

177. Deformed or crippled persons numbered 205, or 1 in 3,568 of the population. Amongst these, 7 were returned as having lost a leg, 3 as having lost an arm, and 1 as having been born without hands. Deformed and crippled.

178. The number of persons subject to epilepsy amounted to 221, or 1 in every 3,310 of the population. Epileptic persons.

179. The ages of the sick and infirm were ascertained at the census, and it was found that the rates of infirmity increase at each age from that of five years to the most advanced periods of life. Ages of sick and infirm.

180. One hundred and seventy-five Chinese were returned as suffering from infirmity. Of these, 106 were set down as sick, 11 as suffering from accidents, 1 as a deaf-mute, 10 as blind, 45 as lunatics, 1 as an epileptic subject, and 1 as crippled or deformed. According to these figures, the ratio of Chinese suffering from each description of infirmity, except lunacy, was less than that of the whole population. In lunacy the proportion was about the same, viz., 25 per 10,000. Nine of the sick Chinese were stated to be lepers. No Chinese female was returned as suffering from any ailment. Sick and infirm Chinese.

181. Of the Aborigines, some infirmity was noted respecting 28 males and 7 females, or 35 in all. Of this number, 28 were set down as sick, 1 as a deaf-mute, 5 as blind, and 1 as a lunatic. Sick and infirm Aborigines.

DIGEST OF THE CONTENTS OF THE "STATISTICAL REGISTER OF VICTORIA," 1874.

PART I.—BLUE BOOK.

182. The number of persons entitled to pensions in 1874 was 132, and the amount liable to be paid was £24,438. These figures, as compared with those given in the returns for 1873, represent an increase of 7 pensioners to the list, and of £1,271 to the amount payable. The following table shows the number of pensioners and the amount of their pensions in the year 1874, also the authority under which the pensions were respectively granted:— Pensioners and pensions.

PENSIONERS AND PENSIONS, 1874.

Authority under which Pensions were granted.	Number of Pensioners.	Amount of Pensions.		
		£	s.	d.
Civil Service Act	118	17,089	13	5
Lunacy Statute	5	81	11	5
County Courts Statute	2	1,500	0	0
Other Authority	7	5,766	13	4
Total	132	24,437	18	2

Pensions
under head
"Other
Authority."

183. It will be observed that the amount of the pensions set down under the head "Other Authority" is equal to nearly a fourth of the whole. This includes the pension of Lady Darling, widow of Sir Charles Darling, formerly Governor of Victoria; of Mrs. Petrie, who was awarded a pension of £100* per annum, as a recognition of the value of the discoveries on the Australian coast made by her father, the late Captain Flinders, R.N.; of Mr. Hoddle, first surveyor-general of this colony; and of Ministers relieved from office on the introduction of responsible government and on political grounds.

Average
amount of
pensions.

184. The average of all the pensions is £185 2s. 8½d. to each pensioner; the average of those under the Lunacy Statute is £16 6s. 3½d., the average of those under the Civil Service Act is £144 16s. 6¾d., the average of those under the County Courts Statute is £750, and the average of those under "Other Authority" is £823 16s. 2¼d.

Periods from
which pen-
sions date.

185. The following figures show the years in which the respective pensions were granted. It will be noticed that only 4 of the present pensions were in existence before 1862, and that 47, or more than a third, commenced in 1869:—

PENSIONS.—DATES OF COMMENCEMENT.

Year.	Number of Pensioners.	Amount of Pensions.	Year.	Number of Pensioners.	Amount of Pensions.
		£ s. d.			£ s. d.
1853	1	1,000 0 0	1868	8	635 14 0
1854	1	100 0 0	1869	47	7,028 16 8
1857	2	1,666 13 4	1870	10	2,767 18 8
1862	2	229 12 4	1871	7	853 11 10
1863	3	2,086 13 9	1872	12	1,671 14 8
1864	7	820 11 7	1873	6	594 17 4
1865	3	390 0 0	1874	7	1,550 11 4
1866	5	1,325 0 0			
1867	11	1,716 2 8	Total	132	24,437 18 2

Increase of
pensions
since 1869.

186. Since 1869, the year in which the largest addition was made to the pension list, the pensions have increased by 24, and the amount of pensions by £3,073.

Defences.

187. Some provision has been made for the defence of Victoria both by land and sea. The land forces embrace a paid artillery corps and volunteers of various arms. The sea defences consist of ships with a certain number of hands always kept to form a nucleus of a complete crew and of a naval reserve, the men of which receive a retaining fee, † in consideration whereof they are required to attend a certain number of

* A pension of a like amount is paid to Mrs. Petrie by New South Wales.

† First class petty officers receive £16, second class petty officers £14, and A.B. seamen £12 per annum.

drills per annum, and to hold themselves in readiness to serve, if required, either on land or sea.

188. The following table shows the strength and establishment of the Land forces at the end of 1874:—

LAND FORCES.—STRENGTH AND ESTABLISHMENT.

Designation of Corps.	Strength.					Wanting to complete.	Establishment.
	Officers.	Sergeants.	Rank and File.	Supernumeraries.	Total.		
Paid Artillery Corps ...	2	5	111	...	118	78	196
Volunteers—Cavalry ...	31	29	192	1	253	41	294
„ Artillery ...	59	93	1,237	46	1,435	140	1,575
„ Engineers ...	5	8	105	...	118	32	150
„ Torpedo, &c. ...	4	...	24	...	28	2	30
„ Rifles ...	69	102	1,704	41	1,916	134	2,050
Total ...	170	237	3,373	88	3,868	427	4,295
Volunteer Staff, &c., Unattached ...	62	35	...	...	97	...	...
Volunteer Staff, &c., Bands ...	...	5	101	...	106	...	...
Grand Total ...	232	277	3,474	88	4,071	...	...

