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new office of a political character was created, it became usual to make a special statutory provision permitting the holder to sit in the House of Commons; while, on the other hand, Bills were passed from time to time excluding from Parliament whole classes of officials. For example, Commissioners and Officers of Customs, and Commissioners and Officers of Excise, were excluded by such enactments, which now, combined with the provision excluding the holders of all new offices created since 1705, apply generally to all civil officials under the rank of Minister employed in Government Departments.

In 1782 an Act was passed depriving of the parliamentary franchise all officers employed in collecting excise, customs and other duties, and all postmasters; but these disabilities were removed in 1868 and, as regards the right to vote, there is now no differentiation against civil servants. Such rules as there are against civil servants taking too active a part in politics or in local administration, are part of the general code of behaviour of the Civil Service. As regards candidature for Parliament, the Treasury Minute of November 12th, 1884, laid it down that, if any civil servant intends to be a candidate, he must resign his office when he first issues his address to the electors, or in any other manner announces himself as a candidate. This rule was afterwards embodied in an Order in Council (January 10th, 1910).

The control of the Treasury over Civil Service salaries is part of its control under statute or otherwise of expenditure generally. In the early days salaries, such as they were, were a charge on the