

PART II.—POPULATION.

Population.

35. At the end of each quarter an estimate of the population of Victoria is made by the Government Statist by means of the estimate of the previous quarter, and the difference between the numbers recorded as having been born and as having died, and between those who arrived in the colony and those who departed therefrom by sea.

Imperfections in population estimates.

36. This estimate is to a certain extent imperfect, for in the first place no account is or can be taken of the arrivals or departures overland, and the calculated population is in consequence liable to be greater or less than the truth, according as the latter or the former preponderate; secondly, persons going from Victoria to the neighboring colonies by means of the intercolonial steamers frequently do not take their passages beforehand, and consequently no record is made of their departure, whilst, as the arrivals by sea are all duly reported, the estimated population is from this cause apt to exceed the correct number; thirdly, as the registration of death must precede burial, all or nearly all the deaths are registered, but as there is no such absolute necessity for registering births, a certain percentage are always left unregistered, from which cause the estimate of population is likely to understate the truth. Until another census is taken it will not be possible to ascertain which of these disturbing influences is the most potent, or whether they counteract one another. In the meantime it will be well to remember that entire reliance is not to be placed upon the population estimates.

Crews not included in estimate.

37. The crews of vessels coming to and leaving Victorian ports are not included amongst either the arrivals or departures, as it is held by the immigration authorities that the numbers about balance.

Population at end of 1878.

38. The estimated population of Victoria at the end of the year 1878 was as follows:—

POPULATION, 31ST DECEMBER 1878.*

Males	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	478,316
Females	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	401,126
									879,442
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	879,442

Increase of population, 1878.

39. The increase of population during the year was 18,655, viz., 10,575 males and 8,080 females. Of this increase, about three-fourths viz., 13,879, consisting of 6,573 males and 7,306 females—resulted from the excess of births over deaths, and the remainder—viz., 4,776, consisting

* The estimated population at the end of each year since the first settlement of Port Phillip will be found in the Statistical Summary of Victoria (first folding sheet) *ante*. The latest estimate at the time of these pages going to press was for the 30th June 1879, and was as follows:—Males, 482,769; females, 404,665; total, 887,434.

of 4,002 males and 774 females—was due to excess of arrivals over departures.

40. The increase of population was less than in the previous year by 1,832, and was also exceeded in the years 1868 to 1871 and in 1873, but was greater than in the other four years of the previous decenniad, as will be seen by the following figures:—

Increase of population, 1868 to 1878.

INCREASE OF POPULATION.

1868	...	23,043	1872	...	18,282	1876	...	17,028
1869	...	25,176	1873	...	19,765	1877	...	20,487
1870	...	26,809	1874	...	17,945	1878	...	18,655
1871	...	25,846	1875	...	14,835			

41. The increase of population during 1878 was equivalent to an addition of 2.17 per cent. to the population at the commencement of the year. This was less than the average annual increase during the previous ten years, which was at the rate of 2.77 per cent.

Average increase of population per annum.

42. The increase by excess of births over deaths exceeded by 645 that in 1877, and also exceeded that in 1875 and 1876, but was below that in any other year of the previous decenniad:—

Increase by births.

INCREASE BY EXCESS OF BIRTHS OVER DEATHS. *

1868	...	...	17,176	1874	...	...	14,578
1869	...	...	15,410	1875	...	...	11,433
1870	...	...	16,731	1876	...	...	13,208
1871	...	...	17,464	1877	...	...	13,234
1872	...	...	16,530	1878	...	...	13,879
1873	...	...	16,599				

43. The increase by excess of arrivals over departures was less by a third than that in the preceding year, and was also less than in the first four, but greater than in the other five years of the previous decenniad:—

Increase by immigration.

INCREASE BY EXCESS OF ARRIVALS OVER DEPARTURES. †

1868	...	7,253	1871	...	8,382	1874	...	3,367	1877	...	7,253
1869	...	11,152	1872	...	1,752	1875	...	3,402	1878	...	4,776
1870	...	11,467	1873	...	3,166	1876	...	3,820			

44. The proportions of the sexes in the population—viz., 84 females to 100 males, or 119 males to 100 females—have not varied in the last six years.

Males and females.

45. In order to afford means for making calculations in regard to the bearing of population on matters the operation of which extends over the entire year, such as revenue, taxation, imports, exports, &c., it is

Mean population, 1878.

* The number of births and deaths in each year from the first settlement of Port Phillip will be found in the Statistical Summary of Victoria (first folding sheet) ante. See also Part IV., Vital Statistics, post.

† The number of immigrants and emigrants in each year will be found in the Statistical Summary of Victoria (first folding sheet) ante. See also paragraphs 79 to 87 post.

necessary to make an estimate of the mean or average population. This is effected by adding together the estimated numbers at the beginning of the year and at the end of each of the four quarters, and dividing the sum by 5. The following is the result of such a computation for the year under review:—

ESTIMATED MEAN POPULATION, 1878.

Males	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	472,309
Females	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	396,731
Total									869,040

Ages, birth-places, religions, and occupations.

46. No census of the colony has been taken since 1871, and as the elements of which the population is composed may have changed considerably since that period, it is impossible to give with certainty a statement of the ages, birthplaces, religions, and occupations of the people at the present time. The figures in the next four tables have been calculated according to the best information available; but absolute dependence must not be placed upon the figures.

Ages.

47. The estimate of the ages of the population has, for the first time, been made chiefly from the recorded ages of those who died. This method is probably more accurate than one by which the ages are estimated according to the proportions prevailing at the census, as was done in former years:—

AGES OF THE PEOPLE, 1878 (ESTIMATED).

Ages.	Mean Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 5 years	58,570	58,200	116,770
5 to 10	65,231	63,815	129,046
10 „ 15	52,010	51,505	103,515
15 „ 20	50,966	48,511	99,477
20 „ 25	34,889	32,417	67,306
25 „ 30	28,561	25,894	54,455
30 „ 35	25,677	22,215	47,892
35 „ 40	29,468	22,412	51,880
40 „ 45	34,591	20,432	55,023
45 „ 50	30,391	17,542	47,933
50 „ 55	24,360	13,189	37,549
55 „ 60	15,721	8,687	24,408
60 „ 65	10,117	5,286	15,403
65 „ 70	6,165	2,828	8,993
70 „ 75	3,145	2,373	5,518
75 years and upwards	2,447	1,425	3,872
Total	472,309	396,731	869,040

Birthplaces.

