

The Provincial Statutes of Canada, passed in the year 1843. Kingston: Stewart Derbishire & George Desbarats, 1843.

7 Victoria – Chapter 24

An Act for taking the Census of the Inhabitants of Lower Canada, and for obtaining certain statistical information therein mentioned. 9th December, 1843.

Whereas the Census of the Inhabitants of Lower Canada, for the year one thousand eight hundred and forty-two, as required by an Act of this Legislature passed in the fourth and fifth years of Her Majesty's Reign, intituled, *An Act to repeal certain parts of an Act therein mentioned, and to provide for taking a periodical Census of the Inhabitants of this Province, and for obtaining the other statistical information therein mentioned*, hath not been duly taken, nor the other statistical information thereby also, required, duly obtained; and whereas it is of the greatest importance that such Census should be taken, and such statistical information obtained as early as possible; Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of and under the authority of an Act passed in the Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, intituled, *An Act to re-unite the Provinces of tipper and Lower Canada, and for the Government of Canada*, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that from and after the passing of this Act, it shall be lawful for the Governor of this Province, with the consent and advice of the Executive Council thereof, to nominate and appoint one or more competent persons, residing within each of the Counties of Lower Canada, to be Commissioners for the execution of this Act.

II. And be it enacted, that the Commissioners so appointed, and each of them, shall be furnished without delay, by the Provincial Secretary for Lower Canada, with a sufficient number of Copies of this Act, and of the Schedule A thereunto annexed, and shall before the first day of the month of May next, in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty four, make or cause to be made an exact Census of the population of the Counties in Lower Canada, or Places therein, for which they shall be respectively appointed, and shall obtain the information requisite to fill up correctly the several columns in their returns, which shall be made in the form of the Schedule A., hereunto annexed, and sworn to before one of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the District, City or Town corporate in which such Census shall be taken in the form annexed to the above mentioned Shedule A., by the said Commissioners, respectively, or the persons employed by them for the said service, as hereinafter provided.

III. And be it enacted, that it shall be lawful for each and every Commissioner so appointed, for the purposes of this Act, to require the assistance of and to employ any professional man Officer of Militia, Church Warden, or any other competent person whatsoever, within the County or Place for which such Commissioner shall have been appointed, and it shall be lawful for such Commissioner and the Persons by him employed for that purpose, to visit every house within such County or Place, and to require of all persons, (those in actual service in Her Majesty's Army or

Navy alone excepted) such information as may be necessary for filling up accurately the several columns in his Returns, according to the said Schedule.

IV. And be it enacted, that any person being above the age of twenty-one years, who shall refuse to give to any such Commissioner or to any person employed for the purposes of this Act by such Commissioner, the assistance so required, or the information so demanded by them or by any of them, or shall wilfully give false information to such Commissioner, or to such person concerning the same, shall, for every such offence forfeit and pay a penalty of two pounds ten shillings, currency, to be sued for and recovered in a summary manner, on the oath of at least one credible witness other than the informer before any one of the nearest Justices of the Peace, and to be levied by distress and sale of the offender's goods, under a warrant signed by the Justice before whom the offender shall have been convicted; and one half of the said penalty shall belong to Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, and the other half to the person who shall have sued for the same.

V. And be it enacted, that every person so appointed by such Commissioners, respectively, shall, within fifty days next ensuing the date of his appointment, make his return certified under oath as aforesaid, in the form of the said Schedule A., for the place for which he shall have been appointed to act, to the Commissioners by whom he shall have been so appointed.

VI. And be it enacted, that the said Secretary shall, With the shortest delay possible after the reception by the Executive Government of the Return so ordered to be made by this Act, transmit certified Copies of the Return for each County to be deposited with every Rector or Curate or Minister, and with the Municipal Clerk of each Parish, Extra-parochial place, or Township comprised within the limits of such County, or if there be no such Rector, Curate, or Minister or Municipal Clerk, then with the Senior Militia Officer therein, to be by him, them and their successors in office, respectively, kept for the use and inspection of all persons concerned.

