

VICTORIAN YEAR-BOOK

FOR

1875

(THIRD YEAR OF ISSUE)

BY

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P R E F A C E ,

THE present Year-Book contains less matter than its predecessor, the reason being that it is published without the introductory chapters which, on the last occasion, were written specially for the work at the request of the Victorian Commissioners to the Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia, who desired to circulate, throughout the United States of America, a handy sized volume containing reliable information respecting this colony.*

The digest of the Statistics, which forms the bulk of the present work, will be found to be more comprehensive than that given in previous Year-Books. Not only have the statistical records of this colony been as exhaustively dealt with as time and space would permit, but figures relating to the other Australasian colonies have also been given for the purpose of affording means of judging of the progress, condition, resources, and comparative importance of each colony.

The folding sheet which was placed at the commencement of former Year-Books has been altered by the removal of the columns relating to agricultural statistics, to which subject a second sheet has been exclusively devoted. The space thus vacated has been filled with other returns of interest, the chief being a summary of the imports and exports of breadstuffs during each year since the first settlement of Port Phillip, and statements respecting railways, waterworks, friendly societies, and criminals.

* Copies of the *Victorian Year-Book*, 1874 (Notes on the Colony of Victoria) can still be obtained from the Government Printer, or from booksellers in Melbourne.

In addition to these, a third sheet has been introduced, containing a summary of the statistics of each Australasian colony during the three years ended with 1875.

As in former years, thoughtful care has been exercised to ensure accuracy, to which end every portion of the work has been diligently checked by officers in this department. If, nevertheless, errors should be found, the discoverer will confer a favor by notifying the same to me at this office.

HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER,
Government Statist.

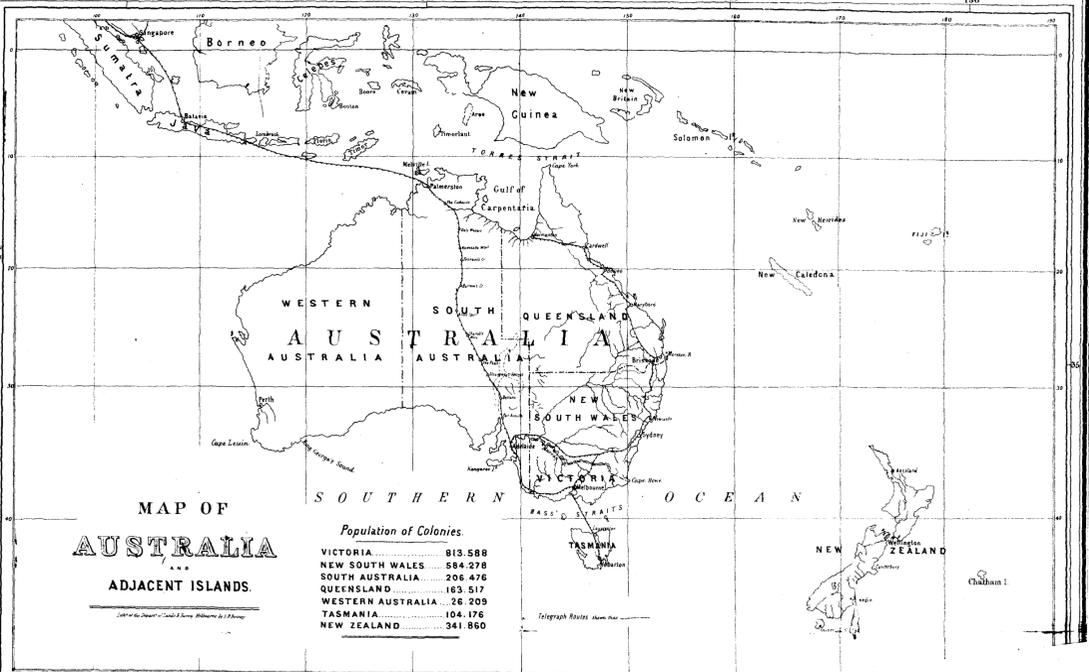
Office of the Government Statist,
Melbourne, 5th October 1876.

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VICTORIA

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DIGEST OF THE CONTENTS

OF THE

STATISTICAL REGISTER OF VICTORIA, 1875.

PART I.—BLUE BOOK.

1. The first part of the Statistical Register commences as in former years with tables showing the names of the various Lists of Govern-
ors, Ministers,
&c. Governors and Acting-Governors of Victoria, and the dates of their assumption of and retirement from office; the names and dates of appointment and retirement of the Members of the successive Victorian Ministries; the number of Parliaments which have met and Parliamentary Sessions which have been held, with the dates of their opening and closing; the names of Members of the Executive Council, with the dates of their being severally sworn in; the names of Members of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly, with the dates of their elections; and the names of the Foreign Consuls, with the dates of their respective exequaturs.

2. Following these lists are tables of pensions, whereby it appears Pensioners
and pen-
sions. that the number of persons entitled to receive pensions from the Victorian Government in 1874-5 was 139, and the amount chargeable upon the revenue of the colony on account of such pensions was £26,277.

3. These numbers, as compared with those in 1873-4, show an increase Increase in
pensions. of 7 in the number of pensioners, and of £1,837 in the amount of pensions.

4. The average amount provided to be paid to each recipient was Average
amount of
pensions. £189 Os. 10d. in 1874-5, as against £185 2s. 8½d. in 1873-4.

5. The amount paid for pensions is sometimes less than the amount Pensions
chargeable
and paid. chargeable. In the year under review the difference was nearly £1,500, as will be seen from the following figures, which show the amounts chargeable and the amounts paid under different authorities:—

PENSIONS* CHARGEABLE AND PAID, 1874-5.

Authority.	Number of Pensions Chargeable.	Amount of—				Difference.				
		Pensions Chargeable.		Pensions Paid.						
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Civil Service Act ...	123	17,381	19	0	16,741	18	2	640	0	10
Lunacy Statute ...	6	128	4	9	86	13	2	41	11	7
County Courts Statute	2	1,500	0	0	1,500	0	0	...		
Other authority ...	8	7,266	13	4	6,466	13	4	800	0	0
Total ...	139	26,276	17	1	24,795	4	8	1,481	12	5

* Not including Police pensions nor retiring allowances voted annually by Parliament. For total amount expended on retiring allowances of all descriptions, see table following paragraph 70 post.

Difference
between
amounts
chargeable
and paid.

6. The difference between the amount chargeable and the amount paid under the Civil Service Act and Lunacy Statute (£681 12s. 5d.) arises from the fact that some of the recipients did not become entitled to pensions until a portion of the year had elapsed, also that some died before the year expired. The difference between the amounts chargeable and paid under the head "Other authority" (£800) is due to the circumstance that the pension of Sir Andrew Clarke, at the time Governor of the Straits Settlements, formerly Surveyor-General of Victoria, was not drawn during the year.

Pensions
under Civil
Service Act.

7. The pensions under the Civil Service Act are of three kinds, viz.:—
 (1.) Under sections 39 and 40, which provide for a retiring allowance equal to half their salary to officers of not less than ten years' service, being sixty years of age within ten years of the passing of the Act.
 (2.) Under sections 39 and 44, which provide for a retiring allowance equal to a sixtieth of their salary for every year of service up to forty years to officers of not less than ten years' service who should attain the age of sixty years after a period of ten years from the passing of the Act.
 (3.) Under sections 42 and 44, which provide for a retiring allowance equal to a sixtieth of their salary for every year of service up to forty years to officers not having attained the age of sixty years who should be compelled to retire in consequence of infirmity of mind or body. The following were the number of pensioners, and gross and average amounts paid in each of these groups:—

PENSIONS UNDER THE CIVIL SERVICE ACT.

Group.	Section of Civil Service Act.	Number of Pensioners.	Amount of Pensions Paid.					
			Total.	Average to each Pensioner.				
1	XXXIX and XL. ...	85	£ 13,475	s. 14	d. 10	£ 158	s. 10	d. 9
2	XXXIX. and XLIV.	6	305	5	9	50	17	7
3	XLII. and XLIV....	32	2,960	17	7	92	10	7
Total		123	16,741	18	2	136	2	3

Operation of
40th section
of Civil Ser-
vice Act.

8. It will be at once seen that the operation of the 40th section (group 1) has brought not only by far the largest number of persons upon the pension list and the heaviest charge upon the revenue, but the average amount paid to each pensioner is much greater under it than under either of the other heads. Had it not been for this provision of the Civil Service Act, by which certain officers were exceptionally favored, and some received the benefit of nearly 20 years' service which they had never worked for, the charge upon the revenue for Civil Service pensions would have been very small indeed.

9. The land forces of Victoria consist of a paid Artillery Corps, Land forces. which was formed under the Discipline Act 1870 (34 Vict. No. 389) on the withdrawal of the detachment of Imperial troops formerly stationed in the colony; also of a Volunteer Force of various arms established under the Volunteer Act 1865 (28 Vict. No. 266). The men of the Artillery Corps, if of good character, are, as vacancies arise, drafted into the Police and Penal Departments. In the period from the 1st July 1871 to the 30th June 1875, 190 men were so drafted. The cost of the corps to the country during the same period was £44,545. The following table shows the strength and establishment of the land forces at the end of 1875 :—

LAND FORCES.—STRENGTH AND ESTABLISHMENT.

	Strength.				Establishment.	Supernumeraries not maintained by Government.
	Officers.	Sergeants.	Rank and File.	Total.		
Paid Artillery... ..	2	5	130	137	169	...
Volunteers—Cavalry ...	31	24	196	251	210	50
" Artillery ...	60	88	1,299	1,447	1,575	57
" Engineers ...	5	7	102	114	150	...
" Torpedo, &c. ...	4	...	21	25	30	...
" Rifles ...	65	97	1,552	1,714	2,050	2
Total	167	221	3,300	3,688	4,184	109
Head Quarters Staff	64	38	...	102	...	...
District Volunteer Staff						
Volunteer Officers Un- attached						
Bands ... ..	...	...	100	100	...	...
Grand Total	231	259	3,400	3,890	4,184	109

10. Notwithstanding the actual strength of the Volunteer Cavalry Strength and establishment of land forces. exceeded the authorized strength by 41, the aggregate strength of all the corps was 496 short of the establishment, or 387 short if the supernumeraries not maintained by Government be added to the numbers of the regular corps.

11. The rifles in possession of the land forces were as follow :—

Breech-loaders... ..	...	...	...	...	131
Long Enfield ... ..	...	...	...	...	513
Lancasters—large bore ...	...	...	...	...	1,234
" reduced bore ...	...	...	...	...	1,800
General Hay ... ..	...	...	...	...	322
Pattern unstacked ... ..	...	...	...	...	147
Total ... ..	...	...	...	...	4,147

Rifles of land forces.

Guns of land forces.

12. The following statement of the number and calibre of the guns in possession of the land forces has been derived from a return, dated 29th April 1875, furnished by the Colonel-Commandant to a Royal Commission appointed to enquire into the subject of the defences of the colony :—

Garrison guns ...	{	Muzzle-loading rifled, 9" ...	...	...	6
		Smooth-bored, 68-pr. ...	...	...	25
		" 32-pr. ...	...	...	38
Guns of position		Breech-loading rifled, 40-pr. ...	...	...	6
Field guns ...	{	Breech-loading Armstrong's, rifled, 12-pr. ...	...	...	6
		Muzzle-loading rifled, Whitworth's, 6-pr. ...	...	...	6
		Smooth-bored howitzers, 24-pr. ...	...	...	1
		Guns, 6-pr. ... " 12-pr. ...	...	...	9
		Guns, 6-pr. ...	...	...	2
		Total ...	...	...	135

NOTE.—Some of these guns are of obsolete patterns, and some are otherwise unserviceable for defence.

Naval forces.

13. The naval forces consist of the *Cerberus* ironclad turret ship of 235 feet long and 2,107 tons register, and the *Nelson* wooden line-of-battle ship of 220 feet long and 2,736 tons register ; also, of a Naval Reserve, the men of which receive a small fee as a retainer. The following table shows the strength and establishment of the naval forces at the end of 1875 :—

NAVAL FORCES.—STRENGTH AND ESTABLISHMENT.

	Strength.				Wanted to complete.	Establishment.
	Officers.	Petty Officers and Seamen.	Boys.	Total.		
H.M.V.S. <i>Cerberus</i> ...	6	36	40	82	...	82
" <i>Nelson</i> ...	5	32	...	37	...	37
Naval Reserve ...	9	216	...	225	4	229
Total ...	20	284	40	344	4	348

Guns of naval forces.

14. The following are the guns carried by the two war vessels :—

<i>Cerberus</i> .—Woolwich, 10-in. 400-pr. ...	...	...	4
<i>Nelson</i> .—Woolwich, 7-in. 116-pr. ...	...	...	2
" Shunt, 45 cwt., 64-pr. ...	...	...	20
" Smooth-bore, 32-pr. ...	...	...	20
" Howitzer, 12-pr. ...	...	...	6
Total ...	...	...	52

15. The small arms in possession of the naval forces are as follow :—

Rifles—Martini-Henry, <i>Cerberus</i> ...	...	...	...	50
” Sea service, Naval Reserve ...	...	...	...	226
” Enfield, ” ...	...	...	...	46
” General Hay, ” ...	...	...	...	18
				337
	Total	...	...	337
Revolvers—Deane and Adams, <i>Cerberus</i> ...	...	...	...	24
” Undescribed, <i>Nelson</i> ...	...	...	...	119
	Total	...	...	143

Rifles, &c.,
of naval
forces.

16. The following has been the expenditure on defences in the last two years. It will be observed that on each occasion the military expenditure was twice as great as the naval expenditure; also, that £3,260 less was spent on defences in the year under review than in the previous year :—

Expenditure
on defences.

MILITARY AND NAVAL EXPENDITURE, 1873-4 AND 1874-5.

	1873-4.	1874-5.
<i>Military Expenditure.</i>		
Salaries—Staff ...	£ 3,717 16 0	£ 3,640 14 4
” Artillery Corps ...	8,071 17 0	7,363 14 6
Contingencies—General ...	4,824 19 5	3,123 9 5
” Artillery Corps ...	4,055 15 0	3,963 5 5
” Volunteer Force ...	18,394 11 6	18,281 12 4
Total ...	39,064 18 11	36,372 16 0
<i>Naval Expenditure.</i>		
Salaries— <i>Cerberus</i> ...	4,666 3 9	4,981 12 0
” <i>Nelson</i> ...	4,437 16 9	4,575 5 0
” Naval Reserve ...	2,757 12 6	2,675 12 6
Contingencies— <i>Cerberus</i> ...	3,868 14 5	2,910 4 3
” <i>Nelson</i> ...	1,294 11 8	1,117 7 8
” Naval Reserve ...	647 11 8	844 10 9
Total ...	17,672 10 9	17,104 12 2
Total expenditure on defences ...	56,737 9 8	53,477 8 2

17. The following figures, showing the military and naval expenditure from 1854 to the 30th June 1875, have been taken from the report (dated 22nd March 1876) of the Royal Commission which recently took into consideration the subject of the Volunteer Forces and the defences generally.* It will be observed that the amount expended on defences in the 21½ years named has exceeded two millions sterling :—

Expenditure
on defences,
1854 to
1875.

* Parliamentary Paper No. 77, Session 1875-6.

EXPENDITURE ON DEFENCES, 1854 TO 1875.

Year.	Military Expenditure (including Buildings and Works of Defence).			Naval Expenditure.	Total.	
	£	£	£	£	£	
1854 and 1855	287,973	...	287,973
1856 to 1864	758,000	123,000	881,000
1865	38,434	7,743	46,177
1866	47,647	14,453	62,100
1867	64,606	17,243	81,849
1868	58,873	19,061	77,934
1869	34,200	12,672	46,872
1870	37,102	10,570	47,672
1871 (6 months)	21,014	6,305	27,319
1871-2	38,634	19,604	58,238
1872-3	35,367	18,641	54,008
1873-4*	41,050	17,643	58,693
1874-5*	37,847	17,135	54,982
Towards cost of <i>Cerberus</i>	73,520	73,520
" " <i>Nelson</i>	28,446	28,446
Total	1,500,747	386,036	1,886,783
Arms, ammunition, and stores for defences generally					...	47,408
Land certificates issued to volunteers, including naval brigade, computed at £1 per acre					...	139,683
Grand Total ...					...	2,073,874

Recommendations of Royal Commission on Defences.

18. The following are the principal recommendations made by the same Commission in regard to the defences of Victoria. Some of these were not assented to by all the Commissioners †:—

(1.) That a competent officer of the Royal Engineers be procured from the Imperial Government to report upon and carry out the best means for defending Port Phillip Heads and Hobson's Bay.

(2.) That the *Cerberus* be placed in a thorough state of efficiency and fitted with "Forrester's steam-steering apparatus."

(3.) That the strength of the Naval Reserve be increased, with a proper complement of officers, to 300; and that they be instructed in garrison drill, and in the work of laying torpedoes in addition to their duties on board ship.

(4.) That a supply of material for stationary torpedoes be procured without delay.

(5.) That the Victorian forces be placed under the command of an Imperial officer, exchangeable every five years.

(6.) That, if possible, the services of a small body of men be obtained, chosen from the non-commissioned officers of the Royal Engineers, to superintend the construction of coast batteries; failing this, that the services of picked men from the drill instructors of the existing local force be retained for a fixed period.

(7.) That the following local forces, to take the place of the present Volunteer Force, and to be regimental in their organization, be raised within a radius of ten

* The figures of military and naval expenditure in these two lines, taken from the report of the Volunteer Commission, differ slightly from the totals in the last table which were furnished by the Colonel-Commandant and Senior Naval Officer.

† No complete summary of these recommendations appeared in the Commission's Report.

miles from the General Post Office, Melbourne, and enrolled by voluntary enlistment for three years :—

Engineer, torpedo, and signal corps	...	...	...	200
Garrison artillery and field artillery	...	...	...	2,000
Infantry	...	...	...	1,200
				<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	3,400
				<hr/>

(8.) That when not on actual service six months' notice of retirement from this force be required ; when called out for actual service no retirement to be allowed.

(9.) That the command of the naval and military forces be vested in the Crown and administered by its representative in Victoria, assisted by a small military council.

(10.) That the appointment of non-commissioned officers be made by the commanding officer, and of commissioned officers by the Governor on the recommendation of the commanding officer, subject in both cases to previous examination and certificate as to fitness.

(11.) That all paid officers and instructors be selected from those who have served for not less than five years, and who at the time of selection are actually serving in the regular army. That they hold office subject to the Mutiny Act, and for five years only.

(12.) That the local military force be, as far as practicable, subject to the Queen's regulations and orders for the army ; their dress to be adapted to the climate, and the patterns of their arms and accoutrements to be approved by Her Majesty.

(13.) That a rifle-range with suitable butts and targets be permanently appointed for the use of the force.

(14.) That the force be called out each year for a period of not less than eight or greater than fourteen days for daylight drill, and that every such drill of not less than three hours' duration be paid for at the rate of one shilling per hour. The force when so called out to be under the Mutiny Act.

(15.) That allowances be made for clothing and regimental expenses at the following rates per man in the respective corps :—

					£	s.	d.
Engineer, torpedo, and signal corps	...	...	...	...	4	0	0
Artillery	...	...	...	...	3	10	0
Infantry	...	...	...	...	3	0	0

(16.) That power be taken for establishing and regulating the functions of courts of enquiry and courts martial.

(17.) That grants in aid be given for the organization of rifle associations and the construction of armouries and drill sheds throughout the colony.

(18.) That a school of military instruction be established, and encouragement given to military instruction in all schools and colleges throughout the colony.

(19.) That the services of the present Volunteer Force be discontinued.

(20.) That the local artillery force be absorbed as soon as possible into the Police and Penal Departments, and that recruiting for such force be discontinued.

(21.) That the police force be trained to the use of the rifle and ordinary company drill.

(22.) That permanent provision be made for the manufacture of gunpowder within the colony.

(23.) That application be made to the Imperial authorities to strengthen the present small wooden squadron kept on the Australasian station by the addition of at least two heavily armoured and armed ironclads.

PART II.—POPULATION.

Census tables, 1871. 19. The first eighteen tables of this part of the Statistical Register have been taken from the returns of the last census. A digest of these returns was given in the Government Statist's report upon the census of 1871, which was laid before Parliament,* and an abridgment of that report will be found in the *Victorian Year-Book*, 1874.†

Population, end of 1875. 20. The census of Victoria has latterly been taken only once in ten years; but an estimate of the population is made up at the end of each quarter in the department of the Government Statist, by means of the estimate of the previous quarter and the difference between the numbers recorded as having been born and having died, and between those who arrived in the colony and departed therefrom by sea. No account is or can be taken of the arrivals and departures overland, and therefore the estimate is always to a certain extent imperfect. At the end of 1875 the population, calculated in this manner, was as follows:—

ESTIMATED POPULATION, 31ST DECEMBER 1875.‡

Males	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	447,148
Females	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	376,124
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	<u>823,272</u>

Mean population, 1875. 21. In order to afford means of making calculations in regard to the bearing of population on matters the operation of which extends over the entire year, such as revenue, taxation, imports, exports, &c., it is necessary also to make an estimate of the mean or average population. This is effected by adding together the estimated numbers at the beginning of the year and at the end of each of the four quarters, and dividing the sum by 5. The following is the result of such a computation for the year under review:—

ESTIMATED MEAN POPULATION, 1875.

Males	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	442,623
Females	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	372,411
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	<u>815,034</u>

Increase of population, 1875. 22. The increase of population during the year was 14,835, viz., 7,989 males and 6,846 females. Of this increase more than three-fourths—viz., 11,433, consisting of 5,120 males and 6,313 females—was by excess of births over deaths, the remainder—viz., 3,402, consisting

* Parliamentary Paper No. 28, Session 1874. † Paragraph 96 to paragraph 181.

‡ The estimated population at the end of each year since the first settlement of Port Phillip will be found in the Statistical Summary of Victoria (first folding sheet at the commencement of this work) On the 30th June 1876 the estimated population was as follows:—Males, 450,390; females, 378,894. total, 829,284.

of 2,869 males and 533 females—being by excess of arrivals over departures.

23. The following figures show the increase of population in the year under review and in each year of the previous decenniad. It will be observed that the increase was less in 1875 than in any of those years, except 1867, and that in this case the difference in favor of the year under review was only 246 :—

Increase of population, 1865 to 1875.

INCREASE OF POPULATION.

1865	...	19,752	1869	...	25,176	1873	...	19,765
1866	...	15,887	1870	...	26,809	1874	...	17,945
1867	...	14,589	1871	...	25,846	1875	...	14,835
1868	...	23,043	1872	...	18,282			

24. The proportions of the sexes in the population—viz., 84 females to 100 males, or 119 males to 100 females—have not varied in the last three years.

Males and females.

25. No fresh enumeration of the Aboriginal population took place in 1875. Their number, therefore, must still be quoted at 1,553, consisting, according to the proportions of the sexes found to exist amongst the Aborigines at the last census, of 915 males and 638 females.

Aborigines.

26. The following table shows the estimated population, the proportion of females to males, and the number of persons to the square mile in Victoria during the three years ended with 1875, and in each of the other Australasian colonies during the two years ended with 1874 :—

Population in Australasian colonies.

POPULATION IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES.

Colony.	Year.	Population.			Females to 100 Males.	Persons to the Square Mile.
		Males.	Females.	Total.		
Victoria ...	{ 1873	430,042	360,450	790,492	83·82	8·963
	{ 1874	439,159	369,278	808,437	84·09	9·166
	{ 1875	447,148	376,124	823,272	84·12	9·334
New South Wales...	{ 1873	307,329	252,946	560,275	82·30	1·723
	{ 1874	321,447	262,831	584,278	81·76	1·798
Queensland ...	{ 1873	87,154	59,536	146,690	68·31	·216
	{ 1874	97,860	65,657	163,517	67·09	·241
South Australia ...	{ 1873	101,540	96,535	198,075	95·07	·217
	{ 1874	104,870	99,753	204,623	95·12	·224
Western Australia	{ 1873	15,569	10,192	25,761	65·46	·026
	{ 1874	15,722	10,487	26,209	66·70	·027
Tasmania ...	{ 1873	55,368	48,849	104,217	88·23	3·975
	{ 1874	55,117	49,059	104,176	89·01	3·974
New Zealand ...	{ 1873	170,406	125,540	295,946	73·67	2·819
	{ 1874	194,349	147,511	341,860	75·90	3·256

NOTE.—For population of the neighboring colonies to the end of 1875, see Summary of Australasian Statistics (third folding sheet) ante.

Immigration
and emigra-
tion, 1875.

27. The persons of either sex who arrived in and departed from the colony by sea* during the year under review were as follow:—

IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION, 1875.—CLASSIFICATION AS TO SEX.

	Persons.	Males.	Females.
Arrivals	32,744	23,326	9,418
Departures	29,342	20,457	8,885
Immigration in excess ...	3,402	2,869	533

Excess of
arrivals over
departures.

28. The difference between the arrivals and the departures, in favor of the former, was greater by 35 than it was in 1874. It was less, however, than in any other year of the previous decenniad, except 1873, 1872, and 1867. The following figures show the differences in the eleven years:—

EXCESS OF ARRIVALS OVER DEPARTURES, 1865 TO 1875.

1865 ... 5,684	1868 ... 7,253	1871 ... 8,382	1874 ... 3,367
1866 ... 4,549	1869 ... 11,152	1872 ... 1,752	1875 ... 3,402
1867 ... 2,100	1870 ... 11,467	1873 ... 3,166	

Adults, chil-
dren, and
infants ar-
riving and
departing.

29. The returns furnished by the Immigration Office do not specify the exact ages of the persons arriving and departing, but classify them as adults, children, and infants. The following were the numbers under each of those heads who came and went during 1875. The tendency of families to quit the colony at the present time is proved by the circumstance that, whilst the excess of arrivals over departures resulted in a gain to the population of over 4,000 adults, the excess in the opposite direction resulted in a loss of between 600 and 700 children and infants:—

IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION, 1875.—CLASSIFICATION AS TO AGE.

	Persons.	Adults.	Children.	Infants.
Arrivals	32,744	29,210	3,160	374
Departures	29,342	25,162	3,482	698
Immigration in excess ...	3,402	4,048	...	...
Emigration in excess ...	...	...	322	324

Countries
wherfrom
and where-
to.

30. The countries the immigrants came from and those the emigrants went to are given in the following table. It will be noticed that the population gained by the arrivals being in excess of the departures in the case of Tasmania, New Zealand and the South Seas, the United Kingdom, and Foreign Ports, whilst it lost by the departures being in excess of the arrivals in the case of New South Wales and Queensland, and South and Western Australia; also, that the immigration from all

* All the figures relating to arrivals in the colony and departures therefrom contain statements of those who come and go by sea only. No account is or can be kept of those who cross the frontier from and to the adjacent colonies.

the neighboring colonies, after making allowance for the emigration thereto, resulted in a net gain to the colony of 1,226 persons :—

IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION, 1875.—CLASSIFICATION AS TO COUNTRIES WHEREFROM AND WHERETO.

	All Countries.	New South Wales and Queensland.	South and Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand and South Seas.	The United Kingdom.	Foreign Ports.
Arrivals	32,744	10,736	4,002	7,086	4,397	5,363	1,160
Departures	29,342	11,642	4,735	4,306	4,312	3,244	1,103
Immigration in excess	3,402	...	...	2,780	85	2,119	57
Emigration in excess	...	906	733	...	...	...	...

31. Of the immigrants from the United Kingdom, 102—namely, 50 males and 52 females—were warrant passengers. These were the only State-assisted immigrants who arrived in the colony during 1875. Assisted immigration.

32. The Chinese who arrived in the colony during the year numbered 521, viz., 518 males and 3 females; those who left it numbered 299, all males. The excess of arrivals over departures of Chinese was therefore 222, viz., 219 males and 3 females. Chinese arriving and departing.

33. The arrivals in and departures from Victoria during the three years ended with 1875 and the other Australasian colonies during the two years ended with 1874 were as follow. All the arrivals and all the departures referred to were by sea :— Immigration and emigration in Australasian colonies.

IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION RETURNS OF THE AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES.

Colony.	Year.	Immigrants.	Emigrants.	Excess of Immigrants over Emigrants, or vice versa.
Victoria	1873	29,460	26,294	3,166
	1874	30,732	27,365	3,367
	1875	32,744	29,342	3,402
New South Wales	1873	24,022	16,770	7,252
	1874	29,756	19,279	10,477
Queensland	1873	15,141	5,474	9,667
	1874	20,725	7,794	12,931
South Australia	1873	4,548	3,172	1,376
	1874	5,557	3,271	2,286
Western Australia	1873	285	639	— 354
	1874	660	601	59
Tasmania	1873	6,787	7,039	— 252
	1874	6,265	7,714	— 1,449
New Zealand	1873	13,572	4,761	8,811
	1874	43,965	5,859	38,106

NOTE.—The minus sign (—) indicates that the emigrants exceeded the immigrants by the number to which it is prefixed. For returns of immigration and emigration of the neighboring colonies during 1875, see Summary of Australasian Statistics (third folding sheet) ante.

Mining
population,
1875.

34. According to the estimate of the Mining Department, the following were the numbers engaged in mining at the end of 1875 :—

NUMBER OF MINERS, 1875.

Alluvial miners	... 27,024	European miners	... 30,466
Quartz miners	... 14,693	Chinese miners	... 11,251
Total	... 41,717	Total	... 41,717

Miners,
1865 to 1875.

35. The miners have, for years past, been gradually falling off in numbers, as will be seen by the following figures, which show the number of miners at the close of each of the eleven years ended with 1875 :—

NUMBER OF MINERS, 1865 TO 1875.

1865	... 79,457	1871	... 58,279
1866	... 70,794	1872	... 52,965
1867	... 63,053	1873	... 50,595
1868	... 64,658	1874	... 45,151
1869	... 63,787	1875	... 41,717
1870	... 59,247		

Decrease in
number of
municipalities,
1875.

36. Owing to the amalgamation of districts, both descriptions of municipalities existing in Victoria* were slightly changed in numbers during the year. The cities, towns, and boroughs were fewer by 1, and the shires by 2, in 1875 than in 1874.

Area of municipalities,
1874 and
1875.

37. During the same period, owing to the changes referred to which established new boundaries for amalgamated districts, the estimated area contained in cities, towns, and boroughs fell off by 9,267 acres ; that contained in shires increased by 467,200 acres.

Municipalities,
1875.

38. The following table shows the number of cities, towns, and boroughs, and the number of shires ; their estimated area and population ; the number of dwellings they contained ; and the number of ratepayers, during the year under review :—

MUNICIPALITIES.—NUMBER, AREA, POPULATION, RATEPAYERS, AND DWELLINGS, 1875.

Municipal Districts.	Number of Districts.	Estimated Area in Acres.	Estimated Population.	Number of Ratepayers.	Estimated Number of Dwellings.
Cities, towns, and boroughs	59	231,699	395,005	89,107	88,026
Shires	108	47,745,120	387,473	88,014	86,443
Total	167	47,976,819	782,478	177,121	174,469

Proportion
of ratepay-
ers.

39. According to the above figures, 1 person in every 4·4 persons living in municipalities (equivalent to 5 in every 22 persons) is a ratepayer.

* For complete details respecting the organization of these two forms of local self-government, see *Victorian Year-Book*, 1874, paragraphs 236 to 251.

40. Whilst the area contained in municipalities of both descriptions was equal to over five-sixths of the area of the colony, their population was equal to twentyfour-twentyfifths of its inhabitants. The houses they contained exceeded by 15,988 the total number enumerated at the last census (2nd April 1871) in the whole of Victoria.

Area, population, and houses in municipalities.

41. The area contained in shires was more than 200 times that in cities, towns, and boroughs; but the population, ratepayers, and dwellings in the former were each rather less than they were in the latter.

Area, population, &c., in shires and boroughs.

42. The population in municipal districts in 1875 exceeded by 8,767 that in 1874; the ratepayers exceeded the number in 1874 by 5,375; and the dwellings exceeded the number in 1874 by 5,255.

Increase of population, &c., in municipalities.

43. The following are the names of the municipal districts and the population of each during 1875, according to estimates furnished by the local authorities:—

Population of each borough and shire.

CITIES, TOWNS, AND BOROUGHS, AND THEIR ESTIMATED POPULATIONS, 1875.

Name of City, Town, or Borough.	Estimated Population.	Name of City, Town, or Borough.	Estimated Population.
Amherst	3,400	Inglewood	1,050
Ararat	4,000	Kew	3,860
Ballarat	18,442	Koroit	1,459
Ballarat East	12,880	Malmsbury	1,100
Belfast	2,250	Maryborough	3,000
Brighton	3,692	Melbourne*	60,150
Browns and Scarsdale	1,900	Newtown and Chilwell	5,000
Brunswick	5,242	Portland	2,400
Buninyong	1,814	Prahran	16,309
Carisbrook	800	Queenscliff	1,050
Castlemaine	8,000	Raywood	550
Chewton	2,650	Richmond	18,732
Clunes	5,991	Rutherglen	500
Collingwood	21,054	Sale	2,800
Craigie	1,000	Sandhurst	28,306
Creswick	3,770	Sandridge	7,369
Daylesford	4,351	Sebastopol	3,800
Dunolly	1,500	Smythesdale	920
Eaglehawk	7,405	St. Arnaud	2,695
Echuca... ..	3,000	Stawell	6,897
Emerald Hill	24,250	Steiglitz	750
Essendon and Flemington... ..	2,000	St. Kilda	10,000
Fitzroy	16,667	Tarnagulla	984
Footscray	3,619	Walhalla	1,681
Geelong	11,000	Wangaratta	1,445
Geelong West	5,000	Warrnambool	4,500
Graytown	360†	Williamstown	7,650
Hamilton	2,600	Wood's Point	750
Hawthorn	4,281		
Heathcote	1,580		
Hotham	14,800		
		Total	395,005

* Exclusive of suburbs which are separate municipalities.

† These figures have been taken from the returns of 1874, as no estimate was given for 1875.

SHIRES AND THEIR ESTIMATED POPULATIONS, 1875.

Name of Shire.	Estimated Population.	Name of Shire.	Estimated Population.	Name of Shire.	Estimated Population.
Alberton ...	2,800	Echuca ...	6,000	Mount Rouse ...	3,300
Alexandra ...	1,200	Eltham ...	2,000	McIvor ...	3,000
Ararat ...	8,600	Flinders and Kangerong	1,670	Newham ...	4,000
Avoca ...	7,500	Gardiner ...	1,380	Newstead ...	4,800
Avon ...	3,754	Gisborne ...	2,500	North Ovens ...	2,277
Bacchus Marsh	2,500	Glenelg ...	4,181	Nunawading ...	1,442
Bairnsdale ...	4,500	Glenlyon ...	2,250	Oakleigh ...	1,800
Ballan ...	8,000	Goulburn ...	1,954	Omeo ...	1,300
Ballarat ...	5,000	Grenville ...	8,650	Oxley ...	3,400
Bannockburn ...	2,580	Hampden ...	4,642	Phillip Island and Woolamai	1,300
Barrabool ...	2,300	Heidelberg	2,600	Portland ...	5,300
Beechworth ...	7,798	Howqua ...	1,494	Pyalong ...	4,500
Belfast ...	2,805	Huntly ...	3,500	Ripon ...	5,602
Bellarine ...	3,368	Jika ...	2,500	Romsey ...	1,350
Benalla ...	11,000	Keilor ...	670	Rosedale ...	2,700
Berwick ...	2,000	Kilmore ...	2,737	Rutherglen ...	2,800
Bet Bet ...	6,500	Korong ...	8,500	Seymour ...	2,000
Boroondara ...	1,385	Kowree ...	2,000	South Barwon ...	1,446
Braybrook ...	1,121	Kyneton ...	9,000	Springfield ...	900
Bright ...	5,000	Leigh ...	2,276	St. Arnaud ...	10,000
Broadford ...	1,100	Lexton ...	2,500	Stawell ...	3,500
Broadmeadows...	2,246*	Lilydale ...	1,278	Strathfieldsaye...	4,000
Bulla ...	2,400	Maffra ...	†	Swan Hill ...	5,000
Bulleen ...	1,580	Maldon ...	6,000	Talbot ...	4,500
Bungaree ...	4,146	Mansfield ...	3,500	Tewong ...	1,567
Buninyong ...	11,280	Marong ...	8,920	Tullaroop ...	7,000
Caulfield ...	2,100	Melton ...	1,285	Wannon ...	2,650
Chiltern ...	2,200	Meredith ...	1,272	Waranga ...	7,119
Coburg ...	1,450	Merriang ...	1,255	Warrnambool ...	7,713
Colac ...	5,500	Metcalfe ...	5,000	Whittlesea ...	1,400
Corio ...	2,630	Minhamite ...	1,300	Wimmera ...	6,164
Cranbourne ...	1,450	Moorabbin ...	2,895	Winchelsea ...	2,300
Creswick ...	6,500	Mornington ...	2,000*	Wyndham ...	1,500
Dandenong ...	1,125	Mortlake ...	2,580	Yackandandah...	4,616
Darebin ...	960	Mount Alexander	7,500	Yea ...	900
Dundas ...	4,000	Mount Franklin	3,960	Total ...	387,473
East Loddon ...	2,200				

Amount of rating in municipalities.

44. The different amounts at which municipalities were rated in 1874 and 1875 are set down in the following table. It will be seen that no boroughs in either year, and but 2 shires in 1874 and 1 shire in 1875, were rated at the lowest amount allowed by law, viz., 6d. in the pound; also that neither borough nor shire in either year was rated higher than 2s. in the pound, the highest amount allowed by law being 2s. 6d.; and further, that the tendency in the latter year was to rate lower than in the former, 36 boroughs and 7 shires having been rated higher than 1s. in the pound in 1874, but only 27 boroughs and 5 shires in 1875:—

* These figures have been taken from the returns of 1874. No estimate was given for 1875.

† No information—shire only recently formed when returns were made up.

RATINGS IN MUNICIPALITIES, 1874 AND 1875.

Amount levied in the £.	Number of Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.		Number of Shires.	
	1874.	1875.	1874.	1875.
<i>s. d.</i>				
0 6	...	...	2	1
0 8½	...	1	...	...
0 9	2	1	2	5
0 10	...	...	1	2
1 0	22	29	98	94
1 3	7	4	3	...
1 4	3	3	1	1
1 6	17	11	3	3
1 9	3	4	...	...
1 10	2	1	...	...
2 0	4	4	...	1
Not stated	...	1	...	1
Total	60	59	110	108

45. By far the most common rating is 1s. in the pound. Thirty-seven per cent. of the boroughs and 89 per cent. of the shires were rated at that amount in 1874; 49 per cent. of the boroughs and 87 per cent. of the shires in 1875. Municipalities rated at 1s. in the pound.

46. The following table gives the number of properties in boroughs and in shires during the last two years, arranged in different groups according to their valuations. It will be noticed that in both kinds of municipalities an increase has taken place in the numbers in each group, also that boroughs contained 3,841 more properties, and shires contained 4,757 more properties, resulting in a total of 8,598 more properties in 1875 than in 1874:— Classification of properties rated, 1874 and 1875.

CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTIES RATED, 1874 AND 1875.

Rateable Values.	Number of Properties.					
	In Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.		In Shires.		Total.	
	1874.	1875.	1874.	1875.	1874.	1875.
Under £50	91,320	94,769	75,852	79,425	167,172	174,194
£50 to £100	7,981	8,253	7,537	8,326	15,518	16,579
£100 to £200	2,964	3,040	2,398	2,671	5,362	5,711
£200 to £300	764	782	552	568	1,316	1,350
£300 to £400	289	301	268	279	557	580
£400 to £500	153	160	117	128	270	288
£500 and upwards	235	242	612	696	847	948
Total	103,706	107,547	87,336	92,093	191,042	199,640

Classification
of total
value of
property.

47. The next table gives the estimated total value (or value in fee-simple) of rateable property in boroughs and shires during 1874 and 1875, arranged in groups according to the value of the properties of which the amounts are made up. All the lines in shires and all those in boroughs, except such as relate to properties of the value of £100 and upwards, show increase. The net increase in shires was much larger than that in boroughs, for, whilst the value of property in the former in 1875 exceeded that in 1874 by £4,746,420, the excess in the latter was only £799,198 :—

CLASSIFICATION OF TOTAL VALUE OF RATEABLE PROPERTY,
1874 AND 1875.

Rateable Values.	Estimated Total Value of Rateable Property.			
	In Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.		In Shires.	
	1874.	1875.	1874.	1875.
	£	£	£	£
Under £50	12,620,396	13,425,920	12,352,195	14,001,922
£50 to £100	5,201,090	5,236,868	4,778,797	5,774,169
£100 to £200	3,717,516	3,710,671	3,128,595	3,545,945
£200 and upwards	5,785,603	5,750,344	12,631,251	14,315,222
Total	27,324,605	28,123,803	32,890,838	37,637,258

Classification
of annual
value of
property.

48. The annual value of rateable property is arranged in similar groups in the following table. Increase is shown in each line. The total increase in boroughs was £42,899; that in shires was £409,937 :—

CLASSIFICATION OF ANNUAL VALUE OF RATEABLE PROPERTY,
1874 AND 1875.

Rateable Values.	Estimated Annual Value of Rateable Property.			
	In Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.		In Shires.	
	1874.	1875.	1874.	1875.
	£	£	£	£
Under £50	1,352,679	1,384,125	1,220,327	1,320,284
£50 to £100	537,885	539,887	492,313	544,464
£100 to £200	381,885	382,546	315,056	334,358
£200 and upwards	584,033	592,823	1,111,299	1,349,826
Total	2,856,482	2,899,381	3,138,995	3,548,932

Classification
of total and
annual value
of property.

49. The total and annual values of rateable property in both descriptions of districts, similarly grouped, may be summarized as follow :—

SUMMARY OF TOTAL AND ANNUAL VALUES IN BOTH DESCRIPTIONS OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS.

Rateable Values.	Estimated Total Value of Rateable Property in Cities, Towns, Boroughs, and Shires.		Estimated Annual Value of Rateable Property in Cities, Towns, Boroughs, and Shires.	
	1874.	1875.	1874.	1875.
	£	£	£	£
Under £50	24,972,591	27,427,842	2,573,006	2,704,409
£50 to £100	9,979,887	11,011,037	1,030,198	1,084,351
£100 to £200	6,846,111	7,256,616	696,941	716,904
£200 and upwards	18,416,854	20,065,566	1,695,332	1,942,649
Total	60,215,443	65,761,061	5,995,477	6,448,313

50. Owing no doubt partly to the greater extent and number of the properties rateable, and partly to the improvements made, the increase in the value of rateable property during the year, according to the above table, was as follows:—

Increase in total value	£5,545,618
Increase in annual value	£452,836

51. The following table shows the receipts and expenditure of boroughs and shires during 1875:—

MUNICIPALITIES, 1875.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.*

	Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.	Shires.	Total.
<i>Revenue.</i>			
From Government	£ 76,064	£ 342,219	£ 418,283
" rates... ..	197,055	167,283	364,338
" tolls	28,859	40,248	69,107
" licenses	68,275	38,796	107,071
" registration of dogs and goats	5,392	4,901	10,293
" market dues	27,688	294	27,982
" deposits on contracts	9,343	22,912	32,255
" other sources	49,647	22,309	71,956
Total	462,323	638,962	1,101,285
<i>Expenditure.</i>			
Public works	233,550	379,719	613,269
Salaries, &c.	40,517	55,115	95,632
Deposits returned	9,861	22,537	32,398
Other expenditure	173,169	76,058	249,227
Total	457,097	533,429	990,526

* For further information respecting the municipal revenue and expenditure, also the municipal taxation, see paragraphs 76 and 78 post.

Government
subsidy to
municipalities.

52. Both kinds of districts were subsidized by the State much more heavily in the year under review than in the previous one, as will be seen by the following figures:—

MUNICIPALITIES, 1874 AND 1875.—RECEIPTS FROM GOVERNMENT.

—				1874.	1875.	Increase.
				£	£	£
Cities, towns, and boroughs	...	...	...	28,327	76,064	47,737
Shires	...	...	...	232,801	342,219	109,418
Total	...	...	...	261,128	418,283	157,155

Proportion of
subsidy to
receipts.

53. The Government subsidy formed $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the revenue of boroughs, and $43\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the revenue of shires, in 1874. It formed $16\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the revenue of boroughs, and $53\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the revenue of shires, in 1875.

Salaries in
municipalities.

54. Salaries in both kinds of districts were almost identical in amount in 1874 and 1875, viz., about £40,500 in boroughs, and £55,000 in shires. Borough salaries were equal to $8\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. of the borough expenditure in 1874, and to nearly 9 per cent. in 1875. Salaries in shires were equal to about 9 per cent. of the shire expenditure in 1874, and to $10\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in 1875.

Naturalization.

55. Foreigners may become naturalized in Victoria under the Aliens Statute 1865 (28 Vict. No. 256). The privilege has been availed of by 1,051 persons in the last 11 years. The following are the native countries of those who have become naturalized in that period:—

NATURALIZATION, 1865 TO 1875.

Native Countries.					Ten Years : 1865-74.	Year 1875.
France	...	...	...	...	35	2
Belgium	...	...	...	...	3	...
Holland	...	...	...	...	11	1
Austria	...	...	...	...	13	1
Prussia	...	...	...	...	216	17
Other German States	...	...	...	...	372	17
Italy	...	...	...	...	29	1
Spain	...	...	...	...	6	..
Portugal	...	...	...	...	6	...
Russia	...	...	...	...	10	...
Other European countries	...	...	...	...	222	29
United States	...	...	...	...	21	...
South and Central American States	...	...	...	...	1	...
China	...	...	...	...	27	4
Other countries	...	...	...	...	6	1
Total	...	...	...	...	978	73

56. The electors on the roll of both Houses of the Legislature* have numbered as follow in the last four years :—

ELECTORS ON THE ROLLS, 1872 TO 1875.

				1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
<i>Legislative Council.</i>							
Ordinary roll ...	...	...	...	1,721	1,983	2,185	1,454
Ratepayers' roll ...	...	...	...	20,816	21,753	22,745	26,017
Total ...	...	...	...	22,537	23,736	24,930	27,471
<i>Legislative Assembly.</i>							
Ordinary roll ...	...	...	...	19,424	28,725	29,965	17,231
Ratepayers' roll ...	...	...	...	108,276	113,580	116,972	147,019
Total ...	...	...	...	127,700	142,305	146,937	164,250

57. At the biennial election for the Legislative Council, which took place in August and September, 1874, only one province, the Western, was contested, and in this 46 per cent. of the electors recorded their votes.

58. At the general election for the Legislative Assembly in 1874 all the districts except 9 were contested. The proportion of electors who voted varied from 50 per cent. in the Murray District, 52 per cent. in Dundas and Ballarat West, and 53 per cent. in Normanby, to 82 per cent. in Kyneton Boroughs, 77 per cent. in Warrnambool and Brighton, and 75 per cent. in Sandhurst. The average in all the districts was 61 per cent.

PART III.—FINANCE.

59. The general revenue and general expenditure of Victoria during the year 1874-5 were as follow :—

				£	s.	d.
Net revenue ...	...	...	...	4,236,423	5	10
Net expenditure ...	...	...	...	4,318,120	11	7
Expenditure in excess of revenue ...	...	...	...	81,697	5	9
Balance from 1873-4 brought forward ...	...	...	...	170,491	9	9
Balance to carry forward to 1875-6 ...	...	...	...	88,794	4	0

60. In 1873-4, as in the year under review, the expenditure was somewhat greater than the revenue, but in the two previous years the

* For a complete account of the electoral system in Victoria, see *Victorian Year-Book*, 1874, paragraph 262 to 270.

revenue was in excess. The following figures show the amount of surplus or deficiency in each of the four years:—

		Revenue in Excess of Expenditure.		Expenditure in Excess of Revenue.	
		£		£	
1871-2	...	94,888	...	...	...
1872-3	...	139,182	...	...	...
1873-4	...	...	...	70,548	...
1874-5	...	...	...	81,697	...

