

APPENDIX A.

AUSTRALASIAN STATISTICS, 1888.

TABLE I.—POPULATION, 1888.

(Exclusive of Aborigines except a few in Victoria and New South Wales.)

Name of Colony.	Area in Square Miles. ¹	Estimated Population ² on 31st December.			Females to 100 Males.	Persons to the Square Mile.
		Males.	Females.	Total.		
Victoria	87,884	581,333	509,536	1,090,869	87·65	12·413
New South Wales ..	309,175	599,107	486,633	1,085,740	81·23	3·512
Queensland ..	668,224	225,516	161,947	387,463	71·81	·580
South Australia ..	903,425	164,121	154,187	318,308	93·95	·352
Western Australia ..	975,920	24,275	17,862	42,137	73·58	·043
Total ..	2,944,628	1,594,352	1,330,165	2,924,517	83·43	·993
Tasmania	26,375	78,029	68,120	146,149	87·30	5·541
New Zealand ..	104,235	324,948	282,432	607,380 ³	86·92	5·827
Grand Total ..	3,075,238	1,997,329	1,680,717	3,678,046	84·15	1·196

¹ The areas here given, except in the case of New Zealand, are the results of planimetical calculations made in the office of the Surveyor-General, Melbourne. Except in the case of Western Australia, the area of which differs from the official estimate by 84,000 square miles, these results agree closely with the figures furnished officially by the various colonies. See page 71, *ante*.

² In making up the estimates of population in Victoria and New South Wales, allowance has been made for unrecorded emigration since the census of 1881 was taken; and a similar allowance has been made in the case of Queensland and South Australia since 1887. If this had not been done, the population of Victoria would have been set down as 1,132,126; and that of New South Wales as 1,127,245. Moreover, censuses having been taken in New Zealand and Queensland in the early part of 1886, the populations of those colonies should be nearer the truth than those of the other colonies, which have taken no census since 1881. On the 30th June, 1889, the estimated population of Victoria was 1,104,288, viz., 587,682 males and 516,606 females, whilst that of New South Wales was 1,105,720, South Australia 315,281, Western Australia 42,775, New Zealand 612,032.

³ Maoris are not included. On the 28th March, 1886, these numbered 41,969, viz., 22,840 males and 19,129 females.

TABLE II.—BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES, 1888.

Name of Colony.	Births of—			Deaths of—			Marriages. ¹	Per 1,000 of Mean Population ¹ — Number of—			Excess of Births over Deaths.	
	Males.	Fem.	Total.	Males.	Fem.	Total.		Births.	Deaths.	Mar- riages.	Numeri- cal.	Per cent.
Victoria	17,617	16,886	34,503	9,385	6,902	16,287	8,946	32·49	15·34	8·42	18,216	111·84
New South Wales	19,616	18,909	38,525	8,453	5,955	14,408	7,844	36·20	13·54	7·37	24,117	167·38
Queensland ..	7,299	6,948	14,247	3,581	1,948	5,529	3,254	37·77	14·66	8·63	8,718	157·68
South Australia ..	5,501	5,009	10,510	2,126	1,633	3,759	2,084	33·06	11·83	6·56	6,751	179·60
Western Australia	786	732	1,518	459	214	673	304	35·88	15·91	7·18	845	125·56
Total ..	50,819	48,484	99,303	24,004	16,652	40,656	22,432	34·68	14·20	7·84	58,647	144·25
Tasmania	2,373	2,404	4,777	1,175	861	2,036	951	33·10	14·11	6·59	2,741	134·63
New Zealand ..	9,641	9,261	18,902	3,315	2,393	5,708	3,617	31·22	9·43	5·97	13,194	231·15
Grand Total ..	62,833	60,149	122,982	28,494	19,906	48,400	27,000	34·03	13·39	7·47	74,582	154·10

¹ The numbers in these two columns doubled give the total number of persons married and their number in proportion to every 1,000 of the mean population.

TABLE III.—IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION, 1888.

