

## POPULATION.

ON the 26th January, 1788, Captain Phillip arrived in Sydney Harbour, bringing with him an establishment of 1,030 people, all told. Settlement soon spread from the parent colony, first to Tasmania in 1803, and afterwards to other parts of the Continent and New Zealand; so that at the end of 1891 the population of Australasia had grown to 3,899,177 persons, thus disbursed :—

## Population of Australasia, December 31, 1891.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
New South Wales .....	630,870	534,430	1,165,300
Victoria .....	606,918	550,886	1,157,804
Queensland .....	232,566	177,779	410,345
South Australia .....	169,704	156,062	325,766
Western Australia .....	32,228	21,057	53,285
Tasmania .....	80,917	71,702	152,619
New Zealand .....	336,174	297,884	634,058
Australasia.....	2,089,377	1,809,800	3,899,177

If to these numbers, which are principally those of the people of European descent, there be added an estimated population of 200,000 Australian aborigines in an uncivilized state in Western Australia, South Australia, and Queensland, and the Maoris in New Zealand, who, according to the returns, numbered 41,993, the total population of Australasia at the end of 1891 was 4,141,170. Population in 1891.

The growth of the population of Australasia in different periods, commencing from the date of the first settlement, is shown in the following series, an enumeration of the people having been taken in most of the years quoted :— Growth of population.

## INCREASE OF POPULATION.

## Increase of Population to end of 1891.

Years.	Population of Australasia.	Annual rate of Increase per cent.
1788 .....	1,030	.....
1801 .....	6,508	15·13
1821* .....	35,610	8·87
1831 .....	79,306	8·34
1841 .....	211,095	10·23
1851 .....	430,596	7·36
1861* .....	1,252,994	11·30
1871* .....	1,924,770	4·39
1881* .....	2,742,550	3·60
1891* .....	3,809,895	3·34

\* Census years.

Ratio of Increase.

It would be but a reasonable expectation that the ratio of increase should fall as the population advanced, and such has been the case since 1851. The high rate of 11·3 per cent. from 1851 to 1861 is, of course, due to the gold discovery, which was so strong an incentive to immigration. The high annual increase between 1831 and 1841 is owing to the policy of State-aided immigration, which was then in vogue. Prior to this period the high average arose from the small number operated on.

Increase in other countries.

The following are the annual rates of increase over various periods in certain countries undergoing extensive settlement :—

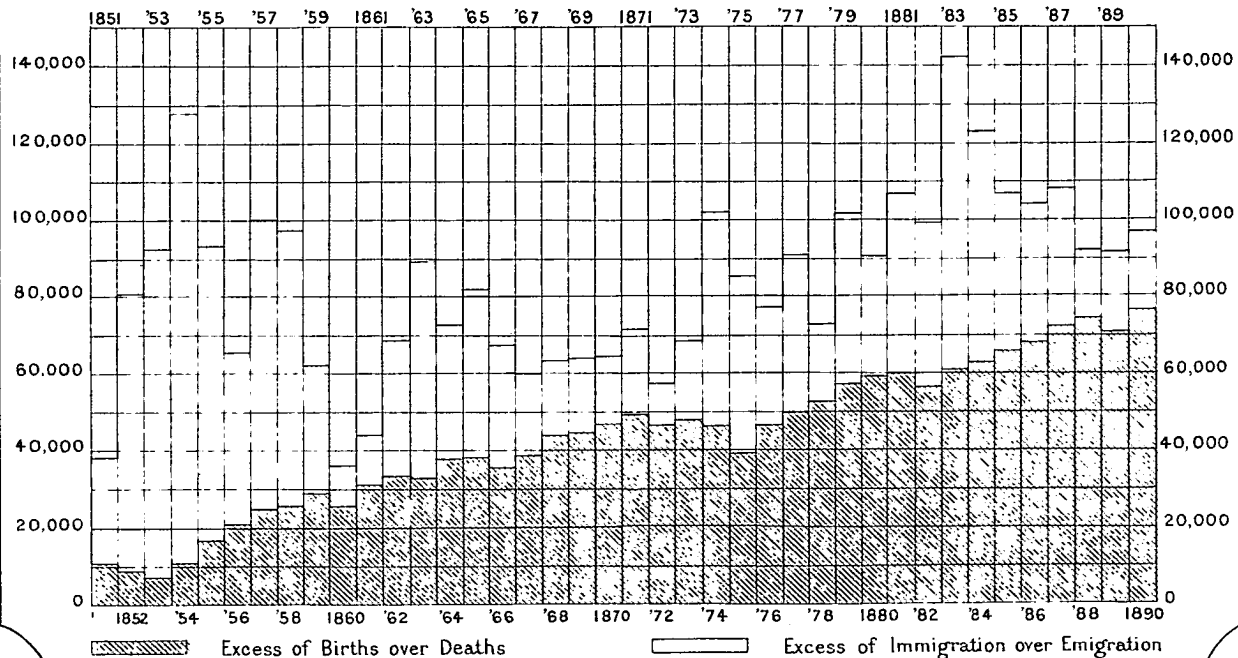
## Rates of increase in other Countries.