Surplus
balance.

61. The year 1872-3 commenced with a surplus balance in hand of £241,000; but this, at the beginning of the financial year under review, had become reduced to £170,000. It is seen that at the end of that year the balance had been still further reduced to £89,000.

Large re-
venue and
expenditure,
1874-5.

62. The revenue and expenditure of the year under notice were the largest amounts ever received and expended in Victoria during one year.* In one other year only did the revenue come up to four millions sterling, viz., in 1873-4 (£4,106,790), and in two other years only did the expenditure reach that amount, viz., in 1854 (£4,185,708) and in 1873-4 (£4,177,338).

Revenue and
expenditure
per head,
1851 to
1874-5.

63. The following table shows the revenue and expenditure per head for each year from that of separation from New South Wales to 1874-5:—

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE PER HEAD, 1851 TO 1874-5.†

Year.	Average Population of each Year.	Revenue per Head.	Expenditure per Head.	Year.	Average Population of each Year.	Revenue per Head.	Expenditure per Head.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1851	86,825	4 10 5	4 14 8	1864	589,160	5 0 4	4 19 5
1852	132,905	12 5 11	7 7 4	1865	616,375	4 19 10	4 16 10
1853	195,378	16 11 2	16 9 3	1866	634,077	4 17 1	5 1 8
1854	267,371	11 11 0	15 13 1	1867	649,826	4 19 0	4 19 9
1855	338,315	8 1 4	7 14 6	1868	671,222	4 16 3	4 15 0
1856	380,942	7 16 1	7 0 1	1869	696,942	4 17 1	4 12 7
1857	430,347	7 14 8	6 17 11	1870	709,838	4 11 11	4 16 7
1858	483,827	6 2 11	6 7 10	1871 (six months)†	731,528	2 6 3	2 8 0
1859	517,226	6 6 1	6 11 3	1871-2...	749,964	4 19 7	4 17 7
1860	539,337	5 14 4	6 2 11	1872-3...	770,306	4 14 7½	4 11 0
1861	541,012	5 9 1	5 14 4	1873-4...	789,438	5 4 0½	5 5 10
1862	548,450	5 19 2	5 10 10	1874-5...	806,760	5 5 0¼	5 7 0½
1863	561,322	4 18 10	5 2 8				

* Figures showing the revenue and expenditure of each year since the first settlement of the colony will be found in the Statistical Summary of Victoria (first folding sheet) *ante*.

† The revenue and expenditure of 1875-6, taken from the Treasurer's balance-sheet, made up, but not audited when these pages were being printed, were as follow:—Revenue, £4,325,150; expenditure, £4,572,844. The estimated mean population of the same twelve months was 822,231, so that the revenue per head was £5 5s. 2½d., and the expenditure per head £5 11s. 2½d.

‡ The financial year was changed in 1871, so as to terminate on the 30th June instead of at the 31st December as formerly.

64. It will be observed that 11½d. more per head was raised and 1s. 2½d. more per head was expended in the year under review than in the previous one. Both revenue and expenditure in the year under review were also greater, relatively to the population, than those of any other year since 1862. In that year, and in all other years as far back as 1852—that being the year succeeding that of the discovery of gold—the proportion of both revenue and expenditure to each head of the population was greater than it was in any of the subsequent years.

65. The total revenue and expenditure, and the amount of each per head of the living population of each of the Australasian colonies, are shown in the following table for the years 1873 and 1874. As the financial year of Victoria terminates on the 30th June, the items for that colony are given for three years; the last year but one being six months behind, and the last year being six months in advance, of the latest period in respect to which returns are given for the other colonies:—

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES.

Colony.	Year.	Revenue.		Expenditure.	
		Total Amount.	Amount per Head.	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.
		£	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.
Victoria ...	1872-3	3,644,135	4 14 7½	3,504,953	4 11 0
	1873-4	4,106,790	5 4 0½	4,177,338	5 5 10
	1874-5	4,236,423	5 5 0¼	4,318,121	5 7 0½
New South Wales	1873	3,324,713	6 0 11½	2,333,166	4 4 10½
	1874	3,509,966	6 2 8	2,939,227	5 2 8½
Queensland ...	1873	1,120,034	7 19 10½	956,335	6 16 6
	1874	1,160,947	7 9 8½	1,121,710	7 4 7½
South Australia...	1873	937,648	4 16 1¼	839,152	4 6 0
	1874	1,003,820	4 19 8½	1,051,622	5 4 5½
Western Australia	1873	134,832	5 4 9	114,270	4 8 9¼
	1874	148,073	5 13 11½	143,266	5 10 3¼
Tasmania ...	1873	293,753	2 16 8¾	299,995	2 17 11¼
	1874	327,925	3 2 11¼	374,078	3 11 9½
New Zealand ...	1873	2,776,388	9 12 11¾	2,119,524	7 7 3¾
	1874	3,063,811	9 12 1¾	3,035,711	9 10 4½

NOTE.—For revenue and expenditure of the neighboring colonies during 1875, see Summary of Australasian Statistics (third folding sheet) ante.

66. It will be observed that the following is the order in which the respective colonies stand in regard to the total amount they raise and expend (Victoria being at the head of the list):—

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| (1.) Victoria. | (5.) South Australia. |
| (2.) New South Wales. | (6.) Tasmania. |
| (3.) New Zealand. | (7.) Western Australia. |
| (4.) Queensland. | |

Revenue and expenditure per head in each colony.

67. It will be seen, however, that the order changes when the amount raised and expended per head of the population is considered, Victoria being the fifth in point of revenue and fourth in point of expenditure—

Order of Colonies in reference to Amount of Revenue per Head.

- (1.) New Zealand.
- (2.) Queensland.
- (3.) New South Wales.
- (4.) Western Australia.
- (5.) Victoria.
- (6.) South Australia.
- (7.) Tasmania.

Order of Colonies in reference to Amount of Expenditure per Head.

- (1.) New Zealand.
- (2.) Queensland.
- (3.) Western Australia.
- (4.) Victoria.
- (5.) South Australia.
- (6.) New South Wales.
- (7.) Tasmania.

Heads of revenue.

68. The following are the heads of revenue in Victoria for the last two financial years, and the amounts received under each head, the classification being that agreed upon at a conference of representatives of several of the Australian colonies, held in Tasmania in the month of January 1875* :—

HEADS OF REVENUE, 1873-4 AND 1874-5.

Heads of Revenue.	Amounts Received.	
	1873-4.	1874-5.
	£	£
Customs	1,761,099	1,628,235
Excise	32,869	32,475
Ports and Harbors	20,654	19,935
Licenses (Business)	10,135	10,714
Duties on Estates of Deceased Persons	72,086	32,526
Land Sales (including rents counting towards purchase-money)	558,316	767,030
Rents of Crown Lands (not counting towards purchase-money)	196,114	174,194
Railways	851,425	921,714
Water Supply	103,493	88,556
Public Works (exclusive of Railways and Water Supply)	1,641	6,834
Post and Telegraphs	186,637	198,326
Fines, Fees, and Forfeitures	110,930	116,832
Rents (Ordinary)	1,393	749
Reimbursements, Recoups, &c.	95,269	107,867
Interest and Exchange	84,077	75,025
Miscellaneous Receipts	20,652	55,411
Total	4,106,790	4,236,423

Customs receipts.

69. A falling off to the extent of £133,000 took place in the Customs receipts, which was more than compensated by an increase of £209,000 in the revenue from land sales. The following were the heads under which the Customs revenue was collected, and the amounts received under each head during the two years. It will be observed

* See Report of Conference of Government Statist, with an introductory letter by the Government Statist of Victoria, Appendix B, page 19, Parliamentary Paper No. 11, Session 1875.

that the greatest decrease, amounting to £104,000, occurred under the head of articles subject to *ad valorem* duties :—

HEADS OF CUSTOMS REVENUE, 1873-4 AND 1874-5.

Heads of Revenue.	Amounts Received.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1873-4.	1874-5.		
	£	£	£	£
Spirits	501,044	507,631	6,587	...
Wine	32,235	36,012	3,777	...
Beer and Cider	32,729	32,100	...	629
Tobacco and Snuff	128,787	111,523	...	17,264
Cigars	15,787	12,271	...	3,516
Tea	68,977	67,508	...	1,469
Sugar and Molasses	102,172	82,062	...	20,110
Coffee, Chicory, Cocoa, and Chocolate	14,292	13,910	...	382
Opium	19,042	15,719	...	3,323
Rice	20,659	15,108	...	5,551
Hops	8,587	10,807	2,220	...
Malt	17,968	14,392	...	3,576
Dried and Preserved Fruits and Vegetables	32,899	28,930	...	3,969
Articles subject to <i>ad valorem</i> duties	441,516	337,582	...	103,934
All other articles	206,289	241,885	35,596	...
Wharfage Rates	106,724	100,795	...	5,929
Duties on River Murray Goods	11,392	...	...	11,392
Total	1,761,099	1,628,235	...	Net decrease 132,864

70. The following are the amounts expended in the last two financial years, the heads of expenditure being grouped according to the classification agreed upon at the Conference already referred to* :—

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE, 1873-4 AND 1874-5.

Heads of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended.	
	1873-4.	1874-5.
	£	£
Legislature	56,614	56,552
Civil Establishment	95,994	105,681
Judicial and Legal	177,369	172,975
Public Instruction, Science, &c.†	537,759	596,102
Charitable Institutions, Medical, &c.	272,290	273,537
Mining	33,009	30,653
Police	194,329	198,312
Goals and Penal Establishments	61,787	60,469
Mint	21,667	20,000
Crown Lands and Survey	118,329	140,246
Railways	405,319	437,931
Water Supply	15,708	24,240

* See footnote to paragraph 68 *ante*.

† Including the amount expended on school buildings.

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE, 1873-4 AND 1874-5—continued.

Heads of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended.	
	1873-4.	1874-5.
	£	£
Public Works (exclusive of Railways and Water Supply)*	601,076	669,740
Customs	93,840	57,364
Harbors and Lights	24,638	35,035
Defences	56,629	53,507
Post and Telegraphs	309,112	357,890
Retiring Allowances and Pensions	31,508	34,694
Redemption of Loans	35,100	35,000
Interest	726,142	742,008
Civil List †	76,570	68,984
Aborigines	7,055	6,209
Placed to Railway Loan and Construction Account ‡	200,000	100,000
Miscellaneous Services	25,494	40,992
Total	4,177,338	4,318,121

Taxation.

71. The amounts of which the revenue is made up may be divided into two classes, viz., those raised by taxation and those raised otherwise. Of the former class are the receipts from Customs and Excise duties, from wharfage rates, from port and harbor dues, from tolls, from business licenses, and from duties on estates of deceased persons. § Of the latter class are the amounts derived from the sale or occupation of Crown lands, from railways, water supply, and other public works, from post and telegraph offices, from fees, fines, and forfeitures, from the labor of prisoners, from the interest on the public account, &c. The following figures show the result of a division of the Victorian revenue for the financial year under review based upon this principle:—

REVENUE OF VICTORIA, 1874-5.

Amount raised by taxation	£1,724,821	18	6
„ otherwise	2,511,601	7	4
Total	£4,236,423	5	10

Taxation per head.

72. The amount raised by taxation divided by the estimated mean population of the financial year, already stated to have been 806,760, gives an average of £2 2s. 9d. to each individual. The following table contains a statement of the gross amount of taxation and the average amount per head during each year since 1852:—

* Including endowments of municipalities under the Local Government Act. Not including school buildings.

† Including Governor's salary, salaries of Ministers, Executive Council, and Public Worship.

‡ This account was created under the Land Act 1869 (33 Vict. No. 360, secs. 42 and 43) whereby it was provided that an amount of £200,000, proceeding from the alienation of land, should be placed annually to a trust account, the moneys standing to the credit of which should be available for the repurchase of debentures or the further construction of railways. The total amount which had been paid to this fund up to the 30th June 1875 was £1,000,000, of which £910,869 7s. 11d. had been expended, leaving a balance to the credit of the fund amounting to £89,630 12s. 1d.

§ For amounts received under these heads, see table following paragraph 78 post.

TAXATION, 1853 TO 1874-5.*

Year.	Taxation.		Year.	Taxation.	
	Gross Amount.	Average Per Head.†		Gross Amount.	Average Per Head.†
	£	£ s. d.		£	£ s. d.
1853	800,577	4 1 11½	1865	1,214,479	1 19 4½
1854	1,052,462	3 18 8½	1866	1,219,567	1 18 5½
1855	1,193,309	3 10 6½	1867	1,516,231	2 6 8
1856	1,458,647	3 16 7	1868	1,352,818	2 0 3½
1857	1,331,362	3 1 10½	1869	1,539,495	2 4 2
1858	1,414,511	2 18 5¾	1870	1,394,333	1 19 3½
1859	1,414,760	2 14 8½	1871 (6 months)	724,261	0 19 9½
1860	1,330,761	2 9 4½	1871-2	1,612,034	2 3 0
1861	1,244,389	2 6 0	1872-3	1,784,056	2 6 4
1862	1,183,194	2 3 2	1873-4	1,896,842	2 8 0¾
1863	1,158,219	2 1 3¼	1874-5	1,724,822	2 2 9
1864	1,167,036	1 19 7½			

NOTE.—An export duty on gold existed from May 1855 to the end of 1867. The receipts from that source have not, for the purposes of this table, been considered as taxation.

73. It will be noticed that the amount of taxation per head was less in 1874-5 than it was in either of the three financial years immediately preceding it; also that, of the complete years for which returns are given above, the amount per head in 15 has been higher and in only 6 has been lower than that in 1874-5. Taxation per head in each year.

74. The following table shows the gross amount raised by taxation and the amount of taxation per head in Victoria during the last three financial years, and in the other Australasian colonies during the years 1873 and 1874 :— Taxation in Australasian colonies.

TAXATION IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES.

Colony.	Year.	Taxation.	
		Gross Amount.	Average per Head.
		£	£ s. d.
Victoria	1872-3	1,784,056	2 6 4
	1873-4	1,896,842	2 8 0¾
	1874-5	1,724,822	2 2 9
New South Wales	1873	1,382,752	2 10 3½
	1874	1,217,401	2 2 6½
Queensland	1873	546,732	3 14 6½
	1874	552,758	3 11 3¼
South Australia	1873	362,246	1 17 1½
	1874	370,440	1 16 9½
Western Australia	1873	71,625	2 15 7¾
	1874	82,275	3 3 4
Tasmania	1873	178,942	1 14 6¼
	1874	215,233	2 1 3¾
New Zealand	1873	1,055,296	3 13 4¼
	1874	1,294,276	4 1 2

NOTE.—For returns of taxation in the neighboring colonies during 1875, see Summary of Australasian Statistics (third folding sheet) *ante*.

* According to figures derived from the Treasurer's unaudited balance-sheet referred to in footnote to table following paragraph 63 *ante*, the taxation in 1875-6 amounted to £1,780,391, or to £2 3s. 3¼d. per head of the estimated mean population (822,231) of that financial year.

† For mean population of each year, see table following paragraph 63 *ante*.

Taxation in different colonies compared.

75. It is seen that New Zealand and Queensland are, in proportion to population, the heaviest taxed colonies in the group, and next to them Western Australia: that the lightest taxed colonies are South Australia and Tasmania, whilst occupying a middle place between those colonies in which the taxation is heaviest and those in which it is lightest are Victoria and New South Wales.

General and local revenue and expenditure.

76. In connection with general revenue, taxation, and expenditure of the colony, the local or municipal revenue, taxation, and expenditure should also be considered, and this was made the ground of a special recommendation* by the intercolonial Conference to which allusion has been already made. A statement of the revenue of local bodies has been given on a former page of this work †; but this included an amount of £418,283 received from the State, which must be deducted when the amounts raised and expended by the Central Government and local bodies are taken together. The following table gives a statement of the total revenue and total expenditure of the General and Municipal Governments during the year under review:—

GENERAL AND LOCAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1874-5.‡

				Amount Received and Expended.		
				£	s.	d.
<i>Revenue.</i>						
General Government	...	...	...	4,236,423	5	10
Municipal Government	...	...	...	683,001	14	3
Total	...	...	...	4,919,425	0	1
<i>Expenditure.</i>						
General Government	...	...	...	4,318,120	11	7
Municipal Government	...	...	...	572,242	14	7
Total	...	...	...	4,890,363	6	2

General and local revenue per head.

77. It thus appears that the sums raised and expended in Victoria for general and local purposes amount to little less than five millions sterling. In proportion to each individual in the population § the total amount raised in 1875, under the two systems of Government, was £6 1s. 11½d., and the total amount expended was £6 1s. 2¾d.

* See report of Conference of Government Statists, resolutions 16 and 17, page 10, and introductory letter to same by the Government Statist of Victoria, paragraphs 26 and 27, page 7, Parliamentary Paper No. 11, Session 1875.

† See table following paragraph 51 *ante*.

‡ The financial year of the General Government ends on the 30th June; that of Melbourne and Geelong ends on the 31st August; that of other municipalities ends on the 30th September.

§ Although the financial years of the General and Municipal Governments terminate at different dates (see last footnote), the same population (806,760) as that already taken (see table following paragraph 63 *ante*) to calculate the amount of general revenue and general expenditure per head has been used to make these calculations. As the population varies very slightly, this will scarcely, if at all, affect the result.

78. The amount of taxation under the General and Local Governments is given in the following table, the items being specified in each case as resolved upon at the Statistical Conference of which mention has already been made.* The principle upon which the items of taxation are separated from the general revenue has been already explained.† The local taxation is separated from the municipal revenue by rejecting—besides all grants received from the General Government—deposits on contracts, rents of buildings and land, proceeds of the letting of halls, &c., the balance being considered as taxation:—

GENERAL AND LOCAL TAXATION, 1874-5.

					Amount Received.		
					£	s.	d.
<i>General Government Taxation.</i>							
Customs duties	...	...	...	...	1,527,439	10	7
Wharfage rates	...	...	...	...	100,795	6	10
Ports and harbors	...	...	...	...	19,935	7	6
Spirits distilled in Victoria	...	...	...	...	32,474	15	8
Licenses (not territorial)	...	...	...	...	10,714	4	9
Duties on estates of deceased persons	...	...	...	...	32,526	1	1
Toll receipts	...	...	...	...	936	12	1
Total					1,724,821	18	6
<i>Municipal Government Taxation.</i>							
Rates	...	...	...	...	364,337	19	7
Toll receipts	...	...	...	...	69,106	9	1
Licenses	...	...	...	...	107,071	8	9
Registration of dogs and goats	...	...	...	...	10,293	5	4
Market dues	...	...	...	...	27,982	1	0
Total					578,791	3	9
Total general and local taxation					£2,303,613	2	3

79. The general and local taxation together amount to close upon $2\frac{3}{4}$ millions sterling. The exact sum, divided by the numbers of the population,‡ gives a proportion of £2 17s. 1½d. to each individual.

80. The Public Debt of Victoria amounted, on the 30th June 1875, to £13,992,582 12s. This consisted of—

				£	s.	d.
Debentures	...	...	...	12,993,220	0	0
Stock...	...	...	...	999,362	12	0
Total				£13,992,582	12	0

* See report of Conference, resolution 17, page 10, and Appendix E, page 25.

† See paragraph 71 *ante*.

See footnote to paragraph 77 *ante*.

General and
local tax-
ation per
head.

Public debt.

Loan
account.

81. The following is the condition of the loan account and the steps whereby it reached its present amount :—

			£	s.	d.
Amount authorized to be borrowed	...	...	15,448,100	0	0
Less debentures unsold	...	£500,000	0	0	
" stock unsold	...	100,519	6	0	
" amount repaid	...	*868,100	0	0	
			<u>1,468,619</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>0</u>
			13,979,480	14	0
Increase by bonus paid on conversion of 5 and 6 per cent debentures into 4 per cent. stock	...	...	13,101	18	0
Total	...	...	<u>£13,992,582</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>0</u>

Purposes for
which debt
was incur-
red.

82. The following were the purposes for which the loans were contracted :—

			£	s.	d.
Construction of railways	...	...	12,107,000	0	0
Waterworks	...	...	960,000	0	0
Public works and water supply	...	...	512,480	14	0
Alfred graving dock	...	...	300,000	0	0
Defences	...	...	100,000	0	0
			<u>13,979,480</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>0</u>
Increase by bonus on conversion of debentures	...	...	13,101	18	0
Total	...	...	<u>£13,992,582</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>0</u>

Rates of
interest.

83. The rates of interest payable on the various amounts are as follow :—

Rate of Interest.	Amount.		
	£	s.	d.
6 per cent. ...	9,073,320	0	0
5 per cent. ...	2,419,900	0	0
4 per cent. ...	2,499,362	12	0
Total	<u>£13,992,582</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>0</u>

Conversion
of debentures
into
stock.

84. No debentures were converted into stock during 1874-5. The value of the debentures converted is therefore the same amount as that quoted in the previous year,† viz. :—

			£
6 per cent. debentures	...	...	76,680
5 per cent. "	...	...	397,100
Total	...	...	<u>£473,780</u>

* Of this amount, £800,000 was borrowed for the construction of works for the water supply of Melbourne and suburbs, and £68,100 for the purchase of the rights and privileges of the Melbourne, Mount Alexander, and Murray River Railway Company.

† See *Victorian Year-Book*, 1874, paragraph 208.

85. The 6 per cent. debentures were converted at rates varying from £113 to £118 per £100, and the 5 per cent. debentures at rates varying from £100 to £109 per £100. The total amount paid as bonus on conversion has already been stated to have been £13,101 18s. 0d. The stock produced therefore represents a liability of £486,881 18s. 0d., instead of £473,780.

86. Stock of the following amounts was purchased, and debentures amounting, with the bonus paid on conversion, to the following values were converted by the Treasurer and by the public respectively :—

Rates at which debentures were converted.

Stock held by Treasurer and public.

				£	s.	d.
Stock purchased by the Treasurer	...	...	...	215,125	14	0
" " public	...	...	...	297,355	0	0
Total	...	...	...	512,480	14	0
Stock produced by debentures converted by the Treasurer				393,328	0	0
" " " public	...	...	...	93,553	18	0
Total	...	...	...	486,881	18	0
Total stock held by the Treasurer	...	...	...	608,453	14	0
" " public	...	...	...	390,908	18	0
Total Victorian stock	...	...	...	£999,362	12	0

87. The following amounts on account of various funds had been invested in the stock held by the Treasurer up to the 30th June 1875 :—

INVESTMENT OF FUNDS.

				£	s.	d.
Trust Fund General Account	...	...	...	457,000	0	0
Police Superannuation Fund	...	...	...	70,000	0	0
Assurance Fund	...	...	...	23,000	0	0
Suitors' Fund	...	...	...	36,080	0	0
Estates of Deceased Persons	...	...	...	15,040	0	0
Specific Trust Accounts	...	...	...	7,333	14	0
Total	...	...	...	£608,453	14	0

Investment of funds.

88. On the 30th June 1875 the estimated population of Victoria was 813,588. If the public debt at the same period (£13,992,582 12s. 0d.) be divided by this number, the result will show an average of indebtedness on behalf of every man, woman, and child in the colony amounting to £17 3s. 11½d. As compared with the amounts on the 30th June 1874, the total debt shows an increase of £1,507,150, and the average indebtedness per head shows an increase of £1 10s. 11½d.*

Indebtedness per head.

* On the 30th June 1876 the public debt of Victoria was £14,056,823. At the same date the estimated population was 829,284. The amount of indebtedness per head was thus £16 19s. 0¼d.

Public debts
of Austral-
asian
colonies.

89. The following is the amount of debt and the amount of indebtedness per head in Victoria at the end of the three last financial years, and in the other Australasian colonies at the end of 1873 and 1874 :—

PUBLIC DEBTS OF THE AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES.

Colony.	Year.	At the end of each Financial Year.	
		Total Amount of Debt.	Amount of Indebtedness per Head.
Victoria	1872-3	£ 12,367,757	£ s. d. 15 17 1
	1873-4	12,485,433	15 13 0½
	1874-5	13,992,583	17 3 11¾
New South Wales	1873	10,842,415	19 7 0½
	1874	10,516,371	17 19 11¾
Queensland	1873	4,786,850	32 12 7¾
	1874	5,253,286	32 2 . 6½
South Australia	1873	2,174,900	10 19 7½
	1874	2,989,750	14 12 2¾
Western Australia	1873	35,000	1 7 2
	1874	119,000	4 10 9¾
Tasmania	1873	1,477,600	14 3 6¾
	1874	1,476,700	14 3 6
New Zealand	1873	10,913,936	36 17 6¾
	1874	13,366,936	39 2 0½

NOTE.—For public debts of the respective colonies at the end of 1875, see Summary of Australasian Statistics (third folding sheet) *ante*.

Debts in
different
colonies
compared

90. At the date of the last return the most heavily indebted colony, according to population, was New Zealand; and the next Queensland; then New South Wales, in which colony, however, by the returns issued, the total debt is slightly, and the amount per head is largely decreasing; then comes Victoria, the indebtedness per head being not far short of that in New South Wales; then South Australia and Tasmania, the former being, in proportion to population, slightly in advance of the latter in point of indebtedness. The least indebted of all is Western Australia.

Interest on
loans.

91. The following was the amount of interest payable on Victorian loans, and of expenses connected therewith, during the financial year under notice :—

			£	s.	d.
Interest on loans, 1874-5, ... ..	...	...	765,368	14	0
Expenses connected with loans, 1874-5 ... ..	...	...	4,409	12	1
Total ... ..	...	...	£769,778	6	1

92. The interest and expenses of loans in 1874-5 represented a charge of 19s. 1d. per head of the mean population, as against a charge per head of 17s. 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. in the previous year.

93. The last instalment (£35,000) of the loan* (originally £735,000) to the city of Melbourne and town of Geelong for improvements, the principal of which was guaranteed out of the revenue of the colony, was paid off during the year. That liability, therefore, no longer exists.

94. During the last twenty-five years, nearly two millions sterling have been spent on the payment of the passages of immigrants from the United Kingdom. Latterly, however, it has not been the policy of the State to spend much money with this object, and in the year under review the amount so expended was less than £1,600. The following are the amounts spent on the introduction of immigrants in each of the years since 1850. These are exclusive of departmental and other contingent charges :—

EXPENDITURE ON IMMIGRATION, 1851 TO 1875.

£		£		£	
1851	115,910	1860	34,627	1869	50,258
1852	202,357	1861	62,532	1870	56,864
1853	195,779	1862	115,209	1871 (six months)	13,859
1854	370,745	1863	50,081	1871-2	19,886
1855	176,238	1864	47,887	1872-3	4,094
1856	105,273	1865	40,624	1873-4	2,251
1857	101,801	1866	33,675	1874-5	1,583
1858	51,125	1867	33,675		
1859	42,969	1868	30,115	Total	£1,925,742

95. Since the separation of Victoria from New South Wales not less than thirty millions sterling have been expended by the Government on public works. This amount includes the expenditure on railways, which dates from 1858; that on Melbourne water supply, which dates from 1853; that on country water supply, which dates from 1865; and that on roads and bridges and on other public works, both of which are given from 1851. The following are the total amounts expended under each of these heads. The amounts expended during each year are shown upon the first folding sheet at the commencement of this work :—

EXPENDITURE ON PUBLIC WORKS, 1851 TO 1875.

				£
Victorian railways	...	1858 to 1874-5	...	13,240,656
Roads and bridges	...	1851	...	6,773,817
Melbourne water supply (Yan Yean)	...	1853	...	1,318,423
Other water works	...	1865	...	1,427,504
Other public works	...	1851	...	7,244,663
Total	...	...	...	£30,005,063

* Commonly called the "Gabrielli" loan.

PART IV.—INTERCHANGE.

New classification of Imports and Exports.

96. In the returns of Imports and Exports for 1875, the principle of placing the names of the articles alphabetically has, for the first time in this and probably in any country, been departed from, and a classification, whereby articles of a like character are placed together, has been adopted instead.

Evils of alphabetical arrangement.

97. The evils of the alphabetical arrangement had long been felt by commercial men, statisticians, and other thinking persons;* but it does not seem that any scientific system of grouping the articles of Import and Export had ever been proposed until the scheme now introduced was placed before the Statistical Conference, already several times alluded to, by one of its members, and unanimously adopted by them. †

Advantages of system now adopted.

98. The advantages of this system of classification, ‡ and the reasons which caused it to commend itself to the members of the Conference, may be partly gathered from the following extract from the introductory letter forwarded by the Government Statist of Victoria to his Government when transmitting the report of the Conference at which he had represented this colony § :—

“The classification of Customs entries, as shown in Appendix A, is submitted as an improvement upon the time-honored alphabetical arrangement at present in use. The form is based upon that employed in the tabulation of the Victorian census return of ‘occupations,’ and the classification therefore affords means of making calculations in respect to the number of persons in the colony working at the various trades in connection with which articles are manufactured similar to those imported to and exported from the colony. But the grouping will chiefly be found of service from the circumstance that, as similar articles will be placed together, all articles of the same character will be at once distinguished. For example, under the present system, ‘hides’ are found under the letter ‘H’ in one part of the returns, ‘skins’ in another part under the letter ‘S,’ leather in another part under the letter ‘L.’ Under the proposed system the three articles will appear near each other under the head ‘animal substances,’ where will also be placed other cognate matters such as bones, gluepieces, grease, hair, horns,

* As far back as 1869, Sir Charles W. Dilke wrote as follows in connection with this subject :—“British Colonial statistics are apt to be confusing. I have seen a list of imports in which one class consisted of ale, aniseed, arsenic, assafœtida, and astronomical instruments; boots, bullion, and salt butter; capers, cards, and caraway seeds; gauze, gin, glue, and gloves; maps and manure; philo-
sophical instruments and salt pork; sandal wood, sarsaparilla, and smoked sausages. Alphabetical arrangement has charms for the official mind.”—*Greater Britain*, vol. 2, page 125. London: McMillan & Co.

† See Report of Conference, resolution 6, and Appendix A.

‡ As a proof that this system of classification meets with approval elsewhere than in Victoria, the following extract from a letter, dated 21st October 1875, addressed to the present writer by James Heywood, Esq., M.A., F.R.S., the distinguished President of the Statistical Society of London, is appended:—“You have a power, which you seem to exercise wisely, in introducing improvements in statistical arrangements which may be of use in Great Britain and Ireland. Thus, in Appendix A, articles imported and exported are classified in groups, and an alphabetical index is subjoined. The grouping together of articles of the same character renders the summary much more interesting and more popular.”

§ See Parliamentary Paper No. 11, Session 1875, page 6, paragraph 16.

hoofs, tallow, &c. The alphabetical index attached to this appendix, which it is proposed shall accompany the Customs statistics on each occasion of their issue, will prevent confusion in regard to the place in which any item is to be found. Further, under the present alphabetical arrangement, perplexity is experienced in comparing the returns of articles in one colony with the same articles in another, owing to the difficulty of finding the required articles under the varying names they receive in the respective colonies. Thus, 'jams' in one colony are found under the letter 'J,' in another under the letter 'F,' as 'fruits, preserved;' 'oysters' in one colony are found under the letter 'O,' in another under the letter 'S,' as 'shellfish;' and such instances might be multiplied."

99. Subjoined is a list of the articles imported and exported in 1875, Imports and arranged according to the manner agreed upon at the Conference; also exports, 1875. the declared value of each article. The position of any article may be readily found by reference to the index * :—

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, 1875.

Articles.	Imports.			Exports.
	£	s.	d.	£
CLASS I.—ART AND MECHANIC PRODUCTIONS.				
<i>Order 1.—Books, &c.</i>				
Books, Printed	140,722	10	0	38,316
Cards, Playing... ..	1,758	0	0	615
Stationery	70,597	0	7	54,138
<i>Order 2.—Musical Instruments.</i>				
Instruments, Musical	47,284	18	6	14,359
<i>Order 3.—Prints, Pictures, &c.</i>				
Paintings and Engravings	11,783	0	0	3,637
Works of Art	2,157	0	0	107
<i>Order 4.—Carving, Figures, &c.</i>				
Mouldings	2,666	12	0	407
Pipes, Tobacco—Clay	2,895	0	0	...
" " Meerschaum	4,010	0	0	...
" " Wooden	5,261	0	0	2,297
" " Undescribed ... ..	...	...	...	1,564
Turnery	266	11	11	758
<i>Order 5.—Tackle for Sports and Games.</i>				
Fireworks	1,520	7	5	28
Toys	10,734	18	5	2,119
<i>Order 6—Watches, Philosophical Instruments, &c.</i>				
Clocks	9,756	13	2	2,956
Instruments, Optical	6,572	0	0	432
" Scientific	8,609	0	0	2,536
Watches	39,848	16	11	2,993
Watchmakers' Materials	3,568	0	0	109
<i>Order 7.—Surgical Instruments.</i>				
Instruments, Surgical	5,247	0	0	47

* An alphabetical index to the names of the articles will be found near the end of this work, before the General Index.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, 1875—*continued.*

Articles.	Imports.			Exports.
	£	s.	d.	£
CLASS I.—ART AND MECHANIC PRODUCTIONS—<i>continued.</i>				
<i>Order 8.—Arms, Ammunition, &c.</i>				
Ammunition	723	0	0	65
Arms	473	0	0	34
Caps	1,872	0	0	251
Cartridges	1,426	0	0	106
Dynamite	682	0	0	244
Firearms	10,308	0	0	1,654
Fuse	4,792	0	0	887
Gun-cotton	1,097	0	0	...
Lithofracteur	6,626	0	0	5,479
Patent Wood	265	0	0	...
Powder, Blasting	20,783	0	0	4,778
" Sporting	7,293	19	2	1,936
Shot	5,354	0	0	1,150
<i>Order 9.—Machines, Tools, and Implements.</i>				
Agricultural Implements	12,621	6	3	20,027
Cutlery	47,746	16	0	2,323
Machinery	102,866	6	1	67,587
" Weaving or Spinning	9,802	0	0	...
Sewing Machines	73,470	0	0	35,991
Tools and Utensils	96,425	0	0	2,935
<i>Order 10.—Carriages, Harness, &c.</i>				
Carriages	4,430	15	0	9,195
Carts	245	1	8	
Carriage and Cart Materials	17,892	11	2	2,822
Saddlery and Harness	6,787	11	10	11,500
" Minor articles	23,404	0	0	...
<i>Order 11.—Ships and Boats, and matters connected therewith.</i>				
Anchors and Chain Cables	3,904	0	0	2,109
Boats	123	2	5	78
Oars	781	10	2	75
Ship Chandlery ... ..	...	...	...	712
<i>Order 12.—Building Materials. (See also Order 29 post.)</i>				
Bricks, Air	456	19	5	...
" Clay	29	14	0	234
" Fire	1,326	0	0	667
Building Materials, undescribed ... ..	...	...	...	865
Cement	27,376	18	0	1,383
Doors	8,563	17	0	1,486
Lime	19	15	0	619
Sashes	0	10	0	1,193
Slates	28,269	0	0	625
<i>Order 13.—Furniture.</i>				
Furniture	37,453	6	6	28,408
Furniture Springs	1,756	10	0	...
Upholstery ... ..	...	...	...	768

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, 1875—continued.

Articles.	Imports.			Exports.
	£	s.	d.	£
CLASS I.—ART AND MECHANIC PRODUCTIONS—continued.				
<i>Order 14.—Chemicals.</i>				
Acid, Acetic	4,285	0	0	685
” Muriatic... ..	62	0	0	...
” Nitric	206	0	0	...
” Sulphuric	73	0	0	3
Alkali, Soda Ash	3,659	0	0	...
” ” Caustic	10,800	0	0	825
” ” Crystals	6,083	9	11	814
” ” Silicate	2,618	0	0	141
Asphalte	14	0	0	...
Drugs... ..	99,474	18	8	21,813
Dyes	9,222	0	0	158
Guano	5,770	0	0	3,503
Manure	15	0	0	4,946
Matches and Vestas	31,187	15	3	9,172
Naphtha	365	0	0	2
Opium	97,163	3	9	12,440
Paints	54,300	2	8	6,668
Spirits, Methylated	309	0	0	108
Sulphur	3,047	0	0	145
Turpentine	2,634	0	0	223
CLASS II.—TEXTILE FABRICS AND DRESS.				
<i>Order 15.—Wool and Worsted Manufactures.</i>				
Carpeting and Druggeting	44,784	6	1	4,576
Woolen Piece Goods	799,265	19	6	49,075
Woolens	98,806	16	1	30,590
<i>Order 16.—Silk Manufactures.</i>				
Silk, Manufactures containing	17,042	2	6	...
Silks	214,732	7	10	27,948
<i>Order 17.—Cotton and Flax Manufactures.</i>				
Cotton Piece Goods	575,134	0	8	5,586
” Waste	3,378	0	0	174
” Wick	2,416	4	6	105
Linen Piece Goods	48,622	0	0	4,410
Yarn	1,212	0	0	...
<i>Order 18.—Drapery and Haberdashery.</i>				
Drapery	137,810	1	2	160,249
Haberdashery	223,986	9	8	315
<i>Order 19.—Dress.</i>				
Apparel and Slops	345,341	11	1	173,080
Boots and Shoes	202,531	17	0	76,047
Clogs and Pattens	181	5	2	...
Furs	1,155	6	10	56
Gloves	55,946	4	7	5,991
Hats, Caps, and Bonnets	71,685	0	9	17,450
” Straw, untrimmed	50,947	16	6	...
Hatters' Materials	5,319	0	0	...
Hosiery	134,070	0	4	22,646
Millinery	8,480	12	5	...

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, 1875—*continued.*

Articles.	Imports.			Exports.
	£	s.	d.	£
CLASS II.—TEXTILE FABRICS AND DRESS—<i>continued.</i>				
<i>Order 20.—Manufactures of Fibrous Materials.</i>				
Bags and Sacks	39,512	10	0	3,354
" " Corn	64,380	0	0	7,413
" " Woolpacks	68,511	0	0	16,224
Canvas	24,311	0	0	3,690
Cordage	14,021	4	6	13,850
" unserviceable	253	0	0	...
Engine Packing	718	0	0	28
Felt	1,462	0	0	164
Mats and Rugs	13,792	11	8	1,781
Matting	5,172	0	0	1,757
" Cocoanut	2,864	18	7	...
Nets	40	0	0	...
Oilcloth	13,475	14	5	1,194
Tents and Tarpaulins	664	16	4	1,666
Twine	14,073	3	6	2,808

CLASS III.—FOOD, DRINKS, ETC.

<i>Order 21.—Animal Food.</i>				
Butter	8,683	0	0	12,670
Cheese	1,461	18	0	7,286
Eggs	12,470	15	0	...
Fish, Fresh	632	0	0	120
" Preserved	104,794	0	0	22,414
" Salted	36,599	0	0	2,950
" Shell	16,099	0	0	38
Honey	6	15	0	214
Lard	2	0	0	50
Provisions, Preserved	1,365	3	10	134,345
" Salted	1,123	4	0	1,496
" " Bacon... ..	663	12	0	1,240
" " Beef	102	0	0	2,054
" " Hams... ..	7,016	5	0	428
" " Pork	2,235	0	0	1,059
Sausage Skins	4,918	0	0	...
<i>Order 22.—Vegetable Food.</i>				
Arrowroot	2,118	0	0	296
Biscuit	231	3	0	19,039
Bread... ..	49	15	0	144
Confectionery	15,021	1	0	14,186
Flour	4,460	7	6	16,410
Fruit, Bottled	2,888	0	0	594
" Dried	9,189	16	0	3,516
" " Currants	45,026	0	0	7,514
" " Raisins	30,855	0	0	7,502
" Green	40,140	2	0	4,057
Grain and Pulse, Barley	24,829	5	0	260
" " Beans and Peas	4,636	0	0	686
" " Gram	182	0	0	...
" " Maize... ..	115,095	0	0	486
" " Malt	105,564	1	0	12,555
" " Oats	179,927	7	9	8,970
" " Pearl Barley	5,041	3	0	418

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, 1875—continued.

Articles.	Imports.			Exports.
	£	s.	d.	£
CLASS III.—FOOD, DRINKS, ETC.—continued.				
<i>Order 22.—Vegetable Food—continued.</i>				
Grain and Pulse, Rice	112,809	1	6	51,392
” ” Rye	4	0	0	...
” ” Split Peas	1,913	0	0	335
” ” Wheat	66,396	7	6	483
Macaroni	459	10	0	62
Maizena	3,762	4	6	2,138
Meal, Oat	3,966	9	11	3,455
Molasses and Treacle	5,976	0	0	8,503
Nuts	2,023	0	0	382
” Almonds	4,063	0	0	183
” Cocoanuts	578	0	0	13
” Peanuts	51	0	0	...
” Walnuts	734	0	0	...
Onions	51	15	0	5,939
Potatoes	366	3	6	63,483
Preserves	10,019	1	0	5,826
” Jellies	606	2	0	...
Sago	2,901	0	0	695
Sugar	645,849	19	2	210,494
” Candy	127	0	0	...
” Raw	331,957	7	0	...
” Refined	56,627	0	0	112,125
Tapioca	2,402	0	0	175
Vegetables	278	0	0	1,227
” Preserved	1,636	0	0	706
Vermicelli	262	0	0	34
<i>Order 23.—Drinks and Stimulants.</i>				
Aerated Waters ... ..	...	...	...	929
Beer, Bottled	148,773	6	0	38,081
” Draught	24,091	0	0	4,222
Chicory	2,583	0	0	170
Cider and Perry	910	0	0	118
Chocolate	3,077	0	0	320
Cocoa	15,267	1	0	2,141
” Beans	935	0	0	...
” Nibs	68	0	0	67
Coffee	53,400	9	8	35,351
Ginger	2,319	0	0	359
” Green	119	0	0	17
” Ground	78	0	0	...
Hops	68,217	0	6	25,257
Milk, Preserved	4,074	0	0	5,206
Mustard	15,654	14	6	2,407
Pepper	9,538	10	0	1,533
” Ground	111	17	6	...
Perfumery	4,685	0	2	1,221
Pickles	11,076	15	0	1,917
Salt	36,941	12	4	3,663
” Rock	4,308	0	0	3,271
Saltpetre	2,069	10	0	10
Sauces	6,527	11	1	...
Spices	4,884	0	0	333
” Ground... ..	418	10	0	...

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, 1875—*continued.*

Articles.	Imports.			Exports.
	£	s.	d.	£
CLASS III.—FOOD, DRINKS, ETC.—<i>continued.</i>				
<i>Order 23.—Drinks and Stimulants—continued.</i>				
Spirits	13,023	15	0	11,422
" Brandy	210,611	19	0	94,649
" Colonial, from malt ... ..	...	...	...	75
" " from wine ... ..	...	...	...	20
" Cordials	1,798	0	0	1,215
" Gin	44,425	0	0	11,156
" of Wine	741	0	0	618
" Perfumed	8,558	0	0	710
" Rum	41,113	0	0	9,466
" Whiskey	55,068	10	0	11,292
Tea	749,368	4	0	248,224
Tobacco (manufactured)	160,375	7	0	141,246
" (unmanufactured)	28,195	0	0	6,420
" Cigars	46,415	0	0	51,348
" Snuff	724	0	0	210
Vinegar	14,160	9	6	2,614
Wine	98,504	17	4	71,190
" Must ... ..	...	...	...	260
" Sparkling	35,959	0	0	...
CLASS IV.—ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE SUBSTANCES.				
<i>Order 24.—Animal Substances.</i>				
Bones	673	0	0	2,017
Bonedust ... ..	...	...	...	11,983
Candles	91,583	11	0	22,078
Combs	8,480	6	0	1,591
Flock ... ..	...	...	...	148
Glue	836	0	0	274
" Pieces	13	0	0	70
Grease	1,505	0	0	211
Hair	948	19	0	1,060
" Curled	6,543	0	0	761
Hides	61,727	6	0	2,754
Horns and Hoofs	261	0	0	3,153
Leather	10,243	14	10	244,027
" Belting ... ..	...	...	...	343
" cut into shapes	13,906	11	2	1,407
" Fancy	5,420	6	6	556
" Patent, &c.	67,235	0	0	...
Leatherware	25,671	9	3	2,170
Skins	3,436	0	0	16,170
" Goat	54	0	0	...
" Kangaroo	2,954	0	0	2,655
" Pelts ... ..	...	...	...	5,348
" Sheep	26,492	0	0	23,527
Soap	3,319	4	6	5,342
Sponge	1,519	0	0	203
Tallow	7,739	9	0	203,243
Wool*	2,310,477	0	0	6,096,958

* The imports of wool amounted to 41,417,925 lbs., of which all but 882,844 lbs., valued at £49,678, came overland from New South Wales. The exports of wool amounted to 85,064,952 lbs., of which 21,408,617 lbs., valued at £1,402,819, were entered as the produce of places outside Victoria.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, 1875—*continued.*

Articles.	Imports.			Exports.
	£	s.	d.	£
CLASS IV.—ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE SUBSTANCES— <i>continued.</i>				
<i>Order 25.—Vegetable Substances.</i>				
Bark	2,747	0	0	37,883
Blue	5,309	16	0	970
Bran and Pollard	1,688	10	0	1,742
Casks	272	13	0	1,975
Chaff	275	10	0	8,695
Cork	319	0	0	...
Corks	14,910	14	1	3,331
Cotton, Raw	1,022	0	0	...
Fibre	3,104	0	0	60
" Cocoanut	317	0	0	...
Flax	267	0	0	...
" Phormium	5,600	0	0	...
Gum	9,049	0	0	553
Gutta-percha Goods	214	0	0	21
Hay and Straw	57	0	0	12,406
Hemp	16,733	0	0	...
Indiarubber ... ..	...	...	...	74
" Goods	16,566	0	0	223
Jute	4,720	0	0	...
Meal, Linseed	1,094	4	7	11
Oakum	286	0	0	111
Paper	158,917	0	0	11,555
" Bags	629	0	0	4,942
" Wrapping	22,774	0	0	2,915
" Writing	1,331	0	0	...
Paperhangings	27,607	0	0	1,069
Pitch and Tar	3,807	10	0	460
Rags	482	0	0	3,959
Resin	5,618	0	0	211
Seeds	20,303	16	6	2,518
" Canary	2,116	15	4	...
Starch	20,946	6	4	1,398
Tares	134	0	0	...
Timber	425,470	12	0	38,270
Varnish	8,372	0	0	3,094
Wickerware	2,998	2	5	479
Woodenware	38,515	4	3	11,927
<i>Order 26.—Oils.*</i>				
Almond	138	0	0	...
Black	3,381	0	0	...
Castor	81,186	4	0	22,012
Chinese	12,940	0	0	668
Cocoanut	2,761	0	0	5
Cod	9,702	0	0	27
Codliver	1,275	0	0	...
Colza	7,797	0	0	2,507
Copaiba	131	0	0	...
Cotton-seed	233	0	0	...
Essential	5,449	0	0	2,359
Kerosene	51,294	0	0	21,610
Lard	293	0	0	111

* It being undesirable to separate the different kinds of oil, mineral as well as animal and vegetable oils are included under this head.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, 1875—*continued.*

Articles.	Imports.			Exports.
	£	s.	d.	£
CLASS IV.—ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE SUBSTANCES—<i>continued.</i>				
<i>Order 26.—Oils—continued.</i>				
Linseed	34,660	0	0	6,879
Lustrine	79	0	0	...
Lubricating	352	0	0	48
Mutton-bird	21	0	0	...
Neatsfoot	82	0	0	1,026
Nut	45	0	0	...
Olive	8,027	0	0	196
Orange	17	0	0	...
Palm	3,242	0	0	87
Pine	160	0	0	...
Salad	10,784	15	0	...
Sperm	375	0	0	...
Tallow ... ..	...	...	...	1,333
Vegetable	10	0	0	...
Oils in bottle ... ..	...	...	...	1,499

CLASS V.—MINERALS AND METALS.*Order 27.—Articles connected with Mining.***Order 28.—Coal, &c.*

Coal	263,266	14	0	3,013
Coke, &c.	1,965	15	6	1,101
Kerosene Shale	5,071	0	0	...

