

ACREAGE LOCATED.

The total acreage located from 1868 up to the end of 1871, deducting cancellations for non-fulfilment of settlement duties, was	348,780 acres.
or an average per year of	87,195 "
The total acreage located from 1872 up to the end of 1882, deducting cancellations as above, was.....	1,237,621 "
or an average per year of	112,511 "
The average increase per year, during the latter period, was thus 25,316 acres, or 29 per cent.	

The total acreage located and permanently settled on, up to the end of 1882, was 1,581,666, as compared with 348,780, the acreage located up to the end of 1871.

NUMBER OF LOCATEES.

The number of persons located from 1868 to end of 1871, less cancellations, was.....	2,769
From 1868 to end of 1882 the number was	10,061

RECAPITULATION.

The increase of acreage of Free Grants in actual occupation in 1882 over 1871, was	1,237,621 acres.
The number of locations actually occupied in 1882 over 1871, was.....	7,292
The number of townships surveyed in 1882 over those surveyed up to end of 1871, was.....	69

A PARTIAL EXPLANATION.

This progress in the settlement of our new and free grant territory will be considered most encouraging and satisfactory by every fair-minded person, when it is remembered that for the last few years the North-West Territory has overshadowed every other field for immigration. That the unsettled districts of our Province have been able to compete so successfully with the rich prairie country of the North-West, may to some extent be explained and accounted for by the fact that the intending settler has not been hampered, in selecting his lot and making his location, by unwise regulations, and by his finding locked up in the hands of companies and speculators the lands that should have been left open and free for *bona fide* settlement.

WORK CONNECTED WITH FREE GRANTS.

It may be pointed out that the amount of work and expense connected with the giving away of land under the Free Grants Act is fully as great as, if not greater than, that which attends the disposal of it by sale. When a man buys a lot, all that the Department has to do is simply to carry out the sale and receive the money when paid in by the purchaser; whereas