LOUISIANA ELECTION LAW.

No. 137.)

AN ACT

To preserve the purity of the ballot by regulating the manner of holding and conducting elections; by prescribing the time and methods in which nominations shall be made and certified; for providing for the division of parishes, cities and towns into convenient election precincts; by providing for the appointment of officers to conduct such elections and defining their duties, by describing the manner in which the votes of electors shall be taken, and the count and returns thereof made; by providing for the punishment of violations of this law, and repealing all laws in conflict with the same.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the general assembly of the State of Louisiana, that all ballots cast in all elections and for delegates to any constitutional convention after the first day of November in the year eighteen hundred and ninety six shall be printed and distributed at public expense, as hereinafter provided. The printing of the ballots, tally sheets and cards of instructions to voters and their distribution shall be paid for by the State.

Section 2. Be it further enacted, etc., that the general election of the state and parish officers shall be held once every four years, on the first Tuesday next following the third Monday in April.

Section 3. Be it further enacted, etc., that all officers, the time and place of whose election is not otherwise provided for by law, shall be elected at the time and place provided by law for the election of senators and representatives.

That it shall be the duty of the governo, at least thirty days before each general election, to issue his proclamation giving notice thereof, which shall be published in the official journal.

The board of supervisors of election of each parish, shall give fifteen days' notice of every general election by advertisement in the official journal of their parish, if there be one, and by posting at four public places in the parish if there be no official journal in said parish. But no default by the governor or the parish board of supervisors of election to issue said proclamation shall deprive the people of their rights to hold an election as fixed by law, or vitiate said election when held.

Section 4. Be it further enacted, etc., that when the seat of any representative or senator becomes vacant, and there shall be a session of the general assembly before the next general election, it shall be the duty ofthe governor within five days after being officially notified of such vacancy, to issue his writ of election, directed to the proper supervisors of election, whose duty it shall be within three days after its receipt, to give public notice that an election will be held to fill such vacancy on a date to be named by them, which shall not be less than eight, nor more thain fifteen days after the publication of such notice, and such election shall be conducted and the returns thereof made in the manner required by law for general elections.

Section 5. Be it further enacted, etc., in every year in which elections are to be held for electors of president and vice-president, said elections shall be held on the first Tuesday next following the first Monday in November, 1896, and every four years thereafter, and are to be conducted and the returns made in the same manner as herein provided for general elections. The secretary of state, or, in case of a vacancy in that office, the state auditor, shall ascertain from the returns, the persons who received the greatest number of votes actually cast; and the governor shall issue a certificate of election to the said persons and they shall be authorized to cast the vote of the state for the president and vice-president.

All general elections for representatives in congress shall be held on the first Tuesday next following the first Monday in November, 1896, and every two years thereafter, and shall be conducted in the same manner as elections for representatives to the general assembly.

Section 6. Be it further enacted, etc., in case of vacancy in said office of representative in congress, between the general elections, it shall be the duty of the governor by proclamation, to cause an election to be held according to law, to fill such vacancy. Elections shall be held in the precincts and at the polling places hereinafter defined, and herein below directed to be established.

Section 7. Be it further enacted, etc, that in all elections by the people, the person or persons having the highest number of votes shall be deemed and declared to be elected; but no persons receiving the same number of votes, shall be deemed to be elected if, thereby a greater number would be elected than required by law. The election of such officers thus not elected, shall be returned to the people, public notice of ten days to be firts given in the same manner as for a general election.

Section 8. Be it further enacted, etc., that all elections shall be completed in one day, and that the polls shall be kept open at each polling place from the hour of seven o'clock in the forenoon until six o'clock in the afternoon, provided that in cities and towns having a population of ten thousand (10,000) and over, the polls shall be kept open from six o'clock in the forenoon until four o'clock in the afternoon.

Section 9. Be it further enacted, etc., that the days upon which a general or local election shall hereafter be held under this act, shall, for all purposes whatever, be legal holidays in the localities where elections are held.