*Order 29.—Stone, Clay, Earthenware, and Glass.**(See also Order 12 ante.)*

Bottles	8,664	0	0	...
Bricks, Bath	194	0	0	11
Brownware	3,092	13	1	...
Chinaware and Porcelain	15,515	16	4	1,630
Earthenware	37,338	17	3	7,416
Glass, Bottles	3,479	5	1	1,256
" Plate	10,281	0	0	124
" Window	30,182	0	0	2,799
Glassware	48,274	11	7	14,172
Marble, Wrought	7,397	7	7	1,487
" Unwrought	3,228	0	0	189
Pipes, Drain ... ..	...	...	...	1,670
Putty	1,585	0	0	...
Quartz	39	0	0	...
Stone, Grave ... ..	...	...	...	541
" Grind	1,296	0	0	182
" Mill	373	0	0	...
" Paving ... ..	...	...	...	403
" Unwrought	6,600	0	0	147
" Wrought	1,734	15	11	720
Stoneware	1,373	14	7	618
Whiting	6,028	8	0	250

* The Customs returns of 1875 did not distinguish any mining materials. No doubt machinery, tools, &c., specially intended for use in mining operations, were landed during the year, and possibly some such articles were also exported; but their connection with mining was not shown by the entries.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, 1875—*continued.*

Articles.	Imports.			Exports.
	£	s.	d.	£
CLASS V.—MINERALS AND METALS—<i>continued.</i>				
<i>Order 30.—Water.*</i>				
Ice ... ..	...	...	...	3
<i>Order 31.—Gold, Silver, Specie, and Precious Stones.</i>				
Gold	869,419	0	0	3,177,905
Gold-leaf	1,601	1	5	40
Jewellery	40,655	5	0	32,569
" Jet ... ..	...	...	...	331
Plate, Gold	102	0	0	25
" Silver	4,096	0	0	465
Silver ... ..	...	...	...	2,883
Specie, Copper	760	0	0	...
" Gold	140,055	0	0	1,479,016
" Silver	3,150	0	0	7,662
<i>Order 32.—Metals other than Gold and Silver.</i>				
Antimony Ore... ..	772	0	0	5,110
" Regulus ... ..	...	...	...	22,598
Brassware	27,819	10	6	924
Copper	11,829	0	0	10,450
" Ore	80	0	0	...
" Wire	762	0	0	...
Copperware	3,435	1	2	640
Iron—Bar, Rod, Pig, Plate, &c.	242,447	17	6	29,721
" Castings	16,432	15	1	1,665
" Cordage	5,934	0	0	379
" Galvanized	213,968	8	1	53,478
" Ore	1	0	0	...
" Pipes	78,436	8	0	4,983
" Railway Rails	39,014	0	0	15,798
" Tanks	6,935	13	0	5,191
" Wire	157,926	11	0	72,752
Ironware	2,031	5	3	632
Lead	27,397	0	0	3,042
" Ore	2,910	0	0	405
" Pipes	625	0	0	983
Metal, Manufactures of	113,654	3	3	37,437
" Yellow	16,537	0	0	3,789
Metalware, Mixed	5,978	3	6	...
Nails and Screws	64,551	11	10	16,067
Platedware	29,603	10	8	7,508
Quicksilver	15,897	0	0	1,741
Spelter	57	0	0	4,284
Steel	17,853	0	0	1,507
Tin	44,797	0	0	6,375
" Foil	2,610	0	0	152
" Ore	185	0	0	...
" Black Sand ... ..	...	...	...	714
Tinware	8,952	2	6	809
Zinc	10,779	0	0	653

* Water has been placed in the class "Minerals," &c., in accordance with the grouping adopted in the English census returns of 1851, 1861, and 1871.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, 1875—*continued.*

Articles.	Imports.			Exports.
	£	s.	d.	£
CLASS VI.—LIVE ANIMALS AND PLANTS.				
<i>Order 33.—Animals and Birds.</i>				
Birds	112	0	0	6
Deer	40	0	0	...
Dogs	674	0	0	60
Goats ... ..	...			15
Horned Cattle ...	578,610	0	0	21,456
Horses	57,989	0	0	97,998
Leeches ... ..	...			44
Pigs	15,469	0	0	18
Poultry	65	0	0	...
Rabbits	106	0	0	...
Sheep	493,683	0	0	27,175
Tigers	30	0	0	...
Turtles	5	0	0	...
<i>Order 34.—Plants.</i>				
Plants	3,580	0	0	1,235
CLASS VII.—MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS.				
<i>Order 35.—Miscellaneous Articles of Trade, &c.</i>				
Brushware	22,389	12	9	4,808
" Brooms, American	853	1	4	...
" " Carpet	6	0	0	...
Druggists' Ware ... ..	...			1,243
Fancy Goods	37,409	12	3	13,065
Grindery	41,571	0	0	2,647
Hairdressers' Materials... ..	1,013	0	0	...
Hardware and Ironmongery	54,000	18	0	51,559
Holloware	12,223	0	0	243
Military and Government Stores	244,816	0	0	1,867
Oilmen's Stores	15,820	18	6	14,146
Photographic Goods	1,620	0	0	275
Plumber's Ware ... ..	...			119
Printing Materials	20,463	0	7	5,715
Railway Materials	2,219	0	0	239
Telegraphic Materials	9,785	0	0	1,801
Tobacconists' Ware	158	0	0	87
Travellers' Samples	37,255	12	0	...
<i>Order 36.—Indefinite Articles.</i>				
Curiosities	51	0	0	...
Miscellaneous Articles	62,147	1	9	29,734
Personal Effects	25,559	0	0	13,604
Specimens of Natural History	561	0	0	281
Total	16,685,873	19	10	14,766,974

Imports and
exports,
1875.

100. The total value in 1875 of the imports being £16,685,874, and that of the exports being £14,766,974, the excess of imports over exports was £1,918,900, and the total value of external trade was £31,452,848.

101. The declared value of imports was less by £268,111 than it was in 1874. The declared value of exports was less by £674,135 than it was in that year.

Imports and exports, 1874 and 1875, compared.

102. A glance at the Statistical Summary at the commencement of this work will show that the imports in 1875 have been exceeded in value by those in 1854, 1857, and 1874 only, but that the exports in 1875 were exceeded in value by those in 1856, 1857, 1868, 1873, and 1874.

Years in which imports and exports 1875 have been exceeded.

103. The following table shows the estimated mean population and the value per head of the imports and exports during each year since Victoria has been an independent colony. It will be noticed that the imports and external trade per head, in the year under review, were, with the exception of those in the six years 1868 to 1872, less than they were in any other year since 1851. It will also be seen that the exports per head were less in 1875 than in any other year since 1851 except 1870 :—

Imports and exports per head.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS* PER HEAD, 1851 TO 1875.

Year.	Estimated Mean Population.	Value per Head of the Population of—		
		Imports.	Exports.	Both.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1851	86,825	12 3 4	16 7 9	28 11 1
1852	132,905	30 12 5	56 1 4	86 13 9
1853	195,378	81 1 9	56 12 4	137 14 1
1854	267,371	66 0 11	44 0 10	110 1 9
1855	338,315	35 9 10	39 17 8	75 7 6
1856	380,942	39 5 6	40 13 3	79 18 9
1857	430,347	40 2 0	35 0 10	75 2 10
1858	483,827	31 4 6	28 18 3	60 2 9
1859	517,226	30 4 1	26 16 3	57 0 4
1860	539,337	27 19 8	24 0 8	52 0 4
1861	541,012	25 0 3	25 11 3	50 11 6
1862	548,450	24 11 10	23 15 6	48 7 4
1863	561,322	25 3 0	24 3 4	49 6 4
1864	589,160	25 8 4	23 11 10	49 0 2
1865	616,375	21 10 2	21 6 8	42 16 10
1866	634,077	23 5 11	20 6 7	43 12 6
1867	649,826	17 19 4	19 11 8	37 11 0
1868	671,222	19 16 11	23 4 8	43 1 7
1869	696,942	19 19 2	19 6 5	39 5 7
1870	709,839	17 10 11	17 11 4	35 2 3
1871	738,725	16 14 2	19 14 2	36 8 4
1872	760,991	17 19 10	18 4 7	36 4 5
1873	780,362	21 3 9	19 12 2	40 15 11
1874	798,688	21 4 7	19 6 8	40 11 3
1875	815,034	20 9 6	18 2 4	38 11 10

104. The value of the imports of articles entered as being the produce or manufacture of the United Kingdom, of other British Dominions, and of Foreign States, and the value of the exports of articles entered as

Imports and exports the produce of various countries.

* For total value of imports and exports in each year, see Statistical Summary (first folding sheet) ante.

being the produce or manufacture of the same countries and of Victoria, also the percentage of such values to the total value of imports and exports during the year under review, will be found in the following table :—

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS THE PRODUCE OF DIFFERENT COUNTRIES.

Articles the Produce or Manufacture of—	Imports.		Exports.	
	Value.	Percentage.	Value.	Percentage.
	£	...	£	
Victoria ... ..	...	...	10,571,806	71·59
The United Kingdom	7,528,092	45·12	1,349,032	9·14
Other British Possessions	6,324,571	37·90	2,108,328	14·28
Foreign States	2,833,211	16·98	787,808	4·99
Total	16,685,874	100·00	14,766,974	100·00

Exports of
imported
wool.

105. It will be observed that over 71 per cent. of the exports are set down as being of articles the produce or manufacture of Victoria. There is reason to believe, however, that the entries in this respect are often loosely made, and that articles are set down as the produce of this colony which were really produced elsewhere. This is especially observable in the case of wool, the imports of which article being chiefly from the Riverine districts of New South Wales, merely brought across the Murray, and through Victoria by rail for shipment in Melbourne, should be about equal to the exports of wool the produce of countries outside Victoria. This, however, according to the entries, is not the case. A reference to the entry "Wool," in the Table of Imports and Exports *ante*, and to the footnote to that entry, will show that the wool imported exceeded by 20,000,000 lbs. in weight, or by £900,000 in value the quantity and value of wool set down as the produce of places outside Victoria in the list of exports. The following are the figures :—

EXPORTS OF IMPORTED WOOL.

Year 1875.	Quantity.	Value.
	lbs.	£
Wool imported	41,417,925	2,310,477
Wool exported entered as the produce of places outside Victoria	21,408,617	1,402,819
Difference	20,009,308	907,658

Exports of
imported
gold.

106. A discrepancy of a similar character, although bearing a smaller proportion to the total quantities involved, may be traced in regard to gold, the exports of which declared as the produce of places outside Victoria added to the quantity of gold other than Victoria n received at

the Melbourne Mint are less by 30,000 ounces, valued at £120,000, than the quantity of gold imported. The figures are given in the following table :—

EXPORTS OF IMPORTED GOLD.

Year 1875.	Quantity.	Value.
	oz.	£
Gold exported entered as the produce of places outside Victoria	84,229	336,868
Gold (not Victorian) received at the Melbourne Mint	102,948	411,792*
Total gold (not Victorian) accounted for ...	187,177	748,660
Gold imported	216,666	869,416
Difference	29,489	120,756

107. The value of the imports from and exports to the United Kingdom, the neighboring Colonies, other British Possessions, the United States, and other Foreign Countries, and the percentage of such values to the total imports and exports are given in the following table :—

IMPORTS FROM AND EXPORTS TO DIFFERENT COUNTRIES.

Countries.	Imports therefrom.		Exports thereto.	
	Value.	Percentage.	Value.	Percentage.
	£		£	
The United Kingdom ...	7,809,285	46·82	6,980,983	47·27
New South Wales	4,209,820	25·23	1,551,608	10·51
Queensland	106,146	·63	95,115	·64
South Australia	231,521	1·39	481,650	3·26
Western Australia	4,756	·03	59,360	·40
Tasmania	275,118	1·65	386,589	2·62
New Zealand	1,062,238	6·36	1,051,341	7·12
Other British Possessions ...	1,160,089	6·95	4,007,043	27·14
The United States	353,141	2·11	103,041	·70
Other Foreign States	1,473,760	8·83	50,244	·34
Total	16,685,874	100·00	14,766,974	100·00

108. The country from which, next to the United Kingdom, Victoria imports most largely is New South Wales, the principal articles, in 1875, being—wool, £2,264,676 ; horned cattle, £573,224 ; sheep, £473,044 ; coal, £258,645 ; and maize, £113,675. After the United Kingdom, Victoria exports most largely to “Other British Possessions,” chiefly Ceylon, by the mail steamers, the principal articles, in 1875, intended generally, doubtless, for further shipment to the United Kingdom, being—gold, £2,879,179 ; and specie, £983,741. The imports from “Other Foreign States” consisted in 1875 chiefly of tea from China, £630,922, and sugar from Java, £258,553.

* Estimated at £4 per oz.

Trade at
each port.

109. The port at which, after Melbourne, the value of the goods imported is greatest is Echuca, and at this and the other ports and places on the Murray nearly one-fifth of the total imports in 1875 were delivered. Except Melbourne, the only important port of shipment is Geelong, at which, both in 1875 and 1874, 8 per cent. of the exports were loaded. The following table gives the names of the various ports, and the value of the goods landed and shipped at each :—

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS AT EACH PORT.

Ports.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Value.	Percentage.	Value.	Percentage.
	£		£	
Melbourne	13,015,552	78'00	13,126,292	88'89
Geelong	211,027	1'27	1,192,750	8'08
Portland	15,944	'09	116,688	'79
Port Fairy	2,373	'01	7,929	'05
Port Albert	2,276	'01	...	...
Warrnambool	22,124	'14	19,742	'13
Cowana	3,076	'02	24,315	'17
Echuca	2,189,562	13'12	106,419	'72
Narung	29,857	'18	1,790	'01
Swan Hill	113,156	'68	16,487	'11
Tocumwall	19,163	'11	4,168	'03
Wahgunyah... ..	358,312	2'15	37,073	'25
Wodonga	574,848	3'45	109,416	'74
Howlong	19,503	'12	3,905	'03
At Stations	109,101	'65	...	...
Total	16,685,874	100'00	14,766,974	100'00

Exports
coastwise
from three
ports.

110. With reference to the above table, it is to be borne in mind that each port gets credit for the imports of such goods only as are landed thereat direct from other countries, or on which the duty has not been paid elsewhere in Victoria, and in like manner a port gets credit for the export of such goods only as are shipped therefrom direct to other countries. Besides the foreign trade, however, there exists a coastwise traffic, by means of which the outports receive goods of which the duty has been paid in Melbourne, and send away goods to Melbourne for ultimate shipment there. No return can be given of the imports coastwise at any of the ports, but the Customs returns for 1875 give a statement of the exports coastwise from three of the ports with the following results :—

EXPORTS COASTWISE FROM THE FOLLOWING PORTS, 1875.

	Value of Exports Coastwise.	
	£	
Warrnambool	257,953
Port Fairy (Belfast)	270,114
Portland	228,015

111. The chief item in these coastwise exports is wool, of which Chief articles exported coastwise. Warrnambool sent away 1,390,330 lbs., valued at £140,884; Port Fairy, 2,289,207 lbs., valued at £229,258; and Portland, 2,440,661 lbs., valued at £196,325. Of other articles figuring in the exports of these ports coastwise the principal are—cheese, grain and pulse, leather, live stock, and potatoes from Warrnambool; bark, grain and pulse, skins, and potatoes from Port Fairy; and bark, flour, grain and pulse, leather, and skins from Portland.

112. In the following table the values of fifty-nine of the principal articles imported in 1875, and in the first year of the two previous quinquennial periods are placed side by side. As the articles are arranged according to the classification already alluded to* the index which precedes the General Index at the end of the work will be found useful in discovering the place of any particular article. In comparing the values, it must be borne in mind that at the first and second periods the wool coming across the Murray from New South Wales was not included in the imports, and at the first period the gold from the adjacent colonies, being transhipped in bond to avoid the export duty, was also not included :—

IMPORTS OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES, 1865, 1870, AND 1875.

Order.	Articles.	Value of Imports.		
		1865.	1870.	1875.
		£	£	£
1	Books	106,182	107,377	140,723
	Stationery	205,300	67,899	70,597
9	Machinery	129,970	90,958	112,668
	Tools and Utensils... ..	48,663	77,140	96,425
13	Furniture	37,989	60,094	39,210
14	Drugs	52,351	71,181	99,475
	Matches and Vestas	48,803	31,445	31,188
	Opium	68,426	140,047	97,163
	Paints	22,561	30,099	54,300
15	Carpeting and Druggeting	39,379	54,067	45,523
	Woollens and Woollen Piece Goods	590,724	817,087	898,073
16	Silks	126,395	196,960	231,775
17	Cottons	283,231	369,139	575,134
	Linen Piece Goods	72,762	52,417	48,622
18	Drapery	979,450	141,443	137,810
19	Apparel and Slops... ..	433,756	272,943	345,342
	Boots and Shoes	632,448	303,437	202,532
	Gloves	33,189	51,733	55,946

* See paragraph 96 et sequitur ante.

IMPORTS OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES, 1865, 1870, AND 1875—*continued.*

Order.	Articles.	Value of Imports.		
		1865.	1870.	1875.
		£	£	£
19	Haberdashery	156,636	139,184	223,986
	Hats, Caps, and Bonnets	126,710	103,577	122,633
	Hosiery	85,543	111,028	134,070
	Millinery	55,557	94,310	8,481
20	Bags and Sacks (including Woolpacks)	144,280	92,098	172,404
21	Butter and Cheese... ..	111,511	67,805	10,085
	Fish	74,248	84,819	158,124
	Provisions	63,548	14,369	12,505
22	Flour (including Biscuit)	453,469	2,707	4,741
	Fruit (including Currants and Raisins)	152,722	133,299	128,099
	Grain—Oats	96,613	100,531	179,927
	" Wheat	466,480	22,542	66,396
	" Other (including Rice)	516,227	351,659	370,259
	Sugar and Molasses	657,546	958,926	1,040,410
23	Beer, Cider, and Perry	340,731	222,706	173,774
	Coffee	50,010	46,722	53,400
	Hops	48,179	85,463	68,217
	Spirits	354,565	384,664	375,339
	Tea	421,418	496,623	749,368
	Tobacco, Cigars, and Snuff... ..	297,854	222,268	235,709
	Wine	171,560	128,983	134,464
24	Candles	101,733	130,490	91,584
	Hides, Skins, and Pelts	3,191	24,218	94,663
	Leather, Leatherware, and Leathern Cloth	34,724	40,155	122,477
	Wool	226,766*	88,383*	2,310,477
25	Paper (including Paper Bags) ... ..	...	113,320	183,651
	Timber	271,848	223,767	425,471
26	Oil of all kinds	235,183	161,109	234,435
28	Coal	145,881	163,994	263,267
29	Earthenware and Brownware	43,591	29,951	40,432
	Glass and Glassware	62,898	78,721	92,217
31	Gold (exclusive of Specie)	2,500†	1,507,068	869,419
	Jewellery	40,696	40,585	40,655
	Specie	756,010	487,710	143,965
32	Iron and Steel	336,861	380,790	733,000
	Nails and Screws	60,491	44,370	64,552
33	Live Stock	601,855	613,387	1,145,751
35	Fancy Goods	20,367	62,851	37,410
	Hardware and Ironmongery	358,762	107,790	56,032
	Military and Government Stores	2,000	33,295	244,816‡
	Oilmen's Stores	63,912	159,348	15,821
	Total	12,126,255	11,291,051	14,914,992

* Not including the value of wool imported into Victoria across the Murray.

† At this period, gold from the adjacent colonies was transhipped under bond, and therefore did not appear in the returns of imports and exports.

‡ Embracing materials for railways and waterworks as well as other articles imported by the Government.

113. The exports of thirty-five of the principal articles are in like manner given for the same three years. It will be noticed that the total value was greatest at the last period, and least at the middle period :—

EXPORTS OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES, 1865, 1870, AND 1875.

Order.	Articles.	Value of Exports.		
		1865.	1870.	1875.
		£	£	£
1	Books	25,573	16,287	38,316
	Stationery	27,514	29,209	54,138
9	Machinery	37,156	27,652	67,587
15	Woollens and Woollen Piece Goods ...	19,771	24,375	79,665
18	Drapery	401,279	269,072	160,249
19	Appatel and Slops	75,641	45,714	173,080
	Boots and Shoes	123,540	46,428	76,047
21	Provisions—Preserved	4,678	151,800	134,345
	„ Salted	34,296	6,962	6,277
22	Flour and Biscuit	77,406	43,997	35,593
	Grain—Oats	8,144	373	8,970
	„ Wheat	5,499	8,944	483
	„ Other (including Rice)	34,339	39,904	66,132
	Potatoes	34,743	30,243	63,483
	Sugar	162,469	137,628	322,619
23	Coffee	36,055	24,727	35,351
	Spirits	129,433	87,656	140,548
	Tea	190,082	165,986	248,224
	Tobacco, Cigars, and Snuff ...	207,808	141,928	199,224
	Wine	56,460	37,140	71,450
24	Bones and Bone Dust	6,415	24,148	14,000
	Hides	72,187	11,508	2,754
	Horns and Hoofs	1,798	1,442	3,153
	Leather and Leatherware	60,138	112,971	248,503
	Skins and Pelts	11,775	22,141	47,700
	Soap	11,300	6,882	5,342
	Tallow	15,566	358,863	203,243
	Wool*	3,315,109	3,205,106	6,096,958
26	Oil of all kinds	49,187	62,952	60,367
31	Gold (exclusive of Specie)	6,190,317†	6,119,782	3,177,905
	Specie—Gold	809,269	577,840	1,479,016
	„ Silver	5,000	7,020	7,662
32	Tin, Tin Ore, and Black Sand	2,489	10,476	5,022
33	Live Stock	67,868	41,131	146,662
35	Hardware and Ironmongery (including Galvanized Ironware	90,634	41,957	52,191
	Total	12,400,938	11,940,244	13,532,259

Exports of principal articles, 1865, 1870, and 1875.

114. In the following table, the total value, and the value per head of population, of imports and exports, are given for each of the Australasian colonies; the returns for Victoria being for the three years ended

Imports and exports of each Australasian colony.

* Wool from across the Murray is included in the export returns of all the years. It was not included in the import returns until 1872.

† As a gold export duty existed in 1865 the gold received from the neighboring colonies was then transhipped in bond and did not appear in the returns of imports and exports. The export duty was abolished at the end of 1867.

with 1875, those for the other colonies being for the two years ended with 1874 :—

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES.

Colony.	Year.	Imports.			Exports.		
		Total Value.	Value per Head.		Total Value.	Value per Head.	
		£	£	s. d.	£	£	s. d.
Victoria ...	1873	16,533,856	21	3 9	15,302,454	19	12 2½
	1874	16,953,985	21	4 6½	15,441,109	19	6 8
	1875	16,685,874	20	9 5½	14,766,974	18	2 4½
New South Wales	1873	11,088,388	20	3 5	11,815,829	21	9 10½
	1874	11,293,739	19	14 8½	12,345,603	21	11 5½
Queensland ...	1873	2,885,499	20	11 10½	3,542,513	25	5 7½
	1874	2,962,439	19	2 0	4,106,462	26	9 6½
South Australia ...	1873	3,841,100	19	13 8	4,587,859	23	10 2½
	1874	3,983,290	19	15 8	4,402,855	21	17 4
Western Australia	1873	297,328	11	11 0	265,217	10	6 0½
	1874	364,263	14	0 4½	428,837	16	10 0½
Tasmania ...	1873	1,107,167	10	13 9½	893,556	8	12 6½
	1874	1,257,785	12	1 5	925,325	8	17 7½
New Zealand ...	1873	6,464,687	22	9 3½	5,610,371	19	9 11½
	1874	8,121,812	25	9 4½	5,251,269	16	9 4

Note.—For the imports and exports of the neighboring colonies during 1875, see General Summary of Australasian Statistics (third folding sheet) *ante*.

External trade of Victoria compared with other colonies.

115. It will be seen that the external trade of Victoria, as shown by the value of the imports and the exports, is larger than that of New South Wales and Queensland combined, and larger also than that of Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand combined. It must, however, be borne in mind that, in the Victorian imports from the adjacent colonies, wool is represented by a value of over £2,000,000, and gold by about £880,000; and there is no doubt that most of this is afterwards included in the Victorian exports.

Transshipments, 1870 to 1875.

116. The values of goods transhipped in Victorian ports without being landed were as follow during the last six years. These are not included in the lists of Imports and Exports. The transshipments have been much greater in the last two years than formerly, in consequence of heavy transshipments having taken place from and to the mail steamers on the Suez route *via* Point de Galle :—

TRANSHIPMENTS IN VICTORIAN PORTS, 1870 TO 1875.

		Value of Transshipments.				Value of Transshipments.	
1870	...	£1,145,882	1873	...	£1,827,842		
1871	...	1,191,169	1874	...	3,527,461		
1872	...	1,292,656	1875	...	4,284,798		

117. The following are the countries from which goods were received for transhipment, and to which they were transhipped in 1875, also the value of the goods received from and transhipped to each country in the same year :—

TRANSHIPMENTS FROM AND TO DIFFERENT COUNTRIES, 1875.

Countries.	Value of Goods.	
	Received therefrom for Transhipment.	Transhipped thereto.
	£	£
United Kingdom	654,889	808,473*
New South Wales	2,425,519†	470,183
New Zealand	37,350	322,682
Queensland	3,035	27,041
South Australia	656,632‡	152,962
Tasmania	101,028§	217,508
Western Australia	5	8,978
Fiji ... ..	...	117
Mauritius	17,764	...
Malden Island	9,250	17
Port Natal	333	...
New Caledonia ... ..	...	140
Java	6,551	39
China	49,867	94
Manilla	900	...
India	261,454	2,269,957 ||
France	3,644	...
Belgium ... ..	...	418
Sweden	60	...
United States	52,517	2,189
Total	4,280,798	4,280,798

118. The Customs revenue in 1875 showed a falling off as compared with that in 1874 to the extent of £84,003. The following are the figures :—

CUSTOMS REVENUE, 1874 AND 1875.

Head of Receipt.	Year ended 31st December.	
	1874.	1875.
	£	£
Import duties	1,779,288	1,691,584
Duties on spirits distilled in Victoria ¶	32,833	32,726
Ports and harbors	19,954	22,171**
Fees	6,321	7,068
Fines and forfeitures	168	1,511
Miscellaneous	9,648	9,149
Total	1,848,212	1,764,209

* Includes copper, £193,447; tin, £75,415; wool, £405,412.

† Includes gold coin, £2,115,913; copper, £105,627; tin, £56,847; wool, £20,448.

‡ Includes copper, £200,925; wool, £334,957.

§ Includes tin, £8,870; wool, £35,161.

|| Includes copper, £112,925; gold coin, £2,115,913; bullion, £5,017; wool, £9,775.

¶ A portion of the amounts of this line was not paid to the Customs, but direct into the Treasury.

** Consisting of tonnage, 433,200 tons at 1s. per ton = £21,810, and pilotage at outports, £361.

Pilotage rates.

119. Pilotage rates not included in the Customs revenue amounted to £21,585 in 1874, and £21,463 in 1875.

Drawbacks.

120. Values of goods exported for drawback, and amounts paid on such goods, have been as follow during the last four years. A considerable increase is observable from year to year :—

EXPORTS FOR DRAWBACK, 1872 TO 1875.

Year.					Value of Goods exported for Drawback.	Amount paid.
					£	£
1872	...	...	...	...	461,559	29,083
1873	...	...	...	...	522,752	43,685
1874	...	...	...	...	753,033	62,895
1875	...	...	...	...	831,799	79,055

Vessels inwards and outwards.

121. The tonnage of vessels entering and leaving Victorian ports, and the number of men employed to navigate such vessels, were greater in the year under review than in any of the three previous years. The number of vessels inwards, however, was very slightly exceeded in one, and the number outwards in two of those years. The following are the figures for the four years :—

VESSELS ENTERED AND CLEARED, 1872 TO 1875.

Year.	Vessels Entered.			Vessels Cleared.			
	Number.	Tons.	Men.	Number.	Tons.	Men.	
1872	...	2,104	666,336	33,551	2,234	694,426	35,353
1873	...	2,187	756,103	36,307	2,226	762,912	36,216
1874	...	2,100	777,110	36,834	2,122	792,509	36,472
1875	...	2,171	840,386	38,681	2,223	833,499	38,454

Nationality of vessels.

122. The following are the numbers of Colonial, British, and Foreign vessels entered and cleared in the colony during the year under notice, together with their tonnage and crews :—

NATIONALITY OF VESSELS ENTERED AND CLEARED.

Nationality.	Vessels Entered.			Vessels Cleared.			
	Number.	Tons.	Men.	Number.	Tons.	Men.	
Colonial	...	1,781	483,880	25,679	1,869	505,691	26,442
British	...	296	297,127	11,708	268	274,245	10,859
Foreign	...	94	59,379	1,294	86	53,563	1,153
Total	...	2,171	840,386	38,681	2,223	833,499	38,454

Foreign vessels.

123. The Foreign vessels were of the following nationalities; the numbers entered and cleared of each nationality being shown. As in

the previous year, most of the Foreign vessels were American; after which the nationality most largely represented was France, and after that Germany:—

FOREIGN VESSELS ENTERED AND CLEARED.

Country.	Vessels Entered.	Vessels Cleared.
United States	41	38
France	16	13
Germany	12	8
Norway	8	9
Holland	8	7
Sweden	3	6
Hawaii	2	1
Russia	1	1
Denmark	1	1
Spain	1	1
Nicaragua	1	1
Total	94	86

124. The following figures show the proportion of crews to tonnage in Colonial, British, and Foreign vessels during the last two years. It will be observed that Colonial vessels are, numerically, the best manned, and Foreign vessels much the worst. It is to be remembered, however, that most of the Colonial vessels, and many of the British vessels, are steamers, whilst very nearly all the Foreign vessels are sailing vessels; and as steamers must have one crew to attend to the engines and another to the sails and cargo, they necessarily carry more hands in the aggregate than sailing vessels:—

	1874.	1875.
Colonial vessels had 1 man to 19 tons		19 tons
British " " 24 "	24 "	21 "
Foreign " " 41 "	41 "	46 "
All " " 21 "	21 "	22 "

Crews, and proportion to tonnage.

125. The number and tonnage of vessels during each year from that of the first settlement of Port Phillip will be found in the Statistical Summary at the commencement of this work. It will be seen that the tonnage was higher in the year under notice than in any other, but that the number of vessels was exceeded in the three years ended with 1857, also in 1869 and 1873, and was exactly equalled in 1871.

Vessels, 1875. Comparison with former years.

126. In 1875 only about 3 per cent. of the vessels inwards, with less than 1 per cent. of the tonnage, arrived in ballast. In the same year 33 per cent. of the vessels outwards, with 28 per cent. of the tonnage, left in ballast. The following are the numbers and percentage of vessels which arrived and departed with cargoes and in ballast:—

Vessels with cargoes and in ballast.

VESSELS WITH CARGOES AND IN BALLAST.

Inwards.				
	Vessels.		Tons.	
	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.
With cargoes	2,107	97·05	834,007	99·24
In ballast	64	2·95	6,379	·76
Total	2,171	100·00	840,386	100·00

Outwards.				
	Vessels.		Tons.	
	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.
With cargoes	1,495	67·25	599,327	71·90
In ballast	728	32·75	234,172	28·10
Total	2,223	100·00	833,499	100·00

Vessels at
each port.

127. Ninety-one per cent. of the tonnage of vessels inwards is entered, and about 88 per cent. of that outwards is cleared, at the port of Melbourne. After Melbourne, the next port of importance in regard to shipping entered and cleared is Echuca, on the Murray, and next to that Geelong. The following table shows the number and tonnage of vessels inwards and outwards at each port in the colony during 1875:—

SHIPPING AT EACH PORT, 1875.

Ports.	Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
Melbourne	1,743	766,729	1,717	737,664
Geelong	68	22,888	70	27,134
Portland	5	1,429	12	3,960
Port Fairy	7	482	21	3,785
Port Albert	5	501	7	742
Warrnambool	18	2,430	44	8,938
Wahgunyah	8	848	9	913
Echuca	223	32,741	231	34,429
Swan Hill	18	3,398	36	6,994
Cowana	41	3,349	41	3,349
Narung	35	5,591	35	5,591
Total	2,171	840,386	2,223	833,499

Vessels in
Australasian
colonies.

128. The following table shows the number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared in Victoria in the three years ended with 1875, and in the other Australasian colonies in the two years ended with 1874:—

SHIPPING IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES.

Colony.	Year.	Inwards.		Outwards.	
		Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
Victoria ...	1873	2,187	756,103	2,226	762,912
	1874	2,100	777,110	2,122	792,509
	1875	2,171	840,386	2,223	833,499
New South Wales ...	1873	2,161	874,804	2,212	887,674
	1874	2,217	1,016,369	2,168	974,525
Queensland ...	1873	582	176,172	569	176,352
	1874	713	302,825	657	269,925
South Australia ...	1873	799	265,437	732	250,203
	1874	720	265,899	720	268,651
Western Australia ...	1873	137	69,669	150	70,568
	1874	144	63,351	153	67,476
Tasmania ...	1873	661	118,353	681	119,759
	1874	607	119,706	620	119,801
New Zealand ...	1873	739	289,297	704	281,847
	1874	856	399,296	822	385,533

NOTE.—For returns of shipping in the neighboring colonies for 1875, see Summary of Australasian Statistics (third folding sheet) *ante*.

129. Owing, doubtless, to the large amount of shipping engaged in the coal trade of New South Wales, the number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared in that colony are in excess of the number and tonnage of those entered and cleared in Victoria. With this exception, however, the shipping coming to and departing from Victorian ports is much greater, both in regard to numbers and tonnage, than that of any other colony of the group. Results compared.

130. The only vessels built in Victoria are a few small craft. In the year under notice 24 such were launched, 9 of which were steamers and 15 were sailing vessels, viz., 1 barge, 8 cutters, and 6 schooners. The aggregate tonnage of the steamers was 1,406, or an average of 156 to each vessel; that of the sailing vessels was 356, or an average of about 24 to each. In the ten years prior to the year under notice 23 steamers and 51 sailing vessels were built, the total tonnage of the former being 1,668, that of the latter being 3,801. Vessels built.

131. The vessels registered in the year under review numbered 53, viz., 17 steamers, measuring in all 3,015 tons, and carrying 197 men; and 36 sailing vessels, measuring together 5,504 tons, and carrying 210 men. Vessels registered.

132. The vessels on the register at the end of 1875 numbered 458, viz., 61 steamers and 397 sailing vessels. The former, in the aggregate, measured 12,656 tons, and carried 865 men; and the latter measured 61,228 tons, and carried 2,564 men. Vessels on the register.

Lighters and
boats.

133. The number of lighters licensed to convey goods during the year was 133. The number of boats licensed was 323, of which 2 were to be employed in whaling, 9 in oyster-fishing, and 312 in the conveyance of passengers, &c.

Postal
returns.

134. The following figures show the number of Post Offices throughout the colony, and the number of letters, packets, and newspapers which passed through them in the last two years. A satisfactory increase is to be observed in all the items :—

POSTAGE, 1874 AND 1875.

Year,	Number of Post Offices.	Number Despatched and Received of—			
		Letters.	Newspapers.	Packets.	Total.
1874 ...	802	15,738,888	6,866,918	1,269,822	23,875,628
1875 ...	855	17,134,101	7,552,912	1,528,493	26,215,506
Increase ..	53	1,395,213	685,994	258,671	2,339,878

Registered
letters.

135. An increase also took place in the letters registered in Victoria, as will be seen by the following figures :—

						Registered Letters.
1874	...	...	...	...	...	152,089
1875	...	...	...	...	...	160,787
Increase						8,698

Irregularly
posted
letters.

136. The number of letters irregularly posted in 1875 amounted to 129,824. Of these, 1,136 were registered letters; 1,226 contained articles valued in the aggregate at £13,462, for £12,707 of which, or 94 per cent. of the whole amount, owners were found; 369 did not bear any names and addresses whatever; 961 bore imperfect addresses, and 61 bore obscene or libellous addresses. The irregularly posted letters were thus disposed of :—

						Irregularly Posted Letters.
Returned, delivered, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	117,599
Destroyed, or on hand	...	...	...	...	...	12,225
Total	...	...	...	...	...	129,824

Money
orders.

137. About a fourth of the Post Offices are also Money Order Offices. At each of these offices money orders are issued in favor of any other Money Order Office in Victoria, and in favor of Great Britain and the other Australasian colonies, and money orders issued at such places are also paid at each Victorian office. An increase took place in 1875 in the number of offices, in the number of orders issued, and the number and amount of orders paid, but a slight falling off occurred in the amount remitted by means of the money orders issued. The following is a comparative statement of the business in the last two years :—

MONEY ORDERS, 1874 AND 1875.

Year.	Number of Money Order Offices.	Money Orders Issued.		Money Orders Paid.	
		Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
1874 ...	216	119,542	£ 374,076	116,418	£ 379,748
1875 ...	224	121,094	373,436	121,924	393,383
Increase ...	8	1,552	...	5,506	13,635
Decrease...	...	...	640	...	...

138. The telegraph lines in Victoria extend over upwards of 2,600 miles, and the wires measure more than 4,500 miles. They are connected with the lines of New South Wales, and, by means of them, with Queensland and New Zealand. They are also connected with the lines of South Australia, and, by means of them, with the Eastern Archipelago, Asia, and Europe. They are likewise united with a submarine cable to Tasmania. As compared with 1874, an increase took place in the number of stations, the length of lines, the number of paid telegrams, and the amount received, but a decrease in the number of unpaid telegrams. The following are the results of the year under notice and the previous one :—

ELECTRIC TELEGRAPHS, 1874 AND 1875.

Year.	Number of Stations.	Number of Miles of—		Number of Telegrams.			Amount Received.
		Line (poles).	Wire.	Paid.	Unpaid.	Total.	
1874 ...	148	2,467	4,293*	579,795	121,285	701,080	42,825
1875 ...	164	2,629	4,510	623,514	109,355	732,869	46,995
Increase	16	162	217	43,719	...	31,789	4,170
Decrease	...	...	...	...	11,930	...	...

139. As the Electric Telegraphs are incorporated with the Post Office, the accounts of the two departments are kept together. It will be observed that an increase of £12,000 has taken place in the income of the joint department, but an increase of only a little more than a fourth of that amount in its expenditure :—

POST OFFICE.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1874 AND 1875.

Year.				Post Office, including Electric Telegraphs.	
				Income.	Expenditure.†
1874 ...	...	...	...	£ 194,339	£ 288,574
1875 ...	...	...	...	206,388	291,945
Increase	...	...	...	12,049	3,371

* Set down as 4,464 in the Year-Book, 1874. The Post Office authorities have since amended their figures.

† Exclusive of the cost of steam postal communication with Great Britain.

Railways :
length,
gauge, &c.

140. The number of miles of railway open at the end of 1875 was 616½, of which 599½—viz., 163·3 miles of double and 436·2 miles of single line—belonged to the State, and 17—viz., 9¾ miles of double and 7¼ miles of single line—were the property of the Melbourne and Hobson's Bay United Railway Company. Negotiations have for some time past been in progress with the object of the purchase of the interests of this company by the Government. All the lines are constructed upon a gauge of 5 feet 3 inches, which is also the national gauge of South Australia, but not of New South Wales, in which colony a 4 feet 8½ inches gauge has been adopted.*

Railways :
length, cost,
and distance
travelled.

141. In the following paragraphs and tables the statements respecting the Victorian Railways are brought down to the 30th June, those of the private railways to the 31st December of the years named. The figures subjoined show the names and lengths of the different lines, the distance travelled on each line during the year under review, and the total cost and average cost per mile of the Government lines and private lines respectively :—

RAILWAYS.—LENGTH, COST, AND DISTANCE TRAVELLED, 1875.

Name of Line.	Length.	Cost of Construction.†		Distance Travelled in the Year.
		Total	Average per Mile.	
<i>Government Railways.</i>				
Murray	miles. 156¼	12,223,100 †	21,520	834,294
Williamstown	6			
Ballarat	91¼			
North-Eastern	185½			
Ballarat and Ararat	57			
Castlemaine and Dunolly	47½			
Ballarat and Maryborough	42½	534,968		
<i>Private Railways.</i>				
Melbourne and St. Kilda	3¾	865,412 §	50,907	451,128
Melbourne and Sandridge	2½			
Melbourne and Windsor	3½			
Windsor and Brighton	5¼			
Richmond and Hawthorn	2			
Total	603	13,088,512	21,706	2,502,838

Railways in
progress.

142. The following lines were in course of construction by the State at the end of the financial year 1874-5. Their total cost to that date had amounted to £188,572. Their proposed total length is 371¾ miles,

* The private line of railway between Moama and Deniliquin in New South Wales, which is connected with the Victorian line from Sandhurst to Echuca, has been constructed upon a 5 feet 3 inches gauge.

† Exclusive of the cost of rolling-stock.

‡ The total amount expended on State railways from their commencement to the 30th June 1875 was £13,240,656 (see paragraph 95 ante.)

§ This represents the cost to the present company; the original cost was much greater.

which, added to length of the completed lines, as given in the last table, makes a grand total of 974½ miles :—

RAILWAYS IN PROGRESS, 1874-5.

Proposed Total Length.		Proposed Total Length.	
Gippsland ...	115½ miles	Maryborough and Avoca...	15 miles
Beechworth ...	22½ "	Geelong and Colac ...	51 "
Ararat and Stawell ...	18½ "	Portland and Hamilton ...	55 "
Ararat and Hamilton ...	64 "		
Sandhurst and Inglewood	30½ "	Total ...	371½ "

143. The quantity of rolling-stock on the Government and private lines, and its total cost, were as follow in the year under notice :—

ROLLING-STOCK, 1875.

	Number of each kind of Rolling-stock.						Total Cost of Rolling-stock.
	Loco-motives.	First Class and Composite Carriages.	Second Class Carriages.	Sheep and Cattle Trucks.	Goods Trucks, Waggons, &c.	Guards' Vans and other Vehicles.	
Government lines	121	96	87	175	1,678	149	£ 948,206
Private lines ...	16	77	15	...	202	12	137,830
Total ...	137	173	102	175	1,880	161	1,086,036

144. It appears by the following figures that the passenger rates are somewhat higher on Government lines than on private lines :—

PASSENGER RATES (SINGLE) PER MILE, 1875.

					d.
First class, Government lines ...	...	...	...	...	2
" private lines ...	...	...	...	...	1½
Second class, Government lines ...	...	...	...	...	1½
" private lines ...	...	...	...	...	1½

145. The return rates are not given for the Government lines,* but for the private lines they are stated to average 1½d. per mile first class, and 1d. per mile second class.

146. The following is a statement of the number of miles open and the number of miles travelled on Government and private lines during the last two years. As regards the Government lines, it must be borne in mind that in both years only a portion of the extent set down as open was so during the whole year † :—

* On most of the Government lines return tickets are not issued.

† The Murray, Williamstown, and Ballarat lines were opened for traffic prior to the commencement of the financial year 1873-4, as also was the North-Eastern line for a distance of 105 miles. The remaining portions were opened as follow :—From Violet Town to Benalla, 16½ miles, on the 18th August; from Benalla to Wangaratta, 24½ miles, on the 28th October; and from Wangaratta to Wodonga, 41½ miles, on the 18th November 1873. The Ballarat and Ararat line was opened as far as Beaufort, 28½ miles, on the 11th August 1874, and on to Ararat, 29½ miles, on the 7th April 1875. The Castlemaine and Dunolly line was opened to Maryborough, 34 miles, on the 7th July, and on to Dunolly, 13½ miles, on the 6th October 1874. The Ballarat and Maryborough line was opened to Creswick, 11½ miles, on the 7th July 1874; on to Clunes, 11½ miles further, on the 16th November of the same year, and was completed to Maryborough, 19½ miles further, on the 2nd February 1875.

RAILWAYS.—MILES OPEN AND TRAVELLED, 1874 AND 1875.

Year.	Government Lines.		Private Lines.		Total.	
	Extent Open.	Distance Travelled.	Extent Open.	Distance Travelled.	Extent Open.	Distance Travelled.
1874... ..	miles. 440½	miles. 1,667,124	miles. 17	miles. 442,103	miles. 457½	miles. 2,109,227
1875... ..	586	2,051,710	17	451,128	603	2,502,838
Increase ...	145½	384,586	...	9,025	145½	393,611

Railways:
number of
passengers.

147. The returns of the year under review, as compared with those of the former year, show that a considerable increase took place in the passenger traffic, both on Government and private lines. As regards the former, the increase is to be a certain extent accounted for by the additional length of line opened, as shown in the last table:—

RAILWAYS.—NUMBER OF PASSENGERS CARRIED, 1874 AND 1875.

Year.	Government Lines.	Private Lines.	Total.
1874	2,039,029½	3,335,812	5,374,841½
1875	2,699,519	3,465,557½	6,165,076½
Increase	660,489½	129,745½	790,235

Railways:
weight of
goods
carried.

148. The same reason would also partially account for the greater weight of goods carried on Government lines in 1875 than in 1874. A decrease in 1874, as compared with the former year, in the weight of goods carried on private lines was noted in the last Year-Book.* It will be observed that a further decrease in the same direction took place in the year under review:—

RAILWAYS.—WEIGHT OF GOODS CARRIED, 1874 AND 1875.

Year.	Government Lines.	Private Lines.	Total.
1874	tons. 681,710	tons. 222,960	tons. 904,670
1875	732,772	206,674	939,446
Increase	51,062	...	34,776
Decrease ... ..	...	16,286	...

Government
railways:
receipts and
working
expenses.

149. The following are the receipts and working expenses on Government lines during the last two years. It will be observed that the working expenses amounted to 44 per cent. of the receipts in 1874, but to 52½ per cent. in 1875:—

RECEIPTS AND WORKING EXPENSES ON GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS, 1874 AND 1875.

Year.	Receipts.	Working Expenses.	Proportion of Working Expenses to Receipts.
1874	£ 851,042	£ 374,715	per cent. 44·03
1875	920,008	481,717	52·36
Increase	68,966	107,002	8·33

* See Victorian Year-Book, 1874, paragraph 359, and following table.

150. On private railways the receipts in 1875 exceeded those in 1874 by £6,000; but the working expenses were less by £2,000 than in that year. In 1874 the working expenses bore a much larger proportion to the receipts than they did on Government lines, but in 1875 about the same proportion :—

RECEIPTS AND WORKING EXPENSES ON PRIVATE RAILWAYS,
1874 AND 1875.

Year.	Receipts.	Working Expenses.	Proportion of Working Expenses to Receipts.
	£	£	per cent.
1874	165,884	91,801	55·34
1875	171,930	89,761	52·21
Increase	6,046	...	...
Decrease ... ..	...	2,040	3·13

151. The following were the miles of railway and electric telegraph open in each of the Australasian colonies at the end of the years named in the table. It will be observed that, in regard to the construction of railways, Victoria is far in advance of any of the other colonies. The returns of electric telegraph of the different colonies are not strictly comparable, for the reasons stated in the footnote :—

RAILWAYS AND ELECTRIC TELEGRAPHS IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES.

Colony.	Year.	At the end of each Year.	
		Miles of Railway open.	Miles of Telegraph open.*
Victoria	1873	458	2,295
	1874	605	2,467
	1875	617	2,629
New South Wales	1873	401	6,521
	1874	401½	7,449
Queensland	1873	218	3,059
	1874	249	3,616
South Australia ...	1873	202	3,807
	1874	234	3,900
Western Australia	1873	30	900
	1874	38	763
Tasmania	1873	45	291
	1874	45	291
New Zealand	1873	145	2,389
	1874	209	2,632

NOTE.—For miles of railway and electric telegraph open in the neighboring colonies at the end of 1875, see Summary of Australasian Statistics (third folding sheet) *ante*.

* This column should contain statements of the number of miles of telegraph *line* open in the respective colonies. It is certain, however, that some of the colonies return the number of miles of *wire* instead. The latter is always much greater than the number of miles of line.

Wages.

