

## CAP. XVI.

Expued

**An ACT to continue an Act for granting a Drawback of the Duties on Brown or Raw Sugar, used in the Manufacture of Refined Sugar within the Province, and for regulating the mode of obtaining the same.**

## CAP. XVII.

**An ACT to regulate the Trials of Controverted Elections, or Returns of Members to serve in the House of Assembly of this Province.**

Preamble.

**W**HEREAS *the present mode of decision upon Petitions complaining of undue Elections, or Returns of Members to serve in the House of Assembly of this Province, frequently obstructs public business, occasions much expense, trouble and delay, to the Parties, is defective for want of those sanctions and solemnities which are established by Law, in other trials, and is attended with many other inconveniences, for remedy thereof:*

Petitions complaining of undue Elections.

**I. BE it enacted by the Lieutenant-Governor, Council and Assembly, That,** after the end of the present Sessions of Assembly, whenever a Petition, complaining of an undue Election or Return of a Member or Members to serve in the House of Assembly, shall be presented to the said House, a day and hour shall be appointed by the said House for taking the same into consideration, and notice in writing shall be forthwith given by the Speaker, to the Petitioner or Petitioners, and the sitting Member or Members, or their respective Agents, accompanied with an order to them to attend the House at the time appointed by themselves, their Counsel or Agents.

Members specially summoned.

**II. And be it further enacted,** That at the time appointed for taking such Petition into consideration, and previous to the reading the Order of the Day, for that purpose, the Sergeant at Arms shall be directed to go to the places adjacent, and require the immediate attendance of the Members, on the business of the said House; and that after his Return the House shall be counted, and if there be less than twenty-seven Members present, the Order for taking such Petition into consideration, shall be immediately adjourned to a particular hour on the following day, (Sunday, Christmas Day and Good Friday, always excepted) and on the following day the House shall proceed in the same manner, and so from day to day till there be an attendance of twenty-seven Members, at the reading of the Order of the Day, to take such Petition into consideration.

Fifteen Members ballotted for.

**III. And be it further enacted,** That if after summoning the Members, and counting the House, as aforesaid, twenty-seven Members shall be found to be present, the Petitioner or Petitioners, their Counsel or Agents, and the Counsel or Agents of the sitting Member or Members, shall be ordered to attend at the Bar, and then the door of the House shall be locked, and no Member shall be suffered to enter into, or depart from, the House, until the Petitioner or Petitioners, their Counsel or Agents, and the Counsel or Agent, for the sitting Member or Members, shall be directed to withdraw, as hereinafter is mentioned; and when the door shall be locked, as aforesaid, the Order of the Day shall be read, and the names of all the Members of the House, written on distinct pieces of paper, being in as near as may be of equal size, and rolled up