

system the settler who was too poor during the five years to put up other than the cheapest kind of log buildings, found when he was ready to put up pine buildings that he had not the lumber with which to build them. (Hear, hear.) After mature consideration the Government had concluded that the only remedy was to make the settler and the lumberman jointly interested in the preservation of the pine, so that the lumberman had no interest in denuding the country of its pine within the five years. Under the old system the lumberman's interest was to take care to strip off every tree, if possible, so that there was no pine to pass to the settler under the patent.

Mr. BOULTER: They would have the small trees.

Mr. PARDEE said that, on the contrary, after the lumber began to be valuable they would not leave any timber on the land, and settlers used to come to the Department asking that some more equitable means might be devised whereby, when the patent was issued, some pine would be left upon the lot. He had had the opportunity recently of visiting a county more largely affected by this change than any other section of the country, and he had found that the people generally were well satisfied with the operation of the law, and satisfied that the present system was much better than the old one. In fact, no better evidence could be given of the satisfaction with which the people regarded the change than the fact that his honorable friend the member for Muskoka (Mr. Bettes) had been elected by nearly 500 majority. (Cheers.)

TIMBER FOR LOCAL MILLS.

Referring to the supply of timber for local saw mills, Mr. Pardee also said:

The hon. gentleman had said that under the present system the mill-owners would not be able to get lumber to supply the local demand. He wished to tell the hon. gentleman that the change made by the Administration was one that served that very purpose. Under the old system there had been great difficulties, but under the Order in Council of seven or eight years ago little or no difficulty was experienced. By that Order in Council they had the right to say to the licensee that he had to supply these mills with sufficient timber for the local demands, and there were many mills throughout the district supplied in that way. If complaints were made, if grievances existed, no one would be more likely to hear of them than he was, and yet there was scarcely a complaint came to the Department of any lack of timber to supply the local demand. In fact, such complaints as were made at all came from the lumbermen and not from the settlers, for the lumbermen complained that these local mill men were allowed to go on the limits which they had paid for, get the timber, and saw it at a profit, whereas they were only allowed the ordinary dues. He had, however, pointed out to them that the settlers were entitled to these privileges in common justice, so that they might erect their buildings, and they had acquiesced.