152. The rates of wages in Melbourne are quoted as follow for the year 1875 and for the first year of each at the two previous quinqueniads. It will be observed that the wages at the last period are in many instances higher than they were at either of the other periods. In country districts the rates are generally somewhat higher than in the metropolis :—

WAGES IN MELBOURNE, 1865, 1870, AND 1875.

Description of Labor.	1865.	1870.	1875.
<i>Agricultural Labor.</i>			
Farm laborers ... per week, with rations	12s. to 15s.	15s. to 20s.	12s. 6d. to 20s.
Ploughmen ... " "	15s. to 20s.	15s. to 20s.	20s. to 25s.
Reapers ... per acre, "	10s. to 12s.	7s. to 12s.	12s. to 15s.
Mowers ... " "	3s. to 4s.	4s. to 6s.	3s. to 5s.
Threshers... per bushel, "	4d. to 5d.	4d. to 6d.	5d. to 7d.
<i>Pastoral Labor.</i>			
Shepherds ... per annum, with rations	£30 to £35	£35 to £40	£35 to £52
Stockkeepers ... " "	£40 to £65	£40 to £50	£40 to £65
Hutkeepers ... " "	£25 to £30	£25 to £30	£25 to £40
Generally-useful } per week, "	14s. to 18s.	15s.	15s. to 20s.
men on stations }			
Sheepwashers ... " "	14s.	18s. to 20s.	15s. to 25s.
Shearers ... per 100 sheep sheared, "	13s.	12s. to 14s.	11s. to 15s.
<i>Artisan Labor.</i>			
Masons ... per day, without rations	8s. to 10s.	10s.	11s. to 12s.
Plasterers ... " "	8s. to 10s.	10s.	10s.
Bricklayers ... " "	8s. to 10s.	10s.	10s.
Carpenters ... " "	8s. to 10s.	10s.	10s.
Blacksmiths ... " "	8s. to 10s.	10s. to 12s.	10s. to 13s.
<i>Servants—Males and Married Couples.</i>			
Married couples, } per annum, with board } without family } and lodging }	£50 to £60	£65 to £80	£60 to £80
Married couples, } with family } " "	£40 to £50	£40 to £55	£40 to £50
Men cooks, on } farms and stations }	£40 to £60	£40 to £55	£40 to £52
Grooms ... " "	£40 to £50	£40 to £55	£45 to £60
Gardeners ... per week, "	18s. to 25s.	20s. to 30s.	20s. to 40s.
<i>Servants—Females.</i>			
Cooks ... { per annum, with board } and lodging }	£30 to £40	£35 to £45	£35 to £60
Laundresses ... " "	£25 to £30	£30 to £40	£30 to £40
General servants ... " "	£20 to £30	£26 to £30	£26 to £35
Housemaids ... " "	£20 to £30	£20 to £30	£25 to £35
Nursemaids ... " "	£15 to £26	£20 to £30	£20 to £35
<i>Miscellaneous Labor.</i>			
General laborers ... per day, without rations	5s. to 6s.	6s.	6s. to 7s.
Stonebreakers { per cubic yard, without } rations }	3s. to 4s. 6d.	2s. to 3s.	2s. to 3s. 6d.
Seamen ... per month, with rations	£4 to £5	£4 to £5	£5 to £6
Miners ... per week, without rations	£2 5s. to £3	£2 5s. to £3	£2 to £2 10s.

153. The following may be quoted as the average prices in Melbourne ^{Prices.} of the chief articles of consumption in the same three years. The cost of groceries, wines, spirits, &c., is generally somewhat higher, and the cost of agricultural and grazing produce somewhat lower, in country districts :—

PRICES IN MELBOURNE, 1865, 1870, AND 1875.

Articles.	1865.	1870.	1875.
<i>Agricultural Produce.</i>			
Wheat per bushel	8s. to 9s. 9d.	4s. 6d. to 6s.	4s. 6½d. to 6s. 9d.
Barley "	4s. to 5s.	3s. to 5s. 6d.	3s. 2d. to 6s. 6d.
Oats "	3s. to 5s. 9d.	3s. 3d. to 3s. 10d.	3s. to 5s. 3d.
Maize "	3s. 9d. to 5s.	3s. 4d. to 4s. 1d.	4s. 4d. to 6s. 6d.
Bran "	1s. 3d. to 1s. 11d.	1s. 0½d. to 1s. 4d.	1s. 3d. to 1s. 8d.
Hay per ton	£4 10s to £9 5s.	£3 5s. to £8 10s.	£3 10s. to £5 10s.
Flour, first quality "	£19 10s. to £25	£11 to £13 10s.	£10 5s. to £13 15s.
Bread per 4lb. loaf	7d. to 1s.	6d. to 7d.	6d. to 7d.
<i>Grazing Produce.</i>			
Horses—			
Draught... .. each	£10 to £50	£12 to £42	£12 to £40
Saddle and harness .. "	£5 to £50	£5 to £25	£5 to £45
Cattle—			
Fat "	£2 10s. to £17	£5 5s. to £11 5s.	£6 10s. to £15 5s.
Milch cows "	£5 to £10	£6 to £12	£4 to £12 10s.
Sheep, fat "	6s. to 24s.	5s. to 15s.	5s. to 24s.
Lambs, fat "	4s. to 18s.	4s. to 11s.	3s. 6d. to 11s. 6d.
Butchers' meat—			
Beef, retail per lb.	4d. to 9d.	3d. to 6d.	3d. to 9d.
Mutton " "	3d. to 8d.	1½d. to 4½d.	1½d. to 5d.
Veal " "	7d. to 9d.	6d.	5d. to 6d.
Pork " "	5½d. to 10d.	8d.	7d. to 10d.
Lamb " per quarter	3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d.	2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d.	1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d.
<i>Dairy Produce.</i>			
Butter—			
Colonial, retail per lb.	1s. 10d. to 3s.	6d. to 1s. 9d.	10d. to 1s. 10d.
Imported, salt, } wholesale } .. "	6d. to 1s. 6d.	9d. to 1s.	10d. to 1s.
Cheese—			
Colonial, retail "	8d. to 2s.	9d. to 10½d.	10d to 1s. 4d.
Imported, wholesale .. "	7d. to 1s. 5d.	1s. to 1s. 4d.	1s. 4d.
Milk per quart	6d. to 7d.	6d.	4d. to 6d.
<i>Farm Yard Produce.</i>			
Geese per couple	8s. to 12s.	7s. to 11s.	8s. to 12s.
Ducks "	4s. 6d. to 7s.	4s. 6d. to 6s.	5s. to 7s. 6d.
Fowls "	4s. 6d. to 7s.	3s. 6d. to 5s.	5s. to 7s.
Rabbits "	1s. 6d. to 5s.	1s. 6d. to 4s.	1s. to 4s.
Pigeons "	2s. to 3s.	1s. 6d. to 3s.	1s. 6d. to 3s.
Turkeys each	9s. to 20s.	5s. to 12s.	6s. to 15s.
Suckling pigs "	4s. to 10s.	7s. to 12s.	12s. to 13s.
Bacon per lb.	7½d. to 1s. 5d.	10d. to 1s. 2d.	1s. to 1s. 2d.
Ham "	10d. to 1s. 7d.	1s. to 1s. 4d.	1s. 2d. to 1s. 4d.
Eggs per doz.	1s. 6d. to 3s. 6d.	10d. to 2s.	10d. to 2s. 8d.

PRICES IN MELBOURNE, 1865, 1870, AND 1875—continued.

Articles.	1865.	1870.	1875.
<i>Garden Produce.</i>			
Potatoes—			
Wholesale ... per ton	£3 10s. to £6.	£3	£3 to £10
Retail ... per lb.	½d. to 1½d.	½d.	¾d. to 1d.
Onions, dried ... per cwt.	10s. to 20s.	5s. to 17s.	6s. to 12s.
Carrots ... per dozen bunches	9d. to 1s. 6d.	9d. to 1s. 6d.	6d. to 9d.
Turnips ... "	6d. to 3s.	6d. to 2s.	4d. to 1s.
Radishes ... "	4d. to 8d.	4d. to 6d.	4d. to 6d.
Cabbages ... per doz.	1s. to 12s.	6d. to 6s.	4d. to 4s.
Cauliflowers ... "	1s. 6d. to 15s.	1s. to 8s.	1s. to 4s.
Lettuces ... "	6d. to 3s.	6d. to 1s. 6d.	3d. to 9d.
Green peas ... per lb.	...	...	1d. to 4d.
<i>Miscellaneous Articles.</i>			
Tea (duty paid) ... per lb.	1s. to 3s.	8d. to 2s. 8d.	7d. to 3s.
Coffee (in bond) ... "	8d. to 1s.	6d. to 9½d.	10d. to 1s. 2½d.
Sugar (duty paid) ... per ton	£26 10s. to £57	£24 to £56	£20 to £36 10s.
Rice ... "	£18 to £30	£16 10s. to £23	£18 to £27 10s.
Tobacco (in bond) ... per lb.	8d. to 4s.	6d. to 1s 7d.	9d. to 3s.
Soap—Colonial ... per ton	£25 to £30	£22 to £30	£20 to £30
Candles—			
Tallow ... per lb.	7d. to 9d.	4½d. to 4½d.	4d. to 5d.
Sperm ... "	9d. to 1s. 1d.	10½d. to 1s.	8½d. to 11½d.
Salt ... per ton	£3 to £4 10s.	£3 15s. to £4 10s.	£3 2s. 6d. to £6 5s.
Coals ... "	26s. to 30s.	20s. to 21s. 6d.	29s. to 35s.
Firewood ... "	8s. to 12s.	9s. to 12s. 6d.	12s. to 13s.
<i>Wines, Spirits, &c.</i>			
Ale (duty paid) ... per hhd.	£4 to £8 15s.	£5 10s. to £8 10s.	£6 to £9 5s.
" ... per doz	8s. 6d. to 10s. 3d.	8s. to 10s.	7s. to 11s.
Porter ... per hhd.	£5 to £8 2s. 6d.	£3 10s. to £6 10s.	£5 10s. to £6 12s. 6d.
" ... per doz.	8s. to 10s. 9d.	7s. to 10s.	7s. 6d. to 11s.
Brandy (in bond) ... per gall.	4s. 6d. to 9s.	4s. 3d. to 9s.	3s. 3d. to 9s. 6d.
Rum ... "	2s. 9d. to 4s.	3s. 1½d. to 4s. 6d.	3s. 1d. to 4s. 4½d.
Whiskey ... "	2s. 9d. to 4s. 9d.	3s. 6d. to 6s. 6d.	4s. 3d. to 7s. 6d.
Hollands ... "	1s. 10d. to 2s. 9d.	3s. 3d. to 4s. 6d.	2s. 9d. to 4s.
Port wine ... per pipe	£30 to £85	£20 to £100	£16 to £104
" (duty paid) per doz.	24s. to 50s.	24s. to 50s.	25s. to 55s.
Sherry (in bond) ... per butt	£36 to £110	£20 to £120	£18 to £130
" (duty paid) ... per doz.	40s. to 56s.	20s. to 75s.	25s. to 85s.
Claret ... "	15s. to 70s.	11s. 6d. to 100s.	10s. 9d. to 80s.
Champagne ... "	30s. to 84s.	30s. to 85s.	26s. 9d. to 100s.

Price of gold.

154. The price of gold varies in different districts according to its purity. In the last quarter of 1875 the lowest price quoted (£3 per oz.) was in the Beechworth district, but some gold in the same district was stated to have realised as much as £4 2s. 6d. per oz. The highest average was in the Ballarat district, in which the prices ranged from £3 17s. to £4 3s. The lowest average was in the Gippsland district, in which the prices ranged from £3 5s. to £4.

155. The numbers of live stock imported overland, as recorded by the inspectors of stock, differ slightly from those recorded by the Customs.* The following are the totals of horses, cattle, and sheep, according to the returns of these authorities respectively :—

IMPORTS OF LIVE STOCK OVERLAND.

				According to the Returns of the Stock Inspectors.			According to the Returns of the Customs.
Horses	...	...	...	7,459	...	...	5,768
Cattle	...	...	...	69,881	...	...	68,541
Sheep	...	...	...	890,614	...	...	895,671

Imports of live stock overland.

156. The pigs imported numbered 7,592 according to the Customs returns, but it is not stated how many of these were imported by land and how many by sea. According to the stock inspectors, the pigs imported overland numbered 1,558.

Imports of pigs.

157. The weights and measures used in Victoria are in every respect similar to those in use in the United Kingdom.

Weights and measures.

PART V.—PRODUCTION.

158. The land alienated from the Crown in fee-simple during the year 1875 amounted to 418,562 acres. Of this extent, 83,397 acres, or about a fifth, was disposed of by auction; the remainder, amounting to 335,165 acres, had been, in the first instance, selected under the deferred payment system.† No Crown lands were granted without purchase during the year.

Crown lands sold, 1875.

159. The total area sold up to the end of the year was 10,347,949 acres; the area granted without purchase was 3,245 acres. The total extent alienated in fee-simple was thus 10,351,194 acres.

Crown lands sold, 1836 to 1875.

160. The selected lands, of which the purchase had not been completed up to the end of the year, amounted to 6,498,749 acres. Of this extent it is estimated that 500,000 ‡ acres had been forfeited to the Crown for non-fulfilment of conditions. The remainder, representing the whole area in process of alienation under deferred payments, amounted to 5,998,749 acres.

Crown lands selected.

* All live stock entering the colony should be registered with the nearest Clerk of Petty Sessions under Act 19 Vict. No. 21. It is to be regretted, however, that the provisions of this Statute are ignored to such an extent that the returns obtained are practically worthless. Under these circumstances it would be only misleading to publish them here.

† For an account of the changes which have taken place in the mode of disposing of Crown lands in Victoria, see *Victorian Year-Book*, 1874, paragraphs 366 to 370.

‡ Since this paragraph has been in type I have been informed by the Lands Department that this is an under-estimate, and that the land resumed by the Crown is equal to considerably more than twice the extent here named.

Publicestate, 1875. 161. The following was the condition of the public estate at the end of 1875 :—

PUBLIC ESTATE OF VICTORIA ON 31ST DECEMBER 1875.

Condition of Land.	Number of Acres.
Land alienated in fee-simple	10,351,194
Land in process of alienation under deferred payments	5,998,749*
Roads in connection with the above	842,502
Land included in towns, &c.	239,207
Reserves in connection with pastoral occupation, about	350,000
Auriferous lands, about	1,150,000
State forests, not included in unavailable mountain ranges	215,100
Timber reserves	363,015
Mallee scrub, unavailable mountain ranges, lakes, lagoons, &c., about	23,000,000
Area available for selection at end of 1875	13,936,953*
Total area of Victoria	56,446,720

Land available for selection. 162. It thus appears that the total extent of land suitable for occupation within the limits of Victoria is 33,446,720 acres, and of this area nearly 14,000,000* of acres, or 42 per cent., were still available for selection at the end of 1875.

Amount realised on land sales, 1875. 163. The total amount realised for Crown lands sold during the year was £630,054, or at the rate of £1 10s. 1½d. per acre. The land sold by auction fetched £291,231, which was at the rate of £3 9s. 10d. per acre, and the land sold otherwise than at auction realised £338,823, or an average of £1 0s. 2½d. per acre.

Amount realised, 1886 to 1875. 164. The amount realised for the sale of Crown lands from the first settlement of the colony to the end of the year under review was £17,416,200, or at the rate of £1 13s. 8d. per acre.

Squatting runs: number and area. 165. The squatting runs in 1875 numbered 865, or one more than in 1874. The area embraced in runs amounted in 1875 to 22,967,639 acres, or 1,262,489 acres less than in 1874.

Squatting runs: average area. 166. The average size of runs was 28,044 acres in 1874, and 26,552 acres in 1875.

Rent of runs. 167. In 1874 the rent paid for runs amounted to £125,938, or an average of 1.247d. per acre. In 1875 it amounted to £139,304, or an average of 1.456d. per acre.

Purchased land attached to runs. 168. The number of squatting runs with purchased land held in connection therewith has been falling off during the last three years, as also has the area of purchased land so held. To account for this circumstance it should be explained, that, as soon as the Crown lands attached to an estate are altogether purchased, it drops out of the list of runs and is considered as a farm. The term "run" is applied to such holdings only as are occupied under pastoral licenses. The following are the figures :—

* These quantities are affected by the under-estimate of lands forfeited to the Crown referred to in footnote to paragraph 160 ante.

SQUATTING RUNS WITH PURCHASED LAND ATTACHED, 1873 TO 1875.

Year.				Number of Runs with Purchased Land attached.	Number of Acres of Purchased Land attached to Runs.
1873	...	...	...	482	1,959,394
1874	...	...	...	455	1,740,911
1875	...	...	...	448	1,730,113

169. The agricultural statistics for the year under notice are brought down to the 31st March 1876.* Tables embodying the general results of these statistics were sent to the *Government Gazette* for publication on the 10th May last. The same tables have been reprinted in the part of the Statistical Register now being commented upon, and others have been added.

Agricultural statistics.

170. The land in occupation, of which a return is given in the agricultural statistics, is always considerably less than the whole area alienated. In the first place the collectors are not required to take account of holdings of a smaller extent than one acre, nor of gardens or grounds attached to residences whereat rural pursuits are not followed, but which are kept merely for ornament and pleasure; nor of any lands which are unoccupied, or which are used for purposes other than agriculture or the keeping of live stock. Returns are obtained without much trouble from the small and medium-sized holdings, but difficulty is often experienced in getting a correct account of the extent of land embraced in large estates. Sometimes an overseer is in charge, who does not know even the gross area, much less the extent of the portions which are let off as farms, and which, being returned in the names of the occupiers or tenants, should be subtracted from the total. Not unfrequently the owner himself is, or professes to be, unable to furnish an accurate statement.

Land in occupation.

171. The occupied land returned on the present occasion, subtracted from the total extent of land alienated, shows a difference of $3\frac{1}{4}$ millions of acres. The following are the figures:—

Difference between alienated and occupied land.

	acres.
Total land alienated, less 500,000 acres forfeited to the Crown	16,349,943
Occupied land returned by collectors of statistics	13,084,233
Difference	3,265,710 †

* A summary of the agricultural statistics of each year since the first settlement of the colony will be found at the commencement of this work (second folding sheet). The mode of collecting agricultural statistics is described in the *Victorian Year-Book*, 1874, paragraphs 381 to 384.

† This amounts to 80 per cent. of the alienated land, and, as far as any figures are obtainable, it appears to approach closer to the total extent alienated than that shown by the agricultural statistics of the adjacent colonies. According to the returns of 1874-5, the "land in occupation" in New South Wales amounts to only 74 per cent., and the "purchased land held by freeholders" in South Australia amounts to no more than 58 per cent., of the land alienated. The land forfeited to the Crown having been under-estimated, as communicated to me just as these pages were going to press (see footnote to paragraph 160 ante), the occupied land in Victoria approaches even nearer to the total extent alienated than is here stated.

Land occupied, enclosed, and cultivated.

172. The following is a statement of the number of holdings, and of the extent of land occupied, enclosed, and cultivated, in the year under review, and the previous one. An increase will be observed in all the items :—

HOLDINGS AND LAND* OCCUPIED, ENCLOSED, AND CULTIVATED,
1875 AND 1876.

Year ended 31st March.	Number of Holdings larger than 1 acre.	Acres Occupied.	Acres Enclosed.	Acres under Tillage.
1875 ...	38,468	12,264,576	11,281,142	1,011,776
1876 ...	40,852	13,084,233	12,105,197	1,126,831
Increase ...	2,384	819,657	824,055	115,055

Land under principal crops.

173. The next table shows the extent of land under the principal crops in the same two years. It will be noticed that a falling off took place in the land under wheat, but an increase in that under each of the other crops :—

LAND UNDER PRINCIPAL CROPS, 1875 AND 1876.

Year ended 31st March.	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.	Green Forage.
	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.
1875 ...	332,936	114,921	29,505	35,183	119,031	254,329
1876 ...	321,401	124,100	31,568	36,901	155,274	308,405
Increase ...	...	9,179	2,063	1,718	36,243	54,076
Decrease...	11,535	...	...	...	...	...

Produce of principal crops.

174. Notwithstanding the diminished acreage under wheat, as shown in the last table, the superior productiveness of the season resulted in an increased number of bushels of wheat being raised, as well as an increase in the yield of each of the other principal crops :—

GROSS PRODUCE OF PRINCIPAL CROPS, 1875 AND 1876.

Year ended 31st March.	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	tons.	tons.
1875 ...	4,850,165	2,121,612	619,896	124,310	157,261
1876 ...	4,978,914	2,719,795	700,665	124,377	206,613
Increase ...	128,749	598,183	80,769	67	49,352

Green forage.

175. No return is made of the yield of the land under green forage. Land laid down permanently with artificial grasses is included with

* The holdings and land referred to are exclusive of Crown lands held under squatting licenses.

this, as also is that under any other crops which are either cut green for use as fodder or are fed off by live stock on the ground. The following is the acreage under each of the crops of which the green forage produced in the year under review consisted:—

LAND UNDER GREEN FORAGE, 1875-6.

	acres.
Cereal grasses (barley, wheat, oats, &c.)	1,760
Maize	2,019
Rye grass, lucerne, clover, vetches, &c.	11,240
Sorghum	208
Permanent artificial grasses	293,178
Total	308,405

176. The average produce of the various crops has been much greater in some years than in others. The most favorable year of the last eleven years for cereals and for hay was 1867, when the acreable yield of wheat was 22½ bushels, that of oats and of barley 30 bushels, and that of hay 1½ tons. The best year for potatoes was 1875, when the yield was on the average 3·53 tons to the acre. The least favorable year for cereals was 1871, when wheat averaged only 10 bushels, oats 15 bushels, and barley 12½ bushels to the acre. The worst year for hay was 1866, when the yield was barely a ton to the acre, and the worst year for potatoes was 1869, when the yield was not more than 2½ tons to the acre. The following are the averages of those crops during each of the last eleven years:—

AVERAGE PRODUCE OF PRINCIPAL CROPS, 1866 TO 1876.

Year ended 31st March.	Average Produce per Acre of—				
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	tons.	tons.
1866	19·70	22·17	22·29	2·65	·98
1867	22·25	30·01	30·18	2·74	1·74
1868	15·72	18·61	20·32	3·29	1·30
1869	16·28	19·65	15·23	2·21	1·09
1870	19·75	25·98	24·55	3·09	1·60
1871	10·10	14·98	12·26	3·27	1·13
1872	13·45	18·76	20·00	3·22	1·40
1873	16·51	19·55	20·86	3·45	1·32
1874	13·58	15·69	19·84	2·86	1·27
1875	14·57	18·46	21·01	3·53	1·32
1876	15·49	21·92	22·20	3·37	1·33
Average of 11 years	16·13	20·53	20·79	3·06	1·32

177. The acreable yield of all the cereals in the year under review exceeded that in the preceding year. The yield of wheat, however, was scarcely up to the average of the eleven years, but the yield of both oats and barley was in excess of that average. The yield of potatoes was

Average produce: mean of eleven years.

not up to the average of the previous year, but was above that of the eleven years. The average yield of hay exceeded by a fraction that of the former year and that of the whole period of eleven years.

Average
produce in
Australa-
sian
colonies.

178. In the following table, the average yield of wheat, oats, potatoes, and hay in Victoria during the last five years is placed side by side with the average of the same crops in the other Australasian colonies during as many of those years as the information is available for. The only one of the colonies for which the particulars are altogether wanting is Queensland. That colony publishes no return of the produce of any crop except wheat, and that only for certain selected districts, the average of which does not afford reliable data for ascertaining the average produce of wheat over the colony taken as a whole:—

AVERAGE PRODUCE OF PRINCIPAL CROPS IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1872 TO 1876.

Name of Colony.	1871-2.	1872-3.	1873-4.	1874-5.	1875-6.	Mean.
Wheat: Bushels per Acre.						
Victoria ...	13·45	16·51	13·58	14·57	15·49	14·72
New South Wales	14·48	16·32	13·43	12·87	14·66	14·35
South Australia	5·73	11·50	7·87	11·75	11·95	9·76
Western Australia	...	6·02	13·44	12·00	11·00	10·62
Tasmania ...	13·39	18·62	16·17	18·51	16·38	16·61
New Zealand ...	22·52	24·19	25·61	28·15	31·54	26·40
Oats: Bushels per Acre.						
Victoria ...	18·76	19·55	15·69	18·46	21·92	18·88
New South Wales	20·36	19·94	18·71	16·31	18·72	18·81
South Australia	10·85	16·39	10·61	14·61	16·69	13·83
Western Australia	...	13·24	19·22	16·00	15·00	15·87
Tasmania ...	20·03	25·85	20·98	26·82	25·40	23·82
New Zealand ...	26·78	27·00	29·81	35·22	39·34	31·63
Potatoes: Tons per Acre.						
Victoria ...	3·22	3·45	2·86	3·53	3·37	3·29
New South Wales	3·03	2·98	2·98	2·83	2·98	2·96
South Australia	3·48	3·28	3·41	3·72	4·52	3·68
Western Australia	...	2·34	2·67	3·00	3·00	2·75
Tasmania ...	2·77	3·92	3·16	3·75	3·54	3·43
New Zealand ...	3·53	4·92	4·46	5·24	4·89	4·61
Hay: Tons per Acre.						
Victoria ...	1·40	1·32	1·27	1·32	1·33	1·33
New South Wales	1·50	1·61	1·54	1·37	1·15	1·43
South Australia	1·00	1·21	1·02	1·26	1·21	1·14
Western Australia	...	1·51	2·00	1·50	1·00	1·50
Tasmania ...	·98	1·39	1·08	1·35	1·42	1·24
New Zealand ...	1·16	1·25	1·43	·84	1·46	1·23

NOTE.—All the calculations in this table were made in the office of the Government Statist, Melbourne. For the land under and total produce of each crop in the respective colonies during the last three years, see Summary of Australasian Statistics (third folding sheet) *ante*.

179. Intimately connected with the quantity of wheat produced are the quantities imported and exported, and with these must also be taken into account the manufactures of wheat, namely, flour, bread, and biscuit, the whole being known to the trade as breadstuffs. Particulars of the imports and exports of breadstuffs during each year since the first settlement of the colony are now published for the first time in a single return, and will be found in the "Statistical Summary" (first folding sheet) at the commencement of this work. The quantities have all been reduced to their equivalent in bushels, on the assumption that one bushel of wheat produces 45 lbs. of flour, bread, or biscuit. An examination of the figures will show that in almost all the years Victoria has had to import breadstuffs largely in order to supply the requirements of her population, and in three years only has there been any residue, and in those but a small one, remaining for export. The three years referred to are 1870, 1873, and 1874. In the first of these the exports of breadstuffs exceeded the imports by 95,654 bushels, in the second by 138,088 bushels, and in the third by 40,714 bushels.

Imports and exports of breadstuffs.

180. In the early part of 1875 very confident expectations were entertained in some quarters of there being again a surplus of breadstuffs available for exportation, and this notwithstanding the agricultural statistics showed that the yield of wheat was not a high one. Indeed, in one official report which was laid before Parliament, the writer estimated that the net quantity available for export would be 20,000 bushels, and as the yield of wheat shown by the agricultural statistics failed to bear out that conclusion, but on the contrary pointed to a deficiency, he went so far as to assert that, "beyond a doubt the produce of wheat shown by the agricultural statistics was much understated," and that probably "many scattered holdings had been missed by the collectors." *

Net imports of breadstuffs, 1875.

181. The result has shown the incorrectness of this writer's conclusions, and has entirely vindicated the accuracy of the agricultural statistics, inasmuch as, instead of there being a surplus of breadstuffs amounting to 20,000 bushels available for export, it was found necessary, as it turned out, to import no less a quantity than 200,369† bushels of breadstuffs during the year over and above the quantity exported. It is difficult to conceive that the agricultural statistics of any country can be quite perfect, but it may fairly be contended for the agricultural statistics of Victoria that from the system under which they are collected, and the checks which exist in the department of the Government

Accuracy of agricultural statistics proved.

* See Mr. H. Byron Moore's report to the Honorable the Minister of Lands, Appendix D to Parliamentary Paper No. 10, Session 1875, pp. 24 and 32.

† The whole quantity imported was 284,605 bushels, but 84,236 bushels having been exported, the net figures are as here stated.

Statist for testing the accuracy of the returns, and especially for proving whether all the holdings have been visited, it is not at all likely that any serious error or omission could at any time take place.

Net imports
of bread-
stuffs, 1837
to 1875.

182. The following table gives the total quantity and the value of breadstuffs imported and exported from the period of the first settlement of the colony to the end of 1875. It will be observed that, after deducting the amount received for breadstuffs sent away, there remains a balance amounting to between 11 and 12 millions sterling paid by the colony for breadstuffs imported, or rather more than the amount expended up to the beginning of the financial year 1874-5 on the construction of the State railways* :—

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF BREADSTUFFS, 1837 TO 1875.

Wheat, Flour, Bread, and Biscuit.		Quantity.	Value.
		bushels.	£
Imported, 1837 to 1875	... ..	31,523,559	13,567,216
Exported, „ „	... ..	5,403,721	1,909,951
Imports in excess of exports ...		26,119,838	11,657,265

Net imports
of agricul-
tural pro-
ducts.

183. The following are the values of the net imports, *i.e.*, the values of imports after the values of the exports have been deducted, of different articles of farm and garden produce during 1875. All these articles are capable of being produced, and all, or nearly all, are to a certain extent now produced in the colony :—

NET IMPORTS† OF CERTAIN ARTICLES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE, 1875.

	Balance of Imports over Exports.
	£
Wheat	65,913 ‡
Oats	170,957
Oatmeal	511
Barley	24,569
Pearl barley	4,623
Malt	93,009
Maize	114,609
Maizena	1,624
Beans, peas, and split peas	5,528
Fruit—green, bottled, dried, currants and rasins	104,916
Jams and jellies	4,799
Nuts, almonds, walnuts	6,255
Hops	42,960
Chicory	2,413
Pickles	9,160
Tobacco, cigars, and snuff	36,485
Total	£688,331

* This amount was £11,557,484.

† The total imports and total exports of these articles will be found in the table of imports and exports following paragraph 99 *ante*, chiefly under Order 22.

‡ The value of the exports of flour, bread, and biscuit exceeded the value of the imports of those articles by £30,852. If this amount be taken from that representing the value of the net imports of wheat (£65,913), the remainder (£35,061) will represent the value of the net imports of breadstuffs.

184. The following are the proportions which the land under each of the principal crops has borne to the total land under cultivation in the last two years. It will be observed that, in proportion to the total cultivation, hay and green forage covered a larger area and each of the other crops a smaller area in the latter year than in the former :—

PROPORTION OF LAND UNDER EACH CROP, 1875 AND 1876.

Name of Crop.					1874-5.	1875-6.
					per cent.	per cent.
Wheat	...	...	...	...	32·90	28·52
Oats	...	...	...	...	11·36	11·01
Barley	...	...	...	...	2·92	2·80
Potatoes	...	...	...	...	3·48	3·27
Hay	...	...	...	...	11·76	13·78
Green forage	...	...	...	...	25·14	27·37
Other tillage	...	...	...	...	12·44	13·25
Total land under crop					100·00	100·00

185. Other crops less important than those already named are grown to a certain extent in Victoria. Some of these are raised in gardens and on lots smaller than those which the collectors are called upon to visit, and therefore the full extent to which they are cultivated does not appear. The following is a statement of the acreage under minor crops and of their produce according to the returns of the last two years :—

MINOR CROPS,* 1875 AND 1876.

Nature of Crop.					1874-5.	1875-6.
Beet, carrots, parsnips, and cabbage	...	...	...	{ acres ...	721	807
				{ tons ...	3,887	4,268
Broom millet...	...	...	...	{ acres ...	56	96
				{ fibre, cwt. ...	264	338
				{ seed, bush. ...	1,000	2,095
Buckwheat	...	...	...	{ acres ...	5	2
				{ bushels ...	20	40
Canary	...	...	...	{ acres ...	...	50
				{ bushels ...	...	300
Chicory	...	...	...	{ acres ...	109	174
				{ tons ...	531	652
„ for seed	...	...	...	{ acres ...	...	3
				{ lbs. ...	...	168
Clover for seed	...	...	...	{ acres ...	...	45
				{ bushels ...	...	614
Cocksfoot for seed	...	...	...	{ acres ...	5	1
				{ bushels ...	140	15
Cow-grass for seed	...	...	...	{ acres ...	20	13
				{ bushels ...	37	15

* Exclusive of the quantities grown in gardens, &c.

MINOR CROPS, 1875 AND 1876—*continued.*

Nature of Crop.				1874-5.	1875-6.	
Flax	{ acres ...	7	17
				{ fibre, cwt. ...	48	93
				{ linseed, bush.	63	80
Hops	{ acres ...	126	145
				{ lbs. ...	99,624	113,344
Kohl rabi	{ acres ...	...	1
				{ cwt. ...	...	300
Lucerne for seed	{ acres ...	...	6
				{ bushels ...	...	42
Maize	{ acres ...	1,523	2,346
				{ bushels ...	24,263	37,177
Mangel-wurzel	{ acres ...	1,281	1,223
				{ tons ...	17,899	16,795
Melons	{ acres ...	10	16
				{ tons ...	17	18
Mustard (white)	{ acres ...	31	40
				{ cwt. ...	100	166
Onions	{ acres ...	347	552
				{ tons ...	2,794	4,780
Opium poppies	{ acres ...	10	4
				{ lbs. ...	168	100
Osiers	{ acres ...	4	3
				{ acres ...	16,170	18,854
Peas and beans	{ bushels ...	317,382	450,948
				{ acres ...	21	45
Prairie grass for seed	{ bushels ...	619	948
				{ acres ...	36	39
Pumpkins	{ tons ...	233	49
				{ acres ...	7	34
Rape for seed	{ bushels ...	30	...
				{ acres ...	...	3
Raspberries	{ cwt. ...	...	60
				{ acres ...	1,096	1,292
Rye and bere	{ bushels ...	15,620	19,356
				{ acres ...	3,036	2,130
Rye-grass for seed	{ bushels ...	35,202	32,602
				{ acres ...	21	24
Strawberries	{ cwt. ...	210	215
				{ acres ...	1	11
Teazles	{ cwt. ...	20	178
				{ acres ...	733	782
Tobacco	{ cwt. ...	6,839	501*
				{ acres ...	241	284
Turnips	{ tons ...	1,901	2,668
				{ acres ...	3	26
Vetches and tares for seed	{ bushels ...	28	492
				{ acres ...	4,937	5,081
Vines	{ wine, galls...}	577,493	755,000
				{ brandy, galls.}	148	256
				{ acres ...	...	...

* The tobacco crop 1875-6 failed in most of the districts.

186. In addition to the area under these crops, the following land was returned as being comprised in gardens and orchards in the same two years. The quantities of vegetables and fruit produced are not given:—

LAND UNDER GARDENS AND ORCHARDS, 1875 AND 1876.

Year ended 31st March.	Gardens.	Orchards.	Total.
	acres.	acres.	acres.
1875	11,083	6,317	17,400
1876	11,816	5,945	17,761
Increase	733	...	361
Decrease ... ..	...	372	...

Gardens and orchards.

187. Ten acres under olives and 23 acres under mulberry trees were also returned in the year under review. The mulberry trees numbered 30,650, and are grown for the purpose of feeding and rearing silkworms, this being an industry which, so far as it has gone, has been attended with great success in Victoria.* No particulars respecting the olive crop are given. Mulberry and olive trees are frequently grown in gardens; and there is no doubt that both are much more extensively cultivated than the agricultural statistics indicate. This is also the case with raspberries; only 3 acres of which appear in the returns. Osiers, for basket-making, are often grown in swamps and on the banks of streams. They are usually planted in small patches, which do not come under the notice of the collectors of statistics. This is probably the reason that an amount of 3 acres only under osiers appears in the last table.

Mulberry and olive grounds, &c.

188. Land in fallow is included in the land under tillage.† The quantity of this in the year under notice amounted to 97,133 acres, as against 77,912 acres in the previous year.

Land in fallow.

189. The following table shows the number of holdings of various sizes, and the extent of occupied and cultivated land embraced therein, according to the returns of the year under notice. It must be borne in mind that this table, in common with all others based upon the agricultural statistics, contains no account of holdings which are not over an acre in extent, or of any land which does not appear to be in the *bonâ fide* occupation of some one living on or near the ground, or of any which is occupied for other purposes than agriculture or the keeping of live stock, or of any Crown lands held under pastoral

Classification of holdings as to size.

* One company established near Castlemaine has planted 25,000 trees, which were brought from China, France, and Italy. They exported over 100 oz. of silkworm grain to the North of Italy in 1875, where it is said that, on account of its healthy appearance, it created quite a *furor* amongst the buyers. Some cocoons were also sent, which were highly approved of by competent judges.

† See table following paragraph 172 *ante*.

licenses. It should, moreover, be remarked that each distinct occupation is considered to constitute a holding, without reference to its proprietorship; also that each of several holdings in different localities occupied or owned by one person is necessarily reckoned as a distinct holding* :—

CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS AS TO SIZE, 1875-6.

Size of Holdings.				Number of Holdings.	Extent of Land in Occupation.	Extent of Land under Tillage.
					acres.	acres.
1 acre to 4 acres	...	...	...	1,511	4,413	2,488
5 acres	14	"	...	3,419	30,101	13,492
15 "	29	"	...	3,825	78,986	24,747
30 "	49	"	...	3,279	125,921	34,608
50 "	99	"	...	5,981	431,090	96,445
100 "	199	"	...	7,774	1,095,653	204,276
200 "	320	"	...	10,437	2,955,535	340,467
321 "	400	"	...	1,165	412,402	64,192
401 "	500	"	...	860	387,895	57,889
501 "	600	"	...	527	291,184	39,624
601 "	700	"	...	441	284,586	27,860
701 "	800	"	...	225	169,166	18,734
801 "	900	"	...	163	139,377	13,962
901 "	1,000	"	...	154	147,065	16,808
1,001 "	1,500	"	...	328	397,611	27,738
1,500 "	2,000	"	...	156	271,726	17,026
2,001 "	3,000	"	...	155	384,489	23,922
3,001 "	4,000	"	...	79	278,190	7,497
4,001 "	5,000	"	...	54	246,543	7,514
5,000 "	7,500	"	...	73	442,039	20,964
7,500 "	10,000	"	...	49	428,524	9,526
10,001 "	15,000	"	...	79	992,145	15,995
15,000 "	20,000	"	...	42	741,454	6,322
20,001 "	30,000	"	...	48	1,193,006	27,734
30,001 "	40,000	"	...	18	608,042	5,533
40,001 "	and upwards	"	...	10	547,090	1,468
Total				40,852	13,084,233	1,126,831

Average size of holdings.

190. The average size of holdings was 319 acres in 1874-5, and 320 acres in 1875-6. In 1869-70 the average size of holdings was 293 acres, and since then there has been a gradual increase from year to year.

Area occupied per head.

191. The average area in occupation to each person in the colony in 1869-70 was 12.4 acres. Since then there has been an increase each year; the average to each person in 1875-6 being 15.9 acres.

Area cultivated per holding.

192. The average area cultivated by each occupier was 27.6 acres in 1875-6, as against 26.3 acres in 1874-5.

* See paragraphs 170 and 171 *ante*; also footnote to the latter paragraph.

193. The area cultivated to each person in the colony was 1·37 acre in the year under review, and 1·25 acre in the previous year. Area cultivated per head.

194. In 1874-5, 8¼ per cent., and in 1875-6, 8⅔ per cent. of the occupied land was in cultivation. Occupied land cultivated.

195. A statement is furnished by the collectors of statistics of the average duration of leases of farms let by private individuals, and the average rental per acre in each district. According to this, the term of a lease generally ranges from 3 to 7 years; the extreme figures being 1 year and 10 years. The average rental of agricultural land per acre was said to be from 7s. to 15s.; the extreme figures being 5s. and 40s. The average rental of pastoral land per acre was stated to be 3s. to 5s.; the extremes being 1s. and 10s. Leases and rental of farms.

196. Each collector also furnishes a statement of the price of the principal articles of agricultural produce in his district at the time he makes his rounds. The following is an average deduced from the returns of all the districts during each of the last nine years:— Prices of agricultural produce.

PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE,* 1868 TO 1875.

During February and March.			Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
			per bushel.	per bushel.	per bushel.	per ton.	per ton.
			s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1868	...	...	7 3	3 11	4 4	82 0	72 6
1869	...	...	5 5	4 6	4 11	124 10	113 4
1870	...	...	4 3	3 7	4 0	75 0	77 0
1871	...	...	5 4	3 9	3 11	70 0	76 0
1872	...	...	4 8	2 11½	3 6½	65 6	64 0
1873	...	...	4 9	3 5	4 1	67 4	81 0
1874	...	...	5 9	5 6	5 3	118 3	88 0
1875	...	...	4 5	4 3	4 6	89 0	89 0
1876	...	...	4 7	3 3	3 10	87 0	82 0

197. The standard weight of crops in Victoria is reckoned to be 60 lbs. to the bushel for wheat and maize, 40 lbs. for oats, and 50 lbs. for barley. The actual weight, however, differs in different districts. Thus wheat, during the past year, ranged from 56 lbs. to 64 lbs.; oats, from 35 lbs. to 44 lbs.; barley, from 46 lbs. to 54 lbs.; and maize, from 50 lbs. to 58 lbs. The average weight per bushel of these crops in all the districts during the past two years was as follows:— Weight of crops.

SPECIFIC WEIGHT OF CROPS, 1875 AND 1876.

Average Weight per Bushel of—				1874-5.	1875-6.
				lbs.	lbs.
Wheat	...	...	...	61	61
Oats	...	...	...	40	40
Barley	...	...	...	51	50
Maize	...	...	...	55	55

* See also table following paragraph 153 ante.

Hands employed.

198. An increase, according to the returns, took place in the number of persons employed in agricultural and pastoral pursuits in 1875-6 as compared with 1874-5. The following are the figures of the two years. The proprietor or manager of the farm or station is included amongst the hands employed :—

HANDS EMPLOYED ON FARMS AND STATIONS,* 1875 AND 1876.

Year ended 31st March.				Hands employed on Farms.		
				Males.	Females.	Total.
1875	...	...	...	56,520	25,231	81,751
1876	...	...	...	61,273	27,446	88,719
Increase ...				4,753	2,215	6,968

Year ended 31st March.				Hands employed on Stations.		
				Males.	Females.	Total.
1875	...	...	...	4,638	1,275	5,913
1876	...	...	...	4,669	1,339	6,008
Increase ...				31	64	95

Rates of labor on farms.

199. A return of the rates paid for labor on farms is made by the collector of each district. The next table contains the average of all these returns during the last two years. An increase will be observed in the wages of all those descriptions of labor which do not compete with machinery ; but otherwise a slight decrease. Rations are given in every case in addition to wages :—

RATES OF LABOR ON FARMS, † 1875 AND 1876.

Description of Labor.				1874-5.		1875-6.	
				s.	d.	s.	d.
Ploughmen,	per week	..	...	20	3	21	4
Farm laborers,	"	...	...	16	9	17	7
Married couples,	"	...	...	23	1	24	6
Females,	"	...	...	10	6	10	7
Mowers,	"	...	...	30	5	28	11
"	per acre	...	...	5	0	5	1
Reapers,	per week	...	...	32	3	31	11
"	per acre	...	...	13	9	14	1
Threshers,	per bushel	...	...	0	7	0	7

* The word "farm," as used in connection with the agricultural statistics, implies a holding of which no portion is subject to a squatting license. The word "station" implies a holding of which portion is subject to a squatting license. "Farms" consist of alienated land only. "Stations" consist either of Crown lands only, or of Crown and alienated lands occupied in the same holdings.

† See also table following paragraph 152 *ante*. For definition of the term "farm," see last footnote.

LIVE STOCK ON FARMS, ETC., AND ON STATIONS,* 1874-5 AND 1875-6.

Year ended 31st March.	Horses.	Cattle.			Sheep.	Pigs.
		Milch Cows.	Exclusive of Milch Cows.	Total.		
ON FARMS AND LAND UNCONNECTED WITH STATIONS.						
1875	161,398	228,593	571,526	800,119	5,694,391	133,747
1876	177,679	242,694	653,926	896,620	6,426,698	136,844
Increase	16,281	14,101	82,400	96,501	732,307	3,097
ON STATIONS.						
1875	18,856	12,544	145,995	158,539	5,526,645	4,194
1876	18,505	12,443	145,535	157,978	5,322,834	3,921
Decrease	351	101	460	561	203,811	273
TOTAL LIVE STOCK.						
1875	180,254	241,137	717,521	958,658	11,221,036	137,941
1876	196,184	255,137	799,461	1,054,598	11,749,532	140,765
Increase	15,930	14,000	81,940	95,940	528,496	2,824

Live stock slaughtered.

202. The numbers of live stock slaughtered during the year were returned as follow by the local bodies. This being the first occasion on which the information was asked for, it was to a certain extent incomplete. It is therefore probable that more animals were slaughtered than the figures show:—

LIVE STOCK SLAUGHTERED, 1875.

Description of Live Stock.	Numbers Slaughtered for—			
	The Butcher and Private Use.	Preserving or Salting.	Boiling Down for Tallow.	Total.
Sheep and lambs	1,558,733	200,664	103,199	1,862,596
Cattle and calves	148,148	1,042	...	149,190
Pigs	40,511	21,005	...	61,516
Total	1,747,392	222,711	103,199	2,073,302

* A definition of the terms "farm" and "station," as used in connection with these returns, has already been given in the footnote to the table following paragraph 198 *ante*. It may, however, be necessary still further to explain that these designations refer not to the size of the holding, but simply to the tenure under which it is held. All holdings are set down as farms except those subject to a pastoral license. Holdings of which any portion is subject to a pastoral license are set down as stations. When the last portion of a run has been purchased or selected by the occupier or others, and the pastoral license is consequently thereafter no longer in existence, the holding which previously had been a "station" thenceforth becomes a "farm," and this notwithstanding that the area of the holding may not at all or only very slightly have been reduced. In the more settled districts a gradual process of removal of holdings from the list of stations to that of farms has, for some time since, been going on.

203. The extent to which steam machinery is used in agricultural and pastoral pursuits has varied but slightly in the last two years, as will be seen by the following figures :—

Steam engines on farms and stations.

STEAM ENGINES ON FARMS AND STATIONS,* 1875 AND 1876.

Year ended 31st March.	Steam Engines.					
	On Farms.		On Stations.		Total.	
	Number.	Horsepower.	Number.	Horsepower.	Number.	Horsepower.
1875	262	2,051	22	216	284	2,267
1876	253	2,081	23	201	276	2,282
Increase ...	...	30	1	...	...	15
Decrease ...	9	...	...	15	8	...

204. A slight falling off appears in the value of agricultural implements and machines on stations, but an increase in the value of those on farms. The following are the figures :—

Agricultural implements, &c.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, ETC., ON FARMS AND STATIONS,* 1875 AND 1876.

Year ended 31st March.	Value of Implements and Machinery.		
	On Farms.	On Stations.	Total.
	£	£	£
1875	1,486,558	80,751	1,567,309
1876	1,623,697	80,467	1,704,164
Increase ...	137,139	...	136,855
Decrease...	...	284	...

205. The improvements on farms and stations, of which a statement of the value is given in the following table, include buildings of all descriptions, fencing, daps, wells, dams, &c., but not the cost of clearing or cropping land. As in most of the other returns an increase appears in the figures relating to farms, and a falling off in those relating to stations :—

Improvements on farms and stations.

IMPROVEMENTS ON FARMS AND STATIONS,* 1875 AND 1876.

Year ended 31st March.	Value of Improvements.		
	On Farms.	On Stations.	Total.
	£	£	£
1875	10,410,609	1,920,516	12,331,125
1876	11,987,818	1,889,866	13,877,684
Increase ...	1,577,209	...	1,546,559
Decrease...	...	30,650	...

* For definition of the terms "farm" and "station," see footnotes to tables following paragraphs 198 and 201 ante.

Machine
labor.

206. The following figures, which have been obtained by means of averages struck from the returns of the collectors in all the districts, show a falling off in the rates paid for machine labor:—

MACHINE LABOR, 1875 AND 1876.

