

bribery were so clearly proved that no attempt was made by counsel for the respondent to argue against them. It is quite unnecessary to set forth the evidence in detail upon which I find, as a fact, that corrupt practices—i.e., bribery—were committed by the following persons :—[naming them].

The factum of bribery having been established, the question of agency remains to be considered. Respondent was nominated by a party convention held at Dungannon on the 11th November, 1898, and addressing the delegates present said in a speech, the substantial accuracy of which is admitted by him, that he had the right to claim the independent, vigorous and wholesome support of every one of them. And at the trial he said that he trusted to his friends to elect him and expected that the local committees would get to work. The local organizations of the party in this riding, as in others at many of the recent elections, were largely controlled, managed, or assisted by the officers of the Provincial party organization, by whom several "outsiders," as they were called, were brought into the riding, who acted under the instructions of the secretary of the association, a Mr. Alexander Smith, or his assistant, a Mr. James Vance, and in some cases directly under the instructions of the local managers. It does not, I think, admit of doubt that Smith and Vance were both agents of the respondent, and that he and other prominent agents of his, e.g., his partner, Mr. Proudfoot, knew that they were so, though they may not have been aware of all the work they were doing. The reason suggested for these persons coming or being brought into the riding was that the time for doing the necessary work between the party nomination and the election was very brief. They were not brought in at the request of the respondent, nor do I think that he was at all desirous of their presence. He felt, no doubt, pressed by the difficulty there would be in rejecting their assistance, however unwelcome, and of formally protesting against their presence in the riding.

Coming then to the question of Walter Vanstone's agency. There would seem to have been no formal election of delegates to the nominating convention, but persons who were prominent Reformers attended from Wingham and other municipalities in the riding, and, in my opinion, it ought to be found, and I find as a fact, that Vanstone went with others to the convention to act as a delegate there, or to promote the nomination of the respondent, and, notwithstanding the difficulty many of the witnesses experienced in recollecting whether they had seen him there, I find that he was one of those actually present at the convention. He was then a member in good standing of the West Huron Liberal Association for the years 1898-9, and he was with others requested to go to the convention by one Samuel E. Gracey, the chairman of one of the local party organizations at Wingham.

After a careful examination of the evidence, I find that Vanstone was also a member of the local committee at Wingham, formed for the purpose of promoting the respondent's election, a committee which held its meet-