

353. The following are the results for Melbourne in each of the eleven years ended with 1877 :—

Meteorology  
in Mel-  
bourne, 1867  
to 1877.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT MELBOURNE.—RETURN FOR  
ELEVEN YEARS.

(Observatory 91·3 feet above the Sea-level.)

Year.	Temperature in the Shade.			Mean Atmospheric Pressure.	Days on which Rain fell.	Amount of Rainfall.	Mean Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.
	Max.	Min.	Mean.					
	°	°	°	inches.	No.	inches.	0-1.	0-10.
1867	108	30	58	29·92	133	25·79	·72	5·7
1868	110	27	57	29·98	120	18·27	·70	5·7
1869	108	27	57	29·94	129	24·59	·71	6·0
1870	109	30	57	29·93	129	33·76	·74	5·8
1871	106	32	58	29·93	125	30·17	·74	5·9
1872	103	32½	58	29·92	136	32·52	·74	6·4
1873	102	30	58	29·94	134	25·61	·72	6·0
1874	103	29	57	29·93	134	28·10	·72	6·1
1875	110	31	57	29·89	158	32·87	·72	6·2
1876	111	29	57	29·93	134	24·04	·70	5·8
1877	101	31	57	29·99	124	24·10	·70	5·8

354. It will be observed that the mean temperature in Melbourne is remarkably even from year to year. The diminished rainfall, and consequent drought, which occurred in 1877 and the previous year, will be at once recognised.

Tempera-  
ture and  
rainfall.

355. An extended account of the meteorology and climate of Victoria will be found in the *Victorian Year-Book*, 1874, paragraphs 54 to 95.

Meteorology  
elsewhere  
treated on.

PART V.—ACCUMULATION.

356. The coins in circulation in Victoria are in all respects the same as those used in the United Kingdom. The accounts are kept in sterling money (£ s. d.).

Coins and  
accounts.

357. A branch of the Royal Mint was established in Melbourne in 1872. From the time of its opening to the end of 1877, 2,159,167 ounces of gold were received thereat, valued at £8,590,159.

Royal Mint.

358. The following table shows the quantity and value of the gold received at the Mint in each year. It will be observed that the gold received in 1877 was 164,889 ounces less than that received in 1876, and 111,422 ounces less than that received in 1875.

Gold  
received at  
Mint.

## GOLD RECEIVED AT THE MELBOURNE MINT, 1872 TO 1876.

Year.	Quantity.		Value.
		oz.	£
1872 ... ..	190,738		764,917
1873 ... ..	221,870		887,127
1874 ... ..	335,318		1,349,102
1875 ... ..	489,732		1,947,713
1876 ... ..	543,199		2,149,481
1877 ... ..	378,310		1,491,819
Total ... ..	2,159,167		8,590,159

Gold issued  
from Mint

359. Gold is issued from the Mint as coin or as bullion. The former, with the exception of 165,000 half-sovereigns in 1873, and 80,000 in 1877, has consisted entirely of sovereigns. The following is a statement of the gold issued in each year, whether in the shape of coin or bullion :—

## GOLD ISSUED AT MELBOURNE MINT, 1872 TO 1877.

Year.	Coin.		Bullion.		Total Value of Coin and Bullion.
	Sovereigns.	Half-sovereigns.	Quantity.	Value.	
	number.	number.	oz.	£	£
1872	748,000	...	1,205	3,610	751,610
1873	752,000	165,000	3,106	11,035	845,535
1874	1,373,000	...	2,912	10,417	1,383,417
1875	1,888,000	...	3,553	13,857	1,901,857
1876	2,124,000	...	3,625	14,145	2,138,145
1877	1,487,000	80,000	3,326	13,004	1,540,004
Total ...	8,372,000	245,000	17,727	66,068	8,560,568

Victorian  
and other  
gold minted

360. Less than three-fourths of the gold received at the Mint was raised in Victoria. Upwards of a fifth came from New Zealand. The remainder was contributed by the other Australasian colonies and by Natal. The following were the quantities from these countries respectively prior to and during 1877 :—

VICTORIAN AND OTHER GOLD RECEIVED AT MELBOURNE MINT,  
1872 TO 1877.

