their constant Attendance in such separate Booth, Building, or other Place during the entire Number of Hours that the Polling shall continue each Day, any Act to the contrary notwithstanding, and to proceed without suffering any Delay or Interruption to take place in deciding all disputed Questions, and all the Objections to Votes, which shall be referred to him or them from the Polling Booths; and that the Returning Officer or Officers at any Election for any City or Borough is and are hereby required and empowered to appoint a Deputy or Deputies, to take the Poll at any such Election; and that the Returning Officer's Deputy, in each Place of Polling, shall appoint such One Person for each Candidate, as shall be nominated to him by each Candidate, to be an Inspector of the Clerk who shall be appointed for taking the Poll and the Agent of such Candidate in each Place of Polling; and such One other Person for each Candidate as shall be nominated by each Candidate, to be a Clerk for keeping a Cheque-book of the Poll-book in each Place of Polling.

Clerk of the Peace shall appoint a Person to attend at Election with Registry Book and original Affidavits of Registry, alphabetically arranged, &c.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That the Clerk of the Peace, at every Election of a Member to serve in Parliament for any County, County of a Town or County of a City, shall appoint, or in Failure thereof the Returning Officer or Officers shall appoint a Deputy Clerk of the Peace, and likewise an Assistant to such Deputy, to be present in each Place of Polling, who shall take with him into such Place of Polling the Registry Book belonging to the Barony or Half Barony, or County of a Town or County of a City, to be polled in such Place of Polling, and all the original Affidavits or Affirmations which have been made by the Persons capable of voting in such Place of Polling respectively, any Act to the contrary notwithstanding; which Affidavits or Affirmations the Clerk of the Peace is hereby required to have arranged alphabetically in separate Parcels, (One or more for each Letter of the Alphabet), and endorsed with the Names of the Persons by whom the same were respectively made, and also with the Number of the Entry of each Affidavit or Affirmation in the Registry Book; and that in those Cases wherein a Certificate of Registry shall not be produced by the Person tendering his Vote or offering to poll, such Deputy shall on the Demand of the Returning Officer's Deputy, produce the original Affidavit or Affirmation of the Registry of such Person; and that such Deputy Clerk of the Peace shall be entitled to receive the Sum of Ten Shillings and no more for each Day of his Attendance, any Act to the contrary notwithstanding; and such Assistant to such Deputy shall be entitled to receive the Sum of Five Shillings for each Day of his Attendance; and that if such Deputy,

or

or such Assistant to such Deputy, shall alter, deface, destroy or lose any Affidavit or Affirmation of Registry committed to his Care, he shall forfeit the Sum of Ten Pounds for every such Offence, to any Person suing for the same, by Action of Debt, at any General Quarter Sessions of the Peace.

On Demand of Candidates, Returning Officer shall appoint Interpreters.

IX. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the Returning Officer or Officers at any Election, and he or they is and are hereby required, on the Demand in Writing of any Candidate, to appoint a sufficient Number of competent Persons to act as Interpreters, in order to translate faithfully such Oaths, Affirmations, and such Questions and Answers, as are required to be taken, made, asked, or given, at any Election; and that every such Interpreter shall immediately after such Appointment, and before he shall proceed to act under such Appointment, take the following Oath; and every Returning Officer is hereby required and empowered to administer the same:

Oath to Interpreters:

'I *A. B.* do swear, That I will faithfully interpret such Oaths, Affirmations, Questions, and Answers, as I shall be directed to interpret by the Returning Officer or Officers and his or their Deputy or Deputies, [*as the Case may be*].'

Allowance to them.

And that every such Person so appointed for the Purpose aforesaid, shall be entitled to receive the Sum of Ten Shillings for each Day of his Attendance.

Deputy to refer to Registry Book, and Certificate of Registry deemed conclusive Evidence, and in Default thereof, the original Affidavit.

X. And be it further enacted, That in every Case in which any Person shall tender his Vote or offer to poll at any Election for a Member to serve in Parliament for a County or a County of a Town, or a County of a City, by virtue of a Freehold, the Returning Officer's Deputy shall, in the First Place, refer to the Entry of the Affidavit or Affirmation of the Registry of the same in the Registry Book, and write down, opposite to the same, the Initial Letters of his Name; and then he shall refer to the Certificate or Affidavit of the Registry of the same; and that if any such Person shall produce a Certificate of the Registry of his Freehold, corresponding with such Entry of the original Affidavit or Affirmation, without any Erasure or Interlineation therein, signed in open Court by Two Justices, and countersigned by the acting Clerk of the Peace, in such Manner as is directed by an Act made in the Parliament of *Ireland* in the Thirty-fifth Year of His late Majesty's Reign, intituled *An Act for regulating the Election of Members to serve in Parliament, and for repealing the several Acts therein mentioned*, or signed in such Manner as is directed by this Act, or any other Act, when the Freehold is situated in a County of a Town or a County of a City, such Certificate shall, without further Proof be deemed of equal Authenticity with the original Oath or Affirmation, and conclusive Evidence that such Person so tendering his Vote, or offering to poll, had registered such Freehold; and the Returning Officer's Deputy shall write down the Initials of his Name upon the Margin of such Certificate; and that in all Cases wherein no such Certificate shall be produced by the Person tendering his Vote or offering to poll, or wherein such Certificate, if produced, shall appear to the Returning Officer's Deputy not to be in Manner and Form as aforesaid, it shall

and may be lawful for the Returning Officer's Deputy, and he is hereby required, to direct the Deputy Clerk of the Peace to produce the original Affidavit or Affirmation of the Registry of the Freehold of such Person so tendering his Vote or offering to poll.

Oath of Electors shall be administered and made by the Returning Officer's Deputy.

XI. And be it further enacted, That at any Election for a Member or Members to serve in Parliament for any County, City, Borough, or other Place, the Returning Officer's Deputy shall, if required by any Candidate or the Inspector of any Candidate so to do, in Person administer, in the Place of Polling in which he presides, an Oath in the following Form, to every Person separately, who shall tender his Vote or offer to poll at such Election, and immediately after the Production of the Certificate or Affidavit of Registry, when any such Person votes by virtue of a Freehold; that is to say,

Form of Oath.

