

## BUILDING SOCIETIES, 1874.

Number of societies	...	...	...	60
Number of members	...	...	...	20,303
Income in 1874	...	...	...	£898,857
Working expenses	...	...	...	£25,534
Assets	...	...	...	£2,284,202
Liabilities	...	...	...	£1,800,436
Advances made to borrowers during the year				£649,423*

Interest on deposits.

467. Building societies receive moneys on deposit; and, in consequence of the higher rate of interest they are enabled to give, they compete successfully in this branch of business both with the banks and savings banks. The rates allowed by these institutions in 1874 on deposits for periods of twelve months ranged from 6 to 7 per cent.

## PART VIII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

Marriages, 1874.

468. The number of marriages solemnized in Victoria during the year 1874 was 4,925, or 49 less than in 1873. With this exception, however, the number of marriages was greater in 1874 than in any other year since Port Phillip was first settled.

Marriage rate in Victoria.

469. Chiefly, no doubt, as a result of the increasingly large proportion of children in the population, the marriage rate has been declining pretty steadily for some years past. This will be seen by the following figures, which give the number of marriages and the number of persons married per 1,000 of the population during the 11 years ended with 1874 :—

## ANNUAL MARRIAGE RATE, 1864 TO 1874.

Year.	Per 1,000 of the Mean Population.	
	Number of Marriages.	Number of Persons Married.
1864	7·73	15·46
1865	7·29	14·58
1866	6·71	13·42
1867	6·91	13·82
1868	6·99	13·98
1869	6·79	13·58
1870	6·67	13·34
1871	6·35	12·70
1872	6·30	12·60
1873	6·37	12·74
1874	6·17	12·34
Mean of 11 years	6·71	13·42

NOTE.—The total number of marriages during each year will be found in the folding sheet at the commencement of this work, and the mean population of each year since 1850 will be found in the table which follows paragraph 330 *ante*.

\* These figures do not represent the whole of the advances made, since several of the societies, including one of the largest, have not furnished the information.

470. The marriage rate in Victoria is low as compared with that prevailing in England and Wales and in the other Australasian colonies. The subjoined rate for England and Wales is based upon an average extending over 33 years, that for each of the colonies upon an average extending over the last two years. It will be noticed that, whilst the rate in every one of the colonies is higher than in Victoria, in Queensland and New Zealand only, and in the latter very slightly, is it higher than in England :—

Marriage rate in Australia and England.

AVERAGE ANNUAL NUMBER OF MARRIAGES PER 1,000 OF THE MEAN POPULATION.

Victoria ...	...	...	...	6·27
New South Wales ...	...	...	...	7·78
Queensland ...	...	...	...	9·14
South Australia ...	...	...	...	8·00
Western Australia	...	...	...	6·61
Tasmania ...	...	...	...	6·60
New Zealand ...	...	...	...	8·39
England and Wales	...	...	...	8·24

471. The marriages celebrated during the year in town, suburban, and country districts, and the estimated mean population of such districts, were as follow. The marriage ceremony being generally performed in towns, it is not surprising that the proportion of marriages to the population of country districts should be but small :—

Marriage rate in town and country.

MARRIAGES IN URBAN AND COUNTRY DISTRICTS, 1874.

Districts.	Estimated Mean Population.	Marriages, 1874.	
		Total Number.	Number per 1,000 of the Population.
Melbourne and suburbs ...	240,932	2,102	8·72
Towns outside Melbourne and suburbs	194,926	2,016	10·34
Country districts ...	362,830	807	2·22
Total ...	798,688	4,925	6·17

472. Marriages in Victoria are almost invariably most numerous in autumn, and next so in spring.\* During a period of ten years they were more numerous in summer than in winter, but in the year under review and the previous one this proportion was reversed, fewer marriages having been celebrated in summer than in any other quarter. The

Marriages in each quarter.

\* The seasons here referred to embrace different months from those mentioned in paragraph 57 *ante*.

number and percentage of marriages in each quarter of 1874, and the percentage in each quarter during ten years, were as follow :—

## MARRIAGES IN EACH QUARTER.

Quarter ended—	Year 1874.		Percentage in Ten Years.
	Number of Marriages.	Percentage.	
31st March ... ..	1,132	22·95	24·88
30th June ... ..	1,355	27·55	25·91
30th September ... ..	1,214	24·65	23·98
31st December ... ..	1,224	24·85	25·23
Year ... ..	4,925	100·00	100·00

473. At least four-fifths of the unions which take place are between bachelors and spinsters, about 4 per cent. are between widowers and widows. The parties to the remainder are bachelors and widows and widowers and spinsters in about equal proportions. The following are the numbers and percentage of these different classes in 1874 and their percentage in the previous ten years :—

## FORMER CONDITION OF PERSONS MARRIED.

Previous Condition.	Year 1874.		Percentage in Ten Years.
	Number of Marriages.	Percentage.	
Bachelors and spinsters ...	3,941	80·02	80·60
Bachelors and widows ...	382	7·75	8·08
Widowers and spinsters ...	391	7·90	7·27
Widowers and widows ...	211	4·33	4·05
	4,925	100·00	100·00

Remarriages.

474. Of the men who married during the year, 602, and of the women 593, or, in either case, about 1 in 8, had been married before. In the last 11 years the remarriages of widowers were in about the proportion of 1 to every 9 marriages which took place, and the remarriages of widows of 1 to every 8 marriages which took place. In England and Wales remarriages of widowers are much more frequent than remarriages of widows, the former being in about the proportion of 1 to every 7 mar-

riages, and the latter in about the proportion of 1 to every 11 marriages celebrated.

475. The age of both husband and wife was specified in the case of 4,886 out of the 4,925 marriages which took place. An analysis of the returns shows the following to have been the positions of the parties to these unions as regards their relative ages :—

Husband and wife same age in	...	1,144 instances
Husband older than wife in	...	3,417 „
Wife older than husband in	...	325 „
Total	...	4,886

Relative ages of husbands and wives.

476. The proportion of males marrying under the age of 21 years is not so great as it is in England, that of females so marrying is greater, and that of the mean of both sexes so marrying is also greater here than there. The following are the proportions during the past year and the ten previous ones in Victoria, and during a period of ten years in England and Wales :—

Marriages of minors.

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

—		In every 100 Persons Married, Numbers under 21 Years of Age.		
		In Victoria.		In England and Wales.
		Year 1874.	Mean of Ten Years.	Mean of Ten Years.
Bridegrooms	...	2·76	1·50	6·60
Brides	...	30·10	26·57	19·91
Mean	...	16·435	14·032	13·255

477. The next table shows, in combination, the ages of males and females who married during the year. It presents, as may be expected, some curious inequalities of age, and of these the following will be observed as amongst the most striking :—Six youths between 18 and 19 married women older than themselves, the bride of 1 being between 20 and 21, the brides of 4 between 21 and 25, and the bride of the sixth between 25 and 30. A man between 40 and 45 linked himself to a partner who had passed the mature age of 60, and 2 men between 45 and 50 chose wives who had passed the still more mature age of 70. On the other hand, 2 girls who had not attained their fifteenth year married men between 21 and 25, and 1 girl at the same age married a man between 30 and 35 ; a female between 18 and 19 united herself to a man between 50 and 55, one at the same age took a husband between 60 and 65 ; and one between 20 and 21 married a man between 70 and 75.

