

given. The verdict "natural causes," was returned in 47 per cent. of the cases. In the ten years prior to the year under review, the proportion of verdicts in which death was found to have resulted from natural causes was less than 45 per cent. of the whole. The practice of holding inquests in cases of other than violent deaths is therefore increasing. Of the deaths set down to external causes in the year under review, 576 were found to have occurred from accident, 9 from homicide, 102 from suicide, and 60 from doubtful causes.

325. Fifteen fire inquests were held during the year, as against 10 in the previous year. Inquests are not held upon all the fires which occur, but only upon such as appear to require investigation at the discretion of the coroner in whose district they occur. The practice of holding fire inquests is not so common now as formerly. In the last five years the average has been 23 per annum. In the previous quinquenniad the yearly average was 124. In 7 of the inquests held in 1874, or about half, the verdict was to the effect that the fire had been occasioned purposely.

Fire in-
quests.

PART V.—INTERCHANGE.

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

Weights and
measures.

327. The declared values of Victorian imports and exports in 1874, their sum being the total value of external trade, and their difference being the excess in favor of imports, were as follow :—

Imports and
exports,
1874.

Value of imports, 1874	...	...	...	£16,953,985
„ exports, „	...	...	...	15,441,109
Total trade	...	...	...	£32,395,094
Excess of imports over exports	...	...	...	£1,512,876

328. The imports exceeded those in the previous year by £420,129, and the exports exceeded those in the previous year by £138,655. The total excess of external trade over that in 1873 was thus £558,784.

Imports and
exports,
1873 and
1874,
compared.

329. A statement of the value of imports and exports during each year will be found in the folding sheet at the commencement of this work. A reference to this statement will show that the imports in 1874 have been exceeded in two years only since the first settlement of the colony, viz., in 1854 by £705,066, and in 1857 by £302,224 ; that the

Imports and
exports,
1874,
compared
with former
years.

exports also have been exceeded in two years only, viz., in 1856 by £48,651, and in 1868 by £152,881.

330. The following table shows the value of imports, exports, and external trade per head of the mean population during each year since Victoria has been an independent colony. It will be observed that only a very slight difference occurs between the values in the year under review and the previous one, and that the sum of the imports and exports in each of those two years was greater than it was in any one of the four years immediately preceding them :—

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS PER HEAD, 1851 TO 1874.

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

NOTE.—The statements of imports and exports on which this table was based will be found in the folding sheet at the commencement of the work.

331. Nearly half, according to value, of the imports are set down as the produce or manufacture of the United Kingdom, and more than a third of other British possessions. Upwards of a third of the latter consists of wool from New South Wales which enters the colony at the Murray ports. Nearly three-fourths, according to value of the exports, are the produce or manufacture of Victoria. The following table shows

Imports and exports per head.

Imports and exports the produce of various countries.

the value of the produce of the United Kingdom and Foreign States imported, and of the same countries and of Victoria exported :—

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS THE PRODUCE OF DIFFERENT COUNTRIES.

Articles the Produce or Manufacture of—	Imports.		Exports.	
	Value.	Percentage.	Value.	Percentage.
	£		£	
Victoria ... ..	...	...	11,352,515	73·52
The United Kingdom ...	7,962,642	46·97	1,258,749	8·15
Other British Possessions	6,006,618	35·43	2,098,358	13·59
Foreign States... ..	2,984,725	17·60	731,487	4·74
Total... ..	£16,953,985	100·00	15,441,109	100·00

332. The value of imports from and exports to various countries is shown in the following table. It will be observed that nearly half the imports are from the United Kingdom, and a third from the adjacent colonies, whilst of the exports, about two-thirds are to the United Kingdom, and a fifth to the adjacent colonies :—

Trade with various countries.

IMPORTS FROM AND EXPORTS TO DIFFERENT COUNTRIES.

Countries.	Imports therefrom.		Exports thereto.	
	Value.	Percentage.	Value.	Percentage.
	£		£	
The United Kingdom ...	8,369,523	49·37	9,649,397	62·49
Australasian Colonies ...	5,496,776	32·42	3,002,924	19·45
Other British Possessions ...	1,380,481	8·14	2,285,360	14·80
The United States	517,823	3·05	486,815	3·15
Other Foreign States ...	1,189,382	7·02	16,613	·11
Total	16,953,985	100·00	15,441,109	100·00

333. The value of imports from the other Australasian colonies was, in the year under review, in excess by £2,000,000 of what it was ten years previously ; but the value of exports to those colonies was less by £1,200,000 at the later period than at the earlier. The increase of imports was almost all from New South Wales, and is mainly due to the wool brought across the Murray from Riverina. Exports, however, to New South Wales fell off by upwards of half a million sterling. Exports to South Australia and New Zealand also diminished. The following table shows the value of imports from and exports to each

Trade with the Australasian colonies.

colony in the year under review and in the first year of the two previous quinqueniads :—

IMPORTS FROM AND EXPORTS TO THE OTHER AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES,
1864, 1869, AND 1874.

Australasian Colonies.	Imports therefrom.			Exports thereto.		
	1864.	1869.	1874.	1864.	1869.	1874.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
New South Wales	1,999,994	1,639,350	3,952,921*	1,796,006	454,911	1,247,991*
Queensland ...	2,982	8,635	59,540	51,184	13,787	56,389
South Australia...	906,189	301,921	197,712	608,119	266,505	210,433
Western Australia	305	1,043	4,098	27,671	31,240	63,669
Tasmania ...	374,333	296,146	294,511	353,991	359,967	381,580
New Zealand ...	188,413	1,606,996	987,994	1,376,181	1,023,564	1,042,862
Total ...	3,472,216	3,854,091	5,496,776	4,213,152	2,149,974	3,002,924

Trade at
each port.

334. Eighty per cent. of the imports are landed, and 90 per cent. of the exports are shipped, at the port of Melbourne; 12 per cent. of the imports enter at Echuca, that being the chief port on the Murray at which the wool from New South Wales is brought into the colony. Five per cent. of the imports are at two of the other Murray ports, Wahgunyah and Wodonga. In regard to imports all of these ports are before Geelong, which receives little more than 1 per cent. of the whole. Geelong, however, sends away 8 per cent. of the exports, and is the only port except Melbourne at which any export trade of importance exists. The following are the values of goods imported and exported at each port in Victoria during 1874 :—

IMPORTS AT AND EXPORTS FROM EACH PORT.

Ports.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
Melbourne ...	13,542,314	13,961,355
Geelong ...	236,038	1,274,614
Portland ...	2,348	2,592
Port Fairy ...	2,298	1,643
Port Albert ...	1,189	...
Warrnambool ...	24,664	13,889
Cowana ...	969	370
Echuca ...	2,104,868	77,153
Narung ...	50,451	5,059
Swan Hill ...	113,751	3,396
Tocumwall ...	39,345	939
Wahgunyah ...	411,191	22,632
Wodonga ...	424,559	77,467
Total ...	16,953,985	15,441,109

* Inclusive of Border traffic since the 1st February 1874.

335. The following were the imports in the year under review and Imports, 1864, 1869, and 1874. in the first year of the two previous quinquenniads, the names of 45 of the principal articles being quoted:—

IMPORTS, 1864, 1869, AND 1874.

Articles.	Value of Imports.		
	1864.	1869.	1874.
	£	£	£
Apparel and slops	186,860	335,642	301,430
Bags and sacks (including woolpacks)...	121,907	101,936	204,831
Beer and cider	335,019	244,566	295,016
Books	87,443	88,886	128,726
Boots and shoes	572,410	407,273	208,177
Candles	183,360	195,853	152,279
Carpeting and druggeting	3,287	63,789	65,328
Coals	174,579	176,501	244,614
Coffee	58,345	65,920	109,682
Cottons	27,722	475,649	692,778
Drugs	128,209	83,082	80,121
Fish	97,698	87,025	121,785
Fruit (including currants and raisins)	181,897	136,566	128,028
Glass and glassware	93,329	76,397	93,587
Gloves ... ..	...	61,429	57,822
Gold (exclusive of specie)	193	1,415,473	881,717
Grain of all kinds (including rice) ...	954,991	864,404	566,659
Haberdashery and drapery	2,418,483	316,619	369,933
Hardware and ironmongery	366,133	125,118	87,652
Hats, caps, and bonnets	52,876	127,066	120,003
Hides, skins, and pelts	4,968	21,409	85,912
Hops	52,729	88,890	55,000
Hosiery	9,232	158,216	150,983
Iron and steel	390,860	391,547	564,173
Jewellery	73,440	50,585	55,692
Leather and leatherware	18,764	47,717	119,701
Linen piece goods	5,192	78,498	52,133
Live stock	215,881	712,333	1,178,583
Machinery	68,447	75,745	104,024
Military and Government stores ...	...	37,194	332,299
Nails and screws	60,156	67,360	50,910
Oil of all kinds	198,974	278,845	255,654
Opium	121,994	109,843	58,453
Paper and stationery	244,916	209,873	235,292
Silks	68,055	228,952	323,609
Specie	980,992	292,753	186,797
Spirits	484,702	347,110	517,723
Sugar and molasses	638,286	948,982	1,081,048
Tea	519,287	500,140	490,998
Timber	318,122	274,497	478,403
Tobacco, cigars, and snuff	728,477	223,302	278,060
Tools and utensils	42,268	91,145	78,483
Wine	261,642	135,223	170,779
Wool	542,730	67,126	2,026,477
Woollens	191,551	1,110,493	1,096,870
All other articles	2,688,409	1,912,018	2,015,761
Total Imports	14,974,815	13,908,990	16,953,985

Exports,
1864, 1869,
and 1874.

336. The exports during the same years were as follow, the names of 33 articles being distinguished:—

EXPORTS, 1864, 1869, AND 1874.

Articles.	Value of Exports.		
	1864.	1869.	1874.
	£	£	£
Apparel and slops	83,781	75,225	174,996
Black sand	7,360	17,566	5,300
Bones and bonedust	3,894	14,208	10,911
Books	31,725	18,034	27,753
Boots and shoes	97,695	43,864	77,357
Coffee	24,395	23,922	39,840
Drapery	491,806	347,812	163,075
Flour and biscuit	123,152	28,336	60,213
Gold (exclusive of specie)	6,206,237	6,804,179	4,053,288
Grain of all kinds	70,269	52,678	70,050
Hardware and ironmongery (including galvanized ironware)	82,681	50,522	96,328
Hides	94,551	19,472	3,923
Horns and hoofs	2,477	1,575	3,783
Leather and leatherware	55,204	110,432	194,479
Live stock	216,687	80,540	113,151
Machinery	50,510	45,900	48,063
Oil	67,072	62,545	64,884
Potatoes	43,568	33,711	40,891
Provisions, preserved	5,279	80,835	176,013
" salted	49,904	13,268	6,614
Skins and pelts	9,074	40,989	53,070
Soap	11,009	16,022	6,685
Specie, gold	1,029,872	684,819	1,354,751
" silver	3,806	7,000	5,050
Spirits	96,125	237,549	148,448
Stationery	26,883	32,338	47,283
Sugar	127,313	137,562	277,354
Tallow	60,230	237,084	199,564
Tea	209,530	167,846	238,749
Tobacco, cigars, and snuff	307,832	139,525	171,668
Wine	76,427	50,536	56,514
Wool	3,250,128	3,363,075	6,373,676
Woollens and woollen piece goods	26,317	29,305	71,621
All other articles	855,591	396,080	1,005,764
Total Exports	13,898,384	13,464,354	15,441,109

Transship-
ments.

337. The goods laden on vessels arriving in Victoria and transhipped elsewhere without being landed are not included in the accounts of imports and exports. The following are the values of such goods during each of the last five years. The amount in 1874 was much higher than in former years, in consequence of heavy transshipments which took place from and to the mail steamers on the Suez route *viâ* Point de Galle, the terminus of which is Melbourne:—

TRANSHIPMENTS IN VICTORIAN PORTS, 1870 TO 1875.

				Value of Transhipments.	
1870	£1,145,882
1871	1,191,169
1872	1,292,656
1873	1,827,842
1874	3,527,461

338. The Customs revenue during 1874 shows a slight falling off ^{Customs receipts.} under the head of Import Duties as compared with that of the previous year, but a considerable increase upon that of 1872. The following are the returns for the three years :—

CUSTOMS RECEIPTS, 1872 TO 1874.

Head of Receipt.	Year ended 31st December.		
	1872.	1873.	1874.
	£	£	£
Import duties	1,615,052	1,798,040	1,779,288
Duties on spirits distilled in Victoria*... ..	33,172	32,161	32,833
Ports and harbors	16,727	19,798	19,954
Fees	7,074	6,532	6,321
Fines and forfeitures	349	437	168
Miscellaneous	5,962	7,648	9,648
Total	1,678,336	1,864,616	1,848,212

339. In addition to the Customs revenue, pilotage rates amounted ^{Pilotage.} to £16,886 in 1872, to £20,962 in 1873, and to £21,585 in 1874.

