

MORSE'S ESTIMATE, 1820-'21.

The first attempt at an official enumeration of the entire Indian population was made by Jedidiah Morse, appointed by the Secretary of War in 1819, to investigate and report on the condition of the Indian tribes. His report, dated June 6, 1822, is a valuable contribution to our Indian history, but it must be remembered that his conclusions respecting population are, to a great extent, drawn from estimates which in many cases were themselves based on very insufficient information. His table is as follows:

Indians in New England.....	2,247
Indians in New York.....	5,184
Indians in Ohio.....	2,407
Indians in Michigan and Northwestern Territories.....	28,380
Indians in Illinois and Indiana.....	17,006
Indians in Southern States east of the Mississippi.....	65,022
Indians west of Mississippi and north of Missouri.....	33,150
Indians between Missouri and Red Rivers.....	101,070
Indians west of the Rocky Mountains.....	171,200
Indians between Red River and Rio del Norte.....	45,370
Total.....	471,036

ESTIMATE OF 1825.

This estimate was contained in a report by T. L. McKenney, then at the head of the Indian Office in the Department of War, to the Secretary of that department, dated January 10, 1825. It did not include any estimate of the number of Indians in or west of the Missouri Valley, and was therefore very incomplete. It is included in this statement only because it was reproduced in the report of the United States census for 1850.

The number of Indians in the United States in 1825, according to this partial estimate, was 129,366.

ESTIMATE OF SECRETARY OF WAR, 1829.

In 1829, Hon. P. B. Porter, Secretary of War, estimated the number of Indians, and noted their geographical distribution, as follows:

New England States and Virginia.....	2,573
New York.....	4,820
Pennsylvania.....	300
North Carolina.....	3,103
South Carolina.....	300
Georgia.....	5,000
Tennessee, Ohio, Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri.....	61,997
Peninsula of Michigan.....	9,340
Arkansas.....	7,200
Florida.....	4,000
Country east of the Mississippi, north of Illinois, and west of the three upper lakes.....	20,000
West of the Mississippi, east of the Rocky Mountains, not included in Louisiana, Missouri, and Arkansas.....	94,300
Within the Rocky Mountains.....	20,000
West of the Rocky Mountains, between latitude 44° and latitude 49°.....	80,000
Total.....	312,930

The above enumeration was also largely made up of estimates, some of which the Secretary himself styled "conjectural;" and of other Indians, he remarks, "but little is known." Of course this estimate, like all others in this century dated before 1850, did not include any official enumeration of the Indians in Texas and the territory acquired from Mexico.