'I *A. B.* do swear [*or*, being a *Quaker* or *Moravian*, do solemnly affirm,] That I will true Answer make to all such Questions as the Sheriff's or other Returning Officer's Deputy [*as the Case may be*] presiding in this Booth shall demand of me; and I do also swear, [*or*, being one of the People called *Quakers* or *Moravians*, do solemnly affirm,] that I have not polled before at this Election; and that I am, as I believe, Twenty-one Years of Age.
So help me GOD.'

And that immediately after any Person so tendering his Vote, or offering to poll at any Election for a Member to serve in Parliament for a County or a County of a Town, or a County of a City, shall have taken such Oath or Affirmation, the Returning Officer's Deputy shall, if required by any Candidate or the Inspector of any Candidate so to do, put the following Questions, and no others, without allowing any Person to interrupt him, to every such Person so tendering his Vote, or offering to poll, any Act to the contrary notwithstanding; and that the Poll Clerk shall forthwith write down the Entries on the Poll Book that he is hereinafter required to make according to the Answers which every such Person shall give to the said Questions; and that if any of the said Questions shall not be required to be put, then according to the Entry of the Voter's Registry in the Registry Book:

Form of Examination of each Voter.

1. What is your Name?
2. Where do you reside?
3. Do you swear that you are possessed of a Freehold in the County of [*naming the County or County of a Town, or County of a City for which the Election is held*]?
4. Where is it situated?

And that the Returning Officer's Deputy shall then, if required by any Candidate or the Inspector of any Candidate so to do, refer to the Certificate of Registry, if one be produced by the Person tendering his Vote or offering to poll, or if none be produced, to the original Affidavit of Registry, and then shall immediately ask, if required by any Candidate or by the Inspector of any Candidate so to do, without making or allowing any other Person to make any Comments or Observations

Observations upon the said Certificate or Affidavit, the following Question:

5. Is the Freehold described in this Certificate, *or*, Affidavit of Registry [*as the Case may be*], the same Freehold which you now swear you are possessed of, and by virtue of which you now offer to vote?

And that in case it shall appear to the Returning Officer's Deputy, from the Certificate or Affidavit of Registry, that any Person shall tender his Vote, or offer to poll, in respect of a Freehold of the Value of Forty Shillings only, the said Deputy shall then, if required by any Candidate or the Inspector of any Candidate so to do, put the following Questions:

6. Do you swear, that you have been in the actual Occupation of this Freehold, as described in your Certificate or Affidavit of Registry, [*as the Case may be*] by tilling it, or by grazing it, or by residing upon it, during the whole of the last Twelve Months?

7. Do you swear, that this Freehold is now of the clear yearly Value of Forty Shillings, above all Charges payable out of the same?

Elector answering directly, shall then Poll, if not objected to.

And that whenever the Entry of the Affidavit or Affirmation of the Registry of any such Person shall appear in the Registry Book; and that any such Person shall have produced such a Certificate of Registry as is hereinbefore described; or that the original Affidavit or Affirmation of Registry shall have been produced by the Deputy Clerk of the Peace; and that any such Person so tendering his Vote or offering to poll, shall have taken the Oath required as aforesaid, and shall have answered the Questions that shall have been demanded of him as aforesaid, such Deputy shall then ask him the following Question:

8. For whom do you vote?

And that his Vote shall be entered on the Poll Book according to his Answer; unless an Objection be made thereto by an Inspector of one of the Candidates appointed in the Manner hereinbefore directed; and that if it shall appear to such Deputy, from the Answers which shall be given by any Person to the first Four Questions aforesaid, that his Freehold arises from a Rectory, Vicarage, Curacy, or other Ecclesiastical Preferment, the said Deputy shall forthwith proceed to ask him, "For whom do you vote?" and his Vote shall be entered on the Poll Book according to his Reply, unless an Objection be made thereto by an Inspector of one of the Candidates, appointed in the Manner herein-before directed: Provided always, that it shall and may be lawful to and for the Returning Officer's Deputy to take the Vote of any Person tendering his Vote or offering to poll, whose Freehold appears on the Registry Book, without referring to the Certificate or Affidavit, or Affirmation of Registry, or without administering any Oath or putting any Question to such Person, except the Question, "For whom do you vote?" if he be not required by any Candidate or any Inspector of any Candidate so to do; and provided always, that if an Entry of the Affidavit or Affirmation of the Registry of the Freehold of any Person tendering his Vote or offering to poll, required by Law to be registered, shall not appear in

In what Cases Votes may be taken without Oath or putting Questions, &c.

in the Registry Book; or that if any Person tendering his Vote or offering to poll shall not either produce such a Certificate of Registry as is herein-before described, or be able to refer to an original Affidavit or Affirmation of his Registry in the Possession of the Deputy Clerk of the Peace, or that if any such Person shall refuse to take the Oath aforesaid, or shall not give a direct Answer to each of the Questions to be put to him by the Returning Officer's Deputy, or that the Person so examined shall admit in his Answer or Answers to said Question or Questions, that he is not the Person whose Freehold is registered, or that he has no Freehold, or that the Freehold described in his Certificate or Affidavit, or Affirmation of Registry (as the Case may be) is not the Freehold for which he tenders his Vote, or that he has not been in the Occupation thereof for the whole of the last Twelve Months, or that the same is not at the Time of tendering his Vote of the Value of Forty Shillings above all Charges payable out of the same, then and in every or in any such Case, it shall and may be lawful to and for such Deputy, and he is hereby required, authorized, and empowered, to direct such Person to withdraw from the Place of polling, and to proceed immediately to receive the Vote of the next Person who shall tender his Vote or offer to poll.

Where a Vote is objected to, a Memorandum of the Objection shall be made by the Poll Clerk for the Returning Officer to decide.

