

### THE UNITED KINGDOM CENSUS.

While the papers of the Canadian Census are still in the hands of the enumerators the figures for the United Kingdom are appearing in every newspaper. The following is a summary of the British returns compared with those of 1891, 1881 and 1871:

|                  | 1901.      | 1891.      | 1881.      | 1871.      |
|------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Eng. and Wales   | 32,525,716 | 29,002,525 | 25,974,439 | 22,712,266 |
| Scotland         | 4,471,957  | 4,025,646  | 3,735,573  | 3,360,018  |
| Ireland          | 4,456,546  | 4,705,546  | 5,174,836  | 5,412,377  |
| Total U. K. .... | 41,454,219 | 37,733,717 | 34,884,848 | 31,484,661 |

The increase or decrease for each section of the United Kingdom in the above ten-year periods was as below:

|                   | England and<br>Wales. | Scotland.    | Ireland.     |
|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1891 to 1901 .... | Inc. 3,523,191        | Inc. 446,311 | Dec. 249,000 |
| 1881 " 1891 ..... | " 3,028,086           | " 290,073    | " 469,290    |
| 1871 " 1881 ..... | " 3,262,173           | " 375,555    | " 237,541    |
| 1861 " 1871 ..... | " 2,646,042           | " 297,724    | " 386,590    |

The percentage of increase or decrease in the above decennial periods were:

|                    | England and<br>Wales.<br>Per cent. | Scotland.<br>Per cent. | Ireland.<br>Per cent. |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1891 to 1901 ..... | Inc. 12.14                         | Inc. 11.70             | Dec. 5.29             |
| 1881 " 1891 .....  | " 11.65                            | " 7.77                 | " 9.08                |
| 1871 " 1881 .....  | " 14.36                            | " 11.18                | " 4.39                |
| 1861 " 1871 .....  | " 13.21                            | " 9.72                 | " 6.67                |

The increase per cent. in England and Wales since 1891 of 12.14 per cent. is greater by about one-half per cent. than during the previous ten years.

The increase has arisen mainly in London and the great boroughs to the extent of about a million and a half. The increase in the counties of Derbyshire, Durham, Lancashire, Northumberland, Nottinghamshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire and the West Riding, which are largely industrial districts, account for another million. The counties of Essex, Kent, Surrey and Middlesex have gone up over 700,000. Monmouthshire, Glamorgan, Cheshire, Leicestershire, Hants and Sussex also show substantial increase. The population of London is 4,536,034, shewing an increase of 324,291, or 5.8 per cent. as compared with an increase of 10 per cent. in the previous ten years.

The decreases are mainly in the counties of Cambridgeshire, Devonshire, Hereford, Huntingdon, Rutland, Oxfordshire and Westmoreland, which all show a decrease. Cornwall is stationary, and so to a large extent is Wales.

The increase of 12.14 per cent. throughout England and Wales is moderate, but the percentage of increase for the United Kingdom, 9.86, is low though higher than in some earlier decades, from

1861 to 1871, for instance, the increase was only 8.8 per cent., but the immigration in that decade was large, the population of Ireland in 1871 being 5,412,377 as compared with 5,798,967 in 1861 and 6,552,385 in 1851. Since 1841 the population of Ireland has declined from 8,175,124 to 4,456,546, a loss of 3,718,578, or over 45 per cent. In the same period, from 1841 to 1901, the population of Scotland has enlarged from 2,620,184 to 4,471,957, an increase of over 70 per cent., and in England and Wales the increase since 1841 has been from 15,914,148 to 32,525,76, an advance of over 100 per cent. It is affirmed that the English birth-rate is receding even more than that of France, which, in the absence of official data supporting this contention, we decline to accept. The recent Census does not yield such a result. One feature of the Census stands out conspicuously, viz., that the population of the United Kingdom is becoming more and more congested each decade, the rural population is hardly increasing, while that in cities and towns is enlarging far beyond the natural increase. The changes made in the populations of cities and towns that send a representative to Parliament have created such disparities that legislation is almost certain to be introduced ere long to equalize the constituencies. Another feature shown by the Census figures is of special interest to the life insurance companies, as it appears from the published data that the average death-rate of the United Kingdom is decreasing.

### CLEARING HOUSE FIGURES.

THE RETURNS FROM MONTREAL FOR JUNE OF THE PAST DECADE.

To those who regard the total clearings of our banks in the different cities of the Dominion as an indication of the condition of business, the figures of the Clearing House in the Canadian metropolis must be most cheering. The following table, compiled from the returns for June from 1892 to 1901, shews a surprising growth in the business transacted by the banks of Montreal. It will be observed that the total for the past month is many millions in excess of the figures of any previous June, and, upon enquiry of the manager, we learn that the total represents a record in the history of the Montreal Clearing House.

#### JUNE CLEARINGS.

|            | Increase over<br>1892. |
|------------|------------------------|
| 1892 ..... | \$ 46,744,964          |
| 1893 ..... | 47,244,749             |
| 1894 ..... | 44,704,941             |
| 1895 ..... | 52,353,161             |
| 1896 ..... | 43,129,326             |
| 1897 ..... | 54,616,913             |
| 1898 ..... | 60,423,546             |
| 1899 ..... | 63,761,115             |
| 1900 ..... | 65,543,761             |
| 1901 ..... | 79,746,222             |

Whether we have for the present reached high water mark, we must leave to our bankers and leading merchants to determine.