THE

SEVENTH CENSU,

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.

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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 errata list appended to the British 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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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 able statistical talent in Washington. By the time an office has acquired experience, it is disbanded. The persons selected as enumerators are often proved, by the returns, to be entirely incompetent, for which, perhaps, the low rate of compensation or the mode of appointment may be assigned as reasons. The districts embraced by each enumerator 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 ought 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 than the decennial enumerations of the people. These State Institutions adopting the machinery at present in operation for assessment purposes, might greatly economise the expense; and, upon condition of their collecting information according to certain forms to be prescribed by the Federal Government, be aided in some shape from the treasury, or at least their reports, annually or biennially, might be condensed and published with those of the Departments at Washington. The reports of foreign consuls could be embraced in the same volume. Information of this sort is indispensable to the National Legislature, and is every day called for in its deliberations. The States would very soon adopt the suggestion, and a beginning is recommended with such as first adopt it.

Ever 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 superintendency of a Census Board, with the advice of some of the first statisticians of the country—Mr. Shattuck, Dr. Chickering, Dr. Jarvis, Mr. Capen, and others. At another time the suggestions of each 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 male is occasionally checked in the column for females, &c. The occupations are not distinguished in a manner calculated to result in any correct conclusions, as will be seen in the notes to the text and in the Appendix. The English system is the only true one. The value of real estate is taken loosely, and induces no confidence. Blanks in the nativity 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 mentioned born in another State; then a dozen follow with the usual check, (″) though it is evident that the last belonged to the State of the first mentioned.

In regard to ages the assistant marshals are often remiss with infants. They omit fractions, and show all to be of one year of age, instead of noting the parts 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 sheets, 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 whatever, 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 separated. 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 name 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 assistant in noting the marriage instead of the persons married. The difficulties in the "Deaf, dumb," etc., blank, are explained in the remarks upon those tables.

Schedule 2.—Sometimes the names of owners of slaves are duplicated. Slaves resident in the towns are often not distinguishable from those merely owned there and resident in the county. This should be remedied in another Census. As the same person may own slaves in different counties or States, or in several parts of one county, the actual number of slaveholders cannot easily be ascertained, though they may all be given correctly in the general population sheets.

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 tables, they have sufficient utility to be published. The *Medical Convention of the United States* appointed a committee to request the publication from Congress. Dr. Barton, of New Orleans, who has made the subject the study of his life, and has prepared many valuable charts illustrative of the mortality of the country, after examining the returns, says, in a letter to the office:

"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 tenants and habitations; for these, the Cemetery Reports of these places could be advantageously substituted. But it is far different in the fixed and permanent population of the country; and there the truth of the returns made by the deputy marshals depends upon the fidelity of the agent, &c.

"From these views my opinion is clearly deducible. The returns are *necessarily imperfect*. Such returns are always unavoidably so at first; but they are to be presumed as correct for one section of the country as another, and they therefore furnish a perfect system of comparison—the *condition of relative salubrity*—one of the most important objects to be attained by such information; but it not only does this—it furnishes a record of the more or less general salubrity. It also enters into detail; it exposes the special liability of each section of our country to particular forms of disease," &c.

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

"The only use that can be legitimately made of the statistics of mortality is the comparison of diseases and ages in different conditions, and among different people. It seems probable that a fair average of all the actual diseases was reported, though they fall short of complete numbers."

Schedules 4, 5, *and* 6 are referred to in the text, or in the notes at the end of the volume. The sixth, entitled "Social Statistics," is in many respects so defective as to have required considerable correspondence with the marshals. On the subject of education much light, it is hoped, will soon be derived from a publication contemplated by the Pennsylvania Teachers' Association, who have sent out a circular to every part of the Union, asking for information upon the following points:

1. The provisions made for establishing a general system of common-school education, and the length of time the schools so established are kept open during the year.
2. The general character of incorporated and other private schools, academies, and seminaries.
3. Parochial or denominational schools.
4. Evening schools for the education of adults.
5. Colleges and universities.
6. Professional schools for the study of divinity, law, or medicine.
7. Peculiar kinds of educational institutions—such as manual-labor schools, female colleges, schools for the blind, for the deaf and dumb, &c.
8. Normal schools, educational societies, and teachers' institutes.
9. Educational periodicals.

