

33. Did not Mr. *Ward*, some short time before the Election, declare that he was dissatisfied with the conduct of Mr. *Riddell*, whom he had formerly supported, and that he intended to support Mr. *Hincks* at the General Election?—During the electioneering canvass, Mr. *Ward*, in conversation with me, said he would support Mr. *Hincks*. About a fortnight previous to the Election, Mr. *Ward* left Mr. *Hincks'* cause, and took up Mr. *Campbell's*, who was also a candidate. Mr. *Ward* canvassed parts of the County with Mr. *Campbell*, and came to the Election and voted for Mr. *Hincks*.

34. Did you open a Poll Book at the Election, and receive votes for Mr. *Hincks*?—I did.

35. From whom did you receive that Poll Book; was it ruled and prepared for use; was Mr. *Hincks'* name at the head of one of the columns?—I received a Poll Book from the Sheriff's Bailiff on the afternoon previous to the day of the Election, and it was ruled. I am not certain whether I inserted the names in the columns or not; to the best of my recollection I did, but I am not clear upon that point.

36. How many polling places were there in the County of *Oxford* at the last General Election?—I am not able to say precisely. I think there must have been eleven; but I am not positive of this.

37. Is it a fact that all the Deputy Returning Officers appointed by Mr. *Vansittart* were opponents of Mr. *Hincks*?—I don't know who all the Deputy Returning Officers were.

38. Are you acquainted with *Robert Stroud*, of *Dereham*; *John Jackson*, of *Blenheim*; *Arthur Farmer*, of *East Zorra*; *William Thompson*, of *Oakland*; *John D. Dent*, of *West Zorra*; *Henry Crotty*, of *North Oxford*; *Emilius Fauquier*, of *Blandford*; *John A. Tidey*, of *Norwich*; *William Withers*, of *Nissouri*; *Charles N. Thomas*, of *West Oxford*, and *William Lapenotière*, of *Woodstock*; if so, do you not know them all to be strong political opponents of Mr. *Hincks*,—and are they not among the most active Conservative leaders in their respective Townships?—I am acquainted with *Robert Stroud*, of *Dereham*, who is a Magistrate; with *John Jackson*, of *Blenheim*, who is also a Magistrate. I have no acquaintance with Mr. *Farmer*. I know *William Thompson*, of *Oakland*, who is a Reformer. I know *John D. Dent*, of *Zorra*, who is also a Magistrate. I am not acquainted with *H. Crotty*, of *North Oxford*; neither am I acquainted with *Emilius Fauquier*. I am acquainted with *J. A. Tidey*, of *Norwich*, who is a Magistrate. I know *William Withers*, of *Nissouri*, but I do not know his politics. I know *Charles N. Thomas*, of *West Oxford*: I do not know anything of his politics. I know *William Lapenotière*, of *Woodstock*, and he tells me he does not profess any politics. All those whose line of politics I have not specially mentioned, I believe to be opponents of Mr. *Hincks*; some of them are active leaders, and especially Mr. *Jackson* in his Township.

39. Are you not aware that great dissatisfaction was felt by the inhabitants of *Norwich* at Mr. *Tidey's* conduct as Deputy Returning Officer; and have not many of the inhabitants of that Township complained bitterly that they were disfranchised at the last two Elections by the Deputy Returning Officers?—I have understood from general report that such was the case.

40. Has not Mr. *Lapenotière* always supported the Conservative cause at Elections and elsewhere; have not his declarations of having no politics been made since the Reformers have had a majority in the District Council of which he is Clerk?—I don't know how Mr. *Lapenotière* has ever voted at any Election. I am of opinion that he does not take any very active part in political matters; and his statement to me that he professed no particular line of politics has

been made on several occasions before and since he was Clerk of the District Council.

41. Are you acquainted with *Colonel Scatchaird*, J. P. of *Nissouri*, and with *Jared Vining*, Esquire, J. P. of the same Township; have not both these gentlemen acted as Returning Officers for the County of *Oxford*? Has not Mr. *Vining* served as Warden of the District Council; and has he not been elected twice Councillor for *Nissouri* for several years?—I am acquainted with both Mr. *Scatchaird* and Mr. *Vining*. Mr. *Scatchaird* served as Returning Officer for the County of *Oxford*, I think, at Mr. *Hincks'* second election for that County. Mr. *Vining* served as Returning Officer at Mr. *Hincks'* last election. Mr. *Vining* represented the Township of *Nissouri* for some years as a Councillor, and for the last two years he served as a Warden of the District of *Brock*.

42. Do you not consider that either of these gentlemen could have been an eligible Deputy Returning Officer for the Township of *Nissouri*?—I do.

43. Did Mr. *Vansittart* send any circular to you in reference to his construction of the Alien Act or the Naturalization Act; if so, can you state the nature of such circular?—There were instructions accompanying the Poll Books, and there was one pointing out the duty to be observed by me as Deputy Returning Officer respecting Aliens, the particulars of which I do not remember; I made no use of them.

44. Were those instructions of which you made no use in accordance with your own views as to the law regarding Aliens?—My reasons for not using the instructions were, that I had examined into the various Statutes bearing upon Aliens, and came to the conclusion that Aliens were not entitled to vote at the then Election, and paid no attention to any other opinion respecting Aliens. As far as my memory serves me at present, my views were not in accordance with those instructions.

45. Were the instructions from the Returning Officer as to the interpretation of the law regarding Aliens calculated to limit or extend the franchise as compared with your own views on the subject of the Alien and Naturalization Acts?—They extended the elective franchise, and would have admitted a certain class of Aliens to vote, whom I rejected.

46. What class of Aliens do you refer to in your last answer?—To those who had not taken the oath of allegiance prior to the date of March, 1820; and also those who did not produce the County Register Certificate of having taken the oath of allegiance required by the Statute.

47. What instructions were given by Mr. *Vansittart* regarding persons who came into the Province before 1820?—I do not remember what the instructions were upon that subject, and I do not remember that there were any.

48. What then do you mean by saying that Mr. *Vansittart's* instructions were calculated to induce you to extend the franchise?—The result of comparing my memorandum with the instructions together with Mr. *Scatchaird*, who appeared as Mr. *Hincks'* agent at the Election; and I think that Mr. *Scatchaird* was desirous that I should be guided by the instructions, and not my own views.

49. What are your views regarding the rights of persons to vote who came into the Province before 1820?—It is quite impossible for me to give my views satisfactorily at this time and place, without reference to the authority of the Statute.

50. Did you, at the last Election, admit the votes of persons who came into the Province before 1820, on their taking the oath of allegiance, or would you have admitted such votes if offered?—Persons who came into the Province before 1820, and produced a certificate of having taken the oath of allegiance be-