Country in which Gold was raised.			Quantity of Gold received.		
			Prior to 1877.	During 1877.	Total.
			oz.	oz.	oz.
Victoria ... ..	...	...	1,312,732	290,920	1,603,652
New South Wales ... ..	...	...	1,414	357	1,771
Queensland ... ..	...	...	1,331	60	1,391
South Australia ... ..	...	...	34,102	10,989	45,091
Tasmania ... ..	...	...	22,435	6,684	29,119
New Zealand ... ..	...	...	403,638	67,718	471,356
Natal ... ..	...	...	735	181	916
Unknown ... ..	...	...	4,470	1,401	5,871
Total ... ..	...	...	1,780,857	378,310	2,159,167

361. The following table shows the Mint revenue and expenditure in each of the four financial years ended with 1876-7, also the excess of the latter over the former. The net results alone are given, the amount of subsidy returned to the Treasury each year being omitted from both sides of the account. It will be observed that during the period to which the table relates the Mint has been worked at a loss to the country of £13,700:—

MINT REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1873-4 TO 1876-7.

Year.	Mint Receipts.	Mint Expenditure.	Excess of Expenditure over Receipts.
	£	£	£
1873-4	4,799	4,972	173
1874-5	7,504	15,701	8,197
1875-6	7,659	9,305	1,646
1876-7	7,512	11,229	3,717
Total ...	27,474	41,207	13,733

362. The quantity of gold received at the Sydney Branch of the Royal Mint during 1876 was 431,905 ounces, valued at £1,605,558, more than half of which came from Queensland. The total value of coin and bullion issued amounted to £1,651,293, consisting of 1,613,000 sovereigns, 60,000 half-sovereigns, and 2,130 ounces of bullion valued at £8,293. The total revenue for the year amounted to £10,496. It will be noticed that the coin and bullion issued was less in value by nearly half a million sterling than the coin and bullion issued from the Melbourne Mint in the same year.

363. There were 13 banks of issue in Victoria during 1877, possessing therein 324 branches or agencies. In the first year of each of the two previous quinquennial periods there were 10 banks of issue in the colony.

364. Subjoined are the average rates of exchange for bank bills drawn on the following places in 1877, and in the first year of each of the two previous quinquennials. Those upon London are drawn at sixty days' sight, and those upon the neighboring colonies at sight:—

RATES OF EXCHANGE, 1867, 1872, AND 1877.

Places on which Bills were drawn.	Average Rates of Exchange.		
	1867.	1872.	1877.
London ..	par to 1 per cent. prem.	$\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{1}{8}$ per cent. prem.	par to $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. prem.
British India ..	5 per cent. premium, 2s. 1d. per rupee	2s. 1d. per rupee ..	5 per cent. premium, 2s. per rupee
New South Wales	$\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. premium	2s. 3d. to $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. prem.	3s. 9d. to $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. prem.
Queensland ..	1 per cent. premium	$\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 per cent. premium	9s. 3d. to 1 per cent. prem.
South Australia ..	$\frac{1}{4}$ to 1 per cent. premium	2s. to $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. prem.	2s. 6d. to $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. prem.
Tasmania ..	$\frac{1}{4}$ to 1 per cent. premium	$\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. premium	$\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. premium
New Zealand ..	$\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 per cent. premium	9s. 3d. to $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. prem.	3s. to $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. premium

**Rates of discount.** 365. The average rates of discount on local bills were as follow during the same three years. It will be observed that the rates were higher at the first period than at either of the subsequent periods, and that they were much higher at the last than at the middle period :—

