

ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

Election Laws.

Besides a general supervision of the Legislation of the House and the Chairmanship of the Legal Committee, another highly important duty assumed by the Attorney-General is the revision from time to time of the Election Laws of the Province, the perfecting and simplification of the procedure connected with election trials and prosecutions, and the devising of punishments "to fit the crime." Mr. Whitney poses as the apostle of electoral purity, and claims that his proposed punishments for electoral offences have been the most stringent. The best answer to these boasts is a comparison of the punishments for various offences as proposed by Mr. Whitney on the one hand and by the Attorney-General (Mr. Gibson) on the other in Bills introduced in the session of 1900.

OFFENCE.	MR. WHITNEY'S PUNISHMENTS.	THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S PUNISHMENTS.
Undue Influence.	Penalty of \$200 and 6 months' imprisonment.	Penalty of \$200 and imprisonment for 1 year.
Personation.	Penalty of \$200 and 6 months' imprisonment.	Penalty of \$400 and 1 year's imprisonment.
Voting more than once.	Penalty of \$200 and 3 months' imprisonment.	Penalty of \$200 and 6 months' imprisonment.
Returning Officer, etc, falsifying or altering list of voters or poll-book.	Penalty of \$2,000 and 6 months' imprisonment.	Penalty of \$2,000 and 12 months' imprisonment.
Offences respecting ballot boxes and ballot papers (a) By Returning Officers. (b) By other persons.	(a) 2 years' imprisonment. (b) 6 months' imprisonment.	(a) 3 years' imprisonment. (b) 1 year's imprisonment.
Unlawfully destroying or injuring documents relating to elections or aiding or abetting therein.	Penalty of \$2,000 and 6 months' imprisonment.	Penalty of \$2,000 and 12 months' imprisonment.

But the Bill introduced by Mr. Whitney had the very serious defect that it lacked any provision for indemnity to witnesses who speak the truth in connection with electoral corruption

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