

FREE GRANTS, PRE-EMPTIONS, ETC.

How to obtain them in the Canadian North-West.

DOMINION 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 and pre-emptions.

HOMESTEADS.—Homesteads may be obtained upon payment of an Office Fee of Ten Dollars, subject to the following conditions as to residence and cultivation:

In the "Mile Belt Reserve," that is the even-numbered sections lying within one mile of the Main Line or Branches of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and which are not set apart for town sites or reserves made in connection with town sites, railway stations, mounted police post, mining and other special purposes, the homesteader shall begin actual residence upon his homestead within six months from the date of entry and shall reside upon and make the land his home for at least six months out of every twelve months for three years from the date of entry; and shall, within the first year after the date of his homestead entry, break and prepare for crop ten acres of his homestead section; and shall within the second year crop the said ten acres, and break and prepare for crop fifteen acres additional; making twenty-five acres; and within the third year after the date of his homestead entry, he shall crop the said twenty-five acres, and break and prepare for crop fifteen acres additional—so that within three years of the date of his homestead entry, he shall have not less than twenty-five acres cropped, and fifteen acres additional broken and prepared for crop.

Land other than that included in Mile Belt, Town Site Reserves, and Coal and Mineral Districts, may be homesteaded in either of the three following methods:—

1. The homesteader shall begin actual residence on his homestead and cultivation of a reasonable portion thereof within six months from date of entry, unless entry shall have been made on or after the 1st day of September, in which case residence need not commence until the 1st day of June following, and continue to live upon and cultivate the land for at least six months out of every twelve months for the three.

2. The homesteader shall begin actual residence, as above, within a radius of two miles of his homestead, and continue to make his home within such radius for at least six months out of every twelve months for the three years next succeeding the date of homestead entry; and shall within the first year from date of entry break and prepare for crop ten acres of his homestead quarter section; and shall within the second year crop the said ten acres, and break and prepare for crop fifteen acres additional—making twenty-five acres; and within the third year after the date of his homestead entry he shall crop the said twenty-five acres, and break and prepare for crop fifteen acres additional, so that within three years of the date of his homestead entry he shall have not less than twenty-five acres cropped, and shall have erected on the land a habitable house in which he shall have lived during the three months next preceding his application for homestead patent.

3. The homesteader shall commence the cultivation of his homestead within six months after the date of entry, or if the entry was obtained after the first day of September in any year, then before the first day of June following; shall within the first year break and prepare for crop not less than five acres of his homestead; shall within the second year crop the said five acres, and break and prepare for crop not less than ten acres in addition, making not less than fifteen acres in all; shall have erected a habitable house on the homestead before the expiration of the second year, and on or before the commencement of the third year shall have begun to reside in the said house, and shall have continued to reside therein and cultivate his homestead for not less than three years next prior the date of his application for patent.

In the event of a homesteader desiring to secure his patent within a shorter period than the three or five years, as the case may be, he will be permitted to purchase his homestead, or homestead and pre-emption, as the case may be, on furnishing proof that he has resided on the homestead for at least twelve months subsequent to date of entry, and in case entry was made after the 25th day of May, 1883, has cultivated thirty acres thereof.

PRE-EMPTIONS.—Any homesteader may, at the same time as he makes his homestead entry, but not at a later date, should there be available land adjoining the homestead, enter an additional quarter section as a pre-emption, on payment of an office fee of ten dollars.

The pre-emption right entitles a homesteader, who obtains entry for a pre-emption, to purchase the land so pre-empted on becoming entitled to his homestead patent; but should the homesteader fail to fulfil the homestead conditions he forfeits all claim to his pre-emption.

The price of pre-emptions, not included in Town Site Reserves, is two dollars and fifty cents an acre. Where land is north of the northerly limit of the land grant, along the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and is not within twenty-four miles of any branch of that Railway, or twelve miles of any other Railway, pre-emptions may be obtained for two dollars per acre.

Payments for land may be in cash, scrip, or Police or Military Bounty warrants.

TIMBER.—Homestead settlers, whose land is destitute of timber, may, upon payment of an office fee of fifty cents, procure from the Crown Timber Agent a permit to cut the following quantities of timber free of dues: 30 cords of wood, 1,800 lineal feet of house logs, 2,000 fence rails, and 400 fool rails.

In cases where there is timbered land in the vicinity, available for the purpose, the homestead settler, whose land is without timber, may purchase a wood lot, not exceeding in area 20 acres at the price of five dollars per acre cash.

Licenses to cut timber on lands within surveyed townships may be obtained. The lands covered by such licenses are thereby withdrawn from homestead and pre-emption entry, and from sale.

INFORMATION.—Full information respecting the land, timber, coal and mineral laws, and copies of the regulations, may be obtained upon application to THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, Ottawa, Ontario; THE COMMISSIONER OF DOMINION LANDS, Winnipeg, Manitoba; or to any of the Dominion Lands Agents in Manitoba or the North-West Territories.

A. M. BURGESS, Dep. Minister of Interior.