

was required to live on the homestead for a certain length of time each year. If he lived up to the requirements he could in a certain length of time obtain a Deed or Patent for the land. I presume that he had to pay something, but I do not know how much. During the time that he was building the house and clearing land he was allowed to sell a certain amount of timber each year. After he had obtained the patent I believe that he could sell the remaining timber as he wished. This was an excellent arrangement for the bonafide settler. Having the timber to sell gave him something to live on while building and clearing land. It also gave him something to start farming on.

But like other plans that were good if properly used, this one was sadly abused. Some individuals homesteaded the land just for the timber. When it was gone they moved on, leaving the land bare. Even worse were the small timber companies who operated without a timber limit. They would place their employees on a number of lots as homesteaders. The requirements would be fulfilled just enough that they could get clearance for cutting the timber. If they had enough lots they would have enough timber each year to run a nice little business. I do not doubt but that there were ways of getting around fulfilling the homesteading requirements. In some cases at least a little money changeing hands would turn the trick. Here is an example. In the early days of Charlton the Blanche River was often blocked solid with logs from Charlton up to, and often into, Long Lake. There had been lots of complaints. My father happened to be at the station in Charlton when the Inspector came in to check on the situation. He saw someone hand the Inspector \$20, a lot of money in those days. The Inspector stepped back on the train. In a few minutes it pulled out and he was gone. Money talks. But it boils down to the fact that many lots were stripped of timber, and left. A would-be settler, unless he had some money, had no chance to make a start.

Then there were some lots open for homesteading that had little to offer but