

of the provisions under which the control is to be exercised are departures from the methods heretofore adopted on this continent, but those best qualified to judge speak of the system adopted as calculated to establish irrigation enterprises upon a sound basis.

At the close of the season of 1898 there were 177 irrigation ditches and canals in operation in southern Alberta and western Assiniboia. These have a carrying capacity sufficient to irrigate 103,000 acres. The results which have followed have been most encouraging. There is now no reason to doubt that through irrigation a large portion of Assiniboia and Alberta will be rendered fruitful every year, and the element of uncertainty caused by variations in the rainfall altogether eliminated from the calculations of those engaged in extensive agricultural operations.

The Provincial Crown Lands are situated within the limits of the several provinces, and are controlled by the respective governments, from whom particulars of transactions concerning them can always be obtained. Summaries of the regulations for the disposition of Dominion Lands, Provincial Lands and the lands belonging to the principal railway companies who have received land subsidies in Manitoba and the North-west Territories are given below.

LAND REGULATIONS.

Under the Dominion Lands Regulations, all surveyed even-numbered sections (excepting 8 and 26) in Manitoba and the North-west Territories, which have not been homesteaded, reserved to provide wood lots for settlers, or otherwise disposed of or reserved, are to be held exclusively for homesteads.

1. Homestead Entry for one quarter section (160 acres) of surveyed agricultural land, open to such entry, may be obtained by any person who is the sole head of a family, or by any male who has attained the age of eighteen years, on application to the local agent of Dominion Lands, and on payment of an office fee of \$10.

The homesteader must perfect his entry by beginning actual residence on his homestead, and cultivation of a reasonable portion thereof, within six months from the date of entry, unless entry shall have been made on or after the first day of September, in which case residence need not commence until the first day of June following, and continue to live upon and cultivate the land for at least six months out of every twelve months for three years from date of perfecting the homestead entry.

In the event of a homesteader desiring to secure his patent within a shorter period than the three years provided by law, he will be permitted to purchase his homestead at the Government price at the time of entry, on furnishing proof that he has resided on the land for at least twelve months from the date of his perfecting his homestead entry, and that he has brought at least thirty acres thereof under cultivation.

2. In connection with his homestead entry, the settler may also purchase, subject to the approval of the Minister of the Interior, the quarter section of the same section, if available, adjoining his homestead, at the Government price, which is at the present time \$3 per acre; one fourth of the purchase money to be in cash, and the balance in three equal annual instalments bearing interest at 6 per cent per annum.