Section 10. Be it further enacted, etc., that it shall be the duty of the chief executive officers of the police force of each city or town, to detail a sufficient number of police officers, who shall be placed at each polling place on the day of election to preserve order and to protect each and all of said election officers from all interference with, or obstruction in the performance of their respective duties, and to aid in enforcing the provisions of law relating to elections, and said police officers so detailed, shall be subject to the orders of the election officers.

Section 11. Be it further enacted, etc., that in all parishes, the parish of Orleans excepted, the board of supervisors of election of each parish shall consist of three persons, viz: The assessor and registrar of voters of each parish, one elected by the police jury, and one appointed by the governor, who shall be president of the board. That in the parish of Orleans the board of supervisors of election shall consist of three members, as follows: one appointed by the governor, who shall be president of the board, one to be the registrar of voters of the parish of Orleans, and the other to be the civil sheriff. The said board of supervisors shall serve without compensation.

Th several boards of supervisors, the parish of Orleans excepted, shall, at least thirty days before an election appoint as election officers for each voting precinct, three commissioners of election and one clerk. Such officers shall be qualified voters in the ward of which said precinct forms a part and men of good repute and standing. The commissioners shall be so apportioned as that not more than two of said commissioners shall be of the same political party.

Sec. 12. Be it further enacted, etc., that in the parish of Orleans, it shall be the duty of the board of supervisors, at least thirty days prior to any election, appoint six commissioners and two clerks to preside over the election at each polling precinct. Said commissioners shall be qualified voters in the ward of which such polling precint forms a part, and shall be appointed from lists to contain not less than six names, furnished by each of the several political parties, and nominating bodies. The commissioners shall be so apportioned as to equally represent all the parties or nominating bodies authorized under this act to make nominatoins, in so far as practicable.

Sec. 13. Be it further enacted, etc., that each of the several political parties (or nominating bodies) having candidates (upon the official ballot), shall be entitled to one watcher in each voting precinct, and said watchers shall be appointed for each election, by the several political parties, (or nominating bodies) and shall be commissioned by the board of supervisors. Said watchers shall remain without the guard rail during the polling of the vote, except when casting their individual votes, and shall not be permitted to electioneer, engage in any political discussions, or in any manner interfere with, detain or obstruct any voters. Said watchers shall be allowed to enter (the space within the guard rail) only after the closing of the polls, and there remain there after, (within said guard rail) during the canvass and count of the vote. Watchers shall take no part in such canvass or count, nor have any voice in the conduct thereof.

Sec. 14. Be it further enacted, etc., that the commissioners of election shall attend at the times and places designated in their respective precincts, at all elections. The commissioners and clerks shall receive $3 for each day's actual service, and the deputy sheriffs attending the election shall receive $5 and no mileage for each days actual service, not exceeding three days, to be paid by the parish or municipality.

Sec. 16. Be it further enacted, etc., that the commisioners shall possess full authority to maintain regularity and order and to force obiedience to their lawfull commands during an election and during the canvass of the votes after the closing of the poll, and shall have full authority to preserve peace and good order at and around the polling places, and to keep access thereto open and unobstructed, and may require any police officers, constables or other persons present to communicate their orders and directions, and to assist in the performance of the duties in this section enjoined.

Sec. 16. Be it further enacted, ect., that the commissioners of election shall preserve order and decorum at elections and shall have power to commit to prison any disorderly person for a time not to extend beyond the hour of closing the poll,; provided that said person shall be permitted to vote before being committed to prison.

Sec. 17. Be it further enacted, etc., that the canvass and count of the ballots, as provided in this act, shall be begun immediately upon the closing of the polls and shall be proceeded with, without interruption and delay, until completed, during all the count, three tally sheets be kept thereof, the said tally sheets shall have the tallies marked in lines from the beginning to the end of the page, and the total number of tallies shall be written in figures immediately after the end of the tally, and in letters so as to prevent any alteration thereof. Any commissioner or other person who shall interfere with delay or attempt to delay the count of the ballots shall be guilty of a felony, and punished as provided for in section 44 of this act, and any person who shall steal, attempt to steal or aid or abet in stealing the ballot box, ballots, tally sheets, poll lists or other apparatus or papers of the election shall be deemed guilty of a felony and punished as provided for in section 44 of this act.

