

half, were of British origin. But the total of British emigration to the United States from 1815 to 1871, as given in Imperial records, was 4,472,672, shewing an annual average of 81,321. The average annual immigration from all countries since 1819 is over 150,000. This fully accounts for the very high annual ratio of increase of the population. But the increase without immigration, according to some of their best writers, would be much lower than that of Great Britain, and probably as low as that of France.

As already shown, the population of Upper Canada in 1821 was 129,100; the late census gave her 1,620,351; so that by natural increase and immigration, she has repeated her numbers more than twelve times in 50 years. Lower Canada had 397,600 persons in 1821; by the late census her population is 1,191,575; she has, therefore, trebled her numbers in 50 years, notwithstanding the recent large movement of her people to the U. S., already noticed. And all such movements should be embraced in the calculations for both Lower and Upper Canada, when comparing them with the U. S., since there has been no emigration from the latter country. Quebec and Ontario combined have more than quintupled their population in 50 years; while the Republic has only quadrupled hers; for in 1820 her numbers were 9,638,131 and 38,555,983 in 1870.

DEATH RATES.

Other things being equal, as food, clothing and dwelling improve, the life of man is lengthened, as a general rule; and in consequence of improvements in these respects, the death rate is becoming gradually less in England. It is now estimated at 1 death annually to 47 living persons. In 1830, it was 1 to 45.

In the U. States, by the censuses of 1850 and 1860, it is placed at 1 to 79, as the mean ratio for the entire Union. And in Dakota Territory, very recently settled, it is given as 1 death to 1209 living persons?

Regular records of mortality were carefully kept by the French Clergy in L. Canada from 1665 to 1759, for the entire community, (they are still kept for their own people,) and the mean of them all for these 94 years was very nearly 1 death annually to 60 living persons; and certainly L. Canada is a much healthier region of this continent than the U. States, taken as a whole. But to do them justice, the compilers of the census of 1860 state, that even in sober New England, the estimated rate is unreliable. As no regular bills of mortality are kept in Canada, except those already mentioned, no reliable death rate can be given for the Dominion. From its geographical position, however, the climate of the entire region is much more conducive to longevity than that of the great Republic south of us, which extends to the borders of the torrid zone.

Ontario has recently enacted a Registration law; but its value, so far, may be estimated from the following fact: the Report for 1871 gives 111 births and 40 deaths for the entire city of Ottawa, for that year; (population 21,545,) while the well kept books of the Catholic Church alone give 649 births and 394 deaths for the same year!

Something should certainly be done to remedy an evil so serious as this, and to secure for the Dominion a uniform and reliable Registration law, and its efficient enforcement, so that all kinds of statistics could be

collected annually, as in England. And it is gratifying to find, from the Report just published, that the Hon. Mr. Pope, the present Minister of Agriculture, intends to organize the proper instrumentalities for this very important work.

BRITISH CENSUS.

To prepare for taking the late British census, England and Wales were divided into 32,696 districts, each of which averaged about $1\frac{1}{2}$ square miles; and to each of these an Enumerator was appointed. Including Registrars, there were altogether 35,430 local officers engaged in the work. Each Enumerator recorded, on an average, 696 names. The enquiries were restricted to the social status of the population, and were all recorded in 7 columns, on a single page, smaller than foiscap. The labor of taking the census is thus lightened, because in Great Britain, all others statistics are taken annually; whereas in Canada and the U. States, the multitudinous "other statistics" are collected only in the decennial years, and *with the census*. This fact, together with the immense extent of country to be canvassed, will fully account for the longer time required to prepare the results for publication in the latter countries.

CANADIAN CENSUS.

Before commencing the late census, the four Provinces then constituting the Dominion were divided into 206 districts, with a Commissioner for each, and these again into 2,935 smaller divisions, to which 2,789 Enumerators were appointed; all which, together with 13 staff officers, constituted a body of 3008 persons engaged in collecting the statistics of the census of 1871. To guard against the temptation to exaggeration, such as existed in 1861, (when payment was made in proportion to the number of names in the schedule) each Enumerator's claim for remuneration involved the number of families whose names were enrolled, the number of miles travelled, and the number of days spent in the work, all of which were carefully investigated before payment was made. The Enumerators commenced their work on the third day of April, 1871, and the usual abstract of the entire population was published in an extra of the *Canadian Gazette*, on the 22nd day of November, in the same year; that is, in *seven months and a half* from the day of commencing.

The United States census was commenced on the first day of June, 1870, and the first abstract of the general population that appeared in any of our Canadian newspapers, was in September, 1871; that is, more than *fifteen months and a half* after the work was commenced. This, it will be noticed, was double the time taken for a similar abstract of the Dominion census, although the systems were precisely the same in both cases, *i. e.* the system *de jure*, which is that followed in Sweden, France and some parts of Germany.

As stated in the beginning of this article, the French population of Lower Canada in 1698 was 13,815, and that of 1754 was 55,000. After carefully interpolating and, at the same time, taking into consideration the numerous intervening censuses, the *mean annual* increase during these 56 years is found to have been over 2.55 per cent. During this comparatively long period it is well known that there was very little im-