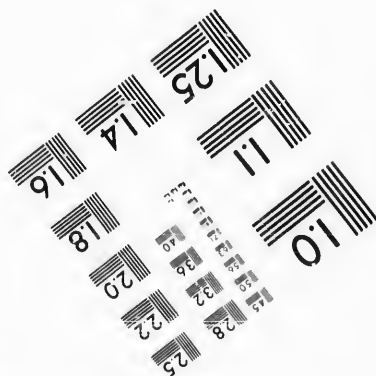
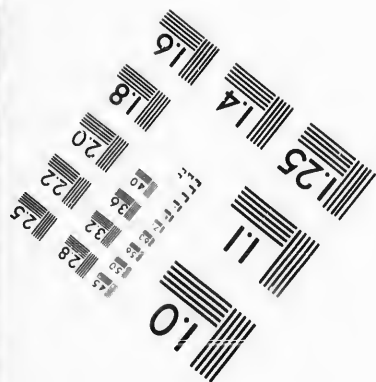
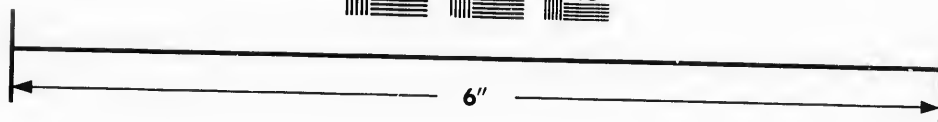
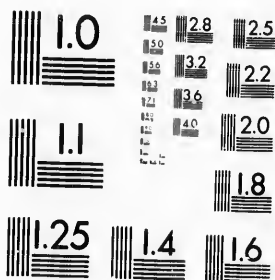


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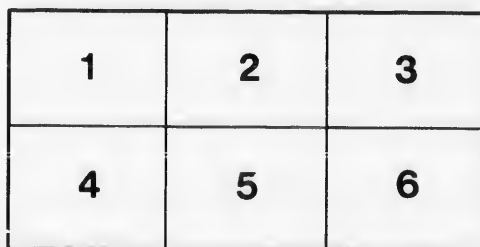
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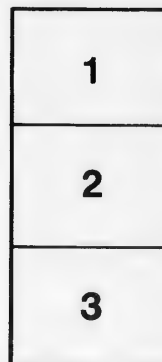
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AND
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ISSUERS OF MARRIAGE LICENSES
DEPUTY REGISTRARS,
AND
MEDICAL MEN.

HALIFAX, N. S.:
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1866.

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1866

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PREFACE.

The following Report, together with the amended Registration Act, has been ordered by the Board of Statistics to be published, and circulated throughout the Province, in order that the objects and the importance of attending to Registration may be more generally understood by the people. The attention of Deputy Registrars, Clergymen and Medical Men, is specially requested to the directions and suggestions addressed to them. The law is an important one, and if fully carried out will place at the disposal of the Province material, in the form of vital statistics, of the greatest possible value.

Every assistance and encouragement will be afforded to Deputy Registrars from this department, to enable them to perform their duties satisfactorily; and the Secretary of the Board of Statistics has no doubt that, if the returns are made in a thorough manner, every disposition will be shown on the part of the Government to afford something like adequate remuneration for the labour.

The attention of the public generally is directed to the requirements of the Act, and the penalties incurred by neglecting them. Deputy Registrars are required to make efforts and offer every facility for obtaining a general registration; and as this registration costs the parties registering nothing, every Deputy Registrar will be particular to enforce the law against those who neglect or refuse to conform thereto after being notified of the same. Deputy Registrars, however, will be careful not to proceed to sue parties who are ignorant of the provisions of the law, without having first informed them of their duty. If after this, Registration is still neglected, they will at once proceed to have the penalty enforced.

The Secretary of the Board of Statistics is authorized to state that all Issuers or Deputy Registrars, being Postmasters or Way Office Keepers, who neglect or refuse to perform in a satisfactory manner the duties belonging to the Registration Department, will be reported to the Board of Statistics, and that in all such cases summary remedial measures will be applied by the Government. It is to be hoped, however, that no such case will henceforth occur.

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DIRECTIONS TO ISSUERS OF MARRIAGE LICENSES.

Deputy Registrars, who are Issuers of Marriage Licenses, will observe that the present Registration Act alters to some extent the manner of making up the Quarterly Returns. It is therefore necessary to attend carefully to the following explanations :

1. Clergymen are to be supplied with printed forms, which are to be filled up and returned along with the license, or by themselves, if the marriage ceremony has been performed by proclamation of banns, within ten days after such celebration.
2. The particulars of each marriage, as contained in the slip transmitted by the Clergyman, are to be copied by the Issuer into a blank sheet made up and supplied to him from this office.
3. The Issuer will pay to the Clergyman twenty-five cents for every marriage return made to him, whether the said marriage has been performed by license or by banns, provided the return is made conformably to law.
4. Every Issuer shall in like manner receive twenty-five cents for every marriage he records, whether by license or by banns. These fees, as well as those paid to Clergymen, to be deducted from the monies received from the sale of licenses.
5. If there should be any district in which the marriage ceremony is performed wholly or chiefly by banns, the money required for such fees will, upon requisition from the Issuer, be transmitted from this office.
6. Each Issuer shall receive a salary, payable annually, of \$7.50, in addition to his usual fees, which will be transmitted to him from this office, provided his returns are made correctly and regularly every quarter, according to law.
7. All returns, including Clergymen's forms, filled up, are to be made up and sent to this office in the second week of January, April, July and October.
8. All licenses will henceforth be issued from this Department instead of by the Postmaster General; and Issuers will also transmit all monies received for licenses, along with accounts current, receipts, &c., addressed to the Secretary of the Board of Statistics, to whom also all requisitions for blanks, instructions, and every thing connected with the Registration Department, must in future be made.

9. Issuers of Marriage Licenses will be careful to obtain from the Clergymen belonging to their respective districts a return of all "marriages solemnized" from 30th September, 1865, to the present time, on the usual registration sheets, in every case where these returns have not been already made, and transmit them with the other Registration documents at the beginning of July.

DIRECTIONS TO DEPUTY REGISTRARS OF MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, AND DEATHS.

1. Each Deputy Registrar shall henceforth receive a salary of \$5.00, payable annually, to be sent from this office, in addition to the usual fees paid by the County Treasurer.
2. The above salary will only be paid provided the returns are sent in regularly every quarter, and every reasonable effort is made to have these returns full and correct.
3. It is strongly recommended that each Deputy make it a point to ascertain every birth and death that takes place in his district, and have the same recorded, and also that any party refusing to register when called upon be at once summoned before a Magistrate, and dealt with according to law.
4. As the registration sheets of births, marriages and deaths require to be bound at the end of the year, Deputy Registrars are requested to make their entries as neatly as possible, and that not more than two, or at most more than three, lines be taken up with each registration.
5. The Secretary of the Board of Statistics would feel obliged if each Registrar would suggest what he considers the proper boundary line of his district, and also furnish approximately some idea of the number of families it may contain, as well as its extent.
6. The Secretary of the Board of Statistics would feel under obligations to any Deputy Registrar, who will furnish him with any incidental information of a useful or interesting character in connection with his department, and will at all times be ready thankfully to acknowledge the same.

DIRECTIONS TO CLERGYMEN.

1. Every Clergyman in the Province will be furnished with a "Marriage Registration Book," containing blank forms, to be filled up by him with all the required particulars connected with each marriage, such form to be cut out and returned to the Issuer of Marriage Licenses belonging to his district within ten days after the celebration, and he shall be entitled to receive twenty-five cents for each such return, provided it is correctly filled up and sent in within the time appointed by law.
2. The license, if the marriage has been performed by license, must in every case be sent in, fully filled up and certified, along with the printed form, but no additional fee shall be paid therefor, the only fee allowed to Clergymen being twenty-five cents for each marriage form sent in to the Issuer, whether the ceremony has been performed by license or banns.
3. Clergymen are requested to be very particular in filling up the forms, to state especially whether the marriage is by license or by banns, the religious denomination to which the officiating Clergyman belongs, the age of the parties married, and the names of two of the witnesses to said marriage, and all other particulars required by law.
4. Books, blanks, and all necessary information will be supplied on application, by letter or otherwise, from this office, or the offices of the Deputy Registrars, who are Issuers of Marriage Licenses.
5. Clergymen are informed that all correspondence in connection with Registration, passes through the Post Office free, care being taken to write "Registration Service" on the back of the letter, addressed to this department, or the office of a Deputy Registrar.
6. As a matter of course no Quarterly Returns on sheets will require henceforth to be made.
7. The Secretary of the Board of Statistics respectfully requests that Clergymen would kindly afford such aid and facilities to the Deputy Registrars in their respective districts, in obtaining information connected with births and deaths, as may be within their power.

