POPULATION.

Population in the year 1889. A T the end of 1889, one hundred and two years from its first settlement, Australasia had a population of 3,786,830 persons, 2,052,800 males and 1,734,030 females, divided amongst the various Colonies as under:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
New South Wales	618,300	503,900	1,122,200
Victoria	593,800	524,230	1,118,030
Queensland	235,610	171,050	406,660
South Australia	167,440	157,040	324,480
Western Australia	25,070	18,630	43,700
Tasmania	80,810	70,670	151,480
New Zealand	331,770	288,510	620,280

If to these numbers, which are principally those of the people of European descent, there be added an estimated population of some 200,000 Australian aborigines and about 42,000 Maories, the inhabitants of Australasia will be found to be, in round numbers, 4,029,000 persons.

Density of Australasian population.

The population of Australasia, even including the native races, only reaches a density of 1.27 persons per square mile, which is far below that of any other civilised country excepting Canada. Including however only those of European descent the density is not more than 1.19 per square mile.

Other great colonies and foreign countries in process of extensive settlement, with which these colonies may be fairly compared, show the following density of population, according to Population of the latest available information :-

and foreign countries in process of settlement.

Country.	Area in square Population.		Persons per square Mile	
Algeria	184,500	3,860,000	20.9	
Argentine Republic	1,125,000	4,046,600	3.6	
Bolivia	772,500	2,300,000	2.9	
Brazil	3,209,900	14,002,300	4.4	
Canadian Dominion	3,379,000	5,075,900	1.5	
Cape Colony	217,900	1,428,700	6.5	
Mexico	739,700	11,388,700	15.4	
United States	3,501,000	66,000,000	18.8	

A comparison with the density of population in the older countries Density of popuof the world is of little practical use, unless as giving some pean countries. indication of the future of Australasia, when its population shall have reached the proportions found in the old world. The latest authoritative statement, that of Professor Grandeau, at the Millers' Congress recently held at Paris, gives the density of populations of the great divisions of the Globe, as follows:-

Continent.	Area in square Miles.	Population.	Persons per square Mile.
Europe	3,824,000	328,000,000	86.0
Asia	16,647,000	758,000,000	45.5
Africa	11,587,000	206,000,000	17.8
North America	9,347,000	72,000,000	7.7
South America	6,875,000	28,000,000	4.1
Oceania	4,250,000	37,000,000	8.7
The World	52,530,000	1,429,000,000	27.2

Captain Phillip brought with him, in 1788, an establishment of Progress of 1,030 persons, all told. Settlement soon spread from New South Australasia. Wales, first to Tasmania, and afterwards to all parts of the

Australian Continent and to New Zealand. The progress of population in Australasia, and the rate of its increase for each successive period of twenty years, from 1801 to 1881, are shown in the following table:—

· Years.	Population of Australasia.	Annual rate of Increase per cent.
1788	1,030	******
801	6,508	************
821	35,610	8.87
841	251,000	10.26
861	1,265,898	8:43
881		4:09
889	-11	3.74

Rates of increase for various periods compared. In examining the various ratios of increase for each period above-mentioned, the high rates which prevailed prior to 1841 are to be accounted for by the smallness of the numbers operated upon; the high rate ruling from 1841 to 1861 is due to the extraordinary impetus given to immigration in the years which followed the discovery of gold in 1851. From 1861 to the present time the increase has been normal, the gold fever having practically died away before the period was entered on.

The following are the rates of increase over periods approximating to the last of the foregoing table in certain young countries undergoing extensive settlement:—

Country.	Period.	Annual rate of Increase.	
Argentine Republic (Provinces)	1869-87	3.71	
Cape Colony and Dependencies	1880-88	2.90	
Brazil	1872-88	2.56	
Canada	1881-89	1.79	

Taking the year 1860 as a starting point of comparison between the various provinces, when Queensland, the last offshoot of the mother colony of New South Wales, appears for the first time as an independent member of the group, the progress of the population of each colony of the Australian family was :-

Year.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queens- land.	South Australia.	Western Australi	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
1860	348,546	537,847	28,056	124,112	15,500	87,775	79,111
1870	498,659	726,599	115,567	183,797	24,785	100,765	248,400
1880	741,893	860,067	226,077	267,573	29,019	114,762	484,864
1889	1,122,200	1,118,028	406,658	324,484	43,698	151,480	620,279

The total numerical increase in each colony during the twenty- Numerical nine years was, therefore :--

increase in each of the Australasian Colonies.