Ages of husbands and wives in combination

## AGES OF PERSONS MARRIED.

Ages of Husbands.	Ages of Wives.																Total Husbands.			
	Under 15.	15 to 16.	16 to 17.	17 to 18.	18 to 19.	19 to 20.	20 to 21.	21 to 25.	25 to 30.	30 to 35.	35 to 40.	40 to 45.	45 to 50.	50 to 55.	55 to 60.	60 to 65.		65 to 70.	70 to 75.	Unspecified.
17 to 18 years ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
18 to 19 „ ...	...	1	1	2	2	...	1	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
19 to 20 „ ...	...	...	2	8	3	9	5	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
20 to 21 „ ...	...	1	2	11	10	17	20	25	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	91
21 to 25 „ ...	2	5	27	87	146	163	133	547	76	14	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1201
25 to 30 „ ...	...	6	23	76	116	154	132	593	315	59	15	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1493
30 to 35 „ ...	1	4	9	26	40	47	65	286	254	102	41	7	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	884
35 to 40 „ ...	...	...	4	8	15	22	25	110	143	86	58	27	6	...	...	...	...	...	1	505
40 to 45 „ ...	...	...	...	3	7	10	6	36	80	56	56	42	15	...	...	1	...	...	...	312
45 to 50 „ ...	...	...	1	...	3	1	4	7	19	36	44	32	23	3	2	...	...	2	...	177
50 to 55 „ ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	15	12	15	17	16	17	2	...	...	...	...	98
55 to 60 „ ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	5	8	4	9	7	4	2	1	...	...	43
60 to 65 „ ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	4	3	4	4	2	2	...	...	...	22
65 to 70 „ ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2	2	...	3	1	...	2	...	...	12
70 to 75 „ ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Unspecified ...	...	...	...	...	1	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32	...	38
Total wives ...	3	17	69	222	345	424	397	1616	912	373	244	138	76	34	11	6	3	2	33	4925

Signing with marks.

478. The law requires that all males and all females entering the married state should affix their signatures to the marriage register, and as it may be assumed that all would sign in writing who could, those who sign with marks are fairly set down as unable to write. In the past year the following are the numbers of either sex who signed with marks and their proportion to the total numbers who married :—

## SIGNING MARRIAGE REGISTER WITH MARKS, 1874.

—	Numbers Married.	Signing with Marks.	
		Total Number.	Number in every 100 Married.
Bridegrooms ...	4,925	321	6·52
Brides ...	4,925	488	9·91
Mean ...	4,925	404·5	8·213

Cases of both signing with marks.

479. During 1874, only in the case of 107 marriages, equal to about 2 per cent. of the whole, did the husband and wife both sign with marks. In the 4,818 other instances one party or the other to the marriage signed in writing.

480. The proportion of persons signing with marks is found to differ according to the religious denomination. Means are afforded by the following table of observing the position of the adherents of the different sects, so far as the possession of a sufficient amount of rudimentary instruction to enable them to write their names is concerned. The experience is that of the eleven years ended with 1874. If the figures in the last column in the previous table be compared with those in the lower line of this, it will be noted that the results of the past year show a very considerable improvement over those of the eleven years :—

Proportion of each sect signing with marks.

SIGNING MARRIAGE REGISTER WITH MARKS, 1864 TO 1874.

Marriages performed according to the usages of the—	Number Signing with Marks in every 100 Married.		
	Men.	Women.	Mean.
Church of England ...	6·10	11·90	9·00
Presbyterians ...	5·07	11·10	8·08
Wesleyans ...	5·94	10·36	8·15
Independents ...	4·67	10·79	7·73
Baptists ...	4·62	7·59	6·11
Lutherans ...	1·81	5·26	3·54
Unitarians ...	...	6·25	3·12
Calvinistic Methodists ...	...	9·28	4·64
Other Protestants ...	9·31	9·04	9·18
Roman Catholics ...	14·86	29·18	22·02
Jews ...	1·44	3·83	2·63
Lay Registrars ...	6·63	16·42	11·52
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>7·62</b>	<b>15·21</b>	<b>11·42</b>

481. In England and Wales during ten years 23·29 per cent. of all the males married and 32·5 per cent. of all the females married, resulting in a mean of 27·9, signed the register with marks. These figures indicate that the proportion of uneducated adults in England and Wales is greater than it is amongst even the least instructed of the religious sects named in the above table.

Signing with marks in Victoria and England.

482. The Chinese residing in Victoria are for the most part misogynists. They rarely bring their own countrywomen with them to the colony, and intermarry with females of European descent only to a very slight extent. When the census was taken in 1871, out of a total of 18,000 male Chinese enumerated, only 142 were returned as husbands, and 7 as widowers. During the nine years ended with 1874, 163 marriages of Chinese males took place in Victoria. The nationalities of their wives are shown in the following table :—

Marriages of Chinese.

## NATIONALITY OF WOMEN MARRYING CHINESE MALES, 1866-1874.

Birthplace of Wives.	Number of Marriages of Chinese Males.									Total in 9 Years.
	1866.	1867.	1868.	1869.	1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	
Victoria ... ..	2	2	2	1	7	12	5	12	7	50
Other Australian Colonies	1	3	2	3	6	8	5	4	2	34
England ... ..	4	2	2	5	3	8	6	5	4	39
Scotland ... ..	2	...	2	...	...	1	1	3	1	10
Ireland ... ..	3	1	3	5	1	3	2	3	...	21
Other British Possessions	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
France ... ..	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Germany ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2
The United States	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
China ... ..	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	3
At sea ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Total in each year ...	12	9	12	15	18	33	20	29	15	163

Births, 1874.

483. The births registered in 1874 numbered 26,800, or 1,300 less than those registered in 1873. An examination of the folding sheet at the commencement of this work will show that the births in 1874 were exceeded in each of the four years immediately preceding it, and in 1868, but in no other year since the first settlement of the colony.

Birth rate in Victoria.

484. The number of births in proportion to the living population has, like the marriage rate, been decreasing for years past. The following are the figures for the year under review, and each of the ten years which immediately precede it:—

## ANNUAL BIRTH RATE,\* 1864 TO 1874.

					Births per 1,000 of the Mean Population.
1864	...	...	...	...	43·59
1865	...	...	...	...	42·04
1866	...	...	...	...	39·44
1867	...	...	...	...	39·41
1868	...	...	...	...	40·59
1869	...	...	...	...	37·36
1870	...	...	...	...	38·25
1871	...	...	...	...	37·07
1872	...	...	...	...	35·95
1873	...	...	...	...	36·01
1874	...	...	...	...	33·56
Mean for 11 years	...	...	...	...	38·23

Birth rate in Australia and England.

485. The birth rate in Victoria is higher than that in England and Wales, but is lower than that in any of the other Australasian colonies

\* For the total number of births in each year, see folding sheet at commencement of this work; for the mean population, see table following paragraph 330 ante.

except Western Australia and Tasmania. The birth rates in these countries are subjoined, the results being obtained from an average extending over a series of years for England and Wales, and over the last two years for all the colonies :—

	Average Annual Number of Births per 1,000 of the Mean Population.		
Victoria	...	...	34·79
New South Wales	...	...	38·88
Queensland	...	...	40·97
South Australia	...	...	37·32
Western Australia	...	...	32·57
Tasmania	...	...	29·58
New Zealand	...	...	39·64
England and Wales	...	...	33·64

486. The number of births in Melbourne and suburbs, in other town districts and in country districts during the year, together with their proportion to the estimated population of such districts, were as follow. It will no doubt cause surprise that the birth rate of Melbourne and suburbs is below the average of the colony, is not nearly so high as that in the extra-metropolitan towns, and is only about 2 per 1,000 above that in country districts. The causes of this remarkable anomaly can only be speculated upon :—

BIRTHS IN URBAN AND COUNTRY DISTRICTS, 1874.

Districts.	Births, 1874.	
	Total Number.	Number per 1,000 of Population.
Melbourne and suburbs	7,946	32·98
Towns outside Melbourne and suburbs	7,761	39·82
Country districts	11,093	30·57
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,800</b>	<b>33·56</b>

NOTE.—For population of urban and country districts, see table following paragraph 471 *ante*.

