bribery, which petition was dismissed Religious freedom was discussed at

but the necessary witnesses were kept

of fighting and outrage!



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Worcester Politics

stomed to look on elections in Eng-

and as being "pure and undetile l."

Butthe following account of elections

Humors of

THAT BROTHER OF HIS.

An aged and doddering gentleman and long-litigated estate. It was nec old gentleman be established.

or sisters? asked the attorney who "I never had a sister," piped the you to buy a ready made suit i old gentleman. "but I had one broth-

"No, he is dead."

"When did he die?" "About-about-let's see -it was

your brother died"

and fifty years ago." wers. Remember you are on oath.-' "I am telling you the truth." insisted the old gentleman, earnestly.

Here the judge interposed: obliged to take punitive measures for hand to do a thousand things you

explain I shall make it clear to you.': | before-

ried when he was 17. A year later his vife bore him a child and died. The

95 years of age." After profuse apologies the examination proceeded.

WOMAN'S HARDEST TRIAL.

Mr. and Mrs. Nagger were at the breakfast table, when Mr. Nagger said

to his wife: "Did you hear Mrs. Flutter say last night, when we were calling there, that she made all of her own dresses and trimmed her own hats?" There was fire in the eye of Mrs. driven into her soul when she said

"And did you hear Mr. Flutter say that he always took care of his own furnace instead of paving a man \$6 a month to do it, as a certain man I know of who can't afford it does? Did you hear that? And did you hear Mr. pleasant modern house recently pur chased from F. L. Milner. Eight room know of who can't afford it does? Did Flutter telling how he saved 30 cents and attic; cellar with furnace and aveek by shaving himself instead of complete. a week by shaving himself instead of running off to a barber, and running off to a barber, and running Possession immediately.

N. K. PIPER. the risk of contracting skin disease.

M. K. as you do? Did you hear that?

Bridgetown, July 18, 1906.

"And did you hear Mr. Flutter say that he always cuts his own grass because he thought it was fine exer cise after he had been shut up in the involving the inheritants of a goodly office all day? And did you hear hir boots? Do you polish your boots. Sam Nagger? Not a bit of it, you ornon-existence of other heirs than the don't. Yes; and did you hear him so "Have you ever had any brothers that he always bought his clothin ready made, and saved a good half or every suit above what he would have

to pay a tailor? And I never knew "And Mrs. Flutter told me one day that her husband did every bit of the ordinary repairing that was do about a hundred and fifty years about how much Mrs. Flutter saves doing her own millinery and dre "I asked you-you must have mis- making if I were you! I wouldn't be understood me-I asked you when seen in such a hat or such dresses as Mrs. Flutter wears. If you think yo "And I told you about a hundred can criticise or browbeat me into un dertaking my own dressmaking;

"I know what you'd like. You'd jus and laundress and have me sail in his answers to facts, or I shall be lar slave, while you never lifted

"There is no contempt, judge," pro- "I did hear what Mrs. Flutter said tested the witness. "I mean what I and also heard what Mr. Flutter said: say and if your honor and the attor- and if I were you, Sam Nagger, ney will give me an opportunity to would sweep my own dooryard clea

"There you go, losing your temp ity to set himself right, if possible,") and racing away from the table in huff, I wonder if you heard Mrs. Flut ter say that Flutter never said

TEN CENTS PERPACKET FROM

#### nces a petition was lodged against Colonel Bromley, that professing pur st declined to defend it, and prefer ed to vacate his seat by accepting he Chiltern Hundreds. The humor of the situation did not end there. Mr.

Gordon, the petitioner, was successful opponent sought retribution by peti oing against him on the score of

Fruit-a-tives are the finest that election; and the protracted poll was carried on amidst a great deal Kidney and Bladder Remedy in In 1813, 250 out-voters who resided

in London were fetched to the Faithful City, but they created a disturbance before they started, and at Worestor the rioting and disturbance were "worse than ever before recollect

ed," although during the 17th and 18th centuries the popular tumults Headaches and Rheumatism. had been violent and long continued. In 1819 Colonel Davies's return was petitioned against, the inevitable allegation being bribery and treating;

Bribing, Treating and Fighting out of the way, a humorous method of contesting petitions which was not entirely forgotten, for as late as December, 1892, a material Liberal witness in the Worcester petition left the Court for lunch and has not been seen or head of since. Colonel Davies was declared elected on the casting lipped from the Birmingham Weekly vote of the House of Commons Com-

A TRIANGULAR FIGHT.

tions about bribery there was a go as-you-please triangular fight in 1826 n the matter of elections and peti- between Mr. G. R. Robinson, Colonel ions. As long as three centuries ago Davies, and Mr. Griffiths. The lasthe voters are recorded to have been named spent £8,000 in a week, and 'bribed with wine." That was because then drew in his purse strings-and office of M. P. was much coveted, lost. The other candidates were more and there were many candidates for liberal, and the total expenditure was olitical honors and for the city's estimated at £25,000. As there were wages to Parliamentary representa- 3,846 votes polled, each vote cast a tives, which ranged from 2s. 6d. to 4s. little more than £6. Mr. Robinson is day, with an allowance of 1s. a day recorded to have made himself popular or a man servant. Because of this 'by a free expenditure of money.' oribery the Corporation stopped the He headed the poll. Which is not