New South Wales	773,654 persons
Victoria	580.181
Queensland	378,602
South Australia	200,372 ,,
Western Australia	
Tasmania	63,705 ,,
New Zealand	541,186 ,,

The numerical increase for the whole of Australasia was 2,565,898, each colony contributing thereto in the following proportion :-

New South Wales	30.15 per cent.
Victoria	22.61 ,,
Queensland	14.76
South Australia	
Western Australia	
Tasmania	2.48 ,,
New Zealand	
2101 Educated III IIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIII	21 00 ,,
	100.00

The factors of this increase, viz., the excess of births over Increase due to deaths, and the excess of immigration, were both abnormally large. Births over Deaths. The excess of births over deaths has contributed the following number to the population of each Colony, from 1860 to 1889:-

New South Wales	437,158 persons.
Victoria	448,309 ,,
Queensland	111,348 ,,
South Australia	156,575 ,,
Western Australia	14,339 ,,
Tasmania	55,392 ,,
New Zealand	275,033

From this cause alone the population of Australasia has therefore gained 1,498,154 persons during the years mentioned; a number equivalent to 58:39 per cent. of the total increase.

Encrease due to

The difference between the figures just cited and the total increase during the period under examination, viz., 1,067,744 persons, represents the survivors among those immigrants who permanently settled in the Colonies in the years named, less the Australasian-born population which emigrated. These were distributed as follows:—

New South Wales	336,496 persons.
Victoria	
Queensland	267,254 ,,
South Australia	43,797 ,,
Western Australia	13,859 ,,
Tasmania	8,313 ,,
New Zealand	266,153 ,,

The information conveyed by the above figures is important, as illustrating not only the movement of population, but also the effect of local influences upon immigration; as, for example, the attraction of liberal land laws, the fertility of the soil, the permanence of employment, and the policy of assisted immigration. It would appear that during the period which elapsed since 1860, New South Wales, Queensland, and New Zealand have exhibited the greatest power of attraction and absorption of the permanent element of immigration.

The bare statement, however, of the gross increase of each Colony due to immigration, if taken by itself, is apt to be misleading, since the original density of population must be deemed a factor affecting the current of immigration. The following figures show the density of population in each Colony at the various dates corresponding with those given in a preceding table:—

Density of Population per square mile.

·	1860.	1870.	1880.	1889.
New South Wales	1.12	1.60	2.39	3.61
Victoria	6.12	8.27	9.79	12.72
Queensland	.04	.17	34	-60
South Australia	·14	20	.30	•36
Western Australia	.01	02	.03	·0 1
Tasmania	3.35	3.84	4.38	5.78
New Zealand	.76	2.38	4.64	5.93

Taking the last ten years, which the following figures illustrate, it will be seen that no Colony exhibits uniformity in the immigration returns, while some show in several years an excess of departures:-

Excess of Immigrants over Emigrants.

Year.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania,	New Zealand.
1880 1881 1882 1883 1884 1885 1886 1887 1888	19,311 22,898 19,317 32,810 32,232 39,683 28,492 23,516 21,545 20,640	11,661 7,322 10,880 11,030 14,141 14,982 25,302 22,026 41,803 16,164	3,047 7,014 17,043 34,371 18,620 11,566 13,190 15,979 11,805 10,926	1,763 2,752 734 4,268 1,208 7,417* 7,608* 2,109* 113* 514	3,738	386 1,416 1,419 1,604 1,733 649 769 2,692 930 2,672	7,231 1,616 3,489 10,029 9,321 4,504 1,064 977 9,175* 214
Total	260,444	175,311	143,561	*6,098	8,066	14,270	29,270

^{*} Excess of Emigrants.