340. The value of dutiable goods exported for drawback has in- ^{Drawbacks.} creased over 60 per cent., and the amount paid as drawback has more than doubled in the last three years. The following are the figures :—

DRAWBACKS, 1872 TO 1874.

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

341. The number of ships entered and the number cleared were ^{Vessels entered and cleared.} slightly lower in the year under review than in either 1872 or 1873. The tonnage, however, and the numbers comprised in the crews, both increased.

* This line includes, in addition to duties on Victorian spirits collected by the Customs, some such duties which are paid direct to the Treasury.

VESSELS ENTERED AND CLEARED, 1872 TO 1874.

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

Nationality
of vessels.

342. Nearly three-fifths of the tonnage of vessels engaged in the Victorian trade is colonial ; about a third is English ; and rather more than a fifteenth is foreign. The following is a statement of the number, tonnage, and crews of colonial, British, and foreign vessels which entered and cleared at Victorian ports in the year under review :—

NATIONALITY OF VESSELS ENTERED AND CLEARED.

Nationality.	Vessels Entered.			Vessels Cleared.		
	Number.	Tons.	Men.	Number.	Tons.	Men.
Colonial ...	1,714	449,463	23,915	1,738	455,330	23,878
British ...	289	269,489	11,488	281	274,391	11,088
Foreign ...	97	58,158	1,431	103	62,788	1,506
Total ...	2,100	777,110	36,834	2,122	792,509	36,472

Foreign
vessels.

343. Of foreign ships entered at and cleared from Victorian ports in 1874 the largest number belonged to the United States, the next largest to France, and the next to Germany. The number belonging to each country was as follows :—

FOREIGN VESSELS.

Country.	Vessels Entered.	Vessels Cleared.
United States	38	41
France... ..	23	26
Germany	14	16
Sweden	6	7
Norway	6	6
Holland	6	5
Denmark	2	2
Hawaii	1	...
Peru	1	...
Total	97	103

Crews, and
proportion
to tonnage.

344. According to the following figures colonial vessels appear to be the best manned in proportion to their tonnage, British vessels next, and

foreign vessels much the worst. With regard to the first-mentioned, it must, however, be borne in mind that, a much larger proportion of them being steamers, they would, of necessity, have larger crews than either of the others :—

Colonial vessels had 1 man to	19 tons
British " "	24 "
Foreign " "	41 "
	—
All " "	21 "
	—

345. A glance at the "Shipping" columns in the folding sheet at the commencement of this work will show that the tonnage in 1874 was exceeded in one year only since the first settlement of the colony, viz., in 1854, the third year after that in which gold was discovered. Tonnage in 1874 exceeded only in one year.

346. In the year under notice, only about 1 per cent. of the tonnage inwards arrived in ballast, but upwards of 34 per cent. of the tonnage outwards left in ballast. Vessels in ballast.

347. About four-fifths of the vessels, and a much larger proportion of the tonnage are entered and cleared at the port of Melbourne. Next to Melbourne, most shipping is entered and cleared at the ports of Echuca and Swan Hill, on the River Murray; and after these at Geelong. The following are the ports in Victoria, and the amount of shipping entered and cleared at each port in 1874 :— Vessels at each port.

SHIPPING AT EACH PORT, 1874.

Ports.	Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
Melbourne	1,627	699,351	1,638	703,958
Geelong	64	15,731	71	25,191
Portland	4	820	6	1,192
Port Fairy	13	1,388	10	764
Port Albert	4	321	8	772
Warrnambool	30	4,725	36	6,629
Wahgunyah	3	173	4	380
Echuca	185	26,509	179	25,531
Swan Hill	103	18,817	103	18,817
Cowana	26	2,245	26	2,245
Narung	41	7,030	41	7,030
Total	2,100	777,110	2,122	792,509

348. More than three-fifths of the tonnage coming to Victoria is that of vessels engaged in the intercolonial trade; about a fifth is that of vessels from the United Kingdom. Vessels in the intercolonial trade represent over five-sevenths, and vessels from the United Kingdom rather more than a ninth of the tonnage outwards. The following Vessels from and to various countries.

table shows the number and tonnage of vessels from and to the United Kingdom, the Australasian Colonies and other British Possessions, the United States and other foreign countries during 1874 :—

VESSELS FROM AND TO VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Countries from which Entered and for which Cleared.	Vessels Entered.		Vessels Cleared.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
The United Kingdom ...	143	168,795	72	90,174
Australasian Colonies ...	1,722	483,061	1,893	576,206
Other British Possessions	100	52,066	80	59,648
The United States ...	39	30,744	35	38,285
Other Foreign States ...	96	42,444	42	28,196
Total ...	2,100	777,110	2,122	792,509

Vessels built and registered.

349. Victoria has, up to the present time, made but slight efforts to become a ship-building country. Five vessels only—viz., 3 steamers, 1 barque, and 1 schooner, measuring in the aggregate no more than 1,083 tons—were built in 1874. In the same year 4 steamers and 40 sailing vessels, of 12,522 tons burden, and carrying 389 men, were registered.

Vessels on the register.

350. The vessels on the register at the end of 1874 numbered 429, viz., 47 steamers and 382 sailing vessels. The total tonnage amounted to 70,696, and the crews to 3,229.

Lighters and boats.

351. The lighters licensed in the year under review numbered 149, and the boats 462. The former were employed in the conveyance of goods. Of the latter, 2 were used in the whale fishery, 6 in oyster fishing, and 454 for ferry, passenger, and other purposes.

Postal returns.

352. A satisfactory increase in the business of the Post Office has taken place during the past year, as will be seen by the following figures. It should be mentioned that the income and expenditure includes that of the Electric Telegraph, which is incorporated with the Post Office, and the expenditure does not include the cost of steam postal communication with the United Kingdom :—

POSTAGE, 1873 AND 1874.

Year.	Number of Post Offices.	Number Despatched and Received of—			Income.	Expenditure.
		Letters.	Newspapers.	Packets.		
1873 ...	764	14,475,085	6,080,007	707,316	£ 191,357	£ 260,312
1874 ...	802	15,738,888	6,866,918	1,269,822	194,339	288,574
Increase	38	1,263,803	786,911	562,506	2,982	28,262

353. Money Order Offices in connection with the Post Office had ^{Money orders.} been established in 216 places within the colony up to the end of 1874. Besides the issue and payment of money orders at these places, such orders are issued in favor of Victoria and Victorian orders are paid at places in Great Britain and Ireland, New South Wales, New Zealand, South Australia, Western Australia, Queensland, and Tasmania. The increase of business during the year is shown in the following table :—

MONEY ORDERS, 1873 AND 1874.

Year.	Number of Money Order Offices.	Money Orders Issued.		Money Orders Paid.	
		Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
1873 ...	204	113,135	£ 341,962	109,048	£ 348,019
1874 ...	216	119,542	£ 347,076	116,418	£ 379,748
Increase ...	12	6,407	£ 5,114	7,370	£ 31,729

354. Telegraphic communication exists in Victoria between nearly ^{Electric telegraphs.} 150 stations within her own borders. Her lines are connected besides with those of the adjacent colonies, with a submarine cable to Tasmania, and with a transcontinental line to Europe. Over five hundred miles of wire were added during the year to the previously established lines, but notwithstanding this a slight falling off took place in the business, as will be seen by the following figures :—

ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH, 1873 AND 1874.

Year.	Number of Stations.	Number of Miles of Wire.	Number of Telegrams.			Amount received.
			Paid.	Unpaid.	Total.	
1873 ...	135	3,928	593,848	124,319	718,167	£ 45,323
1874 ...	148	4,464	579,795	121,285	701,080	£ 42,825
Increase	13	536	...	...	...	...
Decrease	...	...	14,053	3,034	17,087	£ 2,498

355. Railways in Victoria have been constructed upon a gauge of ^{Railways.} 5 ft. 3 in.,* and, with the exception of three short lines connecting the metropolis with certain of its suburbs, are all in the hands of the Government. The suburban lines in question are the property of a

* The national gauge of South Australia is the same as that of Victoria, but that of New South Wales is 4 ft. 8½ in.

private company; but this has been found to be objectionable on many grounds, and negotiations have taken place on more than one occasion with a view to their being purchased by the State. The following is the length and cost of all the lines existing in 1874. The returns of the Government railways are brought down to the 30th June only, those of the private railways to the end of the year :—

RAILWAYS.—LENGTH AND COST, 1874.

Name of Railway.	Length of Line.		Total Cost (not including Rolling Stock).	Average Cost per Mile of Extent opened.
	Proposed Total Length.	Extent opened.		
	miles.	miles.	£	£
<i>Government Lines.*</i>				
Melbourne, Sandhurst, and Echuca...	156 $\frac{1}{4}$	156 $\frac{1}{4}$	} 10,294,420	23,370
Melbourne, Geelong, and Ballarat ...	91 $\frac{1}{4}$	91 $\frac{1}{4}$		
Williamstown Branch ...	6	6		
Melbourne and North-Eastern ...	187	187		
Ballarat and Ararat ...	57	...	} 405,951†	...
Castlemaine and Dunolly ...	47 $\frac{1}{2}$...		
Ballarat and Maryborough ...	42 $\frac{1}{2}$...		
Others ...	380	...	10,777†	...
<i>Private Lines.</i>				
Melbourne, Sandridge, and St. Kilda	} 17	17	862,304	50,724
Melbourne, Windsor, and Brighton...				
Melbourne and Hawthorn ...				
Total ...	984 $\frac{1}{2}$	457 $\frac{1}{2}$	11,573,452	24,386

Rolling
stock.

356. The amount of rolling stock and its total cost were as follow in 1874 :—

ROLLING STOCK, 1874.

—	Number of each kind of Rolling Stock.						Total Cost of Rolling Stock.
	Loco- motives.	First-class and Composite Carriages.	Second and Third-class Carriages.	Sheep and Cattle Trucks.	Goods Trucks, Waggons, &c.	Guard Vans and other Vehicles.	
							£
Government lines	106	91	69	150	1,491	131	846,336
Private lines ...	16	77	15	...	202	12	137,830
Total ...	122	168	84	150	1,693	143	984,166

* The Government railway statistics are made up to the 30th June of each year. The Secretary for Railways has, however, furnished the following figures respecting the length of Government lines on the 31st December 1874 :—Extent opened, 588 miles; in course of construction, 65 miles; further extent authorized, 316 miles.

† Cost of portion constructed up to 30th June 1874.

357. The passenger rates on Government lines vary from 1d. to 2d. Passenger rates on railways. per mile, the average being about $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. On private lines the passenger rates range from 1d. to $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. per mile.

358. A considerable increase took place in the distance travelled on Government and on private lines in 1874 as compared with that in 1873, as will be seen by the following figures :— Distance travelled on railways.

DISTANCE TRAVELLED ON RAILWAYS, 1873 AND 1874.

Year.			Government Lines.	Private Lines.	Total.
			miles.	miles.	miles.
1873	...	...	1,354,131	412,586	1,766,717
1874	...	...	1,667,124	442,103	2,109,227
Increase	...	...	312,993	29,517	342,510

359. The passenger and goods traffic in the same two years is compared as follows. An increase will be observed in all the items except the weight of goods carried on private lines, which shows a slight falling off :— Traffic on railways.

TRAFFIC ON RAILWAYS, 1873 AND 1874.

NUMBER OF PASSENGERS CARRIED.

Year.			Government Lines.	Private Lines.	Total.
1873	...	...	1,720,814 $\frac{1}{2}$	3,003,233	4,724,047 $\frac{1}{2}$
1874	...	...	2,039,029 $\frac{1}{2}$	3,335,812	5,374,841 $\frac{1}{2}$
Increase	...	...	318,215	332,579	650,794

WEIGHT OF GOODS CARRIED.

			tons.	tons.	tons.
1873	...	...	569,869	233,064	802,933
1874	...	...	681,710	222,960	904,670
Increase	...	...	111,841	...	101,737
Decrease	...	...	...	10,104	...

360. The receipts on Government lines in 1874 were 21 per cent. Railway receipts and working expenses. above the receipts in 1873 ; those on private lines were nearly 8 per cent.

higher. The working expenses on Government lines were 17 per cent. higher, and those on private lines were 6 per cent. higher in 1873 than in 1874. The working expenses on Government lines amounted in 1873 to 45 $\frac{2}{3}$ per cent. of the receipts, and in 1874 to 44 per cent. On private lines the working expenses in 1873 amounted to 56 per cent. of the receipts, and in 1874 to 55 per cent. The following table shows the total receipts and working expenses on Government and private lines in the two years :—

RAILWAY RECEIPTS AND WORKING EXPENSES, 1873 AND 1874.

RECEIPTS.