#### RATES OF DISCOUNT ON LOCAL BILLS, 1867, 1872, AND 1877.

Currency of Bills.	Average Rates of Discount per Annum.		
	1867.	1872.	1877.
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
Under 65 days ...	7 to 8	5 to 5½	6 to 7
65 to 95 „ ...	7 to 8	5 to 6	7 to 8
95 to 125 „ ...	8 to 10	6 to 7	8 to 9
Over 125 „ ...	9 to 10	7 to 8	8 to 10

**Liabilities, assets, &c., of banks.** 366. The position of the banks as regards liabilities, assets, capital, and profits, according to the sworn returns for the last quarter of the same three years, was as follows :—

#### POSITION OF BANKS, 1867, 1872, AND 1877.

LIABILITIES.				
—		1867.	1872.	1877.
		£	£	£
Notes in circulation ...	...	1,182,701	1,327,374	1,350,114
Bills in circulation ...	...	127,501	90,523	70,254
Balances due to other banks ...	...	120,125	219,223	259,223
Deposits not bearing interest ...	...	2,860,280	5,305,693	4,980,155
Deposits bearing interest ...	...	6,599,684	6,992,234	11,523,373
Total ...	...	10,890,291	13,935,047	18,183,119
ASSETS.				
		£	£	£
Coined gold, silver, and other metals		1,974,288	2,708,390	2,109,793
Gold and silver in bullion and bars		615,217	662,632	328,864
Landed property ...	...	554,105	635,809	796,605
Notes and bills of other banks ...	...	139,734	164,699	143,425
Balances due from other banks		259,911	354,079	386,491
Debts due to the banks* ...	...	12,234,636	13,600,293	22,493,261
Total ...	...	15,777,891	18,125,902	26,258,439
CAPITAL AND PROFITS.				
		£	£	£
Capital stock paid up ...	...	8,136,325	8,276,250	8,756,894
Average per annum of rates of last dividend declared by banks		10 $\frac{9}{20}$ per cent.	9 $\frac{9}{20}$ per cent.	10 $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent.
Average rate of interest per annum paid to shareholders		12·192 per cent.	10·193 per cent.	11·689 per cent.
Amount of last dividend declared		496,000	421,800	511,810
Amount of reserved profits after declaring dividend		2,123,674	2,171,705	2,739,862

\* Including notes, bills of exchange, and all other stock and funded debts of every description, except notes, bills, and balances due from one bank to another.

367. The following table shows the proportion of each item of the liabilities to the total liabilities, and of each item of the assets to the total assets of the banks at the same periods :—

Percentage  
of items of  
liabilities  
and assets.

### LIABILITIES AND ASSETS OF BANKS.—PERCENTAGE OF ITEMS.

LIABILITIES.			
	1867.	1872.	1877.
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
Notes in circulation ...	10·86	9·53	7·42
Bills in circulation ...	1·17	·65	·39
Balances due to other banks ...	1·10	1·57	1·43
Deposits not bearing interest ...	26·27	38·07	27·39
Deposits bearing interest ...	60·60	50·18	63·37
Total ...	100·00	100·00	100·00

  

ASSETS.			
	1867.	1872.	1877.
Coined gold, silver, and other metals	12·51	14·94	8·04
Gold and silver in bullion or bars	3·90	3·66	1·25
Landed property ...	3·51	3·51	3·03
Notes and bills of other banks ...	·89	·91	·55
Balances due from other banks...	1·65	1·95	1·47
Debts due to the banks ...	77·54	75·03	85·66
Total ...	100·00	100·00	100·00

368. The following results are arrived at by analysing the bank returns at the three periods :—

Analysis of  
bank re-  
turns.

Coin and bullion formed ...	{	16·41 per cent. of the assets in 1867
	{	18·60 " " 1872
	{	9·29 " " 1877
The liabilities amounted to ...	{	69·02 per cent. of the assets in 1867
	{	76·88 " " 1872
	{	69·25 " " 1877
The paid-up capital was equal to	{	51·57 per cent. of the assets in 1867
	{	45·66 " " 1872
	{	33·35 " " 1877
	{	74·71 per cent. of the liabilities in 1867
	{	59·39 " " 1872
	{	48·16 " " 1877
Of the moneys deposited ...	{	69·76 per cent. bore interest in 1867
	{	56·86 " " 1872
	{	69·82 " " 1877

369. It will be observed that coin and bullion bore a much smaller proportion to the total assets, and that the paid-up capital bore a much smaller proportion both to the assets and the liabilities, in 1877 than at either of the former periods.

