

THE TIMBER LIMITS.

M. C. Cameron's Exposures on the Floor of Parliament.

The Member for West Huron Verifies in Parliament What He Said in Wingham Concerning Tory Resolutions on the Timber Limit Issue.

The following speech, which was delivered on the floor of the House on May 24th, verifies the charges made against corrupt Tory members of Parliament and their friends by M. C. Cameron, M.P., in his address previous to the session of 1886. When he spoke in the country, it was asserted by the organs of the Tory party that he dared not attempt to substantiate them in Parliament. As will be seen by the address, he not only brought up the question in the House, but established the truthfulness of the statements he had made concerning Tory timber limit rascalities at the meetings which he had previously addressed:-

Before you leave the Chair, I desire to call attention to some charges that have been made by me against the Government. At this late period of the Session, I shall not unnecessarily trespass upon the time of the House, but as the correctness of those charges has been challenged, I do not intend that this House shall prorogue without submitting to the House and country the evidence upon which I base my charges. I shall deal briefly with the few cases, where the correctness of my allegations has been challenged and if, when the proof is submitted, the judgment of the people of this country will not sustain me, I shall cheerfully bow to their decision. I charged that the Government had parcelled out, among their political friends a large portion of the public resources of this Dominion, in some four or five different instances, and in only four or five different instances these charges have been contradicted. The member for West Hastings (Mr. Robertson) on the 11th March of the present year, in introducing a Bill with respect to burglars, and while referring to some burglars that had been tried in his own town, and to punish them as burglars, I did not propose, as the hon. gentleman did, that they should be whipped, so the hon. gentleman need not be alarmed upon that score. The charge I made was against the Sessions Papers of 1884, No. 62, page 11, I find the following:-

"A. Robertson, Belleville, Ont., 15th August, 1884, Columbia River, B. C., fifty square miles." Now, so far as this paper speaks at all, it tells but one story, and that is that the hon. member for West Hastings applied for a timber limit of fifty square miles upon the Columbia River. If the Sessions Papers do not speak the truth, the fault is not mine. Now I have a word or two to say to the hon. member for South Leeds (Mr. Taylor). That hon. member, in discussing what took place out of Parliament, made use of the following language:-

"I have no desire to prolong this debate, but in justice to myself, in justice to the hon. members who sit on this side, with whom I associate, and in justice to my constituents, I feel it to be my duty to republish the tender made against me at a place called Wingham, in Ontario, by a person named M. C. Cameron, in a speech which he delivered there, and in which was reported in the Globe of 12th January last. It reads as follows:-

George Taylor represents the Conservative interest in South Leeds. He, too, cast longing eyes on the vast coal and timber lands of the North-West. He accordingly applied to this Government, who distributed with no sparing hand the public estate among their followers, for both coal lands and timber limits. This did not exactly gratify the ambitious views of Mr. Taylor. He lives in Gananoque, a small town and with a limited population. In the Conservative interest he persuaded the Government to build, at the public expense, costly public buildings in this country village. This is not all. Last Session Parliament voted a sum of \$20,000 to dam the Rideau Canal in order to supply water to the mills and factories in Gananoque in which Mr. Taylor and his constituents are deeply interested. George Taylor, the bond slave of Sir John, and dare not vote against the Government."

George Taylor, commenting on the foregoing, said:- "In answer to which I can only say that I have no interest in any timber limits or coal lands or grazing lands in either Manitoba or the North-West Territories, that I never applied for either coal lands or timber limits or grazing lands in the North-West Territory or Manitoba, and that I have no interest, individually, or have associated with any other party who has any interest in said lands or limits. This fellow Cameron, who made that statement, knew when he made it that it was a malicious falsehood.

I say that that statement was manufactured out of the whole cloth. I say that there is no foundation for it, and I expect this fellow Cameron is the paid agent of the Grit party to go round the country abusing-what he cannot call himself-a gentleman.

