

PUBLIC LANDS.

Algoma, Timiskaming, Thunder Bay, Kenora and Rainy River, and in the counties of Haliburton, Peterborough, Hastings, Frontenac, Lennox and Addington and Renfrew. In Northern Ontario, which comprises the territory lying north and west of the Ottawa and French rivers, the townships open for sale are subdivided into lots of 320 acres, or sections of 640 acres, and a half lot or quarter section of 160 acres is allowed to each applicant at the price of 50 cents per acre, payable one-fourth cash and the balance in three annual instalments with interest at 6 p.c. The applicant must be a male (or sole female), head of a family, or a single man over 18 years of age. The conditions of purchase include occupation by the purchaser within six months from date of purchase, the erection of a house, the clearance and cultivation of at least 10 p.c. of the area and three years' residence. Proxy regulations enable an individual to purchase a half lot of 160 acres and place an agent in residence, but the duties to be performed before issue of patent are double those required in ordinary purchases. Free grants and homesteads are available on lands within the districts of Algoma, Nipissing, Thunder Bay, Sudbury, Rainy River and Kenora, and between the Ottawa River and the Georgian Bay, comprising portions of the counties of Renfrew, Frontenac, Addington, Hastings, Peterborough and Haliburton and the districts of Muskoka and Parry Sound. Grants of 160 acres are made to either single or married men in free grant territories where the land is subdivided in sections of 320 acres. In the Huron and Ottawa territory an allowance for waste lands may increase the grant of a single man to an area not exceeding 200 acres, while heads of families may secure 200 acres free and purchase an additional 100 acres at 50 cents an acre. The settlement duties for free grants are as follows: (a) at least 15 acres to be cleared and brought under cultivation, of which 2 acres at least are to be cleared and cultivated annually during three years; (b) a habitable house to be built at least 16 x 20 feet in size; (c) actual and continuous residence upon and cultivation of the land for three years after location and thence to the issue of the patent. The mines and minerals and all timber other than pine, and in some cases the pine, are covered by the patent.

Ranching lands of prospective quality may be obtained on reasonable terms in waste and wooded areas, the valley of the Trent River lying between Lake Ontario and the Georgian Bay affording good opportunities for cattle and sheep raising.

Ontario includes over 230 million acres of land, of which only 13½ million acres are under cultivation. More than 20 million acres of the very finest arable land await the plough. Ontario is 3½ times as large as the British Isles and 1½ times as large as Texas. From east to west its borders are 1,000 miles apart, and from north to south 1,075 miles. Recent railway construction and colonization road building have made accessible vast tracts of untilled farm land and virgin forests in Northern Ontario.

In British Columbia there are large areas of free grant land. 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