

Proportion of married &c., to total population.

113. The following is a comparative statement of the percentage of married, widowed, unmarried and children to the total male and female population respectively in 1881 and 1886 :—

PERCENTAGE OF MARRIED, WIDOWED, UNMARRIED AND CHILDREN TO TOTAL MALE AND FEMALE POPULATION IN MANI-TOBA—1881 AND 1886.

MALES.

YEAR.	Married.	Widowers.	Bachelors, 20 and over.	Children under 20.
1881.....	29.43	1.42	26.36	42.79
1886.....	29.18	1.64	25.46	43.72

FEMALES.

YEAR.	Married.	Widows.	Spinsters, 15 and over.	Children under 15.
1881.....	36.67	3.20	18.87	41.26
1886.....	34.60	2.77	22.50	40.13

The changes among the males are about what might have been expected, except that there is a slight decrease in the proportion of the married, but among females it is not quite the same. The proportions of married, widows and children are smaller, and of spinsters decidedly larger.

Supporting and dependent ages.

114. It may be said to be a general rule that persons between the ages of fifteen and sixty-five are able to contribute more or less to their own maintenance, the majority as a rule being able to support themselves altogether, while those under fifteen and over sixty-five rely generally on others for support, whence it follows that the physical effectiveness of a country may be pretty accurately gauged