In regard to all kinds of institutions enumerated above, it is desirable to know their number, and also the number of their instructors and students, the average compensation received by the instructors, and the average expenses, if any, of the students.

At the close of the mortality returns of the counties, the assistant marshals, etc., have in most cases made some general remarks upon the topographical features of the section, its geology, healthfulness, etc This information, whether valuable or not, has not been examined or used. In connexion with it there are on file in the office letters from most of the geologists of the United States, giving very interesting particulars in regard to surveys, etc. These letters were courteously written at the request of the present Superintendent, and will be of great use should the mining statistics be published hereafter with the manufacturing.

If the statistics of mortality and of manufactures are published, it is recommended that the following items be included, which will require several tables: For the deaths, the county, disease, age, sex, color, and condition; nativity of the party; occupation; time of death; and duration of sickness. For manufactures, the capital employed, the kind of power, the persons employed, and the product. Capital invested, material used, average wages were returned in such a manner as to lead to great confusion, and, being of less importance, might be omitted.

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 160. 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 160 pages.

On the 18th 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 1830 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.

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TENNESSEE.....	564	574	575	575	577	577	577	581	582	584	584	591	591	592	.....
TEXAS.....	494	504	505	505	506	507	507	511	512	513	514	520	521	522	.....
UTAH.....	988	995	996	997	998	998	999	1002	1003	1004	1006	1011	.....	1012	.....
VERMONT.....	32	34	36	36	37	37	37	39	39	40	41	43	43	44	.....
VIRGINIA.....	242	258	258	259	261	261	262	268	270	272	273	283	283	285	.....
WISCONSIN.....	914	918	925	925	925	926	926	928	929	929	930	933	933	934	.....

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.

FIRST CENSUS, 1790.		
Aggregate expense		$44,377 28
SECOND CENSUS, 1800.		
Aggregate expense		66,109 04
THIRD CENSUS, 1810.		
Aggregate expense		178,444 67
RECAPITULATION OF THE FOURTH CENSUS, 1820.		
Expenses of enumerating the inhabitants	$195,357 56	
of printing	11,014 35	
of postages	1,229 08	
Temporary clerk hire at the Department of State	925 00	208,525 99
RECAPITULATION OF THE FIFTH CENSUS, 1830.		
Contingent and incidental expenses, consisting of stationery, office furniture, laborers, freight, transportation, binding, and all other expenses not enumerated under other heads	18,633 69	
Expenses of enumerating the inhabitants	322,343 00	
of printing	18,473 32	
of postages	7,097 79	
Temporary clerk hire at the Department of State	11,997 33	378,545 13
RECAPITULATION OF THE SIXTH CENSUS, 1840.		
Expenses of enumerating the inhabitants	586,628 74	
Pay of superintending clerk for the Census, and compensation of the temporary clerks engaged thereon	39,681 95	
Pay of the agent of the Department of State, in relation to the Census	1,612 88	
Expenses of printing and binding	184,629 92	
of postages	11,048 08	
incidental and contingent, consisting of all sums paid on account of the Census, not included under any of the foregoing heads	9,769 38	*833,370 95
RECAPITULATION OF THE SEVENTH CENSUS, 1850.		
(*To the 30th September, 1853, and exclusive of the expense of final printing, binding, etc.*)		
Half payments to marshals for enumerating the inhabitants	477,923 46	
Final payments to...do.....do.....do	470,225 07	
Payments to marshals, under the act of Congress of 30th August, 1850	4,252 65	
Incidental and contingent expenses, consisting of all other payments on account of the Census, not included under any of the foregoing or following heads	32,983 89	
Superintendent's compensation	11,311 43	
Office rent	7,101 26	
Printing and binding	2,472 38	
Temporary clerks	311,757 39	1,318,027 53

* A correction in the additions of the Treasury.