

tion; on the other hand, if the indictment preferred by the hon. member for North Norfolk and myself be untrue we both deserve to be censured by the people. A member of the Government, out of Parliament, undertook to challenge the correctness of the statements which I have made out of Parliament, and which are practically those I have made in Parliament to-night. He challenged me to formulate these charges upon the floor of Parliament, and promised that if I did he would meet them fully. I appeal to any intelligent man, who is not completely encrusted in party prejudice, to say if the answer made by the Minister of the Interior to-night is satisfactory.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Yes, yes.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron). I know it is satisfactory to everybody who has got a timber limit, to every hon. member who has got a railway bonus, to every one who has got a printing contract, but these are not independent men and ought not to be called on as jurors to decide whether this Government is guilty or not of the high crimes and misdemeanors with which the hon. member for North Norfolk has charged it. The hon. the Minister of the Interior, at Dunnville, on the 28th January, 1886, in reply to the charges I made against his Administration, said:

"It is charged that members of Parliament have been interested in these limits. My answer to that is that in the great majority of cases cited by Mr. Cameron there is not a word of truth in the charge."

And further:

"Members of Parliament, at the request of their constituents and others, frequently write letters to the Department in regard to timber limits as well as in regard to any other matters of business in which their constituents may be interested, and it is a new doctrine that they are to be assumed to have a personal interest because they do write. But if they were all interested, and obtained their limits under the regulations, they are entirely within their rights and are not to be condemned."

I made no charges against the Administration, because members of Parliament have written to the Government making demands on the Government. The charge I make against them is that they are guilty, because they have parcelled out the public domain among their own followers. The Minister of the Interior, in a speech delivered at St. Thomas, on the 8th of January, 1886, as reported in the *Daily Times* of the 9th of January, 1886, said:

"Mr. Cameron said that thirty-four of the Premier's friends had each been awarded fifty square miles of timber limits, and besides that thirty-two permits had been issued, in addition to these thirty-four special licenses. It is true that there were permits issued to parties to cut firewood and to take out railroad ties, and there were permits issued during Mr. Mackenzie's regime as well. It was alleged by Mr. Cameron that the Hon. John Costigan secured from the Government fifty square miles of these timber limits. As a matter of fact Mr. Costigan never applied for and never received one mile of timber limits in the disputed territory. This strikes off only thirty-four and leaves thirty-three remaining. Of this latter number eleven never had a license, never applied for permits, and could not cut timber. Sixteen of the other licenses expired a year ago, so that there are just six licenses in existence at the present time." (Cheers.)

Now, I observe that these statements of the Minister of the Interior were lustily cheered by his admirers at St. Thomas and elsewhere. If the Minister's answers were true then I admit that the Tories were fairly entitled to the enjoyment of this crumb of comfort. But were they true? Let us see whether they are true or not. Bear in mind that the charge I levelled against the Administration then and which I make against them now is that, pending the settlement of the western and north-western boundary of Ontario, this Administration parcelled out among their camp followers, thirty three of them, a large portion of the timber limits in the disputed territory. I gave their names upon the occasion I referred to, and I have given them again to-night. I further charged that thirty-three others whose names I did not give shared in the spoils this Government placed at their disposal. Now, it must not be forgotten that the award—and I am now dealing entirely with the

disputed territory, some of my friends will deal with the balance of the answer of the Minister of the Interior—was executed by the arbitrators on the 3rd August, 1878. Bear also in mind—and it is an important element in discussing and considering how far this Administration is responsible to the charge I made against them—that the judgment of the Lords of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council affirming, the boundary fixed by the arbitrators, was delivered on the 11th August, 1884. I know, as my hon. friend said, that this is not a very gracious task. I know that, when you begin to touch members of Parliament in Parliament, and the friends of members of Parliament, there is a howl on the other side of the House and there is a howl in the country; but my sense of public duty will never prevent me, by the howls of the hon. gentlemen or the squealings of hon. gentlemen, from discharging my duties in Parliament and out of Parliament. I know an hon. member in this House the other night declared that:

"The hon. member for West Huron has indulged on former occasions as well as upon the present in such wild extravagance of statement and such violence of language as to place himself beyond the pale of that intercourse which should exist between one member and another."

That to me was not, as the hon. gentleman intended it should be, a terrible infliction. I can stand it. I think I can bear it. The sentence passed upon me of perpetual exclusion from the social Tory circle, is a sentence that does not affect me very seriously; and I can say that it shall not deter me from exposing what I conceive to be the maladministration of the Department of the Interior, in Parliament and out of Parliament; and it shall never prevent me from exposing what I believe to be the misconduct of this Administration, either upon the floors of Parliament or outside of Parliament. All the same, it will not prevent me from so doing, fearful and terrible as the consequences may be to myself of perpetual exclusion from the Tory social circle. Now, I have already proved out of Parliament, I shall prove to-night in Parliament, every single charge I made against this Administration in the speech I made at Bruceville, which was commented on so vigorously by the Minister of the Interior. I charged that, pending the settlement of the western boundary of Ontario, this Administration granted to their political friends and followers, in and out of Parliament, a large portion of the timber limits in the disputed territory. I shall prove it out of the mouth of the Minister of the Interior, I shall prove it by the returns brought down to Parliament, I shall prove it by the blue-books that are within my control here. My charge was that the Government has parcelled out among sixty-seven of their camp followers a large portion of the timber limits of the disputed territory. Why, the hon. Minister of the Interior, in reply to a question put to the Government by the member for West York admitted that, between the date of the award fixing the western boundary of Ontario and the date of the judgment of the Lords of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council affirming that boundary, this Government passed no less than 111 Orders in Council disposing of timber limits in the disputed territory. He also admitted that, since 1881, the Government had granted sixty-three permits to sixty-three different individuals to cut timber in the disputed territory. In other words, the Minister of the Interior, although out of Parliament and on the public platform stated that the charges I made against the Government were, in the great majority of cases, incorrect and untrue, in his own place in Parliament, with the documents before him and better informed on the subject had to admit that, after the boundary award was made, this Administration has granted by Orders in Council and by permits the right to cut timber in the disputed territory in 174 different cases.

Mr. WHITE (Cardwell). Nothing of the kind.

Mr. FARROW. Nothing of the kind.