487. It is a well-known fact that in all parts of the world more males are born than females. In Victoria, during the year under review, the former numbered 13,659, and the latter 13,141. These numbers furnish a proportion of 103·94 males to 100 females. In the last eleven years the average in Victoria has been 104·06 males to 100 females, which is exactly the same as that in the whole of the Australian colonies during the last two years, and does not differ much from the average in England and Wales, where in ten years 104·4 males were born to every 100 females.

488. Twins were born during the year in 217 instances, and triplets in 1 instance. In the last eleven years 2,946 cases of twins and 26



cases of triplets have been recorded, the total number of births in the same period having been 292,290. There were thus 289,292 confinements during the eleven years, and it follows that at 1 out of every 98 of these confinements twins were born, and at 1 out of every 11,127 three children were born.

Illegitimate  
births.

489. The births set down as illegitimate during the year numbered 984, or 1 in every 28. The average proportion of children born out of wedlock in Victoria is 1 in 35, and in England and Wales 1 in 16. The proportion during the year under review was, therefore, above the Victorian average, but not nearly so high as the average for England and Wales.

Married  
women and  
women  
living  
immorally.

490. It is possible, as I pointed out on a former occasion,\* to ascertain approximately by the number of legitimate births the total number of married women at child-bearing ages living in the colony; and in like manner by the number of illegitimate births the number of unmarried women at the same ages living irregular lives. In the census year it was found that the legitimate births in Victoria were in the proportion of 301 to every 1,000 married women living between the ages of 15 and 45, or 1 legitimate birth on the average to about every 3·32 such women. Assuming the same proportion to exist in 1874, it would follow from the number of legitimate births that 85,767 married women at those ages were living in the colony in that year, and from the number of illegitimate births that 3,269† single women at the same ages were living immorally. The number of single women between the ages of 15 and 45 may be estimated to have been 74,071 in 1874. It therefore follows that 1 out of every 23 single women in the colony, at the fruitful or reproductive period of life, was living in concubinage during that year.

Illegitimacy  
in town and  
country.

491. As will readily be supposed, illegitimacy is more frequent in town than in country districts; and in Melbourne and suburbs it is most common of all. This will be observed by the following figures. It will also be noticed that the statistics of illegitimacy in the worst districts (Melbourne and suburbs) correspond exactly with those of all England and Wales, already quoted in paragraph 489 :—

CHILDREN BORN OUT OF WEDLOCK IN 1874.

Melbourne and suburbs	...	...	1	in every	16	births
Towns outside Melbourne and suburbs	...	...	1	„	31	„
Total towns	...	...	1	„	21	„
Country districts	...	...	1	„	48	„
Total of Victoria	...	...	1	„	28	„

\* See *Victorian Year-Book*, 1873, paragraph 286; Ferres, Melbourne.

† This would be almost exclusive of public prostitutes, who, as is well known, very rarely give birth to children. It is probable that these would number as many more.

492. Births in England and Wales are almost invariably more frequent in the winter\* quarter than at any other period of the year, and the experience of the past 11 years proves that the same law applies to Victoria, as, in every one of those years the greatest number of births occurred in the September quarter. The following are the figures and percentage for the year under notice and the percentage for the previous decenniad :—

BIRTHS IN EACH QUARTER.

Quarter ended—	Year 1874.		Percentage in 10 Years.
	Number of Births.	Percentage.	
31st March ... ..	6,407	23·90	23·43
30th June ... ..	6,796	25·36	24·90
30th September ... ..	7,142	26·65	27·27
31st December ... ..	6,455	24·09	24·40
Year ... ..	26,800	100·00	100·00

Births in each quarter.

493. The deaths in 1874 numbered 12,222, and exceeded those in 1873 by 721. In 1866, 64 more deaths occurred than in 1874, but, with this exception, the deaths in 1874 were more numerous than those in any former year.

Deaths, 1874.

494. The births in 1874 exceeded the deaths by 14,578, or 119 per cent. This proportion is below the average. In the last 11 years the births have numbered 292,290, and the deaths 118,956. The excess of the former over the latter was, therefore, 173,334, or 146 per cent.

Excess of births over deaths.

495. The males who died during the year numbered 6,994 and the females 5,228, or about 75 females to every 100 males. In the total population the proportion was 84 females to 100 males, so that more males and fewer females died than might have been expected from their numbers in the population.

Deaths of males and females.

496. The annual death rate fluctuates considerably ; but in all years presses more heavily upon males than upon females. During the eleven years ended with 1874 it was higher than in the year under review, in three years only—viz., 1865, 1866, and 1867. This will be readily observed by the following table :—

Death rate in Victoria.

\* The quarters here referred to embrace different months from those mentioned at paragraph 57 ante.

## ANNUAL DEATH RATE,\* 1864 TO 1874.

	Estimated Mean Population.		Number of Deaths.		Deaths per 1,000 of the Mean Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1864	336,627	252,533	5,202	3,685	15·45	14·59	15·08
1865	349,662	266,713	6,158	4,303	17·61	16·13	16·97
1866	356,460	277,617	7,016	5,270	19·68	18·98	19·37
1867	362,417	287,409	6,613	5,120	18·25	17·81	18·06
1868	371,817	299,405	5,865	4,202	15·77	14·03	15·00
1869	384,267	312,675	6,221	4,409	16·19	14·10	15·25
1870	390,480	319,359	6,114	4,306	15·66	13·48	14·68
1871	404,983	333,742	5,845	4,073	14·43	12·20	13·43
1872	415,605	345,386	6,308	4,523	15·18	13·10	14·23
1873	424,729	355,633	6,565	4,936	15·45	13·88	14·74
1874	434,073	364,615	6,994	5,228	16·11	14·34	15·30
Mean of 11 years			...	...	16·28	14·66	15·56

Death rate in  
Australia  
and  
England.

497. The death rate in Victoria assimilates closely with that in South Australia and Tasmania, is higher than that in New Zealand, slightly higher than that in New South Wales, and lower than that in Queensland and Western Australia. The death rate in all the Australasian colonies is very much lower than that in England and Wales. The following are the death rates in all the colonies named, and in England and Wales; those of the former being derived from observations extending over the last two years, that of the latter from observations extending over 31 years:—

					Average Annual Number of Deaths per 1,000 of the Mean Population.
Victoria	...	...	...	...	15·02
New South Wales	...	...	...	...	14·48
Queensland	...	...	...	...	17·02
South Australia	...	...	...	...	15·27
Western Australia	...	...	...	...	17·49
Tasmania	...	...	...	...	15·37
New Zealand	...	...	...	...	12·86
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	22·40

Death rate in  
town and  
country.

498. The death rate is always very much lower in country districts than in town districts, not altogether in consequence of the superior healthfulness and immunity from contagion prevailing in the former, but from the fact that it is the practice of country residents, on being attacked with serious illness, to make their way to the towns for the sake of hospital accommodation, and sometimes no doubt for the sake of

\* For total of mean population in each year, see table following paragraph 330 *ante*; for total number of deaths, see folding sheet at commencement of this work; or the totals may be obtained by adding the males and females.

medical attendance and nursing outside of hospitals, so that persons who, whilst in health, ordinarily live in the country, frequently die in town. Melbourne, naturally above any other town in the colony, is thus liable to be invaded by invalids from the country, and hence the death rate is always higher there than in any of the other towns. The death rate in town and country during the year under review was as follows:—

## DEATHS IN URBAN AND COUNTRY DISTRICTS, 1874.

Districts.	Deaths, 1874.	
	Total Number.	Number per 1,000 of the Population.
Melbourne and suburbs ... ..	5,125	21·27
Towns outside Melbourne and suburbs ...	3,991	20·47
Country districts ... ..	3,106	8·56
Total ... ..	12,222	15·30

NOTE.—For population of urban and country districts, see table following paragraph 471 *ante*.