Now, I say at once that neither the tongue in which the denial was made, nor the language in which it was couched, merited at my hands the courtesy of a reply, but as I am now dealing with other members whose denials were equally explicit, although more parliamentary, I have a word or two to say to Mr. George Taylor. Now, what in mind, I did not charge Mr. Taylor with having obtained either timber limits, coal mines, or grazing leases. My charge was against the Government for having parcelled out among their followers, in and out of Parliament, a large portion of the public domain. The following correspondence between Mr. Taylor and the Government, will show how far my charges were based upon fact:-

GANANOQUE, 3rd October, 1882. "To the Hon. the Minister of the Interior, Ottawa. "DEAR SIR, A friend of mine wishes me to enquire what terms the Department will grant a timber limit in the North-West Territories, in townships supposed to be 39, 40 and 41, in ranges 18, 19 and 20 west, at a place called Passenger Hill. He is anxious to secure a limit. Your early reply will much oblige. "I have the honor to be, Sir, "Your obedient servant, "GEO. TAYLOR."

The answer of the Department was as follows:- "DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, Ottawa, 10th Oct. 1882. "SIR, I have the honor, by direction of the Minister, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd inst., enquiring on what terms the Government will grant you a timber limit in the North-West Territories, in townships 39, 40 and 41, in ranges 18, 19 and 20 west, and in reply herewith enclose a copy of the timber regulation. "I have the honor to be, Sir, "Your obedient servant, "A. RUSSELL, "For Surveyor General, "Gananoque, Ont."

Now, Sir, the application in this case covered timber in nine townships, it purported to be made for a friend whose name is not given, whether the friend was Mr. Taylor or somebody else, I do not know, but the reply is peculiar in its way. The reply is not that "your friend" can get a limit, but the terms are that the Government will grant you, George Taylor, whom the letter is addressed to, a timber limit. Now, Sir, I say that is ample justification for the statement I made. I have a word or two to say to another hon. member, who denied the charges I made. In a speech delivered by me at Wingham, I think in the month of January last, I charged that Mr. Peter White, of North Renfrew, was a director of the Pontiac Pacific Junction Railway, and while such director this road was bonused by the Administration to the extent of \$272,000. The hon. member for West Lambton (Mr. Lister), repeated that charge on the floor of Parliament, and stated further that the hon. member for North Renfrew was also a stockholder in the Ontario Pacific Railway and in the Ottawa, Waddington and Northern Transportation Railway \$166,000, and that the hon. member for Cornwall (Mr. Bergin) and the hon. member for Renfrew (Mr. White), are stockholders in that company."

Then the hon. gentleman said again:- "I find, Sir, that in 1885, this Parliament granted to the Ottawa, Waddington and Northern Transportation Railway \$166,000, and that the hon. member for North Renfrew (Mr. White), the hon. members for Ottawa (Mr. Tasse and Mr. Macintosh) are stockholders in the company." In reply to this charge, Mr. White said:- "I simply wish to say, in reference to these statements, that I am not now, and never have been, a stockholder in either of those companies. I regret I was temporarily absent from the House when the statement was made, and was consequently unable to deny them then, but I take this, the first opportunity which presents itself, to make the denial."

The words "Northern Transportation" is a misprint for the New York road. The hon. gentleman denied that he was a stockholder in the Ontario Pacific Railway. I do not know what he meant by a stockholder in the railway. But I find the Ontario Pacific Railway was incorporated on 17th May, 1882, and among the incorporators in the name of Peter White, member for North Renfrew. The hon. gentleman also denied that he ever was a shareholder in the Ottawa, Waddington and New York Railway. According to the Statutes that company was incorporated on 17th May, 1882, and among the charter members of the company stands the name of Peter White, M.P., North Renfrew. I apprehend that the same gentleman. I find also in a return submitted to Parliament the following letter from the President of the Pontiac Railway, which I will read to the House:-

PONTIAC PACIFIC JUNCTION RAILWAY, Montreal, 18th March, 1885. "A. P. Bradley, Esq., "Secretary Department of Railways and Canals, Ottawa. "SIR, In reply to your letter of the 14th inst., I have to say that the name of the president of the Pontiac Junction Railway is Louis Ruggles Church, the vice president is William B. McAllister. The other members of the

directorate are: Richard White, Peter White, M.P.; W. J. Cook, George O. Boulton, Hector W. McLean, and Hon. J. A. Chapleau. The only other shareholders apart from the directors above named is A. P. Frazon, C.E. The total amount of the stock held by the individuals is \$300,000, \$6,000 of which is held by George O. Boulton above named, and the balance is divided as nearly as possible equally among the other eight persons."

