

## CHAPTER XII.

## DOMINION LANDS.

493. Owing to the unfortunate outbreak in the North-West in the spring of last year, the number of homestead and pre-emption entries made during 1885 was considerably smaller than had been previously expected, and, as is shown by the following summary of entries and sales, was much behind the figures of the preceding year:—

	1884.	1885.
Homesteads.....	533,280 acres.	209,552 acres.
Pre emptions.....	364,060 “	106,218 “
Sales.....	213,172 “	126,049 “

494. The following is a comparative statement of the transactions in Dominion lands, from 1872 to 31st October, 1885:—

Year.	Homesteads. — Area.	Pre-emptions. — Area.	Sales. — Area.	Total. — Area.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
To 1872.....	40,000	1,600	15,200	56,800
1873.....	136,640	2,400	16,620	155,660
1874.....	215,520	101,461	17,713	334,694
1875.....	84,480	67,314	4,908	156,702
1876.....	52,960	40,406	39,562	132,928
1877.....	145,280	107,715	170,989	428,984
1878.....	308,640	275,240	125,380	709,260
1879.....	555,296	270,178	271,343	1,096,817
Oct. 31, 1880.....	280,640	140,790	260,797	682,227
do 1881.....	438,707	263,647	355,166	1,057,520
do 1882.....	1,181,652	904,211	613,282	2,699,145
do 1883.....	970,719	659,120	202,143	1,831,982
do 1884.....	533,280	364,060	213,172	1,110,512
do 1885.....	249,552	106,213	126,049	481,814

495. The next table gives the total amount of pre-emption and homestead fees, and proceeds of sales, received in each year from 1st July, 1872, to 30th June,