

CHAP. 28.

An Act to make better provision respecting Election Petitions, and matters relating to Controverted Elections of Members of the House of Commons.

[Assented to 23rd May, 1873.]

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide by one law, common Preamble. to the whole Dominion of Canada, for the trial of Election Petitions, and the decision of matters connected with Controverted Elections of Members of the House of Commons of Canada: Therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows: -

1. This Act may be cited for all purposes as "The Controverted Short title. Elections Act, 1873."

2. The expression "The Election Court" shall for the purposes Interpretation. of this Act, mean any three judges, of whom, under the provisions "Election Court." hereinafter made, any one might try an election petition in the Province to which the enactment in which the expression occurs has reference, sitting specially, either in term or in vacation, for the purposes of this Act:

The Election Court for the Dominion, or for the Province or And "Election place in which the election in question was held, as the case may Judges." be, shall always be understood as intended when "The Election Court" is mentioned; and the expression "the election Judges," shall mean all the Judges who can sit in such election court; the expression "the Judge," shall mean the judge trying any such petition or performing the duty to which the enactment in which the expression occurs has reference; the word "judges," shall include chief justices.

3. The following terms shall, in this Act, have the meaning Other expres- hereinafter assigned to them, unless there is something in the sions. context repugnant to such construction, that is to say:

"Member," shall mean a member of the House of Commons Member. of Canada;

"Election," shall mean an election of a Member to serve in Election. the House of Commons of Canada.

"Electoral District," shall mean an Electoral District entitled to Electoral Dis- return a member. tricts.

"Candidate," shall mean any person elected to serve as a mem- Candidate ber, and any person who has been nominated as, or declared him- self a candidate at an election.