

pendix, p. 704) states it to amount to 20,250,000 in 1851. In 1810 it was 7,239,814, (page 481.)

Thus it is in 1850 about (not quite) four times what it was at the commencement of the century; while Upper Canada contains, as we have seen, over ten times the population it possessed in 1811; or, at the lowest calculation, ten times its amount in 1806. The slow growth therefore turns out to be a rate of progress not much under three times that of our neighbours who are supposed to be moving ahead of us so fast. Slow growth this of rather an anomalous description. Taking the ten years between 1840 and 1850, the difference is less: though during that time we have advanced at a rate fully twice that of the Free States, whose increase has been 45 per cent. (that of the whole States being 33½; *World's Progress*, p. 704), while ours has been 94 or 95.

In Lower Canada the increase for the thirteen years between 1831 and 1844 was nearly 35 per cent.—to wit 34, 94 (*Seobie's Almanac 1850*, p. 53.) An increase of fifty per cent. has taken place within the last seven years in the county of Quebec; which has advanced from 12,800 in 1844, to 19,074 in 1851.

Let us turn now to the State of New York, one of the best in the Union. That State contained in

1810,	-	-	-	959,049	Inhabitants.
1820,	-	-	-	1,372,812	do.
1840,	-	-	-	2,428,921	do.
1850,	-	-	-	3,200,000	do.

[*World's Progress*, pp. 443, 704.]

In 1850 its population is thus 3½ times (a trifle over) what it was forty years before, that of Upper Canada being in the same year close upon 8½ times what Smith makes it in 1814; or over ten times its amount in 1811, as stated by the Board of Registration.

Not amiss this, we should think, for a country of whose *slow growth* so much is heard.

It is, however, towards the West the tide is flowing. Let us pass with it, and mark the results.

For the purpose of comparison we have chosen the States of Ohio, Michigan, and Illinois combined, chiefly for these two reasons; first, because they have been, we believe, among the most rapid in their growth—sufficiently rapid at all events to make the comparison fair for the West; and secondly, because our statistics enable us to take in a longer period than we could have done in the case of some other States which we should else have been disposed to include.

Availing ourselves once more of the aid of our old friend "*The World's Progress*," we ascertain the united population of these three States to have been in 1810, 247,570—viz. Ohio, 230,760; Michigan, 4,528; and Illinois, 12,282. They stand as follows in 1850—Ohio, 2,200,000; Michigan, 305,000; and Illinois, 1,000,000: in all 3,505,000, or fourteen one-sixth times their numbers, forty years before. This assuredly is a splendid increase; enough, and more than enough to justify the most glowing of the descriptions we hear of what the West is destined to become.

How will poor Canada West stand in comparison now? Let us see.

As already observed the Board of Registration and statistics gives the population of Upper Canada as 77,000 in 1811. Between that and 1850, when it is set down at 791,000, there intervenes a period of 39 years, within which we have an advance of close upon thirteen times (twelve six-sevenths) to set over against fourteen one-sixth times in 40 years. Does not this bring them sufficiently near to prevent their despising one another; to make them regard one another with respect and interest?

Here, it will be observed, the statement of the Board of Registration is followed. Should it be objected that Mr. Smith makes the numbers larger in the earlier period, being unwilling to question the accuracy of that gentleman, who has evidently taken great pains to inform himself, and produced a work eminently reliable—thereby laying the community under an obligation, of which, I trust, they will show their appreciation in the proper way;—I know only one satisfactory method of disposing of the difficulty, namely, to take as the basis of comparison a period at which the representations substantially coincide.

For 1810 then let us substitute 1830, which will allow twenty years for development and comparison. In that year Ohio, Michi-

gan and Illinois contained in all 1,126,851 inhabitants: Ohio numbering 937,637; Michigan 31,639, and Illinois 157,575. Hence the number in 1850 (3,505,000) was three one-fifth or one-sixth times that of 1830.

Canada West contained in 1830, 210,437. Twenty years after, namely in 1850 (1849, Smith) it numbers, as we have seen, 791,000—over three and three-fourth times what it did in the former year; which makes the scale descend handsomely in our favour.

Thus it turns out that Canada West is advancing at a rate fully equal to that of the best of the Western States.

These comparisons, triumphantly as it has come out of them, can hardly be denied to be unfair to Upper Canada, or at all events to stretch fairness to its utmost limit; because they set selected portions of the States against her as a whole, and because the Western States are growing, to the extent of the native portion of the immigration, at the expense of the others. Of the increase of the Western States a large portion consists not of additions to the country as a whole, but of mere removals from one part of it to another; while the increase shown to have taken place in Canada West, is an increase on the whole. The difference which this fact makes in the calculations will be illustrated immediately, though already it can hardly fail to have been observed from the disproportion in the rate of growth above exhibited between the newer States and the Union as a whole.

There are one or two remarks of a general nature which I would first make in relation to the States in the West.

Their most rapid increase takes place usually during the earlier periods. To no inconsiderable extent it springs from the wish to obtain possession of the lands at the original Government prices. As soon as the prospect presents itself of an early sale of these, often before they are surveyed, a rush is made upon them. By and by, the best portion of the lands being taken up, while numbers, large numbers it may be, still come in, the *crowd* moves in another direction; or waits in anticipation of the early opening of some newer territory. At this moment parties are passing on from the older to the newer portions even of Iowa, while others are looking with desire mingled with hope to the vast regions on the Missouri River, still in the hands of the Indians.

How far our friends on the other side are gainers on the whole by these unlimited facilities for the obtaining of new lands may admit of a question. From what I observed in the West last summer during a journey of 3,200 miles through Michigan, Illinois, Missouri and Iowa, I should doubt the immediateness, at all events, of the gain. The issue will by and by perhaps be good; and that is a great deal—the grand point indeed so far as the race is concerned—but this spreading out so largely involves now, I am disposed to think, no small amount of unnecessary hardship; holds civilization, for the time being, at a lower level than it would otherwise reach; and tasks the church and the nation to supply to the extent needed, the means of Christian and general instruction; though in the latter case it may be chiefly the agents that are wanted from abroad, as an appropriation for schools is generally made in these newer regions, at an early period, if not from the very first.

Let us look now for a moment or two at the effect of comparisons of selected portions, that the severity of the test to which Canada has been subjected may be seen.

Take, by way of experiment, the Home District—(we use the old name for greater convenience)—setting it over against the States selected.

That District contained in						
1799,	-	-	-	-	224	Inhabitants.
1824,	-	-	-	-	16,609	do.
1834,	-	-	-	-	45,508	do.
1842,	-	-	-	-	83,301	do.
1850,	-	-	-	-	112,996	do.

(Smith's Canada, vol. 1st, p. 271.)

Here we have an increase in 51 years of more than 500 times; while Ohio, whose population amounted in 1800 to 45,365, shows in fifty years an increase of between 48 and 49 times. To be sure by carrying it back ten years farther—to 1790 when it numbered 3000—it is brought up in 1850 to over 730 times; but this only