Country.	Period.	Annual rate of Increase.
Argentine Republic .....	1869-90	3·13
Cape Colony .....	1880-91	2·71
Brazil .....	1872-83	2·54
Canada .....	1881-91	1·10
Chili .....	1875-85	1·99

Increase of Australasian population.

The population of Australasia, as shown by the Census of 1891, had increased threefold since 1861, and nearly twofold since 1871, while the annual *ratio* of increase for the whole thirty years was

# INCREASE OF POPULATION



3·78 per cent. Taking the Colonies individually, the rate of increase for Queensland is the highest, a circumstance mainly to be attributed to the large numbers introduced under the system of State-aided immigration which has prevailed in the Colony for many years, but the largest numerical increase was that of New South Wales. The population of each Colony in Census periods is shown below, commencing with 1861 :—

Census Population, 1861-91

Colony.	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	Annual Increase per cent., 1861-1891
New South Wales .....	350,860	503,981	751,468	1,132,234	3·98
Victoria .....	540,322	731,528	862,346	1,140,405	2·52
Queensland .....	30,059	120,104	213,525	393,718	8·95
South Australia .....	126,830	185,626	279,865	320,431	3·12
Western Australia .....	15,691	25,353	29,708	49,782	3·92
Tasmania .....	90,211	101,785	115,705	146,667	1·63
New Zealand.....	99,021	256,393	489,933	626,658	6·34
Australasia .....	1,252,994	1,924,770	2,742,550	3,809,895	3·78

The following table gives the total increase of each colony for the whole period referred to, and also distinguishes the natural increase arising through the excess of births over deaths from the increase caused by the excess of arrivals over departures :—

Increase from January, 1861, to December, 1891.

Colony.	Excess of		Total Increase.
	Births over Deaths.	Immigration over Emigration.	
New South Wales.....	477,491	339,263	816,754
Victoria .....	476,966	142,991	619,957
Queensland .....	129,898	252,391	382,289
South Australia .....	166,310	35,344	201,654
Western Australia.....	16,557	21,228	37,785
Tasmania.....	59,310	5,534	64,844
New Zealand .....	297,028	257,919	554,947
Australasia .....	1,623,560	1,054,670	2,678,230

Movements of  
Population.

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. 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.

Density of Population per square mile.

	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.
New South Wales .....	1·13	1·62	2·42	3·65
Victoria .....	6·15	8·32	9·81	12·98
Queensland .....	·04	·18	·32	·59
South Australia.....	·14	·20	·31	·35
Western Australia .....	·01	·02	·03	·05
Tasmania .....	3·44	3·88	4·41	5·59
New Zealand .....	·95	2·45	4·69	6·00
Australasia.....	·40	·61	·87	1·21

The population of Australasia, even including the native races, only reaches a density of 1·28 persons per square mile, which is far below that of any other civilised country. Excluding, however, Australian Aborigines and Maoris, the density is not more than 1·21 per square mile.

A comparison with the density of population in the older countries of the world is of little practical use, unless as giving some indication of the future of Australasia, when its population shall have reached the proportions found in the old world. The latest authoritative statement, that compiled early in 1891 for the *Statesman's Year Book*, by Mr. E. G. Ravenstein, F.R.G.S., gives the density of the populations of the great divisions of the Globe, as follows :—

Continent.	Area in square Miles.	Population.	Persons per square Mile.
Europe .....	3,555,000	380,200,000	106·9
Asia .....	14,710,000	830,000,000	56·4
Africa .....	11,514,000	127,000,000	11·0
North America .....	6,446,000	89,250,000	13·9
South America .....	6,837,000	36,420,000	5·3
*Australasia .....	3,288,000	4,730,000	1·4
Polar Regions.....	4,889,000	300,000	0·06
The World .....	51,239,000	1,467,900,000	28·6

\*Inclusive of Pacific Islands.

