THE

SEVENTH CENSUS,

OF THE

UNITED STATES:

1850.

EMBRACING A STATISTICAL VIEW OF EACH OF THE STATES AND TERRITORIES, ARRANGED BY COUNTIES, TOWNS, ETC., UNDER THE FOLLOWING DIVISIONS:

1. POPULATION BY COUNTIES—CLASSIFICATION OF AGES AND COLOR—AGGREGATES.
2. POPULATION BY SUBDIVISIONS OF COUNTIES.
3. NATIVITIES OF THE POPULATION.
4. BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS, DWELLINGS, AND FAMILIES.
5. PROGRESS OF THE POPULATION.
6. DEAF AND DUMB, BLIND, INSANE, AND IDIOTIC.
7. COLLEGES, ACADEMIES, SCHOOLS, &c.
8. ATTENDING SCHOOL DURING YEAR AS RETURNED BY FAMILIES.
9. ADULTS IN THE STATE WHO CANNOT READ AND WRITE.
10. PROFESSIONS, OCCUPATIONS, AND TRADES OF THE MALE POPULATION.
11. AGRICULTURE—FARMS AND IMPLEMENTS, STOCK PRODUCTS, HOME MANUFACTURES, &c.
12. NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS.
13. LIBRARIES OTHER THAN PRIVATE.
14. CHURCHES, CHURCH PROPERTY, &c.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION, EMBRACING THE AGGREGATE TABLES FOR THE UNITED STATES COMPARED WITH EVERY PREVIOUS CENSUS SINCE 1790—SCHEDULES AND LAWS OF CONGRESS RELATING TO THE CENSUS IN THE SAME PERIOD—RATIO TABLES OF INCREASE AND DECREASE OF CITIES AND STATES, ETC., BY SEX AND AGES, AND COLOR—TABLE OF POPULATION OF EVERY COUNTY, TOWN, TOWNSHIP, ETC., IN THE UNITED STATES, ALPHABETICALLY ARRANGED—TOGETHER WITH SOME EXPLANATORY REMARKS, AND

AN APPENDIX,

EMBRACING

NOTES UPON THE TABLES OF EACH OF THE STATES, ETC.

J. D. B. DEBOW,
SUPERINTENDENT OF THE UNITED STATES CENSUS.

WASHINGTON:
ROBERT ARMSTRONG, PUBLIC PRINTER.
1853.
PREPARATION OF THE CENSUS VOLUME.

The following portions of the volume were prepared from the schedules, etc., under the direction of the present Superintendent:

1. The table of Population by Counties, Classification of Ages, etc., in part for Pennsylvania, Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Wisconsin, and Iowa, and a new addition of the tables for all of the States, in which errors are corrected or referred to in the notes.

2. The tables of Population by Subdivisions of Counties for nearly all of the States.

3. The whole of the tables of Nativities, by sex and color. They were prepared before without regard to these distinctions.

4. The tables of Births, Marriages, and Deaths. These were made up from the material for the most part already finished.

5. The whole of the tables showing the Ratio of Population from 1790 to 1850.

6. The whole of the tables of the Deaf, Dumb, Blind, Insane, and Idiotic, for reasons which are explained where these matters are treated of.

7. The whole of the tables of Schools, Colleges, etc.

8. The Occupation tables for New York, New Jersey, Maryland, South Carolina, North Carolina, Florida, Alabama, California, Oregon, Utah, and New Mexico, and the greatest portion of them for Georgia, Pennsylvania, Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky, Michigan, Iowa, and Wisconsin.

9. The whole of the Church Statistics.

10. The tables of Newspapers, Libraries, Agriculture, etc., were arranged anew, and in some cases, on the discovery of errors, corrected.

11. All the aggregate tables relating to the United States, (except the Agricultural,) the alphabetical list of counties, towns, etc., and the material of every kind connected with them, in the introductory part of the volume, and the notes which form the Appendix.

12. The whole preparation and arrangement of the tables for the press, in the forms in which they appear; the adoption of the plan of publication; the correction of proof, etc.

Whatever errors have been discovered in the progress of the work have been corrected, in parts of the edition, in the aggregate tables of the United States, and in the notes at the end of the volume. They are fewer in number than are shown in the errors list appended to the United States Census of 1851. Innumerable errors have been noted or corrected in all of the previous Census publications. Where figures are involved, the chances of error are infinite.
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GENERAL INDEX OF THE VOLUME OF THE CENSUS OF 1850.

[The tables in the introductory part of the volume have all been revised, and the typographical errors discovered in those States, as far as possible, corrected.]