Yours very truly, (Signed) "L. RUGGLES CHURCH, "President P.P.J.R. Co."

This letter from the president of the railway, addressed to the Railway Department here, shows that the stock of the company was \$300,000, every dollar of which was held by those eight men, except \$6,000 held by F. A. Patterson, the balance of stock is held in about equal shares by the other eight stockholders-thus giving each a sum of \$36,750. The Secretary of State was a director, and his law partner was president of the company, and Richard White, manager of the Montreal, Ottawa, and brother of the Minister of Interior, was another director. I find that the hon. member for Russell (Mr. Dickinson) called in question the correctness of my statement also. On 10th May the hon. gentleman made use of the following language in explanation of the charge I made against the Government, not in, but out of Parliament-although I am quite prepared to make them in Parliament, as I have made most of them-but in a speech at Wingham, in which the following language was used:-

"Moss Kent Dickinson is the Tory member for Russell. He was first elected in 1882. I find first thing a Tory representative does is to look out for 'Number One,' and just here I must do Moss Kent the justice of saying that with marvellous success and in a wonderfully short space of time he learned the names of the members of Parliament. On the 13th October, 1882, less than four months after his election, he applied for fifty square miles of valuable timber limits, and his son applied for two other limits. Now, gentlemen, you can hardly expect that Moss Kent can against the Government who have so generously provided for him and his out of the public domain."

I am prepared to apologise to the member for Russell, because either I or the reporter made a slight error with respect to the dates of the application for limits made by the member for Russell. The dates of the application, instead of the dates of the grants are given. But the substantial charge is all the same true. The grants were made after the hon. gentleman was elected to Parliament. In reply to that charge the hon. gentleman said:-

"It is to be noted that the gravamen of the charge appears to be that I received that limit from the Government after I was a member of this House. So say I. The gravamen of the charge was that he received part of the public domain while a member of Parliament. That was not the first time he discussed the question. At Duncanville he drew the attention of his constituents to the matter, and in a report of the hon. gentleman's speech, which appeared in the Ottawa, and which I suppose was correct, he made use of the following language:-

"Then the grant was made before he was even nominated as a candidate for parliamentary honors, and it was granted just as any other limit would be, to any other person who applied for it and on the same terms. I simply wish to observe that he admits that the gravamen of the charge was that he got limits after he was elected. In his speech at Duncanville he declared that the grant was made before he was even nominated. In his speech in the House, he declared that he got no limits after he became a member of Parliament. I take issue with him upon both these points; I say both are incorrect, and I am prepared to prove it. The hon. gentleman was nominated on the 1st June, 1882. In the return submitted to Parliament for 1884, the following entry occurs:-

"File No. 2381-2758. George L. Dickinson, 5th June, 1882, applied for a limit." That was five days after his nomination. In the same return the following entry is made:-

"File No. 2758. George L. Dickinson, Manitow, Oct., 16th May, 1882, fifty square miles of coal lands." In the same return the following entry appears:-

"File No. 2052. M. K. Dickinson, Ottawa, Ont., 13th May, 1882. Forty-eight square miles. In return for 1883, No. 36, the following entry appears:-