48. In the following table, showing the birthplaces and allegiance of the people, the estimate of Victorian-born has been obtained by deducting from the births of males 60 per cent. of the deaths of males and from the births of females 70 per cent. of the deaths of females, and adding the remainders to the numbers of males and females of Victorian nativity returned at the last census. This mode of computation is based upon the proportion found to exist between the increase of persons born in Victoria between the censuses of 1861 and 1871 and the ratio of the deaths to the births which occurred during the same decennial period. Those born in "Other Australian colonies" have been increased in the same ratio as the Victorians, and the remainder of the population has been distributed amongst the other nationalities according to the census proportions :—

BIRTHPLACES AND ALLEGIANCE OF THE PEOPLE, 1878 (ESTIMATED).

Place of Birth.	Mean Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Victoria	234,857	233,862	468,719
Other Australian colonies	20,296	20,475	40,771
England and Wales	100,857	64,919	165,776
Scotland	31,127	23,300	54,427
Ireland	48,654	48,296	96,950
Other British possessions	2,611	1,157	3,768
China	17,629	30	17,659
Other Foreign countries	16,278	4,692	20,970
Total	472,309	396,731	869,040
ALLEGIANCE.			
British subjects	435,284	392,597	827,881
Foreign subjects	37,025	4,134	41,159

49. According to the principle just explained, the following is the number of persons of Victorian birth living in the colony in 1871 and each succeeding year :—

Victorian born, 1871-1878.

VICTORIAN-BORN, 1871 TO 1878 (ESTIMATED).

On 30th June of each Year.	Estimated Number of Victorian-born Living in Victoria.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
1871	168,186	166,647	334,833
1872	178,817	177,421	356,238
1873	188,987	187,809	376,796
1874	198,866	197,755	396,621
1875	207,869	206,660	414,529
1876	216,706	215,984	432,690
1877	225,702	224,912	450,614
1878	234,857	233,862	468,719

50. The religions of the people have been estimated entirely upon the basis of the proportions existing at the last census.

Religions.

RELIGIONS OF THE PEOPLE, 1878 (ESTIMATED).

Religious Belief.	Mean Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Church of England	172,783	140,125	312,908
Presbyterians	73,217	63,932	137,149
Wesleyans	58,077	56,337	114,414
Other Protestants	34,779	28,944	63,723
Roman Catholics	104,232	102,969	207,201
Jews	2,424	1,908	4,332
Pagans	21,256	37	21,293
Other sects	5,541	2,479	8,020
Total	472,309	396,731	869,040

Occupations.

51. The following estimate of the occupations of the people is based, generally, upon the census proportions; but in the case of miners the estimate of the Secretary for Mines for 1878, and in the case of persons engaged in pastoral pursuits and agriculture the numbers returned by the collectors of agricultural statistics in the same year, have been substituted for the census figures. Some slight changes have also been made in the numbers of laborers, domestic servants, and wives, widows, children, &c. Under all these heads the estimate may be considered tolerably reliable. The remainder of the figures must be taken only for what they may be worth, as in the case of the Ages, Birthplaces, and Religions:—

OCCUPATIONS OF THE PEOPLE, 1878 (ESTIMATED).

Occupations of the People.	Mean Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Ministering to government	4,709	206	4,915
" religion	992	73	1,065
" health	1,508	1,420	2,928
" law	1,336	1	1,337
" education	2,462	4,439	6,901
" art, science, and literature	2,008	197	2,205
Traders	10,796	1,571	12,367
Assisting in exchange of money or commodities	9,012	276	9,288
Ministering to entertaining and clothing	14,799	17,347	32,146
Domestic servants	2,764	24,666	27,430
Contractors, artisans, and mechanics	49,309	486	49,795
Miners	36,636	...	36,636 *
Engaged in pursuits subsidiary to mining	787	2	789
" pastoral pursuits and agriculture... ..	72,400	30,464	102,864 †
" pursuits subsidiary to grazing and agriculture	2,884	7	2,891
" land carriage	14,365	104	14,469
" sea navigation... ..	3,197	14	3,211
Dealing in food	15,446	1,251	16,697
Laborers... ..	31,784	20	31,804
Engaged in miscellaneous pursuits	419	44	463

* These figures were furnished by the Secretary for Mines.

† Number returned as employed on farms and stations on the 31st March 1878.

OCCUPATIONS OF THE PEOPLE, 1878 (ESTIMATED)—*continued.*

Occupations of the People.	Mean Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Of independent means	1,589	625	2,214
Wives, widows, children, relatives, scholars ...	183,003	308,798	491,801
Public burden	8,037	4,241	12,278
Of no occupation, unspecified	2,067	479	2,546
Total	472,309	396,731	869,040

52. The following is a division of the population of Victoria into three districts, the first being the district comprised within a radius of ten miles from the centre of Melbourne; the second the district outside that area embraced in cities, towns, and boroughs (present or former); and the third the remainder of the colony :—

Urban and rural population compared.

URBAN AND RURAL POPULATION, 1878.

Districts.	Mean Population, 1878.	
	Total.	Proportions per cent.
Urban ... { Metropolitan	256,477	29·51
Urban ... { Extra-Metropolitan	198,385	22·83
Extra-Urban or Rural	414,178	47·66
Total of Victoria	869,040	100·00

53. It will thus be seen that the urban is even greater than the rural population, and that the population in the metropolis alone is equal to nearly 30 per cent. of that of the whole colony. This proportion has a tendency to increase, as will be observed by the following figures :—

Increasing proportion of population of metropolis.

PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION OF MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS TO TOTAL POPULATION OF VICTORIA.