There had always been, even in the earliest years of settlement, Effect of the discovery of a small though steady stream of immigration to these colonies, gold. but in 1851, memorable in Australasia for the finding of gold, this condition of things showed a marked change; for in that year there commenced one of the most remarkable population movements of modern times. Thousands of men in the prime of life were attracted to the shores of Australia by the hope of speedily acquiring wealth from the rich gold-fields that had been discovered, and by far the greater number of these new arrivals settled in the new Colony of Victoria, which had then just been separated from New South Wales. This rush continued for some years afterwards, causing an unprecedented increase in the population of the newly formed colony. In 1850, just previous to the gold rush, the population of the northern and southern portions of New South Wales was :-

> New South Wales 189.341 Port Phillip (Victoria)

But five years afterwards the positions were reversed, for Port Phillip, then an independent Colony, had a population considerably larger than that of its parent, New South Wales:—

Victoria	 364,324
New South Wales	 277,579

Victoria enjoyed the advantage in population for over thirty years, but fell behind in 1887, and although obtaining a lead towards the end of 1888, this was but temporary, and it is unlikely that the smaller Colony will ever again attain the leading position in point of population.

Effect of the discovery of gold in Queensland and New Zealand.

Queensland and New Zealand, also, owe much of their remarkable progress to the discovery of gold. In New Zealand the gold fever broke out in 1861, when the population numbered only 99,021, and the period of its activity extended to 1881. At the census taken in the last-named year the population had reached 500,910 souls, a fourfold increase in twenty years.

In Queensland the attractive force of the gold-fields came into active operation at a later date, and may still be considered a strong factor in stimulating the growth of population in that Colony.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

The birth-rate of Australasia for the last ten years averaged 34.76 per thousand of the population, while for the previous ten years it was 37.09. The following are the rates of each Colony for the periods mentioned:—

	Births per thousand.		
Colony	1870-79	1880-89	
New South Wales	38.90	36.98	
Victoria	34.60	31.40	
Queensland	39.17	37.08	
South Australia	37.72	36.82	
Western Australia	31.61	35.65	
Tasmania	30.36	33.78	
New Zealand	40.79	34.72	
Australasia	37.09	34.76	

In all except the two least populous Colonies the birth-rate shows a decline. The cause of this, so far as most of the Colonies are concerned, is the increase in the proportion which persons under marriage age bear to the whole community. If a comparison were possible between the number of births and the number of women of child-bearing age during the two decennial periods given above, the second period would probably be found to show little falling off.

The mean death-rate of the Australasian Colonies from 1880 to Mean 1889 is 14·31, and varying from 10·56 per thousand in New Zealand, to 16·94, in Queensland. Five Colonies are over the mean rate:—Queensland, with 16·94; Western Australia, 16·76; Tasmania, 15·25; Victoria, 15·13; and New South Wales, 14·79 per thousand, while only two are lower,—South Australia, 13·74; and New Zealand, 10·56 per thousand.

Mean Death-rate of the Australasian Colonies.

Year.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queens- land.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
1880	15.48	13.70	14.08	14.79	13.24	16.12	11.46
1881	15.17	14·16	14.93	13.90	13.80	14.77	11.13
1882	16.12	15.32	17.99	14.84	14.16	15.79	11.19
1883	14.68	14.28	18.82	14.55	17.93	17.06	11.45
1884	16·14	14.46	22.97	15.24	21.87	15.20	10:39
1885	16:41	14.98	19.72	12.28	17.60	15.40	10.61
1886	14.88	15.15	16.77	13.38	21.56	14.58	10.54
1887	13.15	15.69	14·56	12.77	17:11	15.45	10.17
1888	13.54	15:31	14.66	12.02	15.90	14.11	9.43
1839	13.40	17.56	15.44	11.07	14.24	14.10	9.40
Mean	14.79	15.13	16.94	13.74	16.76	15.25	10.56
	•	1					

Death-rate of Colonies compared with other nations,

Compared with European countries the Colonies occupy a very favourable position in respect to both birth and death rates. The Australasian birth-rate is high, and in those countries where it is slightly higher it will be seen on reference to the subjoined table that the death-rate is so considerably in excess, that the difference between the two, representing the gain to each country by natural increase, is largely in favour of Australasia. The following are the average rates:—

