



VOTE OF CENSURE DEBATE: SCENE IN THE LOBBY OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

**THE GROWTH OF CHRISTIANITY.**

In the year 1500 the population of Europe was 100,000,000. The Roman Catholics numbered 80,000,000, and the remaining 20,000,000 comprised adherents of the Greek Church, Mohammedans, and Jews. There were no Protestants—or none to speak of. Three hundred and eighty years later, or in 1880, there were in Europe,

Roman Catholics	...	...	...	159,315,155
Greek and Eastern	...	...	...	81,148,062
Protestants	...	...	...	76,688,882
Mohammedans	...	...	...	5,309,989
Jews	...	...	...	4,515,425
Not classified	...	...	...	524,487
				327,502,000

The religious statistics of the United States show the increase of the entire population, and of the Protestants and Roman Catholics, at four different times—viz., 1800, 1850, 1870, and 1880. The data of the Roman Catholics are taken from their own authorities, and the Protestant data are compiled from the reports of the several religious denominations.

In the year 1800 there were,

Protestants	...	...	...	1,277,052
Roman Catholics	...	...	...	100,000
Unclassified	...	...	...	3,928,873
<b>Total population</b>				<b>5,305,925</b>

In the year 1850 there were,

Protestants	...	...	...	12,723,158
Roman Catholics	...	...	...	1,614,000
Unclassified	...	...	...	8,854,718
<b>Total population</b>				<b>23,191,876</b>

In the year 1870 there were,

Protestants	...	...	...	24,041,486
Roman Catholics	...	...	...	4,600,000
Unclassified	...	...	...	9,916,885
<b>Total population</b>				<b>38,558,371</b>

In the year 1880 there were,

Protestants	...	...	...	36,031,974
Roman Catholics	...	...	...	6,367,090
Unclassified	...	...	...	7,753,892

**Total population** ... .. 50,152,866

It will be noticed that between the years 1870 and 1880 the number of "unclassified," including Indians, Mormons, Chinese, Jews, and infidels, decreased by more than two millions.

**NATIONAL DEBT (CONVERSION OF STOCK).**

By the National Debt (Conversion of Stock) Act, 1884, the Bank of England was authorised, in October, 1884, to convert the Three per Cent Annuities, Reduced Three per Cent Annuities, and New Three per Cent Annuities, either into Two Pounds Fifteen Shillings per Cent Annuities, or into Two Pounds Ten Shillings per Cent Annuities, at the following rates—that is to say, for every £100 of Three per Cent Annuities either £102 of Two Pounds Fifteen Shillings per Cent Annuities, or £108 of Two Pounds Ten Shillings per Cent Annuities, and so in proportion for any less sum of such Annuities.

The dividends on the Two Pounds Fifteen Shillings per Cent Annuities, and Two Pounds Ten Shillings per Cent Annuities, are payable quarterly, and are due on Jan. 5, April 5, July 5, and Oct. 5.

The Two Pounds Fifteen Shillings per Cent Annuities and Two Pounds Ten Shillings per Cent Annuities, into which Three per Cent Annuities are converted, will not be redeemable until Jan. 5, 1905, but on and after that date will be redeemable by Parliament after not less than one month's notice, in terms provided by the Act, at the rate of £100 sterling for every £100 of the capital sum in respect of which the annuities are payable, together with the payment of all arrears of such Annuities, including a proportionate part accrued since the last date for the payment of dividends, in amounts of not less than £5,000,000 Capital Stock of Two Pounds Fifteen Shillings per Cent Annuities and £14,000,000 of Two Pounds Ten Shillings per Cent Annuities.

**UNPRECEDENTED PRICE OF WHEAT, 1884.**

In September, 1884, wheat sold at a price averaging 35s. 1d. per quarter. This is the lowest weekly average recorded since official returns have been made. In one week of 1835 the price of wheat was as low as 36s. 8d. per quarter, and in October, 1851, it was sold at 35s. 6d. It was expected the average price of the year 1884 would be the lowest on record. The Sussex farmers in September sold their new red wheat at 30s. per quarter.