NOTE.—Clergymen are requested to forward at once to the Issuers of Licenses in their respective districts a return of the particulars of all marriages celebrated by them during the present Financial Year, that is from 30th September, 1865, up to the present time, upon the usual Registration sheets, if they have not already done so, as it is necessary that every marriage solemnized be registered.

DIRECTIONS TO MEDICAL MEN.

1. All medical men throughout the Province. shall, as far as practicable, be supplied with doctors' books, and their attention is specially drawn to the requirements of the law as regards medical certificates of the cause of death.

2. All such certificates require to be sent to the Deputy Registrar as soon as possible, and not later than ten days after the death of the person, attended by the medical practitioner.

3. As it is of the utmost consequence, both in a medical and sanitary point of view, that all facts connected with disease should, as far as possible, be ascertained and tabulated, medical practitioners will be careful to supply Deputy Registrars with all requisite information; and all such Deputies will be required to make a return to this Department of the names of such medical practitioners as neglect to conform to this particular section of the Registration Act.

4. All medical men will be furnished annually with a copy of the Registration Report, which, it is to be hoped, will contain information of a reliable character, of interest and value to the profession generally; and in order that it may be as complete as possible, the Secretary of the Board of Statistics respectfully asks their cordial coöperation and assistance.

5. Blank "doctors' books" will be supplied on application either from this Department or the offices of the Deputy Registrars.

REGISTRATION REPORT.

*Financial Secretary's Office,
Registration Department,
Halifax, 15th Feb'y, 1866.*

SIR,—

In accordance with the requirements of the Registration Act, I have the honor to submit to you a Report of the Marriages, Births, and Deaths, that have been registered in this Province during the Financial Year, ended 30th September, 1865.

It is necessary to state at the outset that the fact of the law requiring the Registration of all Marriages, Births, and Deaths, having been in operation for a comparatively limited time, and being consequently but imperfectly understood by the people, has prevented the attainment either of that accuracy or completeness which is so desirable and so necessary in work of this description.

It is satisfactory, however, to be able to state that a great and rapid improvement is taking place in the character of the Returns generally, from all parts of the Province, and that those of last Quarter exhibit an increase of fully fifty per cent. over any preceding one since the Act came into force.

Still, though the facts which have been collected and tabulated are not by any means so full as might be desired, or may be expected in subsequent Reports, they present an amount of important information which it is to be hoped will enable the people of this Province to understand and appreciate its value.

During last year, ended 30th September, 1822 licenses were returned to this Office, representing the number of Marriages celebrated in this manner. The Marriages by Proclamation of Banns, by similar Returns, amount to 499, making a total of 2,321. The number given in the Tables is only 2,222, but the Return of Marriages celebrated in Halifax City by Banns, between persons belonging to the Catholic Denomination, has come in since these Tables were made up, raising them to the former number.

The number of Births registered throughout all the Counties of the Province was 2,377, exclusive of 514 children in Halifax in connection with the Catholic Church, the Report of which was received too late to be included in the Tabular Statement.

The Deaths registered amount to 1590, making the excess of Births registered over Deaths 787, or something above 50 per

cent., which is about the same as in England, and considerably higher than in the State of Massachusetts. In making this statement, it is assumed that the same ratio between the number of Births and Deaths registered would have been maintained had the whole number which took place in the Province been actually entered; and there is every reason to believe that this assumption is very nearly correct, seeing that the same ratio is observed with remarkable regularity in nearly all the Counties when taken independent of each other.

MARRIAGES.

It has already been stated that the total number of Marriages made known to this Office as having taken place in the course of the last Financial Year, was 2,321. There can scarcely be a doubt, however, that a good many of those celebrated by Banns have escaped registration from not having been returned by Clergymen. Those by License must be correct, or very nearly so; and it is to be regretted that through mere oversight the same accuracy has not been reached with regard to the former. But taking even the *data*, so far as given, the result is eminently satisfactory as regards Nova Scotia. It is well known that the marriage rate is one of the most reliable tests of the prosperity of a country, as it is found to rise or fall with good or bad years with great regularity.

In 1863, 173,510 Marriages were solemnized in England, with a population of 20,554,137, making one marriage to every 118 persons, or 8.44 per cent., while in Nova Scotia, according to the present Return, there is one for every 140.

This, however, is not a fair criterion, at all; for Cape Breton, with a population of 65,000, makes a return of only 142 Marriages; the reason being that the great majority of people in that Island, both Catholic and Protestant, are married by Banns, of which but imperfect Returns have been made. If, on the other hand, we take the County of Halifax we find that the rate of marriage is about one to each 100 of the population; of Cumberland County, one to 110; of Pictou, one to 116; and Kings, one to 120, which is remarkably high. Perhaps it may be as well to give here the marriage rate of all the Counties, from which it will be seen that in most of them it is, compared with other countries, very satisfactory.

In Annapolis, it is one to 128 persons in the County; in Colchester, one to 128; Digby, one to 150; Guysboro, one to 133; Hants, one to 135; Yarmouth, one to 104; Queens, one to 120; Shelburne, one to 150; while the remoter Counties of Antigonish, Cape Breton, Richmond, Inverness, and Victoria, represent only one to 400 of the population. The Returns from these districts will in future probably be as full and accurate as the others; and that they are not so now is owing to causes which can be reme-

died, and doubtless will be remedied, through the friendly coöperation of the Clergymen belonging to the different Counties.

Of the 1822 Marriages returned as solemnized by License, 428 were Episcopal, and 1,394 non-Episcopal; the ratio being, Episcopal 23.5 per cent., and non-Episcopal 76.5 per cent. of the whole number.

During the October quarter of 1865, 137 Episcopal and 478 non-Episcopal Licenses were returned, being an excess of 76 over the corresponding quarter of the previous year. Of the 1394 non-Episcopal Licenses returned for the Financial year, 477 were used by the Baptist denomination, 453 by the Presbyterian, 210 by the Methodist, 172 by the Church of Scotland, 28 by the Lutheran, 28 by the Congregational, 6 by the Roman Catholics, 6 by the Universalist, and 1 by the Evangelical Union Body. There were also 23 Licenses returned by the Reformed Presbyterians.

In proportion to its population, the County of Cumberland uses the greatest number of Licenses, 172 out of a population of 19,533; and Richmond the smallest, being only 8 out of upwards of 12,000 people. We are not, however, to conclude from this fact, that the marriage rate is necessarily lower in Richmond than in Cumberland, as the great bulk of the people in the former County are married by Banns.

By taking the relative number of licenses used in the course of the year, we will discover, with tolerable clearness, the actual marriage rate of the Province. The Church of England used 428 Licenses, which is one to 112 of the adherents of that Church; the Presbyterians, one to 154; the Church of Scotland, one to 112; the Baptists, one to 132; the Wesleyans, one to 162; and the Congregationalists, one to 80. The number of the Lutherans and that of the Reformed Presbyterians being either not given, or not reliably given, in the last Census, the ratio in their case cannot be ascertained. It will be observed from the Tables, that only six Catholics, out of a population of 90,000, have availed themselves of Marriage Licenses.

It is to be regretted, that the same minuteness cannot be carried out during the present year, with regard to Marriage by Banns. The Returns are not full, and in many cases it has been found difficult, in consequence of the manner of the Return, to determine to which Denomination to apportion it. Measures, however, are being taken to prevent a recurrence of this. The Catholic body, as already observed, have marriage solemnised almost wholly by Banns. The number of Marriages so solemnized belonging to this Denomination, so far as returned, are as follows: Halifax City, 93,—County, 26; Antigonish, 39; Cape Breton, 9; Digby, 46; Guysboro, 14; Inverness, 31; Richmond, 14; and Yarmouth, 2,—making a total of 274, which probably

does not much exceed one-third of the actual number. The number for Halifax City, however, is correct, and will give a ratio of one to 120 of the denomination, which is about the average of the other denominations. Taking the number of Halifax City as the ratio, the Catholic marriages in the Province would be about 700, which is probably nearly correct.

It is impossible, for reasons already stated, to give the number belonging to each of the other bodies; nor would it, in the present state of the Returns, be of much value. A considerable proportion of the Presbyterian body in Cape Breton, are married by Banns; and of the other Protestant Denominations throughout the Province, the proportion is small, but will, in all likelihood, be ascertained with an approach to correctness in the next annual Report.

In table No. II., appended to this Report, the Returns of Marriages solemnized for nine months, ended 30th September, 1865, are interesting and worthy of study. Of the 1,381 Marriages returned by Clergymen within this period, 1,114 were contracted between bachelors and spinsters; 95 between widowers and spinsters; 35 between bachelors and widows; and 28 between widowers and widows. It will thus be seen that 83 per cent. of the males married were bachelors, 9 per cent. were widowers, while only 4.5 per cent. of females entered the married state for the second time. These proportions are somewhat different from those of England, which show 13.5 per cent. of re-marriages by men, and 8.8 per cent. by women. In Massachusetts, the proportion of males re-marrying is about 12 per cent.

