

101. The proportion of females to males was 82.30 females per 100 males; in 1881 the proportion was 77.26 females per 100 males. In old settled countries, where the growth of population depends entirely on the natural increase, females are always found to predominate, but in newer countries, where the population is largely made up by immigration, the reverse is almost invariably the case, the male immigrants being in excess of the female ones. The increase in the proportion of females, as shown by the above figures, probably indicates, after making due allowance for the natural increase, the extent of which it is impossible to determine, that there has been a slight falling off in the excess of male immigration since 1881, which falling off may be expected to continue as the country becomes settled and developed. The average ratio of sexes per 1,000 of population in old countries is about 495 males and 505 females (Statistical Abstract, 1886, p 90), in Manitoba in 1886 the ratio was 549 males and 451 females.

Proportions of males and females.

102. There was an increase of 11,068, or 86.44 per cent. in the number of occupied dwellings, but the number of inhabitants to each dwelling was less than in 1881, being 4.55 as compared with 5.15. This is doubtless due to the number of single men who have immigrated and are for the present living alone on their homesteads.

Occupied dwellings in Manitoba 1886.

103. There was an increase in the number of uninhabited houses of 1,162, being an increase of no less than 146 per cent., and as the proportion of dwellings per 100 of population increased from 20.62 per cent. in 1881 to 23.77 per cent. in 1886, it is evident that there has been an unnecessary excess of building operations, the consequence, no doubt, of the unnatural inflation in 1882. There were only 41 uninhabited houses in Winnipeg in 1881, while there were 436 in 1886. The total number of families was 25,155,

Uninhabited houses 1881 and 1886.

Families.