1861	...	...	...	...	...	25·89
1871	...	...	...	...	...	28·27
1878	...	...	...	...	...	29·51

54. It is estimated that at the first colonization of Port Phillip the Aborigines numbered about 5,000. When Victoria became an independent colony the number was officially stated to be 2,693. A census was taken by the Central Board for the Protection of the Aborigines on the 15th March 1877, with the following result :—

Aborigines.

ABORIGINES, 1877.

Sex.	Black.		Of Mixed Blood.		Total.		
	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.	Total.
Males	425	71	64	73	489	144	633
Females	211	67	70	86	281	153	434
Total	636	138	134	159	770	297	1,067

Decrease of
Aborigines.

55. The total number of Aborigines according to the table is 1,067. According to an estimate made by the Board in 1873, the number of Aborigines at that time was 1,553. If the numbers at both periods are correct, the falling-off in four years has been 486, or nearly a third, and the Aborigines must be decreasing at a much faster rate than has been generally supposed.

Aborigines
on stations.

56. The Board report that about half the Aborigines were usually frequenting or residing on the different Aboriginal stations in 1876-7, and that most of the others were supplied with food and clothing through local guardians.

Clothing, &c.,
supplied to
Aborigines.

57. The clothing, provisions, &c., purchased for the use of the Aborigines throughout the colony, during the eighteen months ended with the 30th June 1877, amounted in the aggregate to £6,758.

Aborigines
married to
Europeans.

58. Three of the Aboriginal males were married to women of European birth or origin.

Gold mining
population,
1878.

59. When the last Victorian census was taken (2nd April 1871) the total population of the goldfields was found to be 270,428. The present population is not known, but an estimate of the number of miners, distinguishing Europeans from Chinese, and those engaged in alluvial workings from those engaged on quartz reefs, is each year made by the Mining Department. The following is the result of that estimate at the end of 1878 :—

NUMBER OF GOLD MINERS, 1878.

Alluvial miners	...	22,504	European miners	...	26,998
Quartz miners	...	14,132	Chinese miners	...	9,638
		36,636			36,636
Total	...	36,636	Total	...	36,636

Gold miners,
1868 to 1878.

60. According to this estimate, the total number of persons engaged in searching for or raising gold was less by 1,369 in 1878 than in 1877. The followers of this occupation have, for years past, been falling off in numbers, as will be seen by the following figures, which show the estimated number at the end of each of the last eleven years :—

NUMBER OF GOLD MINERS, 1868 TO 1878.

1868	...	64,658	1874	...	45,151
1869	...	63,787	1875	...	41,717
1870	...	59,247	1876	...	41,010
1871	...	58,279	1877	...	38,005
1872	...	52,965	1878	...	36,636
1873	...	50,595			

European
and Chinese
miners.

61. At the end of 1878 the Europeans employed in quartz mining exceeded those engaged in alluvial mining by about 1,000, the numbers being 14,015 and 12,983 respectively. The Chinese seldom practise quartz mining; the numbers occupied in that industry at the same period being only 117, as against 9,521 occupied in alluvial mining.

62. The miners for metals and minerals other than gold are few in number, and, according to estimates of the Mining Department, numbered only 418 in 1877, and no more than 557 in 1878.*

Miners for metals and minerals other than gold.

63. The area of the Australian continent is estimated to be somewhat under three million square miles; but that area, added to the areas of Tasmania and New Zealand, exceeds three million one hundred thousand square miles. The following are the areas of the different colonies according to estimates furnished officially by their respective Governments:—

Area of Australasian colonies.

AREA OF AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES.

					Square miles.
Victoria	...	...	...	...	88,198
New South Wales	...	...	...	...	310,938
Queensland	...	...	...	...	669,520
South Australia	...	...	...	...	903,690
Western Australia	...	...	...	...	1,000,000
	Total Australia				2,972,346†
Tasmania	...	...	...	...	26,215
New Zealand	...	...	...	...	105,342
	Total Australasia				3,103,903

64. It will be noticed that Victoria is by far the smallest colony on the Australian continent, and the smallest of the group except Tasmania. If the whole continent were to be divided into 100 equal parts, the area of Victoria would embrace 3 such parts, that of New South Wales 10, that of Queensland 23, that of South Australia 30, and that of Western Australia 34. Victoria is thus less than a third of the size of New South Wales, little more than an eighth of that of Queensland, about a tenth of that of South Australia, and less than an eleventh of that of Western Australia.

Area of Victoria and other colonies.

65. The estimated population, together with the proportions of the sexes, and the number of persons to the square mile in each of the Australasian colonies during the five years ended with 1877, are shown in the following table.

Population of Australasian colonies.

* For particulars of the minerals and metals raised see Part VI. Production post.

† According to calculations made in the Geographical Establishment at Gotha, by means of the planimetric system, the area of Australia should be 2,945,227 square miles, or 27,119 less than that estimated in the colonies themselves. The principal difference, amounting to over 24,000 square miles, is in Western Australia, where, it is suggested, the islands may have been included twice. The official figures for New South Wales, also, are stated to be over 2,000, and those for Queensland over 1,000 square miles too high, whilst the estimates for Victoria and South Australia are considered to slightly understate the truth. The following, according to the calculations referred to, are the areas of the respective colonies:—

					Square miles.
Victoria	..	..	..	..	88,451
New South Wales	..	..	..	..	308,560
Queensland	..	..	..	..	668,259
South Australia	..	..	..	..	904,133
Western Australia	..	..	..	..	975,824
	Total				2,945,227

See Dr. Petermann's Mittheilungen, No. 55, entitled "Die Bevölkerung der Erde V.," by Messrs. Behm and Wagner, page 44: Gotha, Justus Perthes, 1878.

POPULATION IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES.

