

nection with the department, to make an exploration of the territory. The Government first ordered the sale and then sought for the information. The instructions given to Mr. Judge were that he was to proceed to Muskoka and Parry Sound and make an examination as far as practicable of the timber berths described in the departmental notice, with a view to ascertaining their comparative value for timber purposes. He was further told that the time for examination was so short that he was required to confine himself to making a general inspection of the whole territory. All the time he was allowed, to go from Toronto and examine some thirty or forty timber berths, was three weeks. It was rather entertaining to read Mr. Judge's account of what he saw. The description was something like this: One township was said to contain a lot of good pine, another was not so good, in another the pine was scattering, in another there was some pine on the way side, and so on. That was the information furnished to intending buyers at the eleventh hour at the Muskoka sale. He was not finding fault with this. If the Government had spent twelve months they could not have got much better information. He merely cited this report for the purposes of comparison. The hon. member for Lincoln had seen fit to caricature to some extent the map produced at the sale. It showed where the berths were, and the general information was to be found in the blue books. The present Government gave three months' notice of the sale. Boats were running to that territory all that time—a boat twice a week. Any lumberman desiring to inspect the territory had ample opportunity of learning quite as much as he could have learned had the time been longer. He frankly confessed that had they given longer time he doubted if the price would have been quite as large. Take another comparison. The late sale was attended by about 200 people, and the purchasers numbered about 50, and most of them were men who for the first time entered the trade. He had previously showed that there were at present 98 or 100 licentiates in the Ottawa territory. Of these 98 only four purchased at the late sale, and these four bought only small quantities. The gilt that the lumber trade was then wearing probably induced new men to embark in this risky enterprise. But the Muskoka territory was divided into 80 berths, and of these 64 passed into the hands of four gentlemen—Cook Brothers bought 33; Dodds, 19; Rathwell, 5; and —, 7.

Mr. RYKERF—How many of these gentlemen purchased at the last sale?

Hon. Mr. SCOTT thought only Cook Brothers and Rathwell, but the papers would show that. But that did not affect the comparison he was making. The statement he had made was a sufficient refutation of the insinuation that had been made in certain quarters that the late sale was in the interests of the lumbermen. In regard to the policy of placing those timber berths in the market, he would say that he was mainly guided by the desire that that section of the country should be opened for settlement as early as practicable. During the last twelve or fifteen years efforts to induce settlement had failed, although the land was held at a nominal price—twenty cents an acre. During those years not more than two thousand acres had been taken up for settlement. That afforded evidence that the system in force during that period had failed to populate the country. As it was desirable that new places should be found for emigrants from other lands who were constantly coming here, and that the sons of our farmers should not go abroad to seek for land, it was a matter of policy to provide a section of country upon which they could settle. The resources of the Lake Superior territory had lately been developed, and would be still more developed in a few years. It was therefore of the highest importance that settlement should be induced in that section. Since November last only two mails had been received there, and as yet the territory was almost unknown, only to the trapper and the Indian. By the policy inaugurated he hoped that soon there would be three or four millions invested in all those arts of civilization which formed a basis of a new country. What had been done in the Saguenay, St. Maurice, and Ottawa districts was an illustration of what could be done in the Lake Huron country. For the information of the House he would read an extract from a report made by Sir William Logan, who was recognized by savants in the old world not merely as a distinguished geologist, but as a man of high attainments in all branches of practical science:—"On the Ottawa the occupations of the lumberer and the farmer have been a great encouragement to one another; and, while the advance of settle-

ment has enabled the lumberer to push his enterprise further and further up the stream, it is mainly in consequence of the trade in timber that the banks of the river are so fast filling up with inhabitants. The wants of the lumbermen afford to the former a ready market for his produce at high prices, and present a great encouragement for location wherever good land occurs; while this has been found in sufficient abundance to establish many thriving settlements in localities which, but for the timber trade, might have been overlooked for some time to come. These settlements once established, producing enough for their own consumption and something to spare, may ultimately constitute a back country of considerable importance to the prosperity of those points at the mouth of the river conveniently situated for supplying the wants of its inhabitants, and Montreal as the principal of these, may hereafter find the valleys of the Ottawa and its tributaries of essential benefit in assisting to support the eminence she has attained among the cities of British North America." Looking back at the time when that report was written, in 1846, it might be said that that gentleman spoke with a prophetic eye. Nothing had contributed to make Montreal the important place it was more than the trade of the Ottawa Valley. He could name half-a-dozen villages in that territory then, which were now flourishing towns. Pembroke was now an important place, though at the date of Sir William Logan's report it was in the midst of an unlicensed territory held by the Government; Renfrew was scarcely in existence; Arnprior was not known, but it was now a thriving and important place. That was the position of all these towns now, and there would be like progress in the Lake Huron district in twenty years to come, and the people there would point to the fact that the importance of that territory dated back from 1872. There would be flourishing villages spring up along the French River. History would repeat itself, and the natural order of things must take place. The honourable member for Lincoln referred to the course taken by the late Government in connection with the sale in the Muskoka territory, but he did not then say that the Opposition censured the policy of the Government in placing that section under license. If his (the speaker's) recollection served him right, THE GLOBE took the ground that embarrassment would arise between the settlers and the lumbermen, because many of the townships had been in the free grant lists, and were then settled upon. Had the sale taken place earlier it would have been all the better. The motion before the House was the first that had been directed at the head of the Department of Crown Lands; but the more people were educated and intelligent the more would they understand where the true interests of the country lay. Honourable gentlemen from the western section and the frontier portions of the Province, whose constituencies had no immediate interest in the wild lands, must feel that in ten or twenty years, when the population will have doubled or trebled and when the cost of government would increase in a like manner, the revenue could not proportionately increase on the basis laid down in the British North America Act. The subject must be appreciated from a revenue point of view, and if so the general conclusion would be similar to his own. There was no antagonism between the settler and the lumberman, and the rights of each did not conflict. The object of the Government was to induce the purchasers of berths in the Lake Huron district to make lumber and sell it to the United States. There was, of course, a great difference in the relative value of square timber and of sawn lumber. The one was an important branch of industry giving employment to a large body of men all the year round, inviting settlement and giving employment to railways and steamers in the way of freight; while square timber was floated down the river to Quebec, and the hands engaged in its transportation dismissed until it was time to send them to the woods again. The fact was that the duty on square timber was greatly less than on logs, and he might announce that it was his intention to submit for the consideration of the Government the question of increasing the duty on square pine timber. He proposed to raise the duty from one and a quarter cents a cubic foot to two cents, for the present year, and that would apply to the timber lying in Quebec port also. Contracts had not been made in Europe which would be affected by the increase duty. He estimated that this change of duty would add to the revenue between seventy and eighty thousand dollars, which would pay the expenses of the House, and perhaps some of the Departments of the Government. The mode of calculation was by the cubic foot, so that nothing was