VII. And be it enacted, that on or before the first day of June next, the said Commissioners shall transmit under their signature and in triplicate, and in the form of the said Schedule, the returns to be made by them under this Act, to the Governor of this Province, and one copy of every such Return shall be laid before each of the Branches of the Legislature within fifteen days after the opening of the then next Session, and the remaining copy shall be deposited in the Archives of this Province.

VIII. And be it enacted, that the said Commissioners shall, respectively, on the receipt of their Returns as aforesaid, receive out of any unappropriated monies in the hands of the Receiver General, by warrant under the hand of the Governor, as a remuneration for their respective services, the following sums, that is to say: for every inhabited house mentioned in the return, and situate in the Cities of Quebec and Montreal, or in the Towns of Three Rivers and Sherbrooke, or in any Village containing upwards of thirty houses, five pence currency; for every such house in the Country Parishes or Townships, ten pence currency; and the said Commissioners shall pay out of the monies so received to any person who shall have assisted personally in making the Returns for any Parish, Extra-parochial place, or Township, Ward or division of a City or Town, one third of the

sum so received for every house mentioned in such return, and to any person who shall, unassisted by any Commissioner, have made and certified the returns of any Parish, Extra-parochial place, or Township, Ward or division of a Town or City, two thirds of the sum so received for every inhabited house mentioned in such return: Provided always, that any such person employed by any Commissioner, for the purposes of this Act, shall have been furnished by such Commissioner, with a copy of this Act, and of the Schedules A. and B., hereunto annexed, and with a certificate in the form of the Schedule C., hereunto annexed, distinctly describing the limits of the place for which he is to make such return, unassisted by such Commissioner.

IX. And be it enacted, that any Commissioner appointed under this Act, or any person employed by such Commissioner for the purposes of this Act, who shall be convicted upon Indictment before any Court of Quarter Sessions of having wilfully neglected to make any Return by this Act required, or of having made negligently or wilfully a false Return, shall be liable to pay a fine to Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, not exceeding twenty-five pounds, currency, and shall forfeit any remuneration to which he might otherwise have been entitled under this Act, and shall be further liable to imprisonment in the Common Gaol or Prison of the District in which the said Census ought to have been taken, or in which the same shall be so falsely taken, for a space of time not exceeding three Calendar months; and if the person incurring such penalty be a Commissioner appointed under this Act, it shall then be lawful for the Governor of this province to appoint another Commissioner in his stead and place, and such other Commissioner shall forthwith proceed to make a true Return, according to the Provisions of this Act.

X. And be it enacted, that the Commissioners appointed under this Act, shall, fifteen days at least before they proceed to take the Census and to procure the statistical information hereby required, cause a notice in the form of the Schedule B. hereunto annexed, in the English and French languages, to be publicly read immediately after Divine Service in the forenoon, on two successive Sundays, at the Church door of the Parish or other place in which such Census is to be taken, and to be posted thereon during the said time, and in case there shall be no Church therein, then the said Commissioners shall post such written notice at the most public place in such Parish or other place.

XI. And be it enacted, that the due application of the monies hereby appropriated shall be accounted for to Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, through the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury for the time being, in such manner and form as Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors shall direct; and that an account of the expenditure of the said monies shall be laid before the Provincial Legislature, within the first fifteen days of the then next Session thereof.

XII. And be it enacted, that the words "Governor of this Province" wherever they occur in the foregoing enactments, are to be understood as meaning and comprehending the Governor, or the person authorized to execute the Commission of Governor within this Province, for the time being; and that the words "Lower Canada," wherever they occur in the said enactments, are to be understood as meaning and comprehending that part of this Province of Canada which formerly constituted the Province of Lower Canada.

Schedule (A.)