Year.			Government Lines.	Private Lines.	Total.
			£	£	£
1873	...	...	703,728	154,017	857,745
1874	...	...	851,042	165,884	1,016,926
Increase			147,314	11,867	159,181

WORKING EXPENSES.

1873	...	...	321,290	86,524	407,814
1874	...	...	374,715	91,801	466,516
Increase			53,425	5,277	58,702

Wages.

361. The following table contains a statement of the average rates of wages paid in Melbourne in the year under review, and in the first year of each of the two previous quinquennial periods. It will be observed that wages were upon the whole higher at the middle period than at the first, and higher at the last period than at either of the others. The rates of wages in country districts are generally somewhat higher than those prevailing in the metropolis. Throughout Victoria the recognized working day for artizans and laborers is limited to eight hours :—

WAGES IN MELBOURNE, 1864, 1869, AND 1874.

Description of Labor.		1864.	1869.	1874.
<i>Agricultural Labor.*</i>				
Farm laborers	per week, with rations	12s. to 17s. 6d.	12s. to 20s.	15s. to 20s.
Ploughmen	... " "	14s. to 20s.	15s. to 20s.	15s. to 20s.
Reapers	... per acre, "	10s. to 12s.	6s. to 10s.	12s. to 15s.
Mowers	... " "	3s. to 4s.	4s. to 8s.	3s. to 5s.
Threshers	... per bushel, "	4d. to 5d.	3d. to 6d.	5d. to 7d.

* See also paragraph 414 post.

WAGES IN MELBOURNE, 1864, 1869, AND 1874—continued.

Description of Labor.	1864.	1869.	1874.
<i>Pastoral Labor.*</i>			
Shepherds ... per annum, with rations	£30 to £40	£35 to £40	£25 to £50
Stockkeepers " "	£40 to £65	£40 to £50	£30 to £50
Hutkeepers ... " "	£25 to £30	£25 to £30	£25 to £30
Generally-useful men on stations per week, with rations	14s. to 18s.	15s. to 20s.	15s. to 20s.
Sheepwashers " "	14s.	15s. to 20s.	15s. to 25s.
Shearers per 100 sheep sheared, "	13s. to 15s.	10s. to 13s.	12s. to 15s.
<i>Artizan Labor.</i>			
Masons ... per day, without rations	8s. to 10s.	8s. to 10s.	11s.
Plasterers ... " "	8s. to 10s.	8s. to 10s.	10s.
Bricklayers ... " "	8s. to 10s.	8s. to 10s.	10s.
Carpenters ... " "	7s. to 9s.	7s. to 10s.	10s. to 11s.
Blacksmiths " "	8s. to 10s.	7s. to 9s.	10s. to 11s.
<i>¶ Servants—Males and Married Couples.</i>			
Married couples, without family per annum, with board and lodging	£50 to £60	£40 to £70	£70 to £90
Married couples, with family per annum, with board and lodging	£40 to £50	£35 to £60	£40 to £50
Men cooks, on farms and stations per week, with board and lodging	15s. to 20s.	15s. to 25s.	18s. to 25s.
Grooms—per annum " "	£40 to £50	£30 to £50	£40 to £50
Gardeners " "	£40 to £50	£50 to £70	£50 to £65
<i>Servants—Female.</i>			
Cooks—per annum, with board and lodging	£30 to £40	£35 to £40	£40 to £60
Laundresses " "	£30 to £35	£30 to £40	£30 to £40
General servants " "	£18 to £30	£30 to £35	£30 to £35
Housemaids " "	£18 to £30	£30 to £35	£30 to £36
Nursemaids " "	£12 to £18	£20 to £25	£30 to £35
<i>Miscellaneous Labor.</i>			
General laborers per day, without rations	5s. to 7s.	6s. to 7s.	6s. to 7s.
Stonebreakers per cubic yard, without rations	3s. to 4s. 6d.	1s. 10d. to 2s.	2s. to 3s. 6d.
Seamen ... per month, with rations	£4 to £5	£4 to £5	£5 to £6

362. Prices in Melbourne in the same three years were quoted as Prices. follow. In country districts the cost of groceries, tobacco, wine, coal, &c., is naturally higher, and that of farm and grazing produce, fire-wood, &c., naturally lower than in Melbourne :—

* See also paragraph 415 post.

PRICES IN MELBOURNE, 1864, 1869, AND 1874.

Articles.	1864.	1869.	1874.
<i>Agricultural Produce.*</i>			
Wheat per bushel	7s. 6d. to 12s. 6d.	4s. 9d. to 8s.	4s. 9d. to 7s. 3d.
Barley "	4s. 3d. to 6s.	4s. to 6s.	3s. to 7s.
Oats "	4s. to 5s. 3d.	3s. 6d. to 5s. 6d.	2s. 9d. to 5s. 6d.
Maize "	4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d.	3s. 4d. to 5s. 1d.	3s. 4d. to 5s. 9d.
Bran "	1s. 5d. to 1s. 8d.	1s. 4d. to 2s.	1s. to 1s. 4½d.
Hay per ton	£4 10s. to £7 15s.	£4 to £8 10s.	£4 to £6 5s.
Flour, first quality "	£18 10s. to £28	£11 to £18	£12 2s. 6d. to £15
Bread per 4lb. loaf	9d. to 1s.	6d. to 9d.	6d. to 8d.
<i>Grazing Produce.</i>			
Horses, draught each	£25 to £50	£10 to £50	£12 to £36
" saddle and harness "	£10 to £20	£9 to £20	£5 to £40
Cattle, fat "	£2 to £10 10s.	£3 to £14 5s.	£5 10s. to £12 10s.
" milch cows "	£3 to £8	£5 to £10	£5 10s. to £10 10s.
Sheep, fat "	9s. to 22s.	2s. 6d. to 12s. 6d.	5s. to 20s.
Lambs, fat "	5s. 6d. to 14s.	2s. to 10s.	4s. 6d. to 11s.
Butchers' meat—			
Beef, retail per lb.	4d. to 6½d.	3d. to 7d.	4d. to 9d.
Mutton " "	3½d. to 5d.	1½d. to 5d.	2½d. to 6¼d.
Veal " "	7d. to 8d.	6d.	5d. to 6d.
Pork " "	8d. to 1s.	8d.	7d. to 10d.
Lamb " per quarter	3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d.	2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d.	2s. to 3s.
<i>Dairy Produce.</i>			
Butter, colonial, retail per lb.	9d. to 1s. 3d.	11d. to 2s. 2d.	1s. to 1s. 8d.
" imported, salt, wholesale "	7d. to 10½d.	8d. to 1s. 6d.	4½d. to 5d.
Cheese, colonial, retail "	6d. to 1s.	6d. to 1s. 4d.	9d. to 1s. 6d.
" imported, wholesale "	7d. to 1s.	1s. to 1s. 3d.	1s. to 1s. 3d.
Milk per quart	6d. to 7d.	6d.	6d.
<i>Farm Yard Produce.</i>			
Geese per couple	7s. to 13s.	7s. to 14s.	7s. to 12s.
Ducks "	5s. to 7s. 6d.	4s. to 7s.	5s. to 7s.
Fowls "	4s. to 6s.	4s. to 6s.	4s. 6d. to 6s. 6d.
Rabbits "	1s. 6d. to 5s.	1s. 6d. to 4s.	2s. to 4s.
Pigeons "	2s. to 2s. 6d.	2s. to 3s.	2s. to 3s.
Turkeys each	6s. to 15s.	6s. to 12s. 6d.	7s. to 14s.
Sucking pigs "	6s. to 12s.	4s. to 16s.	10s. to 12s.
Bacon per lb.	10d. to 1s. 4d.	10d. to 1s. 2d.	1s. to 1s. 2d.
Ham "	10d. to 1s. 2½d.	1s. to 1s. 4d.	1s. 2d. to 1s. 4d.
Eggs per doz.	11d. to 2s. 6d.	1s. to 2s. 2d.	1s. to 2s. 2d.
<i>Garden Produce.</i>			
Potatoes, wholesale per ton	£3 10s. to £5	£3 to £7	£4 to £4 10s.
" retail per lb.	½d. to 1d.	...	¾d. to 1d.
Onions, dried per cwt.	5s. 6d. to 18s.	4s. 6d. to 16s.	9s. to 20s.
Carrots per doz. bunches	6d. to 1s. 3d.	6d. to 1s. 6d.	6d. to 1s.
Turnips "	8d. to 1s. 6d.	9d. to 2s. 6d.	6d. to 2s.

* See also paragraph 409 post.

PRICES IN MELBOURNE, 1864, 1869, AND 1874—continued.

Articles.	1864.	1869.	1874.
<i>Garden Produce—continued.</i>			
Radishes ... per doz. bunches	4d. to 6d.	4d. to 8d.	4d. to 6d.
Cabbages ... per doz.	4d. to 4s.	6d. to 10s.	9d. to 10s.
Cauliflowers ... „	2s. 6d. to 8s.	9d. to 4s.	2s. 6d. to 8s.
Lettuces ... „	6d. to 1s.	3d. to 1s. 6d.	2d. to 2s.
Green peas ... per lb.	1d. to 3d.	1½d. to 3d.	1½d. to 4d.
<i>Miscellaneous Articles.</i>			
Tea (duty paid) ... per chest	£5 to £12	£1 10s. to £13	7d. to 3s. per lb.
Coffee (in bond) ... per lb.	10d. to 1s. 0½d.	6d. to 10d.	7¾d. to 1s. 6½d.
Sugar (duty paid) ... per ton	£28 to £52	£25 to £53	£25 to £52
Rice ... per lb.	4d. to 5d.	{ £18 to £23 per ton	{ £16 10s. to £25 per ton
Tobacco (in bond) ... „	1s. 2d. to 5s. 9d.	6d. to 1s. 7d.	8d. to 1s. 7½d.
Soap, imported ... per ton	£20 to £21	£20 to £28	...
„ colonial ... per cwt.	29s. to 32s.	29s.	21s. to 29s.
Candles, tallow ... per lb.	6d. to 8d.	4½d.	4¼d. to 4½d.
„ sperm ... „	9d. to 11d.	9d. to 1s. 0½d.	10d. to 10¾d.
Salt ... per ton	£2 10s. to £4 10s.	£4 to £5 10s.	£4 10s. to £6 10s.
Coals ... „	28s. to 32s.	21s. to 21s. 6d.	35s. to 37s. 6d.
Firewood ... „	10s. to 12s. 6d.	8s. to 12s.	12s. 6d. to 14s.
<i>Wines, Spirits, &c.</i>			
Ale (duty paid) ... per hhd.	£3 5s. to £8 5s.	£4 15s. to £8 10s.	£7 to £9 5s.
„ „ ... per doz.	8s. 6d. to 10s. 3d.	7s. 6d. to 10s. 6d.	8s. to 12s. 6d.
Porter „ ... per hhd.	£5 to £7	£3 10s. to £6 17s.	£5 5s. to £7 10s.
„ „ ... per doz.	7s. 6d. to 10s. 6d.	7s. to 10s.	8s. 6d. to 13s. 3d.
Brandy (in bond) ... per gall.	4s. to 10s.	5s. 6d. to 8s.	5s. to 10s. 6d.
Rum „ ... „	2s. 9d. to 3s. 9d.	3s. 4½d. to 4s. 6d.	3s. 9d. to 4s. 3d.
Whiskey „ ... „	3s. to 4s. 3d.	4s. to 6s. 6d.	5s. to 6s. 6d.
Hollands „ ... „	2s. to 2s. 8d.	3s. to 4s. 9d.	3s. 1d. to 4s.
Port wine „ ... per pipe	£30 to £85	£20 to £100	£20 to £100
„ (duty paid) per doz.	24s. to 50s.	24s. to 50s.	24s. to 50s.
Sherry (in bond) ... per butt	£36 to £110	£20 to £120	£20 to £120
„ (duty paid) ... per doz.	40s. to 56s.	20s. to 80s.	20s. to 85s.
Claret ... „	15s. to 70s.	11s. 6d. to 100s.	11s. 6d. to 100s.
Champagne ... „	30s. to 84s.	30s. to 75s.	30s. to 95s.

363. The weekly rent of a dwelling suitable for a mechanic and his family ranges, in the suburbs of Melbourne, from 8s. to 15s. In other towns it is lower, and in country districts the erection, on Crown lands, of a cottage of sawn or split timber, with a shingle or bark roof, which can be accomplished at a trifling cost, often enables the man of small means to save rent altogether. In all the large towns, owing to the facilities offered by building societies and other financial institutions for obtaining advances of money on easy terms, numbers of laboring men possess freeholds of their own.

Dwellings
for artizans
and labor-
ers.

364. The price of gold is regulated by its purity and other circumstances, which differ in different districts. The price in the year under

Price of gold.

review was lowest in the Gippsland district, where gold realized from £3 to £4 per ounce, and highest in the Ballarat district, where it fetched from £3 17s. to £4 3s. per ounce. The mean of the highest and lowest prices in all the districts was £3 15s. 5d. per ounce.

