

225. Comparing, by the test of writing, the adults with the group between 10 and 20, and making 100 the standard of perfection, we have the following table :—

Provinces.	Able to write— Adult popula- tion.	Persons from 10 years to 20 years.
British Columbia.....	75·2	74·90
Manitoba	93·1	93·40
New Brunswick	80·0	82·47
Nova Scotia.....	80·5	87·96
Ontario	90·4	94·22
Prince Edward Island	80·0	91·62
Quebec	63·9	77·78

226. This shows very plainly the great advance that is being made by some of the provinces, notably by Quebec.

Taking the population between 5 years and 9 years of age, we find that 37·72 per cent of the group can write, and that taking Ontario as the standard, the proportion of this group in the case of Quebec is as 42 to 52—showing an approach to the Ontario standard similar to that of the 10-19 year group and indicating that the progress noted in this latter group in Quebec has been maintained in the 5 to 9 year group.

227. The census returns of 1891 of the defective classes in Canada include the deaf and dumb, the blind and the insane. There was no column for idiots in 1891, nor has there been in any previous census.

228. The number of insane in Canada in 1891 was 13,355 ; of deaf mutes, 4,819 ; and of blind, 3,368 ; making a total of defectives (not including idiots) of 21,542.

229. Divided by sexes the insane comprised 7,162 males and 6,193 females.

In every 10,000 males of our Canadian population there were 29·1 insane, and in every 10,000 females 26·1 insane.