

CAP. II.

An Act respecting the act for securing the independence of the Legislature of this Province.

[Assented to 10th June, 1884.]

Preamble.
32 V., c. 3.

WHEREAS several persons who have, since the passing of the act 32 Victoria, chapter 3, intituled: "An Act for securing the independence of the Legislature of this Province," been elected as members of the Legislative Assembly of this Province, acting in the *bona fide* belief that they were or continued to be qualified and capable of sitting and voting as members thereof, may have by sitting or voting therein, unwittingly, rendered themselves liable to pecuniary penalties or forfeitures under the provisions of the said act, and whereas it is proper to relieve such persons from such pecuniary penalties or forfeitures; Therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislature of Quebec, enacts as follows:

Indemnification for having sat or voted under the *bona fide* belief of qualification.

1. Any person who has, at any time since the passing of the said act 32 Victoria, chapter 3, been elected a member of the Legislative Assembly of this Province, and who, acting under the *bona fide* belief that he was or continued to be qualified and capable of sitting or voting as a member thereof, has sat or voted therein, shall be and is hereby indemnified, exonerated, freed and discharged from all pecuniary penalties, or forfeitures whatsoever (if any) which may have been incurred by him, by reason of having so sat or voted at any time up to the end of the present session of this Legislature.

This act, save as to costs in pending cases, to be a bar to suits for penalty.

2. This act may, except as to costs in pending cases, be pleaded as a bar and discharge to any action, suit or proceeding pending or which may be brought against any such person for any such pecuniary penalty or forfeiture as aforesaid.

Not to apply to offences committed after present session.

3. Nothing in the previous provisions shall be held in any wise to indemnify, exonerate, free or discharge any person from any pecuniary penalty or forfeiture, if any, to which he may render himself liable by sitting or voting in the Legislative Assembly of this province at any time after the end of the present session of this Legislature.

32 V., c. 3, s. 5, amended.

4. Section 5 of the act 32 Victoria, chapter 3, is amended by adding thereto the following subsection.

"3. However, to be valid such actions shall be instituted within twelve months after the date upon which such person shall have so sat or voted in contravention of the provisions of this act." Prescription of twelve months for such suits.

C A P. I I I.

An Act to appoint as commissioners the members of certain select committees of the Legislative Assembly.

[Assented to 10th June, 1884.]

WHEREAS on the third of June one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four a select committee was appointed by the Legislative Assembly, composed of the Honorable Mr. Joly, and of Messieurs Desjardins, Asselin, Nantel, and Robidoux, with instructions to inquire into certain charges preferred with respect to the granting of the contract for the Parliament Building ; Preamble.

Whereas on the sixth of June one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four there was also appointed by the Legislative Assembly, a select committee composed of Messieurs Desjardins, Nantel, Asselin, Lemieux and Watts, with instructions to inquire into certain charges preferred with respect to the election petition presented in 1882 against the election of a Member of the Legislative Assembly for the electoral District of Jacques-Cartier ;

Whereas such committees cannot legally sit after the prorogation of the present session of this Legislature ;

And whereas it is in the interest of the public that the members of such committees be appointed commissioners for the purpose of inquiring into the facts mentioned in the resolutions constituting such committees ; Therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislature of Quebec, enacts as follows :

1. The members of the said committees, respectively, are hereby constituted commissioners for the purpose of inquiring into the facts mentioned in the resolutions of the Legislative Assembly constituting such committees and of reporting to the said Legislative Assembly. Members of certain select committees appointed commissioners.

2. Such commissioners shall have all the powers conferred upon commissioners appointed under the act 32 Victoria, chapter 8, intituled : " An Act respecting inquiries concerning public matters, " in the same manner and to the same effect as if they had been appointed under the said act. Powers as such commissioners