"File No. 4359. John K. Dickinson, 4th November, 1882. Section 25, township 24, range 2, west, 5th principal meridian, 240 acres of coal lands. I do not say that this latter is a son of the hon. gentleman, although I am informed he is. There is another application from W. B. Dickinson for fifty square miles. The member for Russell got those limits after he won the election. Applications were made before, but not one single grant was made until after the seat was won. The fact of the matter is, as I stated before and as I state now, that those timber limits were held up dangling before the eyes of candidates and supporters of the Government until after the contest of 1882 was fought and won, and then those people appear to have got their reward. Let us see when the limits were granted, because I observe again that the gravamen of the charge is the granting of those limits after election. The hon. gentleman declared they were given before he was nominated, and I say they were given after his election. The Order in Council made in favor of Mr. Dickinson himself is dated 24th July, 1882, one month after the election took place. Another Order in Council is dated 12th July, 1882, and there is a third Order in Council on 24th December, 1883, one year and a half after his election. As to whether there were other Orders in Council or not, I do not know, but every single Order in Council granting those limits to him and his sons, was passed after the elections were over. In a speech delivered by me at Wingham I mentioned the name of the hon. member for

South Lanark (Mr. Haggart) as one of those who had received favors at the hands of the Government and who had been trafficking in the public domain. In the House on 4th May, the hon. member for North Norfolk (Mr. Charlton) repeated the charge in so far as the coal lands were concerned, and during the discussion the following passage at arms took place between those gentlemen with respect to the coal lands:-

"Mr. Haggart. An application that I made! For what? "Mr. Charlton. A coal lease. "Mr. Haggart. No, I did not. "Mr. Charlton. I found your name in the returns. "Mr. Haggart. No, you did not. "Mr. Charlton. Well, we will hunt it up."

The hon. member for North Norfolk did hunt it up, and on the 6th of May he read the following correspondence which took place between the Department and Mr. Haggart:-

OTTAWA, 9th December, 1882. "SIR, I have the honor to apply for a mining location, being west half of Section 16, Township 3, Range 3, west of second principal meridian, and I will comply with the requirements of the Statute and the regulations of the Department. "I have the honor to be, Sir, "JOHN HAGGART, "The Hon. the Minister of Interior, "Ottawa."

OTTAWA, 15th December, 1882. "SIR, I have the honor, by the direction of the Minister of Interior, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th inst., applying for a coal mine location, being the west half of Section 16, Township 3, Range 3, west of the second principal meridian, Northwest Territory. "I have the honor to be, Sir, "Your obedient servant, "A. RUSSELL, "For the Minister of Interior, "JOHN HAGGART, Esq., M.P., "Perth, Ontario."

Now, on the 4th of May, while the question of the disposal of timber limits by the Government and the parceling out of the resources of the country among their followers was being discussed, the hon. member for South Lanark made use of this language:-

"He (that is the member for South Lanark) was a charge against me, and I have been waiting a long time, for an opportunity to meet that hon. gentleman and see if he would dare repeat it in the House, or hear what his reason was for making the charge, but he might give it a flat contradiction. He stated in reference to me:-

"John Haggart, the Tory member for South Lanark, has managed to capture one of the 'lost' 320 acres of coal lands, a timber limit on the Shell River, at \$5 a square mile, an interest with Peter McLaren, of Rivers and streams Bill' notoriety, and in other portions of the public property, and is believed to have had an interest in more than one of the contracts on the Canadian Pacific Railway. Those who know John Haggart best say that there are many and peculiar reasons why he must stand firm by the Government."

And then he went on to say:- "I simply state that this is a cowardly, lying statement, framed out of the whole cloth, by a party who had not a particle of evidence to justify him in making the statement." Now, these are bold, brave words for the hon. member for South Lanark to make use of. But the hon. gentleman should recollect that strong language is not argument, and that emphatic denials are not always conclusive. The hon. member for South Lanark denied emphatically the charge made by myself, and repeated by the hon. member for North Norfolk, but two days afterwards the correspondence was produced and the hon. gentleman had to admit its correctness. Now, I say that if the hon. member for South Lanark had been as straightforward as I am, he would have written that letter and made that application, I would not have mentioned his name. But I charge that he did something more and that he got something more, as I shall prove by the blue-books before I am done. On the 20th May, 1884, Mr. Peter McLaren, a friend of the hon. gentleman, obtained a limit on the Turtle Mountains, on the application, as I understand, of the hon. member for South Lanark. But that is not all. What he got for his friend is the fact that I charge, but what he got for himself in the names of third parties. If you turn to the Sessions Papers of 1882, No. 30, page 9, you will find the following Order in Council passed by the Administration:-

