

In 1881, for instance, there were 77,000 persons born in the United States included in the Canadian census, and there are probably more at the present time. This is the natural consequence of the contiguity of the two countries, and of the considerable trade that is done between them.

Many critics have attempted to make capital out of the fact that the Canadian census returns only show an increase of 504,601 in the population, while the immigration statistics, published annually, indicate that over 886,000 new arrivals landed in the Dominion in the same period. This seems rather startling, but it is to be feared that very little reliance can be placed on the emigration and immigration figures published by any country, although they are prepared with the best intentions, and in no country is greater care taken than in Canada. Even the British Board of Trade monthly statements, for instance, are of doubtful accuracy. No attempt is made in compiling them to divide the ordinary steerage passengers from emigrants; they are all lumped together, notwithstanding that a great many people cross the Atlantic from the United States and Canada to Europe by every steamer, and, after visiting their friends and relatives, go back again in the steerage. In the annual statements, the immigration is deducted from the emigration, with a view to arrive at the net emigration, but the parliamentary paper containing these figures, like a good many other interesting Blue Books, is not widely read. Another blemish in the returns is that all persons travelling to American ports are put down as emigrants to the States, although a certain proportion of them go on to Canada, the port of debarkation being the point which apparently decides the destination, and not the actual place they are bound for. The same thing applies, of course, to persons travelling to the United States by way of the Dominion, but the Canadian route to the United States is not so largely used as that to Canada by New York and other American ports. No doubt there are many difficulties in the way of making the British emigration returns thoroughly accurate, and the same thing may be said of the Washington and Ottawa figures. It stands to reason that in the hurry and bustle of disembarking from the steamers, or even in crossing the frontier by railway, it is hardly possible to discriminate between immigrants, those who are travelling on business or pleasure, and Americans or Canadians as the case may be. According to the British returns the net emigration between 1881 and 1891, from the United Kingdom to Canada, was 312,310. This would only include people travelling direct to Canadian ports from Great Britain, not those journeying *via* the United States, or those going direct from Continental ports, or any emigration from the United States; but it will be seen that there is a very large margin between the figures mentioned and the