Former  
periods and  
1877 com-  
pared.

370. The Government moneys in the hands of the various banks standing to the credit of the public account, and the proportion they bore to the whole amounts on deposit, were as follow at the end of each of the last four years :—

Government  
funds with  
the banks.

## GOVERNMENT FUNDS IN THE HANDS OF THE BANKS, 1874 TO 1877.

On the 31st December.	Government Moneys.	
	Total Amount held by the Banks.	Percentage of all Moneys on Deposit.
	£	
1874 ... ..	1,348,048	10·84
1875 ... ..	677,445	4·93
1876 ... ..	1,956,619	13·18
1877 ... ..	1,148,176	6·96

Banks in  
Austral-  
asian  
colonies.

371. The total liabilities and total assets of the banks during the last quarter of 1876 in all the Australasian colonies except Western Australia, which does not appear to publish banking returns, will be found in the following table :—

## BANKS IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1876.

Name of Colony.	Number of Banks.	Total Liabilities.				
		Notes in Circulation.	Bills in Circulation.	Balances due to other Banks.	Deposits.	Total.
		£	£	£	£	£
Victoria ... ..	12	1,335,478	54,472	287,179	14,850,148	16,527,277
New South Wales	10	1,113,323	37,123	247,357	14,859,505	16,257,308
Queensland ... ..	6	345,437	14,598	42,520	3,091,681	3,494,236
South Australia...	6	442,541	10,653	57,064	3,316,096	3,826,354
Tasmania ... ..	5	117,558	2,696	2,582	1,463,008	1,585,844
New Zealand ... ..	6	874,517	60,833	47,578	6,238,471	7,221,399
Total ... ..	45	4,228,854	180,375	684,280	43,818,909	48,912,418

  

Name of Colony.	Total Assets.				
	Coin and Bullion.	Landed Property.	Balances due from, and Notes and Bills of, other Banks.	Other Securities chiefly Government.	Debts due to Banks.
	£	£	£	£	£
Victoria ... ..	3,519,377	790,129	470,156	...	19,138,461
New South Wales	2,727,103	359,276	3,539,158	...	13,627,551
Queensland ... ..	754,271	111,304	96,833	...	3,400,046
South Australia...	733,168	151,611	134,731	25,000	4,724,443
Tasmania ... ..	256,499	39,245	28,881	...	1,357,198
New Zealand ... ..	1,614,918	210,185	96,701	614,208	9,240,059
Total ... ..	9,605,336	1,661,750	4,366,460	639,208	51,487,758

Proportion  
of specie to  
assets in  
Austral-  
asian banks.

372. Coin and bullion bore a higher proportion to the total assets of the Queensland banks, and a lower one to those of the South Australian banks, than to those of any of the other colonies. The Victorian banks had a higher proportion of coin and bullion than those of New Zealand, New South Wales, or South Australia. The following are the figures, the colonies being placed in order, those having the highest proportion of coin or bullion being placed first and those having the lowest last :—

PROPORTION OF COIN AND BULLION TO ASSETS OF BANKS IN  
AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1876.

	Per cent.		Per cent.
1. Queensland ...	17·29	4. New Zealand ...	13·71
2. Tasmania ...	15·25	5. New South Wales ...	13·47
3. Victoria ...	14·71	6. South Australia ...	12·71

373. The liabilities bore a smaller proportion to the assets in the New Zealand banks, and a larger one in those of Tasmania, than in the banks of any of the other colonies. The liabilities of the banks in Victoria were smaller in proportion to their assets than those in Queensland, New South Wales, or Tasmania. In the following statement the colony of which the liabilities were smallest in proportion to the assets is placed first, and that in which the liabilities were proportionately the highest is placed last:—

Proportion  
of liabilities  
to assets in  
Austral-  
asian banks.