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REMARKS UPON THE SCHEDULES OF 1850, ETC.

The present Census system of the United States is, in many respects, defective. It is very difficult to obtain upon short notice, and for a brief period, an accurate statistical talent in Washington. By the time an office has acquired experience, it is disbanded. The persons selected as enumerators are often poorly trained and returns to be entirely at the discretion of the persons who decide the mode of appointment or the nature of the work. The districts embraced by such enumerators are too large; if practicable, for accuracy, they should be as small as the districts in Great Britain.

In this case, the permanent State and county officers might be trained to form a part of the machinery. It would be well for Congress to recommend the establishment of State Bureaus of Statistics, and rely upon them for all other information that the statistical enumerations of the people. These State Institutions adopting the machinery as part of the machinery, might greatly economize the expense; and, upon condition of their collecting information according to certain forms as required by the Federal Government, or at least their reports, annually or biennially, might be condensed and published with those of the Department in Washington. The reports of foreign consuls could be embodied in the same volume. Information of this sort is indispensable to the National Legislature, and it is every day called for, and the general agitation, and the selection of such a system as first adopt it.

Even since the origin of the Government, Congress has been in the habit of collecting and publishing information relating to the industry and progress of the people, as will be seen in the collection of schedules in this volume.

The schedules which were adopted for 1850 seem to require some remarks. They were framed under the superintendence of a Census Board, with the advice of some of the first statisticians of the country—Mr. Silliman, Dr. Cabot, Dr. Davison, Mr. Cooper, and others. At another time the suggestions of these gentlemen will be referred to, and the points indicated in which their views were adopted or rejected. This experience will be valuable for another Census.

The kind of errors upon the face of the schedules are here noted.

Schedule 1.—Names, dwellings, and families are sometimes found to be duplicated. The name of a man is occasionally checked in the column for females, etc. The occupations are not distinguished in a uniform column. One name of real estate is taken loosely, and induces no confidence. Blanks in the inventory column sometimes extend to whole pages. These blanks were considered in the office to mean that the person was born in the State, as the only probable construction. Frequently, after naming a dozen or more persons born in the State, a person is considered born in another State; then a dozen follow with the usual check, but it is evident that the last belonged to the State of the first mentioned.

In regard to ages the assistant marshals are often entrusted with infants. They emit fractions, and show all to be one year of age, instead of noting the part of the year, etc. On this account some counties include no births within the year.

A few domesticated or taxed Indians are noted in some of the schedules, and are included in the tables of the whites.

It is to be regretted that instructions were not given to separate minutely upon the schedules every village, town, or urban aggregation whatsoever, as the information thus obtained would have been very valuable. This ought to be done hereafter. In the present work many towns of importance are mixed up with the counties, and could not be sequenced. The smaller towns at the South are generally neglected in this way by the enumerators.

Under the head of "Married," a straight mark ( ) is placed opposite the names of the parties. The mark is often put after only one of the names, in such a manner as to produce a doubt if it were not intended for the column of the illiterate, or was not an error of the assistants in noting the names of the parties. Sometimes the names of owners of slaves are duplicated. Slaves resident in the towns are often not distinguished from those merely owned there and resident in the State. This should be remedied in another Census. In or some parts of one county, the actual number of shareholders cannot easily be ascertained, though they may all be given correctly in the schedules of other counties.

Schedule 3.—In another place will be found remarks upon the mortality statistics. The blanks are not filled as generally as they should be by the assistant marshals, even in cases where the deaths are reported by them. Nevertheless, in the opinion of medical statisticians who have examined the Census, the laws have sufficient utility to be published. The Medical Convention of the United States appointed a committee to request the publication from the Congress. Dr. Bent, of New Orleans, who has made the subject of the study of life, and has prepared a large volume of clear data, is a leader in the society of the United States.

"The Mortality Statistics of the city of New Orleans are not correct, nor can they be expected to be correct for any large city, from their fluctuating population and frequent changes of houses and inhabitants, and the errors made by the mystery marshals depends upon their ability of the urban, etc., correctness of the census at another, and they therefore furnish a partial system of the condition of vital statistics, one of the most important objects in the interest of every country or the national health of disease," etc.

Dr. Jarvis, of Massachusetts, in some very valuable and valuable letters to the often the past summer, remarks:

"The only use that can be legitimately made of the statistics of mortality is in the comparison of diseases and ages in different counties, and showing different people. It is deemed probable that a fair average of all the deaths was reported, though they fell short of complete numbers."
INTRODUCTORY LETTER.

