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# STATISTICS

OF

# BLIND, DEAF AND DUMB, INSANE, AND IDIOTIC.

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NOTE.—In Tables X, XII, XIV, XVI, and XVIII the several classes of unfortunates appear in the numbers in which they are found by the assistant marshals in each State and Territory at the date of enumeration. Tables XI, XIII, XV, and XVII exhibit the numbers of each class born in each State and Territory wherever residing at the date of enumeration.

## REMARKS

UPON THE

# STATISTICS OF THE BLIND, DEAF AND DUMB, INSANE, AND IDIOTIC.

### TABLES X TO XIX.

It is held by many persons conversant with the special subject, that the returns of the census in respect to the blind and the deaf and dumb, and also, in a higher degree, to the insane and the idiotic, are always, and necessarily, considerably below the fact. F. B. Sanborn, Esq., of Massachusetts, late secretary of the board of charities for that commonwealth, has advanced the opinion that the numbers reported in the census, be it State or National, rarely embrace more than sixty or seventy per cent. of their respective classes.

The Superintendent certainly can claim not to be bigoted in his defense of the accuracy of the census as taken under existing laws, nor does he desire to exhibit a disposition to close, were it in his power, the discussion of this question by a dogmatic denial of the charge of large omissions in the returns of the Afflicted Classes of our population at the census.

It is fair to say, however, that the opinion referred to would appear to have been formed, in advance of anything like a general and systematic investigation, from *impressions* derived from casual observation or partial inquiry, and therefore to have hardly authority enough to withstand positive official statements.

Up to the time the following tables were sent to press, the sole attempt, known to the Superintendent, which had been made to supply absolute data by which to test the results of the census in this particular, was in Massachusetts, where a list, bearing a somewhat indefinite date, but formed between the State census of 1865 and the Federal census of 1870, had been prepared, of the deaf and dumb of the commonwealth.

This list contains an aggregate of 821 names. Examination, however, shows that while, for two or three years, names were added, from time to time, to complete it, only 18 names were, during that time, stricken from the roll, as lost by death or by removal from the State. Of course, among so large a number as 821, the casualties for such a period could not but have been far more numerous. It would certainly be fair to assume a rate of mortality among the Afflicted Classes not below that of the community generally, after excluding infants of an age too early to allow such infirmities as are being considered to become developed and recognized.

Still further scrutiny of the list shows that the actual statement of the individual case in no small proportion of instances fails to bear out the title of the list itself. Thus, of the total of 821 persons, only 692 are distinctly and in terms put down as "deaf and dumb," while 41 appear as "dumb," 14 as "mute," 73 as "deaf," and 1 simply as "idiotic."

The Superintendent does not take the responsibility of saying that none of the persons reported as "mute" or as "dumb," or even of the larger number reported under the more questionable title of "deaf," were not deaf-mutes or deaf and dumb; but it is certainly fair to demand, in a list prepared solely with a view to this single consideration, something like accuracy of definition; and if accuracy of definition cannot be attained in so simple a matter, what reason to expect accuracy of description?

But the reductions above indicated are not the only ones to which this list must be subjected before it can fairly be put in comparison with the census returns of Massachusetts for 1860 and 1870. From entries in red ink, it appears that 117 names were added to the list, on account of the deaf and dumb of Massachusetts, found in 1867 among the inmates of the asylum for the deaf and dumb at Hartford, Connecticut. But by the census law the pupils of the Hartford asylum are required to be returned on the schedules for Connecticut, as having their "usual place of

abode" therein; and, as a matter of fact, 118 persons, deaf and dumb, born in Massachusetts, were returned by the proper assistant marshal of Hartford, on the 1st of June, 1870, and will be found in the following tables. If, therefore, the 117, added as above to the Massachusetts list, be subtracted from the total number who were distinctly and in terms reported to the State board of charities as "deaf and dumb," we shall have but 575 who were, at any date that may be taken as the date of the list, whether 1866, 1867, or 1868, fairly subject to enumeration within the State of Massachusetts, according to the conditions of the census law. The number returned by the assistant marshals to the Census Office, on the 1st of June, 1870, was 538. The difference would be easily accounted for by the failure, already indicated, to follow up on the State list the changes from death or removal; and were this cause not sufficient, it would neither be an unfair nor a violent assumption that a list thus prepared by piecemeal, and exhibiting so much looseness both of definition and construction, might contain other important errors which would need to be corrected before the positive count of the census could be discredited through its instrumentality.