Imports of
live stock.

365. The imports of live stock overland, as recorded by the inspectors of stock, are always much higher than the returns obtained through the Custom-house ; and there is no doubt that the stock inspectors have better opportunities of securing accurate information respecting stock entering the colony by land than the officers of the Customs. The following are the numbers noted by the inspectors in the year under notice :—

STOCK IMPORTED OVERLAND.							Number.
Horses	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,576
Cattle	...	...	...	...	...	...	86,329
Sheep	...	...	...	...	...	...	771,479
Pigs	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,247

PART VI.—PRODUCTION.

Sales of
Crown land
by auction.

366. The mode of disposing of Crown lands in Victoria has undergone numerous changes.* At first it was necessary that all land should be offered at auction before passing into the hands of private individuals, an upset price, according to its value, being placed upon it by the Government. Until 1840 the minimum upset price was 12s. per acre ; it was then raised to 20s. Land which had passed the auctioneer's hammer without being bid for was open to be bought by any one at the upset price. Large blocks of land called special surveys, and a block of a square mile in extent upon each squatting run, were, under certain Orders in Council, exempted from auction, and were permitted to be purchased at £1 per acre.

Special sur-
veys.

Land Act 1860
(24 Vict. No.
117).

367. In 1860 the system was changed, and a law was passed permitting surveyed country lands to be selected at a uniform upset price of £1 per acre, the only exception being where two or more selectors applied simultaneously for one block, in which case a limited auction, confined only to such applicants, was to take place. The successful selector had the option of either paying for the whole of his block in cash or only for half ; in the latter case, renting the other half at 1s. per acre per annum, with the right to purchase at the same rate per acre as

* For much of the information in this and the next four paragraphs I am indebted to the Report of the Honorable the Minister of Lands for the year 1873.

he paid for the first moiety. This Act imposed no conditions as to residence, cultivation, or improvement.

368. Another change was made in 1862. Large agricultural areas were proclaimed open for selection, within which land could be selected at a uniform price of £1 per acre, lot being substituted for limited auction, in the event of there being more than one applicant for an allotment. For one-half of the allotment it was necessary to pay at once; but for the remainder the purchase-money was allowed to be paid by instalments of 2s. 6d. each, extending over eight years. No more than 640 acres could be selected by one person in twelve months. Three conditions, to be complied with within twelve months of the date of selection, were imposed upon selectors under this Act: the first being that the selections be enclosed with a substantial fence; the second, that a habitable dwelling be erected on the land; and the third, that 1 acre out of every 10 selected be cultivated.

Land Act 1862
(25 Vict. No.
145).

369. The next change was made in 1865, when an Act was passed providing that agricultural land could be acquired by payment of 2s. per acre per annum during three years, and by effecting improvements to the extent of 20s. per acre within two years of the commencement of the lease. These conditions having been complied with, the lessee might, at the expiration of three years, if he resided upon the land, purchase his holding at £1 per acre; or, if not, he could require his leasehold to be offered at auction at the uniform price of 20s. per acre, with the value of improvements added in his favor. There was also a clause* in this Act whereby land adjacent to goldfields could be occupied in blocks of 20 acres each without having been previously surveyed.

Amending
Land Act
1865 (28
Vict. No.
237).

370. The operation of the last-mentioned clause was so successful in leading to the occupation of the land, that free selection before survey was the main principle of the next Land Act, which is the one at present in force. This Statute was passed in 1869, and came into operation on the 1st February 1870. Under it 320 acres is the largest amount allowed to be selected by one person. The selection is held under license during three years, within which period the licensee must reside on his selection at least two and a half years, must enclose it, cultivate 1 acre out of every 10, and generally effect substantial improvements to the value of 20s. per acre. The rent payable during this period is 2s. per acre per annum, which is credited to the selector as

Land Act 1869
(33 Vict. No.
360).

* The 42nd clause. It was framed to meet the demand for the occupation of land adjacent to goldfields. Its operation was gradually extended by regulation to a circuit of thirty miles around goldfields, and the same individual was allowed to hold several 20 acre licenses for the occupation of adjacent land to the total extent of 160 acres. The licensee was bound either to reside on his holding or to fence and cultivate a certain portion.

part payment of the principal. At the expiration of the three years' license, the selector, if he obtain a certificate from the Board of Land and Works that he has complied with these conditions, may either purchase his holding by paying up the balance of 14s. per acre, or may convert his license into a lease extending over seven years, at an annual rental of 2s. per acre, which is also credited to the selector as part payment of the fee-simple. On the expiry of this lease, and due payment of the rent, the land becomes the freehold of the selector.

Crown lands
sold, 1874.

371. The Crown land sold in 1874 amounted to 531,538 acres, and the extent granted without purchase to 44 acres. Of the former, 49,656 acres were sold by auction. The remainder was selected under the various Land Acts.

Crown lands
sold, 1836
to 1874.

372. The total extent sold, from the first settlement of the colony to the end of 1874, was 9,929,388 acres, and the extent granted without purchase was 3,245 acres, making a total of 9,932,633 acres.

Crown lands
selected.

373. The fee-simple of the whole of this land had passed to the purchaser. A further extent of land, amounting, at the end of 1874, to about 5,650,000 acres, was in process of alienation under the system of deferred payments, and this too, should the legal conditions be duly complied with, will pass away from the Crown in the course of a few years. Then there is land occupied by roads, the sites of towns, State forests, auriferous, pastoral, and timber reserves, and land which is at present useless owing to its mountainous character or to its being covered with mallee scrub, lakes, or lagoons. Deducting the whole of these lands from the area of the colony, estimated at 56,446,720 acres, the area available for selection at the end of 1874 is found to have amounted to nearly 15,000,000 acres. This will be better seen by the following table, which shows the condition of the public estate at that period:—

PUBLIC ESTATE OF VICTORIA ON 31ST DECEMBER 1874.

Condition of Land.	Number of Acres.
Land alienated in fee-simple	9,932,633
Land in process of alienation under deferred payments ...	5,650,395
Roads in connection with the above	779,157
Land included in cities, towns, &c.	231,040
Reserves in connection with pastoral occupation, about ...	350,000
Auriferous lands, about	1,000,000
State forests not included in unavailable mountain ranges	215,100
Timber reserves " "	306,976
Mallee scrub, unavailable mountain ranges, lakes, lagoons, &c., about	23,000,000
Area available for selection at end of 1874	14,981,419
Total area of Victoria	56,446,720

374. The amount realised for lands sold during the year was £579,051, or an average of £1 1s. 9d. per acre. Of this sum, only £206,897 was paid during the year, the remainder having been paid in former years under the deferred payment system. The land sold by auction included in the above realized £92,696, or an average of £1 17s. 4d. per acre, and the land sold otherwise than by auction realised £486,355, or an average of £1 0s. 2d. per acre.

Amount realised on land sales, 1874.

375. From the first settlement of the colony to the end of 1874 the amount realised by the sale of land has been £16,786,146, or at the rate of £1 13s. 10d. per acre.

Amount realised, 1836 to 1874.

376. Subjoined is the number of squatting runs and the area of Crown lands embraced therein in the year under review and in the first year of each of the two previous quinquennial periods—

Squatting runs, number and area.

				Number of Runs.	Approximate Area. acres.
1864	...	...	...	1,177	30,463,999
1869	...	...	...	1,067	27,703,314
1874	...	...	...	864	24,230,128

377. The effect of the disposal of Crown lands by sale and selection is shown in the diminution of the number of runs, and of their contained area. The falling off of the former was 110, and of the latter 2,760,000 acres in the first quinquenniad, and the falling off of the runs was 203, and of the area 3,470,000 acres in the second quinquenniad.

Decrease in number and area of runs.

378. The average size of runs was 25,884 acres at the first period, 25,964 acres at the second period, and 28,044 acres at the third period.

Average size of runs.

379. The rent paid for runs is fixed in accordance with the grazing capabilities of the land upon the following scale :—Four shillings yearly for each head of cattle and horses the run can depasture, and 8d. for each sheep. In the year under review, the amount of rent received was £125,938, or at the rate of 1·247d. per acre. In the previous year, the amount received was £140,786, or at the rate of 1·308d. per acre.

Rent of runs.

380. The number of runs with purchased land attached was 482 in 1873, and 455 in 1874. The land so attached was 1,959,394 acres in the former and 1,740,911 acres in the latter year, the proportion to each holder at the two periods respectively being 4,065 acres and 3,826 acres. In explanation of the falling off in the purchased land held in connection with runs, it is to be observed that as soon as the Crown lands attached to a run are altogether purchased it drops out of the list of runs and is

Purchased land attached to runs.

considered as a farm. The term "run" is applied to such holdings only as are occupied under pastoral licenses.

381. The agricultural statistics of Victoria are collected by the municipal bodies, who, under the Local Government Act (38 Vict. No. 506), are required each year to furnish the Government Statist, on or before the 31st March, such agricultural and other statistics relating to their districts, and on such forms and in such manner as the Governor in Council may direct. All persons are required to give correct information to the best of their knowledge and belief; and should they fail to do so they render themselves liable to a penalty not exceeding Ten pounds.

382. The collectors employed by these bodies are supplied with minute printed instructions as to the nature of their duties. By these instructions they are directed to call upon every occupier of purchased land, or land held under any other legal tenure except a pastoral license, provided his holding is of a larger extent than one acre and is not kept merely for ornament or pleasure. At each of these holdings the collector is enjoined to make enquiries as to the nature of the tenure under which the land is held, the number of acres occupied and fenced, the number cultivated with each crop, the produce of each crop, the number of hands of either sex employed, the number and description of farming implements and machines in use, the aggregate value of such implements and machines, the total value of permanent improvements, such as buildings, fences, dams, &c., and the number of live stock of each kind kept. These particulars are inserted by the collector in a schedule, to which the signature of the occupier is obtained.

383. In addition to the agricultural returns, the collectors are supplied with the forms requisite to procure statistics of the flour mills, breweries, brick-yards, potteries, and other branches of manufacturing industry, of the stone quarries, and of the number of private schools, teachers, and scholars throughout their districts. The information inserted in these forms is authenticated by the signature of the proprietor or manager of each establishment, as has already been stated to be the case in regard to the agricultural schedules.

384. Any collector divulging or making extracts from the information he receives, except under the special direction or authority of the Government Statist, renders himself liable to a penalty of Ten pounds.

385. The following is a statement of the number of holdings and of the area occupied, enclosed, and cultivated in the year under review, and in the first year of each of the two previous quinquenniads :—

Collection of statistics by local bodies.

Instructions to collectors.

Statistics of manufactories, &c.

Penalty for divulging information.

Land occupied, enclosed, and cultivated.

HOLDINGS AND LAND* OCCUPIED, ENCLOSED, AND CULTIVATED, 1865, 1870, AND 1875.

Year ended 31st March.	Number of Holdings.	Acres Occupied.	Acres Enclosed.	Acres under Tillage.
1865	18,355	6,125,204	5,030,978	479,463
1870	30,214	8,849,486	8,054,623	827,534
1875	38,468	12,264,576	11,281,142	1,011,776

386. It will be observed that since the first period all the numbers have more than doubled, and that since the second period the holdings have increased 27 per cent., the area in occupation 39 per cent., the enclosed land 40 per cent., and the land in cultivation 22 per cent. Increase in land held and cultivated.

387. The following is the acreage placed under the principal crops in each of the three years already referred to :— Land under principal crops.

LAND UNDER PRINCIPAL CROPS, 1865, 1870, AND 1875.

Principal Crops.	Year ended 31st March.		
	1865.	1870.	1875.
	acres.	acres.	acres.
Wheat	125,040	288,514	332,936
Oats	144,303	144,791	114,921
Barley	7,648	28,115	29,505
Potatoes	31,172	41,216	35,183
Hay	85,146	140,435	119,031
Green forage	40,061	102,530	254,329

388. The tendency which exists to breed and fatten stock, rather than to cultivate, will be recognised by the large extent placed under green forage† in the year under review as compared with previous periods, and this whilst the acreage under most of the regular crops has fallen off. With this exception, and a trifling increase in barley, the only crop covering a larger area in 1874–5 than at the previous period was wheat, the land under which increased by 44,000 acres, or about 15 per cent. Decrease of land under some crops.

389. The produce of the same crops, except green forage, of which no return of produce is made, was as follows in the years named :— Produce of principal crops.

GROSS PRODUCE OF PRINCIPAL CROPS, 1865, 1870, AND 1875.

Principal Crops.	Year ended 31st March.		
	1865.	1870.	1875.
Wheat, bushels... ..	1,899,378	5,697,056	4,850,165
Oats, „	2,694,445	3,761,408	2,121,612
Barley, „	124,849	691,248	619,896
Potatoes, tons	59,828	127,645	124,310
Hay, „	97,731	224,816	157,261

* The holdings and land referred to in this part of the Statistics are exclusive of Crown land held under squatting licenses, except where the contrary is stated.

