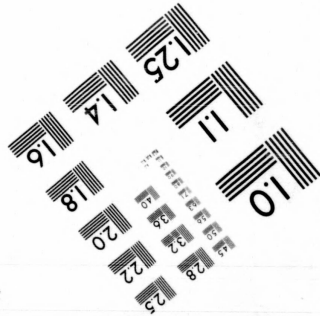
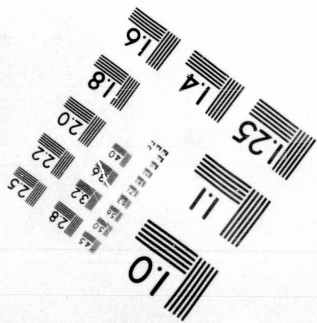
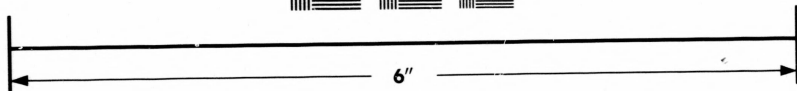
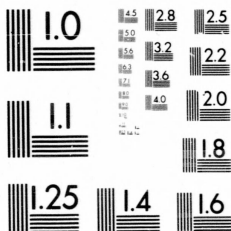


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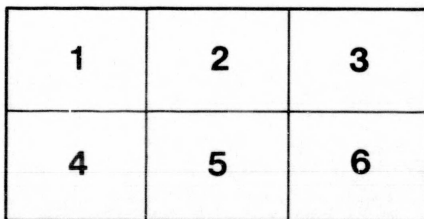
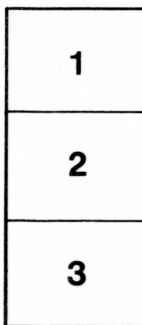
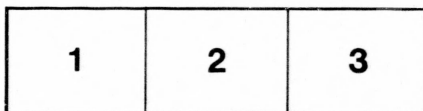
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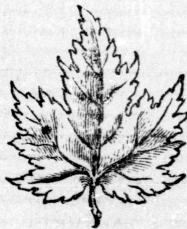
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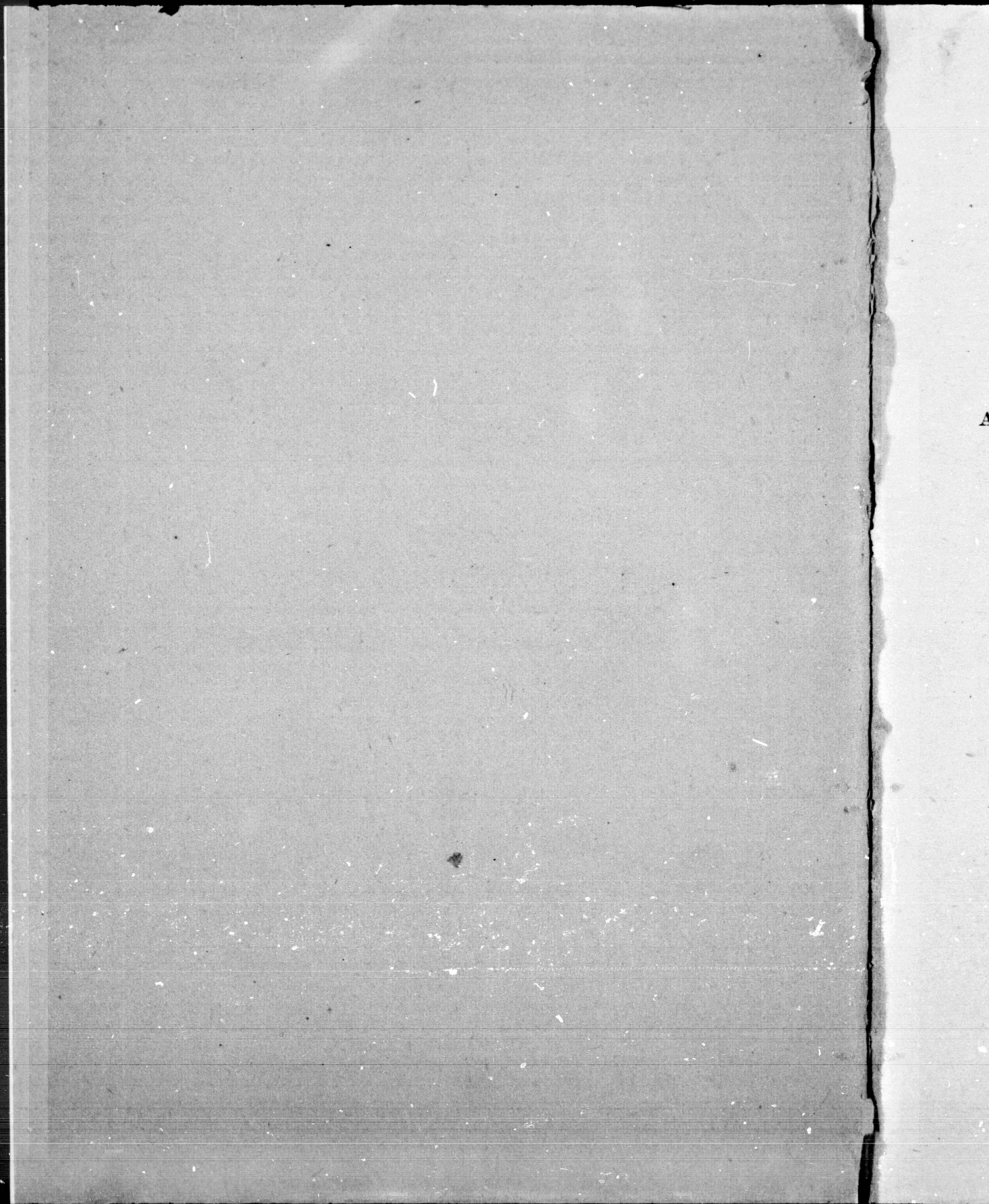
RESOURCES AND PROGRESS
OF THE
PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

A PAPER READ BEFORE THE COMMERCIAL UNION CLUB
OF ST. THOMAS NOVEMBER 22 1887

BY
ARCHIBALD BLUE
SECRETARY OF THE BUREAU OF INDUSTRIES, ONTARIO.



