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RELIGIOUS CENSUS OF CANADA.

In our last we published a tabular statement of the num'ers belonging to the various religious denominations throughout Canada, and we now purpose to direct attention to some points not only of interest, connected with the Census, but also of utility to the Churches.

The comparative increase of the various denominations first of all invites attention, and the accompanying table gives this in regard to those which most interest us:—

DENOMINATION.	1852.	1861.	INCREASE	1852. pr.cent.	1861. of pop.
Church of England.....	268,592	374,887	106,296	14.57	14.96
Methodists.....	228,839	372,164	143,315	12.42	14.85
Presbyterians.....	237,683	346,991	109,308	12.90	13.84
Baptist.....	49,849	69,310	20,464	2.71	2.77
Congregational.....	11,674	14,284	7,410	.....	.....
Free Church.....	66,074	157,813	91,749	4.76	6.8
Kirk of Scotland.....	61,589	132,651	71,062	4.71	6.5
Roman Catholics.....	914,561	1,200,865	286,304	49.65	47.91

It thus appears that during the preceding nine years all the various denominations have increased, though in different ratios. The greatest increase is among the Methodists, the next is the Presbyterian, and the third the Church of England. To account for the greater increase of Methodism we have only to remember, 1st, that the proportion of emigrants, who are or become Methodists, is certainly greater than the proportion who are Presbyterian; 2nd, that the adherents of the Church of England and Ireland, as the smaller relative increase of that denomination shows, are, generally speaking, more favourably inclined to Methodism, both by doctrinal sentiment and educational usages; 3rd, that the number of preachers, both circuit and local, and the great zeal of the members, enable that body, particularly in new places, to gather in the young before other denominations get on the field; 4th, that many return themselves as Methodists, just because they sometimes go to Methodist meeting, no church being at hand.