Colony.	Year.	Estimated Population on 31st December.			Females to 100 Males.	Persons to the Square Mile.
		Males.	Females.	Total.		
Victoria	1873	430,042	360,450	790,492	83·82	8·963
	1874	439,159	369,278	808,437	84·09	9·166
	1875	447,148	376,124	823,272	84·12	9·334
	1876	456,463	383,837	840,300	84·09	9·527
	1877	467,741	393,046	860,787	84·03	9·760
New South Wales...	1873	307,329	252,946	560,275	82·30	1·723
	1874	321,447	262,831	584,278	81·76	1·798
	1875	334,461	272,191	606,652	81·38	1·951
	1876	347,869	281,907	629,776	81·04	2·025
	1877	367,323	294,889	662,212	80·28	2·130
Queensland	1873	87,154	59,536	146,690	68·31	·216
	1874	97,860	65,657	163,517	67·09	·241
	1875	111,272	70,016	181,288	62·92	·267
	1876	113,883	73,217	187,100	64·29	·279
	1877	124,924	78,160	203,084	62·57	·303
South Australia ...	1873	101,540	96,535	198,075	95·07	·219
	1874	104,870	99,753	204,623	95·12	·226
	1875	107,944	102,498	210,442	94·95	·232
	1876	117,208	108,469	225,677	92·54	·249
	1877	123,392	113,472	236,864	91·96	·262
Western Australia	1873	15,569	10,192	25,761	65·46	·026
	1874	15,722	10,487	26,209	66·70	·027
	1875	15,910	10,799	26,709	67·88	·027
	1876	16,166	11,155	27,321	69·00	·027
	1877	16,326	11,512	27,838	70·51	·028
Tasmania	1873	55,368	48,849	104,217	88·23	3·975
	1874	55,117	49,059	104,176	89·01	3·974
	1875	54,643	49,020	103,663	89·71	3·954
	1876	55,633	49,851	105,484	89·61	4·024
	1877	56,523	50,581	107,104	89·49	4·086
New Zealand* ...	1873	170,406	125,540	295,946	73·67	2·819
	1874	194,349	147,511	341,860	75·90	3·256
	1875	213,294	162,562	375,856	76·22	3·583
	1876	225,580	173,495	399,075	76·91	3·804
	1877	234,803	182,819	417,622*	77·86	3·964

NOTE.—For populations of the neighboring colonies to the end of 1878, see Summary of Australasian Statistics (third folding sheet) *ante*.

66. Victoria is by far the most densely populated colony of the group, but the one in which the sexes are most nearly equal in numbers is South Australia. The following is the order in which the colonies stand in respect to these two points: it will be observed that Victoria heads the first list, but stands third in the second.

* The population of New Zealand, as ascertained at the census taken in March 1878, was 414,412, or 3,210 less than the estimate for the previous 31st December. Maoris, who were estimated in 1874 to amount to 45,470, are not included.

Order of colonies in respect to population and sex.

ORDER OF COLONIES IN REFERENCE TO DENSITY OF POPULATION.

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Victoria. | 5. Queensland. |
| 2. Tasmania. | 6. South Australia. |
| 3. New Zealand. | 7. Western Australia. |
| 4. New South Wales. | |

ORDER OF COLONIES IN REFERENCE TO EQUALITY OF SEXES.

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. South Australia. | 5. New Zealand. |
| 2. Tasmania. | 6. Western Australia. |
| 3. Victoria. | 7. Queensland. |
| 4. New South Wales. | |

67. According to the figures in the last table, there were on the continent of Australia at the end of 1877 nearly two millions of inhabitants ; and in Australasia, including not only the continental colonies but also Tasmania and New Zealand, there were more than two millions and a half. The exact numbers, as well as the proportions of the sexes and the density of population, were as follow :—

Population of Australia and Australasia.

POPULATION OF AUSTRALIA AND AUSTRALASIA, 1877.*

	Population, 31st December 1877.			Females to 100 Males.	Fraction of a Person to the Square Mile
	Males.	Females.	Total.		
Continent of Australia ...	1,099,706	891,079	1,990,785	81·02	·670
Ditto with Tasmania and New Zealand	1,391,032	1,124,479	2,515,511	80·84	·810

68. A comparison of the figures in the last two tables will show that rather less than half (four-ninths) of the inhabitants of Australia, and more than a third of the inhabitants of the Australasian group, are living in Victoria.

Proportion of Victorians in Australasia.

69. The total gain to the population of the Australian continent during 1877 was 80,611 ; the gain to the population of all the Australasian colonies during the same year was 100,778.

Increase of population in Australasia, 1877.

70. The increase of the populations of the various Australasian colonies during the five years ended with 1877 is shown in the following table. It will be observed that New Zealand has gained the largest number of inhabitants during that period, New South Wales the next, and Victoria the third. If, however, the increase be observed in proportion to the population existing at the commencement of the quinquenniad, it appears by the last column that Queensland takes precedence of New Zealand, which is, however, not much behind, and that the populations of these colonies have been augmented at more than twice the rate of those of New South Wales and South Australia and at more than four times the rate of that of Victoria.

Increase of population in Australasia, 1873-1877.

* Similar information (except as regards the sexes) to the end of 1878 may be found by adding the numbers for that year given in the population column of the Summary of Australasian Statistics (third folding sheet) ante

INCREASE OF POPULATION IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1873 TO 1877.*

Colony.	Population, 1872.	Increase in Five Years, 1873-1877.	
		Number.	Percentage.
Victoria	770,727	90,060	11·69
New South Wales	539,190	123,022	22·82
Queensland	133,553	69,531	52·06
South Australia	192,223	44,641	23·22
Western Australia	25,724	2,114	8·22
Total Australia	1,661,417	329,368	19·82
Tasmania	102,925	4,179	4·06
New Zealand	279,560	138,062	49·39
Total Australasia	2,043,902	471,609	23·07

Area and population of British dominions.

71. The following table showing the area and the ascertained or estimated population of the United Kingdom and its various colonies and dependencies has been compiled in this office from official documents. It embodies the latest available information upon the subject :—

BRITISH DOMINIONS.—AREA AND POPULATION.

