

158. The number of entries cancelled has been decreasing steadily. In 1874, 64 per cent of the homestead and 94 per cent of the pre-emption entries were cancelled; in 1893,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per cent were cancelled. The number of entries in 1893 was 4,067, and in 1874 there were 2,019 entries. The entries in the departmental year 1894 were 3,209; in the calendar year 1894 they were 3,174.

The following statement shows the number of homestead and pre-emption entries reported in each year since 1874 and the number and proportion of those entries which have been cancelled for non-fulfilment of the conditions of entry:—

YEAR.	HOMESTEADS.			PRE-EMPTIONS.		
	Number of Entries.	Number cancelled.	Per-centage.	Number of Entries.	Number cancelled.	Per-centage.
1874.....	1,376	888	64	643	610	94
1875.....	499	301	60	391	228	58
1876.....	347	153	44	263	135	51
1877.....	845	455	53	594	350	58
1878.....	1,788	1,376	76	1,580	928	58
1879.....	4,068	2,037	50	1,729	1,452	83
1880.....	2,074	675	32	1,004	489	48
1881.....	2,753	935	33	1,649	770	46
1882.....	7,483	3,466	46	5,654	3,047	53
1883.....	6,063	1,787	29	4,120	1,529	37
1884.....	3,753	1,110	29	2,762	983	35
1885.....	1,858	578	31	653	383	57
1886.....	2,657	778	29	1,046	390	37
1887.....	2,036	435	22	585	212	36
1888.....	2,655	608	22	454	176	38
1889.....	4,416	1,456	32	1,355	533	39
1890.....	2,955	682	23	371	.....	.....
1891.....	3,523	735	20	.....	.....	.....
1892.....	4,840	912	18	.....	.....	.....
1893.....	4,067	400	9	.....	.....	.....
Departmental year 1894	3,209	92	2	.....	.....	.....
Calendar year 1894.....	3,174	127	3	.....	.....	.....

159. The following statements give the letters patent issued and the homestead entries reported, with the cancellations:—

YEAR.	LETTERS PATENT.	
	Number issued.	Number cancelled.
Departmental year ending 31st October, 1874.....	536	6
“ “ “ 1875.....	492	4
“ “ “ 1876.....	375	4
“ “ “ 1877.....	2,136	13
“ “ “ 1878.....	2,597	32
“ “ “ 1879.....	2,194	57