Since the following tables were sent to press, this office has received, by favor of the secretary of the Illinois State board of charities, the lists, prepared for or by that board, of the insane and the idiotic of that State. The list of idiotic has not been examined for the purposes of these remarks; but the list of insane has been subjected to a careful comparison with the returns of the census, name by name. This comparison exhibits such an utter want of correspondence, at nearly every point, as not only renders criticism impossible, but is, in itself, wholly inexplicable. The list of the board of charities contains 2,376 names. Eighty-eight might be deducted on various accounts: duplication, 41, death, 14, recovery of reason, 31, and removal from the State, 2. In addition to the above, 6 are characterized as "idiotic," 32 are indicated by remarks as "probably recovered," "friends feel hopeful," &c., and 24 are marked "declined," which word is supposed to refer to the action of those in charge of asylums and to justify a doubt as to the fact of insanity. But after all reasonable allowance on these accounts, there would probably remain something like 2,250 insane persons in Illinois, by the count of the State board of charities. Only 1,621 insane persons were returned by the assistant marshals in the census, leaving the difference unaccounted for. Upon the mere statement of such a difference, it might reasonably be assumed that the assistant marshals of Illinois had failed to properly characterize, as insane, persons otherwise reported upon their schedules. But a critical examination of the two lists and a comparison of names dispose of this assumption and leave the difference wholly inexplicable, except upon the ground of radical and total vice in one or the other of the two lists being compared. Out of the total number of 2,376 names on the State list and 1,621 names on the census list, only 721 are found to be common to the two lists. Thus the State list contains 1,655 names which are not on the census, while the census contains 900 names which are not upon the State list. In the view of such monstrous discrepancies, it would be reasonable to assume that, inasmuch as the returns of the census are made by sworn officials visiting each house and family by turn, while the list of the State board of charities would appear to have been made up by no class of officials, and even by no distinct class of persons, the board must have been imposed upon, either through negligence or design on the part of its correspondents. This, which would appear to be the natural presumption upon the first statement of such discrepancies, is confirmed and rendered almost certain by the results of a careful search which has been instituted with a view to ascertaining whether the names of persons appearing on the State list as "insane" but not returned as such by assistant marshals, are to be found at all, in any connection, upon the schedules of the census, which, it should be stated, purport to present the name and personal description of every man, woman, and child in the community. Three hundred and ninety-nine names thus borne upon the State list as "insane," belonging to one hundred and twenty-three towns and cities, were sought for throughout the entire body of the returns of their respective towns, covering a population of about half a million. Of this number only forty-five were found reported, as of any condition, on the schedules; and, in a considerable proportion of cases, no family of the same surname was found within the town to which the State list assigned the person for whose name search was made.

When, in contrast to facts like the above, it is stated that the census as an agency, whether State or National, is always steadily consistent with itself in respect to the numbers of the Afflicted Classes, never departing far from the ratios exhibited in the following tables, it must, the Superintendent thinks, be admitted that the figures of the census are entitled to full credence, until impeached by evidence more carefully and systematically gathered than any yet presented.

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TABLE X.

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SUMMARY BY CLASSES,

WITH

RACE AND SEX.

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STATISTICS OF THE BLIND, DEAF AND DUMB, ETC.

TABLE X.—SUMMARY BY CLASSES.

[NOTE.—W, White; B, Black; M, Mulletto; C, Chinese; I, Indian.]