XII. And be it further enacted, That at any Election for a Member to serve in Parliament for any County, City, Borough, or other Place, no Objection shall be made to a Vote until after the Person tendering the same shall have declared for whom he votes; and that if the Vote of any Person shall be then objected to by an Inspector of any Candidate, the Poll shall not be on that account delayed, but the Returning Officer's Deputy shall direct the Poll Clerk to enter a Memorandum on the Poll Books, shewing to which Candidate or Candidates such Person has given his Vote; and he shall immediately proceed to receive the Vote of the next Person who shall tender his Vote or offer to poll; and that the Inspector who shall have made the Objection on Behalf of any Candidate shall instantly write down a Memorandum, on a printed Form to be provided by the Returning Officer, containing the Name of the Voter, the Place of his Abode, and the Nature of the Objection or Objections, and sign and date the same, and shall give the same to the Returning Officer's Deputy, who shall sign the same with the Initial Letters of his Name, and then give the same to the Assistant Deputy Clerk of the Peace, who shall take the same, together with the Certificate, or Affidavit, or Affirmation of Registry, if it shall be necessary so to do, to the Returning Officer, to decide on the Validity thereof; and that it shall thereupon be lawful to and for the Returning Officer or Officers, or his or their Assessor, at the Discretion of such Returning Officer or Officers, and his or their Assessor only, to order the Voter to attend before him or them during the Inquiry into his Vote; and for such Returning Officer or Officers, or his or their Assessor, to examine such Voter, by such Questions as such Returning Officer or Officers, or his or their Assessor, shall think necessary to ask, as to any Objection or Objections made to his Vote; and such Returning Officer or Officers, or his or their Assessor, shall administer an Oath to such Voter in the Form following:

'I *A. B.*

'I *A. B.* do swear [*or*, being a *Quaker* or *Moravian*, do solemnly affirm], That I will true Answers make to all such Questions as shall be here put to me by the Returning Officer or Officers, or his Assessor [*as the Case may be*]. So help me GOD.'

Proceedings of Returning Officer in allowing or rejecting Votes.

And that if the Vote shall be allowed, the Returning Officer or Officers, or his or their Assessor, shall write down upon the Memorandum these Words, "Allow this Vote;" and that if the Vote shall be disallowed, then the Returning Officer or Officers, or his or their Assessor shall write down upon the Memorandum these Words, "Reject this Vote;" and that in either Case the Returning Officer or Officers, or his or their Assessor, shall write down the Initials of his or their Name or Names under the Words so directed to be written down upon the Memorandum; and the Returning Officer or Officers, or his or their Assessor, shall then deliver the said Memorandum to the same Assistant Deputy Clerk of the Peace who had brought it to him or them, to be forthwith carried back to the Returning Officer's Deputy; and that such Deputy shall either reject such Vote, or order the Poll Clerk to enter the same upon the Poll for the Candidate or Candidates to whom it had been given, according as he shall be directed by the Returning Officer or Officers, or his or their Assessor; and that every such Memorandum shall be preserved by such Deputy, and be delivered by him to the Returning Officer or Officers, to be attached to the Poll Books at the Close of the Election; and that the Form of the said Memorandum so to be prepared as aforesaid, shall be as follows:

Barony of			
Number in the Registry Book.	Name of Voter.	Abode of Voter.	Objection.
			(Signed) Dated Day of 18
Allow this Vote. (Signed)		Reject this Vote. (Signed)	

Provided always, that in case any Objection be taken to any Vote, which shall not be in Substance different from one previously ruled by the Returning Officer or Officers, or his or their Assessor; or in case any Objection be taken which shall appear to such Deputy to be frivolous, or taken for the Purpose of Delay, that then in every such Case it shall not be lawful to and for the Deputy to transmit the Memorandum containing such Objection to the Returning Officer or Officers; and that in every such Case such Deputy shall admit the Vote, so objected to, to be entered upon the Poll.

Instructions to be observed by Deputies.

XIII. And be it further enacted, That every Returning Officer shall give such Instructions in Writing to his Deputy or Deputies appointed for taking the Poll at any Election, as may be necessary to point out to him or them what is required of him or them to be done in respect of the Objections to Votes which may be made, and in respect of the Manner of transmitting them to such Returning Officer or Officers; and that every such Deputy shall obey such Instructions, and any other Instructions which may be given to him or them by the Returning Officer or Officers in respect of the due Performance of his or their Duty.

Returning Officer only to examine Voters objected to; Counsel may argue Points of Law.

XIV. And be it further enacted, That it shall not be lawful for any other Person whatever, other than the Returning Officer or Officers, or his or their Assessor, to ask any Question of any Person who shall be examined by the Returning Officer or Officers, or his or their Assessor, on account of his Vote having been objected to; or for any Person to interfere with or suggest any Question to such Returning Officer or Officers, or his or their Assessor, respecting the Examination of such Person; and that it shall and may be lawful to and for the Returning Officer or Officers, or his or their Assessor, at the Discretion of such Returning Officer or Officers, or of his or their Assessor only, to permit a Barrister or Barristers to argue any Question of Law before him or them, on the Evening of any Polling Day after the Poll has been closed; any Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

Deputies shall not reject Votes, or examine Voters, except as before provided.

XV. And be it further enacted, That it shall not be lawful for any Deputy of any Returning Officer, to put any Questions to any Person tendering his Vote or offering to poll at any Election for a Member to serve in Parliament for a County, or a County of a Town, or County of a City, save and except those Questions herein-before directed to be put, or to make any Comments or Observations on the Answers which may be given to the same; or on any Matter or Thing relating to any Vote which may be tendered before him; and that if any Objection be made to any Vote at any Election for a County, City, Borough, or other Place, such Objection shall be forthwith referred by the Returning Officer's Deputy, as herein-before directed, to the Returning Officer; and that it shall not be lawful for any such Deputy to investigate the Right of any Person to vote, further or otherwise than as herein-before directed, or to reject the Vote of any Person without Reference to the Returning Officer.

Restraining Persons from pleading or speaking in Deputy's Booth.

XVI. And be it further enacted, That it shall not be lawful for any Person, whether Barrister, Attorney, Inspector, Agent, Candidate, or Elector, or any other Person whatever, to plead or speak in any Place of Polling during the Time of Polling, on any Matter or Thing concerning the Polling, or concerning the Refusal of any Returning Officer's Deputy to transmit an Objection to a Vote to the Returning Officer or Officers, as herein-before provided for, or to ask any Questions of any Person tendering his Vote or offering to poll.

Oaths to be required, as are hereby appointed.