There had always been, even in the earliest years of settlement, a steady if not a large stream of immigration to these colonies, but in 1851, memorable for the finding of gold, this condition of things showed a marked change. 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—

Port Phillip (now known as Victoria).....	76,162
Remaining portion of the Colony.....	189,341

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 and increased the lead yearly until 1871, when its population exceeded that of New South Wales by no less than 228,230. That year marked the furthest period of separation ; nearly every subsequent year showed a nearer approach in numbers, until at the census of 1891 the Southern Colony had only a lead of 8,171, but at the end of that year the positions were again reversed, and New South Wales had probably a larger population than Victoria by about 7,500.

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 over many years. At the census taken in 1891, the population had reached 626,658 souls, exclusive of Maoris, or fully six times that of 1861. 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.

Increase due to immigration.

Much of the increase, especially in New South Wales, Queensland, and New Zealand, was due to assisted immigration. The following table shows the number of all immigrants introduced into the Colonies, either wholly or partly at the expense of the State, to the end of 1890 :—

## Number of State-aided Immigrants to 1890.

Colony.	Prior to 1880.	1881 to 1890.	Total.
New South Wales .....	114,253	34,079	148,332
Victoria .....	140,102	.....	140,102
Queensland .....	52,399	103,140	155,539
South Australia .....	88,050	7,298	95,348
Western Australia.....	889	4,552	5,441
Tasmania.....	18,965	2,734	21,699
New Zealand .....	*100,920	14,614	*115,534
Australasia.....	515,578	166,417	681,995

\* Exclusive of number prior to 1870, of which no record can be found.

The following tables shows the increase of population by excess of immigration over emigration for four decennial periods ending with 1890 :—

## Excess of Immigration.

Colony.	1851-60.	1861-70.	1871-80.	1881-90.
New South Wales.....	95,041	45,539	103,284	164,200
Victoria .....	398,753	38,935	*12,682	112,093
Queensland .....	†	69,191	73,849	116,060
South Australia.....	33,024	17,949	34,569	*16,189
Western Australia .....	6,867	5,319	*339	12,496
Tasmania.....	6,770	*3,228	*1,427	5,572
New Zealand .....	44,142	119,237	132,976	9,065
Australasia.....	584,597	292,942	330,230	403,297

\* Denotes excess of emigrants. † Included in New South Wales figures.



Taking the last eleven 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, 1881–91.

Year.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.	Australasia.
1881 ...	16,673	4,976	10,127	11,622	452	1,166	1,970	46,986
1882 ...	16,034	6,563	16,456	186	263	587	2,375	42,464
1883 ...	27,278	6,597	33,656	3,665	562	689	8,657	81,104
1884 ...	23,944	8,525	17,543	584	1,075	816	7,724	60,211
1885 ...	24,829	9,027	9,829	6,895 <sup>p</sup>	1,883	388 <sup>p</sup>	2,757	41,042
1886 ...	18,073	15,436	7,695	8,586 <sup>*</sup>	4,208	302 <sup>*</sup>	199 <sup>*</sup>	36,325
1887 ...	7,202	15,445	11,527	2,884 <sup>*</sup>	2,421	1,797	211	35,719
1888 ...	6,633	25,757	5,651	8,477 <sup>*</sup>	1,053 <sup>*</sup>	383 <sup>*</sup>	10,548 <sup>*</sup>	17,580
1889 ...	8,241	9,794	4,340	2,453 <sup>*</sup>	816	1,172	701 <sup>*</sup>	21,209
1890 ...	15,293	9,973	764 <sup>*</sup>	2,951 <sup>*</sup>	1,869	418	3,181 <sup>*</sup>	20,657
1891 ...	20,754	4,654	1,570	977 <sup>*</sup>	3,742	6,082	3,198 <sup>*</sup>	32,627

\* Denotes excess of departures.

AGES OF THE PEOPLE.

Average ages of the people.

The average age of the population of Australasia (excluding New Zealand, the returns for which are not yet to hand) was 24·5 years; the average age of the males was 25·5 years, and that of the females was 23·4 years. Taking the colonies separately it will be seen from the following table that the oldest average population was that of Victoria 25·6 years, and the youngest that of New South Wales and Queensland 23·7 years. The male population of Western Australia had the highest age average, 27·6 years, owing to the large influx of adult males some few years since, attracted thither by the discoveries of gold at Kimberley and elsewhere. The youngest male population was in New South Wales and South Australia, each of which averaged 24·7 years. The youngest

female population was found in Queensland, where the average was 21·5 years ; the oldest was in Victoria, 24·6 years :—

Average Ages.