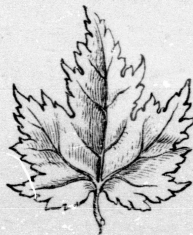
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RESOURCES AND PROGRESS OF ONTARIO.

THE PROVINCE AND ITS PEOPLE.

How many among you, may I be so bold as to ask, have studied with care the physical extent of this province of Ontario? How many know how it compares with other states and countries of the globe—in extent, in climate, in resources, in productiveness?

In a series of very able papers that were printed several years ago in the North American Review, David A. Wells paid a compliment to our province which, I have no doubt, many of his fellow-countrymen regarded as a wild exaggeration, but which to those who knew the country was nothing more than an unadorned statement of facts. Mr. Wells wrote of it as follows:

North of lakes Erie and Ontario and the river St. Lawrence, east of lake Huron, south of the forty-fifth parallel, and included mainly within the Dominion province of Ontario, there is as fair a country as exists on the North American continent, nearly as large in area as New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio combined, and equal, if not superior, to those States as a whole in its agricultural capacity. It is the natural *habitat* on this continent of the combing-wool sheep, without a full, cheap and reliable supply of the wool of which species the great worsted manufacturing industries of the country cannot prosper, or, we should rather say, exist. It is the land where grows the finest barley, which the brewing interests of the United States must have if it ever expects to rival Great Britain in its present annual export of over eleven millions of dollars worth of malt products. It raises and grazes

the finest of cattle, with qualities especially desirable to make good the deterioration of stock in other sections; and its climatic conditions, created by an almost encirclement of the great lakes, especially fit it to grow *men*. Such a country is one of the greatest gifts of Providence to the human race, better than bonanzas of silver, or rivers whose sands contain gold.

As to the influence of climatic conditions upon the human product of the country, it is hardly necessary to refer to the athletic records of America. To name Edward Hanlan, Hugh McKinnon and Roderick McLennan in the presence of men who for the most part are descendants of the stalwart pioneers of these Lake Erie counties, may seem to be an invidious distinction; but I only name them as specimens of our countrymen devoting themselves to athletics, who in their prime were never beaten in their specialties. There are hundreds more with the stamina to equal if not excel the best of those I have named, if they cared to go into training for it, and I am gratified to know that all over the country, in the rural districts as well as in the towns, there is a genuine love for all manly sports and games. We all admire, I believe, the skill and pluck and muscle of the athlete; it is an instinct of our English race, if not of the human race, to admire the muscular, brawny, wiry, well-knit, broad-shouldered, sinewy, strapping man, who is almost always found to be a moral and a good-tempered man: and the thousands drawn to witness contests between opposing clubs at football, lacrosse and kindred sports prove how strong upon us is the hold of muscular Christianity in one of the best senses of that abused term. To give one other instance, I may venture to say that for tests of endurance and courage the annals of modern warfare afford

none more severe, or that have been more nobly borne, than the recent exploits of our volunteers in the Northwest. Young men from the farmstead, the workshop, the counting-room, the college and the lawyer's desk were called at a day's notice in mid-winter to start on a march of two thousand miles and face an enemy, every one of whom was a veteran buffalo hunter, trapper and sharpshooter, and who in joining the standard of revolt had counted well the cost. The alternate riding in open cars and tramping through deep snow with the mercury below zero, on the north shore of lake Superior; the swift marches on foot across the prairies in the Saskatchewan country, often knee-deep in water; the hard-fought battles of Fish Creek and Batoche, and the gallant charge upon the rifle pits; the chase for days after Big Bear, through long stretches of woods and across muskeg-land; the suppression of the half-breed revolt, and the ending of an Indian war in ninety days,—this is a record that would give an added fame and lustre to veterans in the field.

These are facts which give point and force to the observation of Mr. Wells, that Ontario has the climatic conditions which especially fit it to grow men; and, other circumstances being equal, the odds are on the side of the best breeds of men in the rivalries of nations.

But in some other respects Mr. Wells hardly does Ontario justice. Within its limits as now settled the province extends over ten degrees of latitude and twenty degrees of longitude. Its breadth from Point Pelee on lake Erie to Fort Albany or Jamies' bay is more than seven

hundred miles, and its length from Point Fortune on the Ottawa river to Rat Portage on the Winnipeg is more than a thousand miles. It is larger than the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Michigan by ten thousand square miles; larger than Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin by eleven thousand square miles; larger than the six New England states with New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Maryland by twenty-five thousand square miles, and larger than Great Britain and Ireland by seventy-eight thousand square miles. It is only four thousand square miles less than the French republic, and only eight thousand less than the German empire. It is a country large enough to be the seat of a mighty nation, and its situation on the great lakes is one that any state or empire of the world might envy.

But Ontario has something more to boast of than a broad expanse. It has a fertile soil, an invigorating climate, vast forests of merchantable timber, treasures of mineral wealth, and water power of limitless capacity. It has extensive areas which grow a better sample and a larger average yield of the staple cereals than any other portion of the continent; and it has more extensive areas not yet brought under cultivation which may be converted into grazing fields of unsurpassed richness, suitable for the production of the best qualities of butter and cheese. In a report on the trade between the United States and the British possessions in North America, made by J. R. Larned of the United States treasury department in 1871, it was observed that—

Ontario possesses a fertility with which no part of New England can at all compare, and that particular section of it around which the circle of the great lakes is swept forces itself upon the notice of any student of the American map as one of the most favored spots of the whole continent, where population ought to breed with almost Belgian fecundity.

Of such a country it is something to say that the people who occupy it are proving themselves worthy of it. Highways and railways have been opened in all directions; mills, factories and markets are being established wherever settlements extend, and the beat of the pulse of commerce is being felt in the remotest townships.

The province justly boasts of a stable government and beneficent laws. The burden of local taxation, never heavy, has been lightened by the distribution of several millions of surplus money out of the government treasury. Provision has been made for the necessities of the unfortunate and the afflicted by the establishment, support and management of public institutions. The public school system is at once practical in its operation and responsive to the requirements of the people. Agriculture is greatly encouraged by grants for the maintenance of agricultural societies, by the valuable work accomplished at the Agricultural College and Experimental Farm, and by a systematic effort to ascertain the agricultural status of the country and to record its progress from year to year. Efficient means have been provided for the care and improvement of the public health, and for weakening the force of those conditions which favor disease and tend to shorten the period of life. The labors of the pioneer have been lightened and cheered by the security of a homestead right in his land, and by the building of highways to give

him ready access to the market towns of the older settlements. A great impetus has also been given to the manufactures and commerce of the province by the large sums of public money granted as subsidies for the construction of railways, and the fruits of this policy are only beginning to ripen. What, under favoring conditions, they will be twenty years or even ten years hence the most sanguine citizen cannot venture to predict.