Sec. 18. Be it further enacted, etc., that prior to the public declaration of the vote of an election, which shall be made at each precinct as soon as the count has been completed, no statement shall be made by any commissioner of the number of ballots cast, the number of votes present, the number of votes given for any person or for any officer, the name of any person which has been voted on, or of any other fact tending to show the state of the polls. Any commisioner who violates any of the provisions of this act shall be punished as provided for in section 44 of this act, but no such violation shall in any way invalidate any returns of the votes cast, duly made by the commissioners, or affect the title of any person who is duly declared to be elected to any office.

Any election commisioner who intentionally makes, or attempts to make, a false canvass of the ballots cast, or any false return of the result of the election, or any person who induces, or attempts to induce any such commissioner so to do shall be deemed guilty of a felony, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished as provided in section 44 of this act, and shall be further disqualified from voting in any election or holding any office of honor, trust or profit in this state.

Sec. 19. Be it further enacted, etc., that every commissioner of election, or other officer or persons having the custody of any record, register of votes, or copy thereof, oaths, return of votes, certificates, poll list, or any paper, documents or evidence of any description in this act and directed to be made, filed or preserved, who is guilty of stealing, willfully destroying, mutilating, defacing, falsifying or fraudulently removing or secreting the whole or any part thereof, or shall fraudulently make any entry, erasure or alteration therein, except as allowed and directed by the provisions of this act, or who permits any person to do so, shall be guilty of a felony, and upon conviction thereof, be punished in accordance with section 44 of this act. And every person, not an officer, who is guilty of any of the aforesaid acts, or who advises, procures or abets the commission of the same, or any of them, shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished in accordance with section 44 of this act.

Sec. 20. Be it further enacted, etc., that all bar-rooms, cabarets and coffee houses, and places where liquors are kept, within one mile of any ward or precinct where an election is being held, shaal be and remain closed during the day of an election until 12 o'clock p.m., and no liquors shall be sold or given away on election day, within the above specified limits. Commisssioners of election are hereby authorized to enforce this provision and to call upon and direct police officers to discharge their full duty in every particular.

Whoever, in a polling place, has in his possession, any intoxicating liquor, shall be deemed guilty of disorderly conduct, and the commissioners shall order such person to remove such liquor, or to withdraw himself from such place, and on his refusing or neglecting to obey such order, shall direct any police officer or other person present, to take him from the place and confine him in some convenient place until the election is completed. The person so refusing, shall, for every such offense, be punished as provided in section 44 of this act.

Sect. 21. Be it further enacted, etc., that it shall be the duty of the commissioners at each polling place, to keep duplicate lists of the persons voting at each polling place, which lists shall be numbered from one to the end; and said lists, so to be kept and numbered as aforesaid, shall be signed and sworn to as correct, by them, immediately upon closing the polls, and before leaving the place or opening the ballot box. As soon as the votes have been counted and the envelopes sealed, as herein provided, the official tally sheet or sheets shall be signed and sworn to by the commissioners and the said officers shall make triplicate complied statements of the number of votes cast for each candidate for national, State, parochial or municipal offices, and the offices for which they were voted, the number of ballots contained in the box, the number of ballots rejected, and the reasons therefor. These compiled statements shall also be sworn by the said commissioners, the oath to be administered by the deputy sheriff, or one of the commissioners, or by any qualified voter. One of these aforesaid tally sheets, together with the poll books and one of the said compiled statements, shall be delivered to the board of supervisors of each parish.

The commissioners of election shall forward to the secretary of State one of the compiled statements of the vote at their respective boxes or polling places, with the name or names of the candidates voted for, one tally sheet and one of the duplicate poll lists, shall be retained by the secretary of State for at least six months.

The third tally sheet, together with the ballots and poll list of the persons voting shall be returned to the ballot box, which shall thereupon be sealed by said commissioners and the said ballot box containing the ballots and tally sheets and poll lists as as aforesaid be delivered to the clerk of of court, to be by him safely preserved for a period of six months.