XVII. And be it further enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act, it shall not be lawful for any Person at any Election to require any Elector to take any Oath or Oaths, of the Nature of a Rentcharger's or Freeholder's Oath, to shew the Possession, Situation, Tenure, Value, or any other Circumstance touching or concerning his Freehold, in order to enable him to vote at such Election, save and except the Oath or Oaths herein required to be taken; any Act to the contrary notwithstanding; and that every Returning Officer's Deputy is hereby authorized and empowered to administer to every Elector the Bribery Oath or Affirmation, if required by any Candidate, or by the Inspector of any Candidate, or by any Elector, so to do.

Improper Votes to be taken off the Poll by the Returning Officer on Complaint of Candidate.

XVIII. And be it further enacted, That if any Person shall be admitted to poll at any Election for a Member to serve in Parliament for a County, City, Borough, or other Place, who has polled before at such Election, or who has personated another Elector for the Purpose of polling at such Election, or who has polled by virtue of a forged Certificate of Registry, or who has polled by virtue of a Registry of an alleged Freehold under a Lease of Land or Tenements for a Life or Lives, made by a Lessor who had not at the Time of making the same a Freehold Estate therein; or by virtue of a Registry of an alleged Freehold under a Lease of Land or Tenements, for a Life or Lives, which Lease is to end and determine on some such Covenant or Condition, that a Freehold Estate has not been demised by the same; it shall and may be lawful for the Returning Officer or Officers, and they are hereby required, authorized, and empowered, upon the Complaint of any Candidate, to take the Vote of such Person off the Poll, at any Time before the final closing of the same: Provided always, that the Act complained of, as having been committed by such Person be set forth and described, and positively declared to have been committed by such Person, in an Affidavit to be sworn before a Justice of the Peace, and that such Affidavit be delivered to the Returning Officer or Officers; and further, that the Act complained of shall appear to the Returning Officer or Officers, upon a due Examination of One or more credible Witness or Witnesses concerning the same, upon his or their Oaths, to be proved to have been committed by such Person, which Oath or Oaths the Returning Officer or Officers is or are hereby authorized and empowered to administer; and that the Returning Officer or Officers shall examine all such Cases between the Hours of Seven of the Clock and Ten of the Clock of the Afternoon of each Polling Day, except on that Day on which the Poll shall be finally closed, unless all the objected Votes referred to such Returning Officer or Officers by his or their Deputies shall have been decided and disposed of: Provided always, that the Affidavit setting

setting forth every such Complaint, shall be delivered to the Returning Officer or Officers on the same Day on which the Act complained of shall have been committed.

Appointing the Hours for commencing and ending the Poll each Day.

XIX. And be it further enacted, That the Returning Officer or Officers at every Election for a Member to serve in Parliament for any County, City, Borough, or other Place, shall cause the Poll to be kept open in every Place, and on every Day of Polling, from Nine of the Clock in the Morning, except on the first Day of polling, until Six of the Clock in the Afternoon, except on the last Day of Polling, between the Fifteenth Day of *April* and the Fifteenth Day of *September*; and from Nine of the Clock in the Morning, except on the first Day of Polling, until Five of the Clock in the Afternoon, except on the last Day of Polling, between the Fifteenth Day of *September* and the Fifteenth Day of *April*; and that in case any disputed Questions, or any Objections to Votes referred to him or them, by his or their Deputy or Deputies, shall not be decided during the Time for which the Poll shall be so kept open, the Returning Officer or Officers shall give his or their Attendance in his or their own Booth or other Place of Sitting, and proceed to decide the same, from Seven of the Clock to Ten of the Clock of the Afternoon of each Polling Day, except on the last Day of Polling.

After the Fourth Day, Returning Officer may close any Booth when Twenty have not polled in the Day.

XX. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Returning Officer or Officers, at any Election for a Member to serve in Parliament for any County, City, Borough or other Place, and he and they is and are hereby required, on any Day after the Fourth Day of Polling, computing therein the Day on which the Poll shall be commenced, to close finally the Poll in any Booth or Place of Polling in which no more than Twenty Persons have polled, or been referred for Decision to the Returning Officer or Officers during that Day: Provided always, that in case it shall appear, upon the Evidence of Two or more credible Witnesses taken upon Oath, and which Oath the Returning Officer or Officers is and are hereby empowered to administer, to the Returning Officer or Officers that any Persons intending to offer themselves to poll in such Booth or Place of Polling, have been prevented by Force and Violence from coming to the same for the Purpose of Polling on that Day, that then and in every such Case it shall be lawful to and for the Returning Officer or Officers to keep such Booth or Place of Polling open for another Day, and so on from Day to Day, if such Force and Violence be repeated, and be found to have taken place on such Evidence as aforesaid, to the Satisfaction of the Returning Officer or Officers.

Qualification of Deputy Sheriffs.

XXI. And be it further enacted, That the Sheriff of a County shall not appoint any Person to act as his Deputy at any Election, unless such Person shall have a Freehold Estate of the yearly Value of Fifty Pounds at least, above all Charges; and that such Sheriff shall demand upon Oath of such Person, whether such Person has a Freehold Estate of that Value, at the Time when he shall administer to him the Oath required by Law to be taken by every Sheriff's Deputy.

XXII. And

Returning Officer may summon Constables, Bailiffs, &c. to attend Elections, and remunerate them.

XXII. And be it further enacted, That at any Election of a Member to serve in Parliament for any County, City, Borough, or Town, it shall be lawful to and for the Returning Officer or Officers to summon all Constables, Bailiffs, and other Peace Officers, to attend the Places of Polling, and to keep the Peace at such Election, and to perform such other Things as shall be assigned to him by the Returning Officer or Officers, and to appoint any Number of Special Constables that he or they may think proper to aid and assist therein; and that every such Constable, Bailiff, or Peace Officer, who shall be so employed, shall be entitled to receive the Sum of Five Shillings for each Day of his Attendance; and that every Constable, Bailiff, or Peace Officer, when so summoned, who shall neglect to attend during the whole of such Election, or to obey the lawful Commands of the Returning Officer or Officers, shall forfeit such Office of Constable, Bailiff, or other Peace Officer, and all Salary due to him in respect thereof.

Returning Officer may commit Persons obstructing the Poll.

XXIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the Returning Officer or Officers, or his or their Deputy or Deputies, at any Election, and he and they is and are hereby authorized and empowered, to commit all Persons to Gaol, without Bail or Mainprize, who shall plead or speak on any Matter or Thing concerning the Polling, or concerning any Objection to a Vote, or concerning the Refusal of any Deputy to transmit an Objection to the Returning Officers or Officer, or put any Question to any Returning Officer, Deputy, or Elector, in any Place of Polling, or in the Booth or other Place of Sitting of the Returning Officer or Officers, contrary to the Provisions of this Act, or who shall be found rioting or interrupting the Poll, or wilfully preventing the Approach of Electors to the Place of Polling, or who shall be guilty of a Contempt to such Returning Officer or Officers, or to such Deputy or Deputies; provided that the Time of such Imprisonment shall not in any Case exceed Twenty-four Hours.

In case of Death or Illness of Returning Officer, the first sworn Deputy shall perform the Duty.

XXIV. And be it further enacted, That in case of the Death or the severe Illness of any Returning Officer, during the Continuance of the Poll at any Election, it shall and may be lawful for the first sworn Deputy, and he is hereby required, under the Penalty of forfeiting Five hundred Pounds to any Person who shall sue for the same, to proceed with the Poll, and to act in every Respect for all the Purposes of the Election, and with all the Power and Authority to do any Act required by Law to be done by a Returning Officer at any Election, as if he had been originally the Returning Officer; and that such Deputy shall take the Oath directed by Law to be taken by the Returning Officer at the Commencement of the Poll, which Oath any Two Justices of the Peace are hereby authorized to administer; and that such Deputy shall proceed with the Poll, and finally close the same at the Time herein-before required, and make a Return of the Person or Persons who hath or have the Majority of Votes, unless his Authority shall be superseded by the Recovery of the Returning Officer; and that in case of the Death or the severe Illness of such first sworn Deputy, the next Deputy in Succession shall act as the Returning Officer, subject to the like Penalty, and with the same Powers, and then take the Returning Officer's Oath in Manner aforesaid; and so

on, each Deputy in Succession shall in like Manner act as the Returning Officer in case of the Death or severe Illness of the acting Returning Officer.

Punishment of Officers returning corruptly or partially.

XXV. And be it further enacted, That every Returning Officer who shall be by due Course of Law convicted of having acted corruptly or partially in the Execution of his Duty, as Returning Officer at any Election of a Member or Members to serve in Parliament, shall be adjudged guilty of a high Misdemeanor, and shall be imprisoned for a Period not exceeding Three Years; and such Person so convicted is hereby declared to be for ever incapable of holding any Office or Situation, Civil or Military, under the Crown.

Returning Officer's Expences of the Election;

XXVI. And be it further enacted, That the Expence of erecting Booths or hiring Buildings, and of employing Assessors, Sub-Sheriffs, Deputy Sheriffs, Clerks of the Peace, Deputy Clerks of the Peace, Assistant Deputy Clerks of the Peace, Poll Clerks and other Clerks, Interpreters, and Constables, Bailiffs, or other Peace Officers, and all other Persons directed by this Act and by other Acts of Parliament to be employed by the Returning Officer or Officers for the conducting of an Election for any County, City, Borough, or other Place, and also the Expence of making Proclamations and Returns, and of Stationary, and of Advertisements, and all other Expences necessary for the Purpose of providing the Means of taking the Poll at any such Election, shall in the first Instance be paid by the said Returning Officer or Officers presiding at any such Election.

to be presented by the Grand Jury.

XXVII. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Grand Jury of any County, County of a Town, or County of a City, and they are hereby authorized and required, to present at the next Assizes after any Election for a County, City, Borough, or other Place shall have taken place within the same, such Sum or Sums of Money as shall be necessary to reimburse the Person or Persons acting as the Returning Officer or Officers at any such Election, for the Expences incurred by him or them at any such Election, and that such Sum or Sums of Money shall be paid immediately after such Presentment has been fiated by the Judge at such Assizes, to such Person or Persons by the Treasurer of such County: Provided always, that before any such Presentment be made, such Person or Persons shall lay before the Grand Jury an Account of all the Particulars of the Expences at such Election, and all the Vouchers for the said Expences; and that it shall be made to appear to the Grand Jury, that the said Expences are in conformity with the Provisions of this Act, and the other Acts relating to Elections, and fair and reasonable in every Particular.

Affidavit of Registry valid, though no Reference made to former Registry.

XXVIII. And be it further enacted, That every Affidavit or Affirmation of Registry made heretofore, shall be deemed to be according to Law, notwithstanding no Reference is made in it to a former Registry; and that in any Affidavit or Affirmation of Registry which shall be hereafter made at any Sessions of the Peace, no Words whatever shall be introduced having any Reference to a former Registry; and that the acting Clerk of the Peace at every Sessions of Registry, shall

immediately after each Affidavit or Affirmation of Registry shall have been signed by the Two presiding Justices, and by the acting Clerk of the Peace, and before he proceeds to do any other Business whatsoever, enter into a Book the Substance of every such Affidavit or Affirmation in Succession, and not alphabetically; in the Form following:

Form of Entry of Affidavits.

Number.	Name of Freeholder.	Place of Abode.	Situation of Freehold.	Name of Landlord.	Value of Freehold.	Names of Lives or other Tenure.	Place and Date of Registry.

And that the Entry in the said Book of all the Affidavits or Affirmations so registered on each Day of every Sessions, shall be signed by the presiding Justices at such Sessions, or by Two of them at the least, before they leave the Court, and countersigned and dated by the acting Clerk of the Peace.

Clerk of the Peace shall enter the Names of Freeholders in Books.

XXIX. And be it further enacted, That the Clerk of the Peace of every County, County of a Town, or County of a City, shall enter in alphabetical Order, according to the Surnames of the Persons who have registered Freeholds, the Substance of every Affidavit of Registry of every Freeholder capable of voting on the First Day of *January* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-one, at any Election for the same, in the foregoing Form, in separate Books, one for each Barony or Half Barony, County of a Town, or County of a City, in which such Freeholds shall lie, and shall affix before each Name a Number, to shew how many have registered under each Letter of the Alphabet in each Book; and that he shall enter in the same Manner and Form the Substance of every Affidavit of Registry which shall be made from and after the First Day of *January* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-one.