ONTARIO'S AGRICULTURAL PRE-EMINENCE.

I have said that our province has extensive areas which grow a better sample and a larger average yield of the staple cereals than any other portion of the continent. In every county there are several farms on which, owing in part to the natural fertility of the soil, and in part to a high and thorough system of cultivation, bountiful crops are grown every season of favoring weather. There is, for instance, the farm of Mr. Simpson Rennie, of Scarborough, in the county of York. Mr. Rennie is an exact and exemplary man in all his ways. He builds a fence, plows a furrow, plants a row and trims a hedge as straight as his rifle projects a bullet, and he is the prize marksman of two townships. No weeds are permitted to reach maturity, or scarcely to appear at all, and there is absolutely no obstruction in the shape of stump or stone to be found anywhere on the farm. Mr. Rennie has furnished me with the statistics of his farm for the five years 1882-6, and I may tell you that he keeps an accurate account of all his crops—their extent, their

yield and their market value. His average yield of wheat in the five years, with one crop almost a total failure, was 25 bushels per acre; his yield of barley was 47 bushels per acre, of oats 66 bushels, and of pease 32 bushels. But I do not found the claim of Ontario's pre-eminence on farms like Mr. Rennie's. I take the general average over the province, computed from returns of the threshing floor, and compare it with like averages for the principal grain-growing states of the American Union, computed from totals of acreage and product as given in the annual reports of the department of agriculture at Washington; and to make the comparison fair in every particular, I take those states in which each kind of cereal gives its best results.

In fall wheat New York's annual average for the five years 1882-6 was 14.8 bushels per acre; Pennsylvania's, 12.6; Ohio's, 13.3; Michigan's, 16.4; Indiana's, 13; Illinois', 12.9; Missouri's, 10.9; California's, 12, and Kansas', 15.2. Ontario's annual average for the same five years was 21 bushels per acre—ranging from 10.6 in 1883, a year of general disaster for fall wheat, to 26.3 in 1882. There are a number of other states where fall wheat is grown besides the nine for which averages have been given, but the quantity of their produce is too insignificant for comparison.

Again, in spring wheat, the average of Wisconsin for the same period of five years was 12.7 bushels per acre; of Minnesota, 13.2; of Iowa, 11.4; of Nebraska, 12.7, and of Dakota 13.1. Our corresponding average in Ontario

was 16.1 bushels per acre, exceeding Iowa by 4.7 bushels and Dakota by 2 bushels per acre.

Take oats next—our principal fodder grain. The annual average of New York state for the five years was 29.6 bushels per acre; of Pennsylvania, 28.2; of Ohio, 32; of Michigan, 32.9; of Indiana, 28.8; of Illinois, 34.5; of Wisconsin, 31.1; of Minnesota, 34.6; of Iowa, 34; of Missouri, 26.2; of Kansas, 31.9, and of Nebraska, 32.2; against which is Ontario's average of 37.1 bushels per acre.

The barley comparison is not less favorable, for while the average yield per acre over the period of five years was 23.1 bushels in New York, 24.2 in Wisconsin, 23.4 in Minnesota, 22.5 in Iowa, 22.3 in Nebraska and 19.3 in California, it was 26.9 in Ontario.

And here I take leave to say that it is not in a higher average yield merely that we excel our neighbors over the lakes, but also in the more essential respect of producing barley of the finest quality. Two years ago an investigation was undertaken by the chemical division of the department of agriculture at Washington into the chemical composition and physical qualities of American cereals, and at the request of that department I forwarded twelve sample lots of Ontario barley of the harvest of 1885 for comparison with barleys of United States' growth. The samples were selected and graded out of grain in warehouse by the government inspector at Toronto, and were the product of four districts of the province—three of which lie north of lake Ontario, and one north of lake Erie. Our western peninsula is subject to frequent thunder storms

which cross from lake Huron to lake Erie in the summer season, and so it often happens that the barley of that region is discolored by rains. But the harvest season of the bay of Quinté district was also a showery one in 1885, and there, too, the barley was discolored. One lot of fairly good color was grown in Peel and another in Durham. Now let me read the result of the investigation, as given in the report made by Mr. Clifford Richardson, assistant chemist of the United States department of agriculture :

Maercker found that the finest grain contained not more than 8 per cent. of albuminoids and consisted of at least 80 per cent. of mealy kernels. These two factors, together with the brightness of the grain, he considered to be the characteristics by which its quality should be judged.

Of the twelve typical specimens of last year's Canadian crop none were below 9 per cent. of albuminoids, the average being 9.83, and only six contained 60 per cent. of kernels which were mealy or half mealy in structure. They cannot be said, therefore, to be equal to what is considered extremely fine barley in Germany. They do, however, reach, and in most cases exceed the average production of foreign countries, and may be considered as of extremely good quality from actual trade lots, and better than those produced the world over, as may be seen by comparison with the investigations which have been quoted on previous pages. In weight per bushel they are about the same as the average Maercker, and in moisture, as with all our grain, much drier than the product of damper climates.

The differences in the different grades are marked almost entirely by brightness and perfection of the kernel, there being a remarkably close agreement in all other respects. This shows what important factors climate and care in harvesting and handling are in enhancing or depreciating the value of the grain. The latter factor, *care*, is almost entirely within the control of the farmer, while varying seasons of course influence the former. Of the different districts, that north of lake Erie produced the specimens richest in nitrogen, which would therefore be graded lowest as far as this influences our judgment, thus agreeing with current opinion. In mealiness these specimens are much ahead of all the others, and this ought to more than balance the slightly higher percentage of albuminoids. The summer rains, however by coloring the grain, have the greatest influence in determining quality, and eventually make the barley of this district the least desirable. The re-

maining districts north of lake Ontario produce grain much alike, that from the [Peel county] district averaging heavier in weight per bushel, and that from the Quinté being a little less nitrogenous. As a whole, these Canadian barleys certainly form a very good standard of reference. * * The high percentage of albuminoids stored up in the peculiar climate of the Northwest, while an advantage in the wheat grain, would be a serious objection in the barley. In this respect it appears that the average amount of albuminoids in the barley of the United States is greater than that of Canada, and far ahead of anything which Maereker would consider desirable. California alone is one per cent. below the average for the rest of the country, there being less than one-half per cent. difference from 11.50 per cent. in the average for all but California, which has 10.50 per cent. This is higher than was found in the Canadian grain, so that it may safely be said that the latter is at present the best in the market, and superior to our own.