Country or Colony.	Estimated Area in Square Miles.	Year of Census or Estimate.	Ascertained or Estimated Population.	Persons to the Square Mile.
EUROPE.				
England and Wales	58,311	1878	24,854,397	426
Scotland	30,463	"	3,593,929	118
Ireland	32,531	"	5,350,950	165
Total United Kingdom	121,305	1878	33,799,276	280
Gibraltar †	1 $\frac{7}{8}$	1871	20,936	11,166
Malta †	119	1877	147,306	1,138
Heligoland	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	1871	1,913	364
Total	121,431	...	33,969,431	280
ASIA.				
British India	909,834	1871	191,065,445	210
Ceylon	24,702	1876	2,556,777	104
Straits Settlements	1,445	1871	308,097	213
Labuan	30	"	4,898	163
Hong Kong	31	1876	139,144	4,489
Aden †	8	1872	22,707	2,838
Perim	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ †	1871	211	46
Cyprus †	3,708	"	135,000	36
Total	939,762	...	194,232,279	207

* For the estimated population of each Australasian colony during the five years referred to, see Summary of Australasian Statistics (third folding sheet) *ante*.

† Exclusive of the military.

‡ Figures taken from the "Almanach de Gotha," 1879: Justus Perthes.

BRITISH DOMINIONS.—AREA AND POPULATION—*continued.*

Country or Colony.	Estimated Area in Square Miles.	Year of Census or Estimate.	Ascertained or Estimated Population.	Persons to the Square Mile.
AFRICA.				
Mauritius *	713	1876	345,955	485
Seychelles	286†	"	12,700	44
Natal	18,750	"	322,000	17
Cape of Good Hope	224,100	"	848,685	4
St. Helena	47	1871	6,241	133
Ascension †	34	"	27	0·8
Lagos	73	1876	60,221	824
Gold Coast	6,000	1871	408,070	68
Sierra Leone *	468	"	37,089	80
Gambia	69	"	14,190	206
Total	250,540	...	2,055,178	8
AMERICA.				
Canada	3,372,290	1871	3,686,096	1
Newfoundland	40,200	1876	161,374	4
Bermudas	19	"	13,418	706
Honduras	7,562	1871	24,710	3
British Guiana... ..	76,000	"	193,491	3
West Indies—				
Bahamas	5,390	"	39,162	7
Turk's Island	50	"	4,723	94
Jamaica	4,193	"	506,154	121
St. Lucia	237	"	31,610	133
St. Vincent	147	"	35,688	243
Barbadoes	166	"	161,594	974
Grenada	133	1876	40,867	307
Tobago	114	"	17,881	157
Virgin Islands	57	1871	6,651	117
St. Christopher	68	"	28,169	414
Nevis... ..	50	1876	11,680	234
Antigua	157	"	35,642	227
Montserrat	32	1871	8,693	272
Dominica	291	"	27,178	93
Trinidad	1,754	"	109,638	63
Total	3,508,910	...	5,144,419	1
AUSTRALASIA AND SOUTH SEAS.				
Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand ‡	3,103,903	1877	2,515,511	0·8
Fiji	7,740	1878	112,272§	14
Falkland Islands	6,500	1876	1,114	0·2
Total	3,118,143	...	2,628,897	0·8
Grand Total British dominions	7,938,786	...	238,030,204	30

* Exclusive of the military.

† Figures taken from the "Almanach de Gotha," 1879: Justus Perthes.

‡ For area and population of the different Australasian colonies, see tables following paragraphs 63 and 65 *ante*.

§ Only 1,902 of these are Europeans.

Australasia compared with other British possessions.

72. The Australasian colonies occupy nearly two-fifths, and Victoria about a ninetieth, of the whole area of the British dominions. The Australasian colonies contain rather more than a hundredth, and Victoria something less than a two hundred and eightieth, of the population of the whole British Empire. The area of Australasia is slightly smaller than that of Canada, which is the largest British possession; but the population of Canada exceeds that of Australasia by over a million. The population of Victoria is exceeded by that of no British possession except India, Canada, Ceylon, and Great Britain itself.

Foreign countries, area and population.

73. The next table gives the area and population of Foreign countries, including all which are of importance. The information has, where possible, been drawn from official sources, and is brought down to the latest reliable dates:—

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.—AREA AND POPULATION.

Countries, with Dependencies.	Estimated Area in Square Miles.	Year of Census or Estimate.	Ascertained or Estimated Population.	Persons to the Square Mile.
EUROPEAN.				
Austro-Hungary *	269,068	1876	38,411,000	143
Belgium	11,370	„	5,336,185	469
Denmark	14,553	1878	1,940,000	133
„ colonies of	87,124	1870	127,401	1
Total Danish dominions ...	101,677	...	2,067,401	20
France	204,031	1876	36,905,788	181
„ colonies of, Algeria ...	198,960	1872	5,302,600†	27
„ „ others	171,817	„	2,610,159	15
„ protectorates of	35,413	„	1,043,897	29
Total French dominions ...	610,221	...	45,862,444	75
Germany	209,830	1875	42,727,360	204
Greece	19,381	1870	1,457,894	75
Holland	12,718	1877	3,865,456	304
„ colonies of, Java & Madura	51,324	1874	18,125,269	353
„ „ others	615,376	...	6,261,722	10
Total Dutch dominions ...	679,418	...	28,252,447	42
Italy	114,374	1871	26,801,154	234
Luxemburg	1,592	„	197,528	124
Montenegro *	3,738	„	311,000	82

* Allowance has been made for the recent alterations in the boundaries of these countries by the treaty of Berlin, July 13th, 1878.