STATES AND TERRITORIES.	BLIND.												DEAF AND DUMB.															
	Aggregate.	Total.		W.		B.		M.		C.		I.		Aggregate.	Total.		W.		B.		M.		I.					
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.				
Total United States	20,320	11,343	8,977	9,640	7,320	1,518	1,448	166	189	4	.....	15	14	16,205	8,916	7,289	8,206	6,701	613	495	93	90	4	3				
Total States	20,011	11,149	8,862	9,477	7,240	1,495	1,427	158	183	4	...	15	12	15,983	8,780	7,203	8,087	6,626	600	487	89	88	4	2				
Alabama	611	344	267	192	156	139	101	13	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	401	205	196	130	132	72	56	3	8	.....	.....				
Arkansas	333	166	107	131	139	32	24	3	3	.....	.....	.....	1	265	142	123	131	105	9	16	3	2	.....	.....				
California	179	129	59	113	56	.....	2	.....	1	4	.....	3	.....	141	79	62	79	60	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....				
Connecticut	252	138	114	129	132	5	2	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	475	267	208	264	206	3	1	.....	1	.....	.....				
Delaware	68	26	42	17	25	9	16	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	61	34	27	29	25	5	2	.....	.....	.....	.....				
Florida	88	45	43	24	14	18	28	3	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	48	29	19	20	12	8	3	1	4	.....	.....				
Georgia	740	376	304	217	199	157	154	2	11	.....	.....	.....	.....	326	168	158	117	120	42	34	8	4	1	.....	.....			
Illinois	1,042	599	443	595	439	3	4	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	833	484	349	479	344	4	5	1	.....	.....	.....	.....			
Indiana	991	541	450	521	441	15	7	5	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	872	467	405	462	403	2	.....	2	2	1	.....	.....			
Iowa	465	268	197	267	195	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	549	315	234	314	234	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....			
Kansas	128	69	59	53	49	12	9	2	1	.....	.....	2	.....	121	72	49	68	46	3	.....	.....	3	1	.....	.....			
Kentucky	978	515	463	412	367	83	70	19	17	.....	.....	1	.....	723	365	358	320	314	39	31	6	13	.....	.....	.....	.....		
Louisiana	447	262	185	113	65	134	95	15	25	.....	.....	.....	.....	197	105	92	81	73	20	13	4	6	.....	.....	.....	.....		
Maine	324	207	117	206	117	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	299	158	141	158	141	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		
Maryland	427	219	208	171	152	43	48	5	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	384	229	155	191	120	28	29	10	6	.....	.....	.....	.....		
Massachusetts	761	432	329	422	322	8	3	2	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	532	303	235	300	233	2	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		
Michigan	418	262	156	251	148	.....	2	3	1	.....	.....	8	5	455	258	197	258	196	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....		
Minnesota	103	59	44	59	44	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	166	99	67	90	66	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		
Mississippi	474	254	220	121	91	122	119	11	8	.....	.....	.....	2	245	145	100	82	52	56	45	6	3	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Missouri	904	503	431	457	340	42	54	4	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	790	389	401	366	385	19	14	4	2	.....	.....	.....	.....		
Nebraska	22	12	10	12	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	55	22	33	22	33	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Nevada	4	2	2	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	2	2	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
New Hampshire	200	118	88	118	85	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	170	92	78	92	78	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
New Jersey	317	178	139	160	125	12	12	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	231	125	106	122	100	3	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
New York	2,213	1,295	918	1,273	895	22	22	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1,783	984	799	979	789	5	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
North Carolina	835	429	406	270	270	147	119	12	14	.....	.....	.....	3	619	358	261	257	185	89	62	12	14	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Ohio	1,366	772	594	746	572	20	18	6	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,330	709	630	700	623	5	3	4	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Oregon	35	23	12	22	12	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23	13	10	13	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Pennsylvania	1,767	1,022	745	908	724	17	19	7	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,433	777	656	775	650	2	4	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Rhode Island	121	66	55	63	51	3	2	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	64	40	24	38	24	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
South Carolina	451	232	219	95	93	131	117	6	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	212	118	94	67	55	45	34	6	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Tennessee	870	444	432	353	313	77	109	14	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	570	304	266	250	226	48	39	6	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Texas	404	229	175	157	117	62	52	9	6	.....	.....	1	.....	232	146	86	121	64	23	21	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Vermont	189	123	66	123	66	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	148	78	70	78	70	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Virginia	895	455	440	272	214	175	192	8	34	.....	.....	.....	.....	534	298	236	223	178	65	52	10	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
West Virginia	168	95	73	87	60	5	13	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	218	125	93	124	90	1	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Wisconsin	409	249	160	249	160	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	459	276	183	276	183	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total Territories	300	194	115	163	80	23	21	8	6	.....	.....	.....	2	222	136	86	119	75	13	8	4	2	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	
Arizona	1	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Colorado	26	18	8	18	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	1	3	1	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dakota	5	3	2	3	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	2	2	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
District of Columbia	78	43	35	12	8	23	21	8	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	134	62	42	76	32	13	8	3	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Idaho	4	2	2	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Montana	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	1	4	1	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New Mexico	159	104	55	104	53	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	48	30	18	30	18	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Utah	20	17	12	17	12	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	18	4	14	4	14	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Washington	5	4	1	4	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	3	3	3	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wyoming	2	2	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