A belief prevails very generally, that people now marry later in life than they did formerly. The absence of registration tables prevents us from verifying the fact as regards this Province, though it is undoubtedly the case in New England. In England, however, statistics prove that the number marrying early in life is annually increasing. In 1863, in every 100 Marriages, 6.61 per cent. of the men, and 19.90 of the women, were under 21 years of age, while in 1841 the proportions were respectively, 4.41 and 13.29. In Nova Scotia, only 2 out of every 100 of the males are under 21 at the time of marriage; while the proportion of females is 20 out of every 100. Only 8 per cent. of women are married above 30, and the ratio begins to decrease rapidly after 26. The greatest age of the man and woman respectively, given in the Marriage Returns, is 72 and 70; the least, 18 and 15. In a large proportion of the Returns, the age of the parties is not given. This important omission has rendered it impossible to tabulate, in a satisfactory manner, the Marriages according to ages.

Of the 2,762 persons returned as having been married during the last nine months of the Financial Year, 2,284 were natives of this Province; 262 of other colonies or countries; while the

nationality of 216 is not given. This gives only 9.5 per cent. to the foreign element, which proves to how small an extent Nova Scotia is affected by immigration. Indeed, the amount is scarcely appreciable in any of the counties, with the exception of those of Halifax, Pictou, and Cumberland; the number not Nova Scotian in each respectively being 140, 40, and 28. In six counties, all the persons married were native born.

The Marriage rate in Nova Scotia, as nearly as can be ascertained, is 1.7 per cent., or 1.700 persons to 100 living. In Scotland, the rate is 1.424; in England, 1.688; in France, 1.600; in Austria, 1.734; and in Massachusetts, 1.716.

BIRTHS.

The population of Nova Scotia, as given in the census of 1861, is 330,857. In 1851 it was 276,122; showing an increase of 54,735 in ten years, being equal to about 20 per cent. in that time. Assuming that the same ratio of increase has been going on, the present actual population may be put down at about 364,000. In England, the annual average Birth rate is 3.469, or nearly three and a-half to every 100 persons living. In Massachusetts it is only 2.4, and has been steadily decreasing for many years. In 1860, it was equal to nearly 3 to each 100 persons. In France, it is 2.686, and in Austria and Italy 3.9, or nearly 4 to each 100 persons living. Having no previous tables of reference for Nova Scotia, and the Returns for the present year being very incomplete, the Birth rate in this Province cannot be reached. There can be little doubt, however, that it is higher than in New England, and probably, at least equal to that of Great Britain. In arriving at this conclusion, we have been guided by certain facts, which, to some extent, afford a key to others. The births, or baptisms, for example, recorded in Halifax city in connection with the Catholic Church, during the past year, are 514. The population of this body in 1861 was 11,649; adding 10 per cent. for natural increase, it will now be about 13,000, in which case the Birth rate is not only higher than that of England, but equal to the high rate of Italy or Austria. It is highly probable, therefore, that we are safe in assuming the rate to be not inferior to that of the Mother Country. If such is the case, the number of children born annually in Nova Scotia will amount to 13,000, or about 36 every day in the year. The whole number, however, that has been registered during last year is only 2,377, or very little more than one-sixth of the whole. There are serious difficulties in the way of reaching a complete Registration of Births and Deaths in a sparse and scattered population; but it is of the utmost importance, for many reasons, that it should be as full and correct as circumstances will admit. The Birth rate of England has been ascertained only through the medium of Registration; and from it we know that it is equal to 1 infant born annually for

every 28 persons living. In the same way, we learn by means of Registration, that the Birth rate in the New England States, or, at any rate, in Massachusetts, is only 1 to 41 persons living. We know more; for by referring to the Returns for past years, we discover that in these States the rate is steadily decreasing; having been 1 to 34 in 1860. In England, the excess of Births over Deaths is 59 per cent. In Massachusetts, it was in 1863 only 0.205 per cent. The principality of Wales contains about the same population as the last mentioned State; and we find that the Births and Deaths of the former, in 1863, were 45,755 and 28,159 respectively, while those of the latter for the same year were 30,314 Births and 27,651 Deaths; that is, the Births in Wales exceeded those of Massachusetts 50 per cent., while the Death rate in each was not far from an equality. It would thus seem that the vitality of the New England States must be kept up by an influx from without, and should that foreign current cease to flow, the country would begin to lose ground. These facts have been arrived at through data of unquestionable reliability, and they are of very grave importance indeed. These data, as regards Nova Scotia, are not within our reach, simply from want of complete Registration. Yet we can, with the material under our hand, make an approximation at least to certain desired conclusions.

We have already stated that our tables exhibit an excess of Births over Deaths equal to 50 per cent., and that there is every reason to believe this to be about the actual ratio. Thus the real excess of Births over Deaths in Nova Scotia will be about 6,000 per annum, which will therefore, represent the natural increase of the Province; and, so far, this result agrees very closely with the facts brought to light by the census of 1861.

The relative proportion of male and female Births is a matter of considerable interest; and it would seem that the ratio, taken upon a scale sufficiently large, amounts to something like a fixed law. In England, it is at the rate of 107 males to 100 females, and this proportion never materially varies. In the New England States, it is very nearly the same; and in Nova Scotia, the Returns give a result almost exactly equal to those of Great Britain. The number of males registered last Financial Year was 1,229; that of females, 1,149, making the proportion 107.5 males to 100 females, which may be taken as the correct ratio between the number of the sexes in this Province. The census of 1861 gives a somewhat different result: 165,233 males, and 164,942 females, or 101 to 100, which can scarcely be correct, seeing that it conflicts at once with the relative proportion of the sexes in other countries, and with the results yielded by the returns of the past year; and it may also be observed that in 14 out of the 18 counties, the same excess of males is maintained.

In all registration reports, the per centage of illegitimate births is carefully noted and given. The proportion given in Massachusetts is 1 to 108, or less than 1 per cent. In England it averages 7 per cent, or nearly 7 to every 100 children born, while in some counties of Scotland it is as high as from 10 to 14 per cent of the whole birth rate. In Nova Scotia the returns have been only nominal; not more than six or eight having been given altogether. The same may be said with regard to still-born infants, of which no statistics have been given. It would be of great importance, in a social and moral point of view, to be in a position to present accurate Returns of the comparative number of both classes; but this, for obvious reasons, can scarcely be expected, till the system of Registration itself has been better understood and generally attended to throughout the Province.

DEATHS.

Systematic Registration is the only means by which the Death Rate of a country can be ascertained; and it is by the Death Rate alone that we can judge correctly of the influence of the climate upon health, as well as the comparative salubrity of particular localities. It is thus evident that this portion of the system is of prime importance to the social well-being of a State, inasmuch as it makes known not only the amount of mortality, but in many cases, by pointing out the peculiar habitation and lethality of particular diseases, has led to investigations resulting in remedy, by the application of sanitary measures.

It thus appears in most civilized countries, that longevity compared with former times, is steadily gaining ground; and that a certain class of diseases, which once swept over a country periodically as a destroying pestilence, are now confined within limits which are ever becoming narrower. Indeed, it may be said that the Death Rate of a country is a criterion not only of the character of the climate as regards health, but of the character of the people as regards social progress.

The mortality of England is 2.3 to every 100 persons in it, varying considerably, however, in different counties, the two extremes being 1.7 and 2.6 to 100 respectively; that is, while 170 people die in the one locality, 260 die in the other. The low rate is in the retired and rural County of Westmoreland; the high rate in the cotton manufacturing and great commercial County of Lancashire.

The effect of drainage and a good supply of pure water upon the sanitary condition of a town, is shewn in a striking manner in the case of Salisbury, quoted by the Registrar General of England. That town has been thoroughly drained and sewered. Before the drainage the mean annual mortality was 268 out of 9,000. Last year it was only 162, and for the last five years the average has been 185. Many other instances might be adduced,

proving to how great an extent both infant and adult life is dependent upon pure air and pure water.

In Nova Scotia, 1590 Deaths were registered during the past Financial Year, 847 males, and 743 females, which is probably a little more than one-fifth of the actual number. That number, however, is sufficiently large to afford a tolerably correct ratio of the comparative length of male and female life, and also of the proportion of deaths of the sexes. The number of males exceeds the number of females in the Province by 7 per cent.; but the death rate of the former is greater than that of the latter by 14 per cent.; that is, 114 males die for every 100 females. In England the excess is equal to 5 per cent., and in the New England States about 10 per cent. The conclusion drawn from this is, that the unhealthy influences of the atmosphere, or, in other words, the liability to contagious diseases, is greater at a certain age among males than females.

Of the 1590 Deaths registered, the age of 58 of the number has not been given. Of the remaining 1532, 187 died before they had reached the age of one year. Before the fifth year, 375 were dead; before the 15th year, 426; before the 25th, 666; before the 34th year, 819; before the 45th, 947; before the 60th, 1,117; and by the time the 70th year was approached, only 243 of the original number remained alive; 122 died between the 70th and 80th, 77 between the 80th and 90th, 22 between the 90th and 100th year of their age, while at least 4 either reached or exceeded 100 years. The greatest age recorded is in the city of Halifax, where one individual reached the venerable age of 107.

