

THE CENSUS.

The following table shows the population of the Provinces comprising the Dominion, as it was at the last Census, and as it is expected to be each year until the next:

Provinces.	Year of Last Census.	Population by Last Census.			Expected Population in January,	
		Males.	Females.	Total.	1870.	1871.
Ontario	January, 1861..	725,575	670,516	1,396,091	2,047,334	2,136,308
Quebec	Do.	507,864	543,702	1,111,566	1,387,884	1,422,546
New Brunswick	Do.	129,948	122,099	252,047	319,398	327,800
Nova Scotia	Do.	165,584	165,273	330,857	389,343	396,449
Newfoundland.....	1857,	65,118	59,170	124,288	130,000	130,000
The North-West	Estimate, 1861.	51,000	50,000	101,000	102,000	110,000
The Dominion		1,705,089	1,610,760	3,315,849	4,375,959	4,523,103
Add—not yet incorporated—						
Prince Edward Island, 1861.....		40,880	39,977	80,857	97,246	99,261
British Columbia—estimate		26,000	25,000	51,000	52,000	55,000
Total, British North America		1,771,969	1,675,737	3,447,706	4,525,205	4,677,364

The number assigned to the present population, it must be remembered, is only an estimate. It is founded on the rate of increase between the two last Census, which was—in Ontario, 4.34 per cent; in Quebec, 2.50 per cent; in New Brunswick, 2.60 per cent; in Nova Scotia, 1.82 per cent; in Prince Edward Island, 2.07 per cent; in Newfoundland, about 1.50 per cent per annum. This appears to be the best available means for calculation now, although it is to be hoped that, at no distant day, the Municipal Returns, which are regularly made in Ontario, and those which should be made for Quebec, will afford a better means of ascertaining the annual progress of population in those Provinces; while, perhaps, the militia musters and school returns may be of service, in the same way, throughout the Dominion. In truth, however, it must be remembered that the Census of 1861, at least for Quebec and Ontario, was lamentably faulty. The writer has official experience of the great difficulty of completing, accurately, any great work of the kind, while the subordinate compilers throughout the Province are untrained, inaccurate, perhaps careless—if not worse—and is, therefore, predisposed to look on it with a lenient eye; but the fact is, that the Census of 1861 is a monument of incapacity on the part of all concerned in its preparation—and as we really have no means of stating, within a couple of hundred thousand, what the population in 1861 was, or what was the real rate of increase between 1852 and 1861, these calculations partake very much of the nature of guess-work.

Of a somewhat unsatisfactory nature, too, are the figures respecting the births and deaths. There is, however, a general resemblance between the results they indicate and the above figures. A table, comparing this rate with that which prevails in European countries, is to be found at page 6 of the *Year Book* for 1869. This shows the natural increase of the population of these Provinces, in the Census year, to have been—Ontario, 3.10; Quebec, 2.50; New Brunswick, 2.52; Nova Scotia, 1.68 per cent. We add—Newfoundland, 2.10, and Prince Edward Island, 1.71 per cent. The increase or decrease, by immigration or emigration, has, of course, to be added to these figures, to bring them into harmony or contrast with the preceding set.

This natural increase, which is about 2.67 of the population of the Dominion, is 0.60 per cent greater than that of the United States, and from 1 to 2 per cent greater than that of European States—stimulated, of course, by the abundance of food here. The question as to whether it is likely to be permanent, after the second or third generation, is, however, far from being decided—the writer's present belief being that it is not. It would appear, from his investigations, that the vitality of the Caucasian race languishes, after about a hundred years, on American soil; and if this be true, the Mongolian immigration, which is assuming important proportions on the Pacific slope, will, in all probability, give its tone to the civilization of the continent, no further off than the time of our great-grandchildren.

The addition of Newfoundland to the Dominion alters somewhat the figures given in previous *Year Books*, as to the origins and creeds of its people, in the last Census. The figures for the five Provinces are—

Origins.	Natives of the Dominion and P. E. Island.	Natives of England and Wales.	Natives of Ireland.	Natives of Scotland.	Natives of Foreign Countries.	Total.
Ontario	911,963	114,914	191,431	98,892	78,891	1,396,091
Quebec	1,017,925	13,821	50,337	13,204	16,279	1,111,566
New Brunswick	208,166	4,909	30,179	5,199	3,594	252,047
Nova Scotia	299,335	3,188	9,313	16,395	2,626	330,857
Newfoundland	111,874	3,916	7,733	624	141	124,288
Total	2,549,263	140,748	288,993	134,314	101,531	3,214,849
Prince Edward Island	66,800	2,619	5,171	5,903	364	80,857