

ELECTIONS—THE FRANCHISE, &c.

CANADA.

The Parliament of the Dominion consists of the Queen, a Senate of 72, appointed by the Crown for life, and a House of Commons of 181 members chosen by the people. The members of this Parliament are locally apportioned as follows :--

	Senators.	Members of the House of Commons.
For Ontario.....	24	82
“ Quebec.....	24	65
“ Nova Scotia.....	12	19
“ New Brunswick.....	12	15

The number of Senators is fixed (except that six additional Senators may be appointed by the Crown); that of members of the House of Commons is to vary according to the population ascertained at each decennial census, Quebec retaining the same number. Thus, supposing the calculation in our article on the census to be correct, the House of Commons will be thus constituted after 1871 :—Ontario 93, Quebec 65, Nova Scotia 18, New Brunswick 15, total 196. Term of election, 5 years, unless the House be sooner dissolved. Sessions annual. The property qualification is: for Senators, the possession of \$4,000 real and personal estate over and above all liabilities; for members of the House of Commons in Ontario and Quebec, £500 stg. of real estate; in New Brunswick the possession for six months previous to the issue of the writ of election of \$1,200 of real estate; in Nova Scotia “a legal or equitable freehold estate in possession, of the clear yearly value of eight dollars (\$8.00),” or the candidate must be “qualified to be an elector.”

The following are electors: in Ontario and Quebec, every male subject, being the owner or occupier or tenant of real property of the assessed value of \$300, or of the yearly value of \$30, if within cities or towns, or of the assessed value of \$200 or the yearly value of \$20, if not so situate. In New Brunswick, every male subject of the age of 21 years, not disqualified by law, assessed for the year for which the register is made up in respect of real estate to the amount of \$100 or of personal property or personal and real amounting together to \$400, or \$400 annual income. In Nova Scotia, all subjects of the age of 21 years, not disqualified by law, assessed for the year for which the register is made up in respect of real estate to the value of \$150, or in respect of personal estate or of real and personal together to the value of \$300.

Voting in Quebec, Ontario and Nova Scotia is open, on enquiry by the Returning Officers, after the person desirous of voting has by reference to the registration list established his right to vote. In New Brunswick votes are taken by ballot.

The Executive, called the “Privy Council,” consists of 13 members.

ONTARIO.

The Local Legislature of Ontario consists of a Lieut. Governor appointed by the Dominion, and one house only, of 82 members, called the Legislative Assembly; limits of constituencies the same as for the Commons of Canada; qualifications of members and electors the same as above. Term 4 years, unless sooner dissolved; sessions annual.

QUEBEC.

The Local Legislature of Quebec consists of a Lieut. Governor appointed by the Dominion, a nominated Legislative Council of 24, and a Legislative Assembly of 65. Limits of constituencies the same as for the Senate and Commons respectively. Qualification of Senators, members and electors, the same as for the Dominion. Term of Parliament, 4 years, unless sooner dissolved. Sessions annual.

NOVA SCOTIA.

The Local Legislature of Nova Scotia consists of a Lieut. Governor appointed by the Dominion, a nominated Legislative Council of 20, and an elective Legislative Assembly of 53. Term, 4 years unless dissolved; sessions annual. Qualifications as for the Dominion Legislature above.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

The Local Legislature of New Brunswick consists of the Lieut. Governor, appointed by the Dominion; a nominated Legislative Council of 22, and a Legislative Assembly of 40 members. Qualification of senators, Assembly-men and electors the same as for the Dominion. Duration of Parliament, 4 years, unless sooner dissolved. Sessions annual.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

The Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island consists of 30 members, elected for four years, unless Parliament be sooner dissolved. The Legislative Council consists of 13 members, elected for eight years; half returning every four years, but being eligible for re-election. Qualification: for members of the Assembly, the possession of free or leasehold estate worth \$100 above encumbrances; for members of the Legislative Council, no qualification is required.

Electors for members of the Lower House, are all male subjects of 21 years of age, owning property valued at 40s., Island Currency, (\$2.40,) per annum, or who are by law liable to statute labor. As by 25 Vic., cap. 2, almost every man is so liable, the suffrage may be called universal. Electors for members of the Upper House, must own lease or freehold property valued at £100 Island Currency, or \$320.

The Executive Council consists of nine members. One only, the Colonial Secretary, holds departmental office. His salary is \$1,120 per annum; the other members of the Executive receive no pay.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

The Legislative Assembly of Newfoundland consists of 30 members, elected for four years, unless Parliament be sooner dissolved, The Legislative Council is limited to 15 nominated members.

The qualification for members of the Assembly, is property exceeding \$2,000 in amount or value, or a net annual income of \$400. The qualifications for electors is to have occupied a dwelling-house as owner or tenant for two years immediately preceding the day of election.

The Executive Council consists of seven members.

* The Senators of Quebec are nominated one for each of 24 territorial districts in which their property qualification must be.