

PART 8.—DEFENCES.

1452. The Military Forces of Victoria consist of Permanent Forces, Militia, and Volunteer Forces. The Permanent Forces are made up of the Head-quarters Staff, the Victorian Artillery, and the Permanent Section of the Engineer Corps; the Militia embrace the Cavalry, Horse Artillery, Field and Garrison Artillery, Engineers, Infantry, Ambulance, Commissariat, and Medical Staff; and the Volunteer Forces comprise the Mounted Rifles and Victorian Rangers.* During 1893-4 the strength of the various corps in all cases approximated closely to the establishment, which is as follows:—

MILITARY FORCES.—ESTABLISHMENT, 1893-4.

Corps.	Total all Ranks.
PERMANENT.	
Head-quarters Staff	6
Victorian Artillery	286
Permanent Section, Victorian Engineers	31
Permanent Staff of Militia	36
Mounted Rifles	13
Victorian Rangers	11
Cadet Corps	3
Military Staff Clerks	7
Total Permanent Forces	393
MILITIA.	
Head-quarters Staff	5
Victorian Horse Artillery	46
Field Artillery—Three Batteries	268
Garrison Artillery—One Battery, Geelong, and Three Batteries, Melbourne	627
“ “ Three Batteries, One each at Port Fairy, Warrnambool, and Portland	78
Victorian Engineers—Submarine Mining Company	84
“ “ Field Company	75
1st Battalion 1st Victorian Regiment	506
1st Battalion 2nd Victorian Regiment	506
1st Battalion 3rd Victorian Regiment	503
2nd Battalion 3rd Victorian Regiment	403
Ambulance Corps	40
Commissariat and Transport Corps	39
Medical Staff	15
Total Militia	3,195
VOLUNTEERS.	
Mounted Rifles	800
Victorian Rangers	1,000
Grand Total	5,388

* An account of the system of Defence in Victoria was given in the *Victorian Year-Book*, 1890-91, Vol. II., paragraph 649.

1453. The naval force of the colony consists of a Permanent Naval Force and a Naval Brigade, with an establishment as follows :—

NAVAL FORCES.—ESTABLISHMENT, 1894.

Permanent Force	...	...	...	236 Officers and Men.
Naval Brigade	...	...	...	340 "

1454. The naval flotilla consists of nine ships and torpedo boats, but, in addition to these, three vessels belonging to the Harbor Trust and two to the Customs Department are armed as auxiliaries with breech-loading and other guns and torpedo gear. Provision has also been made to arm two steamers as scouts when required for active service, which have accordingly been fitted so as to carry 'quick-firing guns. The following are the names of the vessels :—

VICTORIAN WAR VESSELS, 1894.

Cerberus—Double-screw iron armour-plated turret ship.

Nelson—Wooden frigate.

Victoria and *Albert*—Steel gunboats.

Countess of Hopetoun—Steel torpedo boat.

Childers, *Nepean*, and *Lonsdale*—Steel torpedo boats.

Gordon—Torpedo launch.

Gannet—Harbor Trust tug-boat, iron.

Batman—Harbor Trust hopper-barge, iron.

Fawkner—Harbor Trust hopper-barge, iron.

Commissioner } Torpedo launches.
Customs No. 1 }

1455. The following table shows the expenditure of all kinds on military and naval defences for the financial year ended 30th June, 1894. The total was about £37,400 less than in the preceding year, of which £16,400 was under Defence Works :—

MILITARY AND NAVAL EXPENDITURE, 1893-4.

CIVIL STAFF.						£	£
Salaries and pay	...	...	...	...	...	6,381	
Contingencies	...	...	...	...	...	500	
							6,881
NAVAL FORCES.							
Permanent Forces—Salaries and pay	...	...	...	...	...	28,320	
" " Contingencies	...	...	...	...	...	7,723	
							36,043
Naval Brigade—Pay	...	...	...	...	...	3,667	
" " Contingencies	...	...	...	...	...	965	
							4,632
MILITARY FORCES.							
<i>Permanent.</i>							
Head-quarters Staff—Pay	...	...	...	...	...	5,311	
" " Contingencies	...	...	...	...	...	751	
							6,062
Permanent Staff (instructors and adjutants)—Pay	...	...	...	...	...	5,956	
" " " " Contingencies	...	...	...	...	...	818	
							6,774
Military Staff Clerks—Pay	...	...	...	...	...	849	
" " Contingencies	...	...	...	...	...	86	
							935

Establishment of naval forces.