PROPORTION OF LIABILITIES TO ASSETS OF BANKS IN AUSTRALASIAN  
COLONIES, 1876.

	Per cent.		Per cent.
1. New Zealand ...	61·32	4. Queensland ...	80·10
2. South Australia ...	66·33	5. New South Wales ...	80·27
3. Victoria ...	69·10	6. Tasmania ...	94·29

374. The rates of interest allowed on moneys deposited with the Victorian banks were not returned for 1867 and 1872. The rates on deposits left for a period of twelve months ranged from 5 to 6 per cent. in 1877, 1876, and 1875, and from 4 to 6 per cent. in 1874.

Interest on  
deposits  
with banks.

375. Two kinds of Savings Banks exist in Victoria, the ordinary Savings Banks, which were first established in 1842, and the Post Office Savings Banks, which were established in 1865. The following figures show the number of institutions, the number of depositors having accounts at the last dates of balancing in 1877, and the total and average amount of depositors' balances at such dates\*:

Savings  
Banks.

SAVINGS BANKS, 1877.

Description of Institution.	Number of Savings Banks.	Number of Depositors.	Depositors' Balances.	
			Total Amount.	Average per Depositor.
			£	£ s. d.
Post Office Savings Banks ...	166	44,361	652,089	14 14 0
Ordinary Savings Banks ...	11	28,884	923,216	31 19 3
Total ...	177	73,245	1,575,305	21 10 13 $\frac{1}{4}$

376. The number of depositors in Savings Banks has been increasing from year to year. With the exception of 1874, there was a larger amount remaining on deposit in 1877 than in any former year. The following are the figures during the last six years:—

Depositors  
in Savings  
Banks.

\* The financial year of the Post Office Savings Banks terminates on the 31st December, that of the ordinary Savings Banks on the 30th June.

				Number of Depositors.	Amount remaining on Deposit.
1872	...	...	52,749	...	£1,405,738
1873	...	...	58,547	...	1,498,618
1874	...	...	64,014	...	1,617,301
1875	...	...	65,837	...	1,469,849
1876	...	...	69,027	...	1,507,235
1877	...	...	73,245	...	1,575,305

Rate of  
interest in  
Savings  
Banks.

377. The highest rate of interest Savings Banks are permitted to give on moneys left on deposit is 4 per cent. This rate was allowed in all the years.

Price of  
debentures  
in London.

378. According to *Westgarth's Circular*, the following are the London prices at the beginning, middle, and end of 1877, and at the end of the first quarter of 1878, of debentures payable in London :—

#### PRICE OF VICTORIAN DEBENTURES IN LONDON, 1877-8.

Interest.			Amount of outstanding Debentures.	Price per £100 Bond.			
Rate per annum.	When Payable.			1877.			1878.
				January.	June.	December.	March.
			£	£	£	£	£
6	April and October	..	7,000,000	111½-112½	119½-110½	108-109	111-112
5	January and July	..	2,107,000	109-110	108½-109½	110½-111½	109-110
6	„ „	..	850,000	116	119-121	117-119	115-117
4	„ „	..	4,500,000	96½-97½	98½-99	97½-98½	97½-97½

Price of  
debentures  
and  
stock in  
Melbourne.

379. The following, according to the *Australasian Insurance and Banking Record*, were the prices in Melbourne of Victorian debentures payable thereat, and of Victorian stock, at the dates named :—

#### PRICE OF VICTORIAN DEBENTURES AND STOCK IN MELBOURNE, 1877-8.

Interest.		Amount of out- standing Debt.	Closing Price.						
Rate per annum.	When Payable.		1877.				1878.		
			January.	March.	June.	Sept.	January.	March.	June.
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
6	April and October	236,600	103½-105	103½-104½	103½-104	105	..	104½	103
6	„ „ ..	580,620	105-106	105-106	104½-105	106	106-106½	106-106½	106
6	„ „ ..	130,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
6	„ „ ..	276,100	..	..	..	..	..	108	108
5	January and July	312,900	..	..	103	100	99-101½	100-101½	101
4	April and October	1,003,602*	96-100	97-100	99-99½	98½	98	96	94

Mortgages,  
iens, and  
releases.