Within One Month after Jan. 1, 1821, Clerk of the Peace shall cause Copies of the Registry Books

XXX. And be it further enacted, That within One Calendar Month next after the First Day of *January* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-one, every Clerk of the Peace shall cause to be printed in the cheapest Manner, and by Contract, not less than Fifty or more than Two hundred Copies of the said Registry Books, commencing with the Entries of Twenty Pounds and Forty Shillings Freeholds, from the First Day of *January* One thousand eight hundred

commencing from Jan. 1. 1813 to be printed: Afterwards Account to be printed annually.

dred and thirteen; and that every Clerk of the Peace shall, within One Calendar Month after the First Day of *January* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-two, and within One Calendar Month after the First Day of *January* in every succeeding Year, cause to be printed, in the cheapest Manner and by Contract, not less than Fifty nor more than Two hundred Copies of all Entries in the Registry Book of each Barony and Half Barony, County of a Town or County of a City, of all Affidavits or Affirmations of Persons who have registered their Votes within the Year then last past, ending on such First Day of *January* respectively; and that the Clerk of the Peace of every County, shall deliver in each Year, One printed Copy of the Registry Books to each Justice of the Peace residing in such County: Provided always, that the Clerk of the Peace shall not suffer the original Registry Books to be out of his Possession, but shall cause Copies of them to be made for the Purpose of printing the same.

Clerk of the Peace shall produce such printed Copies at each Spring Assizes, which shall be delivered to the Clerk of the Crown.

XXXI. And be it further enacted, That the Clerk of the Peace of every County, County of a Town, or County of a City, shall produce One of the said printed Copies of the Registry Books of each Barony or Half Barony in such County, or of such County of a Town or County of a City, corrected by him, and certified under his Hand to be correct, to one of His Majesty's Judges of Assize, at the Spring Assizes which shall be in the Year One thousand eight hundred and twenty-one, for any such County; and shall produce at every succeeding Spring Assizes for the same a printed Copy of all Entries made in such Books within the Year ending the First of *January* then last past, corrected by him, and certified under his Hand to be correct; and that such Copy or Copies, so certified and produced by the Clerk of the Peace, shall be immediately delivered over, in the Presence of the Judge, to the Clerk of the Crown, who shall sign and date the same; and that such Copy or Copies shall be preserved among the Records of such County, and shall be deemed equally valid as the original Books at any Election, in case the same, or any Part of them, shall not be produced at such Election by the Clerk of the Peace; and that the Clerk of the Crown is hereby required to produce the said printed Copies of such Books at any Election, if required so to do by the Sheriff or Sheriffs of the County to which they belong; and that no Judge at the Spring Assizes to be holden in the said Year One thousand eight hundred and twenty-one, or at any succeeding Spring Assizes, shall fiat any Presentment for paying any Salary to any Clerk of the Peace, until such printed Copy or Copies of such Registry Books, so certified, shall be so delivered in his Presence to the Clerk of the Crown; and that it shall not be hereafter necessary for the Clerk of the Peace to deliver Copies of the Entries in the Books of Registry to the Treasurer of the County, any Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

No Fiat for Clerk of the Peace's Salary, until such Copies are delivered.

Freeholds not to be registered unless the Instrument is stamped.

XXXII. And be it further enacted, That from and after the First Day of *May* One thousand eight hundred and twenty, the Justices presiding at any Sessions of the Peace shall not allow any Person to register his Freehold by virtue of any written Instrument, unless the same be stamped according to Law; and that the Clerk of the Peace shall, from and after the First Day of *May* One thousand

sand eight hundred and twenty, certify in every Certificate of the Registry of a Freehold of the Value of Forty Shillings only, that the same was registered by virtue of a written Instrument stamped according to Law.

Penalty on Clerk of the Peace for Neglect of Duty under this Act, 500 l.

XXXIII. And be it further enacted, That if any Clerk of the Peace shall omit or neglect to appoint Deputies and Assistant Deputies to attend the Places of Polling at any Election; or to have the original Affidavits or Affirmations of Registry arranged and indorsed as herein-before required; or to enter in a Book at every Sessions of Registry, the Substance of every Affidavit or Affirmation made thereat, in the Manner and Form as hereinbefore required; or to enter in Books the Substance of all Affidavits or Affirmations of Registry of all the Freeholders who shall be capable of voting at an Election on the First Day of *January* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-one, or of those Freeholders who may thereafter register Freeholds, in the Manner and Form as hereinbefore required; or to cause Registry Books to be printed, and to be delivered to the Clerk of the Crown, in the Manner and Form as herein-before required; or to certify in every Certificate of Registry which he shall grant after the First Day of *May* One thousand eight hundred and twenty, that the written Instrument produced by the Person registering a Freehold was stamped according to Law; he shall for every such Offence forfeit a Sum not exceeding Five hundred Pounds, to any Person suing for the same; such Penalty to be recovered by Information in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record in *Dublin*.

Grand Jury shall present for Expence of printing Registry Books.

XXXIV. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Grand Jury of every County, County of a Town, or County of a City, at every Spring Assizes, and they are hereby required, authorized, and empowered, to present such Sum or Sums of Money as shall be a proper Remuneration to the Clerk of the Peace for the Expence of printing the Registry Books, in the Manner and Form herein-before directed: Provided always, that no such Presentment be made until the Contract for the printing thereof be produced, and that it appear to the Grand Jury that the Clerk of the Peace has caused the said Books to be printed in the cheapest Manner.

Irish Act, 37 G. 3. c. 47.

XXXV. And whereas by an Act made in the Parliament of *Ireland* in the Thirty-seventh Year of the Reign of His late Majesty, intituled *An Act for the future Regulation of the Election of Members to serve in Parliament*, it is amongst other things enacted, that if any Person seised of a Freehold not consisting of a Rent Charge shall desire to register it as being of the Value of Fifty Pounds, or Twenty Pounds, he shall, in the Oath or Affirmation therein provided, name the Parish or Parishes, and the Townland or Townlands in which such Freehold may be situated: And whereas it is expedient that the Name of the Parish or Parishes in the said Oath may be omitted, and that the Townland or Townlands, or other Denomination by which the Place is generally known wherein the Freehold is situated, be named in the said Oath or Affirmation; be it therefore enacted, That it shall be lawful for any Person seised of a Freehold not consisting of a Rent Charge, who shall desire to register it as being of the yearly Value of

Freeholders of 50 l. or 20 l. may omit Parish in

Oath, and name the Townland.

