

# ELECTION FRAUDS.

## HOW CAN THEY BE PREVENTED?

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Few of those outside the circle of active politics realize to what an extent the crime of personation is practised in city elections.

It is no exaggeration to say that in certain Wards fully 15 per cent of the entire vote is "telegraphed." Elections are on record—notably the McShane-Keys and the James-Kennedy-Anderson, where there is ample ground for the belief that it was this fraudulent vote that carried the day. This evil is undoubtedly on the increase, and what is worse, many of our young men, honourable enough in other ways, do not consider an election perjury as anything but a shrewd, and if successful, a commendable proceeding. It is no common thing after election day to hear men boasting of having voted five or six times under different names, although in the eyes of the law liable to a fine of \$500 for each offence. (See Article 419, Quebec Elections Act.)

But the thoughtful and honest taxpayer, with a stake in the community, who may have put himself to no little inconvenience to record his *one* legitimate vote, hardly appreciates having it nullified five times over by some perjured individual whose interests in the country are next to nothing.