380. The following table contains a statement of the number and amount of mortgages on land and live stock, and of preferable liens on wool, effected during 1877, also the number and amount of releases registered in the same year. The number of releases of live stock and

\* Government stock. The others are debentures.



wool appears small as compared with the number of mortgages and liens; but it happens, in regard to this description of property, that, although the mortgage may be paid off, the mortgagor seldom takes the trouble to protect himself by a registered release:—

MORTGAGES AND LIENS AND RELEASES, 1877.

Security.	Mortgages and Liens.		Releases.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
		£		£
Land ... ..	5,489	3,977,745	3,304	3,082,590
Live stock ... ..	711	485,524	94	393,724
Wool ... ..	310	242,869	1	2,500
Total ... ..	6,510	4,706,138	3,399	3,478,814

381. The live stock mortgaged in 1877 consisted of 676,930 sheep, 43,925 head of cattle, 2,405 horses, and 341 pigs. The fleeces on which preferable liens were granted numbered 1,179,097. Live stock and wool mortgaged.

382. The following figures show the number of registered mortgages and liens of all descriptions, and the amounts advanced in respect thereof, during each of the last eleven years. It will be observed that the greatest number of transactions took place in 1877, but the amount advanced was larger in 1873, 1874, and 1876 than in that year:— Mortgages and liens, 1867 to 1877.

MORTGAGES AND LIENS, 1867 TO 1877.

Number of Transactions.				Amount.			
1867	...	3,380	...	£3,754,672	1873	...	5,155 ... £5,248,365
1868	...	3,509	...	3,485,315	1874	...	5,929 ... 6,019,904
1869	...	4,036	...	4,701,485	1875	...	6,035 ... 4,542,569
1870	...	4,410	...	4,203,743	1876	...	6,417 ... 5,081,387
1871	...	4,849	...	4,278,197	1877	...	6,510 ... 4,706,138
1872	...	5,151	...	4,076,229			

383. During the seventeen years ended with 1877, the sums advanced on mortgage of landed property have amounted in the aggregate to £47,863,164, and the sums paid off have amounted in all to £24,025,670. The balance is £23,837,494, or about half the amount originally advanced. Part of this balance represents the amount of mortgages still outstanding, and part the amount in default of payment of which properties have passed from the mortgagor either by foreclosure or sale. Difference between mortgages and releases, 1861 to 1877.

384. The bills of sale filed and satisfied in the last four years were as follow. It will be observed that those filed in 1877 and the amount included therein were much less than in former years, which is chiefly owing to the law relating to bills of sale having been made much more stringent under Act 40 Vict. No. 557, which came into force during the year. Bills of sale.

## BILLS OF SALE, 1874 TO 1877.

Year.	Bills of Sale Filed.		Bills of Sale Satisfied.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
		£		£
1874 ... ..	3,207	727,370	251	98,492
1875 ... ..	3,182	788,339	189	85,477
1876 ... ..	3,330	747,717	194	56,318
1877* ... ..	1,063	288,015	131	79,746

Contracts  
for sale and  
letting.

385. The contracts for sale filed in 1877 numbered 605, securing an amount of £47,720. The contracts for letting filed numbered 668, the rents named therein varying from 2s. 6d. to £5 per week.

Building  
societies.

386. Sixty-one building societies sent in returns of their operations during 1877, as against 58 in the previous year. The following are the principal items furnished for the two years. It should be observed that the returns of some of the societies were not perfect:—

## BUILDING SOCIETIES, 1876 AND 1877.

	1876.	1877.
Number of societies ... ..	58	61
Number of members ... ..	21,750	21,824
Amount advanced during the year ... ..	£870,203	£815,860
Income during the year ... ..	£1,011,397	£1,182,718
Working expenses during the year ... ..	£28,571	£31,193
Assets at date of balancing ... ..	£2,750,660	£2,878,167
Liabilities " ... ..	£2,352,282	£2,492,890
Moneys on deposit at date of balancing ... ..	£611,598	£748,253

Falling off  
in business  
of building  
societies.