† Including wandering Arab tribes, estimated to embrace 2,434,974 persons.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.—AREA AND POPULATION—*continued.*

Countries, with Dependencies.	Estimated Area in Square Miles.	Year of Census or Estimate.	Ascertained or Estimated Population.	Persons to the Square Mile.
Portugal	34,499	1872	4,011,908	116
„ possessions, Azores ...	966	1875	261,746	271
„ „ Madeira and Porto Santo	317	„	121,753	384
„ „ others ...	709,469	...	3,258,141	5
Total Portugese dominions	745,251	...	7,653,548	10
Roumania*	48,307	1878	5,290,000	110
Russia in Europe*	2,191,994	1870-5	74,285,223	34
„ Asia... ..	6,280,456	1871	12,723,471	2
Total Russian Empire* ...	8,472,450	...	87,008,694	10
Servia*	20,850	1874	1,719,522	82
Spain	195,716	1871	16,798,925	86
„ colonies of	113,678	...	6,419,339	56
Total Spanish dominions ...	309,394	...	23,218,264	75
Sweden and Norway	293,172	1875-6	6,236,613	21
Switzerland	15,977	1870	2,669,147	167
Turkey* (in Europe, Asia, and Africa)	1,116,848	1878	21,000,000	19
„ Bulgaria	24,360	„	1,859,000	76
„ Eastern Roumelia	13,500	„	751,000	56
Total Turkish Empire ...	1,154,708	1878	23,610,000	20
ASIATIC.				
China (proper) †	1,534,953	...	405,213,152	263
„ dependencies of	2,389,674	...	20,000,000	8
Total Chinese Empire ...	3,924,627	...	425,213,152	108
AFRICAN.				
Egypt	1,406,250	1875	16,952,000	12
Liberia	60,000	...	720,000	12
Morocco	219,000	...	3,000,000	14
Tunis... ..	42,000	1877	2,100,000	50

* Allowance has been made for the recent alterations in the boundaries of these countries by the treaty of Berlin, July 13th, 1878.

† Much doubt must exist as to the accuracy of estimates of the population of China. These figures, as well as some others in the table, have been taken from Martin's *Statesman's Year-Book*, 1879. London: MacMillan and Co.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.—AREA AND POPULATION—*continued.*

Countries, with Dependencies.	Estimated Area in Square Miles.	Year of Census or Estimate.	Ascertained or Estimated Population.	Persons to the Square Mile.
AMERICAN.				
Argentine Confederation ...	1,619,463	1876	2,250,000	1
Bolivia	842,729	1861	1,987,352	2
Brazil	3,287,964	1872	9,448,233	3
Chili	204,580	1875	2,319,266	11
Columbia	504,773	1871	2,913,343	6
Costa Rica	26,040	...	185,000	7
Ecuador	248,372	1875	1,066,137	4
Guatemala	41,830	1872	1,190,754	28
Haiti	10,204	...	600,000	59
Honduras	39,600	...	250,000	6
Mexico	743,948	1873	9,343,470	13
Nicaragua	49,500	...	350,000	7
Paraguay	57,303	1876	239,844	4
Peru	503,600	„	2,673,075	5
San Domingo	18,045	...	250,000	14
San Salvador	9,594	1870	434,520	45
United States	3,603,884	„	38,558,371	11
Uruguay	72,151	1875	444,613	6
Venezuela	403,261	1873	1,784,194	4
Grand Total of countries named	32,072,976	...	922,414,350	29
Grand Total of British dominions	7,938,786	...	238,030,204	30
Grand Total of British and Foreign countries	40,011,762	...	1,160,444,554	29

74. According to this table, the British Empire has, if Russia be excluded, more than twice the area of the largest, and if China be excepted, nearly three times the population of the most populous country with its possessions on the face of the globe. Moreover, the area of the British dominions is nearly sixty-six times, and the population thereof more than seven times, as great as the area and population respectively of the United Kingdom itself.

75. The most densely populated independent country in the world appears to be Belgium, and the next England and Wales, both containing over four hundred persons to the square mile. Holland comes next with three hundred and four, and China, which, according to the estimate given, contains about two-sevenths of the total population of the world, next, with two hundred and sixty-three persons to the square mile; Italy, Japan, Germany, and France then follow in close succession. Ireland is less densely populated than any of these or than Switzerland, and Scotland is not only less so than Ireland but than Austro-Hungary, Denmark, or Luxemburg.

76. The following is the most recent estimate of the area and population of the world and its various continents. The scanty population of Australasia and the Polynesian Islands, also of the two Americas,

British dominions compared with Foreign countries.

Density of population in various countries.

Area and population of the world.

will be at once noticed. It will also be observed that by far the greater proportion, or nearly three-fifths, of the total population of the earth is distributed throughout Asia, but that the density of population there is little more than half that of Europe :—

THE WORLD.—AREA AND POPULATION.*

Continents.	Area in English Square Miles.	Estimated Population.	Persons to the Square Mile.
Europe	3,819,932	312,398,480	81·9
Asia	17,303,608	831,000,000	48·0
Africa	11,553,924	205,219,500	17·9
America	15,802,261	86,116,000	5·4
Australasia and Polynesia ...	3,422,132	4,411,300	1·3
Total	51,901,857	1,439,145,280	27·7

77. Comparing the totals in this table with those in the lowest line of the table following paragraph 73 *ante*, it appears that nearly four-fifths of the earth's surface, and something more than four-fifths of its population, are included in the countries named.

Proportion of countries named to world.

78. It also appears that British dominions cover nearly two-thirteenths of the earth's surface, and contain about a sixth of its population; that the Australasian colonies cover between a sixteenth and a seventeenth of its surface, but contain only a six-hundredth of its population, and that Victoria does not cover much more than a six-hundredth part of its surface, and contains only about a seventeen-hundredth of its population.

Proportion of British dominions, &c., to world.

79. The arrivals and departures by sea† during 1878, also the excess of the former over the latter, were as follow :—

Immigration and emigration, 1878.

IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION, 1878.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Arrivals by sea	30,087	12,181	42,268
Departures by sea	26,085	11,407	37,492
Excess of arrivals	4,002	774	4,776

80. The arrivals were, in 1878, more numerous than in the previous year by 1,072; they also exceeded those in any other year since 1858. The departures in 1878 exceeded those in 1877 by 3,549, and were also in excess of those in any former year since 1853.‡

Arrivals and departures, 1878 and former years.

* The material for this table has been extracted from Dr. Petermann's "Mittheilungen," No. 55, entitled "Die Bevölkerung der Erde V.," by Messrs. Behm and Wagner: Gotha, Justus Perthes, 1878. The areas are given by Dr. Petermann in square kilometers, but these have been reduced to English square miles upon the assumption that one square kilometer is .386 of a square mile.

