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**F.**

**POLITICAL FRANCHISE.**

1889.

Franchise	Name of the Electoral Districts	Number of Representatives	Number of Registered Electors at last Election
<p><b>General Electors.</b></p> <p>—</p> <p>The age of 21 years,</p> <p>and</p> <p>(1) Qualification to serve as a Common Juror,</p> <p>or</p> <p>(2) Payment of rent for immovable property at the rate of at least £ 6 by the year,</p> <p>or</p> <p>(3) Receipt from immovable property of an income of at least £ 6 in the year.</p> <p>—</p> <p><b>Special Electors.</b></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 property, a yearly income of not less than £ 60,</p> <p>or</p> <p>(2) pays rent for immovable property at the rate of at least £ 60 by the year.</p>	<p><b>I. District.</b></p> <p>East Valletta.</p> <p><b>II. District.</b></p> <p>West Valletta; together with Sliema and St. Julians.</p> <p><b>III. District.</b></p> <p>Floriana; together with Hamrun, Pietà and Misida.</p> <p><b>IV. District.</b></p> <p>Cospicua; together with Zabbar.</p> <p><b>V. District.</b></p> <p>Vittoriosa and Senglea.</p> <p><b>VI. District.</b></p> <p>Notabile; together with Rabato, Dingli, Siggieui, Musta and Melleha.</p> <p><b>VII. District.</b></p> <p>Birchircara; together with Balzan, Lija, Attard, Naxaro and Gargur.</p> <p><b>VIII. District.</b></p> <p>Curmi; together with Zebbug, Luca, and Micabiba.</p> <p><b>IX. District.</b></p> <p>Zeitun; together with Tarxien, Paola, Axiack, Gudia, Chircop, Zurrico, Safi and Crendi.</p> <p><b>X. District.</b></p> <p>Gozo; together with Comino.</p>	<p>Fourteen</p> <p><i>viz.</i></p> <p>Ten returned by the General Electors, <i>i. e.</i></p> <p>Nine for Malta</p> <p>One for Gozo and Comino; and</p> <p>Four returned by the Special Electors.</p>	<p>General Electors.</p> <p>—</p> <p>For Malta 8,074</p> <p>For Gozo and Comino 1,703</p> <p>—</p> <p>Special Electors</p> <p>—</p> <p>For Malta 365</p> <p>For Gozo 41</p>

**MODE OF ELECTION** — *Fide* Ordinances No. VII of 1885 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
No Session can be extended beyond 3 years.	Letters patent, dated December 12, 1887.	For General Members, 3,383	Sept 27, 1889.	
The average period during which the meetings are from time to time held, is 6 months in each year.	Letters patent, dated March 19, 1888.	For Special Members 639		
	Letters Patent, dated February 14, 1889.			

election to serve in the Council, is nominated in writing. The writing which shall be signed by the Candidate himself, or, in the event of his absence from Malta and its Dependencies, by his duly appointed agent, and by four registered electors in the electoral District for which the Candidate is nominated, shall state the Electoral District for which he is a candidate, and shall be delivered to the Election Commissioners by the candidate himself or by any of the subscribers of the said writing; in the case of a candidate to serve as a Special member, such Writing shall be signed by four registered special electors; 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.

