
F.

POLITICAL FRANCHISE.

1888.

| Franchise | Name of the Electoral Division | Number of Representatives | Number of Registered Electors at last Election |
|---|---|---|--|
| <p>General Electors.</p> <p>—</p> <p>The age of 21 years, and</p> <p>(1). Qualification to serve as a Common Juror, or</p> <p>(2) Payment of rent for immovable property at the rate of at least £ 6 by the year, or</p> <p>(3) Receipt from immovable pro- perty of an income of at least £ 6 in the year.</p> <p>—</p> <p>Special Electors.</p> <p>—</p> <p>A General Elector is entitled to be registered as a special Elector, if he either,</p> <p>(1) derives, from immovable pro- perty, a yearly income of not less than £ 60, or</p> <p>(2) pays rent for immovable pro- perty at the rate of at least £ 60 by the year.</p> | <p>Division of Malta } until another Division of Gozo } general election takes place.</p> | <p>Fourteen</p> <p>viz.</p> <p>Ten returned by the General Electors, i. e.</p> <p>Nine for Malta One for Gozo and Comino; and</p> <p>Four returned by the Special Electors.</p> | <p>General Electors.</p> <p>—</p> <p>For Malta 8,050</p> <p>For Gozo and Comino 1,646</p> <p>—</p> <p>Special Electors</p> <p>—</p> <p>For Malta 363</p> <p>For Gozo 25</p> |

MODE OF ELECTION — *Vide* Ordinances No. VII of 1886 and No. I of 1887, and Proclamations No. IX of 1887 and No. III of 1888.

The electors of Members to sit in the Council of Government are registered in three separate Lists, viz: one containing the names of general electors for the nine Members for Malta, another containing the names of general electors for the Member for Gozo, and another containing the names of the special electors for the four members to be taken from each of the four classes referred to in clause IX of the Letters Patent of 12th December 1887. The lists are revised annually and published in the Government Gazette in the month of February in each year. A Court of Revision holds sittings to receive claims, consider objections &c., which must be made within ten days from the date of the publication of the Electoral Lists. Amended Lists of the electors are then again published in the Gazette. Elections are conducted by five Election Commissioners appointed annually by the Head of the Government in the month of January of each year. Whenever an election is to be held, the Head of the Government notifies the fact to the Commissioners by a Writ, under his hand and the seal of the island, which is published in the Gazette. Certificates of the right of voting are delivered to the Electors; and together with the publication of a report from the Commissioners that the certificates have been delivered, a Notice is published in the Gazette, of the time and place at which the Commissioners will be in attendance to receive claims of persons omitted through error. A candidate for

FRANCHISE.

| Ordinary Duration of Sessions and Assemblies and Period of Meetings | By what Acts regulated | Number of Votes at last GENERAL Election | Date of last GENERAL Election | Remarks |
|---|--|--|-------------------------------|---------|
| <p>No Session can be extended beyond 3 years.</p> <p>The average period during which the meetings are from time to time held, is 6 months in each year.</p> | <p>Letters patent, dated December 12, 1887.</p> <p>Letters patent, dated March 19, 1888.</p> | <p>For General Members, 3,487</p> <p>For Special Members 351</p> | <p>March 8, 1888.</p> | |

election to serve in the Council, is nominated in writing. The writing is subscribed by eight registered general electors for Malta, in the case of a candidate for this island; by four registered general electors for Gozo and Comino, in the case of a candidate for these islands; and by four registered special electors, in the case of a candidate to serve as special Member; and it is delivered to the Commissioners within seven days from the date of the publication of the said Notice. If, at the expiration of that term, no more candidates stand nominated than there are vacancies to be filled up the Commissioners return their names to the Clerk of the Council, who, on the next day, publishes such return in the Gazette. But if more candidates than there are vacancies stand nominated, the Commissioners publish the names of the candidates, and afterwards the Head of the Government appoints the day and places for the election, and appoints Trust Commissioners to mark votes in certain cases, and Assistant Commissioners to superintend the voting. Each elector on presenting his certificate at the appointed place, is provided by the Assistant Commissioner with a ticket showing the names and description of the candidates; secretly marks his vote on that ticket, folds it up so as to conceal his vote and places it in an urn. As soon as the Commissioners receive all the election urns, the poll is taken in public sittings to be held by them in one of the halls of the Superior Courts.

At a general election for Malta each general elector has the right of giving his vote to five candidates only, and a special elector is entitled to vote for not more than three candidates.

