the person to when the same has been granted to take possession of the land described in it.

## THE POSITION OF "SQUATTERS."

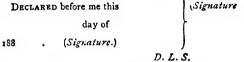
No entry can, of course, be made for lands still unsurveyed or (even if surveyed) not yet officially in the hands of a Local Agent for disposal. A settler therefore who makes improvements under such circumstances does so entirely at his own risk, and must look solely to actual continuous residence and practical cultivation as the grounds upon which to establish an equitable right to hold his claim. No time should be lost by such a settler, however, in asserting his claim at the earliest moment when such can effectually be done.

A settler who has taken up land in advance of the surveys \* should keep a bright look-out for the arrival, sooner or later, of the surveyors in his locality. In addition to furnishing all necessary verbal information, he should be particular to make before the Dominion Land Surveyor at the head of the party an affidavit after the following form, to be forwarded to Ottawa with the other official returns of the survey:—

. 21

STATUTORY DECLARATION OF OCCUPATION.

I,	formerly of	
in the	solemnly declare :	
That I first entered i	nto occupation of and	began continuous
residence upon the		
quarter of Section	in Township No.	Range
on the	day of	18
tent each season, since		
That I am not aware section.	of any other claimant	to the said quarter
section.	1	
DECLARED before m	e this	Signature



In the event of a dispute between two or more squatters as to the right to hold lands taken up in edvance of the surveys, the law declares that the homestead right shall belong to him who made the first settlement on the land in question. In cases, however, where it is shown that the contending parties have each made valuable improvements on the disputed claim, the Minister of the Interior has power, on the survey of the township in which the lands are situate taking place, to order a division of the same so as to preserve to the rival claimants, so far as practicable, their own several improvements; and he has authority further to direct that whatever the land thus apportioned to each such claimant may be deficient of the conventional area of a homestead (160 acres) may be made up to him out of unoccupied quarter-sections adjoining.

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<sup>•</sup> Such settler would act wisely in driving in pickets to mark the Boundaries of the land he desires to hold as a homestead. These boundaries should be laid off east-and-west and northand-south, as near as may be, a distance of 40 chains (half a mile) on each side. Upon every picket the claimant should cut in his name in read-able characters.