Ships of naval forces.

Expenditure on defences, 1893-4.

MILITARY AND NAVAL EXPENDITURE, 1893-4—continued.

MILITARY FORCES—continued.		£	£
Permanent—continued.			
Victorian Artillery—Pay		21,143	
" " Contingencies		8,749	
			29,892
Victorian Engineers—Pay		4,534	
" " Contingencies		696	
			5,230
MILITIA.			
Militia pay, Field and Horse Artillery, Garrison Artillery, Engineers, Submarine Mining Company, and Infantry		22,910	
Militia contingencies, effective allowance, horsing guns, band allowances, &c.		12,101	
			35,011
AUXILIARY FORCES.			
Cadet Corps—Pay		879	
" Contingencies		2,223	
			3,102
Mounted Rifles—Pay		2,809	
" " Contingencies		4,377	
			7,186
Victorian Rangers—Pay		2,095	
" " Contingencies		4,118	
			6,213
Rifle Clubs—Contingencies ... ..		...	508
ORDNANCE BRANCH.			
Warlike stores, rail transport, &c.		3,188	
Chase-hooping heavy ordnance		1,000	
			4,188
ENCAMPMENTS.			
Easter camp and course instruction, Submarine Mining Company		...	2,007
MISCELLANEOUS.			
Expenses officers despatched to England for instruction		300	
Annual Grant and Queen's Prize, V.R.A.		1,050	
Militia Parade, Queen's Birthday		250	
Ammunition fund recoup		3,000	
Compensation and injuries on duty, Permanent and Militia Forces		980	
Law costs, re Colonial Ammunition Company		132	
Grant to United Service Institution for purchase of books of reference		50	
			5,762
Total Expenditure Victorian Defences* ... ..		...	160,426
DEFENCE WORKS AND BUILDINGS.			
Erection and inspection of forts, repairs drill rooms, &c.		...	Nil.
AUSTRALASIAN DEFENCE FORCES.			
Annual contribution maintenance Auxiliary Squadron ...		36,470	
" subsidy toward defence Thursday Island (Qld.)...		1,700	
" " " " King George's Sound (W.A.)		1,126	
			39,296
Total Expenditure Defences, 1893-4 ... ..		...	199,722

* Exclusive of works and buildings.

Expenditure
on defences,
1854 to 1894.

1456. A statement of the expenditure on the establishment and maintenance of defences in various periods during the last 40½ years will be found in the following table :—

EXPENDITURE ON THE ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF
DEFENCES, 1854 TO 1893-4.*

Year.	Military Expenditure (including Buildings and Works of Defence).	Naval Expenditure.	Total.
	£	£	£
1854 to 1870 ...	1,326,835	204,742	1,531,577
1871 to 1880-81 ...	532,505	264,889	797,394
1881-2 to 1890-91 ...	2,247,190	385,950	2,633,140
1889-90 ...	292,129	58,692†	350,821
1890-91 ...	245,314	45,287	290,601
1891-2 ...	205,136	46,611	251,747
1892-3 ...	156,407	80,757‡	237,164
1893-4 ...	122,577	77,145‡	199,722
Towards cost of <i>Cerberus</i> and <i>Nelson</i> § ...	...	101,966	101,966
Total ...	4,590,650	1,162,060	5,752,710
Arms, ammunition, and stores for defences generally § ...			47,408
Value of land certificates granted to Volunteers, including Naval Brigade, computed at £1 per acre ...			139,683
Grand Total ...			5,939,801

Expenditure
on defences
in various
years com-
pared.

1457. It is to be specially noted that the total expenditure recorded includes not only the cost of establishing the military and naval defences but also the annual outlay incurred for their maintenance, which annual outlay was estimated by the late General Scratchley to represent close upon seven-eighths of the total expenditure. The annual expenditure during the first period, especially from 1854 to 1864, was unusually large, in consequence of Imperial troops serving in the colony, the last detachment of which was withdrawn in 1870. The expenditure rapidly increased since 1881-2 until it reached a maximum, in 1888-9 and 1889-90, of about £350,000 ; but since then, owing to

* The totals, which are derived from the departmental accounts, do not exactly agree in all cases with those taken from the Treasurer's Finance Statement, and shown on page 113 *ante*, owing to the closing of the accounts not being exactly simultaneous. For expenditure in each year prior to 1889-90, see issue of this work for 1893, paragraph 682.

† Including £14,500 for purchase of a torpedo boat.

‡ Includes contribution to Australasian Naval Defences, £36,470 in 1893-4.