Average Rates Paid for—	1874-5.		1875-6.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Machine reaping, per acre	0	6 5	0	4 9
Machine mowing, „	0	5 3	0	4 5
Machine threshing, per 100 bushels	1	4 8	1	3 3

Flour mills.

207. The flour mills in operation during 1875-6 were fewer by 4 than in the previous year; a slight falling off also took place in the quantity of wheat ground, and consequently of flour made. The portion of the returns showing the quantity of grain other than wheat operated upon, and the quantity of meal manufactured, presents an apparent anomaly, inasmuch as, although an increase occurred in the former, a considerable falling off is observed in the latter. This is possibly to be accounted for by the circumstance that in the year under notice more than in the previous one such grain may have consisted of maize sent to the mill to be cracked, rather than of that or some other grain sent to be turned into meal. The following are the returns of the two years:—

FLOUR MILLS, 1875 AND 1876.

Year ended 31st March.	Number of Mills.	Mills employing—		Amount of Horsepower.	Number of Pairs of Stones.	Number of Hands employed.
		Steampower.	Waterpower.			
1875 ...	161	149	12	2,835	485	749
1876 ...	157	145	12	2,848	476	704
Increase	...	...	...	13	...	...
Decrease	4	4	...	...	9	45

Year ended 31st March.	Bushels of Grain operated upon.		Tons of Flour made.	Tons of Meal made.	Approximate Total Value of—		
	Wheat.	Other.			Machinery and Plant.	Lands.*	Buildings.
1875 ...	5,371,866	233,150	114,929	2,664	£ 224,650	£ 58,388	£ 206,625
1876 ...	5,287,596	271,682	114,727	596	217,335	55,400	201,520
Increase	...	38,532	...	...	...	...	...
Decrease	84,270	...	202	2,068	7,315	2,988	5,105

* Six mills in 1874-5, and 4 in 1875-6, were upon Crown lands. In these cases no estimate of the value of the land is given.

208. A falling off of 4 in the number of breweries, and of nearly a million gallons in the quantity of beer made, is shown by the returns of 1876 as compared with those of 1875. A decrease also appears in the other items, except that of sugar, which seems to have been somewhat more extensively used in the manufacture of beer in the year under review than in the previous one:—

BREWERIES, 1875 AND 1876.

Year ended 31st March.	Number of Breweries.	Materials used.			Number of Hands employed.	Number of Horses employed.
		Sugar.	Malt.	Hops.		
1875	107	lbs. 8,816,864	bushels. 670,928	lbs. 988,863	925	663
1876	103	9,356,144	600,035	871,051	882	617
Increase ... ..	...	539,280	...	...	...	...
Decrease	4	...	70,893	117,812	43	46

Year ended 31st March.	Number of Drays and Waggon employed.	Gallons of Beer made.	Approximate Total Value of—		
			Machinery and Plant.	Lands.*	Buildings.
1875	364	13,653,531	£ 159,313	£ 65,846	£ 211,784
1876	332	12,666,265	139,950	61,892	196,872
Decrease	32	987,266	19,363	3,954	14,912

209. That less building was going on in 1875-6 than in 1874-5 is evidenced by a decrease of 55 in the number of brick-yards and potteries, and of 9,500,000 in the number of bricks made. That machinery was more extensively used is shown by the fact that 10 additional machines for making bricks and pottery and 1 additional steam engine were brought into operation during the year under review:—

BRICK-YARDS AND POTTERIES, 1875 AND 1876.

Year ended 31st March.	Number of Brick-yards and Potteries.	Number of Machines in use.		Brick-yards, &c., employing—			Amount of Horse-power employed.	Number of Hands employe t.
		For tempering or crushing Clay.	For making Bricks or Pottery.	Steam-power.	Horse-power.	Manual Labor.		
1875	296	184	77	12	121	163	342	1,271
1876	241	169	87	13	101	127	336	1,083
Increase ... ..	...	...	10	1	...	...	...	...
Decrease	55	15	...	...	20	36	6	188

* Three of the breweries in 1874-5, and 6 in 1875-6, were upon Crown lands. In these cases no estimate of the value of the land is given.

BRICK-YARDS AND POTTERIES, 1875 AND 1876—*continued.*

Year ended 31st March.	Number of Bricks made.	Approximate Total Value of—				
		Bricks made.	Pottery made.	Machinery and Plant.	Lands.*	Buildings.
1875	83,337,000	£ 164,266	£ 24,802	£ 45,785	£ 52,251	£ 53,858
1876	73,853,000	148,188	21,905	42,016	49,782	50,210
Decrease ...	9,484,000	16,078	2,897	3,769	2,469	3,648

Tanneries.

210. Four more tanneries were returned in 1876 than in 1875, and 2 steam engines were added. Higher figures were also given for the value of machinery and lands, but slightly lower ones for buildings. The following are the figures for the two years:—

TANNERIES, 1875 AND 1876.

Year ended 31st March.	Number of Tanneries.	Tanneries employing—		
		Steampower.	Horsepower.	Manual Labor.
1875	87	27	43	17
1876	91	29	46	12
Increase	4	2	3	...
Decrease ... ..	...	...	...	5

Year ended 31st March.	Amount of Horse-power employed.	Number of Hands employed (all males).	Approximate Total Value of—		
			Machinery and Plant.	Lands.†	Buildings.
1875	318	983	£ 44,974	£ 18,918	£ 76,222
1876	398	965	64,842	28,853	73,150
Increase	80	...	19,868	9,935	...
Decrease ... ..	...	18	...	...	3,072

Tanneries,
1875-6.

211. In addition to the above, the following particulars respecting tanneries were returned for the year under notice:—

TANNERIES, 1875-6.

Number of pits	...	...	...	3,058
Number of hides tanned	...	...	...	316,394
Number of skins tanned	...	...	...	514,832
Approximate value of leather made	...	...	...	£617,873

Woollen
mills.

212. Six woollen mills were returned both in 1875 and in 1876, but the statistics of their operations, as recorded in the following table, show that an increase under all the headings took place in the latter year:—

* Eighty-seven of the brick-yards in 1874-5, and 55 in 1875-6, were upon Crown lands. In these cases no estimate of the value of the land has been given.

† Four of the tanneries in 1875-6, and probably a certain number in 1874-5, were upon Crown lands. In these cases no estimate of the value of the land is given.

WOOLLEN MILLS, 1875 AND 1876.

Year ended 31st March.	Number of Woollen Mills.	Steam Engines used.		Number of Hands employed.		Approximate Total Value of—		
		Number.	Horse- power.	Males.	Females.	Machinery and Plant.	Lands.	Buildings.
1875 ...	6	6	280	350	162	£ 97,000.	£ 5,350	£ 47,500
1876 ...	6	6	368	357	254	104,059	5,976	51,565
Increase ...	...	...	88	7	92	7,059	626	4,065

213. The following additional particulars of woollen mills during the year under review were obtained by the collectors :—

Woollen
mills,
1875-6.

WOOLLEN MILLS, 1875-6.

Yards of tweed, cloth, flannel, &c., made ...	...	644,714
Number of blankets made ...	...	2,973
Number of shawls made ...	...	1,776
Value of all goods manufactured ...	...	£140,939

214. Besides the manufactories and works for which special tables have been given, returns of other manufacturing establishments were as follow in the last two years. Most of these manufactories are of an extensive character, and nearly half, both in 1875 and 1876, used steam-power. Mere shops, at which some manufacturing business is carried on, are not included :—

Manufac-
tories,
works, &c.

MANUFACTORIES, WORKS, ETC., 1875 AND 1876.

(Exclusive of Flour Mills, Breweries, Brick-yards, Potteries, Tanneries, and Woollen Mills.)

Year ended 31st March.	Number of Manufactories, Works, &c.	Manufactories, &c., employing—					Amount of Horse-power employed.
		Steam.	Water.	Wind.	Horse.	Manual Labor.	
1875 ...	1,452	650	15	4	96	687	8,168
1876 ...	1,648	708	16	1	104	819	8,627
Increase ...	196	58	1	...	8	132	459
Decrease ...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...

Year ended 31st March.	Number of Hands employed.		Approximate Total Value of—		
	Males.	Females.	Machinery and Plant.	Lands.*	Buildings.
1875 ...	19,145	4,451	£ 3,188,389	£ 774,327	£ 1,467,640
1876 ...	21,128	4,519	3,559,263	889,534	1,553,242
Increase ...	1,983	68	370,874	115,207	85,602

* These figures apply to purchased lands only. One hundred and ninety-five of the manufactories in 1874-5, and 199 in 1875-6, were upon Crown lands.

Manufac-
tories, list
of, 1866,
1871, and
1876.

215. The manufactories and works of all descriptions, including flour mills, breweries, brick-yards, potteries, tanneries, and woollen mills, as well as those of which mention is made in the foregoing table, are classified as follow for the year under notice, and for the first year of each of the two previous quinquennials. The establishments noted are almost all of an extensive character. Every bootmaker's, tailor's, dress-maker's, carpenter's, cooper's, blacksmith's, baker's, or confectioner's shop may, in a certain sense, be called a manufactory, but no attempt has been made to enumerate such places* :—

MANUFACTORIES, WORKS, ETC., 1866, 1871, AND 1876.

Description of Manufactory, Work, &c.	Number of Establishments.		
	1865-6.	1870-1.	1875-6.
<i>Books and Stationery.</i>			
Account-book manufactories, manufacturing stationers	...	10	16
Printing establishments	9	17	34
<i>Musical Instruments.</i>			
Organ-building establishments	1	1	1
Pianoforte manufactories	4	4	9
<i>Prints, Pictures, &c.</i>			
Picture-frame makers	6
<i>Carving, Figures, &c.</i>			
Carving and gilding establishments	2
Indiarubber stamp manufactories	3
Modelling (architectural and figure), &c.—works	2
Statuary works	1
Turnery works	7
Wood-carving and ornamental works	1
Wooden pipe manufactories	1	2
<i>Designs, Medals, and Dies.</i>			
Diesinkers, engravers, medalists, trade-mark makers	4
<i>Philosophical Instruments, &c.</i>			
Philosophical instrument manufactories	3
Spectacles manufactories	1
<i>Surgical Instruments.</i>			
Surgical instrument, truss—manufactories	4
<i>Arms, Ammunition, &c.</i>			
Blasting powder, dynamite, &c.—manufactories	6
Fuze manufactories	1	1
Gunmakers	3

* In pursuance of the principle which has always been followed in this colony, of publishing statements respecting extensive establishments only, except in cases where the existence of industries of an uncommon or interesting character might appear to call for notice, a certain number of returns sent in by the collectors are rejected each year. The following, relating to 1875-6, were omitted as not fulfilling the required conditions:—9 printing establishments; 1 architectural modeller; 2 picture-frame makers; 12 turners and carvers; 1 medical galvanic apparatus maker; 2 machinists; 14 coachbuilders; 24 saddlers, harness makers; 2 wheel factoris; 11 upholsters, furniture makers; 6 mattress, palliase makers; 1 blindmaker; 1 "patent remedies" maker; 17 boot manufactories; 6 clothing manufactories; 16 hat, cap manufactories. These establishments used no machine power, and rarely employed more than one or two hands.

MANUFACTORIES, WORKS, ETC.—*continued.*

Description of Manufactory, Work, &c.	Number of Establishments.		
	1865-6.	1870-1.	1875-6.
<i>Machines, Tools, and Implements.</i>			
Agricultural implement manufactories ...	16	42	47
Bellows manufactories ...	...	...	1
Cutlery, machine-tool—manufactories ...	...	1	9
Engine, machine—manufactories ...	14	18	52
<i>Carriages and Harness</i>			
Coach, waggon, &c.—manufactories ...	1	2	105*
Perambulator manufactories ...	...	...	2
Saddle, harness—manufactories ...	...	...	19
Saddle-tree, &c.—manufactories ...	...	...	4
Saddlers' ironmongery and coach-spring manufactories	...	...	2
Whip manufactories ...	...	3	5
<i>Ships and Boats.</i>			
Ship, boat—builders ...	14	15	17
Ships' wheels, blocks, &c.—manufactories ...	...	...	1
Floating-docks ...	...	...	1
Graving-docks ...	...	6	3
Patent slips ...	...	...	5
<i>Houses, Buildings, &c.</i>			
Lime works ...	29	36	28
Patent ceiling ventilator manufactories ...	...	...	1
Roof-covering composition manufactories ...	...	...	1
<i>Furniture.</i>			
Bedding and upholstery manufactories ...	...	7	6
Cabinet works, including billiard-table makers	2	2	20*
Earth-closet manufactories ...	...	3	3
Iron safe manufactories ...	...	2	2
Looking-glass manufactories ...	...	2	3
<i>Chemicals.</i>			
Chemical works ...	6	3	5
Dye works ...	6	10	17
Essential oil manufactories ...	...	2	4
Ink, blacking, blue, washing-powder, &c— manufactories	2	3	8
Japanners ...	...	...	1
Match (vesta) manufactories ...	...	...	1
Paint, varnish—manufactories ...	...	1	1
Photographic apparatus manufactories ...	...	...	1
Salt works ...	1	4	7
Tar-distilling, asphalte—works ...	...	1	2
<i>Textile Fabrics.</i>			
Woollen mills ...	...	2	6
<i>Dress.</i>			
Boot manufactories ...	...	17	46
Clothing factories ...	13	35	47
Fur manufactories ...	...	...	4
Hat, cap—manufactories ...	4	10	15
Oilskin, waterproof-clothing—manufactories	...	...	4
Umbrella and parasol manufactories ...	...	...	7

* Including all extensive manufactories, whether employing steam or not. For 1866 and 1871 those only which used steam were returned.

MANUFACTORIES, WORKS, ETC.—*continued.*

Description of Manufactory, Work, &c.	Number of Establishments.		
	1865-6.	1870-1.	1875-6.
<i>Fibrous Materials.</i>			
Bag and sack manufactories	3	...	...
Jute factories ... ..	...	...	1
Rope, twine—works	3	12	10
<i>Animal Food.</i>			
Cheese factories ... ..	...	...	17
Meat-curing establishments	1	14	17
Oyster culture	1	...	...
<i>Vegetable Food.</i>			
Biscuit manufactories	8	8	7
Confectionery works ... ..	...	4	8
Flour mills	118	147	157
Jam manufactories ... ..	...	2	7
Macaroni works ... ..	...	...	1
Maizena, oatmeal, starch—manufactories	1	2	3
Rice mills ... ..	...	2	1
<i>Drinks and Stimulants.</i>			
Aerated waters, gingerbeer, liqueur, &c.—works	63	112	124
Breweries	80	116	103
Coffee, chocolate, spice—works	5	10	11
Chicory mills ... ..	...	...	2
Distilleries	2	5	5
Malthouses	8	16	16
Sauce, pickle—manufactories ... ..	...	...	3
Sugar refineries	1	1	1
Tobacco, cigars, snuff—manufactories	9	9	12
Vinegar works ... ..	...	...	6
<i>Animal Matters.</i>			
Boiling-down establishments	3	24	22
Bone-cutting mills ... ..	...	...	1
Bone manure manufactories	14	17	16
Brush manufactories	1	2	4
Catgut manufactories ... ..	...	...	1
Curled hair manufactories	1	...	2
Fancy-dyed-wool mat and rug factories ... ..	...	...	1
Fellmongeries, wool-washing—establishments	22	36	52
Flock manufactories	2	2	4
Glue, oil—manufactories ... ..	...	5	10
Manure (poudrette) manufactories ... ..	...	...	1
Morocco, fancy leather—manufactories ... ..	...	...	1
Parchment and skin manufactories ... ..	...	1	...
Portmanteau, trunk—manufactories ... ..	...	...	8
Soap, candle, tallow—works	21	29	43
Tanneries	43	56	91
<i>Vegetable Matters.</i>			
Bark mills ... ..	...	...	4
Basket-making works	1	...	6
Blind (window) manufactories ... ..	...	...	9
Broom manufactories ... ..	...	1	2
Chaff-cutting, corn-crushing—works*	68	157	185
Cooperage works	3	4	15
Fancy-box manufactories ... ..	...	1	3
Firewood sawing mills ... ..	...	...	2
Hat-box manufactories ... ..	...	...	1

* All these establishments used machinery, worked by steam, wind, or horsepower. They must not be confounded with chaff-cutting and corn-crushing machines in use on farms and stations, which numbered 10,833 in 1875-6.

MANUFACTORIES, WORKS, ETC.—continued.

Description of Manufactory, Work, &c.	Number of Establishments.		
	1865-6.	1870-1.	1875-6.
<i>Vegetable Matters—continued.</i>			
Ladders and steps joineries ... ..	...	...	1
Moulding, framing, turning, and saw mills	86	127	165
Packing-case manufactories	1	...	...
Paper manufactories ... ..	...	1	2
Paper-bag manufactories ... ..	...	...	8
<i>Coal.</i>			
Gasworks	7	11	15
<i>Stone, Clay, Earthenware, and Glass.</i>			
Artificial stone manufactories ... ..	...	1	...
Brick-yards and potteries	151	301	241
Filter manufactories ... ..	...	...	2
Glass manufactories, works	1	4	5
Marble and monumental works ... ..	...	1	19
Stone-breaking works	2	} 2 {	4
Stone-sawing, polishing works ... ..	...		7
<i>Water.</i>			
Ice manufactories	1	1	1
Water works	3	6	5
<i>Gold, Silver, and Precious Stones.</i>			
Assaying works ... ..	...	...	1
Electro-plating and gilding works ... ..	...	...	4
Goldsmiths and jewellers (manufacturing) ... ..	...	...	15
Lapidaries ... ..	...	...	1
<i>Metals other than Gold and Silver.</i>			
Antimony-smelting works ... ..	...	1	5
Bell foundries ... ..	...	...	1
Iron and tin works ... ..	...	11	45
Iron, brass, and copper foundries	40	58	76
Lead works	2	2	2
Tin-smelting works ... ..	...	...	1
Type foundries ... ..	...	1	...
Wire-working establishments ... ..	...	...	5
Total	903	1,584	2,246

216. Further particulars of these manufactories are given in the following summary for the same three periods. A large increase will be observed at each period in all the items :—

Manufactories: general summary, 1866, 1871, and 1876.

SUMMARY OF MANUFACTORIES, WORKS, ETC., 1866, 1871, AND 1876.

Year ended 31st March.	Total Number of Establishments.*	Number of Establishments using Steam.	Horsepower of Steam Engines.†	Number of Hands employed.	Approximate Value of Lands, Buildings, Machinery, and Plant.
1866	903	364	5,346	10,059	£ 2,269,696
1871	1,584	647	8,921	17,758	4,522,695
1876	2,246	901	12,326	29,892	7,345,461

* Although it is certain that a large addition to the number of manufactories actually took place by the starting of fresh works, it is possible that some portion of the increase shown at the successive periods may have resulted from the greater vigilance of the collectors.

† It is possible that the numbers in this column may include the power of a few water and wind machines used in manufacturing, in addition to the power of the steam engines.

Stone quarries.

217. The small extent to which building operations were pursued in the year under review as compared with the previous one, which has already been referred to under the head of "Brick-yards" (paragraph 209 *ante*), is also apparent in the returns of stone quarries, in which a falling off under nearly all the headings will be noticed:—

STONE QUARRIES, 1875 AND 1876.

Year ended 31st March.	Number of Quarries.	Cubic Yards of Stone raised.				Steam Engines in use.	
		Bluestone.	Slate and Flaggng.	Sandstone.	Granite.	Number.	Horse-power.
1875	172	344,617	1,290	12,660	3,900	5	56
1876	160	332,593	894	11,203	2,645	6	44
Increase	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Decrease	12	12,024	396	1,457	1,255	...	12

Year ended 31st March.	Number of Hands employed.	Approximate Total Value of—			
		Stone raised.	Machinery and Plant.	Lands.*	Buildings.
		£	£	£	£
1875	1,009	81,338	16,704	14,588	3,302
1876	587	57,276	13,343	16,318	1,659
Increase	...	...	...	1,730	...
Decrease	422	24,062	3,361	...	1,643

Gold raised, 1875.

218. The quantity of exported gold entered as being the produce of Victoria added to the quantity of Victorian gold received at the Melbourne Mint has usually been considered as expressing fairly the whole quantity of gold raised in Victoria in any year.† These quantities for the year 1875 were as follow:—

GOLD RAISED, 1875.

Gold exported entered as Victorian	...	...	oz.	dwt.	gr.
Victorian gold received at the Mint	...	...	709,934	18	6
			385,852	3	10
Total	...	...	1,095,787	1	16

Gold raised, 1874 and 1875.

219. This quantity of gold, and its value at £4 per oz., are compared with the quantity and value of gold raised in the previous year as follow:—

* Forty-nine of the stone quarries in 1874-5, and 51 in 1875-6, were upon Crown lands. In these cases no valuation of the land was made.

† There are several other ways of estimating the amount of gold raised, all of which result in a somewhat smaller total for the year under review than that arrived at by this means. One method is to add the gross quantity received at the Mint to the gross exports, and to subtract therefrom the gross imports. This gives a total of 1,067,230 oz.; another is to adopt estimates made by the mining registrars, which give a total of 1,068,418 oz.; and another is to consider the quantity purchased by banks and others, amounting to 1,077,276 oz., to be equal to the total quantity raised.

QUANTITY AND VALUE OF GOLD RAISED, 1874 AND 1875.

Year.	Gold raised in Victoria.	
	Estimated Quantity.	Estimated Value at £4 per oz.
1874	oz. 1,155,972	£ 4,623,888
1875	1,095,787	4,333,148
Decrease ...	60,185	240,740

220. From the period of the first discovery of gold in Victoria to the end of the year under review it is estimated that 45,509,964½ oz. of gold were raised, representing, at £4 per oz., a value of £182,039,857. * Gold raised from first discovery.

221. According to estimates made in the Mining Department, the miners have been falling off in numbers for years past. This will be seen by the following figures, which show the numbers at work on the 31st December of each of the last five years:— Miners, 1871 to 1875.

NUMBER OF MINERS, 1871 TO 1875.

1871 ...	58,279	1873 ...	50,595	1875 ...	41,717
1872 ...	52,965	1874 ...	45,151		

222. It is stated that in 1875 about 65 per cent. of the miners were engaged in alluvial mining, and 35 per cent. in quartz mining. Alluvial and quartz miners.

223. The Secretary for Mines estimates that a considerable increase has taken place in the last two years in the quantity of gold raised in proportion to the number of hands employed in getting it. The following are his figures for those and the three previous years:— Value of gold per miner.

VALUE OF GOLD PER MINER,* 1871 TO 1875.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1871 ...	93	6	0.62	1873 ...	93	16	2.62	1875 ...	104	4	4.02
1872 ...	93	17	1.47	1874 ...	99	8	3.07				

224. From information supplied to the mining surveyors and registrars by the banks and gold-mining companies, and judging also by their own knowledge of the workings in their districts, these officers estimated that, both in 1874 and 1875, 60 per cent. of the gold was obtained from quartz reefs, and 40 per cent. from alluvial deposits. Gold derived from alluvial and quartz workings.

225. The number of steam engines employed in gold mining fell from 1,141 in 1874 to 1,101 in 1875. Sixty-nine per cent. of the engines were used in the furtherance of quartz mining in the former, and 70 per cent. in the latter year. The remainder were employed in alluvial mining. Steam engines used in mining.

226. According to returns furnished by the Mining Department, the number of mining machines of all descriptions fell from 5,220 in Mining machinery.

* These amounts are sometimes incorrectly spoken of as the "average earnings" of the miners. As a very large proportion of the miners are working on wages, the gold they raise no more represents their individual earnings than do the products of a manufactory represent the earnings of its operatives.

1874 to 5,098 in 1875, and the value of such machines fell from £2,078,936 in 1874 to £2,033,629 in 1875.

Auriferous reefs.

227. The number of quartz reefs proved to be auriferous was returned by the mining surveyors and registrars as 3,398 in 1874, and 3,479 in 1875. It has been pointed out, however, that these cannot in every case be distinct reefs, as parts of the same reef in some localities are held to be independent veins, and named accordingly; and, moreover, as the lines of reef are further explored, it is frequently found that what were supposed to be separate reefs are in reality not distinct.

Extent of auriferous ground.

228. The approximate area of auriferous ground worked upon was 1,063 square miles in 1874, and 1,094 square miles in 1875. The figures are derived from estimates, not from actual surveys, and they vary from year to year. As the shallow alluviums of the older gold-fields are abandoned by the miners they are often occupied by agriculturists and gardeners, and ground which one year is included in the area embraced in gold-workings is properly excluded in another.

Average yield of quartz.

229. Owing to the fact that many of the owners of machines for crushing quartz are unable to give, or are precluded from giving, information respecting their operations, it is impossible to obtain an exact statement of the yield of auriferous quartz in any year. The officers of the Mining Department, however, succeeded in obtaining particulars respecting the crushing of 967,069 tons in 1874, and 949,469 tons in 1875. The average yield per ton of these crushings was 11 dwt. 20.51 gr. in the former, and 11 dwt. 21.92 gr. in the latter year. From similar estimates, extending over a series of years, an average is furnished of 11 dwt. 7.67 gr. of gold to the ton of quartz crushed.

Gold-mining leases.

230. The gold-mining leases issued in the year under review numbered 349, and the extent of land included therein amounted to 5,203 acres. At the end of the year the gold-mining leases in force numbered 1,558, and the included area amounted to 20,686 acres.

Leases for other minerals.

231. Leases of Crown lands conferring the privilege of working for minerals and metals other than gold numbered 76 at the end of 1874, and 50 at the end of 1875. The area embraced in such leases was 15,027 acres at the former, and 12,530 acres at the latter period. The following were in force at the end of the year under review:—

LEASES FOR MINERALS AND METALS OTHER THAN GOLD, 1875.

	No. of Leases.		No. of Leases.		No. of Leases.
Antimony ...	13	Lignite ...	1	Slate and freestone ...	1
Argentiferous galena ...	1	Silver ...	3	Ironstone ...	1
Coal ...	15	Silver and lead ...	1	Iron ore and lime ...	1
Coal shale and lignite ...	1	Silver, lead, and copper ...	1	Red ochre clay ...	1
Copper ...	1	Slate ...	1	Tin and the ores of tin ...	5
Flagging ...	1	Slate and flagging ...	2	Total	50

232. According to the estimate of the Mining Department, the following are the values of metals and minerals other than gold raised in Victoria from 1851 to the end of 1875. Of these productions, the values in 1875 amounted to £35,452 :—

METALS AND MINERALS OTHER THAN GOLD, 1851 TO 1875.

		£			£
Silver	...	14,617	Kaolin	...	7,444
Tin	...	333,870	Flagging	...	37,961
Copper	...	8,331	Slates	...	940
Antimony	...	104,865	Magnesite	...	12
Lead	...	4,700	Diamonds	...	107
Iron	...	2,101	Sapphires	...	575
Coal	...	8,233			
Lignite	...	2,172	Total	...	£525,928

233. The following are quoted by the Mining Department as the weekly rates of wages paid for different descriptions of mining labor in the year 1875* :—

RATES OF MINING LABOR, 1875.

Per Week, without Rations.		Per Week, without Rations.	
General manager	... £3 to £12	Carpenter	... £2 2s. to £3 12s.
Legal manager	... 20s. to £6	Foreman of shift	... £2 2s to £3 10s.
Mining manager	... £2 10s. to £5	Miner	... £2 to £3
Engineer	... £2 5s. to £5	Surface man (laborer)	£1 10s. to £3
Engine driver	... £2 2s. to £3 10s.	Boy	... 10s. to £2
Pitman	... £2 to £2 15s.	Chinese	... 12s. 6d. to £2
Blacksmith	.. £2 2s. to £3 10s.		

234. The patents for inventions applied for in Victoria during 1875 numbered 154, as against 147 in the previous year. Since 1854 the total number of patents applied for has been 2,181.

235. The Victorian Copyright Act (33 Vict. No. 350) came into force in December 1869. Since then the number of objects in respect to which copyrights have been registered have been 1,687, classified as follows :—

COPYRIGHTS, 1870 TO 1875.

Part I.—Designs	...	157
Part II.—Literary, dramatic, and musical productions	...	578
Part III.—Paintings, drawings, sculpture, engravings, and photographs	...	952
Total	...	1,687

236. The waterworks in Victoria, part of which are completed and part in progress, are estimated to cost, in the aggregate, £2,583,665. It is calculated that the storage capacity for water of the reservoirs connected with these works will amount in all to 12,052,819,225 gallons.†

* See also table following paragraph 152 ante.

† For a list of the waterworks in Victoria, with the position, storage capacity, and actual or estimated cost of each work, see *Victorian Year-Book*, 1874, paragraph 447, and following table.

PART VI.—LAW, CRIME, ETC.

Transfer of Land Statute. 237. The amount of business transacted in the office of Titles in carrying out the provisions of the Transfer of Land Statute* was rather less in 1875 than in 1874. The following are the figures:—

TRANSFER OF LAND STATUTE.

		1874.	1875.
Applications to bring land under the Act	... number	1,052	1,032
Extent of land included	... acres	55,747	31,019
Value of land included	... .. £	1,078,570	900,594
Certificates of title issued	... .. number	9,870	9,535
Transfers, mortgages, leases, releases, surrenders, &c.	.. „	12,364	11,912
Registering proprietors	... .. „	191	47
Other transactions	... .. „	13,055	11,584
Forms sold	... .. „	903	720
Fees received	... .. £	21,504	20,262

Proportion of land under Transfer of Land Statute. 238. At the end of 1875 the quantity of land under the Transfer of Land Statute was 5,969,232 acres, valued at £13,471,380. The whole quantity granted and sold up to the same period amounted to 10,351,194 acres. It therefore follows that at least 58 per cent. of the alienated land in the colony is subject to the provisions of this Statute.

Transfers and conveyances. 239. The number of transfers and conveyances of land, also the value of land conveyed under both the Transfer of Land Statute and the old system, were as follow during the year under review:—

TRANSFERS AND CONVEYANCES OF LAND, 1875.

Transfers and Conveyances—	Number of Transactions.	Value of Land conveyed.
		£
Under the Transfer of Land Statute	7,994	2,586,942
Under the old system	4,640	1,576,903
Total	12,634	4,163,845

Equity. 240. The transactions in Equity numbered 495 in 1874, and 559 in 1875. The probates issued numbered 568 in the former year, and 711 in the latter; and the letters of administration numbered 587 in the former year, and 538 in the latter.

Estates of deceased persons: value, 1874 and 1875. 241. The sworn value of the property left by deceased persons in 1875 was less by a sixth than that in 1874. The following figures show the sworn value of such property in the two years:—

	Property sworn under—	
	£	
1874	3,426,470	
1875	2,833,962	

* For information respecting the working of this Statute, see *Victorian Year-Book*, 1874, paragraph 271 *et sequitur*.

242. In the eleven years ended with 1875, the value of the property respecting which probates and letters of administration were issued amounted to close upon fifteen millions sterling (£14,984,119). Estates of deceased persons: value in 11 years.

243. The amounts realised by the State from duties on the estates of deceased persons during the five years ended with the year under review have been as follow :— Duties on estates of deceased persons.

Amount realised from Duties on Estates of Deceased Persons.					
£					
1871	...	...	...	...	17,069
1872	...	...	...	...	37,643
1873	...	...	...	...	39,026
1874	...	...	...	...	67,998
1875	...	...	...	...	50,057

244. Under the head of Divorce and Matrimonial Causes the business was as follows in 1874 and 1875. It will be observed that no decree for dissolution of marriage was pronounced in the latter year :— Divorce and matrimonial.

	1874.	1875.
Petitions for dissolution of marriage	14	20
„ judicial separation	12	5
„ alimony	9	8
Decrees dismissing petitions	—	2
„ for dissolution of marriage	5	—
„ for judicial separation	1	2
„ for alimony	1	1

245. The fees in Equity amounted in the aggregate to £1,133 in 1874, and to £1,053 in 1875; those on Probates amounted to £954 in 1874, and to £1,110 in 1875; and those in Divorce suits amounted to £89 in 1874, and £116 in 1875. Fees in Equity.

246. The moneys collected by the Master-in-Lunacy amounted to £6,092 in 1874, and to £5,619 in 1875. Collections in Lunacy.

247. Almost exactly the same number of insolvencies occurred in 1874 and 1875, but, according to the insolvents' schedules, the amount of both liabilities and assets was greater, and the amount of deficiency was less in the latter year than in the former. The following are the figures :— Insolvencies.

INSOLVENCIES, 1874 AND 1875.

Year.		Number of Insolvencies.	As shown by the Insolvents' Schedules.		
			Liabilities.	Assets.	Deficiency.
			£	£	£
1874	...	776	543,157	269,130	274,027
1875	...	773	641,390	389,330	252,060

Occupations
of insol-
vents.

248. The following are the occupations or callings of the persons who filed their schedules in 1875:—

OCCUPATIONS OR CALLINGS OF INSOLVENTS.

Civil servant	1	Clothfinisher	1
Police	2	Currier, leather finishers	3
Chemists and druggists	3	Saddlers	3
Lawyers	6	Shipwrights, &c.	3
Teachers	2	Watchmakers and jewellers	3
Civil engineers, surveyors	5	Plumbers	2
Journalists	3	Miners, &c.	66
Merchants and dealers	31	Graziers	3
Shop and storekeepers and assistants	46	Cattledealers	5
Grocers and tobacconists	15	Veterinary surgeon	1
Drapers	11	Horse-trainer, groom	2
Ironmongers	2	Drovers	3
Hawkers	7	Farmers, market gardeners	44
Bookseller	1	Carters, carriers, cabowner, drivers	17
Agents, collectors, brokers, &c.	24	Mail-guards, letter-carriers	3
Clerks, accountants	21	Mariners	2
Hotel and boardinghouse-keepers	82	Butchers, fishmongers	35
Bootmakers	21	Bakers, confectioners, &c.	16
Tailors	11	Fruiterer	1
Dressmakers	2	Millers	4
Hairdressers	2	Brewers, bottlers	9
Manufacturers (undefined)	8	Dairymen	3
Contractors, masons, bricklayers, &c.	33	Laborers	57
Quarryman	1	Woodcarters	4
Brickmaker	1	Sawyers	7
Blacksmiths, &c.	11	Musicians	6
Carpenters, cabinetmakers, builders, &c.	46	Actors	4
Saw-mill proprietors	3	"Gentlemen," "ladies"	16
Coachbuilders	6	Unspecified	36
Printers, photographers	7	Total	773

Intestate
estates.

249. The number of intestate estates which came under the charge of the Curator in 1875 was 305, and their estimated value was £33,725. In the nine years ended with 1875, the number of intestate estates dealt with was 2,068, and their estimated value was £246,769.

Offences re-
ported to
police.

250. The number of offences reported to the Victorian police in the year 1875 was 29,891. In respect to 25,247 of these offences, arrests were made; but in the case of the remaining 4,644,* no one had been apprehended up to the end of March 1876.

Persons ar-
rested, 1865,
1870, and
1875.

251. The persons † arrested in 1875 exceeded those arrested in 1874 by 1,391. The following table gives a statement of the numbers taken into custody, and the manner in which they were dealt with by magistrates in 1875 and in the first year of each of the two previous quinquennial periods:—

* It does not follow that in all these cases the offender escaped altogether. He may have been arrested for other offences.

† In cases where the arrested person is charged with several offences, and in cases where the same person is arrested more than once during a year, he is, according to the manner the returns are made up, treated as a separate individual for each offence.

PERSONS ARRESTED* BY THE POLICE, 1865, 1870, AND 1875.

—	1865.	1870.	1875.
Taken into custody	25,499	23,790	25,247
Discharged by magistrates	7,813	7,204	7,674
Summarily convicted or held to bail	16,519	15,678	16,829
Committed for trial	1,167	908	744

252. The diminution of crime generally is marked by the circumstance that, notwithstanding the increase in the population of the colony, fewer arrests were made in 1875 than in 1865. The diminution in the number of serious offences is indicated by the fact that a smaller number of persons were committed for trial in 1875 than at either of the other periods. Diminution of crime.

253. The following table shows the sexes of the persons arrested, and of those of them who were discharged by magistrates, were summarily dealt with, and who were sent for trial, in the year under notice :— Sexes of persons arrested.

SEXES OF PERSONS ARRESTED, ETC., 1875.

—	Males.	Females.	Total.
Taken into custody	19,967	5,280	25,247
Discharged by magistrates	5,936	1,738	7,674
Summarily convicted or held to bail	13,373	3,456	16,829
Committed for trial	658	86	744†

254. Of the persons taken into custody and of those summarily convicted by magistrates, rather more than a fifth were females ; but of those committed for trial, only about a ninth were females. Proportion of females arrested.

255. The offences for which arrests were made during the past year, and during the first year of each of the two previous quinquennials, were as follow :— Causes of arrest, 1865, 1870, and 1875.

* This table does not contain a statement of offenders brought before magistrates by summons, who were neither before nor afterwards in the hands of the police. These numbered 27,559 in 1865, 17,457 in 1870, and 18,051 in 1875. The proceedings were generally on account of offences of a lighter nature than those for which arrests were made, viz., offences against Masters and Servants and Wines and Spirits Statutes, breaches of municipal bye-laws, &c. Of the whole number in 1875, only 38 were committed for trial.

† Not including 38 persons committed for trial, who did not either before or afterwards pass into the hands of the police.

CAUSES OF ARREST, 1865, 1870, AND 1875.

Offence.	1865.	1870.	1875.
Murder and attempts at murder	52	44	15
Manslaughter	18	15	16
Shooting at or wounding with intent to do bodily harm	56	52	43
Assaults	1,177	1,622	1,693
Rape and indecent assaults on females	87	86	38
Unnatural offences and assaults with intent to commit the same	15	15	11
Other offences against the person	108	120	136
Robbery with violence, burglary, &c.	405	243	212
Horse, sheep, and cattle stealing, &c.	251	185	205
Other offences against property	4,330	3,780	3,410
Forgery and offences against the currency	115	103	110
Drunkenness	9,625	10,603	11,541
Other offences against good order	6,324	4,975	5,741
Offences relating to carrying out laws	952	564	426
Smuggling and other offences against the revenue	183	82	89
Offences against public welfare	1,801	1,301	1,561
Total	25,499	23,790	25,247

Diminution
of serious
offences.

256. Diminished numbers are observed in respect to all the more serious crimes, especially murder, wounding or poisoning, rape, unnatural offences, and robbery with violence. Horse, sheep, and cattle stealing decreased as compared with the first, but not as compared with the second period. The numbers arrested for drunkenness show a steady advance at each successive period.

Age and
education
of persons
arrested.

257. The degree of instruction professed by persons taken into custody, in connection with the age of such persons, is given in the following table :—

DEGREE OF INSTRUCTION AND AGE OF PERSONS ARRESTED, 1875.

Ages.	Superior Instruction.	Read and Write well.	Read only, or Read and Write imperfectly.	Unable to Read.	Total.
Under 10 years ... ..	...	7	68	422	497
10 to 15 " ... ..	...	66	358	186	610
15 to 20 "	2	367	1,102	191	1,662
20 to 25 "	23	770	1,588	330	2,711
25 to 30 "	21	703	1,733	375	2,832
30 to 40 "	68	1,624	3,877	1,119	6,688
40 to 50 "	42	1,300	3,363	1,027	5,732
50 to 60 "	28	676	1,670	683	3,057
60 years and upwards	14	238	810	393	1,455
Unknown ... ..	...	...	3	...	3
Total	198	5,751	14,572	4,726	25,247

258. The total number of persons over 15 years of age taken into custody was 24,140, and of these, including those possessed of superior instruction, 5,876 could read and write well, and 4,118 could not read; the number at the same age summarily convicted was 16,113, and of these, 3,775 could read and write well, and 2,774 were uneducated; the number committed for trial at the same age was 737, and of these, 227 could read and write well, and 92 were uneducated. According to these figures the persons charged with offences serious enough to call for their commitment for trial were better educated than the other arrested persons, as many as one-third of the former being able to write well, and only one-eighth being entirely illiterate; whilst, of the whole number arrested and of those summarily convicted, as few as one-fourth could read and write well, and as many as one-sixth were illiterate. When the last census was taken all the population over 15 years of age, except about a seventh, were returned as able to read and write, and only a tenth were returned as entirely uneducated.

Education of persons arrested and committed for trial.

259. The following table shows the birthplaces and religions of the persons taken into custody and of those committed for trial during the year under review, and the ratio of those of each country and sect to the numbers of the same country and sect in the mean population, calculated according to the proportions which prevailed at the last census:—

Birthplaces and religions of criminals.

BIRTHPLACES AND RELIGIONS OF PERSONS* ARRESTED AND COMMITTED FOR TRIAL, 1875.

Native Country.	Persons Arrested.		Persons Committed for Trial.	
	Number.	Proportion per 1,000 of the Population.	Number.	Proportion per 1,000 of the Population.
Victoria	3,558†	9·63	118‡	·32
Other Australian colonies	989	30·77	47	1·46
England	7,779	42·23	260	1·41
Wales	216	29·13	5	·67
Scotland	2,572	40·81	51	·81
Ireland	8,212	72·90	165	1·46
China	508	25·37	38	1·90
Others	1,413	...	60	...
Total	25,247	30·98	744	·91
Religion.				
Protestants	14,442	24·51	471	·80
Roman Catholics	10,052	51·76	227	1·17
Jews	84	20·67	4	·98
Pagans	499	24·84	37	1·84
Others	170	...	5	...

* See footnote to paragraph 251 ante.

† Including 63 Aborigines. - ‡ Including 3 Aborigines.

Relative numbers of each birth-place and religion.

260. It will be observed that, in proportion to their numbers in the population, more Irish and more Roman Catholics were arrested during the year than persons of any other nationality or religion, but more Chinese were committed for trial than Irish, and more Pagans than Roman Catholics. Natives of "Other Australian colonies" committed for trial were, relatively to their numbers, as numerous as the Irish, and the English committed for trial were not far behind. As may be supposed, from the large number of children included amongst them, fewer natives of Victoria, in proportion to their numbers, were arrested, and fewer were committed for trial than persons of any other nationality. With this exception, fewer Chinese, according to their numbers, notwithstanding the large proportion committed for trial, were arrested than persons of any other country. An explanation of this apparent anomaly is no doubt to be found in the fact that, whilst the Chinese commit rather more than their share of serious offences, they rarely fall into the hands of the police for drunkenness, which is the most common cause of arrest as affecting persons of all other nationalities forming component parts of the Victorian population.

Occupations of criminals.

261. The following are the occupations of the males and females taken into custody in 1875. It will be seen that very few of the males, and only the prostitutes amongst the females, are set down as belonging to the criminal classes. Others which should be grouped under this head are probably returned as of no occupation :—

OCCUPATIONS OF MALES AND FEMALES ARRESTED, 1875.

Occupations.	Males.	Females.
Government officers	11	...
Local Government officers	3	...
Others ministering to government, defence, or protection	18	...
Clergy	3	...
Medical men, dentists, druggists, nurses	58	8
Lawyers, law-court officers	35	...
Teachers, governesses	38	9
Architects, civil engineers, surveyors	47	...
Actors, vocalists	41	1
Authors, editors, reporters	15	...
Artists, sculptors, photographers	13	...
Merchants, shopkeepers, dealers, &c.	678	38
Bank officials	6	...
Accountants, agents, brokers, collectors	85	...
Commercial clerks	371	...
Others assisting in the exchange of money or goods	37	...
Hotel, boarding, eating-house keepers, servants	162	9
Tailors, shoemakers, dressmakers, hatters, barbers, &c.	1,100	84
Domestic servants	292	711
Contractors, artisans, and mechanics	2,759	1
Miners and others engaged in mining	1,276	...
Squatters, station laborers, herdsmen	103	...

OCCUPATIONS OF MALES AND FEMALES ARRESTED, 1875—*continued.*

Occupations.	Males.	Females.
Farmers, gardeners, farm servants	688	1
Engaged in pursuits subsidiary to grazing and agriculture	230	...
Engaged in land carriage, &c.	604	...
Engaged in water carriage and navigation	1,928	...
Butchers, bakers, and others dealing in food	610	6
Laborers	7,334	...
Miscellaneous pursuits	83	...
Of independent means	6	...
Criminal and pauper classes	22	1,798*
No occupation, unspecified †	1,311	2,614
Total	19,967	5,280

262. The cases summarily disposed of by magistrates in 1875 were dealt with in the following manner:—

Results of
summary
disposal.

SUMMARY DISPOSAL BY MAGISTRATES, 1875.

Sentence.	Males.	Females.
Imprisonment for 2 years	4	...
" 1 year and under 2 years	152	46
" 6 months and under 1 year	300	191
" 4 months	14	3
" 3 months	687	368
" 2 months and under 3 months	234	78
" 1 month and under 2 months	734	221
" 15 days and under 1 month	58	4
" 8 days and under 15 days	538	184
" 7 days and under	3,620	1,263
Fined	6,074	639
Ordered to find bail	241	66
Sent to industrial school or reformatory	335	233
Otherwise dealt with †	382	160
Total sentenced	13,373	3,456
Discharged	5,936	1,738
Total summarily disposed of	19,309	5,194

263. Two offenders were sentenced to be whipped in addition to terms of imprisonment, each offender being ordered one whipping. The total number of lashes ordered was 49, or an average of $24\frac{1}{2}$ to each individual. In 1874, 6 criminals were sentenced by magistrates to be whipped, one of whom was ordered to be whipped twice and to receive 25 lashes on each occasion. The others were sentenced to one whipping each, the average number of lashes ordered being 35.

Whipping
ordered by
magistrates.

* Prostitutes. † Including 675 male and 312 female children.

‡ Of these, 282 males and 154 females were sent to lunatic asylums.

Results of commitments for trial.

264. The results of the commitments for trial in 1875 and in the first year of each of the two quinquennial periods, were as follow:—

RESULTS OF COMMITMENTS FOR TRIAL, 1865, 1870, AND 1875.

	1865.	1870.	1875.
Committed for trial	1,167	908	744
Convicted and sentenced... ..	697	568	427
Acquitted	336	270	170
Not prosecuted *	134	70	147

Proportion of convictions obtained.

265. About $71\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the prisoners tried in 1875 were convicted. This is a larger proportion of convictions than at either of the former periods. In 1870, 68 per cent., and in 1865, $67\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., of those tried were convicted. In 1874, according to figures in the *Victorian Year-Book* for that year, convictions were obtained in the case of 69 per cent. of those put on their trial.

Sentences in superior courts.

266. The following are the sentences of those who were convicted after commitment for trial in the year under review:—

SENTENCES OF PRISONERS TRIED AND CONVICTED, 1875.

Sentence.	Males.	Females.
Death	4	...
Hard labor for 10 years and under 15 years	9	...
" 7 years and under 10 years	11	...
" 4 years and under 7 years... ..	51	2
Imprisonment for 2 years and under 4 years	124	6
" 1 year and under 2 years	89	10
" 6 months and under 1 year	56	7
" 1 month and under 6 months	32	7
" under 1 month	7	2
Sent to industrial school or reformatory	2	...
Held to bail	1	1
Fined	6	...
Total sentenced... ..	392	35
Acquitted or not prosecuted	266	51
Total committed for trial	658	86

Whipping ordered by superior courts.

267. In addition to terms of imprisonment, whipping was ordered in three instances, in two of which the offender was sentenced to be whipped twice, receiving 18 lashes on each occasion, and in the other instance three times, receiving 20 lashes on each occasion. In 1874, five criminals were sentenced by superior courts to be whipped, of

* Including those awaiting trial.

whom two were ordered to be whipped once, two twice, and one three times. The total number of lashes ordered was 200, or a fraction over 22 at each whipping.

268. Four criminals were executed in 1875. Two of these were natives of England and returned themselves as members of the Church of England; the other two were Chinese Pagans. In the case of one of the former the offence was wounding with intent to murder, and in the other three cases murder. Executions have taken place in each year since the separation of Victoria from New South Wales, except 1874. In the eleven years ended with 1875 the total number of executions was 38. The persons executed were all males, and no native of Victoria is included in the list. The following are the particulars:—

CRIMINALS EXECUTED, 1865 TO 1875.