The best evidence of the correctness of this conclusion is the fact that the whole of our surplus barley finds a market in the United States in spite of the duty of ten cents per bushel imposed on it by the customs tariff of that country. What the effect would be of the removal of that duty is hardly a subject of speculation. An increase of ten cents, or even of five cents, in the price paid to the producer would encourage our farmers to grow a much larger quantity than they do now; and instead of supplying American consumers ten millions of bushels a year, and contributing to the United States treasury a share of the margin of profit, they might supply twenty millions, or thirty millions, or forty millions of bushels, and secure the whole margin of profit for themselves. Instead of an average of $67\frac{1}{2}$ acres in barley for every thousand acres of cleared land in the province, they might have 148 acres per thousand, as they had last year in oats, or 210 acres, as they had last year in hay and clover. Or, with the larger demand and the better paying

prices, might they not, with great advantage to themselves and to the whole country, extend the area of cleared land from the present average of 50 acres per 100 occupied to 75 acres if necessary, and so widely extend the field of crop production without going beyond the existing bounds of settlement, with its highways, railways, market towns and civilized life, and without the outlay of a dollar for the purchase of more land than they now hold and occupy?

PAST AND PRESENT PROGRESS COMPARED.

There is no doubt that we possess a highly favored country—a country of great capabilities, and occupied by a people of as high purpose and character as ever applied themselves to the task of planting a colony, founding a state and governing themselves under free institutions. But has our prosperity been all that it might have been? Have we attained to the rank and greatness of a people enjoying our opportunities—with a country possessing such a climate, such soil, such natural resources as ours; situated like ours on great waters which open to us the commerce of the world? And if we have not, where lies the fault? In ourselves, in our circumstances, in our environment? How are we growing, measured by our own standard of the past? How are we growing, measured by the standard of communities elsewhere?

We have complete assessment and taxation statistics of the municipalities of the province for the thirteen years 1873-85, covering a fiscal term from close to close

of accounts of twelve years. Let us divide it into two periods of six years—1873-79 and 1879-85—and compare the rate of growth in each. During the first six years the number of ratepayers in rural municipalities increased by 40,364, or $16\frac{1}{4}$ per cent., while in the second six years they increased only by 13,360, or $4\frac{2}{3}$ per cent. In urban municipalities the number increased during the first period by 38,597, or $34\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and during the second period by 31,529, or 21 per cent. For the whole province, embracing all the townships, cities, towns and villages of county organization, the ratepayers increased in the first period by 78,961, or 22 per cent., and in the second period by only 44,889, or ten per cent. Taking next the area of assessed land, we find that in the first period it increased in the rural municipalities by 1,001,233 acres, or 5 per cent., and in the second period by 622,978 acres, or 3 per cent.; while in urban municipalities the area increased by 36,637 acres, or 22 per cent. in the first period, and in the second by 21,470 acres, or $10\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Then in respect of taxation for municipal and school purposes, over which the people exercise direct control, the amount imposed in 1873 was \$5,605,779; in 1879, \$7,157,366, and in 1885, \$8,333,370, being an increase of \$1,551,587, or $27\frac{2}{3}$ per cent. in the first six years, and \$1,176,004, or $16\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in the second. In rural municipalities the rate of increase was $9\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. in the first period, and $8\frac{2}{3}$ per cent. in the second, while in urban municipalities the increase was 56 per cent. in the first period and 25 per cent. in the second. The share of taxes for all local purposes in townships in 1873 was \$3.25 per capita, on the

basis of the assessors' census, \$3.31 in 1879 and \$3.60 in 1885; while in cities, towns and villages it was \$5.42 in 1873, \$6.32 in 1879 and \$6.58 in 1885. Or, if reckoned on the basis of the number of ratepayers, the average taxation per ratepayer in all the townships, cities, towns and villages of the province was \$15.54 in 1873, \$16.27 in 1879 and \$17.20 in 1885.—And let me observe in parenthesis here that this is direct taxation, sometimes held up as a bugaboo to strike the timid elector with terror. It is very nearly as much as we pay to the Government under the customs tariff, indirectly, at a cost of over \$4 per \$100 for collection, not to mention the further cost of at least \$50 per \$100 of it which the customs tariff enables the domestic manufacturer to add to the price of his goods.—The municipal statistics which I have presented show that in the six years 1873-79, a period of intense business stringency, the country made decidedly greater progress than in the six years 1879-85, a period of revival, and boom, and vast expenditure of public money!

For another test of progress take the growth of population. We have the enumeration of the people as taken yearly by the assessors for the fourteen years 1872-86, and although it is not a full census it has all the merits of one for comparison. It is a *de facto* census of the people to the extent of all families the heads of which are entered upon the assessment roll. Now let us compare the seven years 1872-79 with the seven years 1879-86. In 1872 we had in the province 407 organized township municipalities, with a population as enumerated by the assessors of 1,047,931; in 1879 we had 428, with a popu-

lation of 1,128,889; and in 1886 we had 445, with a population of 1,144,520. This shows for the first period an increase of 21 townships and 80,958 of population, and for the second period an increase of 17 townships and 15,631 of population. In 1872 we had 121 incorporated villages, towns and cities, with a population of 374,854; in 1879 we had 187, with a population of 544,678, and in 1886 we had 206, with a population of 674,506. This shows an increase of 66 towns and 169,824 of population in the first period; and of only 19 towns and 129,828 of population in the second, of which Toronto's portion is 40,000. The whole increase of population, rural and urban, was in the first period 250,782, or $17\frac{1}{2}$ per cent; whereas in the second period it was only 145,459, or $8\frac{2}{3}$ per cent.* These, it seems to me, are very grave figures; and their gravity is accentuated by the fact that the number of immigrants reported to have settled in the province was 32,273 more in the latter period than in the former. Indeed was it not but for the accession we received by immigration in the seven years 1879-85 the population of the province in 1886 would be 62,640 less than in 1879. Our growth by natural increment is at least two per cent., and at that rate the increase in seven years, starting with 1,673,000, should be 234,000. To this add the 208,000 immigrants reported by the immigration department to have settled in the province, and we have a total increase of 442,000. But in reality we have