Colony.	Males.	Females.	Total.
New South Wales .....	24·7	22·5	23·7
Victoria .....	26·5	24·6	25·6
Queensland .....	25·2	21·5	23·7
South Australia .....	24·7	23·8	24·3
Western Australia.....	27·6	22·0	25·3
Tasmania .....	25·6	23·7	24·7

In looking at these figures it must be remembered that the same average may be due to opposite causes ; for instance, a large middle-age population with a small proportion of children and old people, as in Queensland, gives much the same result as a large population at the dependent ages and a small proportion of those at the supporting ages, as in Tasmania. The following table shows, with regard to the six colonies mentioned above, the number of males at the dependent ages from infancy to 15 years ; at the supporting ages from 15 to 65 ; and the old age group, or from 65 years upwards :—

Age Groups—Males.

Colony.	Dependent Ages up to 15 years.		Supporting Ages, 15 and under 65.		Old Ages, 65 and over.	
	Number.	Percentage of Male Population.	Number.	Percentage of Male Population.	Number.	Percentage of Male Population.
New South Wales.	218,433	35·9	372,900	61·3	16,670	2·8
Victoria.....	198,829	33·2	375,948	62·8	23,637	4·0
Queensland .....	74,189	33·2	145,954	65·2	3,636	1·6
South Australia ...	64,004	38·4	97,293	58·3	5,504	3·3
Western Australia.	8,677	29·1	20,027	67·2	1,103	3·7
Tasmania .....	29,216	37·7	44,008	56·7	4,336	5·6

It will be noticed that the proportion of males at the dependent ages is far greater in South Australia and Tasmania than in any of the other Colonies, and this arises through the emigration from those provinces of many of the able-bodied men in search of opening for their labour in other Colonies. On the other hand the numbers of males of the supporting ages in those Colonies is very low. The reverse is the case in Western Australia, where the

Circumstances affecting the averages.

Age groups of males.

Age group distribution of males.

proportion of dependent males is smaller than that of any other Colony, while the proportion of men of the supporting ages is greater. These facts are to be accounted for by the immigration into Western Australia of large numbers of adult males, many of whom probably came from one of the two colonies first mentioned. The high birth-rate of New South Wales accounts for the larger proportion of those of dependent ages, as compared with those of Victoria, but at the supporting ages there is very little difference between them. With regard to the old age group the proportion in Queensland, 1·6 per cent., is undoubtedly low. Tasmania, with 5·6 per cent., has the largest proportion of aged inhabitants, and Victoria comes next with 4 per cent., while the proportion of inhabitants 65 years and over in New South Wales is only 2·8 per cent., or one-half the proportion shown by Tasmania. It is interesting to note that at the Census of 1881 Queensland had the greatest proportion of population at supporting ages, nearly 60 per cent. of her total; at that period Victoria came next, having 59 per cent.; Western Australia was third, with nearly 59 per cent.; the proportion in South Australia was slightly lower, while that of New South Wales was rather less than 58 per cent.

Comparison  
with Census of  
1881.

Males of  
Military ages.

The period in males from 20 to 40 years is generally called "the soldiers' age," as the men included in that group would naturally be those first called upon to undertake the defence of the country in the event of war. It will be seen from the following table that Australasia has a force of nearly 700,000 men to draw upon for this purpose:—

Males of Military Age, 20 to 40 years.	
New South Wales .....	209,237
Victoria .....	207,033
Queensland .....	86,593
South Australia .....	53,964
Western Australia .....	12,018
Tasmania .....	24,858
New Zealand .....	97,864
Australasia .....	691,567

Thus, it would seem, 60 per cent. of the effective military force of Australasia would have to come from New South Wales and Victoria, the proportion from the first-named Colony being 30·26, and 29·93 from Victoria. The next largest proportion, 14·15 per cent., would come from New Zealand, and Queensland would furnish 12·52 per cent., South Australia 7·80 per cent., Tasmania 3·60 per cent., and Western Australia 1·74 per cent. At the census of 1881 the males of military age in Australasia numbered 451,700, of whom New South Wales contributed 29·18 per cent., Victoria 25·27 per cent., Queensland 10·28 per cent., South Australia 11·62 per cent., Western Australia 0·96 per cent., Tasmania 3·52 per cent., and New Zealand 19·16 per cent. These figures show that while South Australia has only increased her actual number of males from 20 to 40 years of age by 1,435, she has declined in proportion to the whole Australasian population of those ages from 11·62 per cent. in 1881 to 7·80 in 1891. All the other colonies show more or less a proportionate as well as a numerical increase during the same period.

