

ly pointed out that it was too late in the year to do so with any expectation of success.

"Them's my pertiters, aint they?" asked the immigrant.

"They are".

"It's my land, aint it?"

"It is".

"It's my loss if they don't grow, aint it?"

"Certainly."

"Then what the 'ell is it to you? Seems to me some folks is too fond of interfering."

But to the credit of such new chums it must be stated that though they generally try their own way first they invariably adopt the methods of the country and prove a success.

There is probably no Department that represents the Government to the population in the West more prominently than the Interior does to the settlers, and it is with them that this Branch has to do. It is in direct touch with the public, looking after them with almost paternal solicitude, keeping them in the right way and eventually rewarding them with patents for the lands they have taken up, whether as homesteads, pre-emptions or purchased homesteads.

What the Dominion Lands Branch has done and is doing is best known to those whose connection with it and the country dates back to the early days before settlement actually commenced. Under its rule the lands have been taken up, conditions made and sometimes changed, but having always in view the welfare of the settler. The vast tracts of land hitherto untenanted have been occupied, villages and towns established, with railways and other signs of civilization. The result of the policy in administering these lands is apparent in the progress of the country and the general prosperity which we find reflected in the splendid reputation enjoyed by Canada throughout the world.

The staff employed at the Head

Office in administering lands numbers as follows:—

Commissioner and his staff	11
Dominion Lands Branch	51

NEW INVENTIONS.

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- 1,023,432—Stenographer's Desk.
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