

ADMINISTRATION.

three years, must have erected a habitable house thereon, must have at least 30 acres of his holding broken of which 20 acres must be cropped, and must be a British subject.

According to figures supplied by the Department of the Interior a total area of 124,399,608 acres of Dominion Lands has been alienated, this area being equal to 5,400 townships or to 194,400 square miles. As the number of acres surveyed to January 1, 1913, was 154,552,067 acres, equal to 6,708 townships or to 241,488 square miles, there remains still for disposal a surveyed area of about 30,000,000 acres.

During the calendar year 1912 the total number of ordinary homestead entries for lands of the Dominion Government was 35,538, as compared with 38,909 in 1911, 48,257 in 1910, and 37,061 in 1909. In 1912, 3,133 entries were made in Manitoba against 2,944 in 1911, 18,425 in Saskatchewan against 20,681 in 1911, 13,668 in Alberta against 14,960 in 1911 and 312 in British Columbia against 324 in 1911. The number of pre-emptions under the Dominion Lands Act was 8,947 in 1912 (5,846 in Saskatchewan and 3,101 in Alberta) against 10,583 in 1911 (6,714 in Saskatchewan and 3,869 in Alberta). The number of purchased homesteads under the Act was 1,149 in 1912 (799 in Saskatchewan and 350 in Alberta) against 1,514 in 1911 (1,109 in Saskatchewan and 405 in Alberta). The entries for South African volunteer homesteads numbered 166 in 1912 (2 in Manitoba, 77 in Saskatchewan and 87 in Alberta) against 2,064 in 1911 (8 in Manitoba, 1,075 in Saskatchewan and 981 in Alberta). Tables 7 and 8 give statistics of homestead entries for Dominion lands during the five fiscal years 1908 to 1912.

In the Maritime provinces, in Quebec and in Ontario the public lands are administered by the provincial governments. In Prince Edward Island all the land is settled. In Nova Scotia there are now no free grants of land. In New Brunswick the virgin lands are practically free. In Quebec the area of the public lands, sub-divided and available for alienation by sale or free grants was at June 30, 1912, 7,066,756 acres. During the year ended June 30, 1912, according to the last-issued Report of the Quebec Minister of Lands and Forests, 179,130 acres were sold for settlement or other purposes at the price of \$53,669, this representing an average price of about 30 cents per acre. In Ontario almost all the free grant land in the province, exclusive of the new district of Patricia, has been taken up, but there are vast areas still available at 50 cents per acre. In British Columbia any British subject being the head of a family, a widow, a femme sole who is over eighteen years of age and self-supporting, a woman deserted by her husband, a woman whose husband has not contributed to her support for two years, a bachelor over eighteen years, or any alien on his making a declaration of his intention to become a British subject, may pre-empt out of the unoccupied and unreserved Crown lands, not being an Indian settlement, 160 acres at the price of \$1 per acre, to be paid in four equal instalments.