

	1868.	1869.	1870.	1871.
Number of Rate Payers.....	305,414	309,041	315,512	328,344
No. of persons in families, of persons rated as Rate Payers.....	1,312,620	1,323,313	1,359,169	* 1,889,560
No. of Acres assessed .....	.....	18,388,410	18,993,261	18,493,807
Total value of Real Property.....\$	.....	252,672,088	257,405,550	261,611,956
Do Personal do .....	.....\$	37,958,376	41,075,482	47,744,128
No. of Cattle.....	998,518	1,028,044	970,093	993,094
Do Sheep	1,864,647	1,644,325	1,353,605	1,203,091
Do Horses	360,690	372,676	381,047	383,963
Do Swine	542,977	421,095	447,108	498,824

* No return from County of Bruce for 1872.

Inspection of Staple Articles.

By an Act of last Session (36 Vict. Chap. 49) Parliament has provided a uniform law for the inspection of Flour and Meal, Wheat and other grain, Beef and Pork, Pot and Pearl Ashes, Pickled Fish and Fish Oil, Butter, Leather and Raw Hides, and Petroleum. The G. in C. may designate the various cities, counties, towns, &c., for which Inspectors shall be appointed. Inspectors are to hold office during pleasure, acting within the limits prescribed by the G. in C.; and they and their deputies are to be appointed from among persons certified competent by a Board of Examiners. The Boards of Trade of Quebec, Montreal, Toronto, Kingston, Hamilton, London, Ottawa, and St. John, N. B., and the Halifax Chamber of Commerce, may appoint 3 or more persons to examine candidates for the Inspectorship of any one of the above classes of articles and certify their qualifications. In other places the G. G. appoints examiners. Previous Inspectors may be re-appointed without examination. No Inspector (or Deputy) may deal in the articles of which he is the Inspector. He must give security, the bond to be deposited with the Secretary of State. Deputies are to be appointed by the Inspector. The G. in C. may regulate the performance of their duties by O. in C., and impose penalties not exceeding \$50, and may require from them returns for Boards of Trade or public Departments. Disputes between the Inspector and the owner of any produce inspected must be settled by the Board of Examiners in the cities, application being made through the Secretary of the Board of Trade. Elsewhere, a J. P. on application to him, shall summon a board to consist of 3 skilled persons, 1 named by the Inspector, 1 by the owner, and the 3rd by the J. P. The Inspector must brand the article according to their decision,—the costs of proceedings to follow the decision. The Council of the Board of Trade or G. in C. may make a tariff of fees for such re-examination. Inspectors forfeits \$20 for not at once inspecting articles submitted. Alteration or counterfeiting of brands or fraudulent changing of contents of an inspected package or changing or counterfeiting certificate is punishable by a fine of \$40. And an inspector acting out of his district or lending his brand, &c., or otherwise conniving at

fraud forfeits \$100 and is disqualified from serving. An unauthorized person acting as Inspector and branding packages incurs the same fine. Suits must be commenced in 6 mos. The vendor is always liable to pay inspection fees on goods sold subject to inspection. Inspection is not compulsory unless as hereinafter stated. Previous Inspection Acts are repealed, preserving rights accrued.

FLOUR AND MEAL.

In inspecting Flour or Meal the testing instrument must not be more than $\frac{1}{8}$ ths of an inch in diameter, the hole made to be afterwards securely plugged. After inspection the barrel must be branded with the name of the place, the initial of the christian and the whole surname of the inspector, the month and year of inspection and re-inspection if made, and the quality of flour. If it be sour but not otherwise bad, that word is to be added to the brand; if so bad as to be unmerchable the word "rejected" is to be added. Previous incorrect brands are to be erased. The Inspector is to receive 2 cts. per bri. besides cooerage, and he must furnish a bill of inspection. For a false bill the Inspector forfeits \$40 and his office. Previous to inspection he must see that the name of the manufacturer or packer and place of packing, the quality and the tare and net weight is marked on the barrel. Any person offering for sale or inspection a package not so marked incurs 2 cts. penalty. The Inspector shall receive 2 cts. extra for each barrel emptied and ascertained to be short weight. In the bill he must note what is musty and what has been cleaned by removal of wet parts. He must deliver the flour taken from a package with the testing instrument if required, under a penalty of \$20. The several grades of flour are "Superior Extra," "Extra Superfine," "Spring Extra," "Superfine," "Fine," "Fine Middlings," "Shil Stuffs" or "Pollard's," and "Strong Baker's." Meal must have the name of the grain from which made branded on it,—the grades being o. Rye flour, "Superfine" and "Fine," of Indian Meal or Oat Meal "First," "Second" and "Third." The weights contained in packages are to be—barrel, Flour, Rye flour or Indian Meal