

An Act for the more effectual prevention of corrupt practices at Elections.

**W**HEREAS at many elections, as well Municipal as Parliamentary, corrupt and demoralizing practices are frequently resorted to by candidates, their agents and others; And whereas the laws at present in force intended for the prevention of such practices have not been found effectual for the purposes for which they were intended, and it is desirable that still more stringent enactments should be enforced against all such corrupt and demoralizing practices; Therefore, Her Majesty, &c., enacts as follows:

I. From and after the passing of this Act, each and every candidate at any election, whether the same shall be for Legislative Councillor, or Representative in the Legislative Assembly, or as Mayor, Alderman, or Councillor in any Municipal Corporation, in this Province, shall take and subscribe, before the Returning Officer, or before some one of his Deputies, or before some Justice of the Peace resident within the Division, County, or City, within which such election may be held, a Declaration in writing pursuant to the form in the Schedule to this Act annexed, marked A.

II Any candidate who shall refuse or neglect to deliver, or cause to be delivered, to the Returning Officer in Chief at such election, before the final closing of the poll thereat (or within days thereafter), the Declaration in the Schedule to this Act annexed, marked A, shall be deemed to be disqualified in law from accepting, sitting, or acting or of being elected or returned as Legislative Councillor, Member of the Legislative Assembly, or Mayor, Alderman, or Councillor in any Municipal Council, at any election at which he shall so refuse or neglect as aforesaid.

III. Any candidate who shall take and subscribe the said Declaration, knowing the same to be false, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanour, and being thereof convicted before any Court of competent jurisdiction, shall be liable to a fine not to exceed fifty pounds in amount, or to imprisonment not to exceed six months in duration; and the record of such conviction shall be *prima facie* evidence of his ineligibility and disqualification from sitting, or performing the duties of Legislative Councillor, of Member of the Legislative Assembly, or of Mayor, Alderman, or Councillor of any Municipality, in virtue of any election or return made at any election where such false Declaration was taken and subscribed by him, as aforesaid.

IV. No candidate shall, by himself, or by his agent, or by any other person, corrupt or bribe any elector to give or to withhold his vote at any election,—nor shall he, by himself, or by his agent, or by any other person, with his knowledge or consent, hire or employ, or pay for the hiring or employment, of any cab, cart, waggon, sleigh,

Preamble.

Declaration in Schedule to be made by every candidate.

Candidate refusing to be disqualified.

Wilfully false declaration to be a misdemeanour;—and to disqualify the Candidate.

Candidate shall not bribe electors,—or pay for carrying them to the Polls