§ Not the whole cost, but only so much as cannot be apportioned to particular years.

retrenchment, the amount has gradually fallen off to below £200,000 in 1893-4. The naval expenditure in 1893-4 was about £3,600 less than in 1892-3, but larger than in any previous year. The naval expenditure for the last two years, however, included about £37,000 towards cost of Australasian Auxiliary Squadron, which did not occur in previous years.

1458. The land forces of the Australasian Colonies at the end of 1893 numbered 26,325, of which 20,313 were upon the Australian Continent. The largest number were in New South Wales, but nearly one-third of these were only reserves, a force which is possessed by four of the colonies. The militia predominates in Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, and Tasmania; and volunteers are most numerous in the other colonies. In New South Wales and South Australia the latter are partially paid. New South Wales also has 214 more regular troops than Victoria, besides 2,000 men attached to reserves, as before alluded to, but about 830 fewer under other arms. In South Australia, however, all adult males under 45 years of age, and in New Zealand all under 55, are liable to be called out in case of necessity. The following is a statement of the land forces in each colony of the group:—

LAND FORCES IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1893.

Colony.	Regular Troops.	Militia.	Volunteers.	Reserves (including rifle clubs).	Total.
Victoria	393	3,195	1,800	...	5,388
New South Wales	607	...	4,174*	2,000	6,781
Queensland	163	3,167	737	958	5,025
South Australia	39	1,180	915*	160	2,294
Western Australia	33	...	792	...	825
Total	1,235	7,542	8,418	3,118	20,313
Tasmania	15	447	...	1,167	1,629
New Zealand ... ..	...	145	4,238	...	4,383
Grand Total †	1,250	8,134	12,656	4,285	26,325

NOTE.—With a few necessary exceptions, all males in South Australia between 18 and 45 (numbering about 70,000), and all males in New Zealand (where there is no regular Militia) between 17 and 55, are liable to be called out in case of emergency.

1459. Of all the Australasian Colonies only Victoria and New Zealand possess regular naval forces of any importance, but all the colonies on the mainland possess a few irregular naval forces, who

* Partially paid.

† Exclusive of cadets, who numbered 4,128 in Victoria, 4,779 in New South Wales, 557 in Queensland, nil in South Australia, 52 in Tasmania, and 1,885 in New Zealand.

generally receive a small payment for their services, and are sometimes called the naval reserve. The largest force of this description belongs to Queensland. New South Wales has, moreover, 206, New Zealand as many as 1,023, and Queensland 53, naval volunteers, but no other colony, except Queensland, has an arm so designated. The regular force in New Zealand consists entirely of Torpedo Corps. The following table contains a statement of the number of such forces in each of the colonies from which particulars have been received :—

NAVAL FORCES IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1893.

Colony.	Regular Forces.	Forces only casually employed.*	Volunteers.	Total.
Victoria	236	340	...	576
New South Wales	3	335	206	544
Queensland	13	470†	53	536
South Australia	17	101	...	118
Total	269	1,246	259	1,774
Tasmania ... ..	...	...	3‡	3
New Zealand	64‡	...	1,023	1,087
Grand Total	333	1,246	1,285	2,864

1460. According to a table published in a former issue of this work,§ the local troops in the self-governing colonies of the Empire numbered in 1889 77,000, and half of these (38,238) were in Canada, whilst 41 per cent. (31,994) were in Australasia, and 9 per cent. (6,710) in South Africa. The partially paid forces amounted to five-sixths of the whole, whilst the permanent forces and the volunteer forces—the latter of which existed only in Australasia—amounted to only a fifteenth and a tenth of the whole respectively.

1461. In 1893–4 Victoria spent nearly £200,000 on defences, or about two-sevenths of the amount so expended by all the colonies on the Australian Continent, whilst New South Wales spent nearly £272,000, or nearly two-fifths of that amount. The Australasian

* Partially paid in some of the colonies; but only when called out in South Australia.

† Of these 212 since disbanded.

‡ Torpedo Corps.

§ See *Victorian Year-Book* 1892, Vol. II., paragraph 659.

Relative proportions of various forces.

Defence expenditure in Australasian Colonies.

Colonies, as a whole, spent about £716,000 on defences in the same year, as is shown in the following table:—

EXPENDITURE ON DEFENCES IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1893.