Fifty Pounds or Twenty Pounds, to omit in such Oath or Affirmation the Name of the Parish or Parishes in which such Freehold may be situated, and to name therein the Townland or Townlands or other Denomination by which the Place is generally known wherein the said Freehold may be situated.

Persons polling Twice, or personating Voters, may be punished by Two Years Imprisonment.

XXXVI. And be it further enacted, That every Person who shall poll a Second Time, or offer to poll a Second Time, at the same Election, or who shall personate any other Person, or attempt to personate any other Person, for the Purpose of polling at such Election, shall be guilty of a Misdemeanor, and upon being thereof convicted in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record in *Dublin*, shall be imprisoned for any Term not more than Two Years, at the Discretion of the Judge or Judges who shall try such Person.

Penalty on fraudulent Voters, 20l.

XXXVII. And be it further enacted, That if any Person shall vote at any Election, by virtue of the Registry of an alleged Freehold, under a Lease of Land and Tenements for a Life or Lives, made by a Lessor who had not at the Time of making the same a Freehold Estate therein; or under a Lease of Land or Tenements for a Life or Lives, which Lease is to end and determine on some such Covenant or Condition, that a Freehold Estate has not been demised by the same; or under a Lease of Land or Tenements for a Life or Lives, or a certain Number of Years, which Life or Lives is or are dead; or under a Lease of Land or Tenements for a Life or Lives, which Lease has expired or been surrendered, after due Notice not to vote by virtue of any such Registry shall have been given to such Person by any Candidate, or by any Inspector of any Candidate, and which Notice every Candidate and Inspector is hereby authorized and empowered to give to such Person at any Time before or during such Election, or in the Place of Polling, such Person on being convicted thereof, shall forfeit to any Person who shall sue for the same, the Sum of Twenty Pounds; to be recovered by him or them, with Treble Costs of Suit, by Action of Debt, at any General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, or at any Assizes that may be held in the County in which such Election shall have taken place.

Regulation for Registry of Freeholders by the Mayor, Recorder, &c. of Counties of Towns and Cities.

XXXVIII. And whereas by certain Acts made in the Parliament of *Ireland*, and also by a certain Act made in the Parliament of the United Kingdom, made in the Forty-fifth Year of His late Majesty's Reign, intituled *An Act for amending an Act passed in the Parliament of* Ireland *in the Thirty-fifth Year of His late Majesty, for regulating the Election of Members to serve in Parliament, so far as relates to Freeholds under the yearly Value of Twenty Pounds, and for making further and other Regulations relating thereto*, it is enacted, that every Oath and Affirmation made and subscribed at any Sessions of the Peace for Registry of any Freehold, shall be read aloud in open Court, and signed by Two of the Justices presiding therein: And whereas the Number of the Justices who are empowered to act within several of the Counties of Towns, or Counties of Cities and Towns, agreeable to the Charters thereof, is extremely limited, and often confined to those, who from Age and Infirmity, are incapacitated for active Performance of Duty: And whereas it is necessary

to provide against any consequent Inconvenience or Delay of Persons possessed of Freehold Property, who wish duly to register such Freeholds, and to qualify themselves for exercising the elective Franchise; be it therefore enacted, That in all Counties of Towns and Counties of Cities, on the Day immediately preceding the Opening of each General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, unless such Day shall fall upon a *Sunday*, and in such Case on the Day next but One preceding the Opening of each General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, and upon the Day immediately after the Criminal and other Business of every such Sessions has been fully transacted, unless such Day shall fall upon a *Sunday*, and in such Case, on the Second Day after the said Business has been fully transacted, the Mayor or other Chief Magistrate of such County of a Town or County of a City, or his sufficient Deputy appointed by him, pursuant to Charter or Prescription, in case of his Absence from such Town or City, or his Illness, shall, upon being required so to do by any Freeholder of such County of a Town or County of a City, hold an open Court of Sessions for the Purpose of registering all such Freeholders as shall present themselves for that Purpose, in such Manner and Form as are now required by Law; and that the said Mayor, Chief Magistrate, or his Deputy, shall commence his Sitting on each Day at the Hour of Ten of the Clock in the Forenoon, and shall continue it till the Hour of Four of the Clock in the Afternoon; and that it shall also be lawful for any Person possessed of a Freehold in any County of a Town or County of a City, to register the same before the Recorder or his Deputy, presiding in open Court, at any Quarter Sessions of the Peace, or any Adjournment thereof, for the County of the Town or County of the City in which such Freehold is situate; and that such Mayor or other Chief Magistrate, or his Deputy, and such Recorder or his Deputy, shall administer all Oaths, and sign all Certificates, which are now required by Law, to render the Registry of such Freehold valid; and that the Signature of such Mayor, Chief Magistrate or Recorder, or of their several Deputies so affixed in open Court, shall be singly and of itself a sufficient Attestation of such Registry, in Place of the Signature of Two Magistrates, and of the Clerk of the Peace, as now required by Law; and that the Certificate of the Registry of a Freehold in any County of a City or County of a Town so signed as aforesaid, shall be sufficient Evidence of the Registry of the same, at any Election, if without any Erasure or Interlineation, any thing to the contrary in this Act notwithstanding; and that the Affidavits of Registry so attested, shall be then and there delivered by such Mayor, Recorder, or their respective Deputies, to the Clerk of the Peace, to be filed and kept amongst the Records of the Court.

