

small as thirty-five acres for the district! I am inclined to think, for some of them, that there are errors of enumeration, although no one can say whether they belong to one census or the other. Where alone these errors, if errors there are, influence to any appreciable extent the provincial totals is in New Brunswick, and there the result of the influence amounts to less than *five-tenths of one* in one hundred acres; which, I repeat, may be again divided between the two census returns.

But apart from these reasonable explanations, which apply to all ordinary circumstances, there is for some districts, in this instance, the special reason that, by the electoral readjustment of 1872, the limits and extents of districts have been altered, creating new districts at the expense of others, and altering the conditions of many more.

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*The acreage of land improved in a few Districts is smaller in the Census of 1881, as compared with the Census of 1871.*

The same explanation that is given in the next preceding paragraph applies to the present one; and, moreover, several of the 14 districts inscribed in the category are city districts, or districts where village, urban or suburban population has increased, and in which, consequently, many acres must have been transferred, from the class of improved farm lands, into the class of village or town lots. It is in this way that *twenty-one acres* less of improved farm lands in Halifax and *twenty-four* in Toronto are more than easily accounted for, these two cities being among the districts picked up by the critics for their reproofs on this point.

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*The Area of Pasturage is less in several Districts than was reported in 1871.*

This is after all, perhaps, the masterpiece of the sort of criticism which has been indulged in. Inasmuch as in Canada the improved lands not under some crops or in gardens and orchards are resorted to as pasturage for a good part of the summer season, if not for the whole season, the Canadian farmers report in pasturage all the improved area which is not reported by them under some other heading: so the column headed pasturage in the Census is filled with the arithmetical *balance* of land improved not otherwise accounted for. Therefore there *cannot be* noticed any error in this column separately taken, unless it be an error of addition, and of such there have been none discovered. A diminution in the acreage of pasturage means simply a corresponding increase in the land under crop. As a matter of fact, the *proportionate* area of pasturage must have undergone a certain diminution on account of the progress in the final clearing of land, and, in several districts, of the greater resort to stall feeding, as compared with grazing, which has characterised our live stock operations for several years past, in certain portions of our territory; and the result of such alteration in our agri-