

F. S. Kirkland, a Wisconsin lumberman, one Frederick Stinson *alias* Lynch, and others. They hired John A. Wilkinson to approach members of the Legislature with offers of money as a bribe for securing their support of a new timber policy which the conspirators stated the Conservative Opposition was about to introduce. The members who were approached informed the Government of what was going on, and, at the instance of the Government, three of them agreed to take the bribery money with a view of bringing the conspirators to justice. The money was paid to the members by Stinson, in the presence of Wilkinson and a contractor with the Dominion Government, and on receipt was immediately handed over to the Speaker of the House. On 17th March, 1884, the matter was laid before the House by Attorney-General Mowat, some of the offenders were arrested, and the whole matter was referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections. On the recommendation of that Committee a Commission of three Judges was appointed to investigate the matter. The Judges' report was in brief:

That corrupt offers to members had been made by the conspirators.

That money was paid, and offices in the gift of the Dominion Government were promised to Liberal members on condition that they would vote against the Government.

That telegraphic messages to Wilkinson and Bunting were destroyed about two weeks after proceedings in the Police Court had been taken.

That all of the persons to whom offers of money and situations were made communicated them to some members of the Government, and had no intention of accepting for themselves any of the bribes so offered.

Owing to the destruction of the telegrams between Ottawa and Toronto, and the absence of the principal conspirators from the Province, the Commissioners were not able to trace the guilt in the affair farther back than to the persons named.

Cases in which Local Members have been Unseated and Succeeded by Members of the Other Party.

A singularly convincing test of the efficacy of the reform instituted by the Liberals when they cast upon the judges the duty of trying election petitions, is found in the fact that since the relegation of election trials to the Courts 17 Conservatives have been unseated and succeeded by Liberals, while only 7 Liberals have been unseated and succeeded by Conservatives. That is, the Liberals make three times as good a showing as the Conservatives do in this, the really conclusive result of the campaign against corruption. The above figures shed a bright light on the reasons why the Tory party so stubbornly resisted the change in the law as above stated. Before that change the Tory majorities in the Legislature simply did what