"On a memorandum, dated 15th June, 1880, from the honorable the Minister of the Interior, reporting that certain applications for timber limits were received severally on the 20th September, 31st December and 3rd January last, from Messrs. John Shields, John Haggart, Peter McLaren, and Thomas Nichol, and recommending that fifty square miles on the Shell River, between Duck Mountain and the Assiniboine River, described in the said memorandum as parcel No. 1, be granted to the applicants, the license therefor to issue in the name of Peter McLaren, of the town of Perth, in the Province of Ontario. "Also, that fifty miles on the Fairford or Little Saskatchewan River, being the outlet of Lake Manitoba, at some point between the said Lake Manitoba and the Winnipeg, described in said memorandum as parcel No. 2, be granted to the applicants, the license to issue in the name of Thomas Nichol, of the said town of Perth. "The several applicants to have one year within which to furnish the Department of the Interior with a survey by metes and bounds, plan, description and field notes made by a Dominion land surveyor of the several tracts, which, if understood, shall each be in one block intact of fifty square miles. The bonus to be paid on the approval of the survey and the issue of the license, in the meantime the applicants to be permitted to erect their saw mill at a point within either of the said limits as they may decide, and to proceed with the manufacture of lumber from such limit, paying thereon the duties fixed by section 62 of the Dominion Lands Act, 1879, and also on the issue of the license and payment of the bonus, a sum of \$2 per square mile ground rent for one year for the limit on

which they may have erected the mill and entered upon the manufacture of lumber. "The committee submit the above recommendation for Your Excellency's approval, such license being from year to year. "Certified, "J. O. COTE, "Clerk Privy Council."

That is not all, Sir. I find on the same page of the same blue-book another Order-in-Council, dated the 17th February, 1881:-

"On a memorandum, dated 2nd February, 1881, from the hon. the Minister of the Interior, stating with reference to the grant of a timber limit of fifty square miles on the Fairford River in favor of Messrs. Shields, Haggart, McLaren and Ayer's Hair Vigor. "My hair was thinning, and fell out in large quantities. Ayer's Hair Vigor stopped the falling, and restored my hair to its original color. As a dressing for my hair, this preparation has no equal. Mary N. Hammond, Stillwater, Minn. "VIGOR, youth, and beauty, in the appearance of the hair, may be preserved for an indefinite period by the use of Ayer's Hair Vigor. "A disease of the scalp causes my hair to fall out, and my hair seems to be falling out freely. Nothing I tried seemed to do me any good until I commenced using Ayer's Hair Vigor. Three bottles have restored my hair to its original condition, and it is now soft and healthy. My scalp is cured, and it is also free from dandruff. - Mrs. E. R. Foss, Milwaukee, Wis.

"The Minister reports that Messrs McLaren & Co. also ask to have granted to them in the vicinity of said river (Shell River) an additional limit of 100 square miles, they to bind themselves to have a good grist mill in operation before the 1st day of January, 1883; that as the proposed exchange would give the applicants in all 100 square miles on the river, the Minister suggests that he can consistently recommend the additional limit asked for. "The Minister suggests that as the limits in question will be held by annual license and not under a twenty-one years lease, the bonus exacted be put in the form of an annual ground rent of \$5 per square mile. "The committee submit the foregoing recommendation for your Excellency's approval. "Certified, "J. O. COTE, "Clerk Privy Council"

