

THE ELECTION LAWS.

property of the value hereinafter mentioned, and being entered in the last revised assessment roll for any city, town or village, as such owner, tenant or occupant of such real property, namely:

In Cities, of the actual value of, . . .	\$400
In Towns " " . . .	300
In Incorporated Villages, " . . .	200
In Townships " . . .	200

shall be entitled to vote at elections for members for the Legislative Assembly.

Joint owners or occupiers of real property rated at an amount sufficient, if equally divided between them, to give a qualification to each, shall each be deemed rated within the Act; otherwise, none of them shall be deemed so rated.

"Owner" means in his own right, or in right of his wife, of an estate for life, or any greater estate.

"Occupant," *bona fide* in possession, either in his own right or in right of his wife (otherwise than as owner or tenant), and enjoying revenues and profits therefrom to his own use.

"Tenant" shall include persons who, instead of paying rent in money, pay in kind any portion of the produce of such property.

In *Nova Scotia*, every male subject by birth or naturalization, 21 years of age, not disqualified by law, assessed on the last revised assessment roll, in respect of real estate to the value of \$150, or in respect of personal estate, or of real and personal together, of the value of \$300, shall be entitled to vote.

Also, when a firm is assessed in respect of property sufficient to give each member a qualification, the names of the several persons comprising such firm shall be inserted in the list, but no member of a corporate body shall be entitled to vote or be entered on the list in respect of corporate property.

Also, when real property has been assessed as the estate of any person deceased, or as the estate of a firm, or as the estate of any person and son or sons, the heirs of the deceased in actual occupation at the time of the assessment, the persons who were partners of the firm at the time of the assessment, and the sons in actual occupation at the time of the assessment, shall be entitled to vote, as if their names had been specifically mentioned in the assessment, on taking an oath, if required, in accordance with the facts coming within the separate classification of the above provisions.

In *New Brunswick*, every male person 21 years of age, a British subject, not under any legal incapacity, assessed for the year for which the Registry is made up—in respect of real estate to \$100, or personal property, or personal and real, amounting to \$400, or on an annual income of \$400—shall be entitled to vote.

Thus, in both *Nova Scotia* and *New Brunswick* the franchise is more extended than in *Ontario*. In *Ontario* it still savours of the real estate. In *New Brunswick* and *Nova Scotia* it is based upon personal estate, *per se*, as well as real estate.

In *Ontario*, certain persons are forbidden to exercise the franchise, whether qualified or not, namely, Judges of the Supreme Courts, of County Courts, Recorders of cities, officers of the Customs of the Dominion, Clerks of the Peace, County Attorneys, Registrars, Sheriffs, Deputy Sheriffs, Deputy Clerks of the Crown, Agents for the sale of Crown lands, Postmasters in cities and towns, and Excise Officers, under a penalty of \$2,000, and their votes being declared void.

Again: no Returning Officer, Deputy Returning Officer, Election Clerk or Poll Clerk, and no person who at any time, either during the election or before the election, is or has been employed in the said election, or in reference thereto, or for the purpose of forwarding the same, by any candidate, or by any person whomsoever, as counsel, agent, attorney or clerk, at any polling place at any such election, or in any other capacity whatever, and who has received, or expects to receive, either before, during or after the said election, from any candidate, or from any person whomsoever, for acting in any such capacity as aforesaid, any sum of money, fee, office, place or employment, or any promise, pledge or security whatever therefor, shall be entitled to vote at any election.

No woman shall be entitled to vote at any election.

In *New Brunswick* and *Nova Scotia*, there is no restriction as to the exercise of the franchise by persons who are duly qualified. On the contrary, express provisions are made to enable presiding officers, poll clerks, candidates and their agents, when acting in the discharge of their various duties connected with the election, to poll their votes in districts where otherwise, but for such provisions, they would not be entitled to vote.

As to the Qualification of Candidates.

In *Nova Scotia*, the candidate must possess the qualification requisite for an elector, or shall have a legal or an equitable freehold estate in possession, of the clear yearly value of eight dollars.

In *New Brunswick*, the candidate must be a male British subject, 21 years of age, and for six months previous to the teste of the writ of election have been legally seised as of freehold for his own use of land in the Province of the value of £300, over and above all incumbrances charged thereon.

In *Ontario*, by the Act of 1869, 33 Vic. c. 4, passed to amend the Act of the previous session, entitled, "An Act respecting Elections of Members of the Legislative Assembly" (the 32 Vic. c. 21), it is enacted, "That from and after the passing of that Act, no qualification in real estate should be required of any candidate for a seat in the Legislative Assembly of *Ontario*; any statute or law to the contrary notwithstanding, and every such last mentioned statute and law is hereby repealed."