* See details of population by county municipalities in the three years 1872, 1879 and 1886 in the Appendix.

had an increase of only 145,000. What has become of the 297,000? Where have they gone? Not to Manitoba, certainly, for the total population of that province in 1886, as shown by the government census, was only 108,640, including Indians and Halfbreeds, and in 1881 it had 66,000. The lamentable truth is that we are growing men for the United States. There were 712,000 native Canadians in that country at the taking of the census of 1880, and doubtless a round million of them are there now. We produce horses, cattle, sheep and hogs for the Americans—animals of the finest breeding qualities—and the buyers pay good prices for them, too. But to lose our men, and get no return! what hope for a country depleted of its men!

Brouardel of Paris, in a paper read before the International Health Congress at Vienna three or four months ago, made a very suggestive statement. "Has it not been asked," he said, "that nothing costs like an epidemic? Is it not true that a malady that kills one or two thousand persons every year strikes, from the economic point of view, most cruelly upon a population, the prevention of which might have saved the lives of some thousands of citizens between 15 and 25, at an age at which they have already cost much and been as yet of no benefit to the country?" From the same point of view may we not say that to a young and productive country like ours nothing costs like emigration. We nourish and bring up children; we clothe them, feed them, educate them, give them a manual trade on the farm or in the workshop, qualify them for business, or enter them in one of the learned pro-

fessions, and when they have reached an age to benefit the country as wage-earners, producers, business men and professional men, they go from us to populate and build up a rival community under another flag than ours.

Your county of Elgin, I ought to tell you, has fared better than many counties, for in the last seven years its population made a gain of 2,116—an increase of 2,993 in the towns, but a loss of 877 in the townships. In the previous seven years the gain was 9,719,—3,325 in the townships, and 6,391 in the towns. In the county of Kent adjoining you on the west, the increase of population in the last seven years was 3,585, and in the preceding seven years 8,897; while in the county of Norfolk adjoining you on the east, the loss in the last seven years was 216 and the gain in the preceding seven years 2,784,—the gain in urban population from 1872 to 1879 being 2,693, and from 1879 to 1886, 607.

There are a number of counties, however, in which the totals of urban and rural population were less in 1886 than in 1879; and in three of them, Huron, Perth and Lincoln, the loss of each exceeded 2,000 souls. But in twenty-two counties the rural population was less in 1886 than in 1879 by an aggregate of nearly 21,000 souls, and in one-half of those counties the loss cannot be accounted for at all by an increase of the number of urban municipalities. I could easily go into details, but the subject is disheartening enough upon a general survey.

With such evidence of the actual progress of the province during recent years, if one may call it progress, one

dares not treat the situation lightly. But do you remember the description of Pecksniff's horse?—

He was always in a manner going to go, but never going. When at his slowest rate of travelling he would sometimes lift up his legs so high, and display such mighty action, that it was difficult to believe he was doing less than fourteen miles an hour, and he was forever so perfectly satisfied with his own speed, and so little disconcerted by opportunities of comparing himself with the fastest trotters that the illusion was the more difficult of resistance. He was a kind of animal who infused into the breast of strangers a lively sense of hope and possessed all those who knew him better with a grim despair!

I fear it must be confessed that our pace in recent years has been a pace on all fours with Pecksniff's horse. We have been making a great show of enterprise—in the construction of canals and railways, in the erection of public buildings, in the encouragement of manufactures and in the promotion of immigration. For immigration alone the governments at Ottawa and Toronto have been expending a third of a million a year in the past eight years, and for public works they have been expending more than eleven millions a year. And how much the encouragement of manufactures has cost the farmers and all other classes of citizens except manufacturers themselves, Heaven only knows: at a modest estimate it is ten millions a year. This is enterprise, you will say. Yes, a prancing enterprise that finds its parallel in Pecksniff's horse! The figures measure our gait, and the figures do not lie.

ONTARIO, OHIO AND MICHIGAN.

The comparison of Ontario present with Ontario past clearly makes a poor showing for the present; in spite

of the fact that the earlier period was one of severe commercial depression, when it was said that our people were fleeing to the United States by the ten thousand in search of the employment denied them at home. But let us seek a comparison with one or two of the neighboring states, and find how we stand in that. Let us take Ohio and Michigan,—one of about the same age as our own province and the other a generation younger.

Ontario began to be settled in 1784, when the United Empire loyalists came over from their confiscated homes at the close of the war for Independence. They were a sturdy lot of men, and well fitted by experience to enter anew upon the life of pioneers: and because some of their descendants behaved as if the whole land was theirs, and as if they were born to possess it and rule over it forever, it is quite likely that Canadians of the present and of the last generation have not dealt altogether justly or considerately with the memory of the founders of our province. Let us not forget that those loyalists were for the most part brave and high-minded men, and devotedly true to their king, although it is probably the fact that a majority of their descendants are living to-day in the United States, and acknowledging allegiance only to the government of that country. And let us not forget, too, that the great body of immigrants from the mother land who made our province their home in the course of the fifty years following the treaty of Ghent were as fine a class of men as ever reached the shores of the new world.

The first settlers of Ohio came from New England, and

most of them were soldiers in the war for Independence. The Ohio Company acquired by purchase from Congress in 1787 a tract of 1,500,000 acres, and in the following year the New England colony set out. They went down the Ohio by flat-boats to the mouth of the Muskingum, and founded a town which they named Marietta, in honor of Marie Antoinette of France. Two months later the plan of a rival town was laid out a few miles farther down the Ohio, opposite the mouth of the Licking. The honor of naming the new city was assigned to one of the founders, a school teacher who had some knowledge of Latin, and he called it Losantiville—"the city opposite the mouth of the Licking." A few weeks afterwards the Indians scalped him, and the town is now known as Cincinnati. The first census of Ohio was taken in 1800, when it had a population of 45,000, and at the second census in 1810 it had 230,760. The population of Michigan was then 4,762; and in the following year, when the first enumeration was made of Upper Canada, it had a population of 77,000. The populations as shown by the last four decennial enumerations were as follows: *

| Year. | Ontario. | Ohio. | Michigan. |
|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1850 (1) | 950,183 | 1,980,329 | 397,654 |
| 1860 (1) | 1,393,947 | 2,339,511 | 749,113 |
| 1870 (1) | 1,618,245 | 2,665,260 | 1,184,059 |
| 1880 (1) | 1,920,337 | 3,198,062 | 1,636,937 |

* In Canada the census is taken in the first year of each decade, instead of in the last year as in the United States.

