

alone, 395 names were recorded as having voted, whereas there were but 84 persons assessed. Petitions for a parliamentary committee examination on behalf of Loux (Lib.) were refused. Fellows sat and voted during the sessions of 1858 and 1859, when a prosecution being instituted he, with two accomplices, were convicted and sent to gaol, and Loux was elected to the seat he had been cheated out of two years before.

A few incidents in connection with this outrageous stealing of a seat may be interesting. A great number of the 395 names on the Cambridge list were stated to reside at Albany, Rome and Troy, although there were not then, and are not now, any such places in Russell County. The voters voted in a strangely regular manner. First came three persons voting on lot 14 of concession 7; followed by three on lot 15 of the 7th concession. Next, two persons on lot 16; six on lot 17; four on lot 19—all in regular order like a procession. When the voters did not come up in series according to property, they came up in alphabetical order for a change. Then thirty-two marched up, all beginning with "Mac." They were not all Macleans or Macdonalds or Mackenzies, indicating one numerous family in line, but were just a miscellaneous lot of Mac's. The names had plainly been copied from a directory.

One hundred and seventeen people voted as freeholders on the lands of one Casselman, an agent and scrutineer for the Tory candidate. Thus three-fourths of the alleged votes were fraudulent. Here again, without going further into details, we have an old time and vivid example of Tory practices. Truly, some of the members of that party have been and still are past masters in all the nefarious arts of political corruption, which have been practised for nearly half a century. And yet the present leaders have clearly forgotten all this evil record and are posing as the only immaculately pure ones of earth in a political sense.

The Russell Case of 1863-5.

Is another one in point. In an election held July 1st, 1863, Robert Bell (Con.) was elected for Russell. The result was petitioned against and a House Committee appointed, which met and transacted some formal work and then adjourned. It could not, however, be got together again, as the chairman and other Conservative members persistently absented themselves. Their absence was reported to the House and twice they were ordered to attend but did not. Bell sat throughout the session. In 1864 the same farce was repeated, the absentees being ordered to be present no less than eight times. Result: no trial, no report, and the member sat through another session. In 1865 the petitioner, tired out, abandoned the case, Bell was declared elected and the farce ended.

The above instances are sufficient to show the abuses connected with this old method of trying petitions, and the great improvement that followed their transfer to the courts, for which the Liberal party is entitled to the credit, and their opponents to the discredit of opposing as long as they dared.