INTRODUCTION.

In presenting the twenty-fifth volume of this work, we wish to emphasize the claim we have made for a number of years back, that the Toronto City Directory stands in the front rank of publications of its class. There are not more than a dozen directories published throughout the entire world, that give the householders and business house arranged by street and number, as we do in Toronto (pages 83 to 263 this volume) in addition to an alphabetical list of all residents and a complete classified business directory.

This year we have introduced some improvements: the index letter at the top of each page, greatly facilitating

the finding of names, and the asterisk drawing attention to the different spellings of names.

There has been a substantial increase in the population of Toronto during the past year, as is shown by the increase in the number of names in the Directory.

This volume contains 87,029 individual names (exclusive of names of firms or companies), which shows as increase of 5502 over last year. In past years we have been multiplying the names in the Directory by 3 to estimate the population. In a great many cities, both in Canada and United States, they use 3, 31/2 and 4.

Although Toronto has made rapid growth, we believe the use of the figure 3 would place the population a triffe higher than it really is. We have therefore decided after very careful consideration to use $2\frac{7}{8}$ as the multiple. This gives Toronto a population of 250,209, exclusive of the suburbs which are printed in the front part of the Directory.

Below we give a table showing the number of names and vacant houses, stores, etc., in each year from 1891 to

1900, also the yearly average for these 10 years compared with the year 1900.

Taking into consideration the large number of new houses and buildings that have been erected during the past year, it is very gratifying to see that there are fewer vacant houses, stores and offices than there have been in any year for ten years.

Year	No. of Names	Vacant Houses	Vacant Stores and Offices				
1891		3,133 3,424	422 703		in Names.	Vacant. Houses.	Stores and Offices
1893	70,048	3,592	655	Yearly average			
1894		$\frac{4,162}{3,915}$	743 758	for the 10 years \	2,267	3,079	547
1896	71,404	3,344	595				
1898		$3,294 \\ 2,992$	466 354	For the year	5,502	1,255	.316
1899	81,527	1,687 1,255	465 316				

Another comparison which we ask the people of Toronto to take into their consideration is the price of the City Directory for 1900 as compared with 1880.

Year	No. of Names in Directory.	Price.
1880	21,919	\$3.00
	87 029	85 00

Although there are four times the number of names, which means over six times the labor, the price has only increased \$2 in 20 years. The regular City Directory is the business man's friend and is entitled to his substantial support.

The map which we give to our subscribers this year has been very carefully revised and corrected up to date.

We extend our thanks to those who, by their support and patronage, have aided and encouraged us in our work also to those who have kindly assisted in collecting some of the information which helps to make this volume a complete a work of reference as any City Directory published on the continent of America.

THE MIGHT DIRECTORY CO., OF TORONTO, LIMITED.

JOHN C. GARDNER, Pres. and Man. Director.

TORONTO, January 29th, 1900.

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