† Following the principle adopted in the other Australian colonies, land permanently laid down in artificial grasses is considered to be under cultivation, and is included with the extent under green forage. The area so laid down was 36,925 acres in 1864–5, 97,255 acres in 1869–70, and 238,043 acres in 1874–5.

Average
produce of
principal
crops.

390. The yields of all the crops were less in the season 1874-5 than those of the same crops in the season 1869-70, and the yield of oats was less than that of the season 1864-5. It may, however, be remarked that 1869-70 was a year in which the yield of all the crops was exceptionally good. This will be noticed by the following figures, which show the average produce per acre of all the principal crops during each of the last 11 years :—

AVERAGE PRODUCE OF PRINCIPAL CROPS, 1865 TO 1875.

Year ended 31st March.	Average Produce per Acre of—				
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	tons.	tons.
1865	15·19	18·67	16·32	1·92	1·15
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

Average
produce.
Mean of 11
years.

391. During the 11 years the average produce of wheat was 16·10 bushels to the acre, that of oats was 20·24 bushels, that of barley was 20·26 bushels, that of potatoes was 2·93 tons, and that of hay was 1·30 tons. It will be observed that in the year under review the yield per acre of wheat and oats, although higher than that of the previous year, was below the average, and the yield of barley, potatoes, and hay was above the average.

Proportion of
land under
each crop.

392. Green fodder for cattle in the past season covered fully one-fourth of the land in cultivation ; in 1869-70 it covered an eighth, and in 1864-5 a twelfth. Wheat was grown on nearly a third of the land under tillage in the past season, on more than a third in 1869-70, and on little over a fourth in 1864-5. The proportion of oats, potatoes, and hay to the total cultivation has been steadily decreasing at each period. A smaller proportion of the cultivated land was placed under barley in the past season than in 1869-70, but a larger proportion than in 1864-5. These and other results are shown in the following table, which exhibits the proportion of the total land in cultivation placed under each crop at the three periods :—

PROPORTION OF LAND UNDER EACH CROP, 1865, 1870, AND 1875.

Name of Crop.	Proportion of each Crop to the Total Land cultivated in—		
	1864-5.	1869-70.	1874-5.
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
Wheat	26·08	34·86	32·90
Oats	30·10	17·50	11·36
Barley	1·60	3·40	2·92
Potatoes	6·50	4·98	3·48
Hay	17·76	16·97	11·76
Green forage	8·36	12·39	25·14
Other tillage	9·60	9·90	12·44
Total	100·00	100·00	100·00

393. The following figures show a comparison of the principal results of the agricultural statistics in the year under notice and the previous one. It will be seen that less land was placed under wheat and potatoes in the latter than in the former year, but that all the other items—including the produce of the two crops covering a smaller acreage—show increase:—

Agricultural statistics, 1874 and 1875, compared.

COMPARISON OF AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS, 1873-1874.

	As compared with the previous Year—	
	Increase, 1874-5.	Decrease, 1874-5.
Holdings number	1,866	...
Area in occupation acres	771,031	...
" " cultivation "	46,783	...
" " under wheat "	...	17,040
" " oats "	3,930	...
" " barley "	4,172	...
" " potatoes "	...	3,166
" " hay "	3,359	...
" " green forage "	41,260	...
Produce of wheat bushels	97,876	...
" oats "	380,161	...
" barley "	117,295	...
" potatoes tons	14,488	...
" hay "	9,863	...

394. In addition to the principal crops of which mention has been made, various descriptions of minor crops are also raised. It is not, however, presumed that the whole of such crops, or the full measure to which they are grown, is recorded by the collectors. It is certain that they are often raised in gardens, in which case the different kinds would not be distinguished in the returns. It is also probable that they may

Minor crops.

be sometimes grown upon allotments of a smaller extent than one acre, which the collectors are not called upon to visit. The following list must therefore be looked upon as indicating the nature of certain minor crops grown in Victoria rather than the extent to which those crops have been cultivated during the last two years :—

MINOR CROPS.

Nature of Crop.					1873-4.	1874-5.
Beet, carrots, parsnips, and cabbage	...	...	...	acres ...	1,143	721
				tons ...	6,072	3,887
Broom millet	...	...	...	acres ...	...	56
				fibre, cwt. ...	...	264
Buckwheat	...	...	...	seed, bush. ...	...	1,000
				acres ...	6	5
Chicory	...	...	...	bushels ...	32	20
				acres ...	43	109
Clover for seed	...	...	...	tons ...	245½	531
				acres ...	10	...
Cocksfoot for seed	...	...	...	bushels ...	60	...
				acres ...	9	5
Cow Grass for seed	...	...	...	bushels ...	240	140
				acres ...	...	20
Flax	...	...	...	bushels ...	...	37
				acres ...	16	7
Hops	...	...	...	fibre, cwt. ...	95	48
				linseed ...	86	63
Maize	...	...	...	acres ...	131	126
				lbs. ...	83,328	99,624
Mangel-wurzel	...	...	...	acres ...	1,959	1,523
				bushels ...	40,347	24,263
Melons	...	...	...	acres ...	1,252	1,281
				tons ...	14,475	17,899
Mustard (white)	...	...	...	acres ...	...	10
				tons ...	...	17
Onions	...	...	...	acres ...	8	31
				cwt. ...	49	100
Opium poppies	...	...	...	acres ...	270	347
				tons ...	1,165	2,794
Pease, beans, millet, and sorghum	...	...	...	acres ...	4	10
				lbs. ...	17	168
Prairie grass for seed	...	...	...	acres ...	14,229	16,170
				bushels ...	199,041	317,382
Pumpkins	...	...	...	acres ...	35	21
				bushels ...	1,023	619
Rape for seed	...	...	...	acres ...	39	36
				tons ...	105	233
Rye and bere	...	...	...	acres ...	3	7
				bushels ...	220	30
Rye grass for seed	...	...	...	acres ...	722	1,096
				bushels ...	7,979	15,620
Strawberries	...	...	...	acres ...	2,643	3,036
				bushels ...	30,581	35,202
Tares for seed	...	...	...	acres ...	...	21
				cwt. ...	...	210
	...	...	...	acres ...	7	2
				bushels ...	66	13

MINOR CROPS—continued.

Nature of Crop.					1873-4.	1874-5.
Teazles	...	...	...	{ acres ...	2	1
				{ cwt. ...	16	20
Tobacco	...	...	...	{ acres ...	583	733
				{ cwt. ...	3,694	6,839
Turnips	...	...	...	{ acres ...	175	241
				{ tons ...	1,006	1,901
Vetches for seed	...	...	...	{ acres ...	5	1
				{ bushels ...	32	15
Vines	...	...	...	{ acres ...	5,222	4,937
				{ wine, galls....	562,713	577,493
				{ brandy, galls.	100	148
Yorkshire fog	...	...	...	{ acres ...	20	...
				{ bushels ...	300	...

395. Besides the land under these crops, the returns for 1874-5 show 11,083 acres under gardens and 6,317 acres under orchards, as against 9,912 acres under gardens and 6,148 acres under orchards in the previous year. Ten acres under olive trees and 6 acres under mulberry trees were recorded in 1873-4, but no olive grounds, and only one acre under mulberry trees, appear in the returns of the year under review. There is no doubt that both olives and mulberry trees—the latter for the purpose of feeding silkworms—are much more extensively cultivated in Victoria than the agricultural statistics indicate. Gardens, orchards, &c.

396. Land to the extent of 77,989 acres was permitted to lie fallow during the year under review, as against 66,989 acres in the former year. Land in fallow.

397. The different kinds of tenure under which land is held in Victoria, together with the number of acres occupied under each kind during the last two years, are given as follow. In addition to the occupied land shown in the agricultural statistics, this table includes the Crown land held under pastoral licenses :— Land tenure.

LAND TENURE, 1874 AND 1875.

Description of Tenure.					1873-4.	1874-5.
					acres.	acres.
Freehold land	...	...	...	...	7,212,041	7,815,994
Purchased land rented	...	...	...	...	1,414,221	1,337,180
Crown lands selected, leased, &c.	...	...	...	...	2,867,283	3,111,402
Crown land under pastoral licenses	...	...	...	...	25,830,641	24,230,128
Total area in occupation					37,324,186	36,494,704

Freeholders
and tenants.

398. The total area of occupied land of which the purchase had been completed at the respective periods is made up by the sum of the figures in the first two lines of the table, viz., 8,626,262 acres in 1873-4, and 9,153,174 acres in 1874-5. The figures in the first line represent the extent occupied by the proprietors of the land, those in the second line represent the extent let to tenants. The latter amounted to over 16 per cent. of the whole at the first period, and to not quite 15 per cent. at the second period.

Leases and
rental of
farms.

399. A return is obtained from the agricultural collectors of the average duration of leases of farms rented from private persons, and the average rental per acre in each district. Taking all the districts throughout the colony, the following are the extreme figures given for the year under review :—

Average duration of leases	...	...	1 year to 10 years.
Average rental per acre, agricultural land	...	...	4s. to 30s.
Average rental per acre, pastoral land	...	...	2s. to 10s.

Classification
of holdings.

400. The following is a classification of the holdings throughout the colony according to size, and of the number of acres embraced in and cultivated on each class. This does not include any holdings occupied under squatting licenses :—

CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS AS TO SIZE, 1874-5.

Size of Holdings.	Number of Holdings.	Purchased Land in Occupation.	Land in Cultivation.
		acres:	acres.
1 acre to 5 acres ...	1,567	4,615	2,670
5 " 15 " ...	3,625	31,978	14,088
15 " 30 " ...	3,892	80,366	26,104
30 " 50 " ...	3,355	129,137	35,992
50 " 100 " ...	6,320	454,501	104,684
100 " 200 " ...	7,378	1,033,358	194,539
200 " 350 " ...	8,229	2,317,799	274,633
350 " 500 " ...	1,408	580,823	88,364
500 acres and upwards ...	2,694	7,631,999	270,702
Total ...	38,468	12,264,576	1,011,776

Cultivation
on holdings
of certain
sizes.

401. It will be observed that more than half the cultivation (573,856 acres) was on blocks between 50 acres and 350 acres in extent. About a fourth of the cultivation was on blocks of 500 acres and upwards; but the tillage upon holdings of this class is mainly confined to laying down the land in permanent artificial grasses.

Classification
of large
estates.

402. The maximum extent allowed to be selected by one individual under the present Land Act is 320 acres. This, therefore, appears to be the limit beyond which the Legislature has deemed it inexpedient that estates should be encouraged to reach. According to the agricultural

statistics, however, 4,199 estates in 1873-4, and 4,493 estates in 1874-5, contained over 320 acres. The following is a classification of these estates according to their respective sizes :—

CLASSIFICATION AS TO SIZE OF ESTATES OF OVER 320 ACRES, 1874-1875.

Size of Holdings.	1873-4.		1874-5.	
	Number of Holdings.	Purchased Land in Occupation.	Number of Holdings.	Purchased Land in Occupation.
321 acres to 400 acres ...	1,021	367,678 acres.	1,072	386,490 acres.
401 " 500 " ...	759	342,190	795	357,674
501 " 600 " ...	456	252,392	536	295,177
601 " 700 " ...	451	291,435	497	321,067
701 " 800 " ...	203	153,070	210	158,968
801 " 900 " ...	141	124,193	156	134,165
901 " 1,000 " ...	165	162,203	155	148,364
1,001 " 1,500 " ...	292	363,252	316	382,394
1,501 " 2,000 " ...	127	229,637	154	269,667
2,001 " 3,000 " ...	121	311,010	130	329,621
3,001 " 4,000 " ...	88	315,952	79	285,891
4,001 " 5,000 " ...	46	217,672	53	237,280
5,001 " 7,500 " ...	77	482,315	87	539,299
7,501 " 10,000 " ...	56	498,848	64	569,140
10,001 " 15,000 " ...	74	891,890	69	853,109
15,001 " 20,000 " ...	45	757,453	42	737,181
20,001 " 30,000 " ...	54	1,312,027	50	1,199,314
30,001 " 40,000 " ...	15	505,479	20	683,092
40,001 acres and upwards ...	8	491,589	8	425,652
Total ...	4,199	8,070,285	4,493	8,313,495

403. The following is the average size of purchased holdings in the year under review, and at the beginning of the two previous quinquennial periods. It will be noticed that holdings were largest at the first, and smallest at the middle period :—

Average Size of Holdings.				
1864-5	...	...	...	334 acres.
1869-70	...	...	...	293 "
1874-5	...	...	...	319 "

404. Holdings between 5 acres and 500 acres in extent are considered to be farms, those under the smallest of these sizes being little better than gardens, and those over the largest being used chiefly for grazing purposes. The average size of farms computed in this manner was as follows, at the same three periods :—

Average Size of Farms.				
1864-5	...	...	...	97 acres.
1869-70	...	...	...	100 "
1874-5	...	...	...	135 "

405. The average area in occupation to each person in the colony has been gradually increasing since the first period, as will be seen by the following figures :—

Area occupied per head of population.

