

**THE CENSUS OF 1890.**

The Figures Gathered Will Astonish Many People.

**POPULATION OF THE UNION.**

Reasons for Believing the Count Will Show 68,600,000 Inhabitants in the United States.

For some reason, perhaps because the conclusion saves a calculation, nearly all the newspapers in the country assume that the Electoral College in 1892 will contain the same number of votes as that of 1888, plus thirteen added for the states just admitted. The fact that the Census Bureau of 1880 was able to present complete returns of population to the House of Representatives as early as January 18, 1881, rather contradicts this idea, for it is reasonable to suppose that the same degree of expedition will obtain this time as last. In the event of the full returns being in readiness as early as January, 1891, Congress will certainly have no difficulty in re-apportioning before the November election in 1892, as there will be at least eight months for discussion. It is possible that dilatory tactics may prevent the Fifty-first congress, which adjourns March 4, 1891, completing the job; but the Fifty-second congress, which assembles in December, 1891, and the first session of which may be extended through the summer of the next year, should certainly be able to finish the work of re-apportionment without difficulty.

In this view of the case it is safe to assume that the next Electoral College will not have the same number of Electors as that of 1888 and that its composition will be completely changed. Therefore all calculations which have the apportionment of 1880 for a basis must be erroneous. This fact, however, need not prevent the attempts of the curious to peer into the future. There is no obstacle whatever to the formation of a tolerably fair estimate of the population of 1890, since we have the vote of 1888 and other data from which to figure. The result may not be exact, but if care is taken approximate accuracy may be reached.

The writer has attempted such a calculation, and finds that the population of 1890 will probably reach 68,600,000. As this result is considerably in excess of most estimates it may be well to describe in detail how it was arrived at. The latest available data on which to base a calculation of the population of the thirty-eight states that voted for President in 1888 is the vote of that year. Taking the popular vote in each state, and assuming that the same ratio of population to voters observed in 1880 was maintained, except in the case of certain Southern States, where repression was practiced, resulting in a large falling off of the negro vote, and therefore necessitating the adoption for a basis of calculation the same percentage of increase observed in those states between the years 1870 and 1880, we find the population of the thirty-eight states in 1888 was 61,985,920, or in round numbers 62,000,000.

But any estimate of the population of the thirty-eight states which failed to take cognizance of the phenomenal increase of immigration during the four years preceding the election of 1888 would be a faulty one. The total number of immigrants into the United States during the first named years was 2,285,829, as against 1,086,395 during the four years immediately preceding the election of 1880, the popular vote of which furnished us the figures, together with the census, to obtain the ratio of population to voters. As a five-years residence in the United States is required in most states of the Union to make a foreign eligible to vote, it is obvious that a large proportion of the greatly increased immigration was not represented in the vote of 1888. As there were nearly 1,200,000 more immigrants between 1884 and 1888 than between 1876 and 1880 it will perhaps be safe to assume that at least 1,000,000 of the newcomers made no impression on the vote of 1888. If the estimate that only 200,000 of the excess of immigrants between the last four years preceding 1880 were represented in the voting tables of 1888 is deemed too small, it may reconcile the reader to accept it if he will recall that there is an observed tendency to refrain from voting in many of the Northern States. Under the circumstances the unrepresented increased immigration and the nonvoting tendency may be safely reckoned upon to account for at least a million people, the existence of whom could not be inferred from the election tables.

If these calculations are correct, the 38 states under discussion had in 1888 a population of 63,000,000 souls. These same states in 1880 contained 49,371,240 people, an increase of 13,628,660 in eight years. If the same ratio of increase is maintained during the twenty months following the election and the taking of the census in 1890, the population of the 38 states would be increased 3,622,500, making a total in round figures of 66,600,000 in the census year.

To these figures must be added the population of the newly erected states, the territories and the District of Columbia. The four new states had, on the day

they voted on admission, nearly 1,000,000, and the District of Columbia, and the territories, on the same date, probably had fully 900,000. If the same rate of increase hitherto noted is maintained in the new states, territories and the District of Columbia until the census year, they should add at least 100,000 to their population, making a total of 2,000,000 for those divisions, and a grand total for the whole Union in the census year of about 68,600,000 souls.

If the census marshals complete their work as early as the date indicated in the beginning of this article, the Fifty-first congress will be confronted with the duty of determining how many members shall constitute the lower house. Before the admission of the two Dakotas, Montana, and Washington that body consisted of 325 members, or one for every 151,911 inhabitants in 1880. The question to be determined is whether the basis of representation shall be enlarged or the number of representatives increased. Both courses have advocates. There are some who hold that the present number is sufficiently large to form a good working body, and that any considerable increase would make the house unwieldy. On the other hand it is contended that to increase the size of constituencies very greatly would impair the value of the representative by putting him out of touch with his constituents. These latter point to the English House of Commons and to the French Chamber of Deputies, each of which contains more than 600 members, and say that they are none too large for the work they are called upon to perform. In all probability a compromise will be effected which will result in an increase of the present number. It is certain, at least, that no diminution of the existing number will be made.

