VICTORIAN YEAR-BOOK, 1873.

A digest of the Statistics of Victoria for the year 1873 Statistics, 1873.

is presented in the following pages.

2. These Statistics are published in nine distinct parts, Nine parts of statistics. eight of which have already been laid before Parliament. The remaining Part, Vital Statistics, has been delayed owing to the circumstance that I was not able, until recently, to obtain access to the Birth, Death, and Marriage Registers for the last quarter of 1873. difficulty having, however, been surmounted, the Part has been at length completed, and will be printed forthwith.

3. In preparing this digest, my first object will be to draw Objects of up such an analysis of the contents of the tables embraced in the several parts of the Statistics as may be of material assistance to persons whose business or inclination may lead them to consult that work. As, however, it is possible that the present volume may circulate to places that the tables may not reach, or may find its way to the hands of those who may neither have the leisure nor the desire to deal with bulky tabular matter, it will also be my endeavour to make the analysis as complete as possible in itself, and to that end I shall be obliged to quote somewhat largely from the figures embodied in the tables.

4. The Statistical Summary printed on a folding sheet statistical at the commencement of this work has been prepared with victoria. It contains figures under all the principal heads in connection with which statistical information is usually required for as many years back as it has been possible to

trace the particulars.

5. I beg to draw attention to the comprehensive index Index. at the end of the work, which will I trust be found of service.

6. I shall now proceed to comment on the tables con-Tables comtained in the various Parts as they occur in succession.