499. The first five months and the last month in the year are those in which the greatest mortality occurs in Victoria. The relative fatality of the respective months varies, however, in different years. The following are the deaths in each month, and their percentage to the total mortality in the year under notice, and the percentage of the deaths in each month during the last ten years to the total number which occurred in that period:—

## DEATHS IN EACH MONTH.

	Year 1874.		Percentage in 10 Years.
	Number of Deaths.	Percentage.	
January ... ..	1,307	10·69	10·72
February ... ..	1,216	9·95	9·52
March ... ..	1,164	9·52	10·70
April ... ..	1,060	8·67	9·76
May ... ..	1,041	8·52	8·93
June ... ..	880	7·20	7·74
July ... ..	950	7·78	7·42
August ... ..	950	7·78	6·89
September ... ..	806	6·59	6·35
October ... ..	813	6·65	6·65
November ... ..	842	6·89	6·58
December ... ..	1,193	9·76	8·74
Year ... ..	12,222	100·00	100·00

500. The relative mortality of the different seasons is very different in Victoria from that prevailing in England and Wales. Thus the greatest mortality occurs in the summer quarter in Victoria, and in the

Death rate in each month.

Deaths at each season in Victoria and England.

winter quarter in England and Wales ; the next greatest mortality is in the autumn quarter in Victoria, and the next in the spring quarter ; but in England and Wales the mortality of the autumn and spring quarters is nearly identical. The period of least mortality in Victoria is the winter quarter, and in England and Wales the summer quarter. The following is the death rate of each quarter in Victoria during the year 1874, and the average of each during the preceding ten years, also the average death rate of each quarter in England and Wales during a period of 31 years :—

DEATH RATE OF EACH QUARTER IN VICTORIA AND ENGLAND AND WALES.

Seasons.*	Victoria.		England and Wales.		Deaths per 1,000 of the Population.		
	Quarter ended on the last day of—				Victoria.		England and Wales.
			Year 1874.	Average of 10 Years.	Average of 31 Years.		
Summer ...	March ...	September ...	30·17	30·94	23·24		
Autumn ...	June ...	December ...	24·39	26·43	24·65		
Winter ...	September ...	March ...	22·14	20·66	27·49		
Spring ...	December ...	June ...	23·30	21·97	24·62		
	Year ...	...	100·00	100·00	100·00		

Deaths at different ages.

501. During the past year about half the males who died were under 20 years of age, and about half the females who died were under 10 years of age. The difference of these proportions of course results from the fact of there being many more male than female adults in the colony, whilst amongst the children the numbers of the sexes are nearly equal. Of both sexes, those under 5 years and over 45 years died in larger proportion to the total mortality than the estimated numbers living at the same ages bore to the total population, but at ages between 5 and 45, the proportions dying of either sex were smaller than the corresponding proportions of the population. In the following table the deaths of males and females in 1874 at each year of age are placed side by side with the estimated numbers of either sex at the same ages in the population. The percentage of those who died at each age to the total number of deaths, and the percentage of those estimated to be

\* The seasons here referred to embrace different months from those mentioned in paragraph 57 *ante*. When speaking of the meteorology of Victoria, the spring quarter is counted to be from September to November, the summer quarter from December to February, the autumn quarter from March to May, and the winter quarter from June to August.

living at each age to the estimated total numbers living, are also shown :—

POPULATION AND DEATHS AT EACH AGE, 1874.

Ages.	Estimated Mean Population at each Age, 1874.			Number of Deaths at each Age, 1874.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 5 years ...	63,809	63,735	127,391	2,828	2,383	5,211
5 years to 10 years ...	57,949	58,411	116,369	304	313	617
10 " 15 "	46,576	46,962	93,526	157	164	321
15 " 25 "	54,389	59,250	113,653	297	392	689
25 " 35 "	67,238	54,619	121,880	492	453	945
35 " 45 "	79,305	45,869	125,234	799	546	1,345
45 " 55 "	41,845	21,950	63,815	868	387	1,255
55 " 65 "	16,321	9,443	25,798	626	273	899
65 " 75 "	5,469	3,537	9,025	420	190	610
75 and upwards ...	1,172	839	1,997	203	127	330
Total ...	434,073	364,615	798,688	6,994	5,228	12,222

PROPORTIONS PER CENT.

Under 5 years ...	14·70	17·48	15·95	40·43	45·58	42·64
5 years to 10 years ...	13·35	16·02	14·57	4·35	5·99	5·05
10 " 15 "	10·73	12·88	11·71	2·25	3·14	2·63
15 " 25 "	12·53	16·25	14·23	4·25	7·50	5·64
25 " 35 "	15·49	14·98	15·26	7·03	8·67	7·73
35 " 45 "	18·27	12·58	15·68	11·42	10·44	11·00
45 " 55 "	9·64	6·02	7·99	12·41	7·40	10·27
55 " 65 "	3·76	2·59	3·23	8·95	5·22	7·35
65 " 75 "	1·26	·97	1·13	6·01	3·63	4·99
75 and upwards ...	·27	·23	·25	2·90	2·43	2·70
Total ...	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

502. The death rate of males in Victoria is usually greater than that of females at all periods of life, except between the ages of 25 and 35; but in the year under notice the death rate of females was the greater at the five divisions occurring between 5 and 45. In England and Wales, during 30 years, relatively to the population more males died than females at all the periods, except those between 10 and 35. This will be seen by reference to the following table, which gives, for the year under review and for a period of 10 years, the number of males and females in Victoria who died at various ages in every 1,000 at the same ages in the living population; also, for a period of 30 years, a similar comparison of the mortality of England and Wales with its population :—

Death rate at different ages in Victoria and England.

## MORTALITY PER 1,000 LIVING AT DIFFERENT AGES IN VICTORIA AND ENGLAND.

Ages.	Number of Deaths to every 1,000 living at each Age.					
	Victoria.				England and Wales.	
	Year 1874.		Average of 10 Years.		Average of 30 Years.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
All ages ... ..	16·11	14·34	16·68	16·13	23·33	21·51
Under 5 years ...	44·32	37·39	55·08	49·66	72·42	62·46
5 years to 10 years ...	5·25	5·36	7·52	6·95	8·79	8·67
10 " 15 " ...	3·37	3·49	3·27	3·25	4·95	5·10
15 " 25 " ...	5·46	6·62	4·95	4·81	7·90	8·22
25 " 35 " ...	7·32	8·29	7·85	8·28	9·93	10·15
35 " 45 " ...	10·08	11·90	12·09	11·12	13·03	12·30
45 " 55 " ...	20·74	17·63	17·52	13·20	18·16	15·67
55 " 65 " ...	38·36	28·91	29·71	21·98	31·53	28·56
65 " 75 " ...	76·80	53·72	53·79	43·10	68·54	57·52
75 and upwards* ...	173·21	151·37	111·71	93·02	147·74	135·36

Death rate of children below the average.

503. Supposing the estimate of population at the various ages on which the calculations for 1874 are based to be correct, the mortality of children under 5 and between 5 and 10 in Victoria was much lower, and the mortality at all the periods above 45 was considerably higher, in the year under review, than during the 10 years of which the death rate at each age is shown in the table. The 10 years referred to are those intervening between the censuses of 1861 and 1871, so that there can be no doubt respecting the correctness of the figures of average population used in making the calculations for that period. There is, however, always a degree of uncertainty respecting estimates of the ages of a population in years distant from those in which a census is taken.

Death rate of Victoria lower than in England.

