

scattering of spiritual forces caused by the incessant rivalries of the denominations—the poorly paid clergy, &c. But his friend remarked that the morale of an army was heightened by the regimental sub-divisions and he did not see why morals should not be benefited by the denominational regiments; besides, each clergyman was a man of light and leading, and so the more of them, within reason, the more elevated the tone and the higher the intellectuality of the whole mass of the people.

252. Marshalled on the green before the council hall of the nation, the 10,000 received orders to re-form. They do so, and now we see that the two divisions represent the dwellers in the country and those in towns. Of the first there are 7,122 and of the second 2,878. Ten years ago the figures were country folk 7,890 and city folk 2,110. In 1881, 79 per cent of the people lived in the country. In 1891, 71 per cent. "Bystander" points out that a portion of this increase in the urban population is nominal rather than real; because many cities in 1891 included annexations of territory the population of which in 1881 was taken with the rural parts, and because many towns have been incorporated in the 10 years, their population being thus segregated and added to the urban population in that way, at the same time increasing the number of the city folk and diminishing the number of country people. But taken as they stand there on the green, the rural group far exceed the town's people and show the extent to which Canada is a country for agriculture, mining and fishing.

253. A few questions are asked of the country folk. How many are occupiers of land? 1,284 hands go up in the air.

How many are owners as well as occupiers? 1,091 hands remain in the air. The 193 hands which were withdrawn represent occupiers who are tenants or employees.

How many are owners of from 50 to 200 acres? 590 hands are still up.

"Bystander" remarks upon this showing that there is not much absentee landlordism in Canada; not much danger of tenantry questions coming up to vex the country.

254. A movement of the hosts, and they are shuffled again. 7,001 on one side of the central walk declare that they can read. 2,999 on the other side of the walk confess that they cannot read; of course 1,249 of these are children under 5 years old and some few are Indians. But about 70 per cent of the whole population can read.

The 7,000 suffer a diminution of 428 and the 2,999 receive a corresponding increase, and now the groups stand 6,572 who can write and 3,428 who cannot write—making about 66 per cent of the population able to sign their names.

The statistical fiend puts in his oar and tells "Bystander" that Prince Edward Island has a larger percentage of children under ten years of age able to read than any other province; that Ontario has the largest percentage of children under 10 years able to write; that in every province excepting Manitoba a larger proportion of girls under 10 can read than of boys under 10, and that in Canada 8,920 girls from 10 to 19 years of age in every 10,000 girls of that age period can write, while of boys 8,520 can write in every 10,000. Either the girls are quicker to learn or the boys, from the nature of their employments, do not find the necessity as great.