

CHAPTER IX.

SOCIAL AND OTHER STATISTICS.

RELIGION.

575. There is no State church in the Dominion, and no State assistance is given to any denomination; the Roman Catholic church, however, being guaranteed, in the Province of Quebec, the privileges enjoyed before the British possession. Roman Catholicism prevails very extensively in the Province of Quebec, and also has numerous followers in the Maritime Provinces, Ontario and Manitoba, while almost every variety of Protestantism is represented in some part of the country in greater or less numbers, the principal denominations being Church of England, Presbyterian, Methodist and Baptist.

Distribution of religions in Canada.

576. Exact particulars concerning the number of schools, churches, &c., of the principal religious denominations in Canada, cannot be given, as some of the leading ones, notably the Roman Catholic church and many dioceses of the Church of England, have failed so completely to supply the information asked for, that no attempt was made to obtain any particulars from them for this issue. The following figures, however, which are in many cases official, are believed to represent the position of the leading religious bodies in this country, with a very fair amount of accuracy :—

Statistics of certain denominations.

The Church of England has 19 bishops and about 1,000 clergy. The first colonial bishop was appointed in 1787 to Nova Scotia; the next was appointed to Quebec in 1793, the diocese comprising Upper and Lower Canada. A coadjutor was appointed in 1836, and the first Bishop of Upper Canada in 1839. A bishop of New Brunswick was appointed in 1845, and the other dioceses have been formed subsequently. The Roman Catholic church has 1 cardinal, 5 archbishops 23 bishops and about 1,500 clergy. Under the provisions of the "Quebec Act," passed in 1774, the church possesses very valuable privileges in the Province of Quebec, where it also holds a very large amount of property. The Presbyterians number about 991 clergy and 164,465 communicants, 2,358 churches and stations, with a seating capacity for 479,025 persons, and 14,825 Sunday-school teachers, with 124,310 pupils. The annual expenditure is over \$2,000,000. The Methodists have about 3,092 churches, 1,712 clergy, 241,273 members 3,048 Sunday-schools, 29,205 teachers and 233,047 pupils. The total value of church property is nearly \$12,000,000. The Congregationalists have about 100 clergy, 117 churches, with seating capacity for 35,469 persons, 122 Sunday-schools, 1,220 teachers and 8,503 pupils