NOTE.—In the above are included 493 persons having a double or treble affliction or infirmity. The details of such double or treble afflictions are given in Table XIX. When these separations shall have been made, the result will be as follows:

	Cases.	Persons.		Cases.	Persons.
(1) Number who are simply blind	20,026	20,026	Number who are simply deaf and dumb	15,292	15,292
(2) Number who are blind and also deaf and dumb	96	96	(7) Number who are deaf and dumb, and also insane	59	59
(3) Number who are blind and also insane	75	75	(8) Number who are deaf and dumb, and also idiotic	140	140
(4) Number who are blind and also idiotic	105	105	Number who are deaf and dumb, and included in (2), (5), and (6)	114	.....
(5) Number who are blind, deaf and dumb, and also insane	7	7			
(6) Number who are blind, deaf and dumb, and also idiotic	11	11			
Making the total under the head of "blind".....	20,320	20,320	Making the total under the head of "deaf and dumb".....	16,205	16,091

STATISTICS OF THE BLIND, DEAF AND DUMB, ETC.

TABLE X.—SUMMARY BY CLASSES—Continued.

[NOTE.—W, White; B, Black; M, Mulatto; C, Chinese; I, Indian.]

STATES AND TERRITORIES.	INSANE.												IDIOTIC.													
	Aggregate.	Total.		W.		B.		M.		C.		I.		Aggregate.	Total.		W.		B.		M.		C.		I.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Total United States.....	37432	18219	19213	17424	18186	976	929	79	90	31	4	9	4	24527	12485	10042	12574	8750	1632	1111	270	173	4	1	5	5
Total States.....	36836	17811	19025	17045	18018	650	915	78	84	31	4	7	4	24395	12406	9989	12519	8705	1612	1107	266	172	4	1	5	4
Alabama.....	555	275	280	240	191	33	84	2	5					721	418	303	236	189	165	109	17	5				
Arkansas.....	161	78	83	66	71	12	11						1	289	181	108	146	78	30	27	5	3				
California.....	1146	835	311	789	304	15	2			29	4	2	1	87	56	31	48	39	2		1	1	4	1	1	
Connecticut.....	772	356	416	349	411	5	2	1	2				1	341	191	150	185	148	3	2	3					
Delaware.....	65	36	20	34	24	2	5							69	39	30	28	20	11	10						
Florida.....	29	15	14	10	8	4	6						1	100	55	45	34	29	20	12	1	4				
Georgia.....	634	309	325	253	252	50	72	0	1					871	438	383	294	223	185	149	9	11				
Illinois.....	1625	794	831	790	825	4	4		2					1244	754	490	744	484	7	3	9	2				1
Indiana.....	1504	748	756	739	747	6	4	3	5					1360	700	573	785	561	2	5	3	4				
Iowa.....	742	378	364	378	364									533	316	217	310	217								
Kansas.....	131	67	64	64	64	3								109	64	45	60	39	4	3	2					1
Kentucky.....	1245	672	573	628	515	40	56	4	2					1141	670	471	540	397	100	60	24	14				
Louisiana.....	451	220	231	168	135	47	65	5	11					266	185	101	97	42	72	46	16	13				
Maine.....	792	359	433	359	432		1							622	371	257	370	257	1							
Maryland.....	733	368	365	331	331	36	32	1	2					362	218	144	146	93	60	42	12	9				
Massachusetts.....	2662	1238	1424	1229	1413	7	11	2						778	494	284	490	284	3	2	1	1				