The board of supervisors of each parish shall within three days after the closong of the polls, repair to the court house of the parish, and there, in the presence of at least three voters, or as many others as may desire to be present, make a true compiled statement as shown by the face of the sworn returns to the commissioners, in triplicate, of the result of said election, and make public proclamation of such result, which compiled statements shall be sworn to before such other officer competent to administer an oath.

One of the triplicate compiled statements shall be forwarded to the secretary of state, one to the clerk of the district court, and the third shall be retained by said board of supervisors.

The board of supervisors shall make out a separate compiled statement of the vote for govenor and lieutenant governor, which shall be sworn to before some officer competent to administer an oath, and this compiled statement, sealed in a separate envelope and marked and attested by the board of supervisors, shall be transmitted to the secretary of state and shall constitute the returns contemplated by article 59 of the constitution. Any board of supervisors or any member thereof who shall fraudently or intentionally make a false or incorect compiled statement, as above provided, of the said vote, shall be deemed guilty of a felony, and on conviction thereof, shall be punished by imprisonment at hard labor for not less than two nor more than five years.

Sec. 22. Be it further enacted, etc., that it shall be the duty of the commisioners themselves, or at least two of them, to carry returns and ballot boxes to the board of supervisors and clerk of court, as required by law; and it shall be the duty of the sheriff to have at each polling place, one deputy sheriff, whose duty it shall be to obey the orders of the said officers of election and attend the transmission of the ballot boxes and returns to the board of supervisors and clerk of court.

Sec. 23. Be it further enacted, etc., that the clerk of the court shall receive the boxes containing the ballots cast at any election and the other papers herein provided or sealed as hereinbefore provided, and shall retain them in his care for six months, and as soon as may be thereafter, said officer shall cause said ballots to be destroyed without examining them or permitting them to be examined by any person whatsoever, and shall make an entry in the records of his office that they have been so destroyed.

Sec. 24. Be it further enacter etc., That it shall be the duty of the secretary of State, or, in defualt, the auditor, not less than ten nor more than twenty days after the day of holding an election, to compile the returns transmitted by the board of supervisors of each parish, and publish in the official journal the names of all the candidates voted for, and the number of votes actually cast for each, as shown by the returns, and to declare the person receiving the greater number of votes cast for the office for which such person was a candidate, to have been duly elected. If the secretary of State or auditor, should wilfully neglect or refuse to compile the returns of the election and publish the result as above provided for, or if he should wilfully neglect or refuse to count any votes as shown by the returns, or should erase, after inany manner, or change any return, he shall be deemed guilty of a felony, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine not less than one thousand ($1,000) dollars and by imprisonment at hard labor for not less than seven, nor more than ten years.

Sec. 25. Be it further enacted, etc., That is shall be the duty of the governor not less than thirty days after each general election, to issue commissions to all officers shown by the compilations of the returns as above provided for, to have been elected, except governor, lieutenant governor or members of the general assembly.

Section 26. Be it further enacted, etc., that as soon as possible, after the expiration of the time for making the returns of the election for representatives in congress, the governor, jointly with the secretary of state and the attorney general, shall proceed to ascertain the number of votes cast for each candidate for representative in congress, as shown by the returns received by the secretary of state in the form of properly attested compiled statements from the board of supervisors of each parish in the respective congressional districts. The secretary of state shall enter on record a certificate showing the persons who received the greatest number of votes actually cast for representative in congress in each congressional district. This certificate shall be signed by the governor, and one copy thereof, signed as aforesaid, shall be delivered to the person thus ascertained to have been elected, and another copy transmitted to the house of representatives of the congress of the United States directed to the clerk thereof.

Sec. 27. Be it further enacted, etc., that it shall be the duty of the secretary of state to transmit to the clerk of the house of representatives and the secretary of the senate respectively of the last general assembly, the list of the names of such persons as according to the returns, as shall have been elected in either branch of the general assembly as shown by the returns.

It shall be the duty of the secretary of the senate and clerk of the house of representatives to enter upon the rolls of the senate and house respectively the names of persons duly elected to represent their respective parishes and senatorial districts. And those representatives and senators whose names are so placed by the clerk and secretary respectively in accordance with the foregoing provisions, and no others, shall be competent to organize the house of representatives or senate.

