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B BLOOD BITTERS

B BLOOD BITTERS

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has been and perhaps is now made for purposes of taxation and for draft into the military service, both of which would naturally induce concealment. It may easily be conceived, moreover, that many and perhaps great omissions are due to carelessness on the part of the people and of the officials. These considerations seem to indicate that the figures of population in China are not likely to be too great, but if in error, they are in all probability too small.

Selecting from among the many published statements of population in China certain ones which have not been tampered with, the following table is presented, showing the population at a few dates during the past two centuries:

Year	Population	Rate of increase per year
1711	28.6 millions	7.....
1753	103.0 millions	3.1 per cent'
1792	307.5 millions	2.9 per cent.
1812	362.5 millions	0.8 per cent.
1881	380.0 millions	0.1 per cent.
1902	407.3 millions	0.2 per cent.

The last, that for 1902, has recently been published and has renewed popular interest in the matter. The figures like those of earlier dates, refer to the population of China proper only. The Chinese Empire is given in 1902 as 423,900,000.

The above table shows a rapid growth during the eighteenth century, resulting about the end of the century in filling the country to a high density of population. During the nineteenth century the population has, on the whole, increased very slowly indeed, and since 1812 it has been almost at a standstill. These phenomena were to have been expected since they conform to the experience of other countries, and they increase one's faith in the substantial correctness of the figures. It may be that the population in 1711, and to a less degree in 1753 was under-

stated, a possible error which, if corrected would diminish the rather rapid rate of increase in the two earliest periods.

It is stated by the Chinese authorities in explanation of the method of making this registration, that early in each year schedules are distributed to each household by the magistrates of the district to be filled out and returned

(To be continued.)

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Dr. J. R. JONES, M.D. &
Dr. W. M. ROGERS, M.D.
- Consulting Staff Surgeons:
Dr. W. S. ENGLAND, M.D.
Dr. J. H. McARTHUR, M.D.
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- Attending Physicians:
Dr. J. H. O. LAMBERT, M.D., Dr. C. A. MACKENZIE, M.D., Dr. E. W. NICHOLS, M.D., Dr. W. Z. FEATMAN, M.D.
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Dr. J. O. TODD, M.D.
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Dr. J. W. GOOD, M.D.
- Children's Ward Physicians:
Dr. J. E. DAVIDSON, M.D.
Dr. G. A. DUBUC, M.D.
Dr. A. J. SLATER, M.D.
- Isolated Ward Physicians:
Dr. J. H. DEVINE, M.D., Dr. J. P. HOWDEN, M.D., Dr. J. HALPENNY, M.D., Dr. W. A. GARDNER, M.D.
- Pathologist:
Dr. G. BELL, M.D.
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- There is in St. Boniface Hospital a Ward for C. N. Ry. patients, who are attended by physicians appointed by the C. N. Ry. Co. They are: Dr. C. A. Mackenzie, Dr. E. Mackenzie, and Dr. Wm. Rogers. And a second Ward for C. P. Ry. patients, attended by Dr. Moorehead, who is appointed by the C. P. Ry. Co.

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and estimated, which is put at 112,000,000, not less than 108,000,000 have been enumerated. In South America, on the other hand, the only countries which have taken a census are Argentine, Chile and Brazil, and even in the last named country the enumeration is incomplete, since many of the aborigines in the Amazon valley, probably 2,000,000, escaped the enumerator. This means that of the 39,000,000 supposed to live on this continent, 20,000,000 only have been enumerated.

Passing to the other side of the Atlantic, the whole of Europe, with its 403,000,000 inhabitants, has been counted with the sole exception of Turkey, which is supposed to contain about 6,000,000 people. Across the Mediterranean, in the "dark continent," the enumerator has been busy only in Algeria, Egypt and in the British colonies of South Africa. Of the 140,000,000 people, which is the guess for the population of this continent, only 20,000,000 have been counted.

Asia including the East Indies, contains it is estimated, 900,000,000 souls—more than half the population of the entire globe. Of this great number considerably more than one-half is still a matter of estimate, only 400,000,000 being enumerated. The only known populations are those of India, the British and Dutch colonies and Japan, the last not from a census as we interpret the word, but from a registration of the people, which gives the total number with presumptive accuracy, but little else regarding them.

The above statements may be summarized in tabular form, thus:

Census	No Census
Millions	Millions
North America	108 4
South America	20 19
Europe	397 6
Africa	20 120
Asia	400 500
Australia & Oceanic	5 1

Of the enumerated countries, China is by far the most important, since it is supposed to contain fully three-fifths of the uncounted people of the earth. Many widely different statements of the population of this country have been published at different times. The figures have been derived from registrations of the people, these registrations having been made at irregular intervals—sometimes annually and then after long intervals, from time immemorial. Many, perhaps most of the results of these registrations have been tinkered by foreigners to suit their own notions of what the population should be, and hence are valueless. Those which have not been changed are however of much value as they give the minimum number of the people, if nothing more.

The Work in China

No reason can be conceived why China should pad its population, and publish a number in excess of the truth. The motives which induce this in American cities are absent in China. On the other hand there are cogent reasons why the returns of this registration may be less than the truth. It

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