	Average Area in Occupation to each person in the Colony			
1864-5	10·4 acres.
1869-70	12·4 „
1874-5	15·1 „

Average area
cultivated
by each
holder.

406. It will be observed by the following figures that the average area cultivated by each occupier was highest at the middle period, and is now only a fraction higher than it was at the first period :—

	Average Area Cultivated by each Occupier.			
1864-5	26·1 acres.
1869-70	27·4 „
1874-5	26·3 „

Area culti-
vated per
head of
population.

407. The area in cultivation was less than an acre per head of the population at the first period, but over an acre per head at the second and third periods. The exact amounts were as follow :—

	Average Area Cultivated to each person in the Colony.			
1864-5	·81 acre.
1869-70	1·16 „
1874-5	1·25 „

Occupied
land cul-
tivated.

408. The proportion of occupied land in cultivation at each of the three periods was as follows :—

	Proportion of Occupied Land Cultivated.			
1864-5	7·80 per cent.
1869-70	9·35 „
1874-5	8·25 „

Prices of
agricultural
produce.

409. Prices of agricultural produce, in the months of February and March of the year under review, were not, except in the case of hay, so high as in the same months of the previous year. The following are the rates for the principal crops during the last eight years, taken from an average of the returns furnished each year by the collectors throughout the colony :—

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 6¼	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

* See also table following paragraph 362 ante.

410. It will be seen that wheat was highest in 1868, and lowest in 1870; oats was highest in 1874, and lowest in 1872; barley was highest in 1874, and lowest in 1872; and both potatoes and hay were highest in 1869, and lowest in 1872. Years of highest and lowest prices.

411. The following is an estimate of the value of the crops raised during the year under review. It will be seen that the total amount is over £4,400,000:— Value of agricultural produce.

VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE, 1874-5.

Name of Crop.	Gross Produce and Price.			Estimated Value.		
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	
Wheat	4,850,165 bushels @	0	4 5	1,071,078	2	1
Oats	2,121,612 „ @	0	4 3	450,842	11	0
Barley	619,896 „ @	0	4 6	139,476	12	0
Other cereals	357,265 „ @	0	4 6	80,384	12	6
Potatoes	124,310 tons ... @	4	9 0	553,179	10	0
Other green crops	26,481 „ ... @	5	0 0	132,405	0	0
Hay	157,261 „ ... @	4	9 0	699,811	9	0
Green forage	254,329 acres ... @	3	0 0	762,987	0	0
Tobacco	6,839 cwt. ... @	2	16 0	19,149	4	0
Grapes, not made into wine	19,999 „ ... @	1	0 0	19,999	0	0
Wine	577,493 galls. ... @	0	4 0	115,498	12	0
Brandy	148 „ ... @	0	10 0	74	0	0
Other crops	3,510 acres ... @	5	0 0	17,550	0	0
Garden and orchard produce	17,400 „ ... @	20	0 0	348,000	0	0
	Total			£4,410,435	12	7

412. The specific weight of crops differs in different districts: thus wheat, during the past year, ranged from 50 lbs. to 68 lbs. to the bushel; oats, from 36 lbs. to 44 lbs.; barley, from 46 lbs. to 56 lbs., and maize, from 48 lbs. to 58 lbs. The following are the averages for the whole colony during the past two years*:— Weight of crops.

SPECIFIC WEIGHT OF CROPS, 1874 AND 1875.

Average Weight per bushel of—	1873-4.	1874-5.
Wheat	lbs. 61	lbs. 61
Oats	40	40
Barley	51	51
Maize	56	55

413. A slight falling off has taken place in the number of persons employed in agricultural and pastoral pursuits during the past year, as Hands on farms and stations.

* The standard weight of crops in Victoria is reckoned to be 60 lbs. to the bushel for wheat, maize, rye, beans, pease, tares, and vetches; 40 lbs. for oats, and 50 lbs. for barley. In some of the colonies the standard weights are fixed by Statute.

will be seen by a comparison of the results in the following table, which shows the number of persons employed on farms and the number on squatting stations in the last two years. It may be mentioned that only those holdings of which some portion is subject to a pastoral license are considered as stations. All others are set down as farms. The proprietor or manager is included amongst the hands employed in the case of both farms and stations :—

HANDS EMPLOYED ON FARMS AND STATIONS, 1874 AND 1875.

Description of Holding.	Year.	No. of Hands employed.		
		Males.	Females.	Total.
Farms	1873-4	56,581	25,420	82,001
"	1874-5	56,520	25,231	81,751
Stations	1873-4	5,128	1,546	6,674
"	1874-5	4,638	1,275	5,913
Total	1873-4	61,709	26,966	88,675
"	1874-5	61,158	26,506	87,664

Wages on farms.

414. A return of the average rates of labor on farms is given below. It will be observed that a decline has taken place in most cases where the employment is permanent, but generally a rise where it is temporary, as in the case of mowers, reapers, and threshers. Rations are allowed in all cases in addition to the wages quoted :—

AVERAGE RATES OF LABOR ON FARMS,* 1874 AND 1875.

Description of Labor.	1873-4.		1874-5.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
Ploughmen, per week	20	3	20	3
Farm laborers, ,,	17	2	16	9
Married couples, ,,	24	6	23	1
Females, ,,	11	4	10	6
Mowers, ,,	26	1	30	5
" per acre	5	6	5	0
Reapers, per week	28	8	32	3
" per acre	13	4	13	9
Threshers, per bushel	0	6	0	7

Wages on stations.

415. The rates of labor on squatting stations have not differed greatly in the past two years. The following are the figures made up of averages of the returns furnished by the collectors in all the districts. As in the case of farms, rations are always supplied in addition to wages :—

* See also table following paragraph 361 *ante*.

AVERAGE RATES OF LABOR ON STATIONS,* 1874 AND 1875.

Description of Labor.	1873-4.			1874-5.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Stockmen, per annum	44	6	4	46	13	0
Boundary riders, ,,				39	6	0
Shepherds, ,,	36	2	5	35	17	0
Hutkeepers, ,,	26	1	10	29	6	0
Married couples, ,,	61	5	10	56	15	0
Females, ,,	32	5	5	28	11	0
Station laborers, per week	0	16	7	0	17	3
Sheep washers, ,,	1	0	6	0	19	6
Shearers, per 100 sheep shorn	0	14	1	0	14	4

416. The number of live stock on farms and the number on squatting stations as returned in the last two years are given as follow. The returns are believed to understate the truth, especially those of horses, cattle, and pigs. It will be noticed that, according to the figures, all descriptions of stock on farms, except pigs, have increased, but that all descriptions on stations show diminished numbers:—

Live stock
on farms
and sta-
tions.

LIVE STOCK ON FARMS AND STATIONS, 1874 AND 1875.

Description of Live Stock.	Year.	On Farms.	On Stations.	Total.
Horses	1873-4	160,179	20,163	180,342
"	1874-5	161,398	18,856	180,254
Cattle, milch cows	1873-4	216,398	13,016	229,414
"	1874-5	228,593	12,544	241,137
" other	1873-4	506,135	148,214	654,349
" "	1874-5	571,526	145,995	717,521
Sheep	1873-4	5,398,013	5,925,067	11,323,080
"	1874-5	5,694,391	5,526,645	11,221,036
Pigs	1873-4	155,143	5,193	160,336
"	1874-5	133,747	4,194	137,941

417. As in former returns, all holdings are set down as farms except those of which some portion is subject to a pastoral license. In the case of the latter the entire holding is considered to be a station. It will be observed that a larger number of each description of stock is now kept on farms than on stations. This has for some time past been the case in respect to all kinds of stock except sheep, but the year under review is the first in which the sheep on farms have exceeded those on stations. The following is the extent of land embraced in holdings of both descriptions. It will be seen that the area which supports the smallest quantity of stock, viz., that included in stations, is nearly two and a half times as great as that in farms:—

Live stock.

* See also table following paragraph 361 ante.

Land embraced in farms, 1874-5	...	...	...	acres. 10,523,665
„ „ stations, Crown	...	acres. 24,230,128		
„ „ „ purchased		1,740,911		25,971,039
Total area in occupation	...	...	...	<u>36,494,704</u>

Stock to the square mile.

418. The area embraced in farms is equal to about 16,443 square miles, that in stations to 40,580 square miles, so that the whole area on which stock is kept is about 57,023 square miles. The following is the average number of each kind of stock to the square mile on farms and stations :—

LIVE STOCK TO THE SQUARE MILE, 1874-5.

Description of Live Stock.	Number of Stock to the Square Mile.		
	On Farms.	On Stations.	Total.
Horses	9·82	·46	3·16
Cattle	48·66	3·91	16·81
Sheep	346·31	136·19	196·78
Pigs	8·13	·10	2·42
Total	412·92	140·67	219·17

Value of pastoral produce.

419. The following is an attempt to estimate the value of pastoral produce raised on holdings and land of all descriptions in the year under review :—

VALUE OF PASTORAL PRODUCE, 1874-5.

Nature of Produce.	Value.
	£
Milk, butter, and cheese, from average number of milch cows kept, viz., 235,275, at £10 ...	2,352,750
Estimated net numbers* of stock slaughtered in 1874—	
Cattle, 263,826, at £8 ...	2,110,608
Sheep, 639,963, at 10s. ...	319,981
Pigs, 56,802, at £3 ...	170,406
Excess of exports over imports of wool, Customs' value ...	4,347,199
Exports, the produce of Victoria, of provisions, Customs' value ...	180,730
„ „ tallow, „ ...	199,564
„ „ hides, „ ...	3,923
„ „ skins (exclusive of kangaroo) Customs' value ...	51,618
„ „ horns and hoofs „ ...	3,783
Estimated value of wool, tallow, hides and skins, &c., manufactured in Victoria, say ...	100,000
Total	<u>£9,840,562</u>

* The gross numbers of live stock slaughtered in the year I estimate to be as follow:—Cattle, 270,600; sheep, 1,500,000; pigs, 85,000. Those I have termed the “net numbers” are made up by

420. The number and horsepower of steam engines used on farms and squatting stations in the last three years were as follow. It would appear by the figures that the employment of steam machinery in the furtherance of agricultural and pastoral pursuits is on the decline:—

Steam engines on farms and stations

STEAM ENGINES ON FARMS AND STATIONS, 1873 TO 1875.

Year ended 31st March.	Number of Steam Engines.					
	On Farms.		On Stations.		Total.	
	Number.	Horsepower.	Number.	Horsepower.	Number.	Horsepower.
1873 ...	319	2,297	39	392	358	2,689
1874 ...	298	2,367	32	314	330	2,681
1875 ...	262	2,051	22	216	284	2,267

421. The value of agricultural machines and implements on farms and squatting stations during the last three years is given in the following table. Notwithstanding that the diminished area held by squatters, owing to the purchasing up of runs, is marked by a falling off in the value of both machinery and improvements on stations, the total result shows an increase of half a million sterling in the last year. Under the head of improvements is included the value of buildings of all descriptions, but not the cost of clearing or cropping land:—

Agricultural machinery and improvements.

VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY AND IMPROVEMENTS, 1873 TO 1875.

Value of—	1872-3.	1873-4.	1874-5.
	£	£	£
Machinery on farms ...	1,440,226	1,462,460	1,486,558
Improvements on farms ...	9,620,139	9,625,907	10,410,609
Total ...	11,060,365	11,088,367	11,897,167
Machinery on stations...	96,656	98,001	80,751
Improvements on stations ...	1,831,424	2,134,228	1,920,516
Total ...	1,928,080	2,232,229	2,001,267
Total machinery ...	1,536,882	1,560,461	1,567,309
Total improvements ...	11,451,563	11,760,135	12,331,125
Grand total ...	12,988,445	13,320,596	13,898,434

adding to the gross numbers the increase of the cattle shown in the returns of 1874, as compared with those of 1873 (74,895); also the exports of cattle (1,411), of sheep (16,221), and of pigs (6), and deducting from the same numbers the decrease of sheep as shown by the returns (102,044), and of pigs (22,395); also the imports of cattle (83,080), of sheep (774,214), and of pigs (5,809). I have made no allowance for the value of the increase of horse stock, as a total falling off of horses amounting to 1,613 appears to have taken place. This number is made up by subtracting the exports of horses (3,749) from the imports of horses (5,274), and adding to the difference (1,525) the decrease of horses (88) shown in the returns.

Machine
labor.

422. The prices paid by farmers for the use of machinery have been rising in the last two years, as will be seen by the following figures. These have been obtained by means of averages struck from the returns of the collectors of all the districts during each of the three years named :—

RATES OF MACHINE LABOR.