From the above summary it will be seen that 12 per cent. of the population dies before the first year, and that one-fourth of the whole is cut off under 5 years. By the 25th year, nearly one-half has perished; and by the time 70 years are reached, only one-twelfth is found to survive. If we compare the ratio with that of England, as given by the Registrar-General, it will be found that the mortality in early life is much greater than here. The proportion under one year is nearly a fourth, and under five years it is more than a third, while in Nova Scotia not more than 25 per cent. of the population is lost under the fifth year. In all England there were only 213 persons registered as having passed their 95th year in 1863, while the number in Nova Scotia is 10. In proportion to population, the former, to be on an equality with the latter, should have had 556.

Table V., from which these facts have been deduced, is a most valuable and instructive one, and well worthy of attentive study. In point of longevity, there appears a marked difference in the various Counties. Pictou is perhaps the most remarkable; for out of 125 Deaths recorded, 15 are above 80, 7 above 90, and 2 above 100. Those above 90 and 100 were all natives of the High-

lands of Scotland. Cumberland also stands well, having 4 above 90, two of whom were 99, all but centenarians.

The Registration has not been sufficiently large to enable us to conclude with certainty as to the average age reached in Nova Scotia. It may be stated approximately as being between 31 and 34 years. In Massachusetts it is given as 30.

By reference to Table VI. it will be seen that the diseases to which man is subject are very many, attacking him at every age, and at all seasons. This table is by no means as satisfactory as it ought to be, arising from the absence in many cases of medical certification. In England and the United States this department of Registration is very complete and most valuable. Indeed, the statistical nosology of a country is, perhaps, of more importance than any other portion of its statistics, as it is the surest key to all sound and reliable sanitary science. Accordingly, in both countries mentioned, we find that diseases for purposes of Registration have been arranged into groups, and these groups are subdivided into classes and orders. The groups are five,—Zymotic, Constitutional, Local, Developmental Diseases, and Violent Deaths. The Zymotic group, which includes all Contagious Diseases, &c., is the most formidable, destroying about one half of the human race; while of the Constitutional, Consumption carries off the greatest number of victims. In this Table it has been found possible to adhere only partially to this very complete and scientific arrangement, in consequence of the imperfect manner in which the diseases in many cases have been certified. The Table is given rather as an indication of what might be, than of what has been, obtained.

Out of 1590 Deaths, the cause of death has been given only as regards 1194; and we must refer to the table itself as a sort of guide to the comparative prevalence and mortality of certain diseases in this Province. It will be seen that here, as elsewhere, Consumption is the great destroyer; for if we include under it the kindred diseases, Pneumonia, Bronchitis, and Asthma, about one-fourth of the Deaths are to be attributed to its influence. Fever under its various forms would seem to carry off one-twelfth, while Dysentery and disorders of the bowels are still more deadly.

Of Consumption, the greatest number of cases, taking population into account, has been returned from the counties of Halifax, Colchester, and Kings. Digby has suffered most severely from Diphtheria; Yarmouth from Fever; while in the small town of Dartmouth, with a population a little exceeding 3,000, 22 Deaths were registered during the months of August and September as having been caused by Dysentery, being an annual mortality equal to one in every 23 persons; the average number for all diseases in England being one in 43.

During the past year 51 persons have been drowned in different parts of the Province; 23 have lost their lives by acci-

dents in the form of being crushed by machinery, thrown from waggons, or from falling of trees. Ten were found dead, the cause being unknown. There were six cases of Suicide: three by hanging, one by poison, and one by cutting the throat. In England the average proportion of Suicides is 66 to 1,000,000 of the population, a rate about four times higher than in this Province.

Table VII. gives the causes of Death in the County and City of Halifax, arranged according to ages. From this Table, the period of life at which certain diseases are most fatal, may be ascertained with some degree of correctness. Cholera Infantum, Convulsions, Diarrhœa, Dysentery, Hydrocephalus, and Scarlatina have been most fatal to infant life during the past year in Halifax; while 27 out of 38 cases of Consumption terminated fatally between the 20th and 40th years of life. If a similar Table could be given of all the counties, divided into periods of three months, so as to indicate the season at which a particular disease is most prevalent, data might be gained of the greatest possible value both to the medical profession and the community at large. It is to be hoped that this may be effected in future Reports, but it is only possible through the careful and cordial coöperation of the medical men in all parts of the Province. There is great room for improvement in this respect, as is shewn by the fact, that in the County of Halifax the whole number of Deaths registered last year was 373, while the number of interments, as shown by the books of the Sextons of the two Cemeteries connected with the City alone, amounts to 565, which may be taken with tolerable accuracy as the actual Death rate of Halifax city during the past year.

The number of Deaths registered as having taken place in the Poor Asylum of Halifax, during the year is 65, out of an average of 353 inmates. If proper inquiry should be instituted, it would probably be found that this very high rate of mortality is largely owing to crowding and imperfect ventilation. Many of the cases, indeed, were of great age; but the average is not particularly high, being 41. The number of Deaths registered as having taken place in the Provincial Lunatic Asylum is 9. The greatest age recorded is 71, the least 23, and the average 40. There was one case of Suicide by a male 60 years of age; three cases of paralysis, three of Consumption, one of Fever, and one of Senile Dementia.

Such are the leading facts in connection with the Deaths which have been registered throughout the Province. Some of them are valuable and important, and others too partial and imperfect to justify very confident conclusions. They go far to show at once the value of Registration, and the somewhat crude condition in which it is yet during what may almost be called the first year of its existence. It is to be hoped that succeeding years will enable the Registrar to exhibit a thorough system of Statistics in

connection with this Department. In Great Britain it has been carried to a high state of perfection : scarcely a Birth, Marriage, or Death escaping Registration ; while in the United States it is looked upon by the people as a privilege as well as a duty. In this Province the law and the objects of the law seem to be but imperfectly understood.

Perhaps the facts and Tabulated Statements contained in this Report may go some way in explaining the latter, while it may not be amiss to append here the principal provisions of the former. The object of the Registration Act being to secure an authorised and permanent record of all Marriages, Births, and Deaths which take place in the Province, together with all necessary particulars connected therewith, the provisions for obtaining the necessary information are mainly as follows :

"Every person recognised as a duly ordained Minister may solemnize Marriage either by License or after publication of Banns.

"Deputy Registrars are appointed to take charge of certain Districts for Registration purposes, whose duty it is to record every Marriage, Birth, and Death that takes place in said district. In all the more important or central Districts, the Deputy Registrars are 'Issuers of Marriage Licenses,' who record the issue of each License, with the date and name of the Clergyman to whom it is addressed, as well as the names of the parties about to be married and their sureties ; and he is also bound to see that the License is returned after Marriage, duly certified, and sent, at the end of every quarter, to the Financial Secretary's Office in Halifax.

"Every Clergyman is required to register all the particulars of every Marriage solemnized by him, whether by License or Banns, in sheets which he will receive on application from the Issuer of Licenses, and which he is to return at the end of each quarter, properly filled up and signed, to the said Issuer. The quarters begin with 1st January, 1st April, 1st July, and 1st October.

"To secure the Registration of Births, the father of any child born in the Province, or the person standing in the place of a parent, shall give notice of a Birth and the required particulars to the nearest Deputy Registrar as soon after the Birth as possible.

"In recording an Illegitimate Birth, the name of the father need not be inserted unless he wish it, and the word 'Illegitimate' must be written immediately under the name of the child.

"To secure the Registration of Deaths, some person present at the Death, or the occupier of the house in which it has taken place, shall in like manner give all the necessary particulars to the nearest Deputy, either before interment or within ten days thereafter.

"If a new-born child is found exposed, notice shall at once be given by the party finding the same to the nearest Deputy.

"When an Inquest is held, the Coroner shall communicate the finding to the nearest Deputy, within seven days after the holding of the Inquest.

"Every duly qualified Medical Practitioner is to be furnished with a book of blank certificates, and within seven days after the death of the person he has been in attendance upon shall transmit a certificate of 'the cause of death' to the Deputy Registrar.

"Every Registrar is required to make all reasonable efforts to ascertain for the purpose of Registration all Marriages, Births, and Deaths in his District.

"Envelopes enclosing papers connected with Registration pass free through the Post Office Department.

"Every Clergyman shall return every license used by him, with the blank certificate endorsed thereon fully filled in and subscribed by himself, and with the names of two persons present at the ceremony besides himself. This return must be made within ten days after the celebration.

"Every Deputy Registrar is required to make Quarterly Returns to the Registration Department of the Financial Secretary's Office of all Licenses, Bonds, and Registers of Births and Deaths in his possession.

"The Deputy Registrar is entitled to 25 cents for every Marriage License he issues, also a fee of 10 cents for every Birth, as well as for every Death he registers, to be paid by the County Treasurer out of the County Funds.