The female population of Australasia, excluding New Zealand, may be conveniently grouped into three divisions as follows:—  
Dependent ages, from infancy to 15 years; reproductive ages, from 15 to 45; and those over 45 years of age. The numbers of each class in the several provinces are shown in the following figures:—

## Age Groups—Females.

Colony.	Dependent ages, up to 15 years.		Reproductive ages, 15 and under 45.		Ages of 45 years and over.	
	Number.	Percentage to Female Population.	Number.	Percentage to Female Population.	Number.	Percentage to Female Population.
New South Wales..	213,336	41·3	239,416	46·4	63,199	12·3
Victoria.....	195,346	36·0	263,664	48·6	83,981	15·4
Queensland .....	72,409	42·6	79,396	46·7	18,134	10·7
South Australia ...	62,174	40·5	68,796	44·8	22,660	14·7
Western Australia.	8,410	42·1	9,254	46·3	2,311	11·6
Tasmania .....	28,334	41·0	30,594	44·3	10,179	15·7

Proportionate  
distribution of  
females.

The female population, it will be seen, is distributed among the various colonies in much more even proportions than the males. Victoria has the least ratio of dependent females, the greatest proportion of those of reproductive ages, and with the exception of Tasmania the highest relative number of females over the reproductive age. The rates for the other provinces are remarkably even, New South Wales, Queensland, and Western Australia having almost an identical proportion of reproductive females, while South Australia and Tasmania are nearly equal at a slightly lower rate.

## BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

Birth rates of  
the Colonies.

The birth rate of Australasia for the years 1851-60 averaged 39·32 per thousand of the population, rising to 40·80 for the years 1861-70, then dropping again to 36·82 for the years 1871-80, and still further to 34·75 for the last decade. The following are the rates of each Colony for the periods mentioned :—

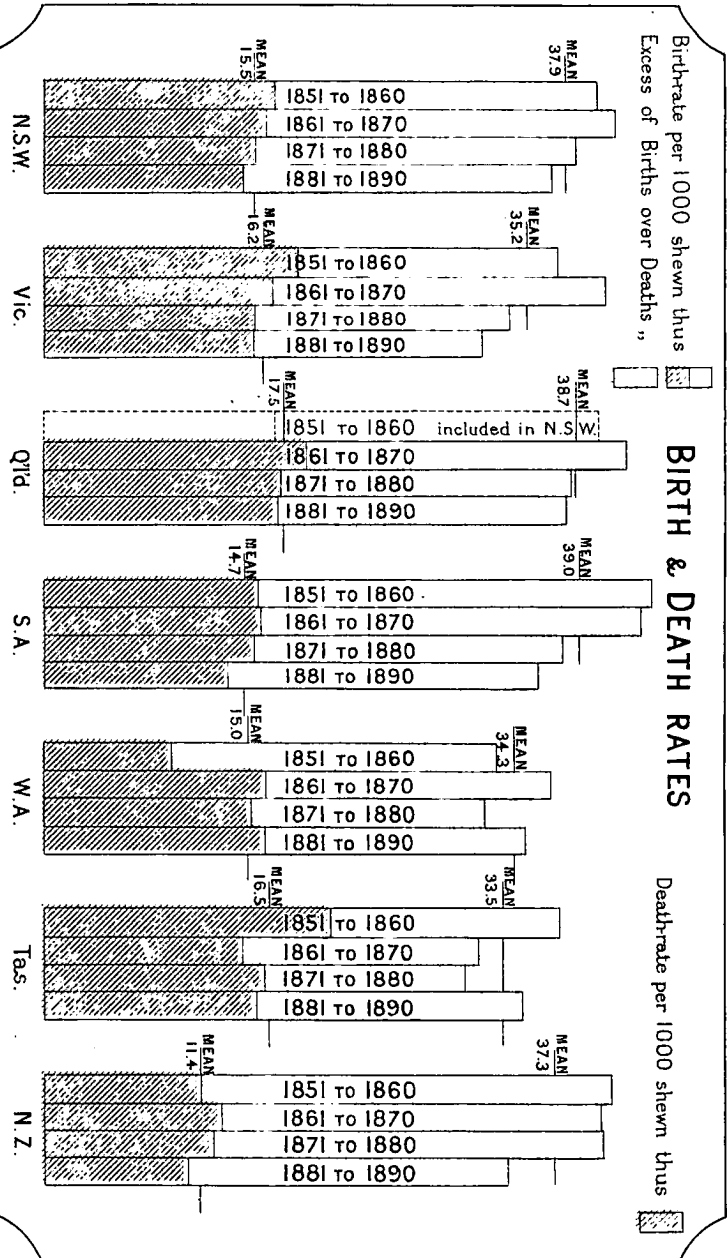
## Birth-rates, 1851-90.

