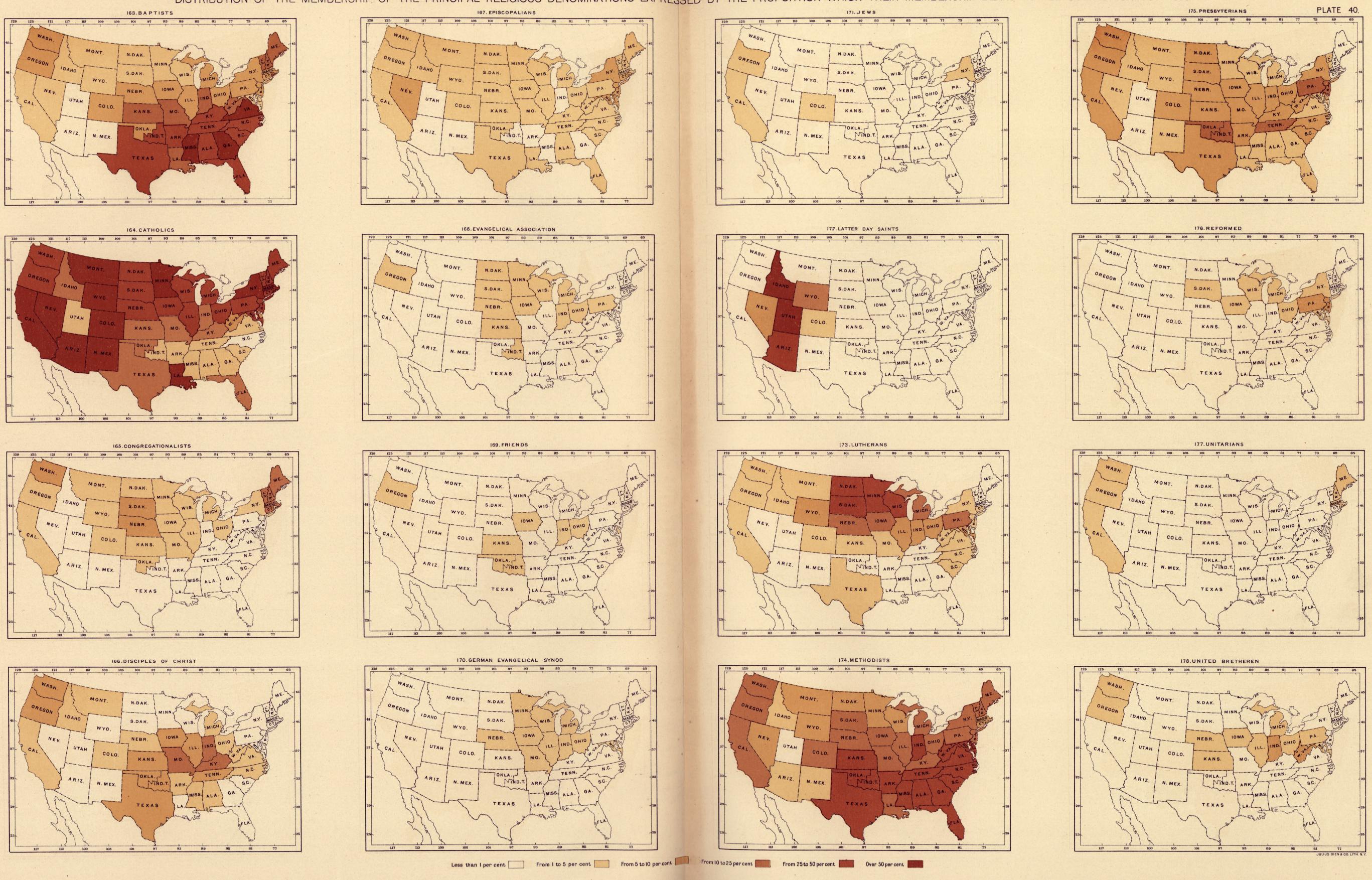


162. PROPORTION OF THE EPISCOPALIANS TO THE AGGREGATE POPULATION: 1890.





## CHURCH MEMBERSHIP.

The total number of church communicants in the country was 20,612,806, which is 32.92 per cent of the total population. In other words, about one-third of the population is returned as communicants of churches. These are distributed among the leading sects, as indicated in Diagram 151, plate 33. The 3 leading sects are Catholics, Methodists, and Baptists, which collectively comprise nearly three-fourths of all the communicants in the country. Diagram 150 shows the proportion which the number of communicants in the several states bears to the total population of those states. It appears that the 3 territories of New Mexico, Utah, and Arizona have the largest proportions. This is due in New Mexico and Arizona to the Spanish Catholic population, and in Utah to the Mormon population. Following these are South Carolina, Rhode Island, North Carolina, Massachusetts, and Connecticut. In the Carolinas this large proportion is due, in a measure, to the great proportion of negroes, nearly all of whom are Methodists or Baptists; in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Connecticut to the French-Canadian and Irish elements. The smallest proportions are in the far western states and territories.

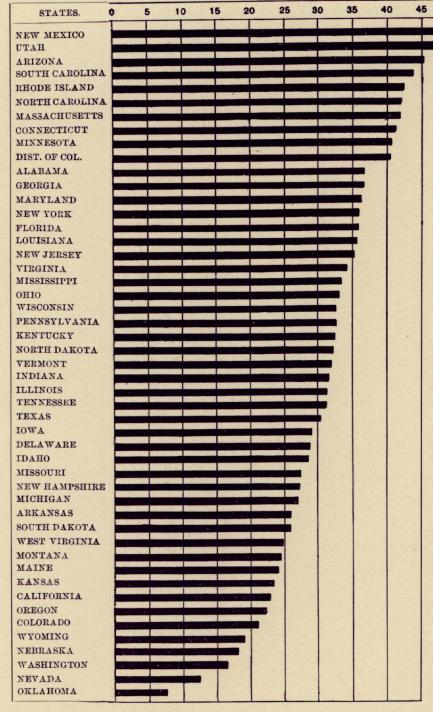
Map 152, plate 34, shows the distribution of church communicants areally. It represents the proportion which the number of communicants of all denominations bears to the population.

Diagram 153 shows the numerical strength of the several denominations in the different states. The Catholics are the strongest in New York; next to that in Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Illinois. The Methodists are strongest in North Carolina and Georgia, and the Baptists in the same states. Indeed, the principal strength of this denomination is in the southern states.

Diagram 154, plate 35, shows the proportion by denominations in which the church membership of each state is composed. Thus nine-tenths of the communicants in Alabama are either Methodists or Baptists. In Arizona they are nearly all either Catholics or Mormons. In Utah nearly all are Mormons. In New Mexico nearly all are Catholics.