Census Office, Washington, November 10, 1853.

To the Hon. R. McClelland, Secretary of the Interior:

I have the honor of submitting to you such of the statistics of the Seventh Decennial Census of the United States, as were ordered to be printed by resolution of the last Congress. They are embraced in a volume, the typographical execution, general appearance, and, I trust I may add, so far as the materials would admit, systematic arrangement and accuracy of which will compare advantageously with any similar official document. The tables, both in the details and in the aggregates, have been carefully prepared as the law required; but not being limited in the number of tables, whether aggregate or comparative, or in the notes necessary to their illustration and explanation, I have not hesitated to incorporate a great many, with such other material relating to the Census system of our own and of foreign countries as would be likely to preserve the experiences of the past and aid us in future enumerations. In this I feel sure of the approval of Congress.

As the charge of completing this extended work was undertaken at your instance, and upon your kindly expression of the opinion that the experience I had acquired in statistics during several years, as an editor and a writer, justified the preference, I am sure I can say, with all honesty and conscientiousness, that in the exercise of the discretion which has been vested in me since my appointment, I have labored assiduously, night and day, denying neither labor nor pains, with the single purpose of working out in the shortest time, at the least expense, and in the most reliable and satisfactory manner, from the multitudinous and often confused materials of the Census, a document of which the country might not be ashamed. I am not hardy enough to suppose that errors have been avoided, for that would be to infer a more than human agency at work in the arrangement of ten or fifteen millions of figures, collected and combined into tables by the labors of so many different persons, during several years, the thousandth part of which it was not possible for me personally to examine. I can say, however, that every agency has been set at work to guard against or to detect these errors, and that he who will assert, whatever his experience, that under the same circumstances he could have done materially better, has only to undertake the charge of an office of the kind for a couple of weeks, with computer and copyist ever at his elbow suggesting difficulties or doubts, and printer clamorous for copy and for proof, to make early and generous recantation of the error. It was important that the volume should be ready by the meeting of Congress: I have secured that result.

The introductory portion of the work would have been much more complete and elaborate had time and the act of Congress not interfered. I have, however, in preparation a variety of additional material calculated to illustrate, confirm, and in some cases controvert the statistics of the Census, gathered from Federal, State, and city reports, foreign documents, and a number of private sources, and will shortly submit them in a supplementary report, which it would be well to publish in a small volume, with the aggregate tables of the present.

Of the sum of $50,936 25 which remained to the credit of the Census when it passed under my control, there remains $23,115 74, sufficient to defray its remaining liabilities, and to prepare for the press the statistics of mortality and of manufactures, should Congress see fit to order their publication, in the shape that I shall in another letter recommend. I am in hopes in the future that this class of information can be collected through the agency of bureaus of statistics established by the State Governments.

In the magnificent progress of the country within the past sixty years, so elaborately shown in this volume, in territory, in population, in industry, and in wealth—beyond all precedent in history, beyond all the dreams of enthusiasts—how much room is there for gratitude and pride in every American heart. With free institutions; with just and equitable laws, meted out with the same hand to the low and to the high; with virtue and intelligence, and energy and industry, co-working harmoniously together—the many constituting one; with power at home and character abroad,—who shall question the future which is before us? The balance-sheet of the past has been made up. The record is presented here.

With high consideration, your obedient servant,

J. D. B. DeBow.
THE BUSINESS, MACHINERY, ETC., OF THE CENSUS OFFICE.

The schedules of the Census of 1850 comprise about 640,000 pages, and will make, when bound, about seven or eight hundred compact volumes. Those of 1840 are embraced in about 350 volumes; of 1830, in 150 volumes. The returns of 1820, 1810, 1800, and 1790, are unbound, and in great confusion. Three thousand reams of medium paper, weighing over 100 tons, were required to print the schedules of the Census of 1850, originals and copies. These were sent by express to the marshals, and by them distributed to their deputies or assistants. They were returned, when completed, to the Census Office by mail; the earliest being received on the 29th of August, 1850, and the latest (California) the 17th February, 1852. In no instance did a return receive any damage in the mails, though a few of them were destroyed by fire in California. The number of marshals was 45; of assistant marshals, 3,231.