Sec. 28. Be it further enacted, etc., that the various boards of supervisors shall provide and send to the commissioners of each precinct before the time fixed herein for the opening of the polls on the day of any election, the ballot boxes and tickets required by law to be used. At the opening of the polls in each precinct, and before any ballots are received, the ballot box shall be publicly opened and shown to be empty and the commissioners shall by personal examination, ascertain that the box is empty, after which the box shall immediately be locked or fastened and the key delivered to the deputy sheriff attendant. The ballot box shall not be removed from the public view, after it is so shown to be empty, until all ballots have been removed therefrom and the box has been relocked or sealed. No ballot shall be removed from the ballot box in any precinct or while the polls are open.

Sec. 29. Be it further enacted, etc., that every ballot box shal be provided with a sufficient lock and key, and with an opening in the lid large enough and not larger than may be necessary to allow a single folded ballot to be easily passed through such opening into the box. Each such box shall be large enough to receive and hold all ballots which may lawfully be deposited therein at any election.

Sec. 30. Be it further enacted, etc., that the secretary of state shall, at the expense of the State, provide envelopes, blank statements, blank affidavits and blank forms and one table for use by the commissioners at each polling place, in the count and canvass and return of the vote cast at each election, and upon any proposed amendment to the constitution or other question submitted to the voters. Said blank forms shall be approved by the secretary of State, treasurer and State auditor, and by a majority of them. Said blank forms shall be sent to the boards of supervisors, and shall be used in ascertaining the result of such election or vote, or such result shall be ascertained in the manner hereinafter provided.

All tally sheets and forms for compiled statements herein provided for shall be ruled at the bottom by at least six lines, and partially blank, and partially printed in, as follows: (Blank) (printed in) (blank) (printed in.)

John Doe, commissioner for Democratic party.

.....Commissioner for.....party
.....Commissioner for.....party
.....Commissioner for.....party
.....Commissioner for.....party
.....Commissioner for.....party

(Printed in) (blank) (printed in) Sworn to and signed before me, John Doe, Commissioners by Majority. of the commissioners serving at this poll, and by me sworn to and signed as true and correct this day 189 .

(Blank) (Printed in)
John Doe, President Commissioner.

So as to require and provide for proper attestations to every such tally sheet or compiled statement.

Sec. 31. Be it further enacted, etc., that in parishes and in towns of less than 50,000 inhabitants, the officer whose duty it is to designate and appoint polling places shall erect in front of each polling place barriers, enclosing a space at least thirty feet square. Each such enclosed space shall contain a table or shelf of convenient height for writing, and shall be furnished with such supplies and conveniences, including black ink, pads, blotting paper and pencils having black lead only, as will enable the voters to conveniently prepare their ballots for voting.

Sec. 32. Be it further enacted, etc., that if for any cause it shall become impossible at any such election, or in taking any such vote, to make use of the State blanks, the canvass of the votes shall be made as the commissioners shall direct; they shall make a record of the facts pertaining thereto, and return an attested copy of the record thereof to the board of supervsors.

Sec. 33. Be it further enacted, etc., that the boards of supervisors shall send the State blanks to the commissioners of each precinct before the time fixed for the opening of the polls on the day of election.

Sec. 34. Be it further enacted, etc., That when, in any election, the right of ay person offering to vote, is challenged for any cause recognized by law, the commissioners shall require the name, occupation, age and residence of the person so offering to vote. The commissioners shall examine such person offering to vote, upon his oath, and if a majority of the commissioners then present, are satisfied that such applicant is a legal voter of said ward and precinct, they shall permit him to vote, but in all cases such persons so offering to vote, must establish his identity and right to vote, by the written affidavit of two bona fide residents of the said ward and precinct, such affidavit to be taken before one of the commissioners in the same; provided that nothing contained in this section shall be so construed as to permit commissioners to receive any vote which by law they are required to refuse. Said affidavit shall be placed in the ballot box.

Challengers to the number of not more than one for each political party or nominating body shall be permitted to remain just outside (the guard rail) of each polling place, and where they can plainly see what is done within (such rail outside the voting booths) from the opening to the close of the polls.