Penalty on Mayor, &c. for Neglect, 100*l.*;

XXXIX. And be it further enacted, That if any Mayor or other Chief Magistrate of any County of a Town, or County of a City, shall neglect or wilfully omit to hold any such Session, by himself or his sufficient Deputy, in Manner and Form as herein-before required, upon being required so to do by any Freeholder of such County of a Town, or County of a City; or if any Mayor or other Chief Magistrate, or any Recorder shall omit or neglect, or wilfully refuse to register the Freehold of any Person duly qualified, who shall present himself for that

that Purpose to such Mayor or Chief Magistrate or Recorder, such Mayor, Chief Magistrate, or Recorder so offending, shall forfeit the Sum of One hundred Pounds for each and every such Neglect of Duty; and that if the Clerk of the Peace or his sufficient Deputy shall neglect or omit to attend at any such Session of the Peace, upon due Notice being given to him of the holding of the same by any Freeholder of such County of a Town, or County of a City, and then and there to do all Acts now required of him by Law for the Registry of Freeholders, such Clerk of the Peace shall for every such Offence forfeit the Sum of Fifty Pounds; such Penalties to be recovered by Information in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record in *Dublin*; one Moiety whereof shall be payable to our Lord the King, and the other Moiety to him who shall sue for and recover the same.

on Clerk of Peace, 50l.

Forging Certificates of Registry, &c. punishable by Transportation.

XL. And be it further enacted, That if any Person shall falsely make, forge, or counterfeit, or shall cause or procure to be falsely made, forged, or counterfeited, or shall willingly act or assist in the false making, forging, or counterfeiting any Certificate of the Registry of any Freehold, or any Affidavit or Affirmation relating thereto, or any Writing or Instrument purporting to be a Certificate of the Registry of any such Freehold, or an Affidavit or Affirmation relating thereto, or shall utter or publish, or assist to utter or publish, or produce in any polling Booth as true, any such false, forged, or counterfeited Certificate, or Affidavit or Affirmation, Writing or Instrument, knowing the same to be false, forged, or counterfeited, with Intent to make or support any Claim of himself, or any other Person or Persons, to vote at any Election of a Member or Members to serve in Parliament, every such Person so offending and being thereof lawfully convicted, shall be deemed and adjudged to be guilty of Felony, and shall be transported for Seven Years to some Part of His Majesty's Dominions out of *Europe*.

Duty and Oath of Poll Clerks.

XLI. And be it further enacted, That every Person whom any Returning Officer at any Election for a Member to serve in Parliament for any County, shall employ to act as a Clerk for taking the Poll, shall enter in a Book to be provided for that Purpose, the Number opposite to the Name of each Freeholder in the Registry Book who shall tender his Vote or offer to poll at such Election, his Name and the Place of his Abode, the Situation and Value of his Freehold, and for whom he shall vote, and every such Clerk shall, before the Beginning of the Poll, take an Oath in the Form following:

'I *A. B.* do swear, That I will, at this Election of a Member [*or* Members, *as the Case may be*] to serve in Parliament for the County, County of the Town, or County of the City [*as the Case may be*] of truly and indifferently take the Poll, and set down the Number opposite to the Name of each Freeholder in the Registry Book, his Name and the Place of his Abode, and the Situation and the Value of his Freehold, and for whom he shall poll. So help me GOD.'

Which Oath every Returning Officer is hereby authorized and required to administer.

XLII. And

XLII. And be it further enacted, That any Deputy Sheriff, Poll Clerk, Clerk of the Peace, Deputy Clerk of the Peace, Assistant Deputy Clerk of the Peace, Interpreter, Constable, Bailiff, or Peace Officer, who shall absent himself from the Duty of his Office at any Election of a Member or Members to serve in Parliament for any County, City, Borough, or other Place, during any Part of the Time that the Poll shall be kept open on each Day, shall forfeit all Compensation for his Attendance during such Election; and that the Returning Officer or Officers is and are hereby authorized and required, in case of the Absence, Neglect, Misconduct, or Insufficiency of any such Person or Persons, immediately to remove any such Person or Persons, and to appoint a Person or Persons to fill his or their Place or Places.

Deputy Sheriffs and Officers neglecting their Duty at Election Poll, shall lose their Compensation:

Returning Officer may dismiss them, and supply their Places.

XLIII. And be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall extend or be construed to extend so as to limit, abridge, or defeat the Franchise of any Person or Persons, who before the passing of this Act shall have duly registered his or their Franchise or Franchises, under and by virtue of the Act of the Fifty-seventh Year of His late Majesty's Reign, herein-before recited and repealed.

Franchises registered under 57G.3.c.131. not affected.

XLIV. And whereas it is expedient that Persons having Freeholds under the yearly Value of Twenty Pounds, and subject only to Quit or Crown Rent, or arising from Fee Farm Grants, or under a Lease or Leases for ever, or for Lives renewable for ever, should have the Power of voting at Elections for Members of Parliament, although they should not reside thereon, or occupy such Freeholds by tilling or grazing to the Amount of Forty Shillings yearly Value thereof; be it enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for Persons having Freeholds under Twenty Pounds yearly Value, not consisting of a Rent Charge, and liable only to Crown or Quit Rent, to register the same in like Manner as is provided for Persons having Freeholds of the yearly Value of Twenty Pounds, in an Act of the Thirty-seventh Year of His late Majesty's Reign, passed in the *Irish* Parliament, and intituled *An Act for the regulating of Elections*; and that such Person so registering his Freehold, shall insert in the Oath of Registry, the Words "Forty Shillings," instead of the Words "Twenty Pounds," or "Fifty Pounds," and shall add the following Words, "and that the said Freehold "does not consist of a Rent Charge, and that it is liable to no Rent, "except Quit or Crown Rent, *or* that it arises from Fee Farm Grant, "*or* that I hold it under a Lease or Leases for ever, *or* under a Lease "or Leases for Lives, renewable for ever, [*as the Case may be*]," and that every Person who shall offer to vote by virtue of a Freehold under the Value of Twenty Pounds, and holding the same subject only to Quit or Crown Rent, shall make the same Affirmations, and take the same Oaths as are now provided for Persons having Freeholds of the Value of Twenty Pounds; provided always, that such Persons shall in such Oaths make the several Alterations and Additions as are herein set forth in the Oath of Registry for such Persons.

Persons having certain Freeholds permitted to register the same in Manner herein mentioned.

Irish Act 37 G. 3.

XLV. And be it further enacted, That all former Acts of Parliament for the Regulation of the Election of Members to serve in Parliament for *Ireland*, shall be and continue in force, except only so far

Former Acts to continue in force.

far as the same are repealed or altered by this Act; and that this Act may be altered and repealed by any Act to be passed in the present Session of Parliament.

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