

Evidently there are some places in which Baptist principles do not find acceptance with the people; but perhaps in such places the cause is not inherent in the people who are not Baptists as much as in those who are. Toronto shows the largest measure of aggregate progress, but I think Brantford carries the palm when comparison is made of church membership and the total population. Taking for this comparison the membership in Brantford and Toronto churches respectively for the census, years 1871, 1881 and 1891, it will be seen that in the first of these years Brantford had one Baptist church member to every 25 of the whole population, in 1881 it had one to every 10, and in 1891 it had one to every 11; whereas in Toronto the number of Baptist members were as one to 88 of the whole population in 1871, one to 52 in 1881, and one to 48 in 1891; although in the last decade the city had grown from 85,024, to 181,220.

This brings me to deal with the numerical strength of Baptists in Ontario and Quebec, as revealed by the census of last year, and you will be gratified to hear that the situation is not at all so gloomy as it seemed to be from the bulletin of religions published by the census statistician five months ago. That bulletin gave the Baptist population of our Province in 1891 as 105,957, being 723 less than in 1881. But it was explained that for the purpose of condensation three branches of Baptists were united in the bulletin figures, and so it was not possible to say how far, if at all, Regular Baptists were affected by the apparent decrease of numbers. I therefore wrote to Mr. Johnson to ascertain the details, which he has kindly furnished, together with a very important word of explanation. The enumeration of 1881 showed that under the head of Baptists in the summary table there were included 88,948 Regular Baptists, 4,274 Free Will Baptists, and 13,458 Tunkers, making the total of 106,680. But Mr. Johnson informs me that Tunkers in that census included Mennonites, and that for the census of 1891 the latter specially requested that they should be placed under their own heading, as they are not Tunkers. This has been done, and the result is a large reduction in the number of Tunkers, who have been classed as Baptists in the bulletin. The revised figures furnished by Mr. Johnson show that the Regular Baptists in Ontario number 96,969, the Free Will Baptists 7,889, and the Tunkers, 1,209. Accordingly the increase of Regular Baptists in the decade was 8,021, or 9 per cent., and as the rate of increase in the total population during the decade was only 9.65 per cent. it is obvious that the Regular Baptists have no cause for lamentation. The increase among Free Will Baptists during the ten years was 3,651; but as the number of Mennonites in the census of 1881 has not been ascertained it is not possible to say whether the Tunkers have increased or decreased. In the Province of Quebec the population of Regular Baptists has fallen from 8,853 in 1881 to 6,854 in 1891.)

It will be interesting now to notice how the number of members in Baptist churches compares with the total Regular Baptist population

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YEAR.	Pop
1871.....	647
1881.....	839
1891.....	969

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