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R. WILSON SMITH,
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More Census Statistics.

A further instalment of the Census just issued relates to the foreign-born population of Canada. The Canadian-born population constitutes 87 per cent. of the total. Those of British birth are counted as Canadian citizens, and all of foreign birth are classified as aliens, unless they have become citizens by naturalization. The table of birthplace and citizenship shows the progress of naturalization amongst the immigrant classes. Of the total of 278,804 there are 134,942 aliens, but the whole number includes a very large proportion of the 159,100 immigrants who arrived during the years 1856 to March 31, 1901. The country from which the largest number has come is the United States, and of the total of 127,891 born there, it appears that 84,493 have been naturalized. In the older Provinces of Ontario and Quebec there are 72,580 who were born in the United States, and 59,728 of those are naturalized citizens. The immigration from the United Kingdom does not suffice to supply the loss by death among the British born in the country, especially among immigrants of Irish and Scottish birth, as the following table shows:—

Country.	1901.	1891.	1881.	1871.
England	203,803	219,688	169,504	144,999
Ireland.....	101,628	149,184	185,526	219,451
Scotland.....	83,631	107,584	115,062	121,074
Totals	389,062	476,456	470,092	485,524

The figures for 1871 are only for Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

From present appearances the inflow of settlers into the North West of the Dominion is likely to be chiefly from the north western States of America. It is gratifying to find so large a proportion, 82 per cent., of this class of settlers become naturalized. In the absence of more liberal arrangements for assisting immigrants from the United Kingdom to reach the unsettled lands of the Dominion, there is

little likelihood of any increase of population from the old land. If, however, the stream continues to flow into Manitoba and the N. W. Territories from the north-western States across the line, the development they will further cannot fail to be highly advantageous to the whole country.

Food Inspection.

A recent calamity which excited deep and widespread regret in this city as it did in other parts of Canada draws attention to the urgency of food inspection being made to embrace all manner of canned goods. The event to which we allude might well have been made the subject of enquiry. Two passengers on one of our railways after partaking of a meal partly consisting of canned food were seized with sickness, one of them soon recovered, having comparative youth on her side, but the elder died in a few days, presumably from the poison absorbed from the canned food. Incidents of a similar nature have often occurred, but this was peculiarly distressing from the position of the sufferer and the bereaved. It is well known that after a time there is a liability in canned goods to become not merely unfit for food but dangerously so. The trade can tell when this process has commenced, and all the better class of grocers are careful to keep their stocks of canned goods fresh, but those cans which are getting stale and liable to deterioration find their way to less scrupulous purveyors of food and meals. It seems desirable to have all cans containing edibles stamped with the date of being put up and a limit being placed upon the term during which they can be sold. This, or some other regulation, is certainly called for in the interests of public health and the safety of life, as well as the interests of the canning industry which is open to grave injury from such calamities as the above becoming publicly known.