

Fifth Parliament --- Third Session.

Globe

(By Our Own Reporters.)

FRIDAY, February 12.

The Speaker took the chair at 3 o'clock.

STANDING ORDERS.

Mr. Rayside presented the seventh report of the Standing Orders Committee.

FIRST READINGS.

Mr. Morin—To incorporate the South Essex Gun Club.

Mr. Ferris—Respecting the Women's Christian Association, Belleville.

Mr. McLaughlin—To amend the Act incorporating the Lake Scugog Marsh Lands Drainage Co.

Mr. Morin—To incorporate the Nosbonsing & Nipissing Railway Company.

Mr. McGhee—To consolidate the debt of the Town of Orangeville.

Mr. McIntyre—To amend the Act respecting assignments for the benefit of creditors.

Mr. Ermatinger—Respecting receipts and quittances.

Mr. Baxter—To authorize the Village of Caledonia to issue certain debentures.

Mr. Conmee—To incorporate the Ontario & Rainey River Railway Company.

Mr. Dryden—To amend the Act incorporating the Baptist Missionary Convention of Ontario.

Mr. Baxter—To amend the Consolidated Municipal Act, 1883.

A TIMBER RETURN.

Mr. CARNEGIE moved for a return showing the number, concession, and acreage of the lots in the township of Livingstone placed under license to cut timber, to John Ludgate, in August, 1884. Carried.

LOCAL TIMBER SUPPLY.

Mr. WOOD moved for a return showing the timber districts set aside for local mill purposes; extent of each district, and the conditions under which such districts are held by the parties to whom granted; the parties holding the same, with the rate of dues charged by the Department of Crown Lands, such return to comprise that section of the Province lying to the east of the Bobcaygeon-road. He contended that there was a great deal of dissatisfaction with the manner in which the demand for local purposes had been met.

Hon. T. B. PARDEE said that he certainly had no objection to giving his hon. friend all the information in his power on that subject. These limits had been all put under license years ago, prior to Confederation. Prior to Confederation there was no provision for local mills at all. After this Government came into power they found that complaints were beginning to be made by the local mills. A system was adopted that a certain part of the land should be taken from certain limits for that purpose. That practice had gone on for two or three years, and was found to work badly because the local mill man was sure to select the best timber land for local mill purposes. In 1874, after giving the matter full consideration, and after having consulted with both the licensees and the local mill men, when an application had been made to the Department, there was sent a competent person to the mill to make enquiry as to what quantity would be required to serve that local mill for the year, so that the Commissioner of Crown Lands would find out what part would be best taken up. Then the local mill man was

ENTITLED TO GET THAT AMOUNT

of timber which was required for local mill purposes. All local mills were served in that way. Whenever a local mill made an application for timber for local mill purposes this investigation took place, and it was required that there was necessity for that quantity which was applied for. Up to the present time that system had worked admirably. The interests of the licensees and the local mill owners were necessarily, to a great extent, adverse. The licensee would, of course, prefer that no timber should be taken from his limits at all. But on the whole it had been found to work satisfactorily. He could undertake to show that out of the numerous applications under consideration at least ninety-nine out of every hundred had been decided and settled satisfactorily. Occasionally there was a dispute. When there was a dispute the Department settled it. As he had pointed out prior to this arrangement there was no provision for the local mill man at all. In an old section of the community, the timber being scarce, the local mill-man had very often no timber within 30 or 40 miles of him. He made application to get some timber 30 or 40 miles away. The licensee would often say