Name of Colony.	Number of Immigrants.			Number of Emigrants. ¹			Excess of Immigrants over Emigrants. ²		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Victoria.. ..	68,575	33,457	102,032	41,380	18,849	60,229	27,195	14,608	41,803
New South Wales	46,066	19,160	65,226	29,922	13,759	43,681	16,144	5,401	21,545
Queensland ..	24,330	10,534	34,864	17,063	5,996	23,059	7,267	4,538	11,805
South Australia ..	9,231	3,406	12,637	8,664	4,086	12,750	567	—680	—113
Western Australia	1,205	393	1,598	2,064	730	2,794	—859	—337	—1,196
Total ..	149,407	66,950	216,357	99,093	43,420	142,513	50,314	23,530	73,844
Tasmania ..	12,570	6,296	18,866	11,984	5,952	17,936	586	344	930
New Zealand ..	9,112	4,494	13,606	15,048	7,733	22,781	—5,936	—3,239	—9,175
Grand Total	171,089	77,740	248,829	126,125	57,105	183,230	44,964	20,635	³ 65,599

NOTE.—Except in the case of Queensland—for which colony an estimate for the passengers entering and leaving the colony by railway has been included—the immigration and emigration in this table is by sea only. No complete account, however, is, or can be, taken of persons going from colony to colony overland. The numbers of State assisted immigrants included in the total numbers were as follow :—Victoria, *nil*; New South Wales, 528; Queensland, 8,349; South Australia, *nil*; Western Australia, 50; Tasmania, 32; New Zealand, 485; total, 9,444.

¹ The figures in these columns understate the truth. Many persons leave all the colonies by sea without their departure being noted.

² In consequence of the emigration returns being defective, as stated in the last footnote, the figures in these columns are too high, except those against which the minus sign (—) appears—indicating that the emigrants exceeded the immigrants by the number against which it is placed—which are too low.

³ According to Imperial returns, the number of persons who left the United Kingdom for the Australasian colonies in 1888 was 31,725, and the number who returned to the United Kingdom was 10,632. The excess in favour of the former was thus 21,093, or less than one-third of the excess of immigrants over emigrants shown in the table.

TABLE IV.—PUBLIC REVENUE, 1888.
(Exclusive of Revenue derived from Loans.)

Name of Colony.	Public Revenue derived from—					Total Revenue.
	Taxation. ¹	Crown Lands.	Railways.	Post and Telegraphs.	Other Sources.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Victoria	3,071,003 ²	656,267	2,741,488	485,533 ²	653,307	7,607,598
New South Wales ..	2,681,883	2,268,253	2,497,930 ³	562,909	875,385	8,886,360 ⁴
Queensland ..	1,577,671 ⁵	638,472	769,275	228,701	248,978	3,463,097
South Australia ..	739,353	319,510	956,848	214,600	264,245	2,494,556
Western Australia ..	179,944	81,348	37,302	22,701	35,708	357,003
Total	8,249,854	3,963,850	7,002,843	1,514,444	2,077,623	22,808,614
Tasmania	405,807	76,859	60,237	50,648	46,517	640,068
New Zealand	2,031,658 ²	297,856 ⁶	1,019,791	318,558 ²	441,952 ⁷	4,109,815
Grand Total ..	10,687,319	4,338,565	8,082,871	1,883,650	2,566,092	27,558,497

NOTE.—The figures of revenue and expenditure for Victoria are for the twelve months ended 30th June, but those for the other colonies are for the calendar year. Refunds of revenue, drawbacks, and such similar entries are rigidly excluded from the accounts of revenue and expenditure of Victoria and New Zealand, but are included in those of New South Wales and Queensland, also, it is believed, in those of some of the other colonies.

¹ The amounts in this column are made up of Customs duties; Excise duties, including licences imposed for revenue purposes; duties on bank notes; stamps, other than those for fees of office; legacy, succession, and probate duties; property and income taxes; and any other impost payable to the General Government, levied distinctly as a tax; but excluding fees, licences, and charges for special services rendered. Nearly three-fourths of the taxation in Australasia as a whole is by means of Customs duties.

² Portion of the revenue of Victoria and New Zealand derived from “Taxation” and “Post and Telegraphs” has been roughly estimated, there being no means of ascertaining the correct figures.

³ Exclusive of tramways. See footnote (¹) to Table X., *post*. Revenue collected for Victoria for traffic beyond Albury (£20,202) is also excluded.

