

lumberman to induce the settler to come in and settle upon the arable lands in order that he might be furnished with the necessary supplies. The licentiates would then protect the timber, and would furnish a home market for the settler. It was in this way that the Saguenay, the St. Maurice, and the Ottawa territories had been settled. The land had been placed under license, and the lumbermen had induced settlement. It was absurd to say that the character of the country could be learnt by running exploratory lines. He knew timber berths that had been given up fifteen years ago, subsequently sold for a considerable sum, then given up and again sold and worked to this day, and produced a considerable revenue to the country. In the Ottawa valley there was no conflict between the settler and the lumberman. The two interests worked together harmoniously, simply because all the lands had been placed under license many years ago, and as the lands were taken up that were valuable for settlement they necessarily dropped out of license. As an instance of the value of the settlers to the lumberman, he mentioned an instance where lumbermen had paid \$100 a ton for hay and \$2 a bushel for oats. A man came into his office the other day and told him that he was running a saw-mill on the shores of Lake Nipissing to supply the wants of a little colony of settlers. He wanted a small limit set apart for him for that purpose, and of course it was granted. He told him that farmers there got \$40 a ton for their hay and \$1 50 a bushel for oats, and that he had himself seen \$100 refused for a ton of hay. If the lumbermen did not go in with the settler, the settler would have to take a year's provisions with him, and when he raised anything he could have no market. This showed that the lumbermen were the best pioneers of the country. In reference to the Muskoka territory, the mistake made was that it was not put under license years ago. The settlement of that territory would have been very much advanced to-day had that been done. As it was, there was a great deal of trouble between the settlers and the lumbermen in that territory.

Mr. WOOD (Brant) asked explanation as to the statement which the Hon. Commissioner of Crown Lands had made, that there was a want of unanimity between the settler and lumbermen in Muskoka, while in the Ottawa district they acted in harmony.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT said that lands were taken up by settlers which were valuable for pine timber, although before doing so the settlers had to make affidavits which too often proved untrue. This was the case in the Muskoka district, where the lumbermen and the settler do not get on harmoniously; ill-feeling prevailed because in many cases the settler had taken up good pine land. In the Ottawa district where the lumberman had gone in first this difficulty could not arise. He was glad that his honourable friend the member for Lincoln had acquitted him from any improper motive in ordering the sale of the limits on Lake Huron. He contended that he deserved that consideration from the honourable gentleman, as he had communicated with no lumberman on the subject. He went on to repeat the contradictions which he had previously given of the accusations made against him in this matter, and expressed his willingness to leave to the next ten years the justification of his policy. He again explained his reasons for ordering the sale of limits. Putting a territory under license, as he had done, did not mean that a foot of land or of timber was sold. Any portion of it could be recalled that was considered advisable. A licentiate took a license like a blank piece of paper, subject to be filled up with conditions imposed by any future Government. A portion of the press of the Province had attacked him, and said that he had sold 5,000 square miles of the land of the country. That was most untrue, and he believed the people of the country had intelligence enough to know it. Foremost in making these attacks was the *Mail*. Time and again that paper had wilfully misrepresented facts, and had attributed to him the vilest and most corrupt motives, notwithstanding that he had thrown down a challenge, which he now repeated, for any man to prove those charges. He asserted that there was not one spot on his private or public character that could meet with the condemnation, or censure, or disapproval of any gentleman in the chamber. (Applause.) He was conscientiously convinced in making this statement that it was true, and it was unmanly and un-British in any paper having the ear of so large a portion of the people of the country to issue such slanders as they have dared to print. A public man held a delicate position and it was cowardly to make charges they knew to be false—in regard to such charges as these, but he had been in public life long before that paper had

an existence, and he hoped to remain there long after it had ceased to exist. (Hear, hear.) He had the satisfaction of knowing that those whose interests the *Mail* sought to advance, disapproved of the course adopted by that journal in making these attacks upon himself. Its great Conservative chief could tell his organ that those slanders had recoiled upon itself, and were far more keenly felt at headquarters than by himself. He had disdained hitherto replying to that paper, and these remarks had only now been drawn from him by accidental circumstances. Respecting the statement made by hon. members that the sale of limits had been initiated in the interest of lumbermen, he begged to call the attention of the House to the fact that in the Ottawa District there were 98 license holders, in the Belleville District 48, and in the Western District 48 also. One would naturally suppose that these gentlemen would be interested in this sale if the statement referred to were true, yet the fact was that only four of these Ottawa gentlemen condescended to attend the sale, only two from the Belleville agency, and only four from the Western District. Nine-tenths of the people who bought at that sale entered the trade for the first time. Surely that was a flat and full contradiction to that charge. There never had been so fair and open a sale. It was advertised for three months throughout all Canada and in the large cities of the United States; it was a great success; and it realized more than had been received from all the bonuses ever received in Ontario and Quebec. If the public had ten years to gather information they could have known no more of the country than was known at the time of the sale. Then as to terms. The day previous to the sale he understood that the banks were becoming very stringent, and it occurred to him that only one-half of the amount of the bonus should be exacted. That determination was announced at the earliest possible moment after he had come to that conclusion. Everything was done to make the sale a great success; and some of the bank managers, with that end in view, said they would discount paper if the money was not drawn out, and a good portion of it was lying at 5 per cent.

Mr. LAUDER—Why were so many berths withdrawn?

Hon. Mr. SCOTT replied that the berths were withdrawn in deference to a morbid sentiment; it was done because of popular clamour. He had no hesitation in saying so—"an honest confession was good for

the soul." He knew they were very good berths, and a great deal of fault was found because they were withdrawn.

It being six o'clock the House rose.

After recess

CHRIST CHURCH, OTTAWA.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. SCOTT, the House went into Committee on the Bill relating to Christ Church, Ottawa. Mr. Deroche in the chair.

Hon. Mr. WOOD explained that the object of the Bill was to authorize the issuing of debentures for the construction of a new building in the course of erection, on property which had been held for some considerable time.

On the Committee rising and reporting the Bill, the report was adopted.

SECOND READINGS.

The following Bills were read a second time.

Mr. Gifford—For the further improvement of the Cobourg Harbour.

Mr. Cameron—To incorporate the Orphan's Home and Female Aid Society of Toronto.

Mr. Cameron—To authorize an addition to the Capital Stock of the Consumers' Gas Company of Toronto.

Mr. Oliver—To incorporate the Cornish Silver Mining Company of Canada.

Mr. Wood (Victoria)—To establish and declare the mode by which the side lines of loss in the Township of Emily, in the County of Victoria, have been and shall be run.

Mr. Williams (Durham)—To amend the Acts relating to the Midland Railway of Canada, to extend the time for the completion of its extensions, and to authorize the issue of second mortgage bonds.

Mr. Fraser—To further amend the law as to Wills.

Mr. Monk—To extend the provisions of the Act 34th Victoria, cap. 31, intitled "An Act to encourage the planting of trees upon highways in Ontario, and to give a right of property therein to owners of the soil adjacent to such highways."