

both sexes are addicted, has contributed to shorten the duration of their lives, and it is now a rare thing to see an aged Indian. In the human existence another circumstance is also remarkable, that in few countries do so many children attain to the age of puberty. This observation is also strengthened by the great proportion that children bear to adults. All new countries are favourable to early marriages, as the means of subsistence are easily acquired; consequently where there are so many children, the deaths of infants might be expected, according to the course of things in Europe, to be very great:—but the reverse is the case in Nova Scotia, where children are easily reared, and instances of mortality among them rare.

The militia throughout the American war was in a very effective state. At present the Legislature feels a very natural reluctance, to impose much military duty in a time of profound peace, upon a new settler, whose attention and continued presence are required upon his farm. The law enacts that every male from sixteen to sixty, be enrolled as a militia man, excepting the members of the Legislature, lawyers, magistrates, surgeons, and officers of the civil and military department. Every regiment, if capable, is divided into battalions, which consist of not less than 300, nor more than 800 men. Every battalion is again divided into companies which consist of not less than 30 nor more than 80 men. Every regiment, battalion, or company is called out four times a year upon three days' previous notice, by companies twice, and in regiment or battalion twice, and the whole is under the superintendence of two military inspecting field officers, who review the militia on the days of regimental meeting. Some years ago a quantity of arms was furnished to the militia, to the use of which they were well trained. The Squaddrills introduced by Sir George Prevost, the only effectual mode of disciplining a militia, have rendered some companies nearly as expert in their exercises as regular troops.

There are several religious denominations in this country. The proportion perhaps, as applied to the population, may be assumed to be, Roman Catholic one quarter, Church of England and Methodist, one quarter, Baptist one quarter, and the Church of Scotland, and other dissenters one quarter. The tolerant laws of this country are of a nature to