

Abraham. At that time the population could not have been over 100,000, for even in 1784 Lower Canada had only 120,000 inhabitants, and the present province of Ontario was almost a wilderness, with a total European population of less than 2,000. Meantime, by the independence of the United States, Canada had been despoiled of the magnificent region lying between the Mississippi and Ohio, which by the Quebec Act of 1774 had been attached to the province. But Canada was still virtually a Crown colony, and it was only slowly and grudgingly that the mother country granted her that independence which she craved and deserved. Not until 1841 were the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada united under one administration and responsible government firmly established. The united population at that time was only about a million and a half. So long ago as 1808 Richard J. Uniacke introduced the question of the union of all the British provinces in North America before the Legislature of Nova Scotia. From that time until 1867 the subject was frequently brought forward, until on May 22 of that year a Royal Proclamation united the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick into one Dominion. In 1870 Rupert's Land, Manitoba, and the North-West Territories were added to it; followed in 1871 by British Columbia and in 1872 by Prince Edward Island. By an Order in Council in 1880 all territories in British North America not already included in the Dominion, with the exception of Newfoundland, were incorporated. There are many minor details of interest connected with these transactions into which we cannot enter, but on which information may be obtained in the Hand-book on the Dominion compiled for the Exhibition under the direction of the Hon. John Carling, Minister of Agriculture. Canada is now virtually her own mistress, with a suffrage in the older provinces at least approaching the universal.

Meantime how has her population grown? In 1784, as we have seen, Upper and Lower Canada together had only 120,000 white inhabitants, and probably another 30,000 would have covered the other colonies now included in the Dominion. In 1806, 22 years later, that had trebled, the population being 455,899; within the next 28 years they had again trebled, as in 1834 the population was returned at 1,303,000. Ten years later half a million had been added to the population, and within seven years after another 745,000, the census of 1851 giving a total of 2,547,158 inhabitants. Within the next 20 years Canada received an accession of a million to her population, which in

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