

BILL.

An Ordinance to prescribe and regulate the election and appointment of certain Officers, in the several Parishes and Townships in this Province, and to make other provisions for the local interests of the Inhabitants of these Divisions of the Province.

WHEREAS it is expedient and necessary, for the attainment of the ends of good government, and for the due execution of the laws, that certain Officers, charged with local duties, should be elected and appointed, in and for the several Parishes and Townships in this Province, and that other provisions should be made for the better protection, care, and management of the local interests of the inhabitants of these minor divisions of the Province; Be it therefore enacted, &c. That it shall and may be lawful for each and every of the Wardens to be appointed in the several Districts in this Province, by Warrant under his hand and seal, to authorize and require one of the Justices of the Peace, or some other discreet and competent person in the said Districts respectively, after eight days' notice in this behalf, to assemble and cause to be assembled, the Inhabitant House-holders of the several Parishes and Townships, and reputed Parishes and Townships, in the said Districts respectively, who shall and may have the qualifications herein after mentioned, on a certain day, and at some convenient place, within such local divisions respectively, for the purpose of electing the officers herein after mentioned, to serve in the said Parishes and Townships, and reputed Parishes and Townships, respectively, till the second Monday in the month of January, which will be in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty-two, and until other officers shall have been elected, appointed, and sworn, in their places.

II. And be it further ordained and enacted, That the Warden of each and every of the said Districts shall and may, in like manner, from time to time, by Warrant under his hand and seal, authorize and require, one of the Justices of the Peace, or some other discreet and competent person, in the said Districts respectively, on the second Monday in the month of January, which will be in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty-two, and on the same day in each succeeding year, to assemble, and cause to be assembled, the Inhabitant House-holders of the Parishes and Townships, and reputed Parishes and Townships, in such districts respectively, who shall and may have the qualifications herein after mentioned, at some convenient place, within the local divisions aforesaid, respectively, for the purpose of electing the officers herein after mentioned, to serve in the said local divisions respectively, till the second Monday, in the month of January, in the next succeeding year, and until other officers shall have been elected, appointed, and sworn in their places.

III. And be further ordained and enacted, that the Inhabitant House-holders, to be assembled as aforesaid, shall be severally seized and possessed to their own use, in free-hold, or under a certificate, or location ticket, derived from the authority of the Governor and Council of this Province, of lands and tenements within such Parish or Township, or reputed Parish or Township, of the yearly value of forty shillings, sterling, or upwards, over and above all rents and charges payable out of or in respect of the same, or shall have become and be severally possessed, as lessees, for a term not less than years, of lands and tenements within such local divisions, respectively, at and for an annual rent or consideration not less than pounds, sterling, of which one year's rent or consideration shall have been paid before the holding of such election; and the said Inhabitant Householders, to be assembled as aforesaid, shall also have been resident within such local divisions respectively, during one year next before such election.

IV. Provided always, and be it further ordained and enacted, that when and so soon as any rate or rates, assessment or assessments, shall be laid, by competent authority, within any such Parish or Township, or reputed Parish or Township, no such Inhabitant Householder, as aforesaid, shall be entitled to vote, at the election of any of the officers hereinafter mentioned, or of any other officer, within such Parish or Township, or reputed Parish or Township, unless he shall have been rated to and in respect of the rates or assessments, to be laid as aforesaid, and unless he shall have paid the amount of all such rates and assessments, as may have become due and payable by him, before the holding of any such election.

V. Provided also, and be it further ordained and enacted, that no person shall be capable of voting, or of being elected, at any such election as aforesaid, who shall not be of the full age of twenty-one years, and a natural born subject of Her Majesty, or a subject of Her Majesty, naturalized by act of the Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, or