CHAPTER 9.

An Act to remove the Disabilities of the Police to vote at Parliamentary Elections. [23rd May 1887.]

WHEREAS it is inexpedient that any person otherwise entitled to be registered as a voter should be incapacitated to vote at parliamentary elections by reason of his being employed in or in connexion with the police:

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:

Repeal.

1. The enactments mentioned in the schedule to this Act are hereby repealed to the extent mentioned in the third column of the said schedule.

Constable on duty to be entitled to vote at any polling station.

2. Where a constable is or is likely to be, on the day of any election, sent or employed in the discharge of his duty so as to prevent him voting at the polling booth or station at which he would otherwise be entitled by law to vote, the following enactments shall have effect:—

(1.) Such constable may, at any time within seven days before the election, apply to the chief constable for a certificate, and the chief constable shall thereupon give a certificate under his hand, stating the name of the constable, his number in the police force, his number and description on the register of voters, and the fact that he is so sent or employed;

(2.) The presiding officer at any polling booth or station shall, on production by such constable of the said certificate allow him to vote at that booth or station, and shall forthwith cancel the said certificate, and deal with the same in like manner as the counterfoils of voting papers are directed by law to be dealt with;

(3.) No such constable shall, under this section, be entitled to vote at any election at which he would not, but for this section, be entitled to vote, nor more than once in any election, and if he so votes, or attempts to vote, he shall be subject to all the penalties imposed by law on a person personating or attempting to personate a voter at such election;

(4.) In this section,—

(*a.*) "Constable" includes any person belonging to a police force;

(*b.*) "Chief constable" includes an assistant chief constable, a commissioner or assistant commissioner of police, a head constable, and any other person for the time being in command of a police force, or acting in that capacity;

35 & 36 Vict. c. 33.

(*c.*) "Register of voters" has the same meaning as in the Ballot Act, 1872.

Registration in case of temporary absence of police officer on duty.

3. A person otherwise entitled to be registered as a voter at parliamentary elections in respect of the occupation of a dwelling-house shall be deemed an inhabitant occupier thereof as tenant notwithstanding his temporary absence therefrom in the execution

of duty as a police officer during a part of the qualifying period, not exceeding four consecutive months.

Amendment of section 9 of 19 & 20 Vict. c. 2.

4. Section nine of the Act, nineteen and twenty Victoria, chapter two, shall be read and construed as if for the word "therein," were substituted the words "in certain elections of members to serve in "Parliament."

Saving as to section 8 of 17 & 18 Vict. c. 102.

5. Provided always, that this Act shall not operate to extend the benefit of the eighth section of the Corrupt Practices Prevention Act, 1854, to any person becoming entitled to vote by virtue of this Act.

Short title.

6. This Act may be cited as the Police Disabilities Removal Act, 1887.

SCHEDULE.

Session and Chapter.	Title.	Extent of Repeal.
	PART I.—ENGLAND AND WALES.	
10 Geo. 4. c. 44.	An Act for improving the police in and near the metropolis.	Section eighteen, the words "shall, "during the time that he shall continue in any such office or within six "calendar months after he shall have "quitted the same, be capable of "giving his vote for the election of a "member for the counties of Middlesex, Surrey, Hertford, Essex, or "Kent, or for any city or borough "within the Metropolitan Police District, nor."
2 & 3 Vict. c. 93.	An Act for the establishment of county and district constables by the authority of justices of the peace.	Section nine, "be capable of giving his vote "for the election of a member to serve "in Parliament for the county in which "he is so appointed, or for any county "adjoining thereto, or for any city "or borough within any of the said "counties, nor shall any such constable."
2 & 3 Vict. c. xciv (Private.)	An Act for regulating the police in the City of London.	Section eight, "be capable of giving his "vote for the election of a member to "serve in Parliament for the city of "London or for the counties of Middlesex, Surrey, Hertford, Essex, or Kent, "or for any city or borough within the "Metropolitan Police District, nor "shall."
19 & 20 Vict. c. 2.	An Act to amend the Acts relating to the metropolitan police.	Section nine, the words "or voting in "certain elections of members to serve "in Parliament."
19 & 20 Vict. c. 69.	An Act to render more effectual the police in counties and boroughs in England and Wales.	Section nine, the words "or for the "election of a member to serve in Parliament for such borough, or any "county in or to which such borough "is situate either wholly or in part or "adjoins, or for any borough within "such county."

Session and Chapter.	Title.	Extent of Repeal.
23 & 24 Vict. c. 135.	An Act for the employment of the metropolitan police force in Her Majesty's yards and military stations.	Section five, the words "be capable of "giving his vote for the election of "a member to serve in Parliament for "any county, or division of a county, "or city, borough, or place in which, "or in any part of which, he may be "authorised to act under the provisions "herein contained, or."
	PART II.—SCOTLAND.	
20 & 21 Vict. c. 72.	An Act to render more effectual the police in counties and burghs in Scotland.	Section seventeen, the words "be capable "of giving his vote for the election of "a member to serve in Parliament for "the county in which he is so ap- "pointed, or in any part thereof, or for "any county adjoining thereunto, or "for any Royal or Parliamentary "borough or town within any of the "said counties, nor shall any such "constable"

CHAPTER 10.

An Act to enable His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught to return to England for a limited time for the purpose of being present at the celebration of Her Majesty's Jubilee without thereby resigning his command in Bombay. [23rd May 1887.]

WHEREAS under the Act of the session held in the thirty-third year of King George the Third, chapter fifty-two, and the Act of the session held in the third and fourth years of King William the Fourth, chapter eighty-five, and the Acts amending the same, the return to Europe of any commander-in-chief in India is deemed in law a resignation and avoidance of his office:

And whereas His Royal Highness Prince Arthur William Patrick Albert, Duke of Connaught and of Strathearn, is Commander-in-Chief in the Presidency of Bombay, and it is expedient to provide for authorising his return to England for a limited time for the purpose of being present at the celebration of Her Majesty's Jubilee without such return being a resignation or avoidance of his office under the said Acts:

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:

Return of Duke of Connaught to England without resignation.

1. The Governor-General of India in Council may authorise His Royal Highness Prince Arthur William Patrick Albert, Duke of Connaught and of Strathearn, to return to England for the purpose of being present at the celebration of Her Majesty's