Colony.	Births per Thousand of Population.			
	1851-60.	1861-70.	1871-80.	1881-90.
New South Wales ... ..	40·35	41·65	38·77	36·98
Victoria ... ..	37·42	40·91	33·88	31·82
Queensland ... ..	40·35	42·36	38·41	37·91
South Australia ... ..	44·35	43·57	37·81	36·00
Western Australia... ..	32·91	37·02	32·10	34·99
Tasmania ... ..	37·51	31·61	30·65	34·83
New Zealand ... ..	41·31	40·71	40·79	33·70
Australasia ... ..	39·32	40·80	36·82	34·75

Birth-rate per 1000 shewn thus  
Excess of Births over Deaths "

# BIRTH & DEATH RATES

Death-rate per 1000 shewn thus



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In all the Colonies except Western Australia the birth-rate shows a decline from the first to the last of the four decennial periods. 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 four decennial periods given above, the later periods would probably be found to show little falling off.

The birth-rates of each Colony for the last eleven years were as follow :—

Birth-rates, 1881-91, per 1,000 inhabitants.

Year.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.	Australasia.
1881	37·90	31·24	36·29	38·69	34·02	33·65	38·04	35·81
1882	37·20	30·06	35·85	37·50	35·67	33·84	37·43	34·79
1883	37·32	30·26	36·92	37·53	33·57	34·84	36·46	34·86
1884	38·44	30·93	35·75	38·62	33·38	36·52	36·18	35·44
1885	37·79	31·33	36·66	38·71	34·53	36·18	34·70	35·22
1886	37·43	31·30	38·16	35·95	38·15	35·47	33·15	34·74
1887	37·06	32·50	38·94	34·70	36·63	35·40	32·14	34·77
1888	37·20	32·70	39·12	33·55	34·47	34·83	31·33	34·62
1889	34·97	33·35	38·13	32·80	35·95	33·92	30·23	33·80
1890	35·36	33·60	39·66	32·54	33·09	33·49	29·42	33·95
1891	34·60	33·62	36·67	33·30	35·05	33·21	29·01	33·44

The mean death-rate of the Australasian Colonies from 1851 to 1860 was 17·51, falling to 16·14 from 1861-70 to 15·14 from 1871-80, and still further to 14·32 from 1881-90. During the last decennial period five Colonies had a death-rate higher than the average rate of Australasia, viz., Queensland, 17·11; Western Australia, 16·08; Tasmania, 15·57; Victoria, 15·42; and New South Wales, 14·65; while only two Colonies were below the average, viz., South Australia, 13·43, and New Zealand 10·40 per 1,000. The following table shows the death-rates of each Colony for four decennial periods from 1851-90 :—

Death-rates of the Colonies.

## DEATH-RATES.

## Death-rates, 1851-90.

Colony.	Deaths per 1,000 of Population.			
	1851-60.	1861-70.	1871-80.	1881-90.
New South Wales .....	19·96	16·41	15·59	14·65
Victoria .....	18·73	16·82	15·45	15·42
Queensland .....	16·96	19·11	17·33	17·11
South Australia .....	15·64	15·82	15·31	13·43
Western Australia .....	9·34	16·27	15·12	16·08
Tasmania .....	21·13	14·50	16·09	15·57
New Zealand .....	11·50	12·94	12·29	10·40
Australasia .....	17·51	16·14	15·14	14·32

The death-rate of each Colony for the last eleven years are given in the following table, but the statement viewed in the light of a comparison between the Colonies is not in every case just, as no account is taken of the ages of the people :—

## Death rates 1881-91, per 1,000 inhabitants.

Year.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.	Australasia.
1881 .....	15·08	14·16	14·66	14·50	13·95	14·88	11·15	14·08
1882 .....	16·05	15·32	17·99	15·19	14·08	15·95	11·22	15·02
1883 .....	14·61	14·29	18·82	14·90	17·77	17·36	11·51	14·52
1884 .....	16·10	14·48	22·97	15·61	21·57	15·88	10·47	15·29
1885 .....	16·48	15·01	19·58	12·81	17·27	15·89	10·71	14·98
1886 .....	15·05	15·18	16·91	13·62	20·97	15·15	10·54	14·42
1887 .....	13·38	15·74	14·89	12·64	16·52	16·15	10·31	13·78
1888 .....	13·91	15·44	15·18	12·00	15·28	14·84	9·46	13·62
1889 .....	13·87	17·79	16·24	11·13	13·78	14·96	9·45	14·35
1890 .....	12·90	16·10	14·51	12·32	11·44	14·74	9·65	13·49
1891 .....	14·26	16·26	12·87	13·02	17·05	15·00	10·34	14·03

