

India's Census Exhibits.

A writer in the Asiatic Quarterly for January furnishes some data concerning the census of India, from which the following items are obtained:

The actual figures for the total population reported for 1891 are 287,223,431, or including French and Portuguese possessions and some wild and frontier tracts estimated rather than counted, 289,187,316, or about one-fifth of the total population of the globe as at present computed. Of this total, 77 per cent, or 221,172,952, is the population under direct British rule, and 23 per cent, or 66,050,479, that of feudatory or dependent States. Descending to provincial details we find the following figures:

	Population.	Per cent.
1. Bengal.....	71,316,987	24.81
2. Northwest Provinces and Oudh.....	46,905,095	16.33
3. Madras.....	35,630,440	12.40
4. Panjab.....	20,866,817	7.09
5. Bombay and Sindh..	18,857,044	6.56
6. Central Provinces..	10,781,291	3.75
7. Burmah.....	7,695,560	2.66
8. Other Provinces....	9,176,695	3.20

It may be interesting to note that Bengal, the largest of the provinces, is equal in area to the whole United Kingdom with a second Scotland thrown in, and in population to the United States of America including Mexico. In examining the distribution of the population the principal characteristic is its generally rural type. In England 53 per cent of the population is found to reside in 182 towns of 20,000 inhabitants and upward. In India there are 227 towns of that size, but only 4.87 per cent of the people reside in them. In all this vast area there are only 28 towns with a population of more than 100,000. Including its numerous suburbs, Calcutta has 931,670; Bombay, the second city in the empire, has 821,764. No other town has more than half this population.

There does not seem to be any tendency on the part of the rural population to migrate into towns. The cultivator is intensely attached to his native village and even when compelled to leave it for a time in search of a livelihood, he invariably returns there as soon as possible. The ordinary habits and customs of daily life are to a Hindoo matters of religion, and it is only in a village that he can find the open space and air which his habits require. Even his towns are more like large villages than towns. It is not probable that for a long time to come there will be any great migration of the people. Only a few districts are as yet at all congested, and even in them all efforts to induce the people to migrate have utterly failed.

Persons occupied in owning, farming, or cultivating land amount to 62 per cent, or nearly two-thirds of the total population. Another significant fact is that persons who have property which makes it unnecessary for them to work for their bread amount only to 193,291, or less than one-twentieth per cent. However, the figures under this head are admittedly imperfect. The list of languages comprises eighty in all, but this includes European languages, as English, French and German. Under the head of religion the principal fact is that more than 72 per cent of the population call themselves Hindoos. What Hindooism is is difficult to say. After the 207,000,000 of Hindoos, come next in number 57,000,000 Mussulmans, 9,000,000 wild tribes professing religions grouped under the not very intelligible or suitable title of Animism, 7,000,000 Buddhists and upward of 2,000,000 Christians, more than half of whom are Roman Catholics. Of the 15,000,000 who are returned as "literate" and "learning" approximately only three-quarters of a million only are females. The entire number of natives returned as knowing English is only 385,000, and this includes

school boys. The number of males who reach the age sixty in India is only 4.8 per cent, against 7.8 in England and 11.85 in France, for females the figure is only 5.88 against 7.5 for England and 12.5 for France.

The Immigration Convention.

F. W. Heubach, secretary of the immigration committee recently appointed, has sent a circular to the Reeves and Mayors of municipalities and other parties interested in the question, asking them to send delegates to an immigration convention to be held at Winnipeg, on February 27 and 28. The committee may be relied on to make all necessary arrangements for the convenience and comfort of the delegates. Prompt action on the part of the municipalities and others in the appointment of delegates is necessary to insure the success of the convention. The city clerk has received a letter from Sir William Van Horne stating that the Canadian Pacific Railway will do all in its power to promote the objects of the convention by giving low rates. The following is the letter of the secretary:

Dear Sir,—Recognizing that the time and conditions are most propitious, it has been decided to call an immigration convention to meet in the city of Winnipeg, on Thursday and Friday, February 28 and 28, 1895.

Representation by delegates is being asked from all cities, towns and municipalities, from Port Arthur to the Pacific coast, as well as from all commercial, railway and industrial interests of the great west. It is considered desirable that every special interest and locality be represented, in order that all the advantages possessed by each may be presented to homeseekers. It will be the duty of the convention, therefore, to form some plan which will most effectually advertise the Canadian Northwest as a desirable field for settlement by all classes of immigrants, and secure at an early date the necessary increase to our population.

By direction of the chairman and committee, I have the honor to request the appointment by yourselves of delegates to the number of ten, if possible, to attend the convention.

I need scarcely point out that each delegate is expected to come prepared to demonstrate the special advantage the interest he represents offers to those we are endeavoring to attract, and also, that unless each district is represented, our convention will to that extent be handicapped in the object to be accomplished.

The railways and hotels are being asked for special rates for the accommodation of attending delegates, the nature of which I will advise you later.

Please let me have the name and address of your delegates at the earliest moment.

An Industry with a Great Future.

Peanut oil is making such rapid strides in foreign countries as a competitor of olive and cottonseed oils, and as one of the chief components of butter and lard, that it is only a question of time when peanut oil manufacture will be one of the leading industries of the United States. Capitalists will some day take hold of this neglected branch of business and make it so popular with the consuming public that the large dividends earned will eventually attract Wall Street investment, and then we shall have a peanut oil "trust" with common and preferred stock, like the other large industrial corporations. The American production of peanuts is limited to an average of 4,000,000 bushels per annum, because of the limited demand. The Southern growers claim that the crop is unprofitable, but is owing to their lack of enterprise, they are only able to obtain about twenty bushels per acre, because they use the same land from year to year, and never think of spending a cent on fertilizers. Intelligent cultivation will bring a

yield of 75 to 100 bushels per acre, experience has demonstrated that fact beyond dispute.

The oil industry can be made to advance more rapidly than cotton oil, because peanuts are well known and popular everywhere. In addition to the oil, which is considered much superior to either olive or cotton oil for salad and cooking purposes, there are by-products of crushed hulls, meal and vines, which are used extensively in Germany as cattle food and valued highly, the vines being preferred to timothy hay.

There is certainly a good opening in the Southern States where land is so cheap, for the cultivation of nuts on a large scale, and the manufacture of oil. The latter will sell readily on its merits if offered in the beginning at or below the figures of competing oils. It is believed that such an enterprise could be undertaken with profit even at present low values.—N.Y. Shipping List.

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