"Every Clergyman shall receive 25 cents for each Return of Marriage made to the Deputy Registrar, if made within the proper time, and also 25 cents for each Quarterly Return, on the same conditions, to be paid out of the Marriage License Funds in his hands.

"In order to secure the due performance of these various duties, certain penalties are attached to neglect or refusal.

"Every person who shall officiate in the solemnization of Marriage not legally authorized to do so by the provisions of this Act, shall forfeit \$200.

"Every officiating Clergyman who shall neglect or refuse to give the notices directed in the fourth section of the Act, shall forfeit \$200.

"Any Clergyman and all persons instrumental in using a License not duly filled up and subscribed by the Deputy Registrar, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding \$200.

"Every Clergyman who shall neglect to return a License within ten days after the celebration of the Marriage it authorizes, shall forfeit \$4 to the Deputy Registrar.

"Every Deputy Registrar who neglects or refuses to perform any duty required by the Act, shall for each offence forfeit \$4, payable into the marriage fund.

"Any person who, being required to notify or enter for registry a Birth or Death, shall fail to do so, shall be liable to a penalty of \$5.

"Any duly qualified Medical Practitioner or Coroner neglecting or refusing to supply a certificate of cause of Death, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding \$5.

"The above fines, penalties and forfeitures may be sued for in the same way as for a private debt."

Such are the principal provisions of the Registration Act in a comprehensive form; and it only remains to be considered whether there might not be some alterations made in it calculated to increase its efficiency.

Experience has shown that the smaller the district, the more likely is the work to be overtaken. The largest districts make the most meagre Returns.

It would be well to have the limits of these districts defined, so that each Registrar may understand how far his duties extend.

Some more satisfactory arrangement than the present ought to be adopted for the remuneration of Deputy Registrars.

In order to secure uniformity and perfect Marriage Returns, the same fee should be allowed to a Clergyman for making a Return of a Marriage performed by proclamation of Banns, as is allowed for celebration of it by License.

It would add very much to the efficiency of the Registration of Deaths were the Deputy Registrars instructed to take a list quarterly of all interments from the books of the sextons of the cemeteries in their respective localities, a small allowance being made to the latter, for the trouble of writing out or giving the required information. In Great Britain, no interment is allowed to take place without a certificate being shown of the death having been registered. It would be a great improvement, and a general convenience, were each Deputy Registrar supplied with "recording books," to be kept by him for purposes of reference by the people of the district, and that the names be copied, as at present, upon sheets to be transmitted to this department.

If the district could be made sufficiently small, so that the Registrar could go round it once a quarter, to gather up the requisite information, the system of Registration might thus be made almost perfect; and the persons qualified above all others for this duty, if suitable in other respects, would be the school teachers in the various districts.

With these suggestions, I now beg to submit my first Annual Report, which embraces all the material facts at my command, collected and collated with care, and as much accuracy as is attainable under the circumstances, and with the means at my disposal.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

JOHN COSTLEY,

Secretary to the Board of Statistics.

To the Hon. the Financial Secretary of Nova Scotia.

EXPLANATION OF TABLES.

The columns in Table I. exhibit the population of, and the number of licenses returned from each county, showing the whole number, both Episcopal and non-Episcopal, for the first three and the last nine months of the Financial Year, and also those returned for the first quarter of the present year.

Table II. represents the number of "Marriages solemnized," both by license and banns for nine months of the year ended 30th September, 1865, as returned in sheets by the various Clergymen throughout the Province, containing the particulars, as regards condition, age, place of residence, and of birth. It will be observed, the number in this table differs considerably from that in the previous one, arising from the circumstance that in some places Clergymen have neglected to make the required returns in time. For the real number of Marriages by License, Table I. must be taken as a guide. The return of Marriage by Banns is very meagre in this Report, which was unavoidable this year, but will probably be remedied in the next Report.

By Table III. we find the relative number married by License, according to the religious denomination to which they belonged.

In Table IV., the number of Births and Deaths registered in each county is given, with the proportion of males and females, as well as the excess of Births over Deaths in each county.

Table V. represents the Deaths in each county at 12 different periods of life, from under 1 year up to 100 years.

Table VI. represents the "causes of deaths," and the number that died, of each disease named in each County.

Table VII., shows "the causes of death" in the City and County of Halifax, arranged in columns, exhibiting the number who died at different ages, from under one year to 100 years of age.

Table VIII. tabulates "Coroners' Inquests," held during Financial Year.

TABLE I.

Marriages by License registered in Nova Scotia for the year ended 30th September, 1865, with return for first quarter of 1865-6.

REGISTRATION IN COUNTIES.	Population, 1861.	Total marriages by license	Episcopal marriages by license for the last 3 months of 1864.	Non-Episcopal marriages by license for last 3 months of 1864.	Episcopal marriages by license for 9 months of 1865.	Non-Episcopal marriage licenses for 9 months of 1865.	Episcopal marriage licenses 1st 3 months of 1865-6.	Non-Episcopal marriage licenses, 1st 3 months 1865-6.
Nova Scotia,	330857	1822	129	410	299	984	137	478
Annapolis,	16753	120	12	25	14	69	9	31
Antigonish,	14871	21	2	3	1	5	0	7
Cape Breton,	20865	19	1	1	8	9	8	12
Colchester,	20045	132	0	34	9	89	5	55
Cumberland,	19533	172	14	32	29	97	10	35
Digby,	14751	78	8	26	11	31	3	18
Guysborough,	12713	55	4	17	19	25	7	8
Halifax,	49021	343	53	56	110	124	52	52
Hants,	17640	118	5	35	17	61	6	33
Inverness,	19967	29	0	2	0	27	0	8
Kings,	18731	124	6	30	9	81	3	35
Lunenburg,	19632	127	13	25	36	53	16	34
Pictou,	28785	195	1	46	11	137	1	52
Queens,	9365	66	2	16	9	39	6	30
Richmond,	12607	8	0	3	0	5	2	1
Shelburne,	10668	57	1	11	13	32	6	20
Victoria,	9643	31	0	7	1	25	0	4
Yarmouth,	15446	127	7	41	11	68	3	43
Total,	330857	1822	129	410	299	984	137	478

Total Licenses returned for Financial Year, 1,822, viz.:—
Episcopal Licenses, 428; non-Episcopal licenses, 1,394.

For October quarter of 1865-6: Episcopal, 137; Non-Episcopal, 478.

Excess of licenses over corresponding three months of last year, 76.

TABLE II.
Marriages by License and by Banns, Registered in Nova Scotia for nine months ended 30th September, 1865, from Clergymen's Returns.

REGISTRATION IN COUNTIES.															
	Married by license.	Married by banns.	Bachelor and spinster.	Widower and spinster.	Bachelor and widow.	Widow.	Greatest age at which man married.	Greatest age at which woman married.	Least age at which man married.	Least age at which woman married.	Cases in which the woman is older.	Women married above 30.	Natives of N. Scotia.	Natives of other places.	Nativity not given.
Nova Scotia,	1075	306	1114	95	35	28	72	70	18	15	96	112	2284	262	216
Annapolis,	28	6	28	4	0	2	70	56	19	17	4	4	53	3	
Antigonish,	9	37	43	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Cape Breton,	15	3	25	2	1	0	40	39	21	18	3	1	49	7	
Colchester,	91	3	81	9	2	2	59	44	21	16	7	8	179	9	
Cumberland,	126	5	107	19	4	1	70	50	18	16	13	12	222	28	
Digby,	42	13	33	6	0	6	65	38	18	16	1	4	108	2	
Guysborough,	36	22	49	4	4	1	48	38	21	16	5	5	112	4	
Halifax,	262	50	277	8	10	7	72	70	19	15	24	23	484	140	
Hants,	44	2	43	2	0	2	50	48	18	17	2	2	85	7	
Inverness,	14	36	40	6	3	1	52	29	19	18	2	0	100	0	
Kings,	52	6	44	7	3	4	72	60	21	16	2	12	10	0	
Lunenburg,	77	16	81	2	3	0	58	50	19	17	5	9	186	0	
Pictou,	72	39	85	9	3	0	60	37	20	18	13	16	182	40	
Queens,	30	8	20	2	0	1	52	28	18	16	1	0	76	0	
Richmond,	7	18	25	0	0	0	36	29	21	17	0	0	50	0	
Shelburne,	45	6	45	3	3	0	42	37	21	17	6	4	98	4	
Shelburne,	23	16	35	3	1	0	50	33	23	18	2	6	63	15	
Victoria,	52	10	53	6	2	1	60	45	21	17	6	6	121	3	
Yarmouth,															
Total,	1075	306	1114	95	35	28	72	70	18	15	96	112	2284	262	216

Total Marriages by Licenses and Banns as returned, for nine months of 1866, 1381. Marriage Returns altogether for Financial Year, 2,222. Females married under 21, twenty out of every hundred. Males married under 21, two out of every hundred. Marriages from Returns at the rate yearly of seven out of every 1,000 people. Actual Marriages at the rate of about 65 out of every 1,000 people.

