

**Imperfect  
returns.**

684. The above table clearly shows the imperfectness of the returns as made to the Government. According to the figures there was an increase in the total number of convictions in 1885 of no less than 4,318, which would indicate the passage of an extraordinary wave of crime over the Dominion, which there is no reason whatever to suppose was the actual fact, while in 1884 there was apparently an equally remarkable decrease in the number of convictions of 3,837. The number of offences against property without violence is still apparently on the increase.

**Persons  
convicted  
more than  
once.**

685. It must be remembered that any person convicted more than once during the year, whether for the same or a different offence, is counted as a separate person for each conviction, and it is well known that for drunkenness, vagrancy and similar offences, a number of persons are convicted several times every year. The police returns for the city of Toronto for 1886 furnish an apt illustration of this. Out of a total number of 8,570 persons charged, 865 were brought up twice, 393 three times, 106 four times, 63 five times, 24 six times, 10 seven times, 6 eight times, 1 nine times, 2 ten times and 1 thirteen times.

**Number of  
Persons  
charged,**

686. The number of persons charged with indictable offences was 5,518, and the number summarily convicted, was 30,072, being in the proportion to the estimated population of one in 868 and one in 156 persons respectively. In 1884 the proportion was one in 1,042 and one in 173 persons respectively. Out of a total number of 5,518 charged with indictable offences, 3,797 were convicted, being 68·8 per cent. ; in 1884 the proportion was 56·9 per cent.

**Sex, &c.,  
of persons  
convicted,**

687. The following table gives the sex and residence of persons convicted for indictable offences in 1885:—