† All the figures relating to arrivals in the colony and departures therefrom contain statements of those who come and go by sea only. No account is or can be kept of those who cross the frontier from and to the adjacent colonies.

‡ The number of immigrants and emigrants in each year will be found in the Statistical Summary of Victoria (first folding sheet) *ante*. See also paragraph 43 *ante*.

Adults and children arriving and departing.

81. The immigration authorities do not specify the exact ages of the persons arriving and departing, but classify them as adults, or those from 12 years of age upwards; as children, or those between 1 year of age and 12 years; and as infants, or those under 1 year. The following are the numbers under each of those heads who came and went during 1878:—

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES OF ADULTS, CHILDREN, AND INFANTS, 1878.

—				Adults.	Children.	Infants.	Total.
Arrivals	...	...	...	38,119	3,728	421	42,268
Departures	...	...	...	33,154	3,673	665	37,492
Immigration in excess	...	...	...	4,965	55	...	4,776
Emigration in excess	...	...	...	...	...	244	...

Emigration of families.

82. The tendency of families to quit the colony is shown by the number of infants taken therefrom being much in excess of the number brought there. A similar circumstance in regard to both children and infants has more than once been pointed out in previous issues of the *Victorian Year-Book*. In the last six years the children and infants leaving have exceeded by 2,722 those arriving in the colony. Supposing 3 of these to represent the average number belonging to a family, it would follow that the population has been diminished during the period by over 900 families, or at the rate of 150 per annum. The following figures show the excess of departures over arrivals of children and infants in each of the years referred to:—

EXCESS OF DEPARTURES OVER ARRIVALS OF CHILDREN AND INFANTS, 1873 TO 1878.

1873	...	...	...	...	...	460
1874	...	...	...	...	...	474
1875	...	...	...	...	...	646
1876	...	...	...	...	...	879
1877	...	...	...	...	...	74
1878	...	...	...	...	...	189
Total in six years ...						2,722

Countries where from and where to.

83. The countries the immigrants came from and those the emigrants went to are shown in the following table. It will be observed that the arrivals from the neighboring colonies exceeded the departures thereto by 899. It may be remarked that the year under review is the first since 1867 in which the persons who left Victoria for New Zealand exceeded in numbers those who arrived in Victoria from that colony.

ARRIVALS FROM AND DEPARTURES TO DIFFERENT COUNTRIES,
1878.

Countries.	Arrivals therefrom.	Departures thereto.	Immigration in excess.	Emigration in excess.
New South Wales	13,125	13,494	...	369
Queensland	2	9	...	7
South Australia	6,814	8,250	...	1,436
Western Australia	213	206	7	...
Tasmania	8,469	5,502	2,967	...
New Zealand... ..	4,054	4,317	...	263
The United Kingdom	8,121	4,413	3,708	...
Foreign countries	1,470	1,301	169	...
Total	42,268	37,492	4,776*	...

84. To account for the apparently small passenger traffic between Victoria and Queensland, as shown by the returns, it will be remembered that vessels passing between those colonies generally call at Sydney on their way, and the passengers are entered as being bound for and coming from New South Wales instead of the colony of their final destination or first departure.

Apparently few persons to and from Queensland accounted for.

85. The only assisted immigration which took place during 1878 was that of 18 warrant passengers from the United Kingdom, viz., 8 males and 10 females, 6 of whom were children.

Assisted immigration.

86. The Chinese immigrants included in the returns of 1878 numbered 875, or nearly twice as many as in the previous year, and more than double the average during the previous quinquenniad. The number of Chinese emigrants during 1878 of which there is any record is 362; but this does not include those departing in steamers to the colonies of New South Wales, Tasmania, and South Australia; consequently, this number, probably to a great extent, understates the truth, since most of the arrivals of Chinese are from the first-named colony.

Chinese immigration.

87. Of the Chinese who arrived, 605 came from New South Wales, 134 from New Zealand, 11 from South Australia, 62 from Tasmania, 41 from Batavia, and 22 from China. Of those recorded as having left, 158 went to New Zealand, 60 to New South Wales, 126 to British possessions outside Australia, and 18 to Foreign countries. The Chinese arriving and departing were all males.

Chinese, where from and where to.

88. The arrivals in and departures from each of the Australasian colonies during the five years ended with 1877 were as follow. All the arrivals and all the departures referred to were by sea.

Immigration and emigration in Australasian colonies.

* Net figures.

IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION RETURNS OF THE AUSTRALASIAN
COLONIES.

Colony.	Year.	Immigrants.	Emigrants.	Excess of Immigrants over Emigrants, or <i>vice versa</i> .
Victoria ...	1873	29,460	26,294	3,166
	1874	30,732	27,365	3,367
	1875	32,744	29,342	3,402
	1876	35,797	31,977	3,820
	1877	41,196	33,943	7,253
New South Wales ...	1873	24,022	16,770	7,252
	1874	29,756	19,279	10,477
	1875	30,967	20,350	10,617
	1876	32,942	21,923	11,019
	1877	38,628	20,174	18,454
Queensland ...	1873	15,141	5,474	9,667
	1874	20,725	7,794	12,931
	1875	24,809	9,640	15,169
	1876	21,831	9,695	12,136
	1877	22,596	10,408	12,188
South Australia ...	1873	4,548	3,172	1,376
	1874	5,557	3,271	2,286
	1875	6,566	4,019	2,547
	1876	13,841	4,995	8,846
	1877	14,061	8,367	5,694
Western Australia ...	1873	285	639	— 354
	1874	660	601	59
	1875	733	520	213
	1876	409	650	— 241
	1877	613	575	38
Tasmania ...	1873	6,787	7,039	— 252
	1874	6,265	7,714	— 1,449
	1875	6,535	8,075	— 1,540
	1876	8,571	8,169	402
	1877	9,717	9,270	447
New Zealand ...	1873	13,572	4,761	8,811
	1874	43,965	5,859	38,106
	1875	31,737	6,467	25,270
	1876	18,414	6,459	11,955
	1877	12,987	6,611	6,376

NOTE.—The minus sign (—) indicates that the emigrants exceeded the immigrants by the number to which it is prefixed. For returns of immigration and emigration of the neighboring colonies during 1878, see Summary of Australasian Statistics (third folding sheet) *ante*.