TABLE III.

Marriages by License registered in Nova Scotia according to Religious Denominations, during the year ended 30th September, 1865.

REGISTRATION IN COUNTIES.	Ch. of England.	R. Catholic Ch.	Presbyterian.	Ref. Presbyterian.	Ch. of Scotland.	Baptist.	Methodist.	Lutheran.	Congregationalist.	Universalist.
*Nova Scotia,	428	6	453	23	172	477	210	28	28	6
Annapolis,	26	0	3	1	0	73	17	0	0	0
Antigonish,	3	1	12	0	3	2	0	0	0	0
Cape Breton,	10	0	6	0	0	4	0	0	0	0
Colchester,	9	0	80	0	16	23	4	0	0	0
Cumberland,	43	0	43	13	6	21	46	0	0	0
Digby,	19	3	0	0	0	46	10	0	0	0
Guysborough,	13	0	25	0	0	8	10	0	0	0
Halifax,	163	0	64	0	44	39	27	0	0	6
Hants,	22	0	35	0	0	29	34	0	0	0
Inverness,	0	1	20	0	3	2	2	0	0	0
Kings,	15	0	7	9	0	75	16	0	2	0
Lunenburg,	49	0	19	0	0	21	7	28	3	0
†Pictou,	12	0	8 ²	0	96	0	6	0	0	0
Queens,	11	0	0	0	0	28	16	0	14	0
Richmond,	0	0	6	0	1	2	0	0	0	0
Shelburne,	14	0	17	0	0	16	10	0	0	0
Victoria,	1	0	27	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Yarmouth,	18	1	6	0	0	88	5	0	9	0
Total,	428	6	453	23	172	477	210	28	28	6

* There is a difference of six between this table and the number of Non-Episcopal in table I., arising from Roman Catholics not being included in former, who, though an Episcopal Church, are rarely married by license.

† From this County there is one Marriage License returned filled "Evangelical Union Church."

TABLE IV.

Births and Deaths Registered in Nova Scotia for Financial Year ended 30th September, 1865.

REGISTRATION IN COUNTIES.	Population in 1861.	TOTAL.		BIRTHS.		DEATHS.		Excess of births over deaths.
		Births.	Deaths.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
Nova Scotia,	330857	2377	1590	1229	1148	847	743	787
Annapolis,	16753	78	64	40	38	25	39	14
Antigonish,	14871	95	60	50	45	34	26	35
Cape Breton,	20866	44	38	22	22	23	15	6
Colchester,	20045	147	99	71	76	44	55	48
Cumberland,	19533	160	91	88	72	59	32	69
Digby,	14751	255	73	145	110	33	40	172
Guysboro',	12713	176	77	82	94	36	41	99
Halifax,	49021	342	373	175	167	213	160	31
Hants,	17460	120	97	64	56	44	53	23
Inverness,	19967	40	31	22	18	19	12	9
Kings,	18731	146	103	74	72	55	48	43
Lunenburg,	19632	149	77	70	79	39	38	72
Pictou,	28785	167	125	88	79	79	46	42
Queens,	9365	84	58	49	35	33	25	26
Richmond,	12607	97	45	54	43	20	25	52
Shelburne,	10668	46	38	24	22	21	17	8
Victoria,	9643	82	31	32	50	12	19	51
Yarmouth,	15446	149	110	79	70	58	52	39
Total,	330857	2377	1590	1229	1148	847	743	787

REGISTRATION REPORT.

TABLE V.
Nova Scotia: Deaths at Different Ages.

REGISTRATION IN COUNTIES.	Total Births.	Total Deaths.	Under 1 year.	Under 5 years.	Under 15 years.	Under 25 years.	Under 35 years.	Under 45 years.	Under 60 years.	Under 70 years.	Under 80 years.	Under 90 years.	Under 100 years.	At and over 100.	Age not given.
Nova Scotia.	2377	1590	187	188	131	160	153	128	170	170	122	77	22	4	58
Annapolis,	78	64	7	11	8	6	7	5	5	5	2	4	4	0	3
Antigonish,	95	60	8	5	2	3	6	5	8	11	8	3	2	0	5
Cape Breton,	44	38	3	3	0	5	5	4	4	6	2	1	0	0	3
Colchester,	147	99	8	14	14	8	7	7	7	16	11	7	0	0	4
Cumberland,	160	91	13	13	5	3	7	6	19	14	8	6	4	0	3
Digby,	255	73	7	17	7	11	5	8	4	7	2	4	0	0	2
Guysborough,	176	77	13	7	3	9	6	9	6	8	7	7	0	0	3
Halifax,	342	373	50	38	38	29	39	29	44	32	25	8	2	1	13
Halifax,	120	97	7	9	10	11	8	6	20	13	2	2	2	0	3
Inverness,	40	31	4	2	2	6	1	1	7	3	3	2	0	0	6
Kings,	146	103	4	15	7	20	11	10	11	6	6	4	1	1	8
Lunenburg,	149	77	10	12	7	7	8	6	5	8	7	4	0	0	1
Pictou,	167	125	13	22	6	11	12	12	9	14	10	8	5	2	2
Queens,	84	58	12	6	1	5	6	2	7	5	5	4	1	0	1
Richmond,	97	45	7	9	5	3	2	3	2	9	2	2	0	0	0
Shelburne,	46	38	4	1	1	3	4	4	5	3	3	4	0	0	0
Victoria,	82	31	6	2	0	3	5	1	3	5	4	1	1	0	1
Yarmouth,	149	110	11	12	15	16	14	10	4	8	9	4	0	0	3
Total,	2377	1590	187	188	131	160	153	128	170	170	122	77	22	4	58

Note.—This Table may be read thus: Of the 1590 Deaths, 187 took place under 1 year of age; 188 between 1 and 5 years; 131 between 5 and 10 years of age, and so on. It will be seen that 22 reached over 90 years, and 4 exceeded 100.

TABLE VI.
Causes of Death, 1865.

CAUSES OF DEATH, WITH NAMES OF ALL DISEASES GIVEN.	Nova Scotia.	Annapolis.	Antigonish.	Cape Breton.	Colchester.	Cumberland.	Digby.	Guyssborough.	Halifax.	Hants.	Inverness.	Kings.	Lunenburg.	Pictou.	Queens.	Richmond.	Shelburne.	Victoria.	Yarmouth.
	1197	41	22	28	93	68	40	46	341	67	18	76	55	90	49	25	24	25	89
Small Pox,	4								2										
Measles,	4								4										
Scarlatina,	37								12										
Diphtheria,	70	7	2		8		16	2	11	6	2	10	4	11					2
Quincy,	2				1				2				4	2					5
Croup,	26	2	1		11	2			2			1							
Whooping Cough,	6								1										
Erysipelas,	6	1							1										
Fever,	101	4		5	5	3			13	6	1	12	12	6	2	7	3		18
Influenza,	8								1										
Dysentery,	48				6				1			2	2	5	2	1	1		1
Diarrhoea,	17								29	1									
Rheumatism,	3	5				1			3										
Dropsy,	26				1				2										
Cancer,	13	2			1	2	1		8	2		1	1	1	4	1		2	1
Consumption,	223	7	1	3	20	15	9	13	5	14	5	22	12	12	15	3	5	4	1
Apoplexy,	13								1				1	2		1	1	1	13
Paralysis,	19				1				10				1	2					2
Convulsions,	29	1	1		2	3			15			1	2		1				4
Heart Disease	41	1	2	1	3	4	5		6			1	1	1	2				2
Bronchitis,	18			3		2			3	3	1	1	1	1					9
Pleurisy,	18		2		1			1	7	1				5			1		

Pneumonia,
Ulceration of Bowels,
Jaundice,

27
57
5

2
1
1

2
4
1

1
4
1

2
2
1

12
11
5

3
6
1

7

1

5

4

4

21

* Numbers as given by Deputy Registrars; for exact numbers see "Coroners' Inquests," Table VIII.

TABLE VII.
Causes of Death in the County and City of Halifax, according to Ages.

DEATH BY AGES.	All ages.	Under 1.	Under 5.	Under 10.	Under 20.	Under 30.	Under 40.	Under 50.	Under 60.	Under 70.	Under 80.	Under 90.	Under 100.
Apoplexy,	3				1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Accidental Death,	8								2				
Alcoholism,	3												
Asthma,	4					1	1						
Brain Disease,	11	1	1	2	1	2	3			2			
Brain Fever,	2				1					1			
Burns,	2		1	1									
Bronchitis,	8	1	1		1	1	1			1	1		
Consumption,	38	1	1		3	10	14	2	4	3	1	1	
Cholera Infantum,	4	2	3										
Convulsions,	16	10	5			1							
Croup,	2		2					2		1	1		
Cancer,	5				1	1	1						
Child Birth,	2												
Drowned,	4					2							
Diphtheria,	11			1	1	2							
Diarrhoea,	4	3	2	5	4								
Dropsy,	9		1		1			2	3	3			
Debility,	6	2	1		2			1					
Dysentery,	29	9	2				1	3	4	1	1	1	
Erysipelas,	1							1					
Fever,	6				1				1		1		
Gastric Fever,	1			1									
Heart Disease,	6					3		2	2	2			

Hydrocephalus,
Inflammation of Bowels,
Inflammation of Lungs

7
5
5

4
1
3

3
1
3

1
1
1

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1

REGISTRATION REPORT.