	Births per 1,000.	Deaths per 1,000.	Excess of Births per 1,000.
New South Wales	36.98	14.79	22.19
Victoria	31.40	15.13	16:27
Queensland	37.08	16.94	20.14
South Australia	36.82	13.74	23.08
Western Australia	35.65	16.76	18.89
Tasmania	33.78	15.25	18:53
New Zealand	↑ 34·72	10.56	24.16
Australasia	34.76	14:31	20.45
United Kingdom	31.69	19.21	12:48
England and Wales	32.98	19.35	13.63
Scotland	32.69	19:24	13.45
Ireland	23.96	18:40	5.56
France	24.33	22.26	2.07
Spain	36.64	31.06	5.58
Switzerland	28.66	21.14	7.52
Italy	37.17	27.86	9.31
Germany	37.22	25.45	1.77
Prussia	37.61	24.95	12.66
Austria	38.22	29.80	8.42
Hungary	44.07	33.77	10.30
Holland	34.79	21.48	13:31
Belgium	30.41	20.76	9.65
Denmark	32.25	18.86	13.39
Norway	30.94	16.50	14.44
Sweden	29.59	17:34	12.25

No better testimony to the salubrity of the climate of Australia could be obtained than is afforded by these figures. There are, of course, various circumstances other than climatic which would tend to make the mortality lighter in these than older-settled

countries, but when all possible allowances are made for such circumstances, a comparison between these Colonies and the countries of Europe is still significantly favourable to Australasia.

MARRIAGES.

The marriage-rate of the Colonies per 1,000 of the population Marriage-rates of the Colonies. is as follows :--

Year.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queens- land.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
1880 1881 1882 1883 1884 1885 1886 1887 1888	7·68 8·26 8·74 8·87 8·49 8·18 7·97 7·42 7·37	6·22 6·79 7·09 7·43 7·73 7·72 7·84 7·62 8·41	7-22 7-66 8-56 8-93 8-91 8-99 8-37 8-21 8-63	8·66 8·31 8·87 8·63 8·42 7·93 6·41 6·40 6·66	7·42 6·60 7·07 6·95 7·11 7·80 7·94 7·70 7·18	7:38 7:30 8:03 9:01 7:81 7:97 7:27 6:71 6:60	6·71 6·64 7·07 6·82 6·87 6·65 5·99 5·97
1889 Mean	$\frac{6.82}{7.92}$	8·33 7·56	7·86 8·37	7.64	7.25	7:42	5·91 6·45

The lowest marriage-rate of any of the Colonies is found in New Lowest marriage-rate Zealand, and the highest, taking a series of years, in Queensland. in New Zealand. The rates during the last ten years, which have been given above, show that the average of the whole of Australia has been approximately 7.55.

The Colonies whose rates are above the average are	e:
Queensland	8:37
New South Wales	7.92
South Australia	7.64
Victoria	7.56
Those below the average are:—	
Tasmania	7.42
Western Australia	7.25
New Zealand	6.45

It must be borne in mind that the above are the ratios of marriages to population. To ascertain the ratios of persons married it is therefore necessary to double the figures in each case.

Marriage-rates of Colonies compared with other Nations. Comparisons of the marriage-rate of Australasia with that of other countries, where the social conditions are essentially different, are not of much value, but as the marriage-rate is to some slight extent an index to the relative prosperity of the people, the rates which rule in the following countries will show that the Australasian Colonies rank in this respect on a par with the leading nations of the world:—

Marriage-rate per Thousand of Mean Population in certain European countries.

Countries.	Mean of years, 1881-88.
England and Wales	7.4
Scotland	6.6
Ireland	4.3
France	7:4
Spain	6.4
Switzerland	6.9
Italy	7.9
German Empire	7.8
Prussia	8.0
Austria	7:9
Hungary	9.9
Holland	7:1
Belgium	6.9
Denmark	7:5
Norway	6:5
Sweden	6.4

The social condition of the working-classes, in even the least forward of the Australasian Colonies, is much more advanced than in the British Islands; the probabilities are therefore greatly in favour of a higher marriage-rate, and the wonder is not that the marriage rate in Australasia is above that of Europe, but that the difference is not greater than it is.

BIRTH PLACES OF THE POPULATION.

At the last general census of Australasia (1881) the racial Racial composition of the population was as follows:—

Racial composition of population of Colonies at census of 1881.