504. According to the experience of the 10 years, the mortality at all periods of life of both males and females is considerably lower in Victoria than in England and Wales, and, according to the experience of the year under review, this holds good at all periods below 45 years. The figures relating to the period "75 years and upwards" in Victoria are not strictly comparable with those of England and Wales, since the former relate to the whole period from 75 to the end of life, the latter to the period between 75 and 80 only. All the figures show the mortality of children to be very much lower in Victoria than in England.

\* The figures in this line relating to England and Wales apply to males and females at from 75 to 80 only. The Victorian returns apply to all over 75.

505. Probably the best method of judging of the suitability of a climate to the sustainment of infantile life is to compare the number of children dying under 1 year of age with the number of births. This is done for a period of 11 years, as follows. It will be seen that the mortality rate of infants in the year under review was slightly above the average, and was higher than in the 4 previous years :—

				Deaths of Infants under 1 Year of Age to every 100 Births.	
1864	...	...	...	...	10·8
1865	...	...	...	...	13·6
1866	...	...	...	...	15·3
1867	...	...	...	...	13·8
1868	...	...	...	...	11·2
1869	...	...	...	...	12·6
1870	...	...	...	...	11·8
1871	...	...	...	...	11·3
1872	...	...	...	...	12·2
1873	...	...	...	...	11·3
1874	...	...	...	...	12·5
Mean of 11 years				...	12·4

506. The following is a comparison of the Victorian infantile death rate, calculated in this manner, with the similar death rate of each of the neighboring colonies. The figures are all for 1873. It will be observed that in South Australia the rate is much higher than in any of the other colonies. It must, however, be borne in mind that the figures are only for one year, and that, if the calculations were to be extended over a series of years, the result might perhaps be different :—

				Deaths of Infants under 1 Year to every 100 Births.	
Victoria	...	...	...	...	11·32
New South Wales	...	...	...	...	9·26
Queensland	...	...	...	...	12·26
South Australia	...	...	...	...	13·93
Tasmania	...	...	...	...	8·73
New Zealand	...	...	...	...	10·81

507. In England and Wales, about 15½ per cent. of the children born die before they complete their first year. It is therefore evident that infantile mortality is much higher there than in any of the Australasian colonies.

508. In the Melbourne Lying-in Hospital, 421 infants were born alive in 1874. Of these, 31, or upwards of 7 per cent., died before leaving the institution.

509. As in all parts of the world, so far as is known, more births of males occur than of females, so also in almost all countries do a larger proportion of male than female infants die. In England and Wales, during seven years, the proportion of male infants dying before completing their first year was 17 to every 100 births of boys, and the



proportion of female infants dying was 14 to every 100 births of girls. In Victoria, during the past year, the proportion of male infants dying was 13·46, and the proportion of female infants dying was 11·43 to every 100 births of males and females respectively.

510. As compared with the total mortality, that from zymotic diseases, including all those of an endemic, epidemic, contagious, or infectious character, is greater in Victoria than in England and Wales, as also is that from external causes and violence; the mortality from constitutional diseases, including phthisis or consumption, tabes mesenterica, scrofula, &c.; that from local diseases, being those which have their seat in particular organs; and that from developmental diseases, being those of growth, nutrition, and decay—is less in Victoria than in England. These facts are brought out in the following table, which shows the proportion that deaths from each class of diseases bear to the total deaths in Victoria and England:—

DEATHS FROM EACH CLASS OF CAUSES.—PROPORTION TO THE TOTAL DEATHS IN VICTORIA AND ENGLAND AND WALES.

Causes of Death.	Number of Deaths in 1,000 from all Causes.		
	Victoria.		England and Wales.
	Year 1874.	Average of 16 Years.	Average of 10 Years.
Zymotic diseases ...	285·36	304·71	227·43
Constitutional diseases ...	138·42	130·56	187·54
Local diseases ...	373·15	320·05	388·81
Developmental diseases...	127·91	151·97	161·17
Violence ...	75·16	92·71	35·05
Total ...	1,000·00	1,000·00	1,000·00

511. Comparing the mortality from each class of diseases in Victoria and England and Wales with the total population of the respective countries, it is found that, in the year under review, a lower rate of mortality from all classes of diseases prevailed in Victoria than in England, but that on the average the mortality from zymotic diseases is somewhat higher, and that from all other classes of diseases is considerably lower in Victoria than in England; also that the proportion of deaths from violence is always much greater in Victoria than in England. These results will be observed in the following table, which shows the proportion of deaths from each class of diseases to the living population of Victoria and England and Wales:—

Deaths from each class of causes in Victoria and England.

Death rate from each class of causes in Victoria and England.

DEATHS FROM EACH CLASS OF CAUSES.—PROPORTION TO THE LIVING POPULATION  
IN VICTORIA AND ENGLAND AND WALES.

Causes of Death.	Number of Deaths to every 1,000 of the Mean Population.		
	Victoria.		England and Wales.
	Year 1874.	Average of 16 Years.	Average of 10 Years.
All causes ... ..	15·30	17·21	22·47
Specified causes ... ..	15·26	17·04	22·32
Zymotic diseases ... ..	4·35	5·28	5·07
Constitutional diseases ... ..	2·11	2·21	4·19
Local diseases ... ..	5·70	5·40	8·68
Developmental diseases ... ..	1·95	2·58	3·60
Violence ... ..	1·15	1·57	·78

512. The classification of the causes of death in Victoria dates from the middle of 1853, at which period the Act for the registration of births, deaths, and marriages came into operation. During the 21½ years from that period to the end of the year under review over 15,000\* deaths occurred from phthisis, which is a larger number than was occasioned by any other disease. A few more deaths resulted from accidents than from phthisis, and a few more from atrophy and debility, chiefly of infants and young children ;† but except these causes of death, neither of which is a disease, more deaths were occasioned by phthisis than by any other cause whatever. As compared with the total population, the mortality from phthisis has been very even during the past 11 years ; but the fact of this evenness shows that the disease must be increasing in Victoria, since the population at ages subject to phthisis decreased between the censuses of 1861 and 1871, ‡ and has certainly increased since, if at all, at a much slower rate than the remainder of the population, whence it might have been expected that the death rate from phthisis would diminish, which has not been the case. The following figures show the number of deaths from phthisis and their proportion to the population during each of the last 11 years :—

\* 15,386.

† In the 11 years ended with 1874 more deaths were occasioned by phthisis than by accidents, atrophy, and debility, or any other cause. Compare total of next table with totals of tables following, pars. 514 and 523 *post*.

‡ Between the censuses of 1861 and 1871 the male population between 20 and 35 years of age decreased by 48,766, and the female population between 25 and 30 decreased by 1,394.—See Government Statist's Report on the Census of 1871, pp. 12 and 13 ; Ferres, Melbourne.

## DEATHS FROM PHTHISIS, 1864-1874.

Year.	Deaths from Phthisis.	
	Total Number.	Number per 10,000 of the Mean Population.*
1864 ... ..	686	11·64
1865 ... ..	741	12·02
1866 ... ..	782	12·33
1867 ... ..	793	12·20
1868 ... ..	746	11·11
1869 ... ..	893	12·81
1870 ... ..	888	12·51
1871 ... ..	841	11·38
1872 ... ..	876	11·51
1873 ... ..	945	12·11
1874 ... ..	1,011	12·66
Total in 11 years	9,202	12·04

NOTE.—Deaths registered as occurring from hæmoptysis are included in this table.

Deaths from phthisis in Melbourne and England.

513. In Melbourne and suburbs the deaths from phthisis during 1874 were in the proportion of 21·03 per 10,000 of the population, which is a much higher ratio than in the colony, taken as a whole. In ten years the annual proportion in Melbourne and suburbs was 21·23 per 10,000 of the inhabitants. In England and Wales during ten years the annual rate was 25·47 per 10,000 of the population, or still higher than in Melbourne.