[illegible]

REGISTRATION ACT.

(Passed on the 7th May, A. D., 1866.)

OF THE SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGE AND THE REGISTRATION OF MARRIAGES, BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

1. The Governor in Council may from time to time prescribe and change forms to be used in the carrying into operation of and for facilitating and rendering uniform the duties to be performed under this chapter, and which forms shall be used under the provisions, penalties and obligations of this chapter, in the same manner as if set out in a schedule hereto and specially referred to. Unless from the context the meaning is evidently different, the terms "Deputy Registrars" mean the Issuers of Marriage Licenses and Deputy Registrars of Marriages, Births and Deaths; and "occupier" shall include Master, Governor, Keeper, Steward, Resident Medical Officer or Superintendent of Gaol, Prison or Penitentiary, Poors' Asylum, Hospital, Lunatic Asylum, or other public or private charitable institutions.

2. Every person recognized as a duly ordained Minister by any congregation or body of christians within this province, may solemnize marriage by license, or after publication of banns, in conformity with the provisions of this chapter.

3. No person shall officiate in the solemnization of any marriage unless notice of such marriage shall have previously been given publicly during the time of divine service at three several meetings at a place of public worship on two or more Sundays—provided there shall be more than one public service in the said place of worship on each Sunday, otherwise at two several meetings on each Sunday, otherwise at two several meetings on two Sundays in the place where at least one of the parties resides, or unless a license shall have been obtained as herein prescribed for the solemnization of such marriage.

4. The officiating Minister of a congregation at the place where either of the parties desiring to be married resides, shall give the notices in the preceding section mentioned, after having been requested to do so, unless in cases where compliance would be illegal or inconsistent with the rules and discipline of the church or congregation to which the Minister or parties respectively belong.

OF LICENSES FOR THE SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGE.

5. The Governor may from time to time seal marriage licenses in blank, which shall be deposited by the Provincial Secretary with the Chairman of Board of Statistics for distribution, who shall place them in such number as may from time to time be required, together with an equal number of blank bonds, in

the hands of persons to be appointed by the Governor in Council throughout the Province to be Issuers of Marriage Licenses and Deputy Registrars of Marriages, Births and Deaths, and who shall be so located as that no part of any County shall be at inconvenient distance from one of them. When it can be conveniently and properly done, Postmasters and Way Office Keepers shall be selected, and due publicity under the direction of the Governor in Council shall be given to these appointments and the objects of this chapter.

6. The Deputy Registrars shall deposit with the Chairman of Board of Statistics, a receipt for all the blank marriage licenses they shall respectively receive, for which they shall be answerable to him at the rate of two dollars and fifty cents for each license.

7. When a marriage license is required for use, application shall be made to a Deputy Registrar, who on receiving for the license two dollars and fifty cents, and on execution by the man contemplating marriage and sufficient sureties, of one of the bonds properly filled up, shall insert in one of the blank marriage licenses in his possession the name of the Minister to whom it is to be directed, and the names, abodes and additions of the man and woman to be married, and having subscribed it with his own name and the exact date of issuing, shall deliver the license so perfected to the party applying, and a marriage license shall not be issued or delivered except thus perfect and adapted for some particular marriage clearly expressed in it; and it shall not on any pretence be used for any other marriage. The bond among other things shall be conditioned for return of the license.

FOR OBTAINING THE MATERIALS FOR THE REGISTRATION OF
MARRIAGES, BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

1.—*For Registration of Marriages.*

8. The Deputy Registrars shall record the issue of every license with the date, and the names of the Clergyman, the parties and sureties; and shall record the return of every license, with the date when received by him, and the particulars of the marriage, and the name of the officiating Clergyman as certified in the return.

9. Every Clergyman authorized by law to perform the marriage ceremony shall apply for, and shall, on application, obtain from the nearest Deputy Registrar, forms in which he shall register with the required particulars, all the marriages celebrated by him, whether by banns, license, or otherwise. But this shall not be construed to interfere with the keeping of any other marriage register he may be otherwise required or may see proper to keep.

2.—*For Registration of Births.*

10. The father of any child born in this province, or in case of his death or absence, the mother, or in case of the death or inability of both parents, any person standing in the place of the parents, or if none such be, then the occupier of the house or tenement in which to his knowledge such child was born, or the

nurse or some person present at the birth, shall, as soon after the birth as possible, give notice thereof to the nearest Deputy Registrar, who shall fill up the form to be provided for that purpose with the several particulars required in it, according to the knowledge of the informant, who shall thereupon sign the same. The deputy registrar shall subscribe his name as witness, and in case of his absence, some person authorized by him shall perform the duty and subscribe the record in his stead.

11. Every registration of a birth shall be made within 60 days after the date thereof, and every person who is by law required to notify or enter for registry any such birth, who shall fail to do so within said period of sixty days, shall be liable to a penalty of two dollars; but nothing contained herein shall prevent the subsequent registration of such birth, within the period of one year.

12. In registering the birth of an illegitimate child, it shall not be lawful for the name of any person to be entered as the father, unless at the joint request of the mother and of the person acknowledging himself to be the father; who, in that case shall sign the register as informant, along with the mother; and in such case the Deputy Registrar shall write the word "illegitimate" under the child's name in the register.

13. If any child of a parent usually resident in Nova Scotia shall be born at sea, and an entry of birth made in the vessel's log book, the Deputy Registrar may, on sufficient proof of the correctness of such entry, cause the same to be registered in a book kept for that purpose, called "the Marine Register Book of Births."

14. When a birth is notified to the Registrar, it shall be sufficient to state that the child is male or female without giving any name other than that of the parents of the said child, or if the child be illegitimate of the mother of the said child, and the Registrar shall receive and enter any additional name or names given to the said child within one year from the date of the birth, at the request of the parent or guardian of the said child.

3.—*For the Registration of Deaths.*

15. Some person present at the death of any person, or the occupier of the house or tenement in which a death shall take place, or if the occupier be the person who shall have died, then some one or more of the persons residing in the house in which the death took place, or if such death shall not have taken place within a house, then any person present at the death, or having knowledge of the circumstances attending the same, shall, before the interment of the body, or within ten days after, supply to the nearest Deputy Registrar, according to his or her knowledge or belief, all the particulars required to be registered touching such death by the form to be provided, and shall sign the form or certificate when filled up in presence of the Deputy Registrar, or of a witness in case of his absence; and the Deputy Registrar shall grant a certificate that such registration has been made, which, when required, shall be produced to the keeper of the Cemetery, Sexton, or other person employed to inter the deceased.

16. If any person shall find exposed any new-born child, he shall forthwith give notice of the finding of the same to the nearest Deputy Registrar, who shall, after the proper enquiry, take from the informant a certificate signed by him of so much of the particulars required to be registered as shall have been ascertained.

17. In every case in which an inquest shall be held on any dead body, the Coroner shall communicate the finding of the Jury by certificate in writing under his hand to the nearest Deputy Registrar within seven days after the holding of the inquest.

18. Every duly qualified medical practitioner who shall have been in attendance during the last illness, and until the death, of any person, shall within seven days after the death of such person transmit to the nearest Deputy Registrar a certificate under his signature of the cause of death, according to a form to be provided by the Deputy Registrar; and it shall be the duty of every duly qualified medical practitioner to apply for blank forms for this purpose.

19. If any person usually resident in Nova Scotia, or the child of any such person which shall be born at sea, shall die at sea, and an entry of the death be made at the time in the vessel's log-book, the Deputy Registrar may, on sufficient proof of the correctness of such entry, cause the death to be entered in a book kept for that purpose, called, "The Marine Register Book of Deaths."

20. It shall be the duty of every Deputy Registrar to ascertain as far as may be in his power the several marriages, births and deaths occurring in his vicinity, and to cause the same to be registered under the provisions of this chapter:

When persons whose signatures are required are unable to write, their cross or mark made in the presence of, and attested by, the Deputy Registrar or a witness, shall be equivalent to signature. It shall be in the power of the Governor in Council, should it be found expedient for carrying out this act, from time to time to cause the limits to be defined of all, or of some only, of the Deputy Registrar's jurisdiction under this chapter, and as occasion may require to alter the same, of which due publicity shall be given.

If any error shall be discovered to have been committed in the entry of any marriage, birth or death in any register, the person discovering the same shall forthwith give information thereof to the Deputy Registrar, and such Deputy Registrar is hereby authorized and required to investigate the circumstances of the case; and if he shall be satisfied that an error has been committed in any such entry it shall be lawful for him to correct the erroneous entry, according to the truth of the case, by entry in the margin, without any alteration of the original entry.

