

REPORT OF CRIMINAL STATISTICS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1899.

These Statistics are collected under authority of the Criminal Statistics Act, Chapter 60, Revised Statutes of Canada.

The annexed report is composed of "Indictable Offences" and "Summary Convictions," the former including all cases tried by Police and other Magistrates, with the consent of the accused under the "Speedy Trials," "Summary Trial by consent" and "Juvenile Offenders" Acts; while the latter is made up of cases disposed of by Justices of the Peace out of Sessions, under the "Summary Convictions Act."

INDICTABLE OFFENCES.

The indictable offences are divided into six classes:—Offences against the person; offences against property with violence; offences against property without violence; malicious offences against property; forgery and other offences against currency; and other offences not included in the foregoing classes.

The number of charges for indictable offences in Canada has increased by 17 during the year ended 30th September, 1899; 8,170 in 1899, against 8,153 in 1898. Out of the above figures there were 2,355 acquittals, 11 detained for lunacy and 91 cases in which, for different reasons, no sentence was given in 1899; against 2,247 acquittals, 29 detained for lunacy and 90 cases in which no sentence was given, in 1898; thereby reducing the number of convictions to 5,713 for 1899, and to 5,787 for 1898, in the following order:—

PROVINCES.	Number of Convictions.		Number of Convictions per 10,000 Inhabitants.	
	1898.	1899.	1898.	1899.
Prince Edward Island.....	37	16	3·38	1·46
New Brunswick.....	104	125	3·23	3·89
Nova Scotia.....	240	250	5·24	5·44
Manitoba.....	200	224	9·40	9·57
Quebec.....	1,603	1,779	10·10	11·01
Ontario.....	2,900	2,693	12·85	11·71
The Territories.....	190	256	14·56	18·06
British Columbia.....	513	370	32·33	20·33
Canada.....	5,787	5,713	11·06	10·65

As seen by the above table the number of convictions has increased in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Manitoba, Quebec and the Territories; while it has decreased in Ontario, Prince Edward Island and British Columbia. The increase in the Territories is due entirely to the growth of the Yukon District.