In the thirty years Ontario's population shows an increase of 970,154, Ohio's 1,217,733, and Michigan's 1,239,283. In the first decade Ontario gained 443,760, Ohio 359,000 and Michigan 351,500; in the second Ontario gained 224,000, Ohio 326,000 and Michigan 435,000; and in the third Ontario gained 302,000, Ohio 533,000 and Michigan 452,000. Of the total gain in Michigan $28\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. was made in the first decade and $71\frac{2}{3}$ in the second and third, and in Ohio 30 per cent. in the first and 70 in the second and third, while in Ontario $41\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the total gain was made in the first decade and only $59\frac{1}{2}$ in the second and third. And I beg you to observe that for the greater part of the first decade we had free trade with the United States in natural products under the reciprocity treaty. Starting an equal race with Ohio, our province at the end of a hundred years has fewer people than that state by one and a quarter million, and starting twenty-five years ahead of Michigan it has only a quarter of a million more. And if we compare the population of towns, taking those having 4,000 and upwards, we find that whereas in Ontario at the taking of the last census there were 28 having an aggregate population of 330,000, there were in Michigan 27 with a population of 353,000, and in Ohio 46 with a population of 893,000. These statistics would indicate a more rapid growth of trade and manufactures in those two states than in Ontario; and such is the fact, for comparing the values of manufactured products as given in the census returns, we have these results:

| | 1870 (1) | 1880 (1) | Increase. | Per cent. of Increase. |
|----------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|------------------------------|
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | |
| Ontario..... | 114,706,799 | 157,989,870 | 43,282,071 | 38 |
| Ohio | 215,771,000* | 348,298,000 | 132,527,000 | 61 |
| Michigan,..... | 94,716,741* | 150,715,025 | 55,998,284 | 59 |

Then looking at the extent of farm land occupied and under cultivation we find that at the taking of the last census Ohio had 24,529,226 acres, of which 18,081,100 was improved; Michigan 13,807,000 acres with 8,297,000 improved, and Ontario 18,646,000 acres, with 10,830,000 improved. This gives Ohio 74 acres improved for every 100 occupied, Michigan 60 and Ontario 57. The municipal statistics of Ontario for 1886 give as the total of improved land 10,938,471 acres out of 21,758,795 occupied, or an average of $50\frac{1}{3}$ acres for every 100 occupied; and I think it is absolutely certain that the area of occupied land is understated in our census.

Now how has it come to pass that the Michigan farmer occupying a lot of 100 acres has 60 improved, and the Ohio farmer 74 acres, while the Ontario farmer has only 50? How, indeed, have population and manufactures grown more rapidly in those states than in our own province? They are no more favorably situated, for in our long stretch of lake coastline and our outlet to the sea by the St. Lawrence we are admirably situated for commerce. No state of the American Union is so favorably

* The values of Ohio and Michigan products as here given have been reduced from currency to gold standard.

situated, and the fact has been substantiated by the statistics of five successive harvests that no state of the Union is the equal of our province in the productiveness of its soil. The bounty of Nature is more generously shared by us than by them, the cost of living is less, and while the cost of labor is no greater it is at least equal in efficiency. Wherein then consists the advantage of our neighbors, that they should make such relatively greater progress than we have made ?

Our wealth of minerals, of which I have said nothing, is truly enormous, if one may call that wealth which as yet is a possession of the earth. We have vast mines of iron, copper and silver, and although almost the entire lot mined is exported the annual value of our exports of the three metals in the last six years, from all the provinces of the Dominion, has been only \$318,660. The total product of our Ontario copper mines in the last census year was only 170 tons of ore, and of our iron, mines only 91,877 tons. On the other hand the Michigan copper mines in the last census year produced 45,830,000 lbs. of ingot copper, valued at \$7,979,000, while in the same year the iron mines of that state produced 1,838,712 tons of ore, valued at \$6,034,000. The average production of pig iron in the state for the six years 1880-5 was 173,467 tons, and the copper companies of the state paid in the four years 1882-5 dividends aggregating \$10,352,000.* Wherein consists the advantage of our neighbors over us in this great development of mineral wealth ?

* The salt industry of Michigan had its beginning in 1860, in which year the product was 4,000 barrels. In 1870 it was 621,352 barrels, in 1880 it

I believe there is one sufficient answer to these questions, which is that their advantage consists in having free exchange of commodities with sixty millions of people, spread over the area of a continent. Given security of the person and property under free institutions, cities grow, manufactures flourish, the increase of the earth abounds, and prosperity reigns in proportion as commerce is unfettered and free.

RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES.

It is not my business to discuss questions of party politics, but the state of the country is a matter of public policy, and as such I have ventured to deal with it. As one who feels that he owes no fealty save to the country of his birth, I have endeavored to discuss the situation calmly, with a knowledge of the facts as I have gathered and collated them during the past six years. Speaking my own sentiment freely, I feel that for us in this land there is no counsel so good to follow as the counsel of the Spartan mother to her son: "Sparta is your portion; do your best for Sparta." We are on the threshold, it may be, of great events, and it becomes every citizen of Canada to do his best for Canada. England will protect her own interests; you may trust her for that.

was 2,685,588 barrels, and in 1886 it was 3,677,257 barre's. The first salt well in Ontario was put down in 1866, and in 1880 (the first year for which a census of the quantity was taken) the product was 472,000 barrels. In 1886, as appears by the report of the Geological Survey, the product was only 445,000 barrels.