Sec. 35. Be it further enacted, etc., That it shall be the duty of the Registrar of Voters or other registering officers of each parish, to deliver to the Board of Supervisors of each parish, at least twenty-four hours before the day and time fixed for the opening of the polls therein, the list of the voters registering for each precinct and polling place, securely wrapped, sealed and marked; the list shall contain the number of the registration, place of residence, age, race and occupation of each voter in the election precinct where the polling place is situated and shall be certified by the Register of Voters to be correct, and it shall be the duty of the Commissioners to check the name of each voter who is about to vote upon said list; and Registrar of Voters or other registering officer who shall neglect, fail or refuse to perform the duty above imposed, of furnishing the list as aforesaid for any precinct shall be punished by a fine of not less than five hundred or more than one thousand dollars, and imprisonment of not less than three or more than twelve months. And no person shall vote at any election whose name has not been previously placed on such list, nor until the Commissioners find and check his name thereon; provided, that no legal voter shall be denied the right because his name has been accidentally omitted from said list or incorrectly written or printed thereon; provided further, that any voter whose name has been so accidentally omitted therefrom, shall make affidavit in writing to that effect, before said Commissioners, and said affidavit shall be preserved as part of the election returns and be enclosed in the box provided for the return of the ballots. It shall be the duty of the Board of Supervisors to transmit to the Commissioners of Election at each precinct, and before the time fixed for the opening of the polls, the poll book provided for such precinct.

Sec. 36. Be it further enacted. That whenever any person offers to vote, he shall give his name, residence, occupation and registration paper, if such be required by law, to the Commissioners, one of whom shall thereupon announce the same in a loud and distinct tone of voice, clear and audible, and if the same are found upon the poll book by the Commissioner having charge thereof, he shall, in a loud and distinct tone of voice, clear and audible, repeat the same, and the same being checked, the voter shall be allowed, his name being entered upon the poll list, to cast his vote.

The Commissioners in charge of the poll list, the box and the poll book respectively, shall be of different political parties or factions, so far as practicable.

Sec. 37. Be it further enacted, etc., Elections shall be held in the precincts at and the polling places as hereinafter defined and herein below directed to be established.

Sec. 38. Be it further enacted, etc., Each police jury ward in every ward of the State, except the parish of Orleans, and except in the case of the division thereof as hereinafter provi[illegible]ed as an election precinct [illegible] shall be established in each w[illegible] constituted as an election prec[illegible] vided, if more than one poll[illegible] be established in any one poll[illegible] ward, then the police jury sha[illegible] the ward geographically as nea[illegible] as possible according to the nu[illegible] polls established, and shall de[illegible] limit within the ward for wh[illegible] poll is established and said subd[illegible] of the ward in such case shall [illegible] an election precinct. In the p[illegible] Orleans each subdivision of ea[illegible] thereof to be made as herein pr[illegible] shall constitute an election p[illegible] and they shall be numbered c[illegible] tively in each ward, commencing [illegible] river and running back to t[illegible] boundary of the ward.

Sec. 39. Be it further enact[illegible] The police juries as above [illegible] shall establish after two mont[illegible] the passage of this act as ma[illegible] cincts and polling places in t[illegible] spective parishes as they ma[illegible] necessary; provided that the[illegible] never be less than one precin[illegible] polling place in each police ju[illegible] and provided that when more [illegible] polling place is established in [illegible] police jury ward the ward sha[illegible] ographically divided as above [illegible] and each subdivision of said p[illegible] ward shall be an election precin[illegible] when said polling places and [illegible] are established they shall be [illegible] in the official proceedings of t[illegible] jury. The precinct and polling [illegible] or any one of them, once es[illegible] under this act, shall not be [illegible] except by a vote of the police [illegible] en in favor of said change, a[illegible] not within three months prior t[illegible] eral election.