⁴ Including revenue returned to the extent of at least £180,131—viz., £10,978, being repayments to credit of votes; £49,359, for drawbacks and refunds of duty; £20,202, railway revenue collected for the Victorian Government; about £99,592 being other revenue returned, etc. As these refunds of revenue are included under the head of expenditure, both sides of the account are thereby swelled.

⁵ Excluding licences, which in Queensland are classed under “Other Sources.”

⁶ Inclusive of revenue from gold-fields, £19,447.

⁷ Including £229,125 property tax collected in 1888 on account of 1887.

TABLE IV.—PUBLIC REVENUE, 1888—*continued*.*(Exclusive of Revenue derived from Loans.)*

Name of Colony.	Proportion of Revenue derived from—					Amounts per Head.	
	Taxation.	Crown Lands.	Railways.	Post and Telegraphs.	Other Sources.	Total Revenue.	Taxation.
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Victoria	40·37	8·62	36·04	6·38	8·59	7 6 7	2 19 2
New South Wales ..	30·18	25·53	28·11	6·33	9·85	8 7 0	2 10 5
Queensland ..	45·56	18·44	22·21	6·60	7·19	9 3 7	4 3 8
South Australia ..	29·64	12·31	38·36	8·60	10·59	7 16 11	2 6 6
Western Australia	50·40	22·79	10·45	6·36	10·00	8 8 9	4 5 1
Total ..	36·17	17·38	30·70	6·64	9·11	8 0 8	2 18 1
Tasmania ..	63·40	12·01	9·41	7·91	7·27	4 8 8	2 16 3
New Zealand ..	49·43	7·25	24·81	7·75	10·76	6 15 9	3 7 1
Grand Total	38·78	15·74	29·33	6·84	9·31	7 13 7	2 19 6

TABLE V.—PUBLIC EXPENDITURE, 1888.

(Exclusive of Expenditure from Loans.)

Name of Colony.	Public Expenditure on—					Total Expenditure.
	Railways (Working Expenses.)	Post and Telegraphs.	Interest and Expenses of Public Debt.	Immigration.	Other Services.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Victoria	1,574,786	643,113	1,385,121	..	3,684,131	7,287,151
New South Wales ..	1,578,590	616,371	1,745,695	7,854	4,830,341	8,778,851 ¹
Queensland ..	531,144	315,763	1,015,667 ²	11,031	1,494,800	3,368,405
South Australia ..	483,207	179,492	717,906	559	995,235	2,376,399
Western Australia ..	44,080	35,429	63,820	5,820	235,980	385,129
Total ..	4,211,807	1,790,168	4,928,209	25,264	11,240,487	22,195,935
Tasmania ..	87,906	63,404	184,613	502	373,061	709,486
New Zealand ..	675,895	252,831	1,569,556 ³	..	1,464,630	3,962,912
Grand Total ..	4,975,608	2,106,403	6,682,378	25,766	13,078,178	26,868,333

NOTE.—For periods to which the figures relate in each colony, also for remarks in reference to the practice of swelling the returns of some of the colonies by including refunds of revenue, etc., on both sides of the account, see footnotes to last table.

¹ See footnote (4) to last table.

² Interest only.

³ Exclusive of charges for the sinking fund (viz., £263,200), formerly charged to revenue, but now virtually provided for out of a loan raised for the purpose.

TABLE V.—PUBLIC EXPENDITURE, 1888—continued.
(Exclusive of Expenditure from Loans.)

Name of Colony.	Proportion of Total Expenditure expended on—					Total Expenditure per Head.
	Railways.	Post and Telegraphs.	Interest and Expenses of Public Debt.	Immigration.	Other Services.	
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	£ s. d.
Victoria ..	21·61	8·82	19·01	..	50·56	7 0 5
New South Wales ..	17·98	7·02	19·89	·09	55·02	8 5 0
Queensland ..	15·77	9·37	30·15	·33	44·38	8 18 7
South Australia ..	20·34	7·55	30·21	·02	41·88	7 9 6
Western Australia..	11·45	9·20	16·57	1·51	61·27	9 2 0
Total ..	18·98	8·07	22·20	·11	50·64	7 16 4
Tasmania ..	12·39	8·94	26·02	·07	52·58	4 18 4
New Zealand ..	17·05	6·38	39·61	..	36·96	6 10 11
Grand Total..	18·52	7·84	24·87	·10	48·67	7 9 8

TABLE VI.—EXPENDITURE FROM LOANS, 1888.

