

be committed by any man in a free country. I regard it as a double crime when committed by a Liberal, first, on account of the crime itself, and, second, by reason for the extraordinary folly of such action, knowing as I well do that the Liberal party would rise as one man to denounce and punish any man or any Government who was guilty of such an act. But whenever I hear these charges made I find it expedient to look back a little on the record, and consider what our opponents may have been about at the last election in 1896. I have here a very interesting statement compiled by the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery from the records in the elections of 1891 and 1896.

### Rejected Ballots.

The following is a return of the rejected ballots in those two elections :

Riding.	1891.	1896.
Lambton East.....	11	123
Lincoln.....	62	136
London.....	29	293
Muskoka.....	17	175
Perth, South.....	17	129
Prince Edward.....	23	116
Waterloo, South.....	21	164
Wellington, Centre.....	15	129
York, North.....	30	101
Norfolk, North.....	17	111
Addington.....	21	145
Bothwell.....	11	167
Brant, South.....	23	165
Brockville.....	29	101
Bruce, East.....	8	133
Bruce, West.....	18	115
Cornwall.....	28	103
Grey, North.....	10	125
Haldimand.....	65	120
Hastings, North.....	7	140
Kingston.....	28	215
Kent.....	27	189
Welland.....	16	157
Wentworth.....	8	304
Twenty-four ridings.....	541	3,658

### It Was Not Accident.

Is there any human being in this Dominion of Canada who believes that 3,658 ballots in 24 ridings were rejected by accident? Is there any human being from one end of this Dominion to the other who believes