

memorial, signed by numerous well-known and influential gentlemen, was presented to Congress. To this and other efforts may be attributed the fifth section of the act approved March 3, 1847, for "a better organization of the Office of Indian Affairs," and to amend the "trade and intercourse" act. The section reads as follows :

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That in aid of the means now possessed by the Department of Indian Affairs through its existing organization there be, and hereby is, appropriated the sum of five thousand dollars, to enable the said department, under the direction of the Secretary of War, to collect and digest such statistics and materials as, may illustrate the history, the present condition, and future prospects of the Indian tribes of the United States.

On the transfer of the Indian Office to the newly created Department of the Interior, under the act of March 3, 1849, the work of collecting statistics was continued; and under the direction of Henry R. Schoolcraft, who had been appointed for that purpose in accordance with the act of March 3, 1847, an elaborate census of the Indians, embracing one hundred and seventy-two different points of inquiry, was undertaken, at great expense, the whole amount, including the expense of collecting and digesting historical as well as statistical material, approaching the sum of \$130,000.

The census in detail, as projected by Mr. Schoolcraft, does not appear to have been completed, or, if so, to have been published. A partial census, however, on the elaborate plan adopted will be found in his History of the Indian Tribes of the United States, published under the direction of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. In the first volume of the above work, page 523, appears an "ultimate, consolidated table" of the Indian population of the United States, dated July 22, 1850. Much of the material for this table was undoubtedly based on estimates and not on actual enumerations. It is impossible to give even the date of each estimate, Mr. Schoolcraft having contented himself with quoting the "latest authorities," without generally giving names or dates. Thus the Indian population of California is given in the table at 32,231, on the authority of the Spanish missionaries, but their enumeration did not extend to Indians beyond the missionary establishments, and the above number is made up of about one-half mission Indians and one-half wild or mountain Indians, the latter number being apparently based on a purely conjectural estimate. Moreover, the number at two of the missions is given for the year 1802, forty-eight years before the date of Mr. Schoolcraft's table.

The table in brief is as follows :

Iroquois group, complete	5, 922
Algonkin group, incomplete	17, 197
Dakota group, incomplete	6, 570
Appalachian group, incomplete	5, 015
Total of which a detailed enumeration has been made	34, 704
Tribes of the new States and Territories south and west, now including Texas and Mexican acquisitions	183, 042
East of the Rocky Mountains and the Mississippi, in high northern latitudes	167, 330
Fragmentary tribes in the older States	3, 153
Total	388, 229

The following note is appended to the table :

There may be, in addition to these numbers, 25,000 to 35,000 Indians within the area of the unexplored territories of the United States.