

Elec. Case.]

NORTH WENTWORTH ELECTION PETITION.

[Ontario.]

derstood Stock was to be supported. Then, and three weeks before the polling, there was another meeting at Carlisle, at which Stock was present, and a canvass was agreed on. The last meeting at Davidson's was on the polling day.

Cross-examined,—Stock had nothing to do with the first meeting; he was present at it. No committee was formed then. Stock had then made up his mind, and accepted the nomination. There was no definite understanding that they who met were accepted by Stock as his committee. When they had received the acceptance of Stock, they talked together as to what should be done, as to voters' lists, &c., both out of doors and in different places, but had no regular meetings. Knows Stock well. When he meets his friends he makes a habit of treating. Politics made no difference; but after the election Stock said he would treat "Clear Grits" no more. Was sure that at Davidson's, on polling day, Stock did not invite the crowd in, as Morden had sworn. He was at Davidson's not more than a few minutes. Kept no minutes of committee proceedings, &c.

Re-examined,—There was no other committee organization than that he had described. He was at all the meetings. We met at different times and places to compare notes, and to discuss how we were getting on.

William Edgar, sworn,—Was not at the Dundas meeting, but was at the first Carlisle meeting. It was before the nomination. A number were there, perhaps a dozen. We met by mutual agreement. Stock's friends met to arrange matters for his support; they were together two hours. Stock was there; he said he hoped no one would do anything to avoid the election or that should be considered bribery. There was no talk of money at that meeting. They looked over the voters' list, making an estimate of voters for Stock. He was at several such meetings, and spoke to—i.e. canvassed—several who had previously voted with the Conservative party. He canvassed once with Stock. Voted at the Carlisle polling place; the poll was adjourned a short time about twelve o'clock. During this time Gallagher paid for a treat for four of them at Davidson's. Gallagher was present at the first Carlisle meeting. The persons who met at Carlisle formed the only organization in support of Stock. Davidson attended no meeting of this committee to his knowledge.

Cross-examined,—Before he parted with us, Stock said he hoped none of us would do anything to avoid the election; this was addressed to those present.

James Davidson, sworn,—Keeps a hotel at Carlisle. Supported Mr. Stock; was not a committee man. There were committee meetings, three or four; Stock was at one. He sold liquor to persons on the polling day, but not to Stock—he got none, paid for none. Stock was not in Carlisle at three o'clock. Sullivan treated soon after Stock came; it was before the poll closed, and Stock went away almost directly afterwards.

Cross-examined,—Others all round were selling liquor.

Thomas Stock, the respondent, sworn,—Heard Morden's evidence. It is untrue; did not wave his hand and ask people to drink. Thinks it was before he accepted the nomination that the meeting spoken of by Sullivan and Edgar took place, though it might have been a few days later. There was no formal meeting, only a consultation between his friends, and no committee was then formed; no plan of action was resolved on; eight or twelve persons were present. The understood purpose of the meeting was to advance the interests of their political party. After that meeting he had no information of the formation of any committee. Never treated with Sullivan or Edgar, as members of any committee.

Cross-examined,—He is well acquainted in that part of the country. Counted on getting the assistance of the members of the Conservative Association. Till he accepted the nomination he did nothing to promote his election. He consented to become a candidate at a meeting held at Dundas; cannot fix the date of that meeting. Was at the first meeting at Carlisle for the purpose of helping the cause, and was relying on the assistance of those present. Heard both Edgar and Sullivan give their evidence. Did nothing further to organize the work of the election than he has already stated. At Davidson's tavern, in Carlisle, he never beckoned with his hand, or asked people in to drink. He may have said that some of them must treat him as he could not treat them, but if so, it was said in a joke.

Bethune for the petitioner. The treating on the polling day, at Davidson's, was clearly a violation of the law. It was proved, and not contradicted, that Sullivan treated several with whiskey and beer; that Stock was present and a consenting party to such infringement of the law, for he partook of the liquor. The first question was, had Morden and Valleck told the truth? They agreed substantially that Stock treated. This is opposed by the respondent, who denies it, and