Name of Colony.	Expenditure from Loans on—						Total Expenditure from Loans.
	Railways.	Water Supply.	Roads and Bridges.	Harbours, Rivers, Light-houses, etc.	Immigration.	Other Services.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Victoria ..	1,742,149	462,562	32,627	53,344	..	99,262 ¹	2,389,944
New South Wales ..	1,000,829	205,877	11,700	475,642	..	297,258	1,991,306 ²
Queensland ..	1,043,909	30,214	26,965	137,703	120,882	214,585	1,574,258
South Australia ..	702,532	150,870 ³	1,536	25,297	..	108,568	988,803
Western Australia ..	6,952	917	..	9,300	..	26,689	43,858
Total ..	4,496,371	850,440	72,828	701,286	120,882	746,362	6,988,169
Tasmania ..	181,102	..	165,188 ⁴	.. ⁴	..	66,146	412,436
New Zealand ..	284,391	57	151,109	55,040 ⁵	14,168	234,909	739,674
Grand Total ..	4,961,864	850,497	389,125	756,326	135,050	1,047,417	8,140,279

Name of Colony.	Proportion Expended from Loans on—						Expenditure from Loans per Head.
	Railways.	Water Supply.	Roads and Bridges.	Harbours, Rivers, Light-houses, etc.	Immigration.	Other Services.	
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	£ s. d.
Victoria ..	72·90	19·35	1·37	2·23	..	4·15	2 6 1
New South Wales ..	50·26	10·34	·59	23·88	..	14·93	1 17 5
Queensland ..	66·31	1·92	1·71	8·75	7·68	13·63	4 3 6
South Australia ..	71·05	15·26	·15	2·56	..	10·98	3 2 4
Western Australia ..	15·85	2·09	..	21·20	..	60·86	1 0 9
Total ..	64·34	12·17	1·04	10·04	1·73	10·68	2 9 3
Tasmania ..	43·91	..	40·05	..	..	16·04	2 17 2
New Zealand ..	38·45	·01	20·43	7·44	1·91	31·76	1 4 5
Grand Total ..	60·95	10·45	4·78	9·29	1·66	12·87	2 5 4

NOTE.—The figures for Victoria and South Australia relate to the 30th June, and those for the other colonies to the 31st December.

¹ Including £54,308 on school buildings.

² Exclusive of £487,100 loans paid off.

³ Including expenditure on Sewerage.

⁴ In Tasmania, the expenditure on harbours, etc., is included with that on roads and bridges.

⁵ Including expenditure on Defences.

TABLE VII.—PUBLIC DEBT, 1888.
(On the 31st December.)

Name of Colony.	Public Debt contracted for—					
	Railways and Tramways.	Electric Telegraphs.	Water Supply and Sewerage.	Roads and Bridges.	Harbours, Rivers, Lighthouses, and Docks.	School Buildings, Defences, and other Public Works.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Victoria ..	26,575,706	..	5,345,150	108,043	626,019	1,972,464
New South Wales ..	30,990,579	700,279	3,739,701	565,072	2,129,625	1,829,733
Queensland ..	14,467,116	758,371	541,022	822,306	1,563,812	1,584,592
South Australia ..	10,883,928	826,030	2,726,500	1,323,284	1,364,313	1,332,645
Western Australia ..	823,099	188,503	917	48,822	9,300	134,592
Total ..	83,740,428	2,473,183	12,353,290	2,867,527	5,693,069	6,854,026
Tasmania ..	1,902,224	94,471	..	..¹	1,251,742 ¹	719,878
New Zealand ² ..	13,634,501	574,010	559,996	3,469,990	869,718	2,481,823
Grand Total ..	99,277,153	3,141,664	12,913,286	6,337,517	7,814,529	10,055,727