So will the United States. So ought Canada. We want all matters in dispute settled permanently, but our only hope for permanent settlement is one based on justice to every interest. We are on this continent to stay, and the future for us depends in great measure on our relations with the United States. We cannot live like frogs in a well, as we have been trying to do; we cannot live within ourselves and upon ourselves, like the raccoon or the bear in his winter retreat. Our place on the world's map does not permit of self-containment. We must trade beyond our own borders; we must exchange the products of the country, natural and manufactured, with those of other countries, and the question is—With whom, under what conditions, and upon what terms? Unrestricted trade with the United States may be the best thing, or unrestricted trade with the mother country, or unrestricted trade with the world. Whatever it may be, we should affirm it, and stand by it, and procure it if possible. The British commissioner has clearly indicated that if we desire to have unrestricted trade with the United States we may have it, but that it shall be at the cost of separation from the empire. Well, if I was convinced that unrestricted trade with the United States was the best for us, I should accept it, and the consequence with it. But some people tell us that unrestricted reciprocity with the United States means political union, and that all who favor the free trade are annexationists. This reminds me of the Quaker and the dog. "Heaven forbid that I should raise my hand against thee," said the Quaker, "but I will give thee a bad name"; and he raised

the cry of "Mad dog!" For my own part I do not fear the cry, because I am persuaded that the common sense of all except the few who are interested in maintaining monopolies will discern its absurdity. You cannot persuade a farmer who lived through the former period of reciprocity that free trade with the United States means annexation. But let me quote for you the opinion of what the effect of unrestricted trade with our neighbors would be, as the question presented itself to one of the ablest advocates of high tariffs. I quote from the Merchants' Magazine of 1857, in the period of free trade between Canada and the United States in natural products.

No capitalists are found coming to Canada to establish manufactures, for the market is small, while the competition of England and the United States is immense. Men from the eastern states never think of settling here and branching out in manufactures, but go west, because by so doing they retain the whole United States market. If there was free trade between Canada and the United States a market of thirty millions would be opened immediately, and then Canada would possess immense advantages as a field of manufactures. For, having unlimited water power and cheap fuels, and lying geographically in the centre of the most populous part of the Union, hundreds of enterprising men would settle here then and commence manufacturing in accordance with the wants of the country and the adjoining United States market. To gain this would be the greatest stroke of public policy for Canada, and if it could be accomplished by raising our tariff as against European manufacturers to a level with that of the United States the boon would be cheaply acquired.

This, I think, is a very rational view of the subject, under the circumstances of the present time, as well as under those of thirty years ago. I have no dread of the results of free competition between Canada and the United States. With raw material on our side so cheap

and abundant, with labor and the cost of living not against us, with a soil under proper tillage productive and durable beyond the soil of any other portion of the continent, with vast stores of mineral wealth to develop, and with a people having the high average intelligence of ours, and possessed of their pluck, and skill, and energy, I am persuaded that we could hold our own in any test, —with our neighbors across the lakes, or with the world.

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APPENDIX.

APPENDIX.

POPULATION OF THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO, BY COUNTIES, for the years 1872, 1879 and 1886, according to the Assessors' Enumeration, classified as Rural and Urban, and showing the Gain or Loss (—) of Population in each period of Seven Years; also, the number of Rural and Urban Municipalities in each year.

The figures in small type give the number of local municipalities in each county.