Deaths from diseases affecting children.

514. The number of deaths from those complaints which frequently prove fatal to children, but rarely to adults, namely measles, scarlatina, diphtheria, whooping-cough, dysentery and diarrhœa, with the addition of atrophy and debility, which are not strictly speaking diseases, are given in the following table for the 11 years ended with 1874 :—

## DEATHS FROM DISEASES CHIEFLY AFFECTING CHILDREN, 1864-1874.

Year.	Number of Deaths from—						
	Measles.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Whooping-cough.	Dysentery.	Diarrhœa.	Atrophy and Debility.
1864 ... ..	7	278	451	25	243	528	602
1865 ... ..	11	215	391	304	402	864	749
1866 ... ..	427	462	331	365	525	1,027	817
1867 ... ..	630	621	334	205	430	986	746
1868 ... ..	24	460	451	243	220	640	665
1869 ... ..	24	224	493	100	306	858	723
1870 ... ..	3	24	418	50	244	706	790
1871 ... ..	4	27	255	318	316	626	679
1872 ... ..	7	135	320	227	424	747	692
1873 ... ..	1	188	420	299	357	629	714
1874 ... ..	256	120	375	151	325	846	739
Total in 11 years	1,394	2,754	4,239	2,287	3,792	8,457	7,916

\* For figures of mean population used in making these calculations, see table following par. 330 ante.

515. In the 21½ years ended with 1874, more deaths were set down to atrophy and debility than to any other cause except accidents. The number in that period was 15,489, or about 100 more than from phthisis. Diarrhœa was next to phthisis, and caused 13,499 deaths; and dysentery, which caused 11,084 deaths, was next. Diphtheria was not known in the colony until 1858, since when it has caused 6,362 deaths, and ranks tenth on the list of causes of death. Scarlatina ranks fourteenth, with 5,079 deaths in the period of 21½ years. Whooping-cough ranks seventeenth, with 3,498 deaths; and measles twenty-sixth, with 2,287 deaths.

Deaths from children's diseases in 21½ years.

516. An outbreak of measles took place towards the end of 1874, which caused at least 256 deaths within the year. Prior to that period measles had not prevailed in the colony in an epidemic form since the years 1866–1867. It will be observed that in the years in which measles has been prevalent a large increase has always taken place in the deaths from diarrhœa, the difference, in all probability, arising from the number of cases of that complaint which have supervened upon measles with fatal results. When it has been stated that the death was caused by diarrhœa after measles, it has always been tabulated as the latter; but there is no doubt that the fact of the patient having been affected by the two complaints has not always been mentioned.

Measles and diarrhœa.

517. The following are the proportions that deaths from these diseases respectively bear to the living population in Victoria and England and Wales. It will be seen that the mortality from measles, scarlatina, whooping-cough, and atrophy and debility is less, and the mortality from diphtheria, dysentery, and diarrhœa is greater in Victoria than in England:—

Deaths from children's diseases in Victoria and England.

DEATHS FROM CHILDREN'S DISEASES IN VICTORIA AND ENGLAND AND WALES.

Diseases.	Number of Deaths per 10,000 Living.		
	Victoria.		England and Wales.
	Year 1874.	Mean of 10 Years.	Mean of 5 Years.
Measles ... ..	3·21	1·67	4·52
Scarlatina ... ..	1·50	3·84	8·57
Diphtheria ... ..	4·70	5·64	1·45
Whooping-cough ... ..	1·89	3·12	5·32
Dysentery ... ..	4·07	5·06	·48
Diarrhœa ... ..	10·59	11·12	10·39
Atrophy and debility ... ..	9·25	10·48	14·91

518. During the period embracing the 21½ years ended with 1874, deaths from typhoid fever ranked sixth on the list of causes of death, or

Deaths from typhoid fever.

fourth if accidents and atrophy and debility be not taken into account. The only three diseases which caused more deaths than typhoid fever were phthisis, diarrhœa, and dysentery.\* The number of deaths from typhoid fever in the period was 8,714. During the year under review, deaths from this complaint were above the average. Relatively to the population they were fewer than those in 1866 and 1867, and about equal to those in 1870, but they were more numerous than those in any other year of the previous decenniad. The following were the deaths from this complaint and their proportion to the living population in each of the last 11 years :—

## DEATHS FROM TYPHOID FEVER, 1864-1874.

Year,	Deaths from Typhoid Fever.	
	Total Number.	Number per 10,000 of the Mean Population.†
1864 ... ..	250	4·24
1865 ... ..	291	4·72
1866 ... ..	528	8·33
1867 ... ..	455	7·00
1868 ... ..	295	4·40
1869 ... ..	360	5·16
1870 ... ..	416	5·86
1871 ... ..	269	3·64
1872 ... ..	323	4·24
1873 ... ..	282	3·61
1874 ... ..	470	5·88
Total in 11 years	3,939	5·15

NOTE.—It is possible that a very few deaths of true typhus affecting new arrivals, who caught the disease on board ship, may be included in this table. Typhus fever has never spread in Victoria.

519. The number of deaths of women in childbed was greater in the year under review than in any other year of the previous decenniad, and was more than twice as great as it was in some of the years in that period. The increase was chiefly in the deaths from metria or puerperal fever, which exceeded by 68 per cent. the number in the worst of the other years, and were twelve times as numerous as they were in one of those years; but there was also a considerable increase in the number of deaths recorded as having occurred from the consequences of child-birth without specific disease. The number of child-bearing women

\* In the 11 years ended with 1874 more deaths were caused by typhoid fever than by dysentery. Compare total of next table with that of dysentery in table following paragraph 514 *ante*.

† For figures of mean population used in making these calculations, see table following paragraph 330 *ante*.

who died in each of the last 11 years, and their proportions to the number of births in the same years, are given in the following table:—

DEATHS OF WOMEN IN CHILDBIRTH, 1864-1874.

—	Deaths of Mothers from—			Deaths of Mothers to every 10,000 Children born alive.
	Childbirth.	Metria.	Total.	
1864 ... ..	100	21	121	47·12
1865 ... ..	99	24	123	47·46
1866 ... ..	112	26	138	55·18
1867 ... ..	117	20	137	53·51
1868 ... ..	110	23	133	48·82
1869 ... ..	105	18	123	47·23
1870 ... ..	115	9	124	45·67
1871 ... ..	90	12	102	37·25
1872 ... ..	123	16	139	50·80
1873 ... ..	127	44	171	60·85
1874 ... ..	142	109	251	93·66
	1,240	322	1,562	53·44

520. Over the whole of the 11 years the proportion of deaths of women in childbed was 1 to every 187 births, but in the year under review the proportion was 1 to every 107 births. In the previous year the ratio was 1 death of a mother to every 164 births. All these proportions are very much higher than those obtaining in England and Wales, where, on the average, 204 births occur to each death of a mother. Deaths in childbed in Victoria and England.

521. It will, perhaps, scarcely be believed by those who remember the large mortality which took place from measles during the recent outbreak, and who know that every few years a similar outbreak has occurred with equally fatal results, that in the 21½ years ended with 1874 more deaths of mothers have occurred from the consequences of childbirth than of persons of all descriptions from measles, the deaths from childbirth and metria during that period having numbered 2,378, those from measles 2,287.\* Death from childbirth and measles.

522. In the Melbourne Lying-in Hospital during the year under review 446 women were confined, and 421 children were born alive. Seven deaths of mothers occurred, of which 5 were from the direct consequences of childbirth. In one of the other two instances the death was caused by pneumonia in addition to childbirth, and in the other by measles, also in addition to childbirth. If all these deaths be taken into Deaths in Lying-in Hospital.