Name of Colony.	Public debt contracted for—		Total Public Debt.			Proportion of Total Debt contracted for Railways and Telegraphs.
	Immigra- tion.	Other Services. ³	Amount. ⁴	Average per Head.	Years' Revenue Debt is equal to—	
	£	£	£	£ s. d.		per cent.
Victoria ..	..	..	34,627,382	31 14 10	4·55	76·75
New South Wales ..	569,930	3,575,230	44,100,149	40 12 4	4·96	71·86
Queensland ..	2,498,433	3,605,298	25,840,950	66 13 10	7·46	58·92
South Australia ..	..	691,000	19,147,700	60 3 1	7·68	61·16
Western Australia ..	..	69,967	1,275,200	30 5 3	3·57	79·33
Total ..	3,068,363	7,941,495	124,991,381	42 14 9	5·48	68·98
Tasmania ..	235,714	295,441	4,499,470	30 15 9	7·03	44·38
New Zealand ² ..	2,142,460	14,593,052	38,325,550	63 2 0	9·33	37·07
Grand Total ..	5,446,537	22,829,988	167,816,401	45 12 6	6·09	61·03

NOTE.—On the 30th June, 1889, the public debt of Victoria was £37,627,382; the amount of indebtedness per head was £34 1s. 6d., and the debt was equivalent to 4·34 years' revenue. Moreover, since the end of 1888, New South Wales has floated a fresh loan in London of £3,500,000, South Australia one of £1,317,800, Western Australia one of £100,000, and Tasmania one of £1,000,000.

¹ The amount for "Roads and Bridges" is included with that for "Harbours, etc."

² The figures set down as showing the objects for which the Public Debt of New Zealand was contracted represent the bulk of the expenditure out of the "Public Works Fund" since 1870—the date of the first Immigration and Public Works Loan—which is the only existing record of the loan expenditure; it is, however, stated that, besides loan moneys, receipts in aid from Stamp duties, etc., contributed somewhat towards the total sum so expended. The balance required to make up the total debt at the end of 1888 has been included with "Other Services."

³ Included in this column, in the line for New Zealand, are £1,194,249 for land purchases (presumably from the Maoris) and rates on native lands, and £1,021,472 for charges and expenses of raising loans; New South Wales, £1,822,330 for repayment of loans; South Australia, £591,000 for public works for Northern Territory; also the following amounts, which had been unapportioned or unexpended:—New South Wales, £1,703,045; Queensland, £3,605,298; Western Australia, £69,967; New Zealand, £13,157,719. The last amount includes the old provincial loans of New Zealand (prior to the abolition of provinces in 1876), loans not accounted for, and the unspent balance of loan moneys.

⁴ As a set-off against the public debt, New Zealand possessed an accrued sinking fund amounting, on the 31st December, to £1,353,859; the net liability for that colony was, therefore, £36,971,691, or £60 17s. 6d. per head of population, and equal to 9·00 times the revenue. The sinking funds possessed by the other colonies are comparatively small, consisting of the following amounts:—Victoria, £53,117; Western Australia, £65,854; and Tasmania, £89,031. The debt for South Australia does not include Treasury bonds, £1,100,000.

TABLE VIII.—IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, 1888.

Name of Colony.	Total Value of—		Value per Head of—		Proportion of Total Imports from—		
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	The United Kingdom.	The Australasian Colonies.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
Victoria	23,972,134	13,853,763	22 11 5	13 0 11	45·27	35·72	19·01
New South Wales	20,885,557	20,859,715	19 12 6	19 12 0	44·11	41·86	14·03
Queensland ..	6,646,738	6,126,362	17 12 5	16 4 10	46·96	46·22	6·82
South Australia ..	5,413,638	6,984,098	17 0 7	21 19 5	43·90	44·97	11·13
Western Australia	786,250	680,344	18 11 8	16 1 7	46·28	52·66	1·06
Total ..	57,704,317	48,504,282	20 3 0	16 18 9	44·93	40·25	14·82
Tasmania ..	1,610,664	1,338,865	11 3 3	9 4 10	30·13	67·16	2·71
New Zealand ..	5,941,900	7,767,325	9 16 4	12 16 7	62·70	20·51	16·79
Grand Total	65,256,881	57,605,472	18 1 2	15 18 10	46·18	39·12	14·70

