

sued that course? Has he not gone through the length and breadth of the land and endeavoured to convey the impression that the Liberal party was the party of corruption and the Conservative party the party of purity? That is the inference to be drawn from the attitude of the hon. gentleman. It was not a fair inference, it was not generous, it was not accurate. We need not fear comparison with the Conservative party in the matter of election trials. Unfortunately, too many men have allowed their zeal to outrun their judgment and have committed acts in connection with elections which do them no credit and which we should all regret. Did all these things occur on the Liberal side? If the records be examined it will be found that of the men who have been unseated in this parliament of Canada from confederation down, the numbers stand about half Liberals and half Conservatives. One party or the other, I forget which, had two or three more than the other party, perhaps it was the Liberals. But, compare that statement with the inferences to be drawn from the hon. gentleman's speeches and from the attitude of the Conservative press. If time permitted I could give the record of all the men who have been unseated in the Tory party, but let me take a few of the more eminent. Sir John Abbott, a Prime Minister, was unseated, Sir Hector Langevin was unseated, Sir Charles Tupper was unseated, Sir John Macdonald was unseated twice, and in the case of the Kingston election the judges reported there was gross corruption throughout the whole election. If time permitted I might give a longer list, but all I desire to call attention to is that this inference that the corruption has been all on the Liberal side and that there has been none on the Conservative side is not fair, and is not calculated to advance the interests of reform. I think my hon. friend from South Lanark (Mr. Haggart) was unseated—

Mr. HAGGART. No.

Mr. FIELDING. Then I take it back. But I can tell him that the gentleman who sits on his right (Mr. Foster) was unseated in the province of New Brunswick.

Mr. TAYLOR. Another prominent man unseated was the Minister of Finance.

Mr. FIELDING. Yes, but he got back with three times the majority he had before.

Mr. TAYLOR. He used three times as much money.

Mr. FIELDING. I am going to have a word about that when we make comparisons. There is this to be said: that the Minister of Finance went into the fight; he challenged his opponents to do their best; he went through it to the end and the re-

Mr. FIELDING.

cord of the case is before the country, and the judges recorded it as their opinion that not a single act of corruption direct or indirect applying to the Minister of Finance was proven. But I must not forget my hon. friend from North Toronto (Mr. Foster). Who would have thought as you heard him denounce corruption last night, that he ever could have been unseated. It is a good many years ago I admit—

Mr. FOSTER. That was a very pure election.

Mr. FIELDING. Was it?

Mr. FOSTER. Yes.

Mr. FIELDING. Well, we will see about that. The statement made by my hon. friend (Mr. Foster) obliges me to say something that I perhaps would not have said otherwise, for I do not like going into these old things. The hon. gentleman (Mr. Foster) was elected and the usual proceedings of an election trial took place. One witness testified as to a certain prominent gentleman who for convenience I shall call John Doe, but who my hon. friend knows by another name. Mr. John Doe's name was mentioned in the proceedings; a witness testified that he met John Doe on the train and that he suggested to John Doe that it would be a nice thing to have a little money in a certain parish, and John Doe asked the witness if he would handle it for him, and a day or two afterwards John Doe gave the witness \$80 for that little parish and afterwards he gave another \$20. But the witness did not tell more than that; the court adjourned and the following morning we had a fine illustration of the case of Davy Crockett and the coon. You know the old story is that Davy was such a good shot that the moment he pointed the gun the coon said: 'Don't shoot I'll come down.' And so the morning after the mention of John Doe's name the solicitors for the hon. member (Mr. Foster) came to the court and said: For Heaven's sake don't go any further, we will throw up the sponge.

Mr. FOSTER. Does my hon. friend vouch for the literal accuracy of his words?

Mr. FIELDING. In all things except as to the name of John Doe. My hon. friend does not wish me to give the real name of John Doe because he knows him as well as I do. But the Minister of Finance acted differently. When it was shown that some man in over zeal had paid a fellow \$4 or \$5 for his vote, the Minister of Finance did not say: For God's sake stop the trial. The Minister of Finance said: Go right on, if there is anything wrong about this election let us see what it is, let us know all about. The member for North Toronto (Mr. Foster) who says he is not afraid of the judgment of the people seemed to be so much afraid of the judgment of that