Nationalities.	No. of each Nation.	Per cent.
Australasia	1,667,376	60.80
England and Wales	499,922	18.23
Ireland	261,996	9.55
Scotland	151,027	5.51
Germany and Austria	43,714	1.59
China	43,430	1.58
Other British Possessions	14,060	0.21
Scandinavia	13,899	0.21
United States		0.523
France.	4,401	0.16
Other Foreign Countries, not specified	36,451	1.33
Total	2,742,550	100.00

Thus the Australasian-born element prevailed in the proportion Percentage of of 60.80 per cent. throughout Australasia, and constituted the population. following percentage of the population of each Colony:—

New South Wales	62·18 per	cent.
Victoria	57:89	,,
Queensland	40.39	,,
South Australia	59.83	,,
Western Australia	59.83	,,
Tasmania	69.13	,,
New Zealand	45.60	,,

The great bulk of the Australasian-born population is of British descent, and the major portion of the immigrant population is also of these races, the respective proportion for each Colony being:—

	English. per cent.	Irish. per cent.	Scotch. per cent.
New South Wales	14.72	9.21	3.34
Victoria	17:11	10.06	5.58
Queensland	17:51	13.25	4.65
South Australia	21.14	6.52	3.80
Western Australia	22.76	10.01	2.46
Tasmania	14.96	6.21	3.24
New Zealand	24.72	10.08	10.77
Australasia	18.23	9.55	5.21

The foreign element.

Among other European nationalities the Germans and Scandinavians contributed the largest numbers to the foreigners established in Australasia, being particularly numerous in Queensland and South Australia, where together they formed respectively 6.75 and 3.58 per cent. of the total population. Their total number in all the colonies was 57,613, and of these 14,399 were located in Queensland, and 10,010 in South Australia. Excluding Asiatics, the United States of America furnished the larger proportion of other foreigners represented in Australia, and the French ranked next in order. The Americans numbered 6,274 and the French 4,401, or 0.23 and 0.16 per cent. of the total population.

The percentage of foreigners, other than Asiatics in each Colony, at the census of 1881 was:—

	Germans and Austrians.	Scandi- navians.	Americans (United States.)	French.
New South Wales Victoria Queensland South Australia Western Australia Tasmania New Zealand	1.03 5.52	0·37 0·28 1·23 0·37 0·17 0·19 0·97	0·34 0·27 0·19 0·29 0·12 0·17	0·20 0·15 0·16 0·10 0·10 0·05 0·17

At the census of 1881 the Aborigines were estimated to number 31,700, distributed as follows:—

Colony.	Males.	Females.	Total.
New South Wales	938	705	1,643
Victoria	460	320	780
Queensland	10,719	9,866	20,585
South Australia	3,478	2,868	6,346
Western Australia	1,640	706	2,346
Total	17,235	14,465	31,700

Estimate untrustworthy.

There are various reasons for believing that the above total does not include the entire aboriginal population of the colonies.

In New South Wales, for instance, only the so-called "civilized" blacks were enumerated in the returns, and, from reliable information since available, it is certain that the actual number, including those in a wild state, was much higher. The figures for Queensland are in a great measure derived from estimates which are considered by the Registrar-General of that Colony to be too low, for in his report on the census he says :-- "In the northern parts of the Colony the aborigines are comparatively numerous, and some persons resident in the Cook and Palmer districts have supposed that there may be 70,000 in Queensland. This, however, is a very crude estimate, and may be far wide of the truth." In the case of South Australia, the aborigines in the Northern Territory were not included in the returns, and it seems probable that they are as numerous in that Colony as in Queensland. The census of Western Australia includes only those aboriginals in the employment of the colonists, and as large portions of this, the greatest in area of all the Australasian Colonies, are as yet unexplored, it may be presumed that the number of aborigines enumerated in the census is very far short of the total in the Colony. The aboriginal population of the entire Continent may be set down at something like 200,000.