Return of the enumeration of the Inhabitants of _____ with the other statistical information to be obtained in such _____ under an Act, intituled, *An Act for taking the Census of the Inhabitants of Lower-Canada, and for obtaining certain statistical information therein mentioned.*

Total.	Houses inhabited.	Houses with their local situation in any Range, Concession, Street, &c.	
	Houses Vacant.		
	Houses Building.		
	Name of the head of each family.		
	Property of Real Property.		
	Not Proprietor of Real Property.		
	Tenant not entitled to vote at any Election in City, Town, &c.		
	Trade or Profession.		
	Total number of Inmates in each family, Male and Female, now resident.		
	Number of persons belonging to the family, Male or Female, now temporarily absent.		
	Number of natives of England belonging to each family,		
	do.	of Ireland, do.	
	do.	of Scotland, do.	
	do.	of Canada, do.	of French origin.
	do.	of Canada, do.	of British origin.
	do.	of the Continent of Europe, or otherwise specifying the same separately.	
	do.	of the United States of America.	
	Number of years each person has been in the Province, when not Natives thereof		
	Number of Aliens not naturalized.		
	Male.	One year of age and under.	Number of persons in each family.
	Female.		
	Male.	One year and under two.	
	Female.		
	Male.	Two years and under three.	
	Female.		
	Male.	Three years and under four.	
	Female.		
	Male.	Four years and under five.	
	Female.		
	Male.	Five years and under ten.	
	Female.		
	Male.	Ten years and under fifteen.	
	Female.		

Schedule A.

Return of the enumeration of the Inhabitants of, &c. – *Continued.*

Total.				Number of Persons in each Family.
	Single.	Male.	Fifteen years and under twenty one.	
	Married.			
	Single.	Female.		
	Married.			
	Single.	Male.	Twenty one years and under thirty years.	
	Married.			
	Single.	Female.		
	Married.			
	Single.	Male.	Thirty years and under forty years.	
	Married.			
	Single.	Female.		
	Married.			
	Single.	Male.	Forty years and under fifty years.	
	Married.			
	Single.	Female.		
Married.				

Schedule (A.)

Return of the enumeration of the inhabitants of, &c. – *Continued* .

Total.	Single.		Male.	Fifty year and under sixty years.	Number of Persons in each Family.	
	Married.					
	Single.		Female.			
	Married.					
	Single.		Male.	Sixty years and upwards.		
	Married.					
	Single.		Female.			
	Married.					
	Males.		Number of Deaf and Dumb persons in each family and the occupation for which they show the greatest aptitude.			
	Females.					
	Males.		Number of blind persons in each family.			
	Females.					
	Males.		Number of Idiots in each family.			
	Females.					
	Males.		Number of Lunatic persons in each family.			
	Females.					
Number of persons in each family belonging to the Church of England.						
Do.		do.		Church of Scotland.		
Do.		do.		Church of Rome.		
Number of British Wesleyan Methodists in each family.						
Number of Canadian Wesleyan Methodists in each family.						
Number of Episcopal Methodists in each family.						
Number of other Methodists in each family,						
Number of Presbyterians not in connexion with the Church of Scotland in each family.						
Number of Congregationalists or Independents in each family.						
Number of Baptists and Anabaptists in each family.						
Number of Lutherans in each family.						

Schedule (A.).

Return of the enumeration of the inhabitants of, &c. – *Continued* .

Total.	
	Number of Quakers in each family.
	Number of Moravians and Tunkers in each family.
	Number of Dutch Reformed Church in each family.
	Number of Jews in each family.
	Number of persons in all other Religious Denominations not herein enumerated in each family.
	Number of Male coloured persons in each family.
	Number of Female coloured persons in each family.
	Number of Male Farm Servants employed in each family.
	Number of other Male Servants in private families.
	Number of other Female Servants in private families.
	Number of persons engaged in Trade or Commerce.
	Number of persons in each family subsisting on alms or paupers.
	Number of acres or <i>arpents</i> of land occupied by each family.
	Number of acres or <i>arpents</i> of improved land occupied by each family.
	Wheat.
	Barley.
	Rye.
	Oats.
	Pease.
	Indian Corn.
	Buck Wheat.
	Potatoes.
	Produce raised by each family during the last year and estimated in Winchester bushels.
	Number of Hives of Bees kept by each family last season.
	Number of pounds of Maple Sugar made by each family last season.
	Neat Cattle.
	Horses.
	Sheep.
	Hogs.
	Live stock owned by each family.
	Number of yards of Fulled Cloth manufactured in the domestic way in the same family.
	Number of yards of Linen, Cotton or other Woollen Cloth, not fulled, manufactured in the domestic way in the same family.
	Number of yards of Flannel or other Woollen Cloth, not fulled, manufactured in the domestic way in the same family.
	Number of pounds of Wool produced during the last year in each family.
	Under what tenure such land is held by each family.
	Rate of Seigniorial Rent paid for land held <i>à titre de cens</i> .
	Average money rent of farm farmed by each family.
	Proportion of produce allowed to the Proprietor for land held on lease or cultivated on each family.
	Number of Colleges, Academies and Covents in each Parish, Township, extra-parochial place, Ward or division of Town. &c.
	Number of Elementary Schools in every such place.