Offence, Birthplace, and Religion.								Number.
Total number executed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Offence—Murder	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
„ Attempt at murder	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ Rape	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ Unnatural offence	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Birthplace—Australian Colonies, not Victoria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ England	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
„ Wales	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ Ireland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
„ Scotland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ Belgium	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ France	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ The United States	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ The West Indies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ China	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
„ At sea	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Religion—Church of England	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
„ Presbyterian	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ Wesleyan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
„ Roman Catholic	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
„ Pagan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

269. It has been already stated* that, in the case of 4,644 offences reported to the police in 1875, no arrests had been made up to the end of the first quarter of the following year. This information has resulted from an attempt now made for the first time, but which will, I hope, be continued in future years, to ascertain the extent to which crimes in

* See paragraph 250 ante.

Victoria remain undetected. The offences coming under this category on the present occasion are classified as follow :—

UNDETECTED CRIME,* 1875.

Offences against the person... ..	321
" property	3,830
Other offences... ..	493
Total... ..	<u>4,644</u>

NOTE.—This return was made up in April 1876.

Supreme
Court
Criminal
Sessions.

270. Besides the Central Criminal Court, Melbourne, Courts of Assize were held at 10 places in Victoria during the year under review. The number of courts held was 37, and their aggregate duration 139 days. The cases tried numbered 298, of which 197 were for felonies, and 101 for misdemeanors. The convictions for felonies numbered 137, or 70 per cent. of the cases tried; those for misdemeanors numbered 70, or 70 per cent. of the cases tried.

Supreme
Court civil
sittings.

271. The civil cases entered in the Supreme Court, Melbourne, and in the Courts of Assize throughout the colony, numbered 250, of which 2 were for assessment of damages, and the remainder for trial. The causes tried numbered 153, viz., 131 by juries of four, and 22 by juries of twelve. Only one of these causes was undefended. The damages laid amounted to £187,579, and the damages awarded by juries to £53,699, or less than a third. In 112 instances the verdict was for the plaintiff, and in 33 for the defendant. The nonsuits amounted to 7, and the writs of summons issued, to 3,520.

Courts of
General
Sessions.

272. Courts of General Sessions have jurisdiction in criminal cases within certain limitations, and have also appellate jurisdiction in civil cases from petty sessions. The places at which such courts were held in 1875 numbered 26, and the courts held, 96. The total duration of courts was 149 days. The number of cases tried was 349, in 250 of which, or 72 per cent., convictions were obtained. The number of appeals heard was 107.

County
Courts.

273. County Courts have jurisdiction in civil cases up to £250. The number of places at which they were held in 1875 was 55, and the number of courts held was 188, extending over 457 days. The total number of causes tried was 10,248, the amount sued for was £237,607, and the amount recovered, £92,479, or 39 per cent. of the amount sued for. The amount of costs awarded to the plaintiff was £12,823, and the amount to the defendant, £4,642.

Courts of
Mines.

274. Courts of Mines have jurisdiction concerning all questions or disputes which may arise out of mining on Crown lands. The places at which they were held during the year numbered 23, and the courts

* See footnote to paragraph 250 ante.

held numbered 70, occupying 72 days. The total number of suits was 42, and the aggregate amount or value of demand, £11,287. The amount of costs awarded to the plaintiff was £99, and to the defendant, £406.

275. Courts of Petty Sessions have jurisdiction in ordinary civil cases up to £20, and in master and servant cases up to £50. Such courts were held at 189 places during the year. The civil cases heard numbered 22,224, in which the total amount of debts or damages claimed was £99,519, and the total amount awarded was £62,235, or about 62 per cent. of the amount claimed. The cases of indictable offences brought before these courts numbered 1,707, in 782* of which, or 46 per cent., the offender was committed for trial. The cases summarily adjudicated upon numbered 41,591, in 27,498 of which, or 66 per cent., convictions were obtained. Courts of Petty Sessions.

276. The number of writs issued during the year was 1,556, of which 34 were Queen's writs, and 1,522 were subjects' writs. The former were against both person and property, and of the latter 53 were against the person, and 1,469 against property. Writs.

277. Places for the reception of prisoners in Victoria are of three kinds, ordinary gaols, police gaols, and penal establishments. The ordinary gaols are both houses of correction and debtors' prisons, the penal establishments are houses of correction only. The police gaols are used for the detention of prisoners sentenced to short periods of imprisonment, or awaiting trial or transfer to some other gaol or penal establishment, or to a lunatic asylum. Gaols and penal establishments.

278. The following table shows, for each of the three descriptions of prison, the total and average number of prisoners detained, the prisoners transferred to another gaol or penal establishment, the cases of sickness, the deaths, and the punishments for offences within the prison during the year 1875 :— Gaols and prisoners.

GAOLS AND PENAL ESTABLISHMENTS, 1875.

Description of Prison.	Number of Institutions.	Prisoners Detained during the Year.		Prisoners transferred from one establishment to another.	Cases of Sickness.	Deaths.	Punishments for Offences within the Prison.
		Total Number.	Average a One Time.				
Gaols	9	8,764	926	2,087	3,050	21	870
Police gaols	21	1,196	30	322	57	1	33
Penal establishments	3	1,400	700	245	506	10	1,168
Total	33	11,360	1,656	2,654	3,613	32	2,071

* Including 38 cases in which the offender was neither before nor afterwards in the hands of the police.

Number of
distinct
prisoners.

279. Of the total number of prisoners detained during the year in all the institutions it is not possible to determine accurately how many are separate individuals, as not only are some imprisoned more than once during the year, but a prisoner, on being transferred from one establishment to another, is reckoned afresh at the institution he enters. The prisoners transferred during the year amounted, according to the table, to 2,654. These are certainly counted twice over, and therefore should be deducted from the whole, which would leave 8,706. Supposing the three last figures of this number to represent those imprisoned two or more times during the year, and on this assumption substituting cyphers in place of them, the residue would be 8,000, which may possibly express a rough approximation to the number of distinct persons incarcerated during the whole or some part of the year.

Sexes of pri-
soners.

280. The sexes of the prisoners are given in the Statistical Register, and by means of the returns of these it may be estimated that the assumed number of distinct individual prisoners just arrived at consists of 6,015 males and 1,985 females. These numbers, compared with the numbers of the estimated mean population of the year—viz., 442,623 males and 372,411 females—indicate that on the average 1 male in every 73 males and 1 female in every 172 females living in the colony passed some portion of the year 1875 in prison. In this estimate no account is taken of persons temporarily lodged in watchhouses, “lock-ups,” &c., pending examination before magistrates, the prisoners here referred to being only those detained in regular gaols or penal establishments.

Mean num-
ber of males
and females
in prisons.

281. The mean number of males detained throughout the year was 1,361, and the mean number of females 295. From these figures and those of the mean population of either sex quoted in the last paragraph, it follows that on the average 1 male in every 325 living, and 1 female in every 1,262 living, were constantly in gaol during the year.

Sickness in
prisons.

282. The cases of sickness in the year (3,613) were in the proportion of 1 to every $2\frac{1}{2}$ individual prisoners (estimated at 8,000); but if the calculation be made upon the average number of prisoners detained (1,656), the proportion will be 1 prisoner to every 2 cases of sickness.

Deaths in
prisons.

283. The deaths in prisons (32) were in the proportion of 1 to every 250 of the estimated individual prisoners, or 1 to every 52 of the average number of prisoners.

Punishments
in prisons.

284. The punishments for offences committed within the prison were in the proportion of 1 to every 4 of the estimated individual prisoners. The average number of prisoners were in the proportion of 1 to every $1\frac{1}{4}$ punishments.

285. In the following table the ages of the population at the last census have been brought on to suit the numbers of the estimated mean population during 1875, and the numbers so obtained have been compared with the mean number of prisoners at the same ages:—

AGES OF PRISONERS, 1875.

Ages.	Estimated Mean Population.	Average Number of Prisoners continually confined.	Prisoners per 10,000 of the Population.
Under 10 years	248,913	9	36
10 to 15 „	95,460	22	23.0
15 to 20 „	61,268	144	23.50
20 to 30 „	115,327	391	33.90
30 to 40 „	132,689	426	32.11
40 to 50 „	95,930	358	37.32
50 to 60 „	42,952	191	44.47
60 years and upwards	22,495	115	51.12
Total	815,034	1,656	20.32

286. By means of this table it is ascertained that, of persons of both sexes over 15 years of age living in the colony, 1 in every 290, of those between 20 and 40, 1 in every 304, and of those over 40, 1 in every 243 were constantly in prison throughout the year.

287. The following are the birthplaces and religions of the prisoners confined during the year, reduced from the total numbers of each nationality and religion given as passing through the institutions to the average number confined, in order that the result may be comparable with the estimated totals of the same nationality and religion in the mean population of the year:—

BIRTHPLACES AND RELIGIONS OF PRISONERS, 1875.

Native Country.	Estimated Mean Population.	Average Number of Prisoners continually confined.	Prisoners per 10,000 of the Population.
Australian Colonies	401,677	355	8.84
England and Wales	191,609	575	30.01
Scotland	63,021	131	20.79
Ireland	112,641	445	39.51
China	20,021	55	27.47
Others	26,065	95	36.45
Total	815,034	1,656	20.32
Religion.	Estimated Mean Population.	Average Number of Prisoners continually confined.	Prisoners per 10,000 of the Population.
Protestants	589,122	969	16.45
Roman Catholics	194,219	614	31.61
Jews	4,064	10	24.61
Pagans	20,091	55	25.88
Others	7,538	8	10.61

Relative numbers of each country and sect.

288. About 1 in every 500 of the inhabitants of the colony was constantly in prison throughout the year. This proportion was exceeded in the case of natives of all the countries named except the Australian Colonies, the comparative immunity of these being doubtless to a great extent, if not altogether, due to the large proportion of children included in their numbers. The same proportion was also exceeded in the case of the Roman Catholics, Pagans, and Jews, but was not reached by nearly a fourth in the case of the Protestants. Thirty-nine of the total number—equivalent to 6 of the average number—of prisoners confined, stated themselves to be of no religion. These numbers, as compared with the numbers of no religion in the population, according to the proportion at the last census, give an average of 10½ per 10,000, which was only half the average of those professing some religion. It is possible, however, that in consequence of some leading questions being put to prisoners on entering prison, or for the sake of some supposed advantage to themselves, or some other reason, they may be in the habit of returning themselves as of some religion, when in reality they follow none, and therefore that this proportion may not be altogether reliable.

Birthplaces and religions in reformatories.

289. The children in reformatories during the year numbered 192, of whom 170, or 89 per cent., were Australian born. Of the remainder, 4 were born in England and Wales, 4 in Ireland, 2 in Scotland, 7 in other British Possessions, and of 5 the birthplace was unknown. Of the whole number, 98, or rather more than half, were Protestants; 93, or rather less than half, were Roman Catholics; and 1 was a Jew.

Inquests.

290. The number of inquests held in 1875 was 1,704, or 102 more than in the previous year. According to the verdicts returned, 892 of the deaths resulted from natural causes, 27 from intemperance, 546 from accident, 5 from homicide, 84 from suicide, 4 from execution, 96 from external causes of a doubtful nature, and 42 from unknown or uncertain causes. In 8 instances verdicts of "still-born" were returned. I pointed out last year that the practice of holding inquests in cases of other than violent deaths is increasing, and the present returns fully bear out that conclusion, since, in the case of 52 per cent. of the inquests held in 1875, the verdict was to the effect that death had resulted from natural causes, whereas in the ten years prior to that year a similar verdict was returned in the case of only 45 per cent. of the inquests.

Fire inquests.

291. Ten fire inquests were held during the year. In the case of 2 of these the verdict was that the fire had been occasioned purposely, and in 8 cases an open verdict was returned. Fire inquests are not held

as often now as formerly, which is instanced by the fact that, in the five years ended with 1870, as many as 620 such enquiries were held, as against only 80 in the succeeding five years. This change has occurred, not because fires are less numerous than formerly, but chiefly owing to the circumstance that now fire inquests are not held except upon payment of a fee of £5 5s., by some one applying to have the enquiry made, or in pursuance of instructions from the Crown Law Officers, which are issued only when the circumstances appear sufficiently suspicious to warrant action being taken; whereas formerly it was left entirely to the discretion of the coroner to hold an enquiry on any fire occurring within his district.

PART VII.—ACCUMULATION.

292. The gold received at the Royal Mint, Melbourne, in 1875 Royal Mint, 1875. amounted to 489,732 oz., valued at £1,947,713. Of this gold, 3,553 oz., valued at £13,857, was issued as bullion, and the remainder was coined into 1,888,000 sovereigns. The Mint receipts during the year amounted to £7,928.

293. The business of the Mint is increasing. In 1875, 154,414 oz. Increase of business at Mint. were received in excess of the quantity in 1874, and 267,861 oz. in excess of the quantity in 1873. The coin and bullion issued and the Mint receipts increased in like proportion.

294. Since the opening of the Mint in 1872, 1,237,657 oz. of gold Victorian and other gold sent to Mint. have been received thereat; but this was not all raised in Victoria. The following figures show the quantities from different countries:—

GOLD RECEIVED AT THE MELBOURNE MINT, 1872 TO 1875.

					oz.
Produce of Victoria	...	...	...	...	884,853
" New South Wales	...	...	...	...	1,211
" Queensland	...	...	...	...	1,141
" South Australia	...	...	...	...	24,455
" New Zealand	...	...	...	...	310,056
" Tasmania	...	...	...	...	12,341
" Natal	...	...	...	...	446
" Unknown	...	...	...	...	3,154
				Total	1,237,657

Number of
banks.

295. In 1875 there were 12 banks of issue in Victoria, and these had 271 branches or agencies within the colony. In the previous year there were 11 banks of issue with 251 branches or agencies.

Rates of ex-
change.

296. Subjoined are the average rates of exchange for bank bills drawn on the following places during the two years. Those upon London are drawn at sixty days' sight, those upon the adjacent colonies at sight.

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

Places on which Bills were drawn.	Average Rates of Exchange.	
	1874.	1875.
London ...	$\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 per cent. premium	$\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{7}{8}$ per cent. premium
British India ...	5 per cent. premium; 2s. 1d. per rupee	5 per cent. premium; 2s. per rupee
New South Wales ...	par to $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. premium	2s. 9d. to 5s. per cent. premium
Queensland ...	$\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 per cent. premium	$\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 per cent. premium
South Australia ...	$\frac{3}{10}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ " "	4s. 9d. to 10s. per cent. premium
Tasmania ...	$\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ " "	$\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. premium
New Zealand ...	$\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ " "	$\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 per cent. premium

Rates of dis-
count.

297. The average rates of discount on local bills in the same two years were as follow :—

RATES OF DISCOUNT OF LOCAL BILLS.

Currency of Bills.	Average Rates per Annum of Discount.	
	1874.	1875.
Under 65 days ...	6 to 7 per cent. ...	7 to 8 per cent.
65 to 95 " ...	7 to 8 " ...	8 to 9 "
95 to 125 " ...	8 to 9 " ...	9 to 10 "
Over 125 " ...	8 to 10 " ...	9 to 10 "

Liabilities,
assets, &c
of banks.

298. The following are the liabilities, assets, capital, and profits of the banks, according to the returns sworn to in the last quarter of each of the same years :—

LIABILITIES.

	1874.	1875.
	£	£
Notes in circulation ...	1,395,502	1,382,612
Bills in circulation ...	82,877	74,262
Balances due to other banks ...	188,495	291,330
Deposits not bearing interest ...	4,922,187	4,733,003
Deposits bearing interest ...	7,516,399	9,001,965
Total ...	14,105,460	15,483,172

ASSETS.

	£	£
Coined gold, silver, and other metals ...	2,279,502	2,660,087
Gold and silver in bullion and bars ...	466,848	461,538
Landed property ...	705,598	744,866
Notes and bills of other banks ...	183,777	196,015
Balances due from other banks ...	302,883	364,628
Government securities ...	...	...
Debts due to the banks* ...	16,518,244	17,852,348
Total ...	20,456,852	22,279,482

CAPITAL AND PROFITS.

Capital stock paid up ...	£8,503,033	£8,572,120
Average per annum of rates of last dividend declared by banks	10 $\frac{3}{8}$ per cent.	10 $\frac{5}{8}$ per cent.
Average rate of interest paid to shareholders	11·702 per cent.	12·115 per cent.
Amount of last dividend declared ...	£497,500	£519,250
Amount of reserved profits after declared dividend	£2,518,470	£2,592,808

299. Government funds in the hands of the banks amounted at the end of 1874 to £1,348,048, and at the end of 1875 to £677,445. Government funds.

300. The following table shows the proportion of each item of the assets to the total assets, and of each item of the liabilities to the total liabilities in the two years:— Percentage of items of liabilities and assets.

LIABILITIES.

	1874.	1875.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
Notes in circulation ...	9·89	8·93
Bills in circulation ...	·59	·48
Balances due to other banks ...	1·34	1·88
Deposits not bearing interest...	34·89	30·57
Deposits bearing interest ...	53·29	58·14
Total ...	100·00	100·00

ASSETS.

Coined gold, silver, and other metals ...	11·14	11·94
Gold and silver in bullion or bars ...	2·28	2·07
Landed property ...	3·45	3·34
Notes and bills of other banks ...	·90	·88
Balances due from other banks ...	1·48	1·64
Government securities ...	...	...
Debts due to the banks ...	80·75	80·13
Total ...	100·00	100·00

* Including notes, bills of exchange, and all other stock and funded debts of every description except notes, bills, and balances due from one bank to another.

301. By an analysis of the bank returns for the two years, the following results are arrived at:—

	Coin and bullion formed—		
Coin and bullion to assets.	13·42	per cent. of the assets in	1874
	14·01	"	1875
	The liabilities amounted to—		
Liabilities to assets.	68·95	per cent. of the assets in	1874
	69·50	"	1875
	The paid-up capital was equal to—		
Capital to assets and liabilities.	41·57	per cent. of the assets in	1874
	38·48	"	1875
	60·28	per cent. of the liabilities in	1874
	55·36	"	1875
	Of the moneys deposited—		
Moneys deposited on interest and by Government.	60·43	per cent. bore interest in	1874
	65·54	"	1875
	10·84	per cent. were Government funds in	1874
	4·93	"	1875

302. The interest allowed on moneys deposited in the banks for periods of twelve months was at the rate of from 4 to 6 per cent. in 1874, and from 5 to 6 per cent. in 1875.

303. Savings Banks in Victoria are of two kinds, Post Office and ordinary. The following figures show the number of institutions, the number of depositors having open accounts at last dates of balancing in 1875, and the total and average amount of depositors' balances at such dates:—

SAVINGS BANKS, 1875.

	Number of Savings Banks.	Number of Depositors.	Depositors' Balances.	
			Total Amount.	Average per Depositor.
Post Office Savings Banks ...	151	39,246	£ 577,381	£ s. d. 14 14 2
Ordinary Savings Banks ...	11	26,591	892,468	33 11 3
Total ...	162	65,837	1,469,849	22 6 6

304. The number of depositors in Savings Banks has been increasing year by year, but in 1875 there was a smaller amount remaining on deposit than in 1874 or 1873. The following are the figures during the last four years:—

	Number of Depositors.	Amount remaining on Deposit.
1872 ...	52,749	£1,405,738
1873 ...	58,547	1,498,618
1874 ...	64,014	1,617,301
1875 ...	65,837	1,469,849

305. Four per cent. per annum, which is the highest rate of interest Savings Banks are permitted to give, was allowed by both classes of institutions on moneys left on deposit. Rate of interest in Savings Banks.

306. The number and amount of mortgages on land, the number and amount on live stock, and the number and amount of preferable liens on wool effected during 1875, also the number and amount of releases registered during the same year, were as follow. The number and amount of releases of live stock and of wool appear small as compared with the number and amount of mortgages and liens ; but it frequently happens, in regard to this class of property, that, although the mortgage may be paid off, the mortgagor omits to protect himself by a registered release :— Mortgages and releases.

MORTGAGES AND RELEASES, 1875.

	Mortgages and Liens.		Releases.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
		£		£
Land	4,619	3,686,510	2,846	2,284,740
Live stock	785	536,765	64	288,436
Wool	631	319,294	1	450
Total	6,035	4,542,569	2,911	2,573,626

307. During the last eleven years the money advanced on land amounted, according to the registered mortgages, to £33,916,199, and the money paid off amounted, according to the registered releases, to £15,815,429. The difference between these amounts is £18,100,770 ; which sum, or the bulk thereof, would appear to be still owing to capitalists. Amount advanced on mortgage in eleven years.

308. The bills of sale filed and satisfied in the last two years were as follow :— Bills of sale.

BILLS OF SALE, 1874 AND 1875.

Year.	Bills of Sale Filed.	
	Number.	Amount.
		£
1874	3,207	727,370
1875	3,182	788,339

Year.	Bills of Sale Satisfied.	
	Number.	Amount.
		£
1874	251	98,492
1875	189	85,477

309. The following are the different descriptions of effects on which bills of sale were granted in the same two years :—

	Bills of Sale Granted.	
	1874.	1875.
Farm produce and live stock	692	776
Household furniture, with or without other goods	1,644	1,677
Houses and lands	12	9
Houses on Crown lands, with and without furniture, merchandise, &c.	169	85
Merchandise, with or without book debts	265	204
Mining plant	122	104
Machinery, not mining	34	32
Working plant, not mining	246	279
Other effects... ..	23	16
Total	3,207	3,182

310. The persons who granted bills of sale in those years were of the following occupations :—

	Bills of Sale Granted.	
	1874.	1875.
Civil servants, bailiffs, warders, police, &c.	32	44
Clergymen	2	2
Medical men, dentists, druggists, &c.	33	23
Lawyers	11	18
Teachers, linguists,	35	22
Surveyors, architects	16	10
Journalists, reporters, news agents	20	17
Artists, photographers	—	9
Merchants, shopkeepers, grocers, drapers, hawkers	315	281
Bankers, brokers, auctioneers, accountants, clerks, &c.	92	164
Hotelkeepers	467	428
Boarding, eating-housekeepers, servants, &c.	82	75
Tailors, shoemakers, dressmakers, hairdressers, &c.	98	76
Contractors	68	47
Artisans and mechanics	283	317
Miners, mining speculators, mining companies, &c.	363	288
Farmers, market gardeners, graziers, &c.	722	804
Carters, coach, cab-owners, drivers	224	173
Mariners	5	12
Dealers in food	137	156
Laborers, splitters, sawyers, &c.	93	87
"Gentlemen," "ladies," &c.	66	92
Miscellaneous pursuits, unspecified, &c.	43	37
Total	3,207	3,182

Building societies.

311. Sixty-one building societies were in existence in 1875, the members of which numbered 23,617. The aggregate income of these societies during the year was £966,230, and the working expenditure amounted to £26,555. Sums amounting in all to £728,172 were advanced to members in the year, and moneys amounting to £439,288 were received on deposit.

PART VIII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

312. In this part are recorded the statistics of the three most important events in life, viz., marriage, birth, and death. Vital Statistics.

313. The marriages in 1875 numbered 4,985, or 60 more than in 1874, or 11 more than in 1873. An inspection of the column "Marriages" in the Statistical Summary at the commencement of this work will show that more marriages were celebrated in the year under review than in any other year since the first settlement of Port Phillip. Marriages, 1875.

314. As compared with the inhabitants of the colony, however, the marriages have been declining for years past. In none of the other Australasian colonies has the marriage rate been decreasing to a like extent; indeed in most of them it has within the last few years been increasing. In all of those, however, of which the figures are at hand, except Tasmania, the marriage rate is lower than it was ten years since, a circumstance which no doubt finds its explanation mainly in the fact that, in proportion to the whole population of each colony, the number of persons at marriageable ages is smaller now than it was at that period. The following table, now published for the first time, gives the marriage rates in all the Australasian colonies for each year from 1865 to 1875, or for as many years between these extreme periods as the information is available for:— Marriage rates in Australasian colonies.

MARRIAGE RATES IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1865 TO 1875.

Number of Marriages* per 1,000 of the Mean Population.

Year.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
1865	7.29	8.90	13.27	9.45	...	6.27	10.47
1866	6.71	8.22	11.61	8.12	...	5.93	10.32
1867	6.91	7.79	9.54	8.20	...	6.10	9.69
1868	6.99	8.17	8.33	7.37	...	6.57	9.35
1869	6.79	7.98	8.31	6.78	...	6.44	8.32
1870	6.67	7.79	7.80	6.90	...	6.62	7.62
1871	6.35	7.73	8.06	6.77	...	5.90	7.15
1872	6.30	7.42	8.70	7.20	5.56	6.17	6.85
1873	6.37	7.97	9.66	8.00	6.25	6.36	7.91
1874	6.17	7.59	8.62	8.00	6.96	6.83	8.87
1875	6.12	7.73	8.63	8.01	7.26	6.63	8.94
Means	6.58	7.90	9.13	7.69.	6.52	6.33	8.57

NOTE.—All the calculations in this table were made in the office of the Government Statist, Melbourne.

* The numbers in this table doubled give the persons married in every thousand of the population.

Marriage rates :
Victoria and other colonies compared.

315. It will be observed that within the last few years the marriage rate of every one of the other colonies has been higher than that of Victoria. Taking, however, the average of the years for which figures are given, the Victorian rate is seen to be a fraction higher than that of Western Australia and Tasmania, although lower than that of any of the other colonies.

Marriage rates in European countries.

316. The marriage rate of Victoria is lower than that of any of the countries of which particulars are given in the following table, except Ireland.* The marriage rates of Queensland and New Zealand are, however, as high as the rate in any of those countries, and the marriage rate of New South Wales is equal to that in several of them. All the figures are the latest which have reached this colony :—

MARRIAGE RATES IN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.

Country.	Years over which the average extends.		Annual Marriages† per 1,000 of the Population.
	Number.	Period.	
England and Wales	20	1854 to 1873	8·37
Scotland	10	1864 „ 1873	7·16
Ireland*	11	1865 „ 1875	5·12
Denmark	20	1854 „ 1873	7·90
Sweden	20	1854 „ 1873	7·07
Austria	20	1854 „ 1873	8·67
Prussia	20	1854 „ 1873	8·61
The Netherlands	20	1854 „ 1873	7·99
France	20	1854 „ 1873	7·99
Spain	10	1861 „ 1870	7·55
Italy	11	1863 „ 1873	7·70

Marriage rates in town and country.

317. The marriage rate in Victoria is always higher in town than in the country ; but in the last two years it has been higher in extra-metropolitan towns than in Melbourne and suburbs. The following are the figures for the metropolitan and extra-metropolitan towns, and for country districts, during the year under review :—

* The registrations in Ireland are admitted by the Registrar-General to be defective. It is said that an approximation to the correct numbers would be obtained by adding one-third to the registered marriages and births, and one-fourth to registered deaths in that country. See 29th Report of the Registrar-General of England, page xxiii.

† The numbers in this column doubled give the persons married in every thousand of the population.

‡ In 1873 the marriages in the United Kingdom were in the proportion of 8·03 per 1,000 of the population, viz., England and Wales, 8·80; Scotland, 7·79—total Great Britain, 8·07; Ireland, 4·82.

MARRIAGES IN TOWN AND COUNTRY DISTRICTS, 1875.

Districts.	Estimated Mean Population.	Marriages, 1875.	
		Total Number.	Number per 1,000 of the Population.
Melbourne and suburbs	244,668	2,157	8·82
Towns outside Melbourne and suburbs ...	199,338	2,061	10·34
Country districts	371,028	767	2·07
Total	815,034	4,985	6·12

318. In the year under review most marriages took place in the spring quarter, and fewest in the autumn quarter. This is different from the experience of the ten years ended with 1874, in which most marriages took place in the autumn quarter, and fewest in the winter quarter :—

MARRIAGES IN EACH QUARTER.

Seasons.	Quarter ended on the last day of—	Year 1875.		Percentage in Ten Years : 1865-1874.
		Number of Marriages.	Percentage.	
Summer ...	March	1,270	25·48	24·49
Autumn ...	June	1,186	23·79	26·11
Winter ...	September ...	1,207	24·21	23·98
Spring ...	December ...	1,322	26·52	25·42
	Year ...	4,985	100·00	100·00

319. The previous condition of the persons who entered the married state will be found in the following table. It will be observed that the percentages during the year under review differ but slightly from those in the preceding ten years :—

FORMER CONDITION OF PERSONS MARRIED.

Previous Condition.	Year 1875.		Percentage in Ten Years : 1865-1875.
	Number of Marriages.	Percentage.	
Bachelors and spinsters	4,020	80·64	80·37
Bachelors and widows	351	7·05	7·98
Widowers and spinsters	382	7·66	7·40
Widowers and widows	232	4·65	4·25
	4,985	100·00	100·00

320. In the case of all but 16 of the 4,985 marriages which took place in the year, the age of both bridegroom and bride was specified.

In 13 out of the 16 defective entries, the age of neither party was given; in one case the age of the husband was stated and not the wife, and in two instances the age of the wife and not the husband. The following table shows the ages of the husbands and of the wives in combination:—

AGES OF PERSONS MARRIED, 1875.

Ages of Husbands.	Ages of Wives.													Total Husbands.						
	Under 15.	15 to 16.	16 to 17.	17 to 18.	18 to 19.	19 to 20.	20 to 21.	21 to 25.	25 to 30.	30 to 35.	35 to 40.	40 to 45.	45 to 50.		50 to 55.	55 to 60.	60 to 65.	65 to 70.	Unspecified.	
16 to 17 years	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
18 to 19 "	1	3	2	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
19 to 20 "	4	3	12	4	7	5	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
20 to 21 "	...	1	3	6	17	19	13	16	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	78
21 to 25 "	...	3	16	89	142	193	170	592	109	15	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1333
25 to 30 "	...	5	23	67	107	150	183	603	290	50	7	6	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1493
30 to 35 "	...	2	...	9	22	34	60	61	261	221	109	31	11	2	...	...	...	...	...	823
35 to 40 "	...	1	4	5	14	21	26	127	142	82	64	25	2	1	...	...	...	...	1	516
40 to 45 "	...	1	...	2	3	11	9	43	64	54	58	33	18	4	...	...	...	...	...	300
45 to 50 "	1	3	3	6	13	34	28	35	32	20	3	...	1	...	...	...	179
50 to 55 "	2	1	1	12	6	15	18	26	14	11	5	2	...	...	...	113
55 to 60 "	1	...	...	3	5	4	6	10	9	6	8	2	...	...	...	54
60 to 65 "	1	1	2	3	2	4	4	4	3	...	...	...	24
65 to 70 "	2	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
70 years and upwards	1	2	...	...	3
Unspecified	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	...	15
Total wives	2	12	60	198	337	463	480	1677	876	359	228	148	73	29	18	9	2	14	4985	

NOTE.—This table may be read as follows:—Five men between 25 and 30 married girls between 15 and 16; two women between 45 and 50 married men between 25 and 30, &c.

Relative ages of husband and wife.

321. An examination of the above table will show that in 1,149 instances, or 23 per cent. of the whole, both parties to the marriage were about the same age; in 337 instances, or 7 per cent. of the whole, the wife was older than the husband; and in 3,483 instances, or 70 per cent. of the whole, the husband was older than the wife.

Marriages of minors.

322. It will also be observed that 125 of the bridegrooms and 1,552 of the brides had not attained the full age of 21 years; and in 99 instances both parties to the marriage were minors. By a comparison of the proportions furnished by these numbers with similar proportions for the previous ten years, it would appear that the tendency of both males and females to marry under age is increasing in Victoria. The figures are given in the following table, where also will be found the proportion of minors to the total numbers marrying in England and

Wales. It will be noticed that more males but fewer females marry under age there than here :—

MARRIAGES OF PERSONS UNDER AGE IN VICTORIA AND ENGLAND AND WALES.

	In every 100 Marriages, Numbers under 21 Years of Age.		
	In Victoria.		In England and Wales.
	Year 1875.	Mean of Ten Years : 1865-1874.	Mean of Ten Years.
Bridegrooms	2·51	1·72	6·60
Brides	31·13	27·28	19·91
Mean	16·82	14·50	13·255

323. One method of estimating the proportion of adult males and females in a community destitute of elementary education is by observing the proportions who sign their names with marks to the marriage registers. The following were the numbers who signed in this manner in 1875, also their percentage to the total numbers who married:—

Signing with marks.

SIGNING MARRIAGE REGISTER WITH MARKS, 1875.

	Numbers Married.	Signing with Marks.	
		Total Number.	Number in every 100 Married.
Bridegrooms	4,985	273	5·48
Brides	4,985	470	9·43
Mean	4,985	371·5	7·455

324. As compared with the previous year an improvement in this respect is apparent, those unable to sign in writing in 1874 having been in the proportion of 6·52 per cent. as regards the males, and 9·91 per cent. as regards the females.

Signing with marks, 1874 and 1875.

325. A still greater improvement will be noticed by comparing the results with those of the eleven years ended with 1874, in which 7·62 per cent. of the males and 15·21 per cent. of the females were unable to sign their names in writing. This improvement extends to all the principal sects, but not to all the minor ones, as will be seen by the following table, which gives the numbers of either sex signing with marks in every 100 of the same sex married during the year under notice and the previous eleven years, according to the rites of different religious denominations :—

Signing with marks in each sect.

SIGNING MARRIAGE REGISTER WITH MARKS.

Marriages performed according to the usages of the—	Number Signing with Marks in every 100 Married.					
	Year 1875.			1864 to 1874.		
	Men.	Women.	Mean.	Men.	Women.	Mean.
Church of England ...	4·34	7·23	5·78	6·10	11·90	9·00
Presbyterians ...	4·48	8·28	6·38	5·07	11·10	8·08
Wesleyans ...	3·23	6·77	5·00	5·94	10·36	8·15
Independents ...	4·21	7·72	5·96	4·67	10·79	7·73
Baptists ...	4·81	10·16	7·49	4·62	7·59	6·11
Lutherans ...	...	10·00	5·00	1·81	5·26	3·54
Unitarians ...	...	...	...	...	6·25	3·12
Calvinistic Methodists ...	...	11·76	5·88	...	9·28	4·64
Roman Catholics ...	10·59	15·17	12·88	14·86	29·18	22·02
Jews ...	...	...	...	1·44	3·83	2·63
Other persuasions ...	10·81	10·81	10·81	9·31	9·04	9·18
Lay Registrars ...	6·98	13·37	10·17	6·63	16·42	11·52
Total ...	5·48	9·43	7·45	7·62	15·21	11·42

Cases of both signing with marks.

326. It is evident that, if only one party to a marriage is unable to write, the misfortune is not so great as if both parties are entirely illiterate. The marriages in which parties signed with marks in 1875 numbered 638; but in only 105 of these, or about a sixth, did both parties so sign. In the 533 other instances, either the husband or the wife signed in writing. Thus, whereas the marriages in which one or both could not write amounted to 13 per cent. of the whole, in the case of only about 2 per cent. of the marriages could neither party write.

Signing with marks in Victoria and England.

327. In England and Wales during 1873, which is the latest date for which the information is available, as many as 19 males and 25 females in every 100 of the same sexes married were unable to write their names on the registers. This indicates that, in the matter of adult elementary education, the mother country is still far behind Victoria.

Marriages of Chinese.

328. In consideration of the number of women of European birth or origin noticed to be living in the Chinese quarters of Melbourne, Ballarat, Sandhurst, and elsewhere, it will no doubt surprise many that only 183 marriages of Chinese males have taken place in Victoria during the last ten years. By the fact of this number being so small it is made evident that the connections existing between most of these females and the Chinamen have not received legal sanction. It is very generally believed that, of the women who do marry Chinamen, the majority are Irish; but this is not the case, the numbers of this nationality so marrying not being so great as their proportion to the population might render probable, and no union of an Irish female with

a Chinaman having taken place in the last two years. The following table shows the number of marriages of Chinese males which have taken place during each of the ten years ended with 1875, and the nationalities of the women with whom they married :—

NATIONALITY OF WOMEN MARRYING CHINESE MALES, 1866 TO 1875.

Birthplace of Wives.	Number of Marriages of Chinese Males.										Total in Ten Years.
	1866.	1867.	1868	1869.	1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.	
Victoria	2	2	2	1	7	12	5	12	7	10	60
Other Australian Colonies	1	3	2	3	6	8	5	4	2	2	36
England	4	2	2	5	3	8	6	5	4	2	41
Scotland	2	...	2	...	...	1	1	3	1	4	14
Ireland	3	1	3	5	1	3	2	3	...	...	21
Other British Possessions	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
France ... ..	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Germany ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	2
Spain ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
The United States	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
China ... ..	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	3
At sea ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2
Total in each year ...	12	9	12	15	18	33	20	29	15	20	183

329. The births registered in 1875 numbered 26,720, or 80 less than Births, 1875. those registered in 1874, or 1,380 less than those registered in 1873. The number of births in the last-named year was the largest ever recorded in the colony in one year. The births in the year under review were exceeded not only in the two years named, but also in 1872, 1871, 1870, and 1868.

330. The birth rate, like the marriage rate, has been decreasing for years past, and was lower in the year under review than in any one of the previous ten years. In most of the other Australasian colonies it has also been diminishing, but only in Western Australia and Tasmania is it now lower than in Victoria. The following table gives the number of births per 1,000 of the living population in each colony during the eleven years ended with 1875. The present is the first occasion on which such a table has been published :— Births in Australasian colonies.

BIRTH RATES IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1865 TO 1875.

Year.	Number of Births per 1,000 of the Mean Population.						
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania	New Zealand.
1865 ...	42·04	42·99	43·65	43·90	...	32·56	41·12
1866 ...	39·44	40·22	44·86	42·38	...	29·15	42·89
1867 ...	39·41	41·67	45·66	41·87	...	30·34	42·18
1868 ...	40·59	40·43	43·03	41·51	...	30·03	42·14
1869 ...	37·36	40·41	42·83	39·03	...	28·27	41·90
1870 ...	38·25	39·76	43·51	38·48	...	30·18	42·32
1871 ...	37·07	39·42	43·25	38·34	...	30·16	40·64
1872 ...	35·95	38·27	40·70	37·60	32·42	29·44	39·50
1873 ...	36·01	39·01	40·82	36·42	31·43	29·43	39·00
1874 ...	33·56	38·75	41·11	38·22	33·71	29·72	40·27
1875 ...	32·78	37·83	38·90	35·70	28·72	29·88	40·23
Means ...	37·26	39·73	42·21	39·22	31·56	29·91	40·92

NOTE.—All the calculations in this table were made in the office of the Government Statist, Melbourne.

Birth rates in European countries.

331. The birth rate in Victoria is higher than that in France, Ireland,* Denmark, Sweden, Scotland, the Netherlands, or England; is about equal to that in Spain and Italy; is not so high as that in Prussia; and not nearly so high as that in Austria, which, of all European countries respecting which returns of a recent date have reached this colony, is that in which the birth rate is the highest. The birth rate in Queensland and New Zealand, however, is higher than that in Austria. The following table gives the average birth rate in all the countries named:—

BIRTH RATES IN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.

Country.	Years over which the average extends.		Annual Births per 1,000 of the Population.
	Number.	Period.	
England and Wales ...	20	1854 to 1873	34·910
Scotland ...	5	1869 to 1873	34·600
Ireland* ...	11	1865 to 1875	26·864
Denmark ...	20	1854 to 1873	31·570
Sweden ...	20	1854 to 1873	31·945
Austria ...	20	1854 to 1873	40·125
Prussia ...	20	1854 to 1873	37·805
The Netherlands ...	20	1854 to 1873	34·460
France ...	20	1854 to 1873	26·115
Spain ...	10	1861 to 1870	37·150
Italy ...	11	1863 to 1873	37·310

* The registrations in Ireland are admitted by the Registrar-General to be defective. See footnote to paragraph 316 ante.

† In 1873 the births in the United Kingdom were in the proportion of 34·1 per 1,000 of the population, viz. :—England and Wales, 35·6; Scotland, 34·9; total Great Britain, 35·4; Ireland, 27·1.

332. The birth rate in Victoria is highest in the extra-metropolitan towns, less high in the metropolis, and lowest of all in the country districts. Why the birth rate should be lower in Melbourne than in country towns is a matter which may afford ground for speculation:—

BIRTHS IN URBAN AND COUNTRY DISTRICTS, 1875.

Districts.	Births, 1875.	
	Total Number.	Number per 1,000 of Population.
Melbourne and suburbs	8,227	33·63
Towns outside Melbourne and suburbs	7,496	37·60
Country districts	10,997	29·64
Total	26,720	32·78

NOTE.—For mean population of the different groups of districts, see table following paragraph 317 ante.

333. Of the total number of children born during the year, 13,683 were boys and 13,037 were girls. These numbers furnish a proportion of 104·95 boys to 100 girls. In the eleven years prior to the year under review the average in Victoria was 104·06 boys to 100 girls. In England and Wales, during the eleven years ended with 1873, the proportion was 104·1 boys to 100 girls.

334. The cases in which twins were born during 1875 numbered 165, and one case occurred of three children being produced at a birth. The total number of children born during the year being 26,720, as already stated, it follows that 26,553 confinements took place; and in 1 in 160 of these more than 1 child was born. In the eleven years prior to 1875, 2,946 cases of twins and 26 cases of triplets were recorded; the total number of births in the same period having been 292,290. There were thus 289,292 confinements during the eleven years, and at 1 out of every 98 of these confinements twins were born, and at 1 out of every 11,127 three children were born.

335. The births registered as illegitimate during the year numbered 779, or 1 in every 34. In the previous year 1 child in every 28 born was illegitimate, as also was 1 in every 34½ born during the ten years ended with 1874. Supposing all the children born out of wedlock in this colony to be registered as such, illegitimacy is much more common in England and Wales than in Victoria; the births set down there as illegitimate during the eleven years ended with 1873 having been 1 in every 17 births registered.

336. According to the number of illegitimate births, the women living in concubinage probably numbered 2,586 in 1875. Estimating that there were 77,029 single women in the colony at child-bearing ages, it

Birth rates in town and country.

Births of males and females.

Twins and triplets.

Illegitimate births.

Women living in concubinage.

follows that, exclusive of public prostitutes, who, as is well known, seldom, if ever, give birth to children, 1 such single woman in every 30 was living an immoral life.*

Illegitimacy in town and country. 337. In towns, during 1875, of every 29 children born, 1 was illegitimate—the proportion in Melbourne and suburbs being slightly less than in other towns. In country districts the proportion was 1 in 45.

Births at each season. 338. Births in Victoria are invariably more numerous in the winter than at any other season. In England and Wales also it is found that the same law exists. The following table shows the number of births in this colony during each quarter of 1875, and the percentage of births in each quarter during it and the previous ten years:—

BIRTHS IN EACH QUARTER.

Seasons.	Quarter ended on the last day of—	Year 1875.		Percentage in Ten Years: 1865-1874.
		Number of Births.	Percentage.	
Summer ...	March ...	6,427	24·05	23·44
Autumn ...	June ...	6,961	26·05	24·97
Winter ...	September ...	7,072	26·47	27·33
Spring ...	December ...	6,260	23·43	24·26
	Year ...	26,720	100·00	100·00

Deaths, 1875. 339. Deaths in 1875 amounted to 15,287. This is much the largest number ever recorded in the colony in one year, and exceeded by upwards of 3,000 the number in 1874, which, up to that period, had, with one exception (1866), been the year in which the greatest mortality had taken place.

Excess of births over deaths. 340. In the year under review the births exceeded the deaths by 11,433, or 75 per cent. This is the smallest percentage on record. In the previous year, which was one of high mortality, the proportion was 119 per cent., and in eleven years prior to 1874 it averaged 146 per cent.

Deaths of males and females. 341. The males and females who died during the year numbered 8,563 and 6,724 respectively. These numbers furnish a proportion of 79 females to 100 males. Females, in the total population, are in the proportion of 84 to every 100 males; but it invariably happens that more males and fewer females die than their respective numbers in the population would have given reason to expect.

Annual death rate. 342. It has been laid down by an eminent authority, † that for English districts the normal annual death rate is 17 per 1,000 persons living, and

* For the basis of this calculation, see *Victorian Year-Book*, 1873, paragraph 286, and same work 1874, paragraph 490.

† Dr. William Farr, F.R.S.; see page ix of his letter dated 5th February 1875, published in the supplement to the Thirty-fifth Annual Report of the Registrar-General of England: London, Spottiswoode, 1875.

that any excess over this rate "is an excess not due to the mortality incident to human nature, but to foreign causes to be repelled, and by hygienic expedients conquered." As a matter of fact, although the death rate in certain English districts has been as low as, and in some years even lower than, 17 per 1,000, the rate for the whole country has always been much higher than this, and over the 35 years ended with 1873 it averaged 22·3 per 1,000. In Victoria the death rate has generally been below 17 per 1,000, and in the eleven years ended with 1874 it was less than 16 (15·56). In the year under notice, however, it was much higher than 17 per 1,000, viz., 18·76, as regards both sexes; 19·35, as regards males; 18·06, as regards females. These proportions have been exceeded in only one of the last eleven years, viz., 1866, in which both sexes died at the rate of 19·37—males at the rate of 19·68, and females at the rate of 18·98 per 1,000. In the following table, which gives the death rate during eleven years, it will be noticed that in only three of those years has the normal 17 per 1,000 living been exceeded :—

ANNUAL DEATH RATE,* 1865 TO 1875.

Year.	Estimated Mean Population.		Number of Deaths.		Deaths per 1,000 of the Mean Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1865 ...	349,662	266,713	6,158	4,303	17·61	16·13	16·97
1866 ...	356,460	277,617	7,016	5,270	19·68	18·98	19·37
1867 ...	362,417	287,409	6,613	5,120	18·25	17·81	18·06
1868 ...	371,817	299,405	5,865	4,202	15·77	14·03	15·00
1869 ...	384,267	312,675	6,221	4,409	16·19	14·10	15·25
1870 ...	390,480	319,359	6,114	4,306	15·66	13·48	14·68
1871 ...	404,983	333,742	5,845	4,073	14·43	12·20	13·43
1872 ...	415,605	345,386	6,308	4,523	15·18	13·10	14·23
1873 ...	424,729	355,633	6,565	4,936	15·45	13·88	14·74
1874 ...	434,073	364,615	6,994	5,228	16·11	14·34	15·30
1875 ...	442,623	372,411	8,563	6,724	19·35	18·06	18·76
Mean of eleven years ...					16·66	15·02	15·92

343. It has been asserted by the same authority,† that the supply of Medical practitioners. medical attendance to the people of England is imperfect, and that "some die in illness without medical aid" in consequence. The medical men in England he estimates to be in the proportion of 1 to every 1,276 men, women, and children living, which he contrasts with the position of the army, in which the proportion is 1 to every 202 men.

* For total of mean population in each year, see table following paragraph 103 ante; for total number of deaths, see Statistical Summary (first folding sheet) at commencement of this work; or the totals may be obtained by adding the males and females.

† See pp. lxxxii and lxxxiii of Dr. Farr's letter referred to in footnote to last paragraph.

He admits that "soldiers require more surgeons than civilians;" but says, notwithstanding, that "the latter have evidently an insufficient medical staff." If this be the case, the medical aid at the disposal of the people of Victoria must be still more insufficient; for, at the end of 1875, the estimated population of the colony was 823,272, to minister to the medical and surgical wants of whom there were, according to the *Medical Register* published three weeks later, 486 practitioners. These numbers show that a medical man in Victoria has to attend, on the average, to 1,694 persons, or fully a third more than his brother practitioner in England. If it be true, as Dr. Farr appears to argue, that the death rate of England would be lower if more medical aid were available, it may upon the same principle and with still greater reason be inferred, that an increase to the number of medical men in Victoria would have the effect of reducing the death rate here.

Death rates
in Australia-
sian colonies.

