

CENSUS OF THE THREE DISTRICTS, 1885.

FURS AND PELTS.

FURS AND PELTS.	DISTRICT.			TOTAL.
	Assiniboia.	Saskatchewan.	Alberta.	
Beaver.....	877	3,386	1,574	5,837
Bear.....	97	698	117	812
Buffalo.....	1	25	10	36
Fisher.....	30	446	71	547
Fox.....	947	3,903	87	4,937
Lynx.....	409	1,405	452	2,266
Marten.....	493	1,901	870	3,264
Mink.....	2,722	12,529	708	15,959
Musk rat.....	13,067	123,529	7,192	143,788
Otter.....	54	324	47	425
Skunk.....	2,736	3,099	48	7,883
Wild cat.....	21	81	116	218
Wolf.....	144	1,087	322	1,623
Wolverine.....	25	130	34	189
Cariboo.....	3	98	27	128
Deer, antelope, &c.....	146	1,668	2,732	4,546
Moose.....	26	609	196	831
Other furs and pelts.....	389	216	314	919

93. The information in the foregoing table was obtained principally from the traders, and not as had been the custom in previous census, from the hunters themselves, for it was found that there was considerable liability to have the skins reported twice, once by the hunter, and again by the trader; it was, moreover, impossible to obtain any correct information from the Indian hunters. The figures are not supposed to be absolutely correct, and it is altogether likely that some of the animals were killed outside of the district, but they represent a very fairly correct statement of the number of skins disposed of by the traders during the census year.

94. The North-West Territories constitute not only the largest but almost the last remaining fur preserve in the world, every variety of fur being found within their