

disputed territory which has not been gobbled up by the licensees of the present Administration which would thus be carrying out the policy of the First Minister, when he declared in his place in Parliament that not one ounce of mineral, a foot of land or a stick of timber would belong to the Province of Ontario. The Government have been consistent in their policy from beginning to end, and that policy has been put a stop to by the action of the Province of Ontario, and by the voice of public opinion which has been denouncing this Administration for the last six months for their misconduct. Let me deal further with the Minister of the Interior. He contended that the policy of the Conservative Government prior to the assumption by Mr. Mackenzie of the reins of office in 1873, was to dispose of timber limits by competition, and that Mr. Mackenzie changed that policy. I say that prior to the assumption of office by Mr. Mackenzie, that was not the policy of the Conservative Government. I say that prior to that time this Government granted timber limits without notice or competition in the disputed territory and elsewhere.

Mr. MILLS. Contrary to law.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron). Contrary to law, as the hon. gentleman says. I make no statement which I cannot establish from the blue-books of the Department of the Interior. Take the Sessional Papers for 1872, No. 30, page 92, and it will be found that on the 30th October and 1st November before Mr. Mackenzie assumed office, as the Tories were going out of office, they granted to Mr. Fowler a timber limit of 100 miles on Rainy River. By the Sessional Papers of 1882, No. 30, page 20, you will find that on the 22nd of January, 1873, an Order in Council was passed granting to Mr. Fuller a timber limit on the east side of Lake Manitoba, near Swan Creek. Their policy was not limited to one section; it applied to every section. By an Order in Council dated the 17th of February, 1873, several islands lying to the north of the Narrows of the Lake of the Woods were granted to Mr. Fuller in place of the limit near Swan Creek, without competition and without notice. By the Sessional Papers of 1882, No. 30, page 24, it will be found that the Conservative Government passed an Order in Council granting to Messrs. Macauley & Ginty a timber limit on the Roseau River on the 30th of January, 1873, and that without competition and without public notice. By Order in Council of the 7th July, 1873, they changed that limit for a limit on the Winnipeg River. I have another word to say to the Minister of the Interior. I charge that the Hon. Mr. Costigan, before he became Minister of Inland Revenue, obtained the right to cut timber in the disputed territory. The hon. gentleman answered me by saying that Mr. Costigan never applied for and never received one mile of timber limits in the disputed territory. Let us see whether he did or not; let us see who is right, the Minister of the Interior or I. In the Sessional Papers of 1883, No. 118, the names of R. J. Short, and Short & Costigan, partners in business, appear not less than six times as holders of permits to cut timber in the disputed territory. In the Sessional Papers of 1885, No. 53, you will find a return headed thus:

"Schedule showing the names of parties from whom dues have been collected for timber cut in that part of the Dominion of Canada lately declared by the Order of the Queen in Council to be within the Province of Ontario, and the several amounts collected, in compliance with an Order of the House of Commons."

In that return Short and Short & Costigan are credited with over \$21,000 for dues paid on timber cut by them in the disputed territory. And yet the Minister of the Interior told the people of St. Thomas, and the people of this country, that Mr. Costigan never received a mile of timber limits in that territory. You will find in this return letters which show that Short & Costigan were partners, in the following words:—

Mr. CAMERON (Huron).

"WINNIPEG, 27th September, 1881.

"SIR,—We beg leave to apply for permission to cut railway timber for the South-Western Railway Company, on the lands in the Lake of the Woods, which lie south of Mr. Mather's limit in Whitefish Bay. Parties are cutting for the Canadian Pacific Railway on the main shore of said bay, and we trust we may be allowed to cut on the islands of that bay.

We have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servants,

"JOHN COSTIGAN,

"R. J. SHORT.

"Rt. Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD."

You will find also the following letter:—

"OTTAWA, 28th October, 1881.

"SIR,—As the lands in Whitefish Bay of the Lake of the Woods, on which we asked permission to cut railway timber, appeared to be included in a lease to the Keewatin Lumbering Company, we beg leave now to ask permission to cut 50,000 ties on that part of the main shore of the aforesaid company, on the west shore of Whitefish Bay, said permit to have a depth of three miles back from the shore.

"We have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servants,

"J. COSTIGAN,

"R. J. SHORT.

"Rt. Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD, Minister of the Interior."

That the Hon. John Costigan applied for and obtained a permit is quite clear from the following letter, also addressed to Sir John A. Macdonald:

"OTTAWA, 12th October, 1881.

"Have purchased some ties on Lake of the Woods to fill my contract with Manitoba South-Western Railway Company for 25,000 ties to be delivered this month, and a like quantity next month. Can I have permission to cut balance of said contract next to Mather's limit at Pipestone, Lake of the Woods? Just heard my men are ordered off grounds by instruction from your Department. Surely I may claim your favorable consideration in this case. Unless you wire me favorable reply I will fail in my contract.

"JOHN COSTIGAN."

Yet we are told that Mr. Costigan applied for nothing. But Short & Costigan were hunting in couples over these timber lands is still further clear from the following letter:—

"HOUSE OF COMMONS, 15th May, 1882.

"SIR,—I beg leave to say on behalf of R. J. Short, of Winnipeg, that in addition to the ties and piles he asked liberty to cut on permit applied for east of Turtle Portage, he wants to cut 4,000,000 feet of logs of dimension timber for the C. P. Railway.

"He has already asked for a renewal of the permit he held last year on Whitefish Bay and Pipestone for ties and piles, and for lumber cut on which he has made prompt and regular payments.

"I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

"JOHN COSTIGAN.

"Hon. Minister of the Interior."

And that his demands were acceded to is quite manifest from the following reply:—

"CROWN TIMBER OFFICE, WINNIPEG, 29th May, 1882.

"SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your T 3061, Ref. No. 322, instructing me to issue a permit to Mr. R. J. Short to cut 1,000,000 feet of lumber, 40,000 ties and 1,000 piles on a berth of fifty square miles, situate north of Sabaskong Bay, Lake of the Woods.

"I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

"E. T. STEPHENSON,

"Surveyor General, Ottawa."

"Crown Timber Agent.

Now, Sir, I ask you, I ask the people of this country who read the speech of the hon. Minister of the Interior, whether there was any justification in the returns and in the blue-books of Parliament for the statements which he made at St. Thomas, but which he has not ventured to make on the floor of Parliament.

Mr. WHITE (Cardwell). I make the same statement here that I made at St. Thomas, and that is that the Hon. John