Name of Colony.	Proportion of Total Exports to—			Exports of Home Produce.	
	The United Kingdom.	The Australasian Colonies.	Other Countries.	Value per Head.	Percentage of Total Exports.
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	£ s. d.	
Victoria	58·11	31·17	10·72	9 15 0	74·76
New South Wales	40·64	45·80	13·56	16 4 11	82·88
Queensland ..	32·41	66·43	1·16	15 18 10	98·15
South Australia	54·39	36·83	8·78	14 13 10	66·88
Western Australia	70·88	25·95	3·17	15 18 4	99·00
Total	46·99	42·66	10·35	13 12 5	80·41
Tasmania ..	16·59	83·35	·06	9 0 8	97·75
New Zealand ..	73·49	20·13	6·38	11 19 8	93·41
Grand Total ..	49·86	40·56	9·58	13 3 3	82·57

NOTE.—There is reason to believe that both imports and exports are over-valued in most of the colonies. See report to *Australasian Statistics*, 1884.

TABLE IX.—SHIPPING, 1888.

Name of Colony.	Inwards.		Outwards.		Total.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
Victoria	2,724	2,182,071	2,630	2,125,812	5,354	4,307,883
New South Wales	2,955	2,414,750	2,972	2,350,669	5,927	4,765,419
Queensland	928	478,517	936	517,712	1,864	996,229
South Australia	969	973,479	1,019	1,000,172	1,988	1,973,651
Western Australia	263	402,807	266	409,586	529	812,393
Total	7,839	6,451,624	7,823	6,403,951	15,662	12,855,575
Tasmania	770	385,650	795	390,628	1,565	776,278
New Zealand	683	526,435	701	531,478	1,384	1,057,913
Grand Total	9,292	7,363,709	9,319	7,326,057	18,611	14,689,766

TABLE X.—RAILWAYS, 1888.

Name of Colony.	Length at End of Year. ¹		Government Lines Open for Traffic.					
	Open.	In course of construction.	Capital Cost at End of Year.		Revenue Account for the Year.			Proportion of Net Receipts to Capital Cost. ²
			Total.	Average per Mile.	Receipts.	Working Expenses.	Net Receipts.	
	Miles.	Miles.	£	£	£	£	£	per cent.
Victoria	2,018	498	27,468,258	13,612	2,756,049	1,753,019	1,003,030	3·80
New South Wales	2,206	55	26,630,664	12,532	2,509,527	1,578,590	930,937	3·50
Queensland	1,931	681	13,064,598 ³	6,766 ³	776,794	507,961	268,833	2·13 ³
South Australia	1,518	324	9,666,223	6,444	948,382	453,385	494,997	5·26
Western Australia	272	243 ⁴	892,243	4,374	38,371	44,080	-5,709 ⁵	-·67 ⁵
Total	7,945	1,801	77,721,986	9,993	7,029,123	4,337,035	2,692,088	3·55
Tasmania *	327	114	2,353,585	8,436	135,984	129,265	6,719	·30
New Zealand	1,865	163	13,472,837	7,582	997,615	647,045	350,570	2·61
Grand Total	10,137	2,078	93,548,408	9,513	8,162,722	5,113,345	3,049,377	3·33

NOTE.—The figures are for the year ended 30th June, 1888, for Victoria; for that ended 31st March, 1889, for New Zealand; and for that ended 31st December for the other colonies. The railway gauge adopted is 5 feet 3 inches in Victoria and for portions of the lines of South Australia, 4 feet 8½ inches in New South Wales, and generally 3 feet 6 inches in the other colonies. For later information for Victoria, see footnotes to paragraphs 592 *et seq.*, in the body of this volume.

¹ Including private as well as Government lines. The following are the lengths of private lines included:—New South Wales, 81; South Australia, 18; Western Australia, 68; Tasmania, 48; New Zealand, 88 miles. Tramways are not included in the table. Of tramways open at the end of 1888, there were in Victoria 32½ miles (chiefly cable), constructed by the City of Melbourne and surrounding municipalities, but let to a private company; in New South Wales, 43½ miles (steam), constructed by Government at a capital cost of £907,987, the gross receipts from which amounted in 1888 to £241,838, and the working expenses to £217,629; in Queensland, 9 miles; and in Western Australia, constructed by timber companies, 100 miles. The cost of construction of the cable tramways of Victoria (including expenditure on lines in progress) to the end of 1888, was £1,314,802, and the receipts during 1888 amounted to £393,819.