| Counties. | 1872. | | | 1879. | | | 1886. | | | Gain in 7 yrs. 1879-'86 |
|-----------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| | Rural. | Urban. | Total. | Rural. | Urban. | Total. | Rural. | Urban. | Total. | |
| Essex | 10 29,955 | 3 7,241 | 13 28,196 | 11 27,688 | 6 12,054 | 17 39,742 | 12 30,550 | 7 15,302 | 19 45,852 | 2 6,110 |
| Kent | 10 28,620 | 3 7,600 | 13 36,220 | 10 30,847 | 7 14,270 | 17 45,117 | 10 31,678 | 7 17,024 | 17 48,702 | 0 3,585 |
| Elgin | 7 24,446 | 3 4,317 | 10 28,763 | 7 27,772 | 5 10,708 | 12 38,480 | 7 26,895 | 5 13,701 | 12 40,596 | 0 2,116 |
| Norfolk | 9 25,109 | 1 2,000 | 8 27,109 | 7 25,200 | 3 4,693 | 10 29,893 | 10 24,377 | 3 5,300 | 10 29,677 | 0 — 216 |
| Haldimand | 8 17,310 | 6 3,326 | 14 20,636 | 8 18,540 | 6 3,662 | 14 22,202 | 8 18,185 | 7 3,861 | 15 22,046 | 0 — 156 |
| Welland | 10 16,701 | 3 7,104 | 13 23,805 | 10 19,199 | 9 10,811 | 19 30,010 | 10 17,811 | 10 10,815 | 20 28,626 | 1 1,384 |
| Lambton | 16 27,993 | 3 7,894 | 19 35,887 | 16 30,659 | 9 13,472 | 25 44,131 | 16 30,744 | 9 17,577 | 25 48,321 | 1 4,190 |
| Huron | 13 50,387 | 3 7,645 | 16 58,032 | 14 51,592 | 8 16,777 | 22 68,369 | 15 49,816 | 11 15,949 | 26 65,765 | 4 2,604 |
| Bruce | 16 37,884 | 2 3,445 | 18 41,329 | 16 45,176 | 3 11,218 | 19 56,394 | 16 42,565 | 3 16,634 | 19 59,199 | 2 2,805 |
| Grey | 15 47,134 | 4 4,666 | 19 51,800 | 15 56,263 | 8 7,141 | 23 63,404 | 15 56,018 | 19 9,175 | 24 65,193 | 1 1,789 |
| Simcoe | 15 39,414 | 5 8,302 | 20 47,716 | 15 43,999 | 9 16,897 | 24 60,896 | 15 48,571 | 9 20,966 | 24 69,537 | 0 8,641 |
| Middlesex | 11 49,551 | 4 21,954 | 15 71,505 | 11 50,861 | 5 33,427 | 16 84,288 | 11 52,471 | 6 36,438 | 16 88,909 | 0 4,621 |
| Oxford | 11 33,079 | 4 11,028 | 15 44,107 | 11 30,106 | 5 13,766 | 16 43,872 | 11 29,734 | 6 15,058 | 16 44,792 | 0 — 92 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Middlesex | 49,551 ¹¹ | 21,954 ⁴ | 71,505 ¹⁵ | 50,861 ¹¹ | 33,427 ⁵ | 84,288 ¹⁶ | 52,471 ¹¹ | 36,438 ⁵ | 88,909 ¹⁶ | 12,783 ¹ | 4,621 ⁰ |
| Oxford | 33,079 | 11,028 | 44,107 | 30,106 | 13,766 | 43,872 | 29,734 | 15,058 | 44,792 | - 235 | 92 |
| Brant | 15,430 ⁵ | 11,156 ² | 26,586 ⁷ | 15,848 ⁵ | 13,690 ² | 29,538 ⁷ | 16,610 ⁵ | 15,911 ² | 32,521 ⁷ | 2,952 ⁰ | 2,983 ⁰ |
| Perth | 31,239 ¹¹ | 12,352 ⁴ | 43,591 ¹⁵ | 32,719 ¹¹ | 18,448 ⁴ | 51,167 ¹⁵ | 30,643 ¹¹ | 18,453 ⁵ | 49,096 ¹⁶ | 7,576 ⁰ | - 2,071 ¹ |
| Wellington | 38,568 ² | 12,854 ⁶ | 51,422 ¹⁸ | 37,203 ¹² | 20,848 ⁹ | 58,051 ²¹ | 36,777 ¹² | 22,279 ¹⁰ | 59,056 ² | 6,629 ³ | 1,005 ¹ |
| Waterloo | 24,277 ⁵ | 11,408 ⁶ | 35,685 ¹¹ | 24,919 ⁵ | 13,582 ⁶ | 38,501 ¹¹ | 25,318 ⁵ | 19,734 ⁷ | 45,052 ¹² | 2,816 ⁰ | 6,551 ¹ |
| Dufferin | 13,309 ⁶ | 1,487 ¹ | 14,796 ⁷ | 15,598 ⁶ | 3,051 ² | 18,649 ⁸ | 16,081 ⁶ | 3,525 ² | 19,606 ⁸ | 3,853 ¹ | 957 ⁰ |
| Lincoln | 16,775 ⁷ | 10,911 ³ | 27,686 ¹⁰ | 15,982 ⁷ | 16,745 ⁶ | 32,727 ¹³ | 14,730 ⁸ | 15,306 ⁶ | 30,036 ¹⁴ | 5,041 ³ | - 2,691 ¹ |
| Wentworth | 22,329 ⁸ | 31,191 ² | 53,520 ¹⁰ | 22,989 ⁸ | 38,546 ³ | 61,535 ¹¹ | 24,865 ⁸ | 45,904 ¹¹ | 70,769 ¹¹ | 8,015 ¹ | 9,234 ⁰ |
| Halton | 15,659 ⁴ | 3,693 ³ | 19,352 ⁷ | 14,910 ⁴ | 6,421 ⁵ | 21,331 ⁹ | 14,239 ⁴ | 6,833 ⁵ | 21,072 ⁹ | 1,979 ² | - 259 ⁰ |
| Peel | 18,928 ⁵ | 3,807 ³ | 22,735 ⁸ | 18,973 ⁵ | 4,460 ³ | 23,433 ⁸ | 18,756 ⁵ | 4,795 ³ | 23,551 ⁸ | 698 ⁰ | 118 ² |
| York | 41,996 ¹⁰ | 62,499 ⁵ | 104,495 ¹⁵ | 46,258 ¹⁰ | 85,422 ⁸ | 131,680 ¹⁸ | 43,974 ¹⁰ | 130,372 ¹⁰ | 174,946 ²⁰ | 27,185 ³ | 43,266 ² |
| Ontario | 34,441 ¹¹ | 5,768 ¹³ | 40,209 ⁹ | 33,466 ¹¹ | 12,244 ⁵ | 45,710 ¹⁶ | 32,640 ¹¹ | 13,102 ⁶ | 45,742 ¹⁷ | 5,501 ³ | 32 ¹ |
| Durham | 22,952 ⁶ | 9,422 ³ | 32,374 ⁹ | 22,632 ⁶ | 9,963 ³ | 32,595 ⁹ | 21,778 ⁶ | 11,047 ⁴ | 32,825 ¹⁰ | 221 ² | 230 ⁰ |
| Northumberland | 27,709 ⁹ | 6,256 ³ | 33,965 ¹² | 26,686 ⁹ | 9,549 ⁵ | 36,235 ¹⁴ | 26,723 ⁹ | 10,378 ⁵ | 37,101 ¹⁴ | 2,270 ² | 866 ⁶ |
| Prince Edward | 15,161 ⁷ | 2,885 ² | 18,046 ⁹ | 15,473 ⁷ | 3,398 ² | 18,871 ⁹ | 14,759 ⁷ | 3,394 ² | 18,153 ⁹ | 825 ⁰ | 718 ⁰ |
| Lennox & Addington | 17,856 ¹⁰ | 3,928 ³ | 21,784 ¹³ | 18,906 ¹⁰ | 4,351 ³ | 23,257 ¹³ | 18,791 ¹⁰ | 4,819 ¹³ | 23,610 ¹³ | 1,473 ⁰ | 353 ⁰ |
| Frontenac | 20,641 ¹⁵ | 13,436 ⁸ | 34,077 ¹⁸ | 21,356 ¹⁵ | 15,796 ³ | 37,752 ¹⁸ | 21,875 ¹⁵ | 16,339 ¹⁸ | 38,214 ¹⁸ | 3,675 ⁰ | 462 ⁰ |
| Leeds & Grenville | 38,257 ¹⁶ | 11,828 ⁵ | 50,085 ²¹ | 39,852 ¹⁶ | 15,564 ⁶ | 55,416 ²² | 37,823 ¹⁶ | 17,602 ⁷ | 55,425 ²³ | 5,331 ¹ | 9 ⁹ |
| Dundas | 14,632 ⁴ | 1,620 ² | 15,712 ⁶ | 14,926 ⁴ | 2,724 ² | 17,650 ⁶ | 15,442 ⁴ | 3,024 ² | 18,466 ⁶ | 1,938 ⁰ | 816 ⁰ |
| Stormont | 14,366 ⁴ | 3,577 ¹ | 17,943 ⁵ | 14,910 ⁴ | 3,867 ¹ | 18,777 ⁵ | 16,709 ⁴ | 5,710 ⁴ | 22,419 ⁵ | 834 ⁰ | 3,642 ⁰ |