\* The same law holds good respecting the 11 years ended with 1874, and this notwithstanding the mortality occasioned by the recent outbreak of measles and by the previous one in 1866-7. The deaths of women in childbed numbered 1,562 in the 11 years, and the deaths from measles 1,394.

account in making the calculation, the proportion would be 1 death of a mother to every 60 births of living children; if only 5 be so used, the proportion would be 1 death of a mother to every 84 births.

523. Violent deaths are classified under the heads of accident, homicide, suicide, or execution. The first are by far the most frequent, and during the last  $21\frac{1}{2}$  years have amounted to 16,576, which is in excess of the number of deaths from any other cause.\* During the year under review, deaths under each of these heads, except execution, have been nearly up to, and deaths from suicide have been in excess of, the average. No execution took place during the year; but this did not result from the absence of cases of homicide, since no less than 23 such cases were registered. It has been already stated (paragraph 306 *ante*) that 1874 was the only year since the establishment of Victoria as an independent colony in which no execution took place. The following were the violent deaths which occurred during the last 11 years:—

DEATHS FROM EXTERNAL CAUSES, 1864–1874.

Year.	Number of Deaths from—									
	Accidents.		Homicide.		Suicide.		Executions.		Total.	
	Males.	Females	Males.	Females	Males.	Females	Males.	Females	Males.	Females
1864 ...	591	161	14	2	55	11	4	...	664	174
1865 ...	656	157	19	7	51	13	5	...	731	177
1866 ...	630	139	14	4	68	13	3	...	715	156
1867 ...	601	148	12	12	55	8	5	...	673	168
1868 ...	665	163	12	7	59	8	3	...	739	178
1869 ...	632	134	17	6	53	15	3	...	705	155
1870 ...	641	146	15	14	60	14	5	...	721	174
1871 ...	620	148	13	8	69	21	2	...	704	177
1872 ...	621	138	8	7	62	9	2	...	693	154
1873 ...	602	180	14	6	84	13	5	...	705	199
1874 ...	647	149	17	6	77	20	...	...	741	175
Total ...	6,906	1,663	155	79	693	145	37	...	7,791	1,887
Both sexes	8,569		234		838		37		9,678	

524. From calculations made by means of these figures and those showing the total mortality of the period from specified causes (118,512), it results that 1 person out of every 12 who die suffers a violent death, 1 out of every 14 meets his death from an accident, 1 out of every 507 is murdered, 1 out of every 141 commits suicide, and 1 out of every 3,203 is executed.

\* In the 11 years ended with 1874 more deaths resulted from phthisis than from accidents. Compare total of accidents in next table with total of table following paragraph 512 *ante*.

Violent  
deaths.

Violent  
deaths in  
proportion  
to living  
population.

525. As may be supposed, all descriptions of violent deaths bear much more hardly upon males than upon females. The nearest approach to uniformity is in the deaths by homicide, the females murdered in proportion to their numbers in the population being not a third less than the males murdered. No woman suffered execution in the whole of the 11 years. The following are the proportions of males and females who died by violence during that period to every 100,000 of their respective numbers in the mean living population :—

Violent deaths of males and females.

VIOLENT DEATHS OF MALES AND FEMALES PER 100,000 OF SAME SEXES IN LIVING POPULATION, 1864-1874.

	Males.	Females.
Accidents ... ..	163·22	48·70
Homicide ... ..	3·66	2·31
Suicide ... ..	16·38	4·25
Executions ... ..	·88	...
Total violent deaths ...	184·14	55·25

526. It has been already stated (pars. 510 and 511 *ante*) that violent deaths are more frequent in Victoria than in England. A portion of the violent deaths in England are not classed, but there is sufficient evidence to show that a larger number of these deaths in proportion to the population is to be found in Victoria under all the heads. The following are the proportions in the two countries ; those relating to Victoria being for the year under review, and the mean of ten years ; and those relating to England and Wales being also the mean of ten years :—

Violent deaths in Victoria and England.

VIOLENT DEATHS PER 100,000 OF LIVING POPULATION OF VICTORIA AND ENGLAND AND WALES.

	Victoria.		England and Wales.
	Year 1874.	Mean of 10 Years.	Mean of 10 Years.
Accidents ... ..	99·66	113·52	68·53
Homicide ... ..	2·88	3·08	1·95
Suicide ... ..	12·14	10·82	6·69
Execution ... ..	...	·54	·06
Violent deaths not classified...	...	...	1·03
Total violent deaths ...	114·69	126·96	78·27

527. From the period of the Registration of Births, Deaths, and Marriages Act coming into force to the end of 1874, 207,804 deaths took place, of which 206,311 were from specified causes. In the following

Causes of death, 1853-1874.



table these have been arranged in the order of their fatality, and the number of deaths from each cause has been shown :—

CAUSES OF DEATH IN ORDER OF FATALITY, 1853-1874.

Order of Fatality.	Causes of Death.	Number of Deaths.	Order of Fatality.	Causes of Death.	Number of Deaths.
1	Accidents ... ..	16,576	45	Scrofula ... ..	742
2	Atrophy and debility ...	15,489	46	Influenza, coryza, ca-	
3	Phthisis* ... ..	15,386		tarrh, &c. ... ..	712
4	Diarrhœa ... ..	13,499	47	Kidney disease, &c. ...	704
5	Dysentery ... ..	11,084	48	Erysipelas ... ..	688
6	Typhoid fever, &c.† ...	8,714	49	Malformations ... ..	678
7	Pneumonia ... ..	8,041	50	Laryngitis ... ..	632
8	Convulsions ... ..	7,897	51	Remittent fever ... ..	613
9	Heart disease, &c. ...	7,276	52	Jaundice, gallstone ...	587
10	Diphtheria ... ..	6,362	53	Tubercular disease not	
11	Teething ... ..	6,278		classed ... ..	553
12	Bronchitis ... ..	5,699	54	Quinsy ... ..	527
13	Brain disease ... ..	5,188	55	Venereal diseases ...	516
14	Scarlatina ... ..	5,079	56	Ileus ... ..	505
15	Enteritis ... ..	3,931	57	Pericarditis ... ..	490
16	Premature birth ... ..	3,586	58	Asthma ... ..	468
17	Whooping-cough ... ..	3,498	59	Nephria ... ..	432
18	Apoplexy ... ..	3,371	60	Murder and manslaughter	382
19	Hydrocephalus ... ..	3,353	61	Joint disease, &c. ...	378
20	Cephalitis ... ..	3,221	62	Ascites ... ..	338
21	Croup ... ..	2,750	63	Privation ... ..	324
22	Cancer ... ..	2,596	64	Mortification ... ..	319
23	Liver disease, &c. ...	2,475	65	Miasmatic diseases not	
24	Old age ... ..	2,415		classed ... ..	296
25	Childbirth and metria ...	2,378	66	Ulceration of intestines	288
26	Measles ... ..	2,287	67	Hernia ... ..	283
27	Gastritis ... ..	1,795	68	Hydatids ... ..	278
28	Tabes mesenterica ...	1,789	69	Diseases of the organs of	
29	Hepatitis ... ..	1,731		generation not classed	275
30	Dropsy ... ..	1,711	70	Tumor ... ..	263
31	Paralysis ... ..	1,551	71	Insanity ... ..	240
32	Alcoholism ... ..	1,423	72	Skin disease, &c. ...	239
33	Congestion of the lungs,		73	Nephritis ... ..	229
	pulmonary apoplexy ...	1,385	74	Purpura and scurvy ...	228
34	Want of breast milk ...	1,374	75	Cyanosis ... ..	216
35	Suicide ... ..	1,187	76	Cystitis ... ..	175
36	Lung disease, &c. ...	1,152	77	Diathetic diseases not	
37	Peritonitis ... ..	1,151		classed ... ..	165
38	Aneurism ... ..	1,069	78	Diabetes ... ..	151
39	Pleurisy ... ..	1,009	79	Intussusception ...	131
40	Cholera ... ..	959	80	Ulcer ... ..	128
41	Stomach disease, &c. ...	956	81	Arthritis ... ..	102
42	Rheumatism ... ..	838	82	Gout... ..	90
43	Thrush ... ..	788	83	Ovarian dropsy ...	81
44	Epilepsy ... ..	762	84	Ague ... ..	72

\* Including deaths registered as occurring from hæmoptysis.

