A BILL

To amend the Law relating to the Representation of Vancouver Island and its Dependencies.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Law relating to the Representation of Vancouver Island and its Dependencies ;

Be it enacted by the Governor on Her Majesty's behalf, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Assembly as follows ;

I. That section I under the head of "Qualification of Voters" of the "Franchise Act 1859," is hereby repealed, and the following section placed in lieu thereof ;

1. Every male British subject of full age, who shall have resided in Vancouver Island or its Dependencies for a space of three calendar months, and shall at the time of election reside in Vancouver Island or its Dependencies, and who shall be possessed of any one or more of the qualifications and under none of the disqualifications next hereinafter mentioned shall be entitled to be registered and placed upon the list of voters for the purpose of voting at the election of members or a member of the House of Assembly for any electoral district in the Colony of Vancouver Island.

II. That clause 2 of section I of the said "Franchise Act," is hereby repealed and the following clause placed in lieu thereof ;

1. Occupation at the time of and for three calendar months next preceeding the time at which he may claim to be registered in the lists of voters of Real Estate in this colony at an actual rental of £12 per annum.

III. That section VII of the said Franchise Act is hereby repealed and the following section placed in lieu thereof ;

1. Absence from the House for ten days during any month while the House is in session, without the leave of the House for that purpose obtained, shall ipso facto determine the membership of the member having so absented himself and a new Writ for the electoral district which such member represented shall be immediately issued for the return of a new member in the place of such late member.

IV. That clause 2 section VIII is hereby repealed and the following clause placed in lieu thereof ;

1. I (A. B.) do hereby swear that I am the same (A. B.) who is registered upon the list of voters for the district of (C. D.) and that I am now possessed in my own right and have been so possessed for three months next preceding the present election (statement of qualification) such property being situated within the district in which I now tender my vote.

V. This Act may be cited for all purposes as the "Franchise Amendment Act, 1865."