344. The following table shows the death rates in the different Australasian colonies during the eleven years ended with 1875. It will be observed that the death rate in all of them was unusually high during the past year; that over a series of years the death rates in Victoria, New South Wales, and South Australia are about equal; that the two colonies in which the death rate is to a marked extent lower than in these three, are New Zealand and Tasmania; that the average death rate in Western Australia is nearly up to, and that of Queensland is above, 17 per 1,000. This table, like those showing the marriage and birth rates in the Australasian colonies, is now published for the first time:—

DEATH RATES IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1865 TO 1875.

Year.	Number of Deaths per 1,000 of the Mean Population.						
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
1865 ...	16·97	16·41	21·42	14·30	...	13·40	15·13
1866 ...	19·37	17·47	25·67	17·20	...	13·79	12·86
1867 ...	18·06	19·64	17·80	17·48	...	14·48	12·78
1868 ...	15·00	15·83	17·36	14·41	...	14·70	11·94
1869 ...	15·25	14·05	16·20	12·37	...	13·20	11·73
1870 ...	14·68	13·27	14·59	13·94	...	13·88	11·13
1871 ...	13·43	12·54	14·83	12·87	...	13·38	10·13
1872 ...	14·23	14·11	14·97	15·33	14·02	13·79	11·68
1873 ...	14·74	13·84	16·06	13·48	16·24	14·52	12·67
1874 ...	15·30	15·12	17·98	17·05	18·74	16·21	13·05
1875 ...	18·76	18·09	23·80	19·45	17·88	20·00	15·92
Means ...	15·92	15·41	18·21	15·26	16·69	14·69	12·70

NOTE.—All the calculations in this table were made in the office of the Government Statist, Melbourne.

345. In all the European countries respecting which the information is at hand, except Ireland, the death rate is much higher than in any of the Australasian colonies. In Ireland the death rate is apparently lower than that in Queensland; but this may perhaps not really be the case, it being an admitted fact that the registrations of Ireland are defective* :—

Death rates
in European
countries.

DEATH RATES IN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.

Country.	Years over which the Average extends.		Annual Deaths per 1,000 of the Population.
	Number.	Period.	
England and Wales ...	20	1854 to 1873	22·260
Scotland ...	5	1869 to 1873	22·400
Ireland* ...	11	1865 to 1875	17·100
Denmark ...	20	1854 to 1873	20·040
Sweden ...	20	1854 to 1873	20·115
Austria ...	20	1854 to 1873	32·085
Prussia ...	20	1854 to 1873	27·150
The Netherlands ...	20	1854 to 1873	25·715
France ...	20	1854 to 1873	24·480
Spain ...	10	1861 to 1870	29·740
Italy ...	11	1863 to 1873	30·170

NOTE.—The mortality of Denmark was increased by war in 1864; that of Sweden by cholera in 1857 and 1866; that of Austria by the same cause in 1866 and 1873, also by war in 1866; that of Prussia by cholera in 1866, and by war in 1866, 1870, and 1871; that of the Netherlands by cholera in 1859 and 1866, and by smallpox in 1871; that of France by smallpox in 1865 and 1866, and by war in 1870 and 1871.

346. By a comparison of this table with that showing the birth rates in European countries *ante* it will be found that almost invariably the highest death rate prevails in those countries which boast the highest birth rate. This is apparently a natural law, and is explained chiefly by the fact that the mortality is swelled by the large number of infants who die. In Victoria $12\frac{1}{2}$, and in England $15\frac{1}{2}$ infants in every 100 born, die before they are a year old.

High birth
rate and
death rate
concurrent

347. The mortality of the towns is always greater than that of the country districts. In Melbourne and suburbs, although the birth rate is lower, the mortality is generally somewhat higher than it is in the extra-metropolitan towns. The reason that, in this case, a low death rate is not concurrent with a low birth rate doubtless is that the charitable institutions and other appliances for ministering to the wants of sick persons in Melbourne are the occasion of many non-residents going there for medical treatment and nursing for serious diseases or

Deaths in
town and
country.

* The registrations in Ireland are admitted by the Registrar-General to be defective. See footnote to paragraph 315 *ante*.

† In 1873 the deaths in the United Kingdom were in the proportion of 20·8 per 1,000 of the population, viz.:—England and Wales, 21·1; Scotland, 22·4; total Great Britain, 21·3; Ireland, 18·3.

accidents, which result fatally. The following are the figures for the different groups of districts during the year under review :—

DEATHS IN URBAN AND COUNTRY DISTRICTS, 1875.

Districts.	Deaths, 1875.	
	Total Number.	Number per 1,000 of the Population.
Melbourne and suburbs	6,317	25·82
Towns outside Melbourne and suburbs	5,052	25·34
Country districts	3,918	10·56
Total	15,287	18·76

NOTE.—For mean population of urban and country districts, see table following paragraph 317 *ante*.

Deaths in each month.

348. An epidemic of measles prevailed during the first six months of the year under review, and an epidemic of scarlatina in the last two; and the effect of these diseases is marked by the increase in the mortality. The following table shows the number of deaths in each month of 1875, also the relative mortality of the different months during that year and the preceding decenniad :—

DEATHS IN EACH MONTH.

—	Year 1875.		Percentage in Ten Years: 1865 to 1874.
	Number of Deaths.	Percentage.	
January	1,916	12·53	10·38
February	1,427	9·34	9·34
March	1,872	12·25	10·34
April	1,706	11·16	9·62
May	1,297	8·48	8·69
June	1,015	6·64	7·50
July	994	6·50	7·67
August	883	5·78	7·10
September	904	5·91	6·60
October	974	6·37	6·88
November	1,168	7·64	6·78
December	1,131	7·40	9·10
Year	15,287	100·00	100·00

Deaths at each season in Victoria and England.

349. The mortality is always greatest in the summer quarter in Victoria, and in the winter quarter in England. In winter the mortality of Victoria is invariably lower than at any other season. The following table shows the relative mortality of the different seasons in Victoria according to the experience of the past year and the previous ten years, and in England and Wales according to the experience of thirty-one years :—

RELATIVE MORTALITY OF EACH QUARTER IN VICTORIA AND ENGLAND AND WALES.

Seasons.	Victoria.		England and Wales.	Deaths per 100 at all seasons.		
	Quarter ended on the last day of—			Victoria.		England and Wales.
				Year 1875.	Average of Ten Years: 1865-1874.	Average of Thirty-one Years.
Summer ...	March ...	September ...		34·12	30·06	23·24
Autumn ...	June ...	December ...		26·28	25·81	24·65
Winter ...	September ...	March ...		18·19	21·37	27·49
Spring ...	December ...	June ...		21·41	22·76	24·62
	Year ...	... ..		100·00	100·00	100·00

350. More than half the males who died during the year under review were under 10 years of age, and more than half the females were under 5 years of age. It always happens that the proportion of deaths of persons under 5 years of age, and at each period over 45 years of age, to the total number of deaths, is greater than the proportion of those living at the same ages to the total population. These and other facts are deduced from the figures in the following table, which show the estimated population and the number of deaths during 1875 at each age, and the percentage of each to the total numbers at all ages:—

POPULATION AND DEATHS AT EACH AGE, 1875.

Ages.	Estimated Mean Population at each Age, 1875.			Number of Deaths at each Age, 1875.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 5 years ...	65,066	65,097	130,163	3,835	3,444	7,279
5 years to 10 years ...	59,090	59,660	118,750	534	532	1,066
10 " 15 " ...	47,493	47,967	95,460	222	201	423
15 " 25 " ...	55,461	60,517	115,978	363	415	778
25 " 35 " ...	68,562	55,787	124,349	436	517	953
35 " 45 " ...	80,867	46,849	127,716	813	532	1,345
45 " 55 " ...	42,669	22,419	65,088	874	418	1,292
55 " 65 " ...	16,643	9,646	26,289	726	271	997
65 " 75 " ...	5,577	3,612	9,189	494	235	729
75 and upwards ...	1,195	857	2,052	266	159	425
Total ...	442,623	372,411	815,034	8,563	6,724	15,287

PROPORTIONS PER CENT.

Under 5 years ...	14·70	17·48	15·97	44·78	51·22	47·62
5 years to 10 years ...	13·35	16·02	14·57	6·24	7·91	6·97
10 " 15 " ...	10·73	12·88	11·71	2·59	2·99	2·77
15 " 25 " ...	12·53	16·25	14·23	4·24	6·17	5·09
25 " 35 " ...	15·49	14·98	15·26	5·09	7·69	6·23
35 " 45 " ...	18·27	12·58	15·67	9·49	7·91	8·80
45 " 55 " ...	9·64	6·02	7·99	10·21	6·22	8·45
55 " 65 " ...	3·76	2·59	3·22	8·48	4·03	6·52
65 " 75 " ...	1·26	·97	1·13	5·77	3·49	4·77
75 and upwards ...	·27	·23	·25	3·11	2·37	2·78
Total ...	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

Death rate at different ages in Victoria and England.

351. During the past year the death rate of males was higher than that of females at each of the age periods below 15 and over 45. Between 15 and 25 the death rates of both sexes were nearly equal, and from 25 to 45 the death rate of females was in excess of that of males. These proportions differ from those which obtained during the ten years which intervened between the censuses of 1861 and 1871, which are the ten years referred to below, in which the death rate of males exceeded that of females at all periods of life, except between the ages of 25 and 35. In England and Wales the death rate of males exceeds that of females at all periods except those between 10 years and 35 years. The figures are given in the following table:—

MORTALITY PER 1,000 LIVING AT DIFFERENT AGES IN VICTORIA AND ENGLAND.

Ages.	Number of Deaths to every 1,000 Living, at each Age.					
	Victoria.				England and Wales.	
	Year 1875.		Average of 10 Years.		Average of 30 Years.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
All ages	19·35	18·06	16·68	16·13	23·33	21·51
Under 5 years	58·94	52·91	55·08	49·66	72·42	62·46
5 years to 10 years	9·04	8·92	7·52	6·95	8·79	8·67
10 " 15 "	4·67	4·19	3·27	3·25	4·95	5·10
15 " 25 "	6·55	6·86	4·95	4·81	7·90	8·22
25 " 35 "	6·36	9·27	7·85	8·28	9·93	10·15
35 " 45 "	10·05	11·36	12·09	11·12	13·03	12·30
45 " 55 "	20·48	18·64	17·52	13·20	18·16	15·67
55 " 65 "	43·62	28·09	29·71	21·98	31·53	28·56
65 " 75 "	88·58	65·06	53·79	43·10	68·54	57·52
75 and upwards*	222·59	185·53	111·71	93·02	147·74	135·36

Death rate of males and females, 1875.

352. The death rate of males in Victoria during 1875 exceeded that in the ten years respecting which the rate is given at all periods of life except those between 25 and 45; but the death rate of females in 1875 exceeded that in the same ten years at all periods of life.

Death rates of Victoria and England compared.

353. The death rate of both males and females at all periods of life in Victoria during the ten years just referred to was lower than that in England and Wales, but in the year under review the death rate of males at the period 5 to 10, and at all periods from 45 upwards, was higher than that in England; and the death rate of females at the periods 5 to 10, 45 to 55, and from 65 upwards, was higher than that in England.

Deaths of persons over 50.

354. One hundred and eighty-six of the persons who died during the year—viz., 110 males and 76 females—were 80 years old or upwards at the time of death. The following are the exact ages recorded:—

* The figures in this line relating to England and Wales apply to males and females at from 75 to 80 only. The Victorian returns apply to all over 75.

NUMBER DYING AGED 80 OR UPWARDS.

Years of Age.	Males.	Females.	Years of Age.	Males.	Females.	Years of Age.	Males.	Females.
80	24	10	87	5	3	96	1	...
81	14	10	88	5	4	99	1	...
82	9	13	89	8	5	101	...	1
83	7	9	90	2	2	103	...	1
84	13	6	91	...	1	114	...	1
85	11	7	94	2	1	Total	110	76
86	7	1	95	1	1			

355. The following are the causes of death of these old people. Amongst those whose deaths were ascribed to old age were the male aged 99 and the females aged 101 and 103. The female aged 114 died of bronchitis. The male who committed suicide was aged 84:—

Causes of death of persons over 50.

CAUSES OF DEATH OF PERSONS AGED 80 OR UPWARDS.

	Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.
Influenza ...	...	1	Lung diseases ...	18	13
Dysentery and diarrhoea ...	7	4	Stomach diseases ...	5	4
Rheumatism ...	1	...	Kidney diseases ...	3	1
Intemperance ...	1	...	Old age ...	53	39
Dropsy ...	...	1	Accidents ...	2	2
Cancer ...	1	1	Suicide ...	1	...
Phthisis ...	1	1			
Brain diseases ...	14	4	Total ...	110	76
Heart diseases ...	3	5			

356. Deaths of infants of less than a year old were in the proportion of 14.3 per 100 births. This is above the average. In the eleven years ended with 1874 the proportion was 12.4 per 100 births, and since 1866, in which year it was 15.3 per 100, the rate of the year under review has not been reached. It is, however, below that of England and Wales, where, on the average, 15½ per cent. of the infants born die before completing their first year.

Infantile mortality.

357. Of the infants born in the Lying-in Hospital, 9 per cent. in 1875, and 7 per cent. in the previous year, died before they left the institution.

Deaths of infants in Lying-in Hospital.

358. Of the males who died in Victoria during 1875, the average age at death was 24.28 years, or about 24 years and 3 months; and of the females who died during the same year, the average age at death was 18.23 years, or about 18 years and 3 months. The mean of these numbers is 21.25 years, or 21 years and 3 months. In the 23 years ended with 1875, the average age at death was 21.7 years for males, and 15.01 years for females, the mean being 18.35 years.

Average age at death.

359. The following are the causes of death during 1875 arranged in the order of their fatality, with the numbers who died from each cause; also the number of deaths from each cause during the 21½ years ended with 1874, and the order of fatality of the different causes of death during that period:—

Causes of death, 1875 and 21½ years.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN ORDER OF FATALITY.
(21½ Years, 1853 to 1874, and Year 1875.)

Order of Fatality.		Causes of Death in Order of Fatality, 1875.	Number of Deaths.	
21½ Years: 1853-1874.	Year 1875.		21½ Years: 1853-1874.	Year 1875.
26	1	Measles	2,287	1,541
3	2	Phthisis	15,386	1,027
4	3	Diarrhœa	13,499	1,002
14	4	Scarlatina	5,079	965
1	5	Accidents	16,576	803
2	6	Atrophy and debility	15,489	762
7	7	Pneumonia	8,041	590
12	8	Bronchitis	5,699	574
9	9	Diseases of the organs of circulation not classed	7,276	558
5	10	Dysentery	11,084	509
6	11	Typhoid fever, &c.	8,714	455
8	12	Convulsions	7,897	423
13	13	Diseases of the nervous system not classed	5,188	316
22	14	Cancer	2,596	308
18	15	Apoplexy	3,371	303
16	16	Premature birth	3,586	280
24	17	Old age	2,415	255
33	18	Congestion of the lungs, pulmonary apoplexy	1,385	245
15	19	Enteritis	3,931	242
10	20	Diphtheria	6,362	239
25	21	Childbirth and metria	2,378	237
23	22	Diseases of the digestive organs not classed	2,475	233
20	23	Cephalitis	3,221	172
31	24	Paralysis	1,551	167
19	25	Hydrocephalus	3,353	154
27	26	Gastritis	1,795	148
21	27	Croup	2,750	135
34	28	Want of breast-milk	1,374	124
11	29	Teething	6,278	118
43	30	Rheumatism	838	105
28	31	Tabes mesenterica	1,789	102
29	32	Hepatitis	1,731	96
49	33	Erysipelas	688	95
39	34	Pleurisy	1,009	93
35	35	Suicide	1,187	91
46	36	Scrofula	742	83
37	37	Peritonitis	1,151	81
38	38	Aneurism	1,069	80
30	39	Dropsy	1,711	79
32	40	Alcoholism	1,423	76
59	41	Nephria	432	74
48	42	Diseases of the urinary organs not classed	704	63
41	43	Diseases of the stomach not classed	956	62
42	44	Malformations	894	61
45		Epilepsy	762	61
52	44	Jaundice, gall-stone	587	61
36		Diseases of the respiratory system not classed	1,152	60
17	46	Whooping-cough	3,498	58
40	47	Cholera	959	57
57	48	Pericarditis	490	47
58		Asthma	468	47
68		Hydatids	278	47
56	49	Ileus	505	45
55	50	Veneral diseases	516	42
44	51	Thrush	788	40

CAUSES OF DEATH IN ORDER OF FATALITY—*continued.*
(21½ Years, 1853 to 1874, and Year 1875.)

Order of Fatality.		Causes of Death in Order of Fatality, 1875.	Number of Deaths.		
21½ Years: 1853-1874.	Year 1875.		21½ Years: 1853-1874.	Year 1875.	
53	52	Tubercular diseases not classed	553	36	
47	53	Influenza, coryza, catarrh	712	34	
50	54	Laryngitis	632	33	
70	55	Tumor	263	39	
65	56	Miasmatic diseases not classed	296	29	
67	57	Hernia	283	27	
69	58	Diseases of the organs of generation not classed	275	25	
72		Skin diseases	239	25	
51	59	Remittent fever	613	23	
66		Ulceration of intestines	288	23	
62	60	Ascites	338	21	
61	61	Diseases of the locomotive system not classed	378	20	
63		Privation	324	20	
73		Nephritis	229	20	
81	62	Gout	90	18	
60	63	Murder and manslaughter	382	13	
80		Arthritis	102	13	
77	64	Diabetes	151	12	
54	65	Quinsy	527	11	
64	66	Mortification	319	10	
75		Cystitis	175	10	
87	67	Paramenia	53	9	
71		Insanity	240	9	
74	68	Purpura and scurvy	228	8	
78	69	Intussusception	131	7	
90	70	Noma	48	6	
79	71	Ulcer	128	5	
86	72	Execution	63	4	
85		Stone, gravel	65	4	
84		Spleen disease	67	4	
89		Stricture of the intestines	50	3	
92	73	Ischuria	43	3	
94		Chicken-pox, &c.	35	3	
100		Parasitic diseases not classed	13	3	
96	74	Fistula	31	3	
82		Ovarian dropsy	81	2	
88		Worms	52	2	
93		Phlegmon, whitlow	40	2	
95		Chorea	31	2	
98		Ostitis, periostitis	21	2	
103	75	Polypus	6	1	
97		Dietic diseases not classed	22	1	
83		Ague	72	1	
76	...	Diathetic diseases not classed	165	...	
91	...	Carbuncle, boil	47	...	
99	...	Smallpox	21	...	
101	...	Pancreas disease	12	...	
102	...	Developmental diseases of children not classed	11	...	
104	...	Glanders	2	...	
105	...	Developmental diseases of adults not classed ...	1	...	
			<hr/>		
			Deaths from specified causes	206,311	15,248
			Deaths from unspecified causes	1,493	39
			<hr/>		
			Deaths from all causes	207,804	15,287

Death rate from each group of causes in Victoria and England.

360. In order to judge of the fatality of the different circumstances which cause death in this colony, as compared with the fatality resulting from similar circumstances in England, it is necessary to compare the numbers dying from each cause in either country with the number of persons living in the same country. To repeat the name of each individual disease would occupy too much space; therefore the diseases are arranged in classes, which are again subdivided into orders. The following table gives results for Victoria during 1875 and during the 21½ years ended with 1874, and for England and Wales during the 20 years ended with 1869:—

ANNUAL DEATH RATE FROM EACH GROUP OF CAUSES IN VICTORIA AND ENGLAND AND WALES.

Class.	Order.	Causes of Death.	Number of Annual Deaths per 100,000 of Mean Population.		
			Victoria.		England and Wales.
			Year 1875.	Average of 21½ Years: 1853-1874.	Average of 20 Years: 1850-1869.
	...	All causes	1,875·62	1,682·34	2,234·03
	...	Specified causes	1,870·84	1,670·26	2,209·29
I.	...	Zymotic diseases	702·79	514·34	508·62
II.	...	Constitutional diseases	227·48	218·76	431·24
III.	...	Local "	627·70	541·42	833·31
IV.	...	Developmental "	201·10	248·33	359·75
V.	..	Violent deaths	111·77	147·41	76·37
I.	1	Miasmatic diseases	658·25	473·70	484·10
	2	Ethetic "	5·15	4·19	7·02
	3	Dietic "	28·10	27·29	11·32
	4	Parasitic "	11·29	9·16	6·18
II.	1	Diathetic "	55·46	42·08	86·33
	2	Tubercular "	172·02	176·68	344·91
III.	1	Diseases of the nervous system	178·27	180·22	280·44
	2	" circulatory "	84·05	71·53	88·80
	3	" respiratory "	201·46	148·85	318·80
	4	" digestive "	129·57	116·02	101·31
	5	" urinary "	22·82	14·56	25·21
	6	" generative "	3·31	2·88	5·72
	7	" locomotive "	4·29	4·06	7·53
	8	" integumentary "	3·93	3·30	5·50
IV.	1	Developmental diseases of children	56·32	87·18	91·67
	2	" " adults... ..	20·00	16·20	11·70
	3	" " old people	31·29	19·55	140·74
	4	Diseases of nutrition	93·50	125·40	115·64
V.	1	Accident or negligence	98·52	134·20	
	3	Homicide	1·59	3·09	} 76·37
	4	Suicide	11·17	9·61	
	5	Execution	·49	·51	

Death rate from certain diseases in Victoria and England.

361. Twenty of the principal causes of death are selected, and the proportion of their victims to the total population of this colony and of England are given for the same periods:—

ANNUAL DEATH RATE FROM CERTAIN DISEASES IN VICTORIA AND ENGLAND AND WALES.

Causes of Death.	Number of Annual Deaths per 100,000 of Mean Population.		
	Victoria.		England and Wales.
	Year 1875.	Average of 21½ Years: 1853-1874.	Average of 20 Years: 1850-1869.
Measles	189·07	18·52	43·70
Scarlatina	120·85	41·12	} 104·64
Diphtheria	29·32	51·50	
Croup	16·56	22·26	25·40
Whooping-cough	7·12	28·32	52·07
Typhoid fever, &c.	55·83	70·55	91·84
Dysentery	62·45	89·73	7·57
Diarrhœa	122·94	109·29	86·23
Dropsy	9·69	13·85	42·42
Cancer, &c.	41·59	23·20	35·06
Phthisis	126·01	124·56	263·82
Hydrocephalus	18·90	27·15	38·38
Brain diseases, &c.	178·27	180·22	280·44
Heart diseases, &c.	84·05	71·53	88·80
Lung diseases, &c.	201·46	148·85	318·80
Stomach, bowels—diseases, &c.	129·57	116·02	101·31
Kidney, bladder—diseases, &c....	22·82	14·56	25·21
Old age	31·29	19·55	140·74
Atrophy and debility	93·50	125·40	115·64
Childbirth and metria	29·07	19·25	16·77

362. In consequence of the epidemic of measles which prevailed in the colony in 1875, phthisis did not in that year maintain the position it had previously almost invariably occupied of being the most fatal of all diseases. It, however, stood second to measles only, and in relation to the total population it occupied the same position it had held for years previously. As I pointed out last year, if it be true that the population at phthisical ages is decreasing, as there is reason to believe, it follows that, since the death rate from phthisis remains unchanged, the disease in a fatal form must be increasing. The following are the deaths from phthisis, and their proportion to the estimated mean population during the last eleven years. It will be observed that the death rate was never so low as 11, and never so high as 13 per 10,000 in any year :—

DEATHS FROM PHTHISIS, 1865 TO 1875.

Year	Number of Deaths from Phthisis.	Deaths from Phthisis per 10,000 persons living.	Year	Number of Deaths from Phthisis.	Deaths from Phthisis per 10,000 persons living.
1865	741	12·02	1871	841	11·38
1866	782	12·33	1872	876	11·51
1867	793	12·20	1873	945	12·11
1868	746	11·11	1874	1,011	12·66
1869	893	12·81	1875	1,027	12·60
1870	888	12·51			
Total in eleven years ...				9,543	12·12

Deaths from
phthisis in
Melbourne
district and
England.

363. It will be seen that the death rate from phthisis in Victoria is lower than that in England; but it is evidently taking too favorable a view of the health-sustaining properties of our climate to imagine that much value is to be attached to this result. It must be remembered that Victoria is a thinly peopled country, where persons living away from the metropolis are settled for the most part on farms, squatting stations, or goldfields; are engaged in healthful pursuits, and are, as a rule, apart from those influences which are held to conduce to the spread of phthisis. The death rate from phthisis in such a country, leaving out of sight altogether the question of its climate, would naturally be lower than that prevailing in a densely populated country like England, where a very large proportion of the extra-metropolitan population is crowded together in manufacturing towns, is engaged from childhood in unhealthy occupations, carried on in confined and frequently ill-ventilated buildings, and where also the struggle to obtain the necessaries of life is much greater than it is here. A fairer comparison is no doubt made by taking the death rate from phthisis in the district extending for ten miles around Melbourne, which embraces an area probably not much more thickly peopled than the whole of England, and contrasting it with the death rate from the same complaint in the latter country. Even here the comparison suffers from the fact that the population consists to a large extent of persons not born in Victoria, who are for the most part strong sturdy individuals, the pick of the population of the countries they left, many having even had to stand medical tests before finding acceptance by emigration authorities. In any country, and under any influences, only a very small proportion of such persons would become consumptive, and a similar immunity would probably extend also to their offspring. On the other hand, it must not be forgotten that a certain number of persons afflicted with phthisis have come to Victoria for the supposed improvement of their health, and although many of these may have returned when they failed to experience that benefit they expected, others have remained to die, and the death rate from phthisis, especially in the metropolitan district, has been somewhat raised by this circumstance. Whichever of these disturbing influences has been most powerful in its operation, or whether, both being equally potent, the one has counteracted the other, the fact remains that the death rate from phthisis in Melbourne and suburbs is now within a fraction of being as high as that in all England, as will be seen by the following figures, which show the result for Melbourne and suburbs during the last three years, and for England during 1873* :—

* See my remarks upon the subject of phthisis in this colony in the *Victorian Year-Book, 1873* paragraph 320 to paragraph 322, and in the *Victorian Year-Book, 1874*, paragraphs 512 and 513.

DEATHS FROM PHTHISIS PER 10,000 PERSONS LIVING.

MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS.

1873	...	20.51		1874	...	22.04		1875	...	21.46		Mean	...	21.35
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ENGLAND AND WALES.

1873	22.14
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364. The deaths from typhoid fever were not quite so numerous as they were in 1874, but exceeded the number in any other year since 1867, in which it was precisely identical with that in 1875, viz., 455. In 1866 the deaths from this complaint amounted to 528, which is the highest number on record. In the four years prior to 1875 the numbers, commencing with 1871, were 269, 323, 282, and 470.

Deaths from typhoid fever.

365. The effect of the measles and scarlatina epidemics is marked by an enormous increase in the mortality from those complaints, which was also accompanied by an increase in the mortality from dysentery and diarrhoea. The measles epidemic commenced in October 1874, and by the end of the same year had caused 256 deaths. In 1875 it caused 1,541 deaths; the total number of deaths from measles in the two years being thus 1,797. In the four years prior to 1874 only 15 deaths in all had been set down to that complaint.

Deaths from measles.

366. Scarlatina is endemic to the colony, and consequently a certain number of deaths are caused by it each year. These, in the five years 1870 to 1874, had numbered 24, 27, 135, 188, and 120 respectively; but in August 1875, from some unknown cause, a remarkable impulse was given to the spread of the disease, with the result that the deaths from it by the end of the year had numbered no fewer than 985. The epidemic has extended into 1876, and cannot even yet* be said to have entirely subsided. The total number of its victims since the first outbreak of the complaint in its present form cannot be known until the end of 1876, or later should it extend into another year.

Deaths from scarlatina.

367. Deaths from diphtheria numbered 239 in 1875, which is 30 per cent. less than the average of the five previous years. In those years the deaths from this complaint numbered 418, 255, 320, 420, and 375.

Deaths from diphtheria.

368. Deaths from whooping-cough were below the average. In the five years ended with 1874 they amounted to 50, 318, 227, 299, and 151, and in 1875 they numbered 58.

Deaths from whooping-cough.

369. The mortality from diarrhoea was much above the average. This is generally found to be the case during the prevalence of an epidemic of measles, diarrhoea in a very severe form being often found to supervene upon that complaint. If the death is set down as from diarrhoea after measles, the latter is treated as the cause of death, but

Deaths from diarrhoea.

the fact of measles having preceded the attack of diarrhœa is not always stated. The deaths recorded against this complaint were 1,002 for the year under notice, and 706, 626, 747, 629, and 846 for the five previous years.

Deaths from
dysentery.

370. Deaths from dysentery increased from 357 in 1873, and 325 in 1874, to 509 in 1875. This, although a complaint entirely distinct from diarrhœa, is often considered by unscientific persons to be identical therewith. It is therefore probable that some of the deaths set down to dysentery really resulted from diarrhœa, and that the increase, like that of diarrhœa, was partly due to the presence of a measles epidemic.

Deaths from
atrophy and
debility.

371. The terms atrophy and debility, chiefly in the case of infants, are, there is reason to fear, often entered as a convenient cause of death when the nature of the actual complaint is unknown to the medical man. The deaths set down under this head numbered 762 in 1875, as against 739 in 1874 and 714 in 1873.

Deaths in
childbed.

372. The number of women dying in childbed is always high in Victoria. In the year under review 1 mother died to every 113 births; and in the previous year the proportion was 1 to every 107 births. In the eleven years ended with 1874 the proportion was 1 to every 187 births. All these proportions are in excess of those prevailing in England and Wales, where on the average 1 mother dies to every 204 births.

Deaths of
women in
Lying-in
Hospital.

373. The number of women delivered in the Lying-in Hospital during the year was 469, and the number of children born alive was 436. Seven of the mothers died during or shortly after delivery. There was thus 1 death of a mother to every 67 deliveries, or 1 to every 62 births. Of the mothers, however, who died, 3 were in a bad condition when admitted, surgical efforts to effect their delivery outside having failed. Of the other 4, 2 suffered from scarlatina and 1 from epileptiform convulsions in addition to the consequences of child-bearing, and 1 died of embolism two days after delivery.

Violent
deaths.

374. Violent deaths of males numbered 723 in 1875, as against 741 in 1874, and violent deaths of females numbered 188, as against 175 in 1874. The following figures show the manner in which such deaths occurred in 1875 and in the ten previous years:—

VIOLENT DEATHS, 1865 TO 1875.

Cause of Death.	Year 1875.			Ten Years: 1865-1874.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Accidents	636	167	803	6,315	1,502	7,817
Homicide	8	5	13	141	77	218
Suicide	75	16	91	638	134	772
Execution	4	...	4	33	...	33
Total	723	188	911	7,127	1,713	8,840

375. During the eleven years ended with 1875, 71,969 males and 52,959 females died of specified causes ; and it results from these figures and those in the above table, that of the males 1 in every 9 died a violent death ; 1 in every 10 died of an accident ; 1 in every 483 was a victim to homicide ; 1 in every 101 committed suicide ; and 1 in every 1,945 was executed. Of the females, 1 in every 28 died a violent death ; 1 in every 32 died of an accident ; 1 in every 646 died by the hand of another ; 1 in every 353 committed suicide ; but, happily, not one was executed.

Violent deaths in proportion to population.

376. Men commit suicide by drowning, hanging, stabbing, poisoning, or shooting ; the numbers in 1875 by these methods respectively being 17, 16, 16, 14, and 7. Women generally commit suicide by drowning or poisoning, rarely by stabbing, still less frequently by hanging, and very seldom indeed by shooting. The females in 1875 who took their lives by the first four of these methods numbered 5, 5, 3, and 1. No woman shot herself in that year. In the case of five of the males and two of the females, the way in which they killed themselves was not stated. Two of the females were under 20, and one of the males was over 80 years of age.

Suicides.

377. The total number of cases of sickness treated in the general hospitals throughout the colony was 14,484, as against 14,301 in the previous year. The deaths numbered 1,441 in 1874, and 1,485 in 1875. Thus, 1 death occurred to every 10 cases of sickness in both years.

Sickness and deaths in hospitals.

378. In the Hospital for Diseases of Women and Children attached to the Lying-in Hospital the cases of sickness in 1874 numbered 290, and the deaths 11, as against 182 cases of sickness and 9 deaths in 1875. These figures furnish proportions of 1 death to every 26 cases of sickness in the former, and 1 death to every 20 cases of sickness in the latter year.

Sickness and deaths in hospital for women.

379. In the Melbourne Lying-in Hospital 446 women were confined in 1874, and 469 in 1875. Seven died in each year. Thus, 1 woman in 64 died in 1874, and 1 woman in 67 in 1875.

Deaths in Lying-in Hospital.

380. Cases of sickness in Benevolent Asylums numbered 1,971 in 1874, and 2,252 in 1875 ; deaths numbered 169 and 202. The deaths were thus to the cases treated in the proportion of 1 to 12 in the former, and 1 to 11 in the latter year.

Sickness and deaths in benevolent asylums.

381. The authorities of the Melbourne Immigrants' Home kept no record of the cases of sickness treated in 1874, but 92 deaths occurred. For 1875, however, a return has been made of 412 cases of sickness and 64 deaths, or 1 death to every 6 cases of sickness. If the correct figures have been furnished, this is the highest relative mortality in any public institution.

Sickness and deaths in Immigrants' Home.

Sickness and deaths in orphan asylums. 382. The number of cases of sickness in Orphan Asylums was 818 and of deaths 10 in 1874, as against 796 cases of sickness and 21 deaths in 1875. Thus 1 death to every 82 cases of sickness occurred in the former, and 1 death to every 38 such cases in the latter year.

Sickness and deaths in lunatic asylums. 383. The cases of sickness reported as having occurred in Lunatic Asylums numbered 1,536 in 1874, and 1,610 in 1875. Of these cases, 168, or 1 in 9, terminated fatally in 1874; and 167, or 1 in 10, in 1875.

Sickness and deaths in industrial schools. 384. In the Industrial and Reformatory Schools 2,322 cases of sickness were treated in 1874, and 34 deaths occurred. In 1875, 2,100 cases were treated, and 29 deaths took place. The latter thus were to the former in the proportion of 1 to 68 in 1874, and 1 to 72 in 1875.

Sickness and deaths in children's hospital. 385. Eighty-eight patients were treated in the Melbourne Free Hospital for sick children during 1875, and 11 deaths occurred. These numbers furnish a proportion of 1 death to every 8 patients.

Ages in charitable institutions. 386. The ages of the inmates of Charitable Institutions should be taken into account in connection with their death rates. The following are the numbers at different periods of age who passed through the principal institutions during 1875:—

AGES OF INMATES OF CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, 1875.

Ages.	General Hospitals.	Lying-in and Diseased Women's and Children's Hospital.	Benevolent Asylums.	Immigrants' Home.	Orphan Asylums.	Hospitals for the Insane.
Under 5 years ...	264	...	30	299	108	} 55
5 years to 10 years ...	551	...	1	181	549	
10 " 15 " ...	930	5	...	92	512	} 62
15 " 25 " ...	2,506	341	54	941	66	386
25 " 35 " ...	2,312	235	78	2,344	1	785
35 " 45 " ...	3,071	135	144	2,195	...	779
45 " 55 " ...	2,419	58	216	1,919	...	435
55 " 65 " ...	1,451	5	385	1,225	...	158
65 and upwards ...	950	...	775	569	...	73
Age unknown ...	23	...	...	464	26	356
Total ...	14,477	779	1,683	10,229	1,262	3,089

Lunatics.

387. At the end of 1875 there were 2,556 lunatics in all the Lunatic Asylums in Victoria, viz., 1,497 males and 1,059 females. Of the males, 119, or 8 per cent., and of the females, 61, or 17 per cent., were supposed to be curable, and the remainder incurable. The numbers of either sex, compared with the estimated totals of the same sex in the population, give a proportion of 1 lunatic male to every 299 males, 1 lunatic female to every 355 females. The numbers of both sexes combined give a proportion of 1 lunatic to every 322 persons living.

388. The deaths in public institutions of all descriptions in the year under review were as follow :—

DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, 1875.

Number of Deaths.		Number of Deaths.	
General Hospitals ...	1,485	Hospital for Sick Children ...	11
Hospital for Diseases of Women and Children ...	9	Female Refuges ...	6
Lying-in Hospital ...	46*	Industrial and Reformatory Schools...	29
Benevolent Asylums ...	202	Gaols ...	28
Melbourne Immigrants' Home	64	Penal Establishments ...	11
Orphan Asylums ...	21		
Hospitals for the Insane ...	167	Total... ..	2,080
Blind Asylum ...	1		

Deaths in public institutions.

389. It is thus seen that in all the institutions the deaths amounted to 2,080, and as the total deaths in Victoria numbered 15,287, it follows that 1 person in every 7½ who died did so in an institution supported either wholly or partially by the State or by charity. This proportion is less than one calculated on a similar principle for 1874 and 1873, in both of which years deaths in public institutions were to the total deaths as 1 to 6. The smaller proportion in 1875 was no doubt due to the fact that the increase in the total number of deaths caused by the measles and scarlatina epidemics was not, for obvious reasons, accompanied by a proportionate increase in the deaths in public institutions.

Proportion of deaths in public institutions.

390. The children successfully vaccinated in 1875 numbered 21,927, or 82 per cent. of the total number of births. The returns show that in 1874 83 per cent., and in 1873 nearly 80 per cent., of the children born were vaccinated.

Vaccinations.

391. The following are the results of meteorological observations taken at different stations throughout the colony during 1875. The times at which the observations for mean temperature and mean atmospheric pressure are obtained differ at the various stations ; but a correction is applied in order to make the results equivalent to those which would be derived from hourly observations taken throughout the day and night :—

Meteorological observations, 1875.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT VARIOUS STATIONS, 1875.

Stations.	Height above Sea-level.	Temperature in the Shade.			Mean Atmospheric Pressure.	Days on which Rain fell.	Amount of Rainfall.	Mean Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.
		Max.	Min.	Mean.					
	feet.	°	°	°	inches.	No.	inches	0-1	0-10
Portland ...	37·0	...	...	61·2	29·914	195	35·97	·78	4·5
Melbourne ...	91·3	110·4	31·1	56·6	29·886	158	32·87	·72	6·2
Cape Otway...	270·0	108·0	37·0	54·8	29·690	166	40·33	·91	7·7
Sandhurst ...	758·0	105·0	32·8	57·7	29·178	107	24·82	·77	5·1
Ararat ...	1,050·0	...	...	...	...	99	24·92	...	...
Ballarat ...	1,438·0	106·2	27·4	54·7	28·416	148	33·36	·65	5·9

* This includes the deaths of 39 children born in the institution.

Meteorology,
1865 to 1875.

392. The following are the results for Melbourne in the eleven years ended with the one under review :—

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS, MELBOURNE.—RETURN FOR
ELEVEN YEARS.

(Observatory 91·3 feet above the Sea-level.)

Year.	Temperature in the Shade.			Mean Atmospheric Pressure.	Days on which Rain fell.	Amount of Rainfall.	Mean Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.
	Maximum.	Minimum.	Mean.					
	°	°	°	inches.	No.	inches.	0—1	0—10
1865	103·4	30·9	56·5	29·936	119	15·940	0·678	5·6
1866	108·2	28·0	57·8	29·954	107	22·410	0·697	5·5
1867	108·4	29·7	57·7	29·918	133	25·790	0·720	5·7
1868	110·0	27·4	57·1	29·977	120	18·270	0·700	5·7
1869	108·4	27·0	57·2	29·938	129	24·586	0·710	6·0
1870	109·0	29·6	57·4	29·930	129	33·764	0·740	5·8
1871	106·0	32·1	57·7	29·925	125	30·170	0·740	5·9
1872	103·3	32·5	57·6	29·923	136	32·521	0·740	6·4
1873	102·4	30·2	58·0	29·944	134	25·610	0·723	6·0
1874	102·7	29·3	56·6	29·930	134	28·100	0·720	6·1
1875	110·4	31·1	56·6	29·886	158	32·870	0·720	6·2

Meteorology
elsewhere
treated on.

393. An extended account of the meteorology and climate of Victoria will be found in the *Victorian Year-Book*, 1874, paragraphs 54 to 95.

PART IX.—RELIGIOUS, MORAL, AND INTELLECTUAL
PROGRESS.

Abolition of
State aid to
religion.

394. The year under review was the last in which the provision for the reservation of £50,000 annually from the general revenue for the purpose of promoting the erection of buildings for public worship and the maintenance of ministers of religion in Victoria continued in force, that portion of the Constitution Act having been repealed by an Act (34 Vict. No. 391), to which Her Majesty's assent was proclaimed on the 6th January 1871. Therefore, since the 31st December 1875, no further State assistance to religion has been given.

Churches
and clergy.

395. The following are the numbers of registered clergy, of buildings used for public worship, of the persons such buildings could accommodate, of those usually attending Divine Service, and of services performed in connection with each religious denomination during the year under review :—

CHURCHES AND CLERGY, 1875.

Religious Denomination.	Number of Registered Clergy.	Churches and other Buildings used for Public Worship.			Number of Services during the Year.
		Number.	Persons for whom there is Accommodation.	Usually Attending.	
Church of England ...	141	408	64,005	38,497	24,127
Roman Catholics ...	95	400	101,900	76,869	37,658
Presbyterians ...	146	599	73,385	62,663	31,993
Wesleyans ...	147	816	132,114	90,763	83,012
Independents ...	52	112	16,898	8,826	8,411
Baptists ...	48	74	14,655	9,900	9,114
Evangelical Lutherans	10	41	5,000	3,300	2,500
Welsh Calvinists ...	3	4	550	205	220
Church of Christ ...	11	35	7,100	3,450	4,254
Other Christians ...	10	20	3,510	1,194	3,950
Jews ...	6	7	1,410	345	1,524
Other sects ...	...	3	850	250	120
Total ...	669	2,519	421,377	296,262	206,883

396. As compared with the numbers in the previous year, the clergy of all denominations increased by 15, the church buildings by 64, the sittings by 18,251, the persons usually attending by 10,661, and the services performed by 7,717.

Increase of churches, clergy, &c.

397. The following figures show the number of Sabbath schools attached to each religious sect, the number of teachers, and the number of scholars :—

Sabbath schools.

SABBATH SCHOOLS, 1875.

Religious Denomination.	Number of Sabbath Schools.	Number of Teachers.	Number of Scholars.
Church of England ...	270	2,137	19,617
Roman Catholics ...	208	1,173	16,535
Presbyterians ...	315	2,327	26,376
Wesleyans ...	478	4,977	33,936
Independents ...	54	640	4,706
Baptists ...	56	515	4,642
Evangelical Lutherans	13	45	470
Welsh Calvinists ...	2	14	103
Church of Christ ...	16	148	1,155
Other Christians ...	9	37	353
Jews ...	6	16	329
Other sects ...	3	26	166
Total ...	1,430	12,055	108,388

398. All the totals in the above table show decrease as compared with similar totals for 1874. The Sabbath schools fell off in number by 19, the teachers by 329, and the scholars by 18,340.

Decrease of Sabbath schools.

Matriculated
students.

399. The students who matriculated at the Melbourne University* during 1875 numbered 93, as against 118 in the previous year. From the opening of the University, in 1855, to the end of the year under review, the students who matriculated amounted to 923.

Students
attending
lectures.

400. The students who attended lectures in the year numbered 199, as against 177 in 1874. Of those attending lectures in 1875, all except 4—viz., 3 medical students and 1 engineering student—had previously matriculated. The undergraduates who attended the different descriptions of lectures were as follow :—

Arts	56
Laws	60
Engineering	27
Medicine... ..	52
Total	195†

University
graduates.

401. The number of graduates during 1875 was 34, of whom 29 took direct and 5 *ad eundem* degrees. Of the former, 10 graduated B.A.; 6 M.A.; 3 M.B.; 1 M.D.; and 9 LL.B. Of the *ad eundem* degrees, 3 were B.A.; 1 was M.A.; and 1 LL.D. The graduates since the first opening of the University have been as follow :—

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY GRADUATES, 1855 TO 1875.

Degrees.	Direct.†	<i>Ad eundem.</i>	Total.
Bachelor of Arts	102	49	151
Master of Arts	61	64	125
Bachelor of Medicine	26	6	32
Doctor of Medicine	11	57	68
Bachelor of Laws	38	5	43
Doctor of Laws	1	10	11
Total	239	191	430

University
receipts, &c.

402. The total receipts of the University during 1875 amounted to £15,179, and the total expenditure to £15,907. Of the receipts, £9,000 was obtained from Government, £5,947 from college fees, and £232 from other sources.

Public
schools.

403. The number of schools receiving aid from the State,§ the number of teachers employed, and the number of scholars, were as follow during 1874 and 1875:—

* For an account of the Melbourne University, see *Victorian Year-Book*, 1874, paragraph 539 *et seq.*

† These were not all distinct individuals. I find upon enquiry that the number of undergraduates attending lectures in 1875, each undergraduate being counted only once, was 189.

‡ These figures do not always refer to distinct individuals. Of the 239 in the total, 53 received more than one degree.

§ For an account of the system of State education prevailing in Victoria, see *Victorian Year-Book*, 1874, paragraph 547 *et seq.*

PUBLIC SCHOOLS,* 1874 AND 1875.

Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Instructors.	Number of Scholars.	
			On the Rolls.	In Average Attendance.
1874 ...	1,111	3,715	216,144	104,375
1875 ...	1,320	3,826	220,533	101,495
Increase ...	209	111	4,389	...
Decrease ...	...	...	...	2,880

404. The diminished attendance of scholars was owing to the epidemics of measles and scarlatina which prevailed in 1875, in consequence of which many of the schools were closed at various periods during the year.

Diminished school attendance, 1875.

405. The scholars enumerated in the table are those appearing on the rolls and those recorded as in average attendance at the schools in the years named. Some scholars, however, are connected with more than one school during a year, in which case they are reckoned as many times over as they attend schools. Making allowance for this fact, it is estimated that the actual number of distinct children who attended school during some portion of the year amounted to 188,380 in 1874, and to 195,252 in 1875. These numbers are equal to 87 per cent. of the whole number on the rolls in the former, and to 88½ per cent. of that number in the latter year.

Distinct individual scholars.

406. In 1872, which was the year before the present Education Act came into force, there were 888 private schools in Victoria, but that Act, whereby the doors of the State schools were thrown open to all comers without payment, had the effect of closing many of these schools, and in 1875 there were no more than 565 in existence. This was only 64 per cent. of the number in 1872; was 45 less than the number in 1874; or 88 less than the number in 1873. The teachers in these schools numbered 1,841 in 1872, and 1,511, or 330 less, in 1875. The scholars fell off considerably at first, and in 1873 numbered 6,353 less than in the former year. Since then, however, they have again increased, and now number 2,700 more than in 1872, the returns showing 24,781 in that year, and 27,481 in the year under review. The following table shows the number of private schools, and the number of teachers and scholars therein, during the last two years:—

Private schools.

* Including State day and night schools and capitation schools.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS, 1874 AND 1875.

Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Instructors.	Number of Scholars.
1874	610	1,509	22,448
1875	565	1,511	27,481
Increase ... ..	...	2	5,033
Decrease	45	...	...

Withdrawal
of capita-
tion allow-
ances.

407. It may be remarked that the withdrawal of the capitation grants by the Government caused a number of public schools to pass during 1875 into the list of private schools, and but for this the returns of that year would have shown a smaller number of private schools and teachers than those of the previous year, whilst the increase in the number of scholars would have been only a trifling one.

Public and
private
schools.

408. Adding the figures relating to public schools to those relating to private schools, and comparing the results with similar ones for 1872, a reduction of 51 is noticed in the number of schools, but an increase of 1,080 in the number of teachers, and of 87,271 in the number of scholars. As compared with similar results for 1874, an increase is observed under all the heads, as will be seen by the following figures :—

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Instructors.	Number of Scholars.
1874	1,721	5,224	238,592
1875	1,685	5,337	248,014
Increase	164	113	9,422

Sexes of
scholars.

409. In the aggregate of the schools the scholars are in the proportion of 92 girls to 100 boys. In the State schools the proportion of girls is lower than this, viz., 90 to 100 boys; but in the private schools the girls are the more numerous, and in the proportion of 110 to 100 boys. The following are the numbers of either sex in the two descriptions of schools during the last two years :—

SEXES OF SCHOLARS, 1874 AND 1875.