150. PERCENTAGE OF CHURCH MEMBERS IN THE AGGREGATE POPULATION, BY STATES AND TERRITORIES: 1890.

[Per cent.]



The maps numbered 155 to 162, plates 36 to 39, show the distribution of the communicants of the leading denominations over the United States, expressed in the form of the proportion between the number of communicants and the total population.

The Catholics, the largest religious body in the country, are widely dispersed, being derived from several sources and different nationalities. Their greatest strength is in New England and New York, where they are composed mainly of Irish immigrants and their descendants and of French Canadians. Again, they are quite strong in the states bordering the Great Lakes, where they are mainly made up of French Canadians. In Maryland and the District of Columbia is an element of notable magnitude, composed mainly of the descendants of early settlers. In Louisiana, where they are very strong, they are composed of the descendants of the original French and Spanish settlers, and in Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona their strength comes from the Mexican blood found in those states and territories.

The Methodists are next in numerical strength to the Catholics. While they are widely dispersed, their greatest strength is in the southern states. The Baptists are the third in number, and while well distributed over the country, their greatest strength by far is in the southern states.

The Presbyterians are found in greatest strength in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Ohio, and thence westward. The Lutherans are a German denomination, which follows the distribution of that nationality, being found in considerable strength in the northern states of the Mississippi valley. The Christians are widely distributed over the United States, but especially in the Mississippi valley.

The series of small maps numbered 163 to 178, plate 40, show by states the proportion between the membership of the 16 leading denominations, severally, and the total church membership.