Schedule (A.).

Return of the enumeration of the inhabitants of, &c. – *Continued* .

Total.	Male.	Number of Scholars at each such College, Academy, Convent or Elementary School.
	Female.	
	Number of Taverns or Houses of Public Entertainment in every such place.	
	Number of Stores where Spirituous Liquors are sold in every such place.	
	Number of Grist Mills in every such place.	
	Number of pairs of Mill-Stones used in each Mill.	
	Number of Oatmeal Mills in every such place.	
	Number of Barley Mills in every such place.	
	Do. Saw Mills	do.
	Do. Oil Mills	do.
	Do. Fulling Mills	do.
	Do. Carding Mills	do.
	Do. Thrashing Mills	do.
	Do. Paper Mills	do.
	Do. Iron Works	do.
	Do. Trip Hammers	do.
	Do. Nail Factories	do.
	The weight of Nails so manufactured in each place.	
	Number of Distilleries in every such place.	
	Number of Breweries in every such place.	
	Number of Tanneries in every such place.	
	Number of Pot and Peal Ash Manufactories in every such place.	
	Number of Manufactories of any other sort in every such place containing any Machinery moved by Wind, Water, Steam or Animal power, specifying the purposes to which such Machinery is applied, and by what power it is moved.	
	Average price of Wheat in every such place since last harvest.	
	Average price of Agricultural Labour per day throughout the year.	

I, A. B., do swear that the above Return is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, that I have not wilfully made any false Statement therein, and that I have used my best diligence, and endeavour to obtain true information on all matters to which it relates, – So Help Me God.

(Signature) A. B. Commissioner or Assistant Commissioner of the _____ of _____.

Sworn before me, one of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace, for the _____ of _____ at
 _____ this _____ day of _____ 18_____.

(Signature) C. D., J. P.

Schedule (B.)

Form of Notice.

Public Notice is hereby given, that the undersigned, duly authorized to that effect, under an Act passed by the Provincial Legislature, in the seventh year of Her Majesty's Reign, intituled, (insert

the Title of this Act) will on _____ the _____ day of _____ proceed to take the Census of the population of the (insert the name of the place within which the party giving notice is authorized to act) and to require within the said place the information necessary to enable him (or them) to fill up the Schedules hereunto annexed, according to the provisions and requirements of the said Act, and all persons are hereby required to govern themselves accordingly, under the penalties by the said Act imposed.

Dated at _____ this _____ day of _____

(Signature.)

Schedule (C.)

Form of Certificate to be given by the Commissioners, to the persons by them employed to make the return of any particular place within the Counties for which such Commissioners shall have been respectively appointed:

Know all men whom it may concern, that I (or we) have appointed (insert name, quality and place of residence), being Militia Officer or Church-warden or professional man (as the case may be) within the limits described, to make the Return for the (describe the place, its limits and boundaries,) conformably to the provisions of an Act passed in the seventh year of Her Majesty's Reign, intituled, (insert the Title of this Act) of which Act and the Schedules thereunto annexed, I (or we) have furnished him with copies for the information and guidance of all whom the same may concern.

Dated at _____ this _____ day of _____ 184 _____

[Signature of the Commissioner.]