—	1872-3.	1873-4.	1874-5.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Machine reaping, per acre	0 5 1	0 5 9	0 6 5
Machine mowing, per acre	0 4 8	0 4 9	0 5 3
Machine threshing, per 100 bushels ...	1 3 5	1 3 7	1 4 8

Flour mills.

423. The number of flour mills returned in the year under notice and at the beginning of the two previous quinquennial periods, together with some particulars respecting their operations, is given in the following table. The number of mills has increased by 12 in the last five years, but a proportionate increase is not shown in the other items. It may be remarked that the returns showing the grain operated upon and flour and meal made are known to be under the mark at all the periods :—

FLOUR MILLS, 1865, 1870, AND 1875.

Flour Mills.	1864-5.	1869-70.	1874-5.
Number using steam	80	138	149
Number using water	12	11	12
Number using wind... ..	1	...	...
Amount of horsepower	1,691	2,846	2,835
Number of pairs of stones	265	458	485
Number of hands employed	469	720	749
Bushels of wheat operated upon ...	2,206,576	5,316,083	5,371,866
Bushels of other grain operated upon ...	118,846	135,509	233,150
Tons of flour made	49,032	116,783	114,929
Tons of meal made	5,797	7,908	2,664
Value of machinery and plant ...	*£197,850	£238,385	£224,650
Value of lands †	}*£234,305 {	£60,780	£58,388
Value of buildings		£244,955	£206,625

Breweries.

424. The following particulars were obtained from breweries at the same periods. The returns of the year under review, as compared with those made five years previously, show a falling off in nearly all the

* These values are for the year 1865-6. The values were not given in the returns for the previous year.

† Some of the mills stand upon Crown lands, and in these cases no estimate of the value of the land is given. Six mills in 1874-5 were upon Crown lands.

items. There is no doubt that the truth is understated at all the periods in respect to the quantity of the different descriptions of material used and of beer made:—

BREWERIES, 1865, 1870, AND 1875.

Breweries.	1864-5.	1869-70.	1874-5.
Total number	74	119	107
Hands employed	495	955	925
Horses employed	214	670	663
Drays and waggons...	214	390	364
Sugar used—lbs.	3,620,964	11,586,245	8,816,864
Malt used—bushels	320,938	931,825	670,928
Hops used—lbs.	459,452	908,232	988,863
Beer made—gallons	6,179,712	14,041,157	13,653,531
Value of machinery and plant	*£101,134	£211,269	£159,313
Value of lands †	*£132,932	£58,365	£65,846
Value of buildings	*£132,932	£223,787	£211,784

425. Statistics of stone quarries were not collected until 1867-8. The following are the returns obtained in that year and at the two subsequent periods for which other returns have been given. It will be observed that, although more quarries are in work, more hands are employed, and more stone is raised, the value of the stone is not so great as it was five years since:—

Stone quarries.

STONE QUARRIES, 1868, 1870, AND 1875.

Stone Quarries.	1867-8.	1869-70.	1874-5.
Total number	62	106	172
Steam engines—number	1	2	5
Steam engines—horsepower	3	58	56
Hands employed	271	677	1,009
Bluestone raised—cubic yards	112,120	267,135	344,617
Granite raised	1,280	350	3,900
Sandstone raised	50	5,200	12,660
Slate and flagging raised	...	7,534	1,290
Value of stone raised	£42,974	£108,169	£81,388
Value of machinery and plant	£4,584	£24,950	£16,704
Value of lands †	£5,810	£7,880	£14,588
Value of buildings	£583	£1,755	£3,302

426. Returns of brick-yards and potteries were first obtained apart from the general returns of manufactures in 1867-8; the figures are therefore given for that year, for 1869-70, and for the year under

Brick-yards and potteries.

* These values are for the year 1865-6. The values were not given for the previous year.

† The figures in this line apply to purchased lands only. Three of the breweries in 1874-5, and a certain number in the other years, were on Crown lands.

‡ Forty-nine stone quarries in 1874-5, and a certain number in the other years, were on Crown lands. In these cases no estimate of the value of the land is given.

review. It will be noticed that an increase is shown in all the items except pottery between the first and second periods, and in all, except the establishments using manual labor only, between the second and third periods. The value of pottery manufactured was, however, greater in 1867-8 than at either of the subsequent periods :—

BRICK-YARDS AND POTTERIES, 1868, 1870, AND 1875.

Brick-yards, &c.	1867-8.	1869-70.	1874-5.
Number using steam	5	7	12
Number using horsepower	61	111	121
Number using manual labor only	107	175	163
Amount of horsepower	127	201	342
Machines for tempering or crushing clay	82	147	184
Machines for making bricks or pottery	38	27	77
Hands employed	782	1,186	1,271
Number of bricks made	46,459,000	79,630,000	83,337,000
Value of bricks made	£88,511	£157,875	£164,266
Value of pottery made	£27,925	£10,988	£24,802
Value of machinery and plant	£19,748	£29,596	£45,785
Value of lands *	£28,491	£42,507	£52,251
Value of buildings	£17,027	£30,763	£53,858

427. Returns of manufactories and works other than those already named are given in the following table. The manufactories are all extensive establishments, and it will be seen that nearly half of them use steampower. Mere shops at which some manufacturing business is carried on are not taken account of :—

MANUFACTORIES, WORKS, &C., 1865, 1870, AND 1875.

Manufactories, Works, &c.	1864-5.†	1869-70.	1874-5.
Number using steam	189	481	683
Number using water	15	10	15
Number using wind	1	1	4
Number using horse	62	106	139
Number using manual labor only	271	375	704
Amount of horsepower	2,807	6,281	8,766
Hands employed, males	5,881	12,739	20,442
Hands employed, females	201	3,341	4,649
Value of machinery and plant	£1,042,042‡	£2,271,252	£3,330,363
Value of lands || ... ..	£561,433‡	£446,366	£798,595
Value of buildings		£770,408	£1,591,362

* The figures in this line apply to purchased lands only. Eighty-seven of the brick-yards in 1874-5, and a certain number in the other years, were on Crown lands.

† One hundred and thirteen brick-yards and potteries are included in this column. In the other years these establishments are not included, but are shown in a separate table.

‡ These values are for the year 1865-6, and include the value of 151 brick-yards and potteries. The values were not given for the previous year.

|| One hundred and ninety-nine manufactories in 1874-5, and a certain number in the other years were on Crown lands. In these cases no estimate of the value of the land has been given.

428. The manufactories and works of all kinds, including flour mills, breweries, brick-yards, and potteries, in addition to those of which mention is made in the above table, are classified as follow for the three periods :—

List of manufactoryes, &c.

MANUFACTORIES, WORKS, &C.,* 1865, 1870, AND 1875.

Description of Manufactory.	Number of Establishments.		
	1864-5.	1869-70.	1874-5.
<i>Books and Stationery.</i>			
Account-book manufactories, manufacturing stationers	1	10	16
Printing establishments (steam)	7	20	30
<i>Musical Instruments.</i>			
Organ building establishments	1	2	1
Pianoforte manufactories	4	7	9
<i>Machines, Tools, and Implements.</i>			
Agricultural implement manufactories	16	29	44
Bellows manufactories ... ..	...	...	1
Cutlery works ... ..	...	1	4
Engine, machine manufactories	10	27	46
Instruments of precision manufactories ... ..	...	...	1
Sewing-machine manufactories	1	...	...
Surgical instrument manufactories	2	...	...
<i>Carriages and Harness.</i>			
Coach, waggon, &c., manufactories † ... ..	...	2	96
Saddle, harness manufactories ... ..	...	...	16
Saddle-tree, &c., manufactories ... ..	...	...	4
Whip manufactories ... ..	...	2	4
<i>Ships and Boats.</i>			
Ship, boat builders	19	14	13
Floating docks ... ..	...	} 7 }	1
Graving docks ... ..	...		2
Patent slips	2		5
Sail-making establishments	1	...	...
<i>Furniture.</i>			
Bedding manufactories ... ..	...	6	5
Cabinet works (steam)	1	3	5
Earth-closet manufactories ... ..	...	3	3
Looking-glass manufactories ... ..	...	2	4

* Stone quarries not being manufactories are not included in this table, but it embraces all other kinds of works at which the operations are of a sufficiently extensive character to warrant their being taken note of.

† Extensive establishments only are taken account of. In several cases steampower was used.

MANUFACTORIES, WORKS, &C., 1865, 1870, AND 1875—continued.

Description of Manufactory.	Number of Establishments.		
	1864-5.	1869-70.	1874-5.
<i>Chemicals.</i>			
Blue manufactories	2	...	...
Chemical works	3	3	8
Dye works	6	11	16
Essential oil manufactories ... ..	...	2	4
Fuze manufactories ... ..	...	1	1
Gun-cotton manufactories ... ..	...	...	1
Ink, blacking manufactories ... ..	...	...	7
Match (vesta) manufactories ... ..	...	...	1
Powder (blasting) manufactories ... ..	...	...	4
Salt works	2	3	5
Tar distilling—asphalte works	1	1	1
<i>Textile Fabrics.</i>			
Woollen materials, cloth, manufactories ... ..	...	2	6
<i>Dress.*</i>			
Boot manufactories ... ..	...	16	42
Clothing manufactories	1	37	43
Fur manufactories ... ..	...	...	2
Hat, cap manufactories	1	8	14
Oilskin, waterproof clothing manufactories ... ..	...	...	4
<i>Fibrous Materials.</i>			
Bag and sack manufactories ... ..	...	1	...
Jute manufactories ... ..	...	...	1
Oilcloth manufactories ... ..	...	...	1
Rope, twine works	3	9	15
<i>Animal Food.</i>			
Cheese manufactories ... ..	...	...	7
Meat-curing establishments	2	11	21
Oyster culture	1	...	...
<i>Vegetable Food.</i>			
Biscuit manufactories	9	7	8
Confectionery works ... ..	...	4	6
Flour mills	93	149	161
Jam manufactories ... ..	...	4	8
Macaroni works ... ..	...	...	1
Maizena, oatmeal, and starch manufactories	1	2	3
Rice mills ... ..	...	3	1

* None but extensive establishments are taken account of. Every bootmaker's, tailor's, dress maker's, and almost every hatter's shop may be called a manufactory, but no attempt has been made to enumerate such places.

MANUFACTORIES, WORKS, &C., 1865, 1870, AND 1875—continued.

Description of Manufactory.	Number of Establishments.		
	1864-5.	1869-70.	1874-5.
<i>Drinks and Stimulants.</i>			
Aërated waters, gingerbeer, liqueur, &c., works	51	108	123
Breweries	74	119	107
Coffee, chocolate, spice works	3	8	10
Chicory mills	...	...	1
Distilleries	1	6	4
Malt-houses	4	16	18
Sauce, pickle manufactories	1	...	3
Sugar refineries	1	1	2
Tobacco, cigar, snuff manufactories	10	9	12
Vinegar works	1	...	3
<i>Animal Matters.</i>			
Boiling-down establishments	4	27	25
Bone manure manufactories	9	16	14
Brush manufactories	1	2	6
Curled hair manufactories...	...	...	3
Catgut manufactories	...	...	2
Fellmongeries, woolwashing establishments	22	37	47
Flock manufactories	2	1	2
Glue, oil manufactories	...	4	9
Morocco, fancy leather manufactories	...	...	1
Soap, candle, tallow works...	20	31	43
Tanneries	36	54	87
<i>Vegetable Matters.</i>			
Basket makers	...	...	5
Blind manufactories	...	...	6
Broom manufactories	...	1	1
Chaff-cutting, corn-crushing works (steam, horse, or water power)	5	129	185
Cooperage works	...	2	14
Fancy box manufactories	...	1	4
Last manufactories	...	...	1
Moulding, framing, turning, and saw mills	84	126	172
Myall pipe manufactories	...	1	1
Packing-case manufactories	...	2	...
Paint, varnish manufactories	...	1	1
Paper manufactories	...	1	1
Paper-bag manufactories	...	...	5
<i>Coal.</i>			
Coal-boring works	1	...	...
Gas works	9	11	14
<i>Stone, Clay, Earthenware, and Glass.</i>			
Brick-yards and potteries	113	293	296
Cement (patent) manufactories	...	...	2
Glass manufactories	...	2	3
Glass works	...	2	2
Lime kilns	20	31	27
Marble works	...	...	17
Stone-breaking works	2	} 2 {	3
Stone sawing, polishing works	...		6

MANUFACTORIES, WORKS, &c., 1865, 1870, AND 1875—continued.

Description of Manufactory.	Number of Establishments.		
	1864-5.	1869-70.	1874-5.
<i>Water.</i>			
Ice manufactories	1	1	1
Water works	1	5	5
<i>Metals.</i>			
Antimony smelting works ... ..	...	1	4
Bell foundries ... ..	...	...	1
Die sinking, medal, button manufactories	2	...	...
Electroplate works ... ..	...	...	2
Fireproof safe manufactories ... ..	...	3	1
Goldsmiths and jewellers (manufacturing) ... ..	...	...	9
Iron and tin works ... ..	...	10	24
Iron, brass, and copper foundries	33	57	65
Lead works	1	2	2
Metal refineries	1	...	...
Tin smelting works ... ..	...	1	2
Type foundries	1	1	...
Wire working establishments	1	...	3
Total	705	1,534	2,109

Summary of
manufactory,
&c.

