

expect in a country whose prairies are the wonder of the world and whose soil is generally fertile and arable ; where the winter frosts revive and purify ; where the summer sun crowns the maize with a silken floss and transmutes the grains of wheat into shining nuggets of infinitely more value than all the precious ore locked up in the rocky bosom of the Klondike ; where the showers of soft rain, might also be called golden, seeing that the sun, shining as they fall, turns all their drops into molten topazes, and every drop is good for a grain of corn, or a green plant, or a bright blossom, or a thistle, at least.

As an observer of the trend of our times might naturally expect, the census figures clearly indicate the wild rush constantly taking place in all quarters of Canada, but in the older Provinces especially, from the rural districts to the towns and cities. The population of the chief towns and cities of the Dominion is given as follows, inside the municipal limits and exclusive of suburbs :

	1891.	1901.
Montreal	226,181	266,826
Toronto	181,220	207,971
Quebec	63,090	68,834
Ottawa	44,154	59,902
Hamilton	48,980	52,550
Winnipeg	25,639	42,336
Halifax	38,495	40,787
St. John	39,179	40,711
London	31,977	37,983
Vancouver	13,700	26,196
Victoria	16,841	20,821
Kingston	19,263	18,043
Brantford	12,753	16,631
Hull	11,264	13,988
Calgary	3,876	12,142
Charlottetown	11,573	12,010
Valleyfield	5,515	11,055
Sherbrooke	10,097	11,765
Sydney	2,427	9,608
Moncton	5,165	9,026
Brandon	3,778	5,733

Kingston is the only city showing a decrease.

The cities over 20,000 showing the greatest per centage of increase are Vancouver, Winnipeg, Ottawa, Montreal, Victoria and London, in the order named, as follows :—