

at forty shillings for freeholders, in whom the choice of members for districts, counties, or circles lay.

Electors of members of towns or townships to possess a dwelling-house, or lot of ground, of the value of five pounds yearly, or, if resident within the said town or township, for the six months before the date of writ of summons for the election, to have paid ten pounds rent.

The duration of the House of Assembly was fixed for four years, instead of seven, as originally proposed; and the right of appeal, instead of being first to the Privy Council, and then to the House of Lords, was restricted to the Privy Council only.

When they came to the clauses respecting the clergy, *Mr. Fox* begged an explanation of both the clauses, page 13, 14, 15.

Mr. Chancellor Pitt said that he first gave the Governor and Council a power, under the instructions of his Majesty, to distribute out of a sum arising from the tithes for lands or possessions, and set apart for the maintenance and support of Protestant Clergy, in order to give them a competent income, and the second clause, he said, provided for the permanent support of the Protestant clergy, a seventh proportion of the lands to be granted in future. He declared that the meaning of the act was to enable the Governor to endow, and present the Protestant clergy of the established church to such parsonage or rectory as might be constituted or erected within every township or parish, which now was or might be formed, and to give to such Protestant clergyman of the established church a part, or the whole, as the Governor thought proper, of the lands appropriated by the act. He further explained, that this was done to encourage the established church, and that possibly hereafter it might be proposed to send a bishop of the established church to sit in the Legislative Council.

Mr. Fox disagreed with the whole of this plan. He said he thought the Roman Catholic religion ought to be the established church of the colony, or the Presbyterian (that of the kirk of Scotland.) He conceived setting aside a seventh part of the lands granted for the mainten-

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