387. The business done by building societies was, according to the figures, not so great in 1877 as in 1876, the amount of advances having been less in the year under review by £54,343 than it was in the former year. The aggregate income of building societies, however, increased by upwards of £170,000 during the period intervening between the dates of the returns of the two years.

Rates of  
interest in  
building  
societies.

388. The rates of interest allowed by building societies on moneys left with them for a period of twelve months ranged in both years from  $5\frac{1}{4}$  to 8 per cent. These are the extreme figures; the average rates were from 6 to 7 per cent.

Moneys on  
deposit at  
end of 1876  
and 1877.

389. The following is a statement of the total amount of moneys on deposit at or about the end of 1876 and 1877 with banks of issue, savings banks, and building societies. Other institutions, such as deposit banks, and some of the insurance companies, also receive deposits, but of these no returns are furnished:—

\* An explanation of the small amount of business done in 1877 is given in the last paragraph.

## MONEYS ON DEPOSIT AT END OF YEARS 1876 AND 1877.

	1876.	1877.
	£	£
Amount deposited with banks ...	14,850,148	16,503,528
"    "    savings banks ...	1,507,235	1,575,305
"    "    building societies ...	611,598	748,253
Total ...	16,968,981	18,827,086

390. It will be observed that the moneys on deposit at the end of 1877 exceeded those at the end of 1876 by nearly two millions sterling. Increase in deposits.

## PART VI.—INTERCHANGE.

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

392. The returns of imports and exports during 1877, as given in the following pages, are arranged according to a system of classification recommended by the Statistical Conference of representatives of the Australasian colonies held in Tasmania in 1875,\* the principle kept in view being that articles of a like character should be kept together. The present is the third year in which this mode of classification has been used in Victoria. It has met with the approval of eminent statisticians in Europe and elsewhere, but, I regret to say, has not yet been adopted by the other colonies represented at the Conference. Imports and exports, 1877.

393. The table of imports and exports is preceded by an alphabetical index, by the assistance of which the position of any article may be readily found. Index of imports and exports.

## INDEX OF ARTICLES IMPORTED AND EXPORTED.

\*\* This index refers to the tables of imports and exports which immediately follow it.

Entries.	Order.	Entries.	Order.	Entries.	Order.
Acid—acetic, other ...	14	Antimony—crude, ore, regulus ...	32	Barley ...	22
Aerated waters ...	23	Apparel ...	19	Basket and wicker ware ...	25
Agricultural — implements, machinery ...	9	Arms and ammunition ...	8	Bass ...	25
Air-bricks ...	12	Arrowroot ...	22	Bath bricks... ..	29
Ale and porter ...	23	Arsenic ...	14	Beans ...	22
Alkali ...	14	Artificial flowers ...	19	Beef—salted ...	21
Almond oil ...	26	Asphalte ...	14	Beer ...	23
Almonds ...	22	Axle—arms, boxes ...	10	Beeswax ...	24
Alum ...	14	Axles ...	10	Birds ...	33
Anchors ...	11	Bacon ...	21	Biscuits ...	22
Angora wool ...	24	Bagging ...	20	Bitters ...	23
Animal food ...	21	Bags, sacks ...	20	Black oil ...	26
" substances ...	24	" paper ...	25	" sand ...	32
Animals and birds ...	33	Bark ...	25	Blankets ...	15

\* See report of Conference, with introductory letter by the Government Statist of Victoria (Parliamentary Paper No. 11, Session 1875), page 6, paragraph 16; page 9, resolution 6; and page 12, Appendix A; also *Victorian Year-Book*, 1875, paragraphs 96 to 99 and footnotes.