The blanks having been prepared in the office, a circular was sent to each marshal, of the date 25th May, 1850, with a copy of the law, requesting him to qualify by taking the oath, and returning it; to appoint his assistants, each, if possible, a resident of the district to which he was assigned; to return the names, post office, and district of each assistant, etc. These returns being received, and the names and oaths recorded, a number of blanks were sent to each marshal, adequate to the supposed wants of his district. Instructions were sent to the assistants, etc. On the receipt of the schedules at the Census Office, they underwent an examination, to ascertain the aggregate number of inhabitants; if the blanks were properly filled up; if they corresponded with the law, and were complete; and if not, that the marshals might be required to supply the deficiencies. A record was kept of the date of the returns, the number of sheets, etc., and the compensation earned, payments, etc. Abstracts were at once made from the returns of the total population, etc. The numerous facts ascertained by the Census were then taken off from the schedules upon the blank forms introduced in another page of this volume, (page xiv,) and afterwards transferred to the State sheets, United States sheets, and copies made, etc.

The average number of persons employed in the Census Office in the last nine months of 1850 was 23. The average number during the years 1851 and 1852 was 128. The average number in January, February, and March, 1853, was 100. The average number from 20th March to 15th November, 1853, was 35.

On the 1st of December, 1851, an abstract report was presented to Congress of the population of the States, except California, with other particulars. On the 1st of December, 1852, a second abstract report was presented to Congress, entering into more details, and embracing the aggregate of States; of Nativities; of Deaf, Dumb, Blind, Insane, and Idiotic; of Churches, etc.; of Agriculture, etc. These reports were published together in a small volume of 100 pages.

On the 15th March, 1853, an entire reorganization of the Census Office took place, under the direction of the present Superintendent.

About the middle of June the printing of the present volume was begun, as early as the printers desired; and about the 20th of November the last form was completed and put to press—three years and five months from the commencement of the Census. The Census of 1850 was published two years after it was taken; that of 1840 one year after. The British Census of March, 1851, after two years and eight months, is but partially published. The French Census, of the same date, has not yet been regularly issued.
INDEX TO ALL OF THE SUBJECTS TREATED OF IN THE STATE TABLES.

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Note: See the Appendix at the end of the work.
CENSUS EXPENDITURE OF THE UNITED STATES.

The following is a statement of the expense incurred in taking the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh Census of the United States, as furnished from the record-books of adjustment of Census accounts, by the Fifth Auditor and the First Comptroller of the Treasury.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CENSUS PERIOD</th>
<th>EXPENSES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FIRST CENSUS, 1790.</td>
<td>$14,377 93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SECOND CENSUS, 1800.</td>
<td>66,160 64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THIRD CENSUS, 1810.</td>
<td>178,444 67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**RECAPITULATION OF THE FOURTH CENSUS, 1820.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expenses of enumerating the inhabitants.</td>
<td>$165,327 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of printing.</td>
<td>11,914 36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporary clerk hire at the Department of State.</td>
<td>1,229 68</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| TOTAL | 298,125 99 |

**RECAPITULATION OF THE FIFTH CENSUS, 1830.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contingent and incidental expenses, consisting of stationery, office furniture, laborers, freight, transportation, binding, and all other expenses not enumerated under other heads.</td>
<td>18,633 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses of enumerating the inhabitants.</td>
<td>325,313 80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of printing.</td>
<td>15,473 32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporary clerk hire at the Department of State.</td>
<td>7,097 19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| TOTAL | 378,545 13 |

**RECAPITULATION OF THE SIXTH CENSUS, 1840.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expenses of enumerating the inhabitants.</td>
<td>$560,629 74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pay of superintendent clerk for the Census, and compensation of the temporary clerks engaged therein.</td>
<td>20,041 95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pay of the agent of the Department of State, in relation to the Census.</td>
<td>1,612 88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses of printing and binding.</td>
<td>184,629 92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of postage.</td>
<td>11,048 08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incidental and contingent expenses, consisting of all sums paid on account of the Census, not included under any of the foregoing heads.</td>
<td>9,769 38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| TOTAL | *633,370 95 |

**RECAPITULATION OF THE SEVENTH CENSUS, 1850.**

(To the 30th September, 1853, and exclusive of the expense of final printing, binding, etc.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Half payments to marshals for enumerating the inhabitants.</td>
<td>$477,923 46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final payments to, do, do, do, do.</td>
<td>470,225 67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payments to marshals, under the act of Congress of 30th August, 1859.</td>
<td>4,352 65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incidental and contingent expenses, consisting of all other payments on account of the Census, not included under any of the foregoing or following heads.</td>
<td>32,983 89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superintendent's compensation.</td>
<td>11,311 43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office rent.</td>
<td>7,101 33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing and binding.</td>
<td>2,473 39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporary clerks.</td>
<td>311,757 39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| TOTAL | 1,318,927 53 |

* A correction in the additions of the Treasury.