Envelopes enclosing the papers or returns required to be transmitted and made under this chapter shall be marked "Registration Returns," with the signature of the officer or Clergyman

transmitting subscribed, and no postage shall be paid or payable thereon.

RETURNS.

1.—*By Clergymen*

21. Every Clergyman shall return to the Deputy Registrar by whom the same is subscribed, every Marriage License used by him for the celebration of marriage within ten days after such celebration, with the blank certificate endorsed thereon, fully filled in and subscribed by himself, stating the fact of the celebration, the names, abodes and additions of the couple married, the time and place of such marriage, and the names of at least two persons present thereat besides himself.

22. Every Clergyman or Minister shall keep a register of all marriages solemnized by him, whether by banns or license, by filling up a blank form with all the particulars required concerning each marriage, and shall return it along with the license, or by itself, if said marriage has been solemnized by banns, to the nearest issuer of Marriage Licenses, or the issuer from whom the license was received, within ten days after such celebration, and shall be entitled to receive twenty-five cents for each return of marriage so made, provided it has been made conformably to law.

23. Issuers of Marriage Licenses shall make returns to the Chairman of the Board of Statistics on the first week of January, April, July, and October, of all marriages of which returns have been made to them by Clergymen, which returns shall contain all the particulars given in the forms filled up and forwarded to them by said Clergymen, and they shall receive twenty-five cents for each marriage so returned, to be paid out of the Marriage License Fund.

2.—*By Deputy Registrar.*

24. Every Deputy Registrar shall in the second week in January, April, July and October in each year, return under his signature to the Chairman of the Board of Statistics, as follows:

- I. All the Licenses issued by him and returned to him, with all Certificates of Marriage returned to him.
- II. All Bonds taken by him on the issue of Marriage Licenses.
- III. All the Registers of Marriage returned to him by Clergymen.

IV. His own Records of Marriage Licenses issued by, and Certificates of Marriage returned to him.

V. All the Declarations or Certificates of Birth made to him.

VI. All the Certificates or Declarations of Deaths and causes of deaths made to him.

VII. And generally all the entries and returns required under this Chapter to be made by the Deputy Registrar in relation to Births, Marriages and Deaths, together with an exact list of the documents returned, signed by him.

25. Every Deputy Registrar shall also within the first week of January, April, July and October in each year, return to the

Chairman of the Board of Statistics an account verified under oath of all Marriage Licenses issued by him, and of the number of Marriage Licenses remaining in his hands, and shall pay and with such accounts transmit to the Chairman of the Board of Statistics the full amount of fees on all Licenses issued by him, at two dollars and fifty cents for each License, deducting the sums paid by him to clergymen under the twenty-second section, and of which he shall render an account under his signature.

3.—*By Secretary of Board of Statistics.*

26. The Secretary of the Board of Statistics shall, within the first week of February in each year, return to the Provincial Secretary, for the information of the Legislature, a separate account of monies received for Marriage Licenses and paid out of that Fund under this chapter; also, an account of the Marriage Licenses issued, and to whom, and the number standing still charged against each Deputy Registrar.

OF REMUNERATION OF OFFICERS.

1.—*The Deputy Registrar.*

27. The Deputy Registrar shall be entitled to receive the following fees, that is to say:

1. The remuneration for returns provided for in section 23 of this Act.

2. Also, on making entry of each Birth a fee of ten cents, to be paid by the County Treasurer out of the County Funds.

3. Also, a fee of ten cents for every entry of Death made by him under this chapter, to be paid by the County Treasurer out of the County Funds.

4. An annual salary of \$5 shall be paid to each Deputy Registrar, and \$7 50 to each Issuer of Marriage Licenses.

PENALTIES.

28. Every person who shall officiate in the solemnization of marriage, unless under license issued in conformity with the provisions of this chapter, or under banns, or notices given in conformity with the provisions of this chapter, shall forfeit two hundred dollars.

29. Every officiating Minister of a congregation who shall, in violation of the third and fourth sections, refuse or neglect to give the notices directed by those sections, shall, except as therein excepted, forfeit two hundred dollars, and shall be liable to an action for damages at the suit of either of the parties aggrieved.

30. Any Minister who shall use, and all persons who shall be instrumental in the using of, a Marriage License that shall not have been perfected and filled up and subscribed by a Deputy Registrar in manner as herein directed, and any person who shall alter or assist or be concerned in altering, any Marriage License that has been so perfected, or shall celebrate or assist or be concerned in celebrating any marriage under pretence of a Marriage License issued for another and different marriage, shall for every

and each of the said offences be liable to a penalty not exceeding two hundred dollars.

31. Every Clergyman who shall not within ten days after the celebration of a marriage by him under license, return the License with a certificate of the performance of the ceremony as required by this chapter, and every Clergyman entitled to solemnize marriage who shall not within the time and in the manner required by the twenty-second section make the return of marriages therein directed, to the Issuer of Marriage Licenses from whom he received the blank forms, or if he shall not continue to be Issuer of Marriage Licenses, then his successor, or otherwise to the nearest Issuer of Marriage Licenses, or in case of absence from home or illness, then within ten days after return or recovery, shall, for each neglect, forfeit for the use of the Issuer of Marriage Licenses to whom the return should be made, four dollars, and for every day after such ten days until return shall be made as required by this chapter, twelve and one-half cents.

32. Every Deputy Registrar who neglects or refuses or without probable cause omits to make any entry or fulfill any duty which by this chapter he ought to make or do, or who shall carelessly lose or injure any license or bond, register, entry, document, or paper which was in his possession under this chapter, or who shall not within the periods herein prescribed make all the several returns and payments which by this chapter he ought to make, or who shall part with or allow to go out of his possession any Marriage License, except in conformity with the provisions of this chapter, or who shall in any other particular do anything contrary to the provisions of this chapter, or omit to do anything therein required, shall forfeit, to be paid to the Financial Secretary for the use of the Marriage License Fund, a fine of four dollars, and the further sum of twelve and one-half cents for every day for which any such return or payment shall be delayed after the time within which the same should be made.

33. Every person who shall knowingly or wilfully make, or shall cause to be made for the purpose of being inserted in any Register of Births, Marriages or Deaths, any false statements touching any of the particulars herein required to be known and registered, shall be subject to the same pains and penalties as if such person were guilty of wilful and corrupt perjury.

34. Any person who, being required by this chapter to notify or enter for registry any Death, shall fail to do so within the periods specified, shall be liable to a penalty of five dollars.

35. If any person required to give notice of the finding of any new born child, shall neglect to give such notice to some Deputy Registrar near the place, within one week, such person shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding five dollars.

36. Any duly qualified medical practitioner, or any coroner, failing to supply any certificate of cause of death, or any information required of them by the provisions of this chapter, within

the time specified therein, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding five dollars.

37. Every person who shall wilfully send to any newspaper publisher, or other person, for publication in any newspaper in this Province, a fictitious or false statement of the marriage or death of any person, or of the birth of any child, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and liable to fine or imprisonment, or both, at the discretion of the Supreme Court.

RECOVERY AND DISTRIBUTION OF PENALTIES AND FINES.

38. All fines and fees made payable to or for the use of a Deputy Registrar may be sued for in the name of the party entitled as a private debt; and it shall be sufficient to state in the writ that the money is claimed for the defendant's neglect of duty, or for services performed by the plaintiff, under this chapter, as the case may be.

39. All fines, penalties and forfeitures which are not made payable to or to the use of the Deputy Registrars, may be prosecuted by the Financial Secretary in the county or district wherein the offence occurred. The money when recovered, after deducting expenses, shall be applied one-half to the use of the Marriage License Fund and the other half to the use of the County, to be paid to the County Treasurer.

40. The actions shall be conducted as for private debts, and it shall suffice if the writs briefly state the offence committed.

41. The Chairman of the Board of Statistics shall cause to be transcribed in separate books all the particulars communicated to him by the Deputy Registrars of the marriages, births and deaths in each county, and the original returns, after they have been so transcribed, shall be arranged, indexed and bound, and transmitted to the Registrar of Deeds for the county to which they respectively belong, to be kept in his office for general reference.

42. He shall also keep separate alphabetical indices of the contents of the said books, and in the index to the Marriage Record there shall be entered reference to the husband by his surname, and to the wife by her maiden name, and also by the surname of any husband she may have had.

43. All persons shall be entitled at all seasonable hours to search these records, and to require and to receive extracts duly certified by the Chairman of the Board of Statistics, which shall be evidence of the entry certified, and *prima facie* evidence of the facts asserted or claimed in the entry, and be accessible for examination on payment of twenty cents, and shall be *prima facie* evidence of the facts therein stated.

44. For every certificate of the registration of a marriage, birth or death, the person requiring the same shall pay to the Registrar or to the Chairman of the Board of Statistics, as the case may be, fifty cents.

45. Chapter 120 of the Revised Statutes and chapter 31 of the Acts of 1865 are hereby repealed.

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