The original inhabitants of New Zealand, or Maoris, as they The Maoris. are called, are quite a different race. They are gifted with a considerable amount of intelligence, quick at imitation, and brave even to rashness; on the other hand they are avaricious, and oft-According to the census of 1881 they numbered times ferocious. Like the Australian aborigines they appear to be decreasing in number, the census of 1886 enumerating only 41,432. The total in 1889 was estimated to be about 42,000 (23,000 males and 19,000 females). It is believed, however, that at the time the colonists first landed their number was fully 120,000. It is Aborigines stated in the annual report of the Aborigines Protection Board that there were 7,529 aborigines in New South Wales in 1889, as compared with 7,485 in 1888.

Chinese in the Colonies in 1889.

In 1889 the Chinese in the whole group of Colonies were estimated to number 47,822 distributed as follows:—

New South Wales	15,581
Victoria	11,679
Queensland	
South Australia	6,660
New Zealand	4,585
Tasmania	1,000
Western Australia	
Australasia	47.822

Prohibitive legislation. Since 1880 it has been deemed expedient by the Governments of all the Colonies except Western Australia to enact prohibitive laws against the immigration of Chinese, and their migration from one Colony to another. For several years a poll-tax of £10 was imposed, but now, in accordance with the most recent legislation on the subject, masters of vessels are forbidden under a heavy penalty to bring more than one Chinese to every 300 tons, and a poll-tax of £100 is charged on landing. These stringent regulations have had the effect of bringing about the almost entire cessation of this class of immigration.

Persons naturalised. The number of persons naturalised in Australasia during 1889 was 752, more than half of these belonged to Queensland. The following are the totals for each Colony:—

Colony.	Number.
New South Wales	137
Victoria	112
Queensland	418
South Australia	• 25
Western Australia	
Tasmania	18
New Zealand	42
Australasia	752

CITIES AND TOWNS.

The progress of the chief cities of Australasia has been no less remarkable than that of the Colonies themselves, and has no parallel among the cities of the old world. Even in America the rise of great cities has been accompanied by a corresponding increase in the rural population. In these Colonies, perhaps for the first time in history, is presented the spectacle of magnificent cities growing with marvellous rapidity, and embracing within their limits one-third of the population of the Colonies, of which they are the seat of Government. The abnormal aggregation of the population into their capital cities is a most unfortunate element in the progress of these Colonies, and is one which seems to become every year more marked.

The increase in the population of the chief cities of Australasia Population of and the estimated numbers of their inhabitants at the various Colonies at census periods, are given in the following table, which illustrates the remarkable progress referred to :-

various dates.

	1841.	1851.	1861.	1871.	1881	1889.
Sydney Melbourne Brisbane Adelaide Perth Hobart Wellington	4,479 *829 +6,107	44,240 23,143 	93,241 139,916 6,051 18,303 19,449 	134,736 206,780 15,029 42,744 5,244 19,092 7,908	224,211 282,947 31,109 103,864 5,822 21,118 20,563	381,730 458,470 87,000 121,735 9,000 35,673 33,050

* In 1846. † In 1844.

The aggregation of population is most marked in the case of Melbourne, but Adelaide and Sydney are also conspicuous. The proportion of population compared with that of each Colony is set forth in the subjoined table, for the two years 1881 and 1889:

	1881.	1889.
Sydney Melbourne Brisbane Adelaide Perth Hobart Wellington	32.14 13.70 36.27 19.36 17.75	Per cent. 34 '01 41 '00 21 '39 37 '51 20 '59 22 '43 5 '33

The percentage of New Zealand population resident in Wellington is small, but, though it is the capital of the Colony, this city is greatly exceeded in population by Auckland, as well as Dunedin and Christchurch; but even in the largest of these cities—Auckland—the population is not more than 9.67 per cent. of that of the whole Colony.

Population of principal towns in Colonies at latest available date. Among other cities and towns of importance in Australasia the following may be cited in the order of their estimated population at the latest available date. In all cases the population of suburbs is included:—

1	
New Zealand	60,000
. ,,	47,500
1 **	48,000
Victoria	40,753
. ,,	36,020
	27,750
1	20,984
l or ·	22,126
1 ~	14,000
	12,000
	11,400
	10,793
1	9,000
	0,040
Victoria.	8,900
	8,939
	7,860
1 *	7,576
	6,270
	6,000
	5,600
	Victoria New South Wales Victoria Tasmania New South Wales ,,, Queensland New South Wales