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continue. In other words, it is the intention of the new Administration that real of-fenders against the law shall be severely dealt with, but to grant due protection to those who do not infringe on the law and lay themselves open to legitimate prosecution.

No Prosecution Without Proof.

Under the new order of things, the Interior Department will have exclusive jurisdiction over the enforcement of the public land law: an, the detection of of-fenses against those laws. Whenever the interior Department finds evidence of violation it will present that evidence to the Department of Justice, and that department will have sole jurisdiction over prosecutions. But, according to Secretary Ballinger, there will be no re-ports to the Department of Justice until the Interior Department has sufficient evidence to serve constitute.

evidence to secure conviction. Secretary Ballinger has a high regard for the law. The land laws will be en-forced as they are written and have been interpreted by the courts. There will be interpreted by the courts. There will be no attempt to write into the law what Congress has failed to enact; neither will the separtment countenance the failure of entrymen to live up to the meaning of the statute. In years past, particularly when Mr. Hitchcock was Secretary of the Inferior, mere suspicion on the part of a special agent was often sufficient grounds for renorting a supposed fraudulent entry to

aporting a supposed fraudulent entry to the Department of Justice. Attorney-teneral Bonaparte referred .uch reports the Department of Justice. Attorney-General Bonaparte referred ...ch reports to his subordinates, and on insufficient evidence many indictments were re-turned. In that nammer innocent men were injured, though a great many gollty were brought to justice. Another evil that grew up under Mr. Hitchcock was the issuance of department regula-tions making requirements of settlers which were not set forth in the law. Not a few men were indicted and some of them tried for violations-not of the law, but of arbitrary segmations issued by the Secretary of the Interior. The Attorney-General failed to fraw the dis-tinction between violations, and in con-sequence the Government loss in many of its land fraud cases. Yet these very prosecutions wrought untoid injury to the men accused, which their ultimate acquittal failed fully to correct. Mr. Ballinger not only knows the distinction between the law and a departmental reg-ulation, but will modify the regulations to conform to the statutes.

to conform to the statutes. Heretofore, particularly in the days of Mr. Hitchcock, a man was' denied the right, under a departmental regulation, to sell or agree to sell a timber entry prior to making final proof. The Su-preme Court has held that a timber en-tryman may, at any time after making his initial entry, take steps to dispose of his iand as he sees fit. Thus, the Hitchcock regulation, under which many Mitchoock regulation, under which many men were indicted, is contrary to the law and cannot stand. Mr. Ballinger says that the rulings of the Supreme Court will be binding upon his entire depart-ment, regardless of prior practice.

Insist on Rigid Enforcement.

But as for the detection of future of-fenses against the land laws, Mr. Ballfenses against the land laws, Mr. Ball-inger states, in the strongest manner, that he will insist upon a rigid enforce-ment of the law. Every effort will be made to detect evasions of the land laws, and the entire regular force of agents provided by Congress will be employed in seeing that the law is compiled with. The offensive manner in which some epecial agents have operated, to the embarrassment and detriment of honest settlers, will not be countenanced. At the same time, agents in the field will be required, when evidence of fraud or evision is found, to go to the bottom. Ne snap-judgment will be taken; mere opinionis are not asked for: it is evi-dence that the Secretary will require. These agents will have to furnish the foundation upon which prosecutions will oundation upon which prosecutions will be based.

foundation upon which prosecutions will be based. In the days when Mr. Hitchcock was all-powerful, special agents of the land office, as well as inspectors, were sent forth into the field with the understand-ing that they must find frand, or their places would be filled by men who could find it. The consequence was that the interior Department was flooded with reports, many of them absolutely worth-less-but all telling of what the agents believed to be most appalling frauds. Under this Administration, special agents and inspectors are instructed to see that the requirements of the law are met, but there is no threat held over them that, if they fail to uproot whole-sale corruption, they will loss their posi-tions. They are expected to find out the true conditions, and not to report fraud where there is no fraud, nor to report fraud unless they can also produce the evidence.

The man who abides by and complies with the law will have nothing to fear; he who undertakes to evade the law and to acquire illegally portions of the pub-lie domain will have as much, or more cause for concern now than he had in the past, and if he leaves his tracks un-covered will meet with severe punish-

ment. As to the prosecution, there will be the same change as in the Interior De-partment. Evidence submitted by spe-elal agents of the Interior Department will be carefully examined before steps are taken to secure indictments. The Department of Justice Intends to satisfy itself as to the cosmable sufficiency of evidence before it allows cases to go