Sec. 40. Be it further enact[illegible] The City Government of New [illegible] shall by Ordinance, divide the [illegible] into election precincts within t[illegible] erent wards and for that pur[illegible] ordinance, so arrange the bo[illegible] of the ward as may be deemed [illegible] ient for the purpose of establis[illegible] election precincts, which, whe[illegible] lished, shall be the boundaries [illegible] wards; each of said precincts to [illegible] posed of contiguous squares a[illegible] precinct to be so arranged as to [illegible] not more than 200 registered v[illegible] nearly as practicable as shown [illegible] next preceding registration th[illegible] establish one polling place only [illegible] precinct, and shall establish [illegible] in each ward and shall cause to [illegible] lished an accurate desription [illegible] ward boundaries and election [illegible] above referred to, within ten [illegible] fore any election; they shall, [illegible] cation in three daily newspap[illegible] notice of the location of the [illegible] places in each precinct, which [illegible] places shall be nearly as po[illegible] the centre of the precinct, the[illegible] ries and precincts to be fixed [illegible] not to be changed within thre[illegible] prior to any general election.

Sec. 41. Be it further enacted [illegible] any person shall wilfully dis[illegible] lawful commands of the com[illegible] ers, or shall wilfully and with[illegible] ful authority obstruct, hinder [illegible] any voter on his way to any [illegible] place where an election is to be [illegible] while he is exercising or atte[illegible] exercise the right of voting, [illegible] aid or assist in such obstructi[illegible] lay he shall be punished in ac[illegible] with section 44 of this act.

Sec. 42. Be it further enac[illegible] Whoever, knowing that he [illegible] qualified voter at an election, [illegible] votes, or attempts to vote, or [illegible] so votes, or attempts to vo[illegible] than once, either in his own na[illegible] that of any other person, or [illegible] sumed name, or whoever so [illegible] attempts to vote in more than [illegible] ing precinct; or whoever wilf[illegible] or abets any one not legally [illegible] in voting or attempting to vo[illegible] election, or whoever shall ha[illegible] possession the registration pap[illegible] other; or whoever with intent [illegible] or defraud, alters any ballot [illegible] election, and whoever with su[illegible] deposits any ballot in the ba[illegible] used at such election, and whoe[illegible] such intent, removes any bal[illegible] such ballot box; or whoever sh[illegible] imitate, or counterfeit or false[illegible] or alter, or shall procure to be [illegible] made, imitated, altered, fo[illegible] counterfeited, or shall aid or [illegible] falsely making, imitating, [illegible] forging or counterfeiting any b[illegible] part thereof, herein provided [illegible] shall utter or publish as true [illegible] false, altered, forged, imitated [illegible] terfeit ballot, or shall procure [illegible] be uttered or published as tru[illegible] ing same to be false, altered, [illegible] imitated or counterfeited, wi[illegible] to use same or to procure, sa[illegible] used at any election; or whoe[illegible] charged with the duty of com[illegible] of making up or of printing th[illegible] ballot herein provided for, per[illegible] person not so engaged to acce[illegible] give any information with re[illegible] the said official ballot or the for[illegible] of except as herein provided.

Or whoever in an assembly [illegible] met for the purpose of making [illegible] tions under this law, votes or a[illegible] to vote under any name other [illegible] own, or whoever aids and ab[illegible] person in the commission of th[illegible] ces described in this section, [illegible] ever knowingly and wilfully [illegible] false answer to any election offi[illegible] be punished for each offense as [illegible] ed in section 44 of this act.

Sec. 43. Be it further enacte[illegible] Any person who shall be conv[illegible] wilful and corrupt false swearing [illegible] firming in taking any oath or a[illegible] tion prescribed by this act, sh[illegible] adjudged guilty of wilful and [illegible] perjury, and any person who sh[illegible] fully and corruptly instigate, [illegible] induce or procure any person to [illegible] or affirm falsely as aforesaid, s[illegible] adjudged guilty if subordina[illegible] perjury, and shall upon co[illegible] thereof suffer the punishment [illegible] by law in the cases of wilful a[illegible] rupt perjury.

Sec. 44. Be it further enacte[illegible] Any election officer or other [illegible] who violates any of the provi[illegible] this act shall be punished by a [illegible] not more than one thousand ($[illegible] dollars or imprisonment for no[illegible] than one year; provided that w[illegible] offense is declared in this act [illegible] felony then the punishment shall [illegible] prisonment in the State pen[illegible] for not less than two nor more [illegible] five (5) years.