189. At the same period the guns and rifles in possession of the land forces were as follow. It will be observed that the former numbered 135, and the latter 4,234:—

Arms of land forces.

LAND FORCES.—GUNS AND RIFLES IN POSSESSION.

Description of Arm.*		Number.
Garrison Guns ...	Muzzle-loading rifled, 9" ...	6
	„ „ 80-pr. ...	25
	Smooth-bored, 68-pr. ...	30
	„ 32-pr. ...	38
Guns of position—	Breech-loading rifled, 40-pr. ...	6
	Breech-loading Armstrongs, rifled, 12-pr. ...	6
Field Guns ...	„ „ 6-pr. ...	6
	Muzzle-loading rifled, Whitworth's, 3-pr. ...	6
	Smooth-bored howitzers, 24-pr. ...	1
	„ „ 12-pr. ...	9
	„ „ guns, 6-pr. ...	2
Rifles ...	Long Enfield ...	550
	Lancaster, large bore ...	1,408
	„ reduced bore ...	1,708
	General Hay ...	331
	Westley Richards (breech-loading carbine) ...	237

* The number and calibre of the guns in possession of the land forces is taken from Captain Snee's report, laid before the Volunteer Commission, and published in the Melbourne journals.

Naval forces. 190. The strength and establishment of the naval forces at the end of 1874 were as follow :—

NAVAL FORCES.—STRENGTH AND ESTABLISHMENT.

	Strength.			Total.	Wanted to complete.	Establishment.
	Officers.	Petty Officers and Seamen.	Boys.			
H.M.V.S. <i>Cerberus</i> ...	6	33	40	79	1	80
„ <i>Nelson</i> ...	5	31	...	36	...	36
Naval Reserve ...	8	216	...	224	3	227
Total ...	19	280	40	339	4	343

War ships.

191. The *Cerberus* is an ironclad, having two turrets, each of which contains two 400-pr. guns. She was built expressly for the colony in 1868, and was brought out through the Suez Canal in the following year. She is 235 feet long, and of 2,107 tons measurement. The *Nelson* is a wooden line-of-battle ship, and was placed at the disposal of the colony by Her Majesty's Government. This vessel carries at present 48 guns. Her length is 220 feet, and she measures 2,736 tons.

Arms of naval forces.

192. The following is the armament of the naval forces. It will be observed that the guns number in all 52, the rifles 308, and the revolvers 144 :—

NAVAL FORCES.—ARMAMENT.

Description of Arm.	<i>Cerberus.</i>	<i>Nelson.</i>	Naval Reserve.	Total.
<i>Guns.</i>				
Woolwich 10-in. 400-prs. ...	4	...	...	4
„ 7-in. 116-prs. ...	...	2	...	2
Shunt 42 cwt. 64-prs. ...	...	20	...	20
Smooth-bore 32-prs. ...	...	20	...	20
Howitzer 12-prs. ...	...	6	...	6
<i>Rifles.</i>				
Snider ...	25	...	...	25
Sea-service ...	...	...	240	240
Enfield ...	...	...	25	25
General Hay ...	...	...	18	18
<i>Revolvers.</i>				
Undescribed ...	...	119	...	119
Breech-loading ...	25	...	...	25

193. The expenditure on defences during 1874 was as follows. It will be observed that more than twice as much was spent upon shore defences as upon defences at sea :—

Military and
naval ex-
penditure.

MILITARY AND NAVAL EXPENDITURE.

<i>Military Expenditure.</i>							£	s.	d.	
Staff Salaries	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,717	16	0
Volunteer Force—Contingencies	...	...	...	...	...	...	18,394	11	6
General Contingencies	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,824	19	5
Artillery Corps—Salaries	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,071	17	0
" Contingencies	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,055	15	0
Total							...	39,064	18	11
<i>Naval Expenditure.</i>							£	s.	d.	
H.M.V.S. <i>Cerberus</i> —Salaries	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,666	3	9
" " Contingencies	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,868	14	5
" <i>Nelson</i> —Salaries	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,437	16	9
" " Contingencies	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,294	11	8
Naval Reserve—Salaries	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,757	12	6
" Contingencies	...	...	...	...	...	...	647	11	8
Total							...	17,672	10	9
Total Expenditure on Defences							...	56,737	9	8

194. The whole subject of Victorian Defences is now under the consideration of a Royal Commission.

Volunteer
Commission.

PART II.—FINANCE.

195. The public revenue of the year ended 30th June 1874 was not so great as the expenditure by £70,000. The surplus, however, brought forward from the previous year, amounting to £240,000, not only enabled the engagements of the year to be met, but left a balance of £170,000 to be carried forward to the next financial year. The following are the precise figures of revenue, expenditure, and balances :—

Revenue and
expenditure,
1873-4.

	£	s.	d.
Balance brought forward from 1872-3	...	241,038	17 11
Net Revenue, 1873-4	...	4,106,790	9 10
Total amount available for 1873-4	...	4,347,829	7 9
Net Expenditure, 1873-4	...	4,177,337	18 0
Balance to carry forward to 1874-5	...	170,491	9 9