Now, Sir, in the face of the facts I have stated, I think I have treated the hon. member for South Lanark with extreme moderation in my Wingham speech. That moderation does not seem to be appreciated, but that is not my fault. Now, if the hon. gentleman has a quarrel, let quarrel not with me but with the blue books submitted to Parliament and with the Orders in Council. I say in reference to this matter that it is not to be wondered at that members of Parliament and supporters of members of Parliament quarrelled, or even fought, in the resources of the country are their legitimate spoils when we find Ministers of the Crown and sons of Ministers of the Crown using their influence with the Administration in which their fathers hold important positions, to capture large portions of the public domain. It is bold enough, in all conscience, when we find members of Parliament and friends of members of Parliament trading in the resources of the country, but when we find members of the Government, Ministers of the Crown, the trustees of the people, the men who are supposed to look carefully into and guard the interests of the people, when we find them using their influence to advantage their own selves, then I say, Sir, that the people become a public outrage which should not be tolerated in this country for an hour. And I am satisfied that when the people of this country thoroughly understand it, and know how the public resources have been dealt with for the last four or five years, they will not tolerate it any longer. I find, for instance, that the Minister of Militia was an applicant to the Government of which he is now a member for fifty square miles on the 17th November, 1882. I find by the records of Parliament that the Minister of Militia is a stockholder in a railway bonused by this Government to the extent of \$96,000 two years ago. I find by the Votes and Proceedings of Parliament of two or three days ago, that this same railway, in which the Minister of Militia has a direct personal interest, is proposed to be bonused by an additional sum of \$186,295 of the people's money. I find that the Secretary of State is one of the Directors of the Pontiac Pacific Junction Railway, which was bonused in 1884 by this Administration, while the hon. gentleman was a member of the Administration, to the extent of \$272,000 of the people's money. Not only is he a director of that railway, but I believe he is the head and the middle and the tail of it. I find that this same Secretary of State, when a shareholder to the extent of \$12,000 in the Montreal and Western Railway, voted a bonus to that railway of \$16,000; and I find by the Votes and Proceedings of Parliament of two or three days ago that this same railway is to be further bonused to the extent of \$361,270. We all know that the Minister of Railways secured, from the Administration of which he was a member, an enormous bonus for the International Railway, which was owned and controlled by him while he was a member of Parliament and a member of that administration. I find that the Minister of Inland Revenue is a lessee, from this Administration of which he is now a member, of 59,000 acres of grazing lands on Mountain Creek, in the Northwest Territory, at 1 cent an acre, on which he never put one head of cattle, but which he got for purely speculative purposes, and holds for purely speculative purposes. I find that on the 16th of February, 1882, before he was a Minister, but while he was a member of Parliament, he applied for the portion of section 14, township 6, range 16, 330 acres of coal lands. I find that his son was a stockholder in the St. Catharines Milling Company, whose law costs this Government is paying to the extent of \$11,000, a law suit presented solely to deprive the Province of Ontario of its rights. I find that this company obtained a license from this Government to cut timber on 32,000 acres of land in the disputed territory. I find that H. A. Costigan, described as of Ingersoll, on the 10th of November, 1882, applied for

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JUST

BY ADEL AUTHOR OF "JANUARY" CHAPTER I

"I was thoroughly Miss D.'s interference worse to come, versally regarded mentor, too-h to my cousin; straight to him; turned into the ed, at his own s minister, Mr. M. haided, stern- sense of duty- a very tender h several times d "Will you stop in said. "There's a talk over with y "I guessed wh to get out of it. - which was a l hurry," said the am well assured, tance; "I have say." So I went "No need to f It was the same! What was Bertie he not making h Was I aware of t course? "I lost my tes not Bertie's key took me by th him," he said gr you may guess- I should not ha Douglas refused and declared d tively justify- I cannot I said I "I as done: If he c himself, how o it seems to me s people should s with a man's p I offended th you think I s I have known Robinson for I like to see 1868 Bertie's 15th and I knew- his knew your fat added in a kin do but apolog say that I wou of the matter w refrain, howe wonder that his property to an unworldly unaid called it. "Yes a small counte he said. "We Any piece of a semi-public sta to his neighbor vis may not be at large, but h is great enoug All his deing ed upon." If self, Heaven u laid of Glen pla "It is bad t observed Lad, above senten not forget th But Beatrice! "However did not lea gossip, but fr source. Dr yesterday's m but he did n information. "I suppose it is my duty know how I is not in th stance from sh all quarrel, arrangement The next later. "I have- Mail, offering There is Hoff Central send me 11 at the Morv if necessary, I shall find after the p make. Ber with Mrs. I will be bac it out with the meani portmanteau Here hall next entry, as if to plac taken place ner of life. "The M thought. I breach. I