

Facts and Figures

Total Population, 1861 | 396 000

Largest Cities by Population, 1861

Toronto	56 000
Hamilton	26 700
Ottawa	21 500
London	15 826
Kingston	12 400
Brantford	8 100

How People Make a Living

The largest part of the population is engaged in farming. In the cities, in 1861, the main occupations are:

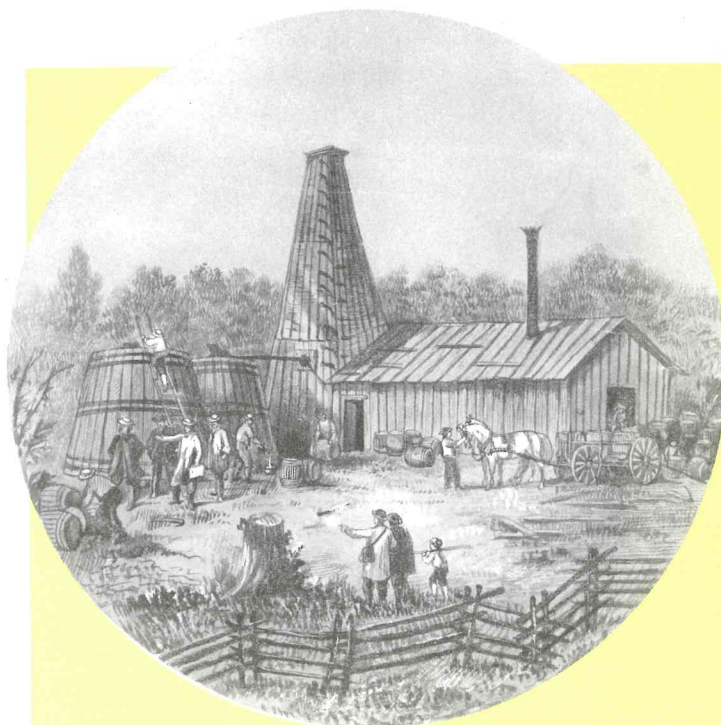
clerks	booksellers
carpenters	bankers
saddlers	grocers
brewers	hotel-keepers
shoemakers	preachers
blacksmiths	

Railways

The St. Lawrence River has no year-round ice-free port. For half of the year, goods must be transported on American railways through American territory. A railway to Halifax through Canada East, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia will provide an all-British route for trade and defence. Railway building is booming in Canada West in the 1860s.

Defence

There is the possibility that the Fenians will attack along the Canadian-American border in the Niagara region and around Prescott on the St. Lawrence River.



Oil! One of the most important new industries in Canada West is petroleum. James M. Williams is developing North America's first oil well at Oil Springs during the late 1850s. In 1862, oil is discovered at nearby Petrolia. Hugh Shaw hits the first free-flowing gusher. Oil flows out at the rate of 2000 barrels a day and brings a price of \$10 a barrel. Kerosene made from the oil is used in lamps. Asphalt is made for paving streets.

Fathers of Confederation

John A. Macdonald	1815-1891
George Brown	1818-1880
William McDougall	1822-1905
Alexander Campbell	1822-1892
Oliver Mowat	1820-1903
James Cockburn	1819-1883
William P. Howland	1811-1907