Colony.	Ordinary Expenditure.		Expenditure on Fortifications. †	Grand Total.
	Military.	Naval.*		
	£	£	£	£
Victoria	119,751	77,145	2,826	199,722
New South Wales	192,780	14,869	64,242‡	271,891
Queensland	67,218	34,937	10,178	112,333
South Australia	25,566	20,989	1,356	47,911
Western Australia	8,732	...	1,810	10,542
Total	414,047	147,940	80,412	642,399
Tasmania	8,373	4,981	30	13,384
New Zealand	56,570	...	3,976	60,546§
Grand Total	478,990	152,921	84,418	716,329

NOTE.—The figures for Victoria are for the financial year 1893-4; those for the other colonies for the calendar year 1893.

1462. The military forces of the Australasian Colonies were inspected in 1889 by Major-General J. B. Edwards, a distinguished officer in the Imperial service, specially sent by the Horse Guards to perform that duty. General Edwards reported (9th October, 1889) in regard to Victoria that the troops were in a satisfactory condition, and capable of fulfilling the duty for which they are maintained, viz., the defence of the colony. He, however, strongly recommended that, for the general defence of Australasia, there should be a federation of the forces of the different colonies. ||

Inspection of Australasian troops.

1463. According to an agreement entered into with the Imperial Government, and embodied in Acts passed by the several Legislatures (the Victorian Act being 54 Vict. No. 1083), an additional naval force, or auxiliary squadron, consisting of five fast cruisers and two torpedo boats, is maintained for the protection of the floating trade in Australasian waters. The agreement, which is to remain in force for ten years,

Additional naval defences for Australasian Colonies.

* Including contributions towards maintenance of Australian Naval Defence Force as follows:—Victoria, £36,470; New South Wales, £65,525; Queensland, £26,602, for two years; South Australia, £10,527; Western Australia, £2,015; Tasmania, £4,932. See also paragraph 1463 *infra*.

† Including contributions towards cost of garrisons at King George's Sound and Thursday Island:—Victoria, £2,826; New South Wales, £737; Queensland (approximately), £3,000; South Australia, £1,244. See paragraph 1464 *post*.

‡ Including £34,669, Naval Station, Port Jackson. The Government Statistician of New South Wales states that the works at Garden Island and elsewhere in connexion with the Naval Station are being carried out at the expense of that colony, in consideration of which the Imperial Authorities agreed to make Sydney the head-quarters of the fleet, and also to cede to the Government certain land and buildings owned by them within the colony.

§ This must be exclusive of contribution to Australian Naval Defence Forces, about £20,800.

|| See Parliamentary Paper, No. 139, Session 1889.

provides that three cruisers and one gunboat shall always be kept in commission, the remainder being kept in reserve, in Australasian ports, ready for commission whenever occasion arises ; that the vessels shall be retained within the limits of the Australasian station, and in times of peace or war shall be employed within such limits in the same way as are Her Majesty's ships of war, or employed beyond those limits only with the consent of the Colonial Governments. It was also stipulated that the first cost of the vessels should be paid out of Imperial funds, but that the Colonial Governments should pay interest on the prime cost at 5 per cent. but not exceeding £35,000 per annum, and a sum not exceeding £91,000 towards annual maintenance of the vessels in commission, or a total annual contribution of £126,000. In the time of emergency or actual war the cost of commissioning and maintaining the three vessels kept in reserve during peace shall be borne by the Imperial Government. These vessels shall be placed in every respect on the same status as Her Majesty's ships of war, whether in commission or not. The officers and men of such of these vessels as are in commission shall be changed triennially. The fifth annual contribution, which was payable in advance on the 1st March, 1895, is thus apportioned amongst the various colonies on a population basis:—Victoria, £35,767; New South Wales, £37,961; New Zealand, £20,813; Queensland, £13,503; South Australia, £10,690; Tasmania, £4,776; Western Australia, £2,490.

1464. In terms of an understanding arrived at between the several colonies on the Continent of Australia, the defence works connected with the fortification of Albany (Western Australia) and Thursday Island (Queensland) have now been completed and the forts themselves garrisoned at the joint expense of the contributing colonies. The works at Albany cost £15,758 to the beginning of 1893, towards which Western Australia was to contribute a lump sum of £5,000, and the balance by the other colonies on a population basis. The capital cost of the works at Thursday Island was estimated to be £23,053, and the annual cost £5,443; the former amount to be contributed by the various colonies as follows:—New South Wales, £8,630; Victoria, £8,576; Queensland, £3,039; South Australia, £2,413; Western Australia, £395. In addition the Imperial Government provided £28,000, chiefly in the form of material, towards the armament of the two forts.