Year.	Public Schools.		Private Schools.		Total.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
1874	111,408	104,736	10,652	11,796	122,060	116,532
1875	115,774	104,759	13,106	14,375	128,880	119,134
Increase	4,366	23	2,454	2,579	6,820	2,602

410. In both descriptions of schools female teachers are more numerous than male teachers. In all the schools the proportion is 128 females to 100 males, in State schools it is 111 females to 100 males, and in private schools it is 188 females to 100 males.

411. The teachers in State schools during 1875 are thus classified :—

TEACHERS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS, 1875.				Teachers in public schools.	
Males.				Females.	
Masters ...	1,184	Mistresses ...	109		
Assistants ...	263	Assistants ...	625		
Pupil-teachers ...	365	Pupil-teachers ...	733		
		Workmistresses ...	547		
Total ...	1,812	Total ...	2,014		

412. In private schools male teachers numbered 524 ; female teachers numbered 987.

413. Under the State school system many more pupils are allotted to each instructor than is generally found to be the case in private schools. During 1875, in public schools the proportion of scholars to each instructor, male and female, was 27, if the average number in attendance be taken, and as many as 58 if the total number on the roll be taken. During the same year, in private schools the number of scholars to each instructor was only 18.

414. At the end of 1875 the number of children receiving education in Victoria may be estimated as follows :—

Being educated—				Scholars at end of 1875.	
In State and capitation schools ...	...	...	195,252		
In private schools ...	...	...	27,481		
In industrial and reformatory schools ...	...	...	1,501		
In orphan asylums ...	...	...	929		
At home* (estimated) ...	...	...	30,000		
Total ...	...	...	255,163		

415. Comparing these numbers with the estimated population of the colony at the same date (823,272), the proportion is 1 child receiving education to every 3.23 persons living.

416. In attempting to compare the number of children of various ages receiving education with those of like ages in the population much uncertainty must exist: first, because the number and ages of children in the colony are not known with any assurance of accuracy at this date, it being five years since a census was taken; secondly, because although the ages of the children in State schools, industrial and reformatory schools, and orphan asylums are probably known, the ages of those

* At the last census the number of children returned as being educated at home was 20,309. The sub-enumerators were directed to return as such only those who were under a regular master or governess.

receiving education in private schools and at home are not recorded. It is necessary, therefore, to resort to estimates which may possibly be not quite reliable. For what they are worth, however, the figures and calculations in the following table are given:—

CHILDREN BEING EDUCATED AND POPULATION AT END OF 1875.

Ages.	Estimated Number of Children.			Proportion of Children receiving Education to Total at each Age.
	In Victoria.*	Receiving Education.	Not receiving Education.	
3 to 6 years	76,034	57,215	18,819	per cent. 75·25
6 „ 15 „	192,065	189,871	2,194	98·86
15 „ 16 „	12,884	5,181	7,703	40·21
Over 16 „	...	2,896	...	...

Scholars and population at school age.

417. If the figures of population given above are correct, if also a fair estimate has been made of the ages of the children being educated in private schools and at home, 90 per cent. of the children in Victoria between 3 and 16 and 95 per cent. of those between 6 and 16 are receiving education. It is probable, however, though by no means certain, that children bear a larger proportion to the total population than they did when the census was taken, and consequently that the total number of children in the colony is greater than that shown in the table, in which case the actual state of matters in regard to the education the rising generation are receiving would not be quite so favorable as that which the figures indicate.

Expenditure on education.

418. The total expenditure of the Education Department in 1875 was £548,417, all of which, except £3,659 paid by parents for teaching extra subjects, was received from Government. Of the whole amount, £258,474 was expended on salaries, £67,874 on results, £169,382 on buildings, £10,895 for rent, and £22,418 for cleaning.

Colleges, grammar schools, &c.

419. Five of the schools included in both years with the private schools are called colleges or grammar schools. These at some former period received sums of money and grants of land from the Government for the erection of school buildings, but no State assistance is given them at the present time. They are all connected with some religious denomination, and in connection with several of them there are exhibitions,† chiefly with the view of assisting the ablest pupils to complete their education at the University. The following is the return of these institutions for the year under review:—

* Brought on to the end of 1875, according to the proportions at the last census.

† These schools are included in the returns of private schools *ante*.

COLLEGES, GRAMMAR SCHOOLS,* ETC.

Name of Institution.	Religious Denomination.	Amount received towards Building in former Years.	Year 1875.	
			Number of Masters.	Number of Scholars.
Melbourne Grammar School	Church of England	£ 13,784	7	149
Geelong Grammar School	"	7,000	8	124
Scotch College ...	Presbyterian ...	6,445	14	340
Wesley " ...	Wesleyan ...	2,769	12	230
St. Patrick's " ...	Roman Catholic...	2,500	9	166
	Total ...	32,498	50	1,009

420. The buildings of the Melbourne Public Library have cost from first to last £110,190, and are still unfinished. These funds were provided by Government, as also were further moneys, amounting, with the sum just named, to a total of £231,938, of which £16,679 was received by the Trustees during the year under review. The private contributions, consisting of books, pamphlets, maps, newspapers, &c., have amounted in all to 66,710, of which 43,728 were presented to the institution, and the remainder were deposited under the Copyright Statute. The estimated value of these contributions is £11,000. The total number of volumes in the library at the end of 1875 was 87,580. It is open to the public, without payment, on week-days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 10 p.m., and was visited during the year by 239,617 persons, which is about the same number as in the previous year.

Melbourne Public Library.

421. The National Gallery contained, at the end of 1875, 5,919 works of art, viz., 73 oil paintings, 159 objects of statuary, &c., and 5,687 drawings, engravings, and photographs. It is opened at noon daily, Sundays and certain holidays excepted, and is closed at 5 p.m. in summer and at 4 p.m. in winter. The school of painting in connection with this institution was attended in the year by 7 male and 34 female students, and the school of design by 45 male and 107 female students.

National Gallery.

* At the Melbourne Grammar School the council has founded three scholarships of the annual value of £21 each for boys under 14, open only to members of the school, and tenable for three years; and two exhibitions of the same annual value tenable for two years, open to the competition of boys proceeding to the Melbourne University, whose names have been for the two preceding years on the books of the school, and who have passed the matriculation examination with credit. One pupil is received at the Geelong Grammar School to be taught there free of charge. This privilege is granted only to a youth of ability, in lusty, and steady disposition, the son of poor parents. In connection with the Wesley College there is an award called the "Draper Scholarship," which has been established in memory of the late Rev. D. J. Draper, who lost his life when the steamship *London* foundered. It is of the value of £25, tenable for one year. Two other scholarships have also been lately founded by Mrs. Powell, to be called the "Walter Powell Scholarships," in memory of her late husband. They are of the value of £40 each, payable in two annual instalments of £20.

Technological
Museum.

422. The Industrial and Technological Museum contained 17,982 objects, of which 675 were books, pamphlets, maps, &c., 17,200 were specimens, and 107 were drawings. It is open on the same days and during the same hours as the National Gallery. The class lectures at this institution on chemistry were attended during the year by 16 students, those on mining and mineralogy by 10, and those on telegraphy by 29, of whom 24 were females.

Visitors
to Art
Gallery and
Museum.

423. The two last-named institutions are under the same roof as the Public Library, and were attended in 1875 by 179,641 visitors.

National
Museum.

424. Attached to the Melbourne University, but in a separate building, is the National Museum, which contains valuable specimens of minerals, stuffed animals, representatives of insect life, and other objects of curiosity. It is open to the public, without payment, on week days from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and was visited by 99,390 persons in 1875, or about 1,100 less than in 1874. The cost of erecting the building was £8,475. The amount received from Government in the year was £1,916, of which £1,350 was expended on salaries, and £566 on the purchase of specimens or collections.

Supreme
Court
Library.

425. The Supreme Court Library, at Melbourne, has branches in the ten assize towns. It is free to members of the legal profession between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., except on Saturdays, when it closes at noon. It is supported by fees paid under rules of court for the admission of barristers and attorneys. The number of volumes at the end of 1875 was 12,226, of which 861 were added during the year. The expenditure from the commencement has amounted to £12,316.

Free
libraries,
athenæums,
&c.

426. In most of the principal towns in Victoria Free Libraries, Athenæums, or Scientific, Literary, or Mechanics' Institutes exist. The number of such institutions which furnished returns for 1875 was 138. Of these, 72 kept an account of the number of visits paid by members or the public during the year, and these amounted to 1,163,208. If persons in the same proportion visited those which did not keep an attendance book, the total number of visits to all the institutions must have amounted to nearly $2\frac{1}{4}$ millions. The total number of volumes the institutions contained at the end of 1875 was 184,428.

Charitable
institutions.

427. In the *Victorian Year-Book*, 1874, a very complete account was given of all the Charitable Institutions in Victoria.* It will not therefore be necessary on this occasion to enter into a detailed description of each establishment. I therefore propose to content myself with giving little more than the bare statistics of each institution for the year under review in a tabular form.

* See *Victorian Year Book*, 1874, paragraph 565 et seq.

428. The following is a list of the principal institutions and the accommodation which, according to the returns, was afforded in 1875 for indoor patients :—

Accommodation of charities.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.—AMOUNT OF ACCOMMODATION.

Name of Institution.	Number of Institutions.	Wards or Rooms.		Number of Beds for Inmates.	Number of Cubic Feet to each Inmate.
		Number.	Capacity in Cubic Feet.		
General Hospitals ...	32	230	2,246,963	1,987	1,131
Lying-in Hospital *	1	26	70,200	65	1,080
Blind Asylum ...	1	9	112,788	100	1,128
Deaf and Dumb Asylum...	1	4	70,312	66	1,065
Eye and Ear Hospital ...	1	3	10,694	22	486
Children's Hospital ...	1	4	8,897	20	445
Benevolent Asylums ...	5	116	814,387	1,159	703
Immigrants' Home ...	1	37	247,588	396	625
Orphan Asylums ...	7	68	708,590	1,152	632
Industrial and Reformatory Schools	9	63	866,575	1,716	505
Hospitals for the Insane ...	4	72†	2,894,787	2,642	1,096
Female Refuges...	4	51	119,860	186	644
Total ...	67	683	8,171,641	9,511	859

429. According to the best authorities, the minimum amount of space which should be allowed to each individual is 1,200 cubic feet. It will be observed that this standard is not reached in any of the institutions respecting which particulars are given in the table; but it should at the same time be remembered that some of them are never quite full, and few (if any) are at all times crowded to the whole extent of their capacity. Making every allowance, however, it is by no means certain that a sufficient amount of breathing space in proportion to the actual number of inmates is provided in our charitable institutions.

Cubic capacity of wards.

430. The next table shows the total and average number of inmates in these institutions during the year; also the number of deaths and

Inmates and deaths.

* Including the Hospital for Diseases of Women and Children..

† In the returns for 1874 the wards or rooms in lunatic asylums were set down as 395. Those figures, as well as the ones now given, were supplied by the Medical Superintendent, who, in answer to enquiries respecting the discrepancy, has replied that the present figures are correct. Although the number of apartments is returned as much fewer than in 1874, their cubic capacity is set down as much greater.

the proportion of deaths to inmates. It will be noticed that this proportion varies greatly in the different institutions :—

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.—INMATES AND DEATHS, 1875.

Name of Institution.	Number of Inmates.		Number of Deaths.	Proportion of Deaths to Total Number of Inmates.
	Total during the Year.	Average at one time.		
General Hospitals	14,477	1,418·5	1,485	per cent. 10·26
Lying-in Hospital, &c.	779	44·0	16*	2·05
Blind Asylum	102	95·5	1	·98
Deaf and Dumb Asylum	84	75·5	...	...
Eye and Ear Hospital	171	21·0	...	...
Children's Hospital	88	2·0	11	12·50
Benevolent Asylums	1,683	1,095·0	202	12·00
Immigrants' Home	10,229	455·0	64	·63
Orphan Asylums	1,262	1,018·5	24	1·90
Industrial and Reformatory Schools	2,682	1,633·0	36	1·34
Hospitals for the Insane	3,089	2,487·5	166	5·37
Female Refuges	338	161·5	6	1·78
Total	34,984	8,507·0	2,011	5·75

Birthplaces
of inmates.

431. Nearly all the institutions give returns of the birthplaces of their inmates. These are summarised in the following table, and in the lower line are compared with the numbers of the same birthplaces in the population according to the proportions which existed at the last census. It will be noticed that the Irish get the largest amount of benefit from the institutions, and next to them the English; that, supposing relief were distributed to each nationality according to its numbers, which would only be equitable if each nationality contributed in that ratio to the support of the institutions (which cannot be ascertained), it would follow that the proportion these two nationalities receive is more than they are entitled to; that upon the same supposition the Scotch get about their share of relief, and the Chinese and the Australian born get less than their share :—

* Not including the deaths of 39 infants born in the institution.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.—BIRTHPLACES OF INMATES, 1875.

Name of Institution.	Australian Colonies.	England and Wales.	Ireland.	Scotland.	China.	Other Countries and Unknown.	Total.
General Hospitals ...	3,695	4,957	3,265	1,163	298	1,099	14,477
Lying-in Hospital, &c. ...	183	269	185	103	...	39	779
Blind Asylum ...	83	13	3	2	...	1	102
Deaf and Dumb Asylum ...	80	1	1	2	...	...	84
Eye and Ear Hospital ...	57	44	30	19	...	21	171
Benevolent Asylums ...	76	785	525	167	25	105	1,683
Immigrants' Home ...	951	4,726	2,961	810	...	781	10,229
Orphan Asylums... ..	1,106	28	17	6	1	104	1,262
Industrial Schools * ...	1,135	14	24	2	...	134	1,309
Hospitals for the Insane ...	225	779	996	273	93	723	3,089
Total	7,591	11,616	8,007	2,547	417	3,007	33,185
Proportions per 1,000 of the population }	18·90	60·62	71·08	40·42	20·83	...	40·72

432. The same institutions which furnish returns of the birthplaces, furnish also returns of the religions of their inmates, and the result is given in the following table. The figures in the lower line express the proportions returned of the estimated living population of each sect, brought on from the census in the same manner as has already been explained in the case of the birthplaces. By these it will be seen that the proportion of relief afforded to the members of some denominations differs greatly to that afforded to others. It is possible, however, that all the sects do not contribute to the support of the institutions in an equal ratio:—

Religions of inmates.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.—RELIGIONS OF INMATES, 1875.

Name of Institution.	Protestants.	Roman Catholics.	Jews.	Pagans.	Of other Sects, of no Sect, and Unknown.	Total.
General Hospitals ...	9,680	4,323	46	276	152	14,477
Lying-in Hospital, &c. ...	537	237	3	...	2	779
Blind Asylum ...	84	17	1	...	...	102
Deaf and Dumb Asylum ...	71	13	...	...	...	84
Eye and Ear Hospital ...	109	59	...	...	3	171
Benevolent Asylums ...	1,123	526	8	10	16	1,683
Immigrants' Home ...	6,646	3,105	...	2	476	10,229
Orphan Asylums ...	643	588	...	...	31	1,262
Industrial Schools † ...	580	706	3	...	20	1,309
Hospitals for the Insane ...	1,546	955	16	92	480	3,089
Total	21,019	10,529	77	380	1,180	33,185
Proportions per 1,000 of the population }	35·68	54·21	18·95	18·91	...	40·72

* The birthplaces of inmates of reformatories are given at paragraph 289 ante.

† The religions of inmates of reformatories are given at paragraph 289 ante.

Duration and extent of relief not known.

433. In regard to the two last tables, it should be pointed out that the share the members of each nationality or sect obtain in the benefits of the Charitable Institutions depends as much upon the duration and extent of the relief afforded as upon the actual numbers relieved. Respecting this matter, however, no information is given in the returns.

Receipts and expenditure.

434. A statement of the receipts and expenditure of the same charities is given in the following table. It will be observed that the amounts received from Government are in the aggregate equal to three-fourths of the total revenue of the institutions. This is the same proportion of Government aid as that shown in the returns for 1874 :—

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1875.

Name of Institution.	Receipts.				Expenditure.
	From Government.	From Private Contributions.	From other Sources.	Total.	
	£	£	£	£	£
General Hospitals ...	60,308	29,151	9,943	99,402	106,682
Lying-in Hospital, &c. ...	1,575	1,123	472	3,170	3,177
Blind Asylum ...	925	2,391	...	3,316	5,083
Deaf and Dumb Asylum...	1,736	1,934	...	3,670	3,986
Eye and Ear Hospital ...	200	917	...	1,117	980
Children's Hospital ...	400	1,577	...	1,977	1,238
Benevolent Asylums ...	20,000	7,430	4,927	32,357	34,454
Immigrants' Home ...	5,000	897	1,031	6,928	6,746
Orphan Asylums ...	12,661	5,186	1,898	19,745	19,137
Industrial and Reformatory Schools	52,265	...	4,593	56,858	53,675
Hospitals for the Insane ...	85,895	...	3,221	89,116	89,116
Female Refuges ...	1,445	...	4,782	6,227	6,184
Total ...	242,410	50,606	30,867	323,883	330,458

Refuges.

435. Of the female Refuges, or asylums for fallen women, of which returns have been given in the foregoing tables, the following particulars may prove interesting. The females who were in or passed through the institutions during the year numbered 338. Of these, 86 were returned to friends or placed in service, 2 were married, 15 were discharged for misconduct, 6 died, 64 left voluntarily or for other reasons than those stated, and at the end of the year 173 were remaining in the institutions. Of the total number, 244, or 72 per cent., were inmates of the Magdalen Asylum, a Roman Catholic institution situated at Abbotsford, near Melbourne.

Children in Industrial Schools.

436. The children received into the Industrial Schools during the year, added to those in the institutions when the year commenced, numbered 2,400, viz., 1,356 boys and 1,044 girls. They were placed in the schools in the first instance for the following reasons :—

	Boys.	Girls.
Found begging or receiving alms, or arrested as neglected children	1,180	939
Living in a brothel or with bad characters	70	75
Having committed a punishable offence	42	3
Unable to be controlled by parents	63	26
On other grounds	1	1
Total	1,356	1,044

437. The children who left the Industrial Schools during the year numbered 1,091. These were discharged under the following circumstances:—

	Boys.	Girls.
At expiration of sentence, or because over 15 years of age	101	72
Placed in service or apprenticed	155	202
Abandoned and not re-taken	8	1
Died	21	15
Placed out under boarding-out regulations	151	152
Placed out to wet-nurse	16	21
On other grounds	111	65
Total	563	528

438. Thirty-nine children, all boys, absconded from the Industrial Schools, and were retaken during the year. At the end of the year, 788 boys and 521 girls remained in the institutions.

439. The number of Benevolent Societies, or associations for the relief of distressed persons, which furnished returns for 1875 was 34, as against 28 in 1874. The persons relieved in the year under review numbered 9,768, as against 9,143 in the previous year. The receipts amounted to £12,807, of which £5,240 was granted by the Government. In the previous year the receipts were £11,858, of which £4,915 was from the Government. The expenditure amounted to £13,003 in 1874, and to £13,049 in 1875.

440. Twenty-eight males and 8 females were received into the Inebriate Retreat in 1875, as against 21 males and 2 females in 1874. No death occurred in the institution during the year under review, but 2 deaths in the previous year. Five persons were remaining in the retreat at the end of 1875.

441. Of the patients received during the year, not one was a Victorian by birth; 11 were English, 13 Irish, 9 Scotch, 2 Germans, and 1 was a Tasmanian; 8 had been educated at a college, and 28 at a common school; 29 were married, and 7 single; 6 were hotel-keepers; 11 merchants, shopkeepers, or clerks; 2 lawyers; 1 was a clergyman, 1 a teacher, and the rest were of other occupations or no occupation; 25 had been constant, and 11 periodical drinkers; 12 had had delirium tremens; 17 in 1875, and 23 in 1874, were accustomed to use tobacco. The

superintendent expresses his firm belief that an undoubted connection exists between this habit and inebriety.

Receipts and expenditure. 442. The receipts of the Inebriate Retreat amounted in 1874 to £1,819, and in 1875 to £1,620. The expenditure amounted to £1,869 in the former, and to £1,550 in the latter year.

Free dispensaries. 443. Five free dispensaries furnished returns for 1875. Three of these institutions issued homœopathic medicines only. The persons treated during the year numbered 4,283, of whom 2,533 were females. The receipts amounted to £1,550, of which £250 was obtained from Government; the expenditure amounted to £975.

Melbourne Home. 444. The Melbourne Home and Governesses' Institute has 20 rooms, containing 22,694 cubic feet of space, and 31 beds. It accommodated 166 inmates during the year, viz., 31 governesses and 135 servants. Its receipts during the year—all from private sources—amounted to £754, and its expenditure to £713.

Cremorne Asylum. 445. The private Retreat for the Insane at Cremorne has 32 rooms, containing 30 beds. It received 38 patients during the year, and discharged 35, of whom 28 were set down as cured, and 2 as improved. One death occurred in the institution. At the end of the year, 19 patients—viz., 10 males and 9 females—remained in the institution. Of these, 6 males and 4 females were supposed to be curable, and the rest incurable.

Sailors' Home. 446. The Sailors' Home contains 102 wards or rooms, possessing 84,371 cubic feet of space, and 102 beds. The inmates who, at various times, resided there in 1875 numbered 1,992. The receipts during the year, all from private sources, amounted to £3,743. The expenditure was about equal to the receipts.

Friendly Societies, 1875. 447. The following is an abstract of the particulars furnished by the Friendly Societies which sent in returns of their operations for the year under review:—

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES, 1875.

Number of societies	28
Number of branches	754
Average number of members	45,924
Number of cases of sickness	10,359
Weeks for which alimnt was allowed	53,453
Number of deaths of members	426
Average number of registered wives	27,021
Number of deaths of registered wives	169

Royal Commission on Friendly Societies. 448. The Royal Commission on Friendly Societies, to which reference was made in the last issue of the *Victorian Year-Book*, have brought up their report, in which they recommend fresh legislation upon the subject.

TABLE OF PRINCIPAL EVENTS IN 1875.

[NOTE.—An epidemic of measles prevailed during the first six and an epidemic of scarlatina during the last two months of this year. For particulars of the mortality caused thereby, see Part VIII., "Vital Statistics," *ante*.]

- Jan. 1.—Sir Redmond Barry (senior Puisne Judge) proclaimed Acting Governor *pro tem*.
- „ 4.—New roll of magistrates for the several bailiwicks published in *Gazette*.
- „ 10.—Sir W. F. Stawell (Chief Justice) returned to Victoria by the R.M.S.S. *Pera*; sworn in as Acting Governor on the following day.
- „ 15.—Statistical Conference in Hobart Town, attended by representatives of Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia, and Tasmania, commenced its labors, and continued its sittings until the 26th.
- „ 16.—News received of death of Dr. W. B. Wilmot, the first Coroner in the Melbourne district; died 8th November 1874.
Died, Mr. Lawrence Bourke, at one time M.P. for Kilmore.
- „ 18.—This and the succeeding days to the 22nd mark the period of greatest heat ever recorded in Melbourne. The mean temperature in the shade for the 24 hours on the 18th was 76·2°; on the 19th, 83·4°; on the 20th, 94°; on the 21st, 93·7°; and on the 22nd, 84°. The average for the five days was 86·5°. The highest temperature in the shade was 110·4° on the 20th.
- „ 20.—Died, the Rev. Jas. Yelverton Wilson, aged 63; for 33 years a minister of the Church of England in Victoria.
- „ 23.—Destructive bush-fires in numerous districts of the colony.
- „ 27.—Ruled by the Court of Petty Sessions at Castlemaine that a vigneron need have no license to sell wine of his own making.
- „ 28.—Death of Mr. Sidney Jas. Stephen, aged 53, Registrar of the County Court.
Sudden death of the Rev. Andrew Robertson, aged 60, minister of West Melbourne Presbyterian Church.
- „ 30.—Died, at Back Creek, near Sandhurst, Mary McCarthy, said to be aged 114. At 99 years of age she left America, where she had four generations growing up around her, and on returning to Ireland is stated to have walked 16 miles from a railway station to her native village. Emigrated to Victoria soon after.
- Feb. 3.—Intensely hot weather all over the country; many bush-fires; severe hot wind and dust storms; weather very oppressive in Melbourne; thermometer marked 100·3 in shade. Heavy showers fell in the evening, extending over a large extent of country.
- „ 4.—The absconding Lands Office clerk, H. J. V. O'Ferrall (arrested at Singapore), brought back in custody of Detective O'Callaghan, per R.M.S. *Brisbane*.
- „ 6.—Yan Yean department placed under the control of Mr. Gordon, Chief Engineer of Water Supply.
- „ 10.—Telegram received from London announcing that Fiji had been gazetted as a British colony.
- „ 12.—Destructive storm of rain in Melbourne; much damage done; the roadways in the streets greatly injured.
- „ 17.—Died, at his residence, Cotham road, Kew, John S. Denbigh, an old officer of the Mining department, aged 49.
- „ 19.—A juror committed to gaol for three months for contempt of court, having, after being sworn in, stated to other jurymen before the trial of a prisoner that the latter was not guilty, to which decision he held out against the eleven, and no verdict was returned.
- 22.—Royal Commission on Friendly Societies held their first meeting at Parliament House; Mr. H. W. Mathewson appointed secretary.

- Feb. 23.—Joseph Israel sentenced to four years' imprisonment for impairing current coin of the realm ; reducing the value of sovereigns by chemical means for the profit on the sale of the portion of gold removed thereby.
Sale of a draft from the famous Mount Derrimut herd of shorthorns ; 15 bulls averaged £452 18s., and 21 cows and heifers averaged £372.
- „ 26.—Suicide of a patient, Ann Morgan, at the Lying-in Hospital, by throwing herself out of a window 20 feet from the ground.
- Mar. 1.—A rather sharp shock of earthquake experienced at Maryborough, Avoca, St. Arnaud, and districts adjacent.
- „ 4.—A. W. Cruden, late manager of the Rochester branch of the Union Bank, convicted of embezzlement ; two years' imprisonment.
- „ 15.—Police, by a well managed arrangement, within a very short interval of time, visited 623 hotels on north side of Yarra, for the purpose of obtaining samples (for analysis) of the various alcoholic liquors on sale ; the vendors unaware of the object of the authorities.
- „ 19.—Supreme Court trial of *Cameron v. Hughes*, involving explanations of how plaintiff sustained great losses in the *Express* and *Town and Country* newspapers.
Certificate in insolvency refused by Judge Pohlman to Henry Morgan Murphy, some time a member of the Legislative Council.
Mr. James McKean elected member for North Gippsland in place of Mr. F. L. Smyth, resigned.
National Labour Bureau commenced operations.
Important and extensive sale of pure bred and pedigree stock at the station of Messrs. Robertson Brothers, Colac. Very high prices realised.
- „ 20.—Telegram received from London announcing that the Ultimate Court of Appeal in England had reversed the decision of the Supreme Court in the Mount and Morris case, and declaring that the prisoners, convicted of manslaughter, had been improperly discharged from custody.
- „ 21.—Died, in Melbourne Hospital, Mr. W. C. Weekes, aged 55, for one Parliament a member for the Ovens district.
- „ 24.—Telegram received from London showing rise of 1½d. per lb. generally in the price of wool.
- „ 31.—Supreme Court decided that a municipality could recover from its rate-payers their proportion of expense for patent composition "pavement," as for any other kind of pavement.
- Apr. 2.—Supreme Court, in *ex parte* Bagshaw, ruled that a Court of General Sessions must "state a case" for the Supreme Court on a point of law, on the application of an appellant ; mandamus issued.
Died, Thomas Knight, aged 80, a Waterloo veteran, well known in Melbourne.
Royal Commission appointed to enquire into the present condition of the Volunteer Force ; Mr. Septimus Martin, secretary.
- „ 9.—Mr. G. F. Belcher elected a member of the Legislative Council for the Western Province.
- „ 10.—Telegram received from London announcing collapse of the Australian Direct Steamship Company. The *Victoria*, which had been laid on for Melbourne, withdrawn. Compulsory liquidation subsequently ordered.
- „ 13.—Sale of Albert Park frontages commenced at St. Patrick's Hall ; a protest entered against the Government disposing of them, and law proceedings subsequently taken unsuccessfully.
- „ 14.—Died, the Honorable J. F. Strachan, M.L.C., aged 65 years.
- „ 15.—Meteor of extraordinary size and brilliance observed in Melbourne, St. Kilda, Anderson's Creek, Avoca, and Castlemaine ; also noticed in several other parts of the colony, accompanied by phenomena resembling an earthquake shock.

- Apr. 16.—News (received from New Zealand) of death of Mr. Wilson Gray, at one time an active politician in Victoria.
- „ 19.—On the voyage from Sydney of the R.M.S.S. *Ellora*, Captain Dundas, in command, showed symptoms of insanity, thereby endangering safety of ship and passengers.
- „ 24.—New Mint Regulations issued lowering charges for coining.
- „ 26.—Juo. R. Tipper, an insolvent, committed to gaol for fourteen days for contempt of Court; but discharged next day on medical evidence.
- „ 28.—H. R. H. Prince of Wales installed Grand Master of Freemasons of England.
 Death of Mr. D. S. Campbell, aged 63, a well known and respected old colonist; and of Mr. Montgomery, aged 71, one of the earliest practising solicitors in the Port Phillip district.
 Mr. Gordon, Chief Engineer of Water Supply, reported upon the condition of the Yan Yean Waterworks; and Captain Stanley furnished to Government a lengthy report on the silting up of Hobson's Bay.
 Opening of the new Williamstown road, shortening the distance between the city and the seaport to 5¼ miles in lieu of 9 miles.
- „ 29.—Death of Mr. Joseph Sutherland, aged 74, one of the earliest colonists of the Port Phillip district, and for some time a representative of the Southern Province in the Legislative Council.
 Died, Mr. John Jones Thomas, a well known linguist and scholar.
- „ 30.—Banquet in London to His Excellency Sir G. F. Bowen, G.C.M.G., the present Governor of Victoria, H. R. H. the Duke of Edinburgh presiding.
- May 1.—Dr. Thornton, Bishop of Ballarat, consecrated in Westminster Abbey by the Archbishop of Canterbury.
 Information received that Mr. (now Sir Julius) Vogel, the Premier of New Zealand, had arranged for submarine cable to be laid between Australia and New Zealand.
 Foundation-stone laid of Hotham new Town Hall.
- „ 2.—Lives of two children, aged 12 and 6 years, saved from drowning at Stony Creek by a lad (Alfred Hugh McCracken) aged 16.
- „ 3.—Return of Judge Hackett, and arrival of Mr. A. Trollope (on second visit to Australia) by R.M.S.S. *Golconda*.
- „ 13.—Mr. W. H. Gresham, ship-chandler of Sandridge, a well known public man, unfortunately drowned, along with two other men, by the upsetting of a sailing boat in the bay.
- „ 14.—Agricultural Statistics for 1874-5 published in *Government Gazette*.
- „ 16.—A Progress Report published, containing results of examination of numerous samples of Victorian beers, by appointed chemists and analysts; the result favorable to the character of the local production.
- „ 18.—The Acting Governor publicly presented bronze medal of Royal Humane Society of England to Hugh McGregor, 14 years of age, who, during the last two years, had saved three lives from drowning.
 A publican at Geelong fined £250 (or in default six months' imprisonment) for allowing gambling in his licensed house; eight gamblers arrested there, fined £5 each.
- „ 19.—Election of Mr. David Gaunson as one of the members for Ararat.
- „ 20.—Death of Mr. Jno. Denham Pinnock, aged 65, formerly Registrar of the Supreme Court, and subsequently, for a time, M.L.C. for the North-Eastern Province.
 J. C. Morris and T. H. McMurray, who had carried on a partnership business as grocers in Queen street, Melbourne, convicted of fraudulent insolvency, and sentenced respectively to twelve months' and to six months' imprisonment.
- „ 24.—New Picture Gallery at rear of Public Library opened.

- May 24.—First shade trees planted in Melbourne streets, by the Mayor, Mr. Gatehouse, in Collins street east.
Acting Governor held a levee in honor of the Queen's Birthday.
- „ 25.—Opening of the second Session of the eighth Parliament of Victoria.
New Regulations under Land Act 1869 laid before Parliament.
Dr. Dobson, M.L.C., recovers verdict, with damages £10, in a libel action against the *Daily Telegraph* Newspaper Company.
- „ 26.—Correspondence in connection with the placing and disposal of the Victoria 4 per cent. Railway Loan (£1,500,000) laid before Parliament.
- „ 27.—Mr. Coppin's motion for reduction of postage on letters and for abolition of postage fee on newspapers withdrawn after discussion.
Report of the Conference of Statists (held in Tasmania) laid before Parliament.
- „ 28.—*Gazette* notifies that "Geelong West" has been constituted a borough.
- „ 29.—Mr. Julius Vogel (Premier of New Zealand) appointed a K.C.M.G.
- June 1.—Report of Proceedings taken during the year 1874 under the Land Act of 1869 laid before Parliament.
New Land Act Amendment Bill introduced by Mr. J. J. Casey.
Died, Michael Dawson, aged 63, a wealthy resident of Melbourne; property sworn as under £228,500 value.
- „ 3.—Intelligence received of the death of Butler Cole Aspinall, Esq., at the age of 46 years; a prominent and successful member of the bar, and politician, at one time Attorney-General of Victoria; also a brilliant contributor to the public press.
- „ 5.—Mr. Charles Sladen appointed a K.C.M.G.
- „ 8.—Destruction by fire of the Sandridge Sugar-works; loss of property estimated at between £30,000 and £40,000.
Fatal mining accident at Clunes New Lothair mine; one man killed and another severely injured through fall of earth.
- „ 13.—Died, the Rev. W. Singleton, one of the oldest Church of England ministers in the colony.
- „ 15.—Bill to enable the Council of Melbourne University to confer Degrees in Surgery passed the Legislative Council and transmitted to the Assembly.
- „ 16.—Officials in Parliament Act Amendment Bill (second reading of), carried by 43 votes against 22.
Investigation commenced by Board appointed to enquire into the alleged ill-treatment of one Pryor, a patient at Kew Asylum.
- „ 17.—Duncan Longden, a member of one of the earlier Victorian Parliaments, committed for trial on a charge of forging two promissory notes, purporting to have been made by Jas. Major, deceased. At the Supreme Court trial, verdict "not guilty."
Estimates of Expenditure for year ending 30th June 1876 laid before Parliament.
- „ 18.—Failure of Messrs. McEwan and Co., wholesale grocers in Swanston street. Liabilities, £86,979; assets set down as £41,622.
John Pryor Barrett, convicted of murder of his wife, and sentenced to be hanged; sentence subsequently commuted to imprisonment for life.
- „ 21.—Extensive fire in King street at stores of T. Luke and Co., tea merchants, extending to store of Francis and McPherson, general merchants; loss of property estimated at over £20,000.
Fatal explosion of gas at Theatre Royal; one man instantaneously killed, and another died a few hours after from the injuries received.
Died, Jas. Rattray, aged 43, secretary of the Northern Insurance Company, and a member of the Royal Commission on Friendly Societies.
- „ 22.—Second reading of Mr. Casey's Land Act Amendment Bill carried by 52 votes against 9.

- June 22.—Judgment against the Crown given on appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in *Winter v. Queen*; in *McMillan v. same*; in *Ettershank v. same*; and in *Glass v. same*.
- „ 23.—Death of B. S. Nayler, aged 80, a well known lecturer on spiritualism.
- „ 24.—Mr. (now Sir) Samuel Wilson elected M.L.C. for Western Province.
Supply Bill passed for £511,338 8s. 7d., to make good the grant for the year ending 30th June 1875.
- „ 29.—Mining on Private Property Bill read a second time.
- „ 30.—Regulations under the Education Act 1872 gazetted.
- July 1.—Resignation of Capt. Kay, R.N., Clerk of the Executive Council. His death occurred on 17th, aged 60.
Telegram from Europe with news of disastrous inundations in the south of France; a subscription presently commenced in Victoria in aid of the sufferers.
- „ 5.—Death of the Rev. Irving Hetherington, aged 66, for many years pastor of the Scots Church congregation, Collins street.
- „ 8.—Mr. Justice Molesworth gave judgment in *Argus v. a Gippsland newspaper*, granting injunction to restrain owner of the latter from publishing European telegrams, the property of the Australian Associated Press.
- „ 10.—Foundation-stone laid of new Town Hall, Footscray.
Supreme Court, on appeal, confirmed magistrates' conviction of Morris Jacobs, fined £50 under the Act for the suppression of betting.
- „ 13.—Return laid on table of Assembly showing the number of estates in excess of 20,000 acres each held by one individual.
Stranding of R.M.S.S. *Ceylon*, on the outward voyage, at the eastern entrance of the South Channel; not floated off until 11 p.m. on 15th.
Mary Ann Pope, aged 53, burned to death at Richmond through her bed-clothes accidentally taking fire.
- „ 15.—The Treasurer (Mr. Service) made his financial statement to the Assembly. Anticipated revenue £4,287,313; proposed expenditure, £4,488,658. New taxes proposed to make up deficiency.
- „ 20.—Death of Lady Franklin announced in London.
Judge Dunne suspended from judicial functions. His resignation subsequently accepted.
- „ 21.—Death of the Rev. Jas. Lynar, aged 88, incumbent of St. John's, Heidelberg.
Mr. Berry's motion, "That in the opinion of this House the financial proposals of the Treasurer are unsatisfactory," negatived by 32 votes against 22.
- „ 22.—Michael Byrne Carroll, recently M.L.A. for Ararat, convicted on two separate charges of forgery and uttering; sentenced to 14 years' imprisonment with hard labor—seven years for each offence.
- „ 24.—Wreck of the new barque *Eliza Ramsden*, 395 tons, on the Corsair Rock, Point Nepean; the master's certificate suspended for six months.
- „ 27.—Telegram received stating that the Honorable W. H. F. Mitchell, President of the Legislative Council, had been knighted.
- „ 29.—First item in Treasurer's budget (proposed increase of 2s. a gallon on spirits) carried by 37 votes against 36.
- „ 31.—H. J. V. O'Ferrall received three years additional sentence on two further charges of embezzlement, to which he had pleaded guilty, making in all 12 years.
Life-boat, the *Alice*, invented by Mr. F. Stephen, a solicitor in Melbourne, started for Sydney; proceeded as far as Port Albert, and thence returned to Hobson's Bay.

- July 31.—Launch of a new iron screw steamer (the *Sprightly*), built by Messrs. Johnson and Co., at the Tyne foundry, Yarra Bank.
The Pryor enquiry at Kew Lunatic Asylum closed, exculpating the attendants from imputation of cruelty to patients.
- Aug. 2.—Arrival of the Japanese Commissioners to the International Exhibition in Melbourne.
- „ 3.—Dr. Madden, M.L.A., elected warden of Melbourne University.
- „ 4.—Resignation of the Kerferd Ministry, the Acting Governor having refused a dissolution.
- „ 5.—The Daniel O’Connell centenary celebrated in Melbourne.
Mr. White, Acting Government Astronomer, reported “one of the severest shocks of earthquake ever recorded in Melbourne.” Next day it was announced that the phenomenon reported arose from the reverberation of sound from the guns of the *Cerberus* at Point Nepean.
- „ 7.—Mr. Graham Berry completes the formation of a Ministry.
Sudden death of Mr. F. Bayne, aged 69, during thirty years a practising solicitor in the Australian colonies, and at one time proprietor of the Theatre Royal.
- „ 9.—Execution of a Chinaman named Ah Cat for murder of Carl Ronzleman, near Maryborough.
- „ 10.—Legislative Assembly adjourned to September 7th.
Conclusion, after several days’ trial, of the Williamstown case of Hall v. Blackett, an action for a malicious prosecution; plaintiff and his principal witness committed for perjury, and the former, on conviction, received eighteen months’ imprisonment with hard labor.
- „ 10.—Died in miserable poverty at Alexandra, John Spencer Smith, aged about 65, at one time Colonial Treasurer at Prince Edward’s Island, and in 1854 Police Magistrate at Amherst, in Victoria.
- „ 12.—Annual municipal elections.
- „ 13.—Criterion Hotel and the block (nearly half an acre) in Collins street on which it stands offered at public auction; reserve price, £40,000. Land purchased originally from the Crown by Mr. Michael Pender for £19.
- „ 14.—Shocking murder of a man and woman at Frankston by Henry Howard, an hotelkeeper at Snapper Point. Howard was tried, found guilty, and on the 4th October was executed.
- „ 16 & 17.—Show and sale of rams and entire horses at the show-yards of the National Agricultural Society, St. Kilda road.
- „ 17.—Sudden death of Mr. John Dunn, a popular comedian, aged 61.
- „ 21.—News received of the treacherous murder of Commodore Goodenough and two of his seamen by natives of Santa Cruz, an island seven or eight hundred miles north-west of the Fiji group.
- „ 23.—Death of Mr. John Winter, a very wealthy colonist, who received £50,000 (which he stipulated should be paid in sovereigns) for the Winter’s Freehold mine.
- „ 24.—Announced that £2,128 in notes had been “lost” by the Bank of Victoria; subsequently found to have been stolen by a very young clerk in their employment, named Ghinn. The property having been restored, the offender, in consequence of his extreme youth and previous good character, received a comparatively light sentence.
- „ 25.—William Woodburn and his two young nephews, John and Stewart Gordon, convicted at the Beechworth General Sessions of wilfully placing a dangerous obstruction on the line of railway; the man sentenced to ten years’ imprisonment, and the boys each to seven years in the reformatory, after one week’s imprisonment in gaol.
- „ 30.—Execution of a Chinaman named Ah Gaa for the murder of a fellow countryman at Vaughan.
- „ 30-31.—Great floods in Beechworth district.

- Sept. 2.—Opening of Intercolonial Exhibition of 1875 in Melbourne; public holiday observed.
- „ 7.—Temporary Supply Bill (£700,000) passed.
- „ 11.—Died, Mr. H. J. Smith, aged 41, for some years well known on the Melbourne Press.
- „ 14.—Mr. Berry made his financial statement for the year 1875-6.
- „ 21.—Sawers, recently receiving teller at the Bank of Victoria, convicted of embezzlement, and sentenced to three years hard labor.
- Oct. 2.—The honor of knighthood conferred upon Captain MacMahon, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, and upon Mr. Samuel Wilson, M.L.C.
 Captain Foster, of the s.s. *Dandenong*, accidentally killed at Duke's Dry Dock, Yarra Bank.
- „ 5.—Bills authorizing the sale of Melbourne Orphan Asylum and Buildings, and of Prahran Church of England land and school, severally passed. The Acting Governor's assent given on the 19th instant.
- „ 6.—Defeat of the Berry Ministry, by 38 votes against 35, on their financial scheme. The Assembly adjourned to the 12th, again to 13th, and further to 19th.
- „ 12.—Announced in Legislative Assembly that Mr. Berry had applied for, and that the Acting Governor had refused, a dissolution of Parliament.
- „ 13.—Mr. Berry's Ministry resigned, and Sir James McCulloch undertook the formation of a Cabinet.
- „ 14.—Two nightmen suffocated while working in a cesspit at East Melbourne. Bentley (manager) and Hughes (accountant), of the Beechworth branch of the Bank of New South Wales, found guilty of embezzlement, sentenced to seven years and nine months' imprisonment, and three years and a half respectively.
- „ 17.—Hospital Sunday in Melbourne and suburbs; about £6,000 realized.
- „ 19.—Temporary Supply Bill for £160,000 passed.
- „ 20.—Sir James McCulloch and the new Ministry sworn in. Their names announced in the Assembly, whereupon an adjournment took place to November 17.
- „ 23.—Writs issued for election of members for the districts whose late representatives had taken office in the Cabinet.
- „ 28.—The Acting Governor laid the foundation-stone of two almshouses on the ground granted for that purpose to the Licensed Victuallers Association.
- „ 30.—Suicide of Mr. E. J. Murphy, a leading solicitor in Melbourne; verdict, temporary insanity.
- Nov. 4.—Contested election for councillorship vacant in Albert ward of the city. Mr. Gatehouse, mayor, unsuccessfully opposed on the ground of his having allowed the Town Hall to be let for Sunday lectures.
- „ 5.—The Commissioner of Railways published a report from the Traffic Manager stating there would be a deficit of £75,000 on the current year, owing to the reduction in the goods tariff by Mr. Woods, the Minister previously in office.
- „ 6.—The contested elections affecting the Ministry commenced. Sir James McCulloch re-elected for Warrnambool; Mr. Joseph Jones, Commissioner of Railways, defeated in Ballarat East.
- „ 8.—Dr. Madden, Minister of Justice, defeated at West Bourke. Mr. Ramsay, Minister of Public Instruction, re-elected for East Bourke.
 Great sale of Mr. W. McCulloch's fine herd of pedigree cattle, at La Rose, near Essendon. High prices realized for many animals.
- „ 9.—Railway accident at Sunbury causing death of a man named George Noy, employed on the line as a greaser.
- „ 10-11.—National Agricultural Society's Spring Show, at their grounds, St. Kilda road.

- Nov. 11.—Telegram from Bombay announces that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales arrived there on the 8th, and spent his birthday in that city, where a most brilliant reception was accorded him.
- „ 17.—Re-assembling of Parliament. Sir James McCulloch, Premier and Treasurer; Mr. MacPherson, Chief Secretary. Australasian Statistics laid before Parliament.
- „ 19.—Railway rates—goods classification and tariff published in *Government Gazette*.
- „ 20.—The notorious convict, John Weechurch, found guilty of attempting to murder Warder Moran. Sentence of death passed, which was carried into effect December 6th.
- „ 23.—Sir James McCulloch introduced the financial plan of the Government, proposing taxes on land, houses, income, and bank notes; also an increase in the amount of the succession duties.
- „ 24.—The Government proposal of land and house taxes affirmed in Committee by 34 votes against 30.
- „ 26.—Pacific Islanders Protection Act proclaimed (Imperial Act 38 and 39 Vict. cap. 51).
- „ 28.—Reported destitution of a number of German immigrants located together near Benalla. Relief promptly sent, but the need was subsequently found to have been greatly exaggerated.
First real champagne ever made in Australia sampled with approval by a company of acknowledged connoisseurs.
- „ 30.—The Thistle Prevention Statute Amendment Bill rejected by the Legislative Council.
- Dec. 1.—Temporary Supply Bill (£382,500) passed.
- „ 6.—E. L. Bull (manager of the Bank of Victoria at Sebastopol) arrested and subsequently convicted on a charge of embezzlement.
- „ 9.—Telegram published stating that the Premier of New South Wales had, on the previous evening, made his financial statement showing a satisfactory surplus of revenue over expenditure.
New forms of Crown grants and leases laid before Parliament.
An importing firm, Messrs. Hufton, Shaw, and Co., of Flinders lane, fined over £2,000 for fraudulent evasion of Customs duties.
- „ 13.—Telegram received from London announcing that the British Government had purchased for £4,000,000 the Khedive of Egypt's Suez Canal shares, representing 177,000 of the 400,000 shares of the company.
Death of Mr. C. J. LaTrobe, first (Lieutenant) Governor of the colony of Victoria.
- „ 14.—Charge against Mr. J. J. Miller for establishing a lottery (Melbourne Cup sweep of £1,000) heard and dismissed at the District Court.
- „ 16.—The Government financial proposals carried in the Assembly by 43 votes against 28, after a debate prolonged over about three weeks.
- „ 18.—Suicide of a foreigner named Mankiwitz under painful circumstances. His wife, a woman of degraded character, subsequently attempted her own life, as she had done on an occasion before her marriage.
- „ 23.—The Tolls Extension Bill and the Pastoral Tenants Rent Amendment Bill passed and received the assent of the Acting Governor. The Parliament then adjourned to January 11th 1876.
- „ 31.—At the inquest on a man named Robert Berth, who died in the Melbourne Hospital after undergoing an operation for lithotomy, the verdict of the jury negatived the imputation of culpable negligence on the part of the honorary surgeon professionally responsible in the case.

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