

178. The proportion of deaths from zymotic diseases to the aggregate population of the 30 places making returns was 4·72 per 1,000 inhabitants, and of deaths of all kinds 21·4 per 1,000. In England and Wales, the proportion in the first case was 2·5 per 1,000, and in the second 19·5. In London, from all causes, it was 21·0, being a higher rate than usual, but it is noticeable that the death rate throughout Europe was unusually high during 1890, in consequence of the influenza epidemic. In the province of Ontario the rate was 11·1 per 1,000 from all causes.

Death rate per 1000 in Canada and elsewhere.

179. There were 506 deaths caused by accidents in the 30 places, 392 being males, and 114 females. Drowning caused the death of 110 or 22 per cent, while 76 lost their lives from asphyxia or suffocation, being 14 per cent of the whole, and of these 76 deaths, no less than 54 occurred in Montreal, of which 52 were infants under one year.

Accidental deaths.

180. It is usually considered that when particulars of births and deaths are only ascertainable by means of a census, the number recorded generally falls short of the actual rate, and the official in charge of the census in Canada in 1881, took it for granted that the returns of deaths then made were to such an extent below the mark, as not to be of much value. The greatest pains were taken to secure full and accurate returns in 1891, with, it is believed, a satisfactory measure of success, and the result of comparisons made with the figures obtained in 1881 would seem to imply that the returns of the earlier year also were not far astray, and possessed a much greater amount of accuracy than had been imputed to them, so that instructive comparisons between the two years can be made with advantage. It is probable that these remarks would apply almost equally well to returns of births.

Census returns of deaths.

181. The total number of deaths recorded in 1891 was 67,688, and in 1881, 63,403, being respectively 14·10 and 14·37 per thousand of the population. The deaths of males were 52·4 per cent, and of females 47·6 per cent. In 1881 the proportions were just the same. The death rate per 1,000 in each province in the two census years was as follows:—

Number of deaths, 1881 and 1891.

	1881.	1891.		1881.	1891.
Ontario.....	11·81	11·30	Manitoba. . . . .	12·34	10·36
Quebec.....	19·07	18·91	British Columbia. . . . .	20·35	13·94
Nova Scotia . . . . .	14·54	14·57	Prince Edward Island . . . . .	14·27	12·26
New Brunswick. . . . .	15·02	13·36	The Territories.....	.....	7·32
				1881.	1891.
			Canada.. . . . .	14·37	14·10

182. According to conjugal condition the deaths were distributed as follow:—

Deaths according to conjugal condition.