They also issued several chamber In 1835 Mr. Robinson and Colonel rders to prevent more than a stipu Davies were opposed by a carpet-baglated quantity of wine being given to ger. Mr. Bailey, and history says o each voter. But at a later date the him that he "opened eighty public 'orporation, who had then acquired houses," and that he polled fifty-five the habit of creating just as many pauper's votes. But upon a petition freemen as served their purposes for he squeezed in by one vote; the decicions, affected also a paternal interest in such freemen as possessed a 000. In 1837 he was petitioned against rote for the sister of Hereford. The once more, but the petition was Mayor was selected as the fittest cos- abandoned.

todian of their persons and votes, as In 1835 the rival factions had a testified by the lollowing item in sharp affray, and many partizans' the Corporation's accounts for 1754: heads were broken. Worcester people Paid to the Mayor for taking the used to take their elections very stren recholders to Hereford election, 11. uously, and in 1841 the nominations in the Guildhall were attended by a nodern practice of whipping-in. The "fought with bludgeons."

oll used, long years ago, to be open In 1847, Mr. Rufford, one of the for as long as six weeks, which gave city candidates, spent £4,000, (though ample leisure for the exercise of in- it transpired at his subsequent bankuence upon the electors by either ruptcy that he was insolvent at the le. In 1784 the polling was reduced time); and another local historian fifteen days, but local historians Noake, says of this contest: "This by that during the whole of the time open-house iniquity rioted in a rank-(whether 42 or 15 days):—
The city was completely surrendered previous elections. Probably, too, half a saturnalia of infamy; and there the electors were paid for their votes ere hideous scenes of debauchery and under what was called the "messenger

dodge.' One cause assigned for the decay of County and borough elections work- New Silverware rade in the once prosperous city was ed from Worcester were perhaps not the frequent and expensive opera- quite so bad. Of the contest in the but, on the other hand, it is asserted £16,000, to secure 2,595 votes. The that the Worcester Royal Porcelain representation of the county was con-Works (whose name is a household tested regularly by the Lytteltons and word) were founded in 1750 chiefly for the Lygons, and when in 1831 an outpolitical purposes. So the city gained sider dared to get nominated in opposition to Colonel Lygon, he was actually frightened away on hearing AN ANTI-CORRUPTION CHAMPION. that the Dowager Lady Beauchamp had subscribed £50,000, to fight the Bribery and corruption were regular parts of the great political game. As

VOTES AT £16 APIECE.

ruption" in the city; and 'the ladies An Evesham election in 1831 furnof the city rewarded Lady Lewis for ishes a record that sixteen freeman Summer per efforts in the same direction by came down from London at £12 esenting her with a superb piece of apiece—which nullified the election. ate adorned with many curious em- But the election of Mr. Borthwick for \$12.75 Hats, now lematical devices. History says fur- that constituency in 1837 was made ther that Sir Watkin was "chaired" void by the gift of a silver snuff-box \$ 4.75 in the seat in which King Alfred was inscribed "Ex dono amici sui condurowned; and the function was a cit," and a duel followed between the \$ 3.00 unseated member and a supporter. In 1802 the local historian, Turber-Bowdley, another county borough, ville, says, "politics mattered less in was perfect in electioneering arts, and

in 1847 it was recorded by Turberin 1806 the supporters of a candidate ville: "As much as £15 was paid for Colonel Bromley, pleaded that they a vote. Twenty-six or twenty-seven vere "disgusted by the unblushing inns were opened, some of which supbribery of previous elections"; but plied as many as 1,000 gallons a day. A most pernicious system of intimidation, kidnapping and treating pre-

Bribery and corruption continued to be parts of the game until 1854, when Veal, Mutton and Poultry. Hams they became punishable. For a quar and Bacon. ter of a century afterwards no election was contested; but the general than five petritions in city and county divisions. election of 1880 resulted in no fewer

In1880 Mr. G. H. Williamson, who B. M. WILLIAMS' MARKET has just been unseated, then a stalwart Radical of the most uncompron ising type, wrote to the press declar- midsummer Sale ing that the sweeping charges brought against him by the Tories in a petition against the Liberal M.P.'s returned for Worcester were a complete fabrication, and he was as good as his word, he and all the Liberals named by the petitioners being excultion failed in 1880, the Liberal petition in 1842 failed.

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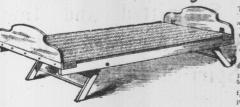
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Parliamentary wages.

(whether 42 or 15 days):-

phemism for bribery and corruption

early as 1773 a candidate named Sir

Watkin Lewis made a bold effort "to

splendid affair."

destroy the influence of bribery and

about their house, and you are indis posed to even drive a nail! I'd talk

and cannot listen to such absurd ans- yourself, you are very greatly mislike to have me discharge our maid The witness must refrain from and do all my own housework, and levity and facetiousness and confine washing, and ironing, and be a regu

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