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 European countries where it is 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 for the ten years ending 1889 for European countries, and for the ten years 1881-1890 for the Australasian Colonies :—

## Birth and Death Rates per 1,000 inhabitants.

Country.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Excess of Births per 1,000 inhabitants.
New South Wales .....	36·98	14·65	22·33
Victoria.....	31·82	15·42	16·40
Queensland.....	37·91	17·11	20·80
South Australia.....	36·00	13·43	22·57
Western Australia.....	34·99	16·08	18·91
Tasmania.....	34·83	15·57	19·26
New Zealand.....	33·70	10·40	23·30
Australasia .....	34·75	14·32	20·43
England and Wales .....	32·74	19·20	13·54
Scotland .....	32·44	19·12	13·32
Ireland.....	23·86	18·33	5·53
United Kingdom.....	31·48	19·07	12·41
France ..	24·16	22·11	2·05
Germany .....	37·16	25·31	11·85
Belgium .....	30·58	21·06	9·52
Netherlands .....	34·65	21·38	13·27
Austria.....	38·25	29·63	8·62
Hungary .....	44·57	33·55	11·02
Switzerland.....	28·57	21·07	7·50
Italy.....	37·03	27·50	9·53
Denmark .....	32·16	18·85	13·31
Norway .....	30·89	16·65	14·24
Sweden .....	29·34	17·04	12·30

No better testimony to the salubrity of the climate of Australasia 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.

Salubrity of the Climate.

## MARRIAGES.

Marriage-rates  
of the Colonies.

The marriage-rate of the Colonies per 1,000 of the population for the four decennial periods from 1851 to 1890 has been as follows:—

## Marriage Rates, 1851-90.

Colony.	Marriage-rates per 1,000 of Population.			
	1851-60.	1861-70.	1871-80.	1881-90.
New South Wales .....	9·97	8·49	7·80	7·92
Victoria .....	10·57	7·26	6·28	7·74
Queensland .....	9·97	10·58	7·90	8·56
South Australia .....	9·99	8·42	8·30	7·44
Western Australia .....	10·04	8·33	6·73	6·95
Tasmania .....	13·88	6·80	6·96	7·56
New Zealand.....	10·13	9·54	7·79	6·40
Australasia.....	10·57	8·11	7·27	7·59

Taking the last period mentioned above, it will be seen that the average rate for the whole of Australasia was 7·59, while the rates in the different Colonies ranged from 8·56 in Queensland to 6·40 in New Zealand. The rates of each Colony for the last eleven years are shown in the following table:—

## Marriage-rates, 1881-91, per 1,000 inhabitants.

Year.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.	Australasia.
1881 .....	8·82	6·79	7·52	8·34	6·67	7·35	6·65	7·44
1882 .....	8·70	7·09	8·56	8·75	7·04	8·11	7·09	7·87
1883 .....	8·83	7·44	8·93	8·53	6·88	9·16	6·86	8·03
1884 .....	8·47	7·74	8·91	8·33	7·02	8·00	6·93	7·98
1885 .....	8·22	7·73	8·93	7·86	7·37	8·22	6·72	7·84
1886 .....	8·06	7·86	8·45	6·35	7·73	7·55	5·99	7·49
1887 .....	7·55	7·64	8·40	6·33	7·44	7·02	5·98	7·26
1888 .....	7·57	8·48	8·93	6·65	6·90	6·93	6·00	7·48
1889 .....	7·06	8·43	8·27	6·56	6·77	6·89	5·95	7·36
1890 .....	7·15	8·21	8·22	7·02	5·89	6·64	6·11	7·36
1891 .....	7·39	7·68	7·21	7·31	8·11	6·63	6·05	7·20

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.

A comparison of the marriage-rate of Australasia with that of other countries, where the social conditions are essentially different, is not of much value, and therefore is not given here.

### NATIVE RACES.

At the census of 1891 only 38,879 Aborigines were enumerated, of whom 8,280 were in New South Wales, 565 in Victoria, 23,789 in South Australia, and 6,245 in Western Australia. The figures relating to New South Wales and Victoria include all aborigines now living in those provinces, but the returns from the other colonies are very imperfect. It has been asserted that there are some 70,000 aborigines in Queensland, but this, however, is a very crude estimate, and may be far wide of the truth. In the case of South Australia, a large number of the aborigines in the Northern Territory are entirely outside the bounds of settlement, 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-times ferocious. According to the census of 1881 they numbered 44,097. Like the Australian aborigines they appear to be decreasing in number, the census of 1886 enumerating only 41,432,

and that of 1891, 41,523 (22,633 males and 18,890 females). To these must be added 2,119 half-castes (1,074 males and 1,045 females), so that the totals are 23,707 males and 19,935 females, or altogether 43,642. It is believed, however, that at the time the colonists first landed their number was fully 120,000.