† A few cases of true typhus are included in this line. They are of persons who have been affected by the disease on board ship prior to their arrival in the colony. The disease has never spread in Victoria.

## CAUSES OF DEATH IN ORDER OF FATALITY, 1853-1874—continued.

Order of Fatality.	Causes of Death.	Number of Deaths.	Order of Fatality.	Causes of Death.	Number of Deaths.
85	Spleen disease, &c. ...	67	102	Pancreas disease, &c. ...	12
86	Stone, gravel ...	65	103	Developmental diseases of children not classed	11
87	Execution ...	63	104	Polypus ...	6
88	Paramenia ...	53	105	Glanders ...	2
89	Worms ...	52	106	Developmental diseases not classed ...	1
90	Stricture of intestines ...	50			
91	Noma ...	48			
92	Carbuncle, boil ...	47			
93	Ischuria ...	43			
94	Phlegmon, whitlow, &c.	40		Deaths from specified causes ...	206,311
95	Chicken-pox, &c. ...	35		Deaths from unspecified causes ...	1,493
96	Chorea ...	31			
97	Fistula ...	31			
98	Dietic diseases not classed	22			
99	Ostitis, periostitis, &c. ...	21			
100	Smallpox ...	21		Deaths from all causes in 21½ years ...	207,804
101	Parasitic diseases not classed ...	13			

528. The following is a statement of the number of cases of sickness in the principal charitable institutions during the year 1874, the number of deaths in those institutions, and the number of cases of sickness to each death :—

Sickness and deaths in charitable institutions.

## SICKNESS AND DEATHS IN CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, 1874.

Name of Institution.	Number of Cases of Sickness treated.	Number of Deaths.	Number of Cases of Sickness to each Death.
General Hospitals ...	14,301	1,441	10
Hospital for Diseases of Women and Children *	290	11	26
Lying-in Hospital ...	446†	7‡	64
Benevolent Asylums ...	1,971	169	12
Melbourne Immigrants' Home §	...	92	...
Orphan Asylums ...	818	10	82
Hospitals for the Insane ...	1,536	168	9

\* The Hospital for the Diseases of Women and Children is attached to the Lying-in Hospital.

† This is the number of women confined in the institution.

‡ These are the deaths of women only ; 31 of the children born in the institution also died.

§ No record is kept at the Immigrants' Home of the number of cases of sickness treated.

|| Cases in respect to which no other disease than insanity has been entered have not generally been included. The exception has been where such cases have terminated fatally, which occurred in four instances.

Ages in  
charitable  
institutions.

529. The following are the ages of persons who were inmates of the same institutions during the year :—

AGES OF INMATES OF CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, 1874.

Ages.	General Hospitals.	Lying-in and Diseased Women's and Children's Hospital.	Benevolent Asylums.	Immigrants' Home.	Orphan Asylums.	Hospitals for the Insane.
Under 5 years...	262	1	34	292	102	} 52
5 years to 10 „ ...	586	...	3	187	558	
10 „ 15 „ ...	849	4	2	86	534	53
15 „ 25 „ ...	2,354	382	45	998	45	338
25 „ 35 „ ...	2,478	255	66	2,193	1	754
35 „ 45 „ ...	3,160	73	149	2,213	...	763
45 „ 55 „ ...	2,408	20	233	1,694	...	398
55 „ 65 „ ...	1,341	1	351	1,127	...	153
65 and upwards ...	847	...	773	646	...	74
Age unknown ...	26	...	...	...	20	329
Total ...	14,311	736	1,656	9,436	1,260	2,914

Cremorne  
Asylum.

530. In addition to the Government institutions, named as hospitals for the insane in the last two tables, there is a private lunatic asylum at Cremorne, near Melbourne, in which 40 cases of sickness and 1 death occurred during the year.

Lunatics.

531. In all the asylums at the end of 1874 there were 2,454 lunatics, viz., 1,434 males and 1,020 females. These numbers furnish a proportion of 1 lunatic to every 329 of the population ; 1 lunatic male to every 306 females ; 1 lunatic male to every 362 females. Of the male lunatics, 168, or 1 in 9, and of the female lunatics, 140, or 1 in 7, were supposed to be curable, and the remainder incurable.

Deaths in  
public insti-  
tutions.

532. The following deaths occurred during 1874 in institutions either wholly or partially supported by the State :—

DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, 1874.

	Number of Deaths.
General Hospitals ... ..	1,441
Hospital for Diseases of Women and Children ...	11
Lying-in Hospital ... ..	38*
Benevolent Asylums ... ..	169
Melbourne Immigrants' Home ... ..	92
Orphan Asylums ... ..	10
Hospitals for the Insane ... ..	168
Blind Asylum ... ..	2
Retreat for Inebriates ... ..	2
Female Refuges ... ..	3
Industrial Schools ... ..	34
Gaols ... ..	27
Penal Establishments ... ..	3
Total ... ..	2,000

\* This includes the deaths of 31 children born in the institution.

533. The total number of deaths during the year being 12,222, it follows that the death of 1 out of every 6 persons who died took place in a penal or charitable institution. This is the same proportion as obtained in 1873. Proportion in public institutions.

534. The number of cases of successful vaccination in 1874 was returned as 22,291. It was, at the same time, stated that the vaccinators in a few small districts had omitted to send in returns. The number of births during the year being 26,800, it follows that the provisions of the Vaccination Statute were effective in the case of upwards of 83 per cent. of the children born in the colony. This is an improvement upon the experience of the previous year, when the returns showed that only 80 per cent. of the children born were vaccinated. Vaccinations

535. The following are the results of the meteorological observations taken at the different stations throughout the colony during 1874. The times at which the observations for mean temperature and mean atmospheric pressure are obtained differ at the various stations; but a correction is applied in order to make the results equivalent to those which would be derived from hourly observations taken throughout the day and night:— Meteorological observations, 1874.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT VARIOUS STATIONS, 1874.

Stations.	Height above Sea-level.	Temperature in the Shade.			Mean Atmospheric pressure.	Days on which Rain fell.	Amount of Rainfall.	Mean Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.
		Max.	Min.	Mean.					
	ft.	°	°	°	in.	No.	in.	0—1	0—10
Portland ...	37·0	...	...	61·5	29·971	170	32·11	·78	4·4
Melbourne ...	91·3	102·7	29·3	56·6	29·930	134	28·10	·72	6·1
Cape Otway	270·0	95·0	37·0	54·7	29·749	157	42·44	·89	7·5
Sandhurst ...	758·0	109·5	30·0	58·3	29·220	80	19·58	·75	4·6
Ararat ...	1,050·0	...	...	...	...	80	23·17	...	...
Ballarat ...	1,438·0	107·3	25·0	55·2	28·470	130	27·83	·65	5·7

NOTE.—For an extended account of the meteorology of Victoria, see par. 54 to par. 95 ante.

PART IX.—RELIGIOUS, MORAL, AND INTELLECTUAL PROGRESS.

536. It was provided by the Constitution Act that, for the advancement of the Christian religion in Victoria, the sum of £50,000 should be set apart each year from the general revenue to promote the erection of buildings for public worship, and the maintenance of ministers of religion, which sum should be apportioned to each denomination accord- Abolition of State aid to religion.