1465. By new regulations issued by the War Office with army orders, dated 1st January, 1892, two army commissions in the British infantry are granted annually to the following colonies:—New South

Fortifica-
tions at
Albany
and King
George's
Sound.

Military
cadet ships.

Wales, South Australia, Victoria, Queensland, New Zealand, Cape of Good Hope; six to Canada; one biennially to Tasmania; and two every three years to the Royal Malta Militia. An officer of the colonial forces who is a candidate will be required:—(a) To be between 18 and 22 years of age on the 1st of January of the year in which he is allowed to present himself for examination; (b) to have served at least fifteen months as an officer in the local force, and to have attended two annual trainings, or to have had active service in the field. The qualifying literary examination by the Civil Service Commissioners comprises Mathematics, French or German (translation and grammar), Writing, Geography, and the elements of Geometrical Drawing. Then there is a second and more advanced literary test, and finally a military examination.

1466. It has been decided that commissions in the Royal Engineers or Royal Artillery cannot be granted to Australian colonists until Australia possesses a Royal Military College, similar to that established at Kingston, in Canada. The Kingston College was founded in 1875, since which date 81 candidates have received commissions in the Imperial Army; in 1891 four cadets received commissions, viz., one in the Royal Engineers, one in the Royal Artillery, and two in the Infantry.

Commissions
in engineers
and
artillery

1467. Four nominations to naval cadetships are placed annually at the disposal of the Secretary of State for distribution to sons of gentlemen in certain colonies.* The Governor in any of such colonies has the right of submitting an application in favour of a candidate, with any recommendation he may think fit.† The qualifications of a candidate are—that he must be a colonist in the strict sense of the term, must not be less than 13 or more than 14½ years of age, must be in good health and perfectly free from any physical defect or disease, and must be able to pass a preliminary examination in English, Arithmetic, Elementary Algebra, Elementary Geometry, French, and Scripture, obtaining not less than half the whole number of marks assigned in Arithmetic, and two-fifths in each of the other subjects; and a second examination in the following subjects, viz., Elementary Mathematics, Latin, Geography, English History (a short selected period), Drawing (freehand and simple rectangular model). Candidates must obtain at least 660 out of a possible 2,150. A candidate

Naval
Cadetships.

* The colonies from which nominations will, in the first instance, be received, are—each of the Australasian Colonies, Canada, Newfoundland, Jamaica, Antigua, Barbadoes, British Guiana, Trinidad, Cape Colony, Natal, Malta, Ceylon, and Mauritius; but should all the four nominations not be applied for by the end of the first quarter in each year, the balance will be made available for applications which may be received from other colonies.

† Revised regulations respecting naval cadets are published in the *Government Gazette* of 23rd January, 1891.

who passes the test examination, but fails in the competition, will be entitled to compete at the next examination, provided he be still within the limits of age; but a candidate who fails to pass the test cannot compete again unless nominated afresh, and be still within the age limits. When a cadet is entered, he will be required to pay annually the sum of £75 for a period of two years, to be spent on board the *Britannia* training ship, besides expenses of outfit and of all necessary books or instruments, during which time he must pass four examinations in seamanship and study, at which he must obtain at least 41 per cent. of the marks in mathematical subjects; and also, at the final examination, 40 per cent. of those in the technical subjects, combined with Physics and French. He is subsequently to pay £50 per annum until he passes his final examination for the rank of lieutenant.

Colonial
applicants
for service in
Royal Navy.

1468. Special provision is made by the Admiralty for the entry into the Royal Navy of men and boys of Australian and New Zealand birth. The following are the arrangements:—

Able or ordinary seamen may, on application to the Commander-in-Chief, H.M.S. *Orlando*, be entered to fill vacancies as non-continuous service men for six months' trial on the station, and if after that time they are found suitable, they will be allowed to join the Royal Navy for continuous service, and will be paid (as continuous service men) from the date of their original entry. Men so entered will be sent to England for training in gunnery, &c., but they will afterwards be employed on the Australian station if they so desire. Candidates for these positions should be between the ages of 18 and 30, of good health, and have a fair knowledge of the ordinary duties of a seaman. Boys who volunteer and come up to the standard will be accepted and sent to England for training with the paid-off crews of H.M. ships, and, after undergoing the necessary training, will be employed, as far as possible, on the Australian station, if they so desire. These boys should be between the ages of 15 and 16, and they must be in all respects suitable. When entered, boys will be received in one of H.M. ships on the station, for passage to the training ship in England.