## CHINESE.

Chinese in the Colonies in 1891.

At the census of 1891 the Chinese and half-caste Chinese in the whole group of Colonies were estimated to number, distributed as follows :—

New South Wales .....	14,156
Victoria .....	8,489
Queensland .....	8,574
South Australia .....	3,676
Western Australia .....	917
Tasmania .....	839
New Zealand.....	4,292
	<hr/>
Australasia .....	40,943

Prohibitive legislation.

Since 1880 it has been deemed expedient by the Governments of all the Colonies except Western Australia, and South Australia as far as her Northern Territory is concerned, 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, except in Western Australia, where the tax is £10, and in the Northern Territory where no tax is imposed. These stringent regulations have had the effect of bringing about the almost entire cessation of this class of immigration.

## NATURALIZATION.

The number of persons naturalised in Australasia during 1890 was 1,067, and of these three-fourths belonged to Queensland and New Zealand. The following are the figures for each Colony :—

Colony.	Germans and other German speaking nations.	Scandinavians.	Chinese.	Others.	Total.
New South Wales .....	42	30	.....	27	99
Victoria .....	47	67	.....	27	141
Queensland .....	195	109	.....	40	344
South Australia .....	25	10	.....	19	54
Western Australia .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tasmania .....	3	5	2	1	11
New Zealand.....	163	181	7	67	418
Australasia .....	475	402	9	181	1,067

## 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, but 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.

## POPULATION IN CAPITALS.

Population of  
capital cities of  
Colonies at  
various dates.

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

## Population of Capital Cities.

	1841.	1851.	1861.	1871.	1881	1891.
Sydney .....	29,973	44,240	93,241	134,736	224,211	383,386
Melbourne .....	4,479	23,143	139,916	206,780	282,947	490,902
Brisbane .....	*829	2,543	6,051	15,029	31,109	101,564
Adelaide .....	†8,480	†14,577	18,303	42,744	103,864	133,252
Perth .....	.....	.....	.....	5,244	5,822	8,447
Hobart .....	.....	.....	19,449	19,092	21,118	33,450
Wellington.....	.....	.....	.....	7,908	20,563	33,224

\* In 1846. † In 1840. ‡ In 1850.

The aggregation of population is most marked in the case of Melbourne, but Adelaide and Sydney are also conspicuous. The proportion of population in each capital compared with that of the whole Colony is set forth in the subjoined table, for the two years 1881 and 1891:—

## Proportion of Population of Capitals.

	1881.	1891.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
Sydney .....	28·79	34·11
Melbourne .....	32·14	43·09
Brisbane .....	13·70	25·80
Adelaide .....	36·27	41·58
Perth.....	19·36	16·97
Hobart .....	17·75	22·81
Wellington .....	4·10	5·30

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 8·15 per cent. of that of the whole Colony.

The following is a list of the cities and towns of Australasia with a population exceeding 5,000 ; in all cases the suburbs are included :—

Population of Cities and Towns.

City or Town.	Population.	City or Town.	Population.
New South Wales—		Queensland— <i>continued</i> —	
Sydney .....	383,386	Gympie .....	8,449
Newcastle .....	51,561	Ipswich .....	7,625
Broken Hill .....	19,789	Toowoomba .....	7,007
Parramatta .....	11,677	South Australia—	
Goulburn .....	10,916	Adelaide .....	133,252
Maitland .....	10,214	Port Adelaide .....	15,976
Bathurst .....	9,162	Western Australia—	
Wollongong .....	8,803	Perth .....	8,447
Albury .....	5,447	Freemantle .....	5,607
Orange .....	5,064	Tasmania—	
Victoria—		Hobart .....	33,450
Melbourne .....	490,902	Launceston .....	17,208
Ballarat .....	46,033	New Zealand—	
Bendigo .....	37,238	Auckland .....	51,127
Geelong .....	24,210	Christchurch .....	47,846
Castlemaine .....	6,802	Dunedin .....	45,865
Stawell .....	5,191	Wellington .....	33,224
Queensland—		Invercargill .....	8,551
Brisbane .....	101,564	Napier .....	8,341
Rockhampton .....	13,380	Nelson .....	6,626
Maryborough .....	8,700	Oamaru .....	5,621
Townsville .....	8,564	Wanganui .....	5,011