Michigan.....	814	376	418	374	435	2	3							613	377	236	373	233			1	3	2			1
Minnesota.....	302	158	144	154	144	3						1		134	79	55	79	55								
Mississippi.....	245	118	127	82	71	31	55	5	1					485	295	190	146	93	130	88	18	9				1
Missouri.....	1263	616	647	599	618	15	27	2	2					779	442	337	396	303	32	30	13	4				1
Nebraska.....	22	17	11	17	11									25	19	6	19	6								
Nevada.....	2	1	1	1	1									2	1	1	1	1								
New Hampshire.....	548	233	315	233	315									325	198	127	198	127								
New Jersey.....	918	407	511	401	500	6	11							438	250	180	246	171	8	8	2	1				
New York.....	4353	2707	3646	2678	3595	28	59					1	1	2486	1387	1099	1379	1083	7	15	1	1				
North Carolina.....	779	380	399	335	335	40	57	5	7					970	558	418	375	290	163	116	20	12				
Ohio.....	3414	1612	1802	1584	1757	24	41	4	4					2338	1345	993	1209	972	29	15	17	6				
Oregon.....	122	83	39	78	38	1	1	2		2				55	30	19	35	19			1					
Pennsylvania.....	3895	1944	1951	1904	1906	37	38	3	7					2250	1355	895	1330	877	14	14	5	4				
Rhode Island.....	312	141	171	141	170		1							123	76	47	73	46	3	1						
South Carolina.....	333	158	175	127	111	20	00	2	4					465	279	186	174	111	98	68	7	7				
Tennessee.....	925	450	475	402	404	43	64	5	7					1091	624	467	409	363	136	89	19	15				
Texas.....	270	129	141	104	107	21	32	4	2					451	291	160	180	93	100	53	11	12				2
Vermont.....	721	350	371	348	371	1		1						325	213	112	213	112								
Virginia.....	1125	595	530	475	393	99	117	20	20				1	1130	691	439	428	280	212	131	51	28				
West Virginia.....	374	198	176	192	173	5	3	1						427	266	161	254	151	0	8	3	2				
Wisconsin.....	840	390	456	389	456	1								560	328	232	327	232								1
Total Territories.....	596	408	488	379	468	26	14	1	6			2		132	79	53	55	45	20	4	4	3				1
Arizona.....	1	1		1																						
Colorado.....	12	7	5	7	5									3	2	1	2	1								
Dakota.....	3	2	1	2	1									3	1	2	1	2								
District of Columbia.....	479	341	138	312	118	26	14	1	6			2		50	38	12	15	5	20	4	3	3				
Idaho.....	1	1		1										1		1										
Montana.....	2	1	1	1	1									1		1										
New Mexico.....	50	28	22	28	22									40	25	21	24	20			1					1
Utah.....	25	10	15	10	15									23	10	13	10	13								
Washington.....	23	17	6	17	6									5	3	2	3	2								
Wyoming.....																										

Number who are simply insane.....	Cases.	Persons.
Number who are insane and also included in (3), (5), and (7).....	37,291	37,291
	141	
Making the total under the head of "insane".....	37,432	37,291

Number who are simply idiotic.....	Cases.	Persons.
Number who are idiotic, and also included in (4), (6), and (8).....	24,271	24,271
	256	
Making the total under the head of "idiotic".....	24,527	24,271
Total of all classes.....	98,484	97,973

The difference of 511 is therefore accounted for as follows:

Number twice included.....	Persons.	Repetitions.
Number three times included.....	475	475
	18	36
Total.....	493	511