² The calculations in this column are based on the mean of the amounts of capital cost at the beginning and end of the year.

³ In Queensland the capital cost includes expenditure on lines in progress; and consequently the calculated average per mile will be above, and the proportion of receipts to capital cost below, the true proportion.

⁴ This is the Great Southern Railway, constructed on the land grant system.

⁵ The minus (–) sign indicates a net loss, or excess of working expenses over receipts.

* Included with the Government lines in Tasmania are 133 miles guaranteed by the State, constructed at a cost of £1,188,316. The 48 miles of private lines in that colony cost £153,209; whilst their receipts during the year amounted to £17,487, and their working expenses to £10,913.

TABLE XI.—POSTAL RETURNS, 1888.

Name of Colony.	Number of Post Offices.	Number Despatched and Received of—				Revenue. ²	Expendi- ture.
		Letters and Post Cards.		Newspapers. ¹			
		Total.	Per Head of Popula- tion.	Total.	Per Head of Popula- tion.		
Victoria	1,544	47,700,776	44·91	21,702,876	20·43	£ 379,590 ³	£ 557,302 ⁴
New South Wales ..	1,203	48,986,000	46·03	*	*	368,956	415,392
Queensland.. ..	766	12,897,102	34·19	10,347,451	27·43	128,798	197,437
South Australia ..	594	17,012,577	53·52	7,884,453	24·80	109,178	179,492
Western Australia ..	78	2,104,500	49·74	1,545,327	36·52	14,269	35,429 ⁴
Total.. ..	4,185	128,700,955	44·94	*	*	1,000,791	1,385,052
Tasmania	278	4,716,244	32·68	4,319,394	29·93	35,914	41,770
New Zealand ..	1,145	42,052,117	69·47	16,202,849	26·77	207,402	160,278
Grand Total ..	5,608	175,469,316	48·56	*	*	1,244,107	1,587,100

* When asterisks occur, the information has not been furnished, or is incomplete.

¹ Subject to certain regulations and restrictions, newspapers posted in New South Wales, Queensland, and Tasmania, travel free to any of the Australasian Colonies, and in the case of Tasmania to the United Kingdom also; whilst in Western Australia, they travel free within that colony itself. In the other colonies, a small postage fee is charged on newspapers.

² This probably includes commission on money orders in all the colonies.

³ Approximate only. The estimated total revenue of the Victorian Post Office, inclusive of Telegraphs, was about £545,000; and if allowance were made for official correspondence and telegrams, which are transmitted without charge, the total would be increased to about £615,000.

⁴ Including expenditure on Telegraphs.

TABLE XII.—ELECTRIC TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES, 1888.

Name of Colony.	On the 31st December.					During the Year.	
	Miles of Line (Poles).			Miles of Wire in Operation.		Telegrams Received and Despatched.	Amount Received.
	In operation.	In course of Construction.	Total.	Telegraph.	Telephone. ¹		
Victoria	4,194	..	4,194	10,360	3,014	2,743,938 ³	£ 125,342 ³
New South Wales ..	10,690	27	10,717	22,219	*	3,410,407	185,965
Queensland	9,167	319	9,486	16,648	*	1,436,931	103,790
South Australia ..	5,509	249	5,758	9,775	1,672	994,930	105,421
Western Australia ..	2,961	600	3,561	3,234	..	180,735	8,353
Total	32,521	1,195	33,716	62,236	*	8,766,941	528,871
Tasmania	1,894	..	1,894	2,505	322	271,769	25,262 ³
New Zealand	4,992	..	4,992 ⁴	11,617	1,484	1,765,860	106,311
Grand Total	39,407	1,195	40,602	76,358	*	10,804,570	660,444

* Where asterisks occur, the information was not furnished or is incomplete.

¹ In Victoria, the number of telephones in use was 1,637; and in Queensland, 585.

² Exclusive of telegrams on railway service.

³ Including telephone revenue, £21,601 in Victoria, £2,641 in Tasmania.

⁴ Including 202 miles of cable.