

An Act to amend chapter seven of the Consolidated Statutes of Canada, and to establish a new Tribunal for the trial of Controverted Elections.

**W**HEREAS the trial of Controverted Elections by Select Committees, has not proved satisfactory, and it is expedient to provide for the appointment of a new Tribunal for the trial thereof; Be it enacted, &c. :

Preamble.

1. Sections of chapter seven, of the Consolidated Statutes of Canada, are hereby repealed.

Part of Cap. 7 of Con. Stat. Can. repealed.

2. There shall be established, as hereinafter provided, a Court of Elections, consisting of a Judge of one of Her Majesty's Courts of Record, and such seven Members of the Legislative Assembly, and such five Members of the Legislative Council, as hereinafter mentioned, and such Judge shall preside in the said Court, and shall, with such twelve Members, try the case submitted to the same.

Court for trial of controverted Elections.

3. The Legislative Council shall, on a day to be appointed by the Speaker not less than five nor more than ten days from the commencement of the first session of each Parliament, proceed to choose fifteen Members who may be deemed most fit and proper to serve upon trials of disputed questions of law and fact. They shall be chosen in manner following, to wit :—All the Members present within one hour after the opening of the House on the day appointed, shall be divided by lot, into three equal sections, as nearly as may be, and numbered one, two, three, as they are drawn; All the members then absent shall also be divided into three equal sections as nearly as may be, and numbered in like manner. Each of the said first mentioned sections shall forthwith retire into a room, elect a chairman and proceed to choose five members (who shall be deemed the most fit and proper to serve as aforesaid) from among themselves, and the section of absent members (if any) whose number corresponds to their own. And in like manner, on a day to be appointed by the Speaker within the same period, the Legislative Assembly shall proceed to choose twenty-four Members who may be deemed most fit and proper to serve upon trials of disputed questions of law and fact, and they shall be chosen in manner following, to wit :—All the Members present within one hour after the opening of the House on the day appointed, shall be divided by lot into four equal sections, as nearly as may be, and numbered one, two, three, four, as they are drawn. All the Members then absent (if any) shall be divided by lot into four sections (if practicable) and numbered in like manner. Each of the said sections shall forthwith retire into a room, elect a Chairman, and proceed to choose six Members (whom they shall deem the most fit and proper to serve as aforesaid) from among themselves, and the section of absent Members whose number corresponds to their own. The names of the Members so chosen shall be reported to the House to which they belong, on the next sitting day, and the said members shall together form the panel of Election Tryers during that Parliament.

Mode of constituting the Court : selection of members from both Houses, &c.

Panel reported to the House.