

XXIX. And be it enacted, That if in the case of an Election Petition complaining of a double return, the Member whose return is complained of in such Petition have given notice, as aforesaid, that it is not his intention to defend his return, and if no party, within the period hereinbefore allowed for that purpose, have been admitted to defend such return, then if there be no Election Petition complaining of the other Member returned on such double return, it shall be lawful for the last mentioned Member, or other the persons who subscribed the Petition complaining of such double return, to withdraw such Petition by letter addressed to the Speaker, and thereupon the order for referring such Petition to the General Committee of Elections shall be discharged, and the House shall give the necessary directions for amending the said double return, by taking off the file the indenture by which the person so declining to defend his return was returned, or otherwise, as the case may require.

Provision in case of double return, when the Member petitioned against does not defend his return.

4. GENERAL COMMITTEE OF ELECTIONS.

XXX. And be it enacted, That in the first Session of every Parliament, on the first meeting of the Commons House of Legislative Assembly, on or next after the fifteenth day of such Session, and in every subsequent Session, as soon as convenient after the commencement of the Session, the Speaker shall, by Warrant under his hand, appoint six Members of the House against whose return no Petition is then depending, and none of whom is a Petitioner complaining of any election or return, to be Members of a Committee to be called "The General Committee of Elections," and every such Warrant shall be laid on the Table of the House, and if not disapproved of by the House, in the course of the three next days on which the House meets for the despatch of business, shall take effect as an appointment of such General Committee.

General Committee of Elections to be named by the Speaker; how and when.

XXXI. And be it enacted, That if the House disapprove of any such Warrant, the Speaker shall, on or before the third day on which the House meets after such disapproval, lay upon the Table of the House, a new Warrant for the appointment of six Members qualified as aforesaid, and so from time to time, until six Members have been appointed by a Warrant not disapproved by the House.

Nomination how corrected if the House disapprove it.

XXXII. And be it enacted, That the disapproval of the Warrant may be either general in respect of the constitution of the whole Committee, or special in respect of any Member or Members named in the Warrant.

Disapproval may be general or special.

XXXIII. And be it enacted, That the Speaker may, if he thinks fit, name in the second or any subsequent Warrant, any of the Members named in any former Warrant whose appointment has not been specially disapproved by the House as aforesaid.

Members not disapproved may be named again.

XXXIV. And be it enacted, That after the appointment of the General Committee, every Member appointed shall continue to be a Member of the Committee until the end of that Session of Parliament, or until he cease to be a Member of the Commons House of Legislative Assembly, or until the General Committee report that he is disabled by continued illness from attending the Committee, or until the Committee be dissolved as hereinafter provided.

Duration of the appointment.

XXXV. And be it enacted, That in every case of vacancy in the General Committee of Elections, the Speaker, on the first day on which the House meets after such vacancy is known by him, shall make known the vacancy to the House, and thereupon all proceedings of the General Committee shall be suspended until the vacancy is supplied as hereinafter provided.

Vacancies to suspend the proceedings of the Committee.

XXXVI. And be it enacted, That if the General Committee of Elections at any time report to the House, that by reason of the continued absence of more than two of its members, or by reason of irreconcilable disagreement of opinion, the said Committee is unable to proceed in the discharge of its duties, or if the House resolve that the General Committee of Elections be dissolved, the General Committee shall be thereby forthwith dissolved.

Committee may be dissolved in certain cases.

XXXVII. And be it enacted, That every appointment to supply a vacancy in the General Committee, and every re-appointment of the General Committee after the dissolution

Vacancies in Committee how filled up.