429. The following is a summary of the number of manufactories and works of all kinds, and of the hands employed therein, at the three periods; also of the amount of capital invested at the same periods, as represented by the total value of premises and plant:—

MANUFACTORIES AND WORKS OF ALL KINDS,* 1865, 1870, AND 1875.

Year.	Number of Establishments.	Number of Hands Employed.	Value of Lands, Buildings, Machinery, and Plant.
			£
1864-5	705	7,046	2,269,696†
1869-70	1,534	18,941	4,628,433
1874-5	2,109	28,036	6,798,820

Graving
dock.

430. The Alfred Graving Dock at Williamstown is the property of the Government, and is by far the largest dry dock at present in the southern hemisphere. It is constructed of the basalt or bluestone of the neighborhood, and is 450 feet in length on the floor, and 465 feet over all. It is 97 feet between the copings, and 80 feet wide at the

* Stone quarries are not included.

† This valuation is for the year 1865-6. The values were not given in the returns for the previous year.

entrance ; and it has a depth of water, over the sill, at ordinary tides of 24 feet 6 inches at low water, and of 26 feet 6 inches at high water. The cost of the dock proper has been about £223,000, and the pumping machinery and caisson, both of which were made in the colony, cost about £20,000 in addition. In the Government workshops adjoining, machines of all kinds are provided, capable of performing almost every kind of work required in connection with shipping or machinery.*

431. The yield of gold in Victoria may be assumed to be equal to the quantity of Victorian gold exported added to that sent to the Mint for coining. The yield in 1874 compared with that in 1873 shows a falling off of nearly 65,000 ounces. The following are the quantities in the two years :—

Gold raised in Victoria in 1873	...	...	...	ozs.	1,220,879
" " " 1874	...	...	...		1,155,972
					64,907
Decrease	...	...	...		64,907

Yield of gold.

432. Adding the gold raised in 1874 to the estimated quantity raised in former years, it results that the whole quantity raised in the colony from the period of the first discovery of gold to the end of the year under review has been 44,414,177¼ ounces, representing at £4 per ounce a value of £177,656,709.

Gold raised from first discovery to 1874.

433. Although a falling off took place in the gross yield, the Secretary for Mines, Mr. R. Brough Smyth, calculates that, in proportion to the number of miners at work, more gold was raised in 1874 than in 1873. The following are his estimates of the number of miners and the average yield per head in the two years :—

Average of gold to each miner.

				Mean Number of Miners.		Value of Gold per Head.		
						£	s.	d.
1873	...	...	...	52,057	...	93	16	2·62
1874	...	...	...	46,512	...	99	8	3·07

434. Of the steam engines employed in the furtherance of gold-mining, about a third are used in connection with alluvial and two-thirds with quartz workings. The following is the number of engines and their horsepower in 1873 and 1874. It will be noticed that a slight falling off has taken place :—

Engines used in mining.

				Number of Steam Engines used in Gold-mining.		Horsepower.
1873	...	...	...	1,151	...	25,100
1874	...	...	...	1,141	...	24,866

435. A falling off has also taken place in the number and value of machines used on the goldfields, which were as follow in the same two years :—

Gold-mining machinery.

* These particulars have been kindly furnished by Mr. W. W. Wardell, Inspector-General of Public Works.

			Number of Machines used in Gold-mining.			Value.
						£
1873	5,699	...	2,131,188
1874	5,220	...	2,078,936

Gold from
quartz and
alluvial
workings.

436. It is estimated that in the year under review 60 per cent. of the gold came from quartz reefs, and 40 per cent. from alluvial workings. In the previous year it was estimated that 57 per cent. was obtained from quartz reefs, and 43 per cent. from alluvial workings.

Number of
auriferous
reefs.

437. According to estimates made by the mining surveyors and registrars, the number of quartz reefs proved to be auriferous is 3,398. The Secretary for Mines points out that these cannot in every case be distinct reefs, as parts of the same reef in some localities are held to be distinct reefs, and named accordingly; and, moreover, as the reefs are further explored, it is frequently found that what were supposed to be separate reefs are in reality not distinct.

Average
yield of
quartz.

438. From information obtained by the same officers respecting the amount of gold obtained from a considerable proportion of the quartz crushed, the average yield per ton is estimated to have been 11 dwts. 10·55 grs. in 1873, and 11 dwts. 20·51 grs. in 1874.

439. Gold-mining in Victoria, instead of being as formerly practised by the individual miner, is now almost entirely in the hands of companies. Of such companies 143 were registered during 1874. The Secretary for Mines estimates that the value of dividends paid by mining companies in 1874 was £1,254,364.

Mineral
leases.

440. At the end of the year under review the following leases to work upon Crown lands for metals and minerals other than gold were in force. The total area included in such leases was 15,027 acres:—

						Number of Leases.
Antimony	...	...	...	...	...	21
Coal	...	...	...	...	...	18
Copper	...	...	...	...	...	1
Flagging	...	...	...	...	...	1
Kaolin	...	...	...	...	...	1
Lignite	...	...	...	...	...	1
Silver	...	...	...	...	...	3
Silver and lead	...	...	...	...	...	2
Silver, lead, and copper	...	...	...	...	...	2
Slate	...	...	...	...	...	3
Slate and flagging	...	...	...	...	...	3
Slate and freestone	...	...	...	...	...	3
Iron	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ironstone	...	...	...	...	...	1
Red-ochre clay	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tin and the ores of tin	...	...	...	...	...	12
Infusorial earth	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total						76

441. The following, according to Mr. Smyth's estimate, are the values of metals and minerals other than gold raised in Victoria since the first discovery of gold in 1851. The value of such metals and minerals raised in 1874 was £35,453 :—

	Value.
	£
Silver	7,007
Tin	325,847
Copper	6,555
Antimony	90,870
Lead	4,200
Iron	944
Coal	8,233
Lignite	2,120
Kaolin	7,444
Flagging	35,629
Slate	940
Magnesite	12
Diamonds	104
Sapphires	571
Total	£490,476

442. The average rate of wages paid to miners in 1874 was from £2 5s. to £2 10s. per week, without rations.

443. The estimated value of the produce raised from Victorian mines in the year under review was as follows :—

	£
Value of gold raised, 1874	4,623,888
„ other metals and minerals raised, 1874	35,453
Total	£4,659,341

444. The value of agricultural, pastoral, and mining produce raised during the year may be summarised as follows :—

	£
Value of agricultural produce, 1874	4,410,436*
„ pastoral „ „	9,840,562†
„ mining „ „	4,659,341
Total	£18,910,339

445. The number of patents for inventions applied for in the year under review was 147, as against 146 in the previous year. The total number of patents applied for since 1854 has been 2,027.

446. Two hundred and seven copyrights were registered during the year, as against 225 in 1873. During the five years the Copyright Act has been in force the total number of copyrights registered has been 1,388.

447. Melbourne and its suburbs have an abundant supply of fresh water at a high pressure from the Yan Yean Reservoir, situated 19

* See paragraph 411 ante.

† The pastoral produce referred to is that derived from the live stock kept both by farmers and squatters. See paragraph 419 ante.

miles from the city, and 595 feet above its level. This reservoir is an artificial lake formed by the construction of an embankment 1,053 yards in length and 30 feet in height, which connects two bluffs, between which had been the only outlet for the drainage of a watershed of about 45,000 acres. The lake or reservoir thus formed covers an area of about 1,300 acres, or somewhat more than two square miles; the greatest depth being 25 feet, and the average 18 feet. Other Government works designed to supply water for domestic, mining, or irrigation purposes—some of them only second in importance to the Yan Yean—have either been completed or are in course of construction in various parts of the colony. The Chief Engineer of Water Supply, Mr. G. Gordon, has kindly furnished the following particulars respecting all the waterworks :—

WATERWORKS IN VICTORIA.

Name of Town or District to be supplied.	Reservoir.		Actual or Estimated Cost. £
	Where Situated.	Storage Capacity. gallons.	
Melbourne and suburbs	Yan Yean	6,400,000,000	} 1,334,000
Castlemaine	Preston	15,000,000	
Sandhurst	Expedition Pass	128,000,000	} 80,130
	Spring Gully	149,000,000	
	Crusoe Gully	320,000,000	
Coliban scheme—For sup- ply of Castlemaine and Sandhurst districts	Big Hill	68,000,000	} 224,939
	Malmsbury	2,841,000,000	
Geelong and suburbs	Stony Creek (old)	157,000,000	} 195,594
	Stony Creek (new)	141,000,000	
	Lovely Banks	6,000,000	
Creswick	Bullarook	45,000,000	*1,077
Tarnagulla	Tarnagulla	5,000,000	1,168
Inglewood (new)	Inglewood	13,000,000	1,610
Maryborough	Maryborough	8,100,000	1,065
Maldon	Maldon	8,591,504	2,102
Ararat	Oliver's Gully	19,615,554	1,731
Beechworth	Lake Kerferd	60,000,000	10,000
Chiltern	Barrambogie Springs ... ..	...	5,000
Wangaratta	Railway Station	40,000	3,000
Rutherglen	Rutherglen	27,000,000	3,500
Beaufort	Service Reservoir	1,200,000	3,500
Ballarat	Bungaree (3)	212,960,000	300,000
Clunes	Newlyn	237,000,000	80,500
Blackwood	Lerderderg River	64,441,237	1,090
Buninyong	Buninyong	10,462,485	1,047
Ovens	Sandy Creek	70,000,000	2,835
Indigo	Suffolk Lead	1,701,562	437
Sandhurst	Grassy Flat (1)	56,860,375	} 4,003
	Grassy Flat (2)	26,769,369	

* Reservoir only.

WATERWORKS IN VICTORIA—continued.

Name of Town or District to be supplied.	Reservoir.		Actual or Estimated Cost.
	Where Situated.	Storage Capacity.	
		gallons.	£
Kilmore	Kilmore	14,466,000	845
Myers' Creek	Myers' Creek	13,000,000	844
Echuca	Echuca	40,000	2,748
Dunolly	Dunolly	17,200,000	1,912
Inglewood (old)	Inglewood	5,670,000	1,112
St. Arnaud	St. Arnaud	40,600,000	2,903
Redbank	Redbank	27,100,000	2,785
Lamplough	Lamplough	9,261,946	1,232
Amherst	Amherst	13,813,284	1,193
Wedderburn	Wedderburn	3,100,000	1,013
Castlemaine	Barker's Creek, Harcourt	611,500,000	34,500
Chewton	Commissioner's Gully	7,000,000	1,203
Daylesford	Wombat Creek	31,284,413	2,527
Fryerstown	Crocodile Gully	5,407,462	767
	Spring Gully	7,000,000	1,049
	Quartz Reefs (1)	9,725,627	1,080
Stawell	Pleasant Creek (2)	17,000,000	...
	Pleasant Creek (3)	7,905,750	775
	Four Posts (4)	3,100,000	802
Moyston	Campbell's Reef	5,400,000	1,054
Beaufort	Beaufort	85,881,110	1,991
Ararat	Opossum Gully	24,621,547	1,831
	Total	12,052,819,225	2,583,665

448. The Acclimatisation Society of Victoria was founded in the year 1861, principally for the purpose of stocking the colony with the fauna of other countries. It has extensive grounds in the Royal Park, where, besides the animals kept for acclimatisation or exchange, it has a zoological collection. These grounds are thrown open to the public free of charge. The amount voted for the society by Parliament during the past year was £2,500, and nearly £450 was raised by private contributions.*

* The Honorary Secretary, Mr. A. A. C. Le Souef, has communicated as follows:—"Several varieties of deer have been introduced by the Acclimatisation Society and have increased very rapidly. Considerable herds of the Axis species are now to be found on the Grampian Range, in the north-west portion of the colony, and Sambar and Fallow deer also exist in large numbers. Other varieties, such as the Indian hog deer, have also been liberated, but have not yet increased as those mentioned. Hares have also been introduced, and are spreading rapidly over the whole country. Their rapid increase is attributable to the fact that the does breed nearly the whole year round and often produce five at a birth, whereas, in England, the number seldom exceeds two. Pheasants and Californian quail have also been turned out in large numbers and are fast increasing. The society has a game breeding establishment between Melbourne and Gippsland, where different varieties of game birds are reared and liberated in the forests. Several varieties of English fish have also been introduced, such as the brown trout, perch, and carp. In addition to the different varieties of game introduced at various times, a large number of Angora goats were imported from Angora some years ago, and promise to be of great value to the colony. The society now possesses a fine flock of these animals."