

to its population as the number 65 bears to the population of Quebec, as ascertained by the census. British Columbia, by the terms of admission into the Confederation, however, is never to have less than six members.

After the census of 1891 a readjustment became necessary and an Act was passed in the session of 1892 to take effect at the next general election.

17. The proportionate representation of each province, and the number of representatives now and after the dissolution of the present Parliament are given in the following table :—

PROVINCES.	NO. OF REPRESENTATIVES.		POPULATION TO EACH MEMBER.	
	Now.	Under new Act.	Now.	Under new Act.
Ontario .....	92	92	22,982	22,982
Quebec.....	65	65	22,900	22,900
Nova Scotia .....	21	20	21,447	22,520
New Brunswick.....	16	14	20,080	22,947
Manitoba. ....	5	7	30,501	21,786
British Columbia. ....	6	6	16,269	16,269
Prince Edward Island.....	6	5	18,180	21,815
North-west Territories.....	4	4	16,700	16,700
	215	213	22,477	22,688

The varying franchises for the several provinces were adopted by the Federal Parliament for the election of members of the House of Commons previous to 1885, but in that year an Electoral Franchise Act was passed for the Dominion. The franchise, though somewhat complicated in its details, is so broad as practically to be almost manhood suffrage. In addition to those of age and citizenship the further qualifications of electors are set forth in the following statement\* :—

\* During the session of 1894, the Premier, Sir John Thompson, introduced a Bill by which the franchise adopted by each province is made the basis of the franchise for the Federal House of Commons. The disqualifications enacted by the Provincial Legislatures not to apply to persons who would otherwise be entitled to the franchise. If a province has manhood suffrage for provincial elections, manhood suffrage to be the basis for the Dominion elections. If a province has restricted suffrage the same to be adopted for that province for the Federal elections. Multiplex voting regulated by property qualification to be adopted.