**POSTAL CARD DESIGNS.**

Having Fun With Postmaster-General Wanamaker.

A short time ago Postmaster-General Wanamaker asked indiscriminately for designs for a new postal card. He did this in order to give the artistic in the great American mind a chance. Mr. Wanamaker has received numerous designs. They come from nearly every section of the country. Some of them show the possession of a high degree of art by the designers. There are half a dozen or so of excellent ideas, and no doubt one of these will be selected. The humorous trend of the American mind is shown in some fifteen or twenty designs which Wanamaker did not expect. They are very well executed, but they tend to make fun of Wanamaker. For instance, one bears a medallion head of that gentleman with the legend around it, "The greatest all-around merchant in the world. Special inducements offered to country postmasters." "On another: "Wanamaker's breeches are the best in the market." Still another is, "Wanamaker has a special bargain counter for any article that you may want on Wednesdays and Fridays. You can get fifteen postage stamps from him for a quarter."

Mr. Wanamaker is said to laugh over these things as much as anybody else. He has on his desk a design for a postal card which some fellow, evidently hard up, is trying to get him to adopt. It is like the old card, with a very small piece for the address. The rest of the white surface is taken up with the injunction: "It is a penitentiary offense to send a dun on a postal card. If you want to collect a bill, collect it with a club."

**Astoria.**

Lots in the north addition to Astoria; price \$55 each on the installment plan, or a discount for cash. These lots are selling rapidly in Portland and other cities. I am authorized to sell but a few blocks and it will pay you to call early and get your choice. E. G. Beardsley, Real Estate Agent, Broadalbin street, Albany.

**BRIEF MENTION.**

Try the "Polka Dot" 5c cigar at Ellis'.

Boots and shoes at cost at W. F. Read's.

Smoke the Resort 10c cigar at Ellis' cigar store.

Stop at Will & Stark's and examine their large and new line of watches.

Call at Barrows & Searls' and see their line of lace curtains in tasteful designs.

That fine tea in baskets at La-Forest & Thomp on's is going at 40 cents like hot cakes.

Barrows & Searls have just received a fine line of the latest styles in gents' neckties.

Have your prescriptions filled at the new drug store. H. C. Hubbard, prescription druggist.

Cheaper than ready made. Pantaloon to order for \$5 at Zaches Bros. opposite the postoffice.

We are in the field and in the lead for competition. Suits to order for \$20 at Zaches Bros., opposite the postoffice.

Prescriptions carefully compounded day or night at H. C. Hubbard's new drug store. Residence over the store.

The blood will follow where the knife is driven. The flesh will follow where the pinners tear. And trade will follow where the merchant is driven.

As Brownell has to, to make his prices fair we have just opened another invoice of cloaks, and we feel confident that we can suit everybody, both in style and price. W. F. Read.

Neigant Lotion.

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**WE DO NOT WANT THE EARTH**



**NOR DO WE USE ANY BAITS TO CATCH CUSTOMERS**



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**C. E. BROWNELL.**

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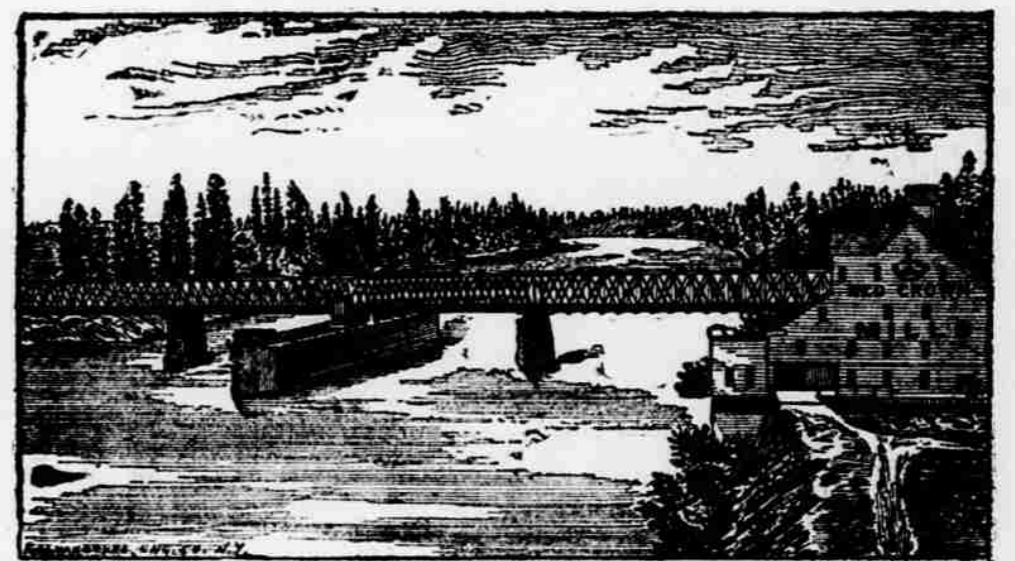
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