

There was a census of Lower Canada in 1844, and of Upper Canada in 1848.

In 1851-52 Upper and Lower Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick took censuses, Prince Edward Island taking hers in 1855.

In 1860-61 all the provinces took censuses excepting British Columbia.

In 1870-71 all the provinces took censuses simultaneously, excepting British Columbia and Manitoba, which took theirs in 1870.

In 1880-81 and 1890-91, the Census of Canada was taken as of the same day, throughout the whole Dominion.

The first census taken in the United States of America was in 1790. The population was found to be 3,929,214. At that date the population of the area comprised in the present Dominion of Canada was 220,000.

245. Taking the latest census (1890 and 1891) in each country, the population of the United States has increased 18 times, and that of Canada 22 times over the respective populations of 1790. It will thus be seen that Canada has increased in population faster than the United States.

The census of 1891, like that of 1881, was an Imperial Census—that is, Canada with all other portions of the British Empire adopted the 5th of April as the date. The date fixed is not perhaps the best for Canada, the difficulty of travelling in the spring being greater than it would be at a later date, thus entailing many hardships on the enumerators and other officers.

246. The Census of Canada was taken under the provisions of the Census Act.

This Act was first passed in 1870. It was revised in 1879 and again in 1886, the last Act being that under which the census of 1891 was taken. It provides that the census shall be taken so as to ascertain with the utmost possible accuracy in regard to the various territorial divisions of the country, their population and the classification thereof, as regards age, sex, social condition, religion, education, race, occupation and otherwise; the houses and other buildings therein and their classification as dwellings, inhabited, uninhabited, under construction and otherwise; the occupied land therein and the condition thereof, as town, village, country, cultivated, uncultivated and otherwise; the produce, state and resources of the agricultural, fishing, lumbering, mining, mechanical, manufacturing, trading and other industries thereof; the municipal, educational, charitable and other institutions thereof, and whatsoever other matters are specified in the forms and instructions issued under authority of the Governor in Council.

247. As under the constitution the electoral representation in the House of Commons is based upon population and is regulated by the number of persons living in the Province of Quebec, it is necessary first to ascertain with accuracy the population in each province, and second to follow in the enumeration of the people the electoral divisions provided by Parliament. As at the time of year in which the census is taken many purchasers of goods, &c., are in Montreal from all the other provinces, and as from a variety of causes there is considerable movement of population towards the