whatsoever, or any Court of Inferior Jurisdiction, shall omit, neglect or refuse to perform any act or duty belonging to such office, or to such Court, or which the persons holding such office, is or shall be by law required or

- 5 bound to perform, and whenever any heir or representative of any Public Officer shall omit, neglect or refuse to do or perform any act which, by law, he may or shall be bound or required to do or perform as such heir or representative of such Public Officer, and in all cases in which
- 10 a Writ of Mandamus will lie and may be legally issued in England, it shall be lawful for any person interested in such Corporation, Public Body or Board or in the performance of any such act or duty, to apply to the Superior Court sitting in the District in which such Public
- 15 Officer, heir or representative of a Fublic Officer, or Inferior Court shall be sitting, or to two or more Justices of the said Court in vacation, for a Writ of Mandamus requiring and directing the Defendant, whether such Defendant be a natural person or a Corporation,
- 20 Public Body or Board, to do and perform the act or duty which such Defendant may have so neglected or refused to do or perform, or show cause to the contrary on a day certain to be fixed for that purpose by such Court or by such Justices.
- XII. And be it enacted, That every such application Manner of 25 for any such Writ of Mandamus shall be made by a de- making appli-cation for Writ claration or petition (requéte libellée) supported by affi- of Mandamus, davit to the satisfaction of such Court or Justices, setting ing thereforth the facts of the case, whereupon it shall be lawful upon.
- 30 for the said Court or the said Justices, to issue such Writ of Mandamus, and the Defendant in any such case, whether such Defendant be a natural person a Corporation or an Inferior Court, shall not be allowed to shew cause to such Writ of Mandamus, otherwise than by
- 35 answering or pleading to such declaration or petition, (requéte libellée) and such Defendant shall not be required to make any return of or upon any such Writ of Mandamus, but the same shall be returned by the Bailiff. or other officer who shall have served it upon such Defend-
- 40 ant, with a Certificate under his oath of the time and place of service; and the like proceedings shall be had on all such applications for Writs of Mandamus, relative to service, appearance, entering of default, pleading; proof and all other matters, for the determination thereof,
- 45 as are hereinbefore provided for the determination of cases in which any person shall have usurped, intruded into or unlawfully detained any public office or franchise, or in which any Corporation, Public Body or Board, shall have forleited its Charter as aforesaid.
- XIII. And be it enacted, That if such Defendant shall If Defendant 50 answer or plead to such declaration or petition, (requéte answer to delibelléc,) in such manner as to justify his conduct, the petition in

7