89. It will be observed that more persons come to Victoria than to any of the other colonies, and more persons depart therefrom than from any of the other colonies. All the colonies have gained steadily by immigration during the five years named in the table except Western Australia and Tasmania; in these the contrary has taken place, the departures in the former having been more than 10 per cent. and in the latter 6 per cent. greater than the arrivals. In 1877, however, the arrivals exceeded the departures in all the colonies. The following

Gain of each
colony by
immigra-
tion.

is the order in which the colonies stood during that year in reference to the net increase of their populations from external sources :—

ORDER OF COLONIES IN REFERENCE TO EXCESS OF IMMIGRANTS OVER EMIGRANTS, 1877.

- | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. New South Wales. | 3. Victoria. | 5. South Australia. |
| 2. Queensland. | 4. New Zealand. | 6. Tasmania. |
| | 7. Western Australia. | |

90. According to the figures in the last table, the net gain to the population of the Australian continent during 1877 by excess of immigration over emigration was 43,627; the net gain from the same source to the population of the whole of the Australasian colonies was 50,450. Gain of Australia and Australasia by immigration.

91. According to returns received from the Imperial Board of Trade, the emigrants from the United Kingdom to Australasia, in 1878, numbered 37,214, which was greater than in any of the previous seven years, except 1874. The following are the figures for the eight years; also, taken from colonial returns, the numbers of assisted and unassisted emigrants during the five years ended with 1877 :— Emigrants from United Kingdom to Australia.

EMIGRANTS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM TO AUSTRALASIA, 1871 TO 1878.

Year.	From the United Kingdom to the Australasian Colonies.		
	Total Emigrants.	Assisted Emigrants.	Unassisted Emigrants.
1871	12,227	...	...
1872	15,876	...	...
1873	26,428	16,915	9,513
1874	53,958	44,394	9,564
1875	35,525	28,891	6,634
1876	33,191	26,404	6,787
1877	31,071	22,461	8,610
1878	37,214	...	...
Total in eight years	245,490	...	...

92. It will be at once observed that the fluctuations in the total numbers to a very great extent depend upon the assistance given to emigration by the State. The stream of unassisted emigrants to Australasia is tolerably steady, and proceeds at the rate of something more than 8,000 per annum. Assisted immigration in Australasia

93. During the same eight years the emigrants from the United Kingdom to British North America numbered 180,364; to the United States, 1,139,987; and to all other places, 113,098; thus making, with the numbers to Australasia, already shown to have been 245,490, a grand total of 1,678,939. Imperial emigration returns.

Net emigration from Britain to Australia.

94. The arrivals in the United Kingdom from the Australasian colonies numbered 4,702 in 1877 and 4,403 in 1878. The net emigration to these colonies was thus 26,369 in the former and 32,811 in the latter year.

Occupations of emigrants from Britain to Australia.

95. Of the 37,214 emigrants from the United Kingdom to Australasia in 1878, 29,975 were adults, consisting of 18,638 males and 11,337 females. Of the males the following are the occupations:—agricultural laborers, gardeners, &c., 5,982; farmers, 866; general laborers, 2,682; miners, 290; artisans and mechanics, 2,242; bootmakers and tailors, 225; dealers in food, 221; shopkeepers, &c., 422; clerks and agents, 591; gentlemen, merchants, &c., 1,719; other trades and professions, 879; not stated, 2,519. Of the females, 4,539 were domestic servants, &c., 40 gentlewomen and governesses, 115 milliners, &c., 92 of other occupations, and 6,551 unspecified.

Municipalities.

96. Municipal bodies in Victoria are of two kinds*; the first being called cities, towns, and boroughs, and the second, shires. Both these bodies are regulated under the Local Government Act 1874 (38 Vict. No. 506), and are called municipalities. Each municipality is a body corporate, with perpetual succession and a common seal, and is capable of suing and being sued, and purchasing, holding, and alienating land, &c.

Number of municipalities.

97. The cities, towns, and boroughs in Victoria numbered 59 both in 1877 and 1878. The shires numbered 111 in the former, and 114 in the latter year.

Cities, towns, and boroughs.

98. The following is a list of the cities, towns, and boroughs, together with a statement of the estimated area, estimated population, number of dwellings, total and annual value of rateable property, and total revenue of each city, town, or borough, during the year 1878:—

CITIES, TOWNS, AND BOROUGHES, 1878.

Names of Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.	Estimated Area.	Estimated Population.	Number of Dwellings.	Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue.
				Total.	Annual.	
	Acres.			£	£	£
Ararat	3,840	3,000	590	160,681	16,068	2,404
Ballarat	2,880	18,000	4,506	714,744	103,586	25,315
Ballarat East	4,320	13,719	3,228	358,022	51,146	9,905
Belfast	5,440	3,000	400	150,000	12,000	1,698
Brighton	3,273	4,600	820	426,490	42,649	4,709
Browns and Scarsdale	5,760	1,500	346	10,887	3,629	557
Brunswick	2,880	5,571	1,165	419,790	41,979	6,174
Buninyong	3,360	1,665	333	62,975	6,298	976
Carisbrook	5,760	1,010	226	48,200	4,980	593
Castlemaine	5,760	7,500	1,500	246,152	35,164	5,269

* For complete details of the organization of these two forms of local self-government, see *Victorian Year-Book*, 1874, paragraphs 236 to 251.

CITIES, TOWNS, AND BOROUGHES, 1878—continued.

Names of Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.	Estimated Area.	Estimated Popula- tion.	Number of Dwellings.	Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue.
				Total.	Annual.	
	Acres.			£	£	£
Chewton ...	5,760	2,500	620	38,895	7,779	1,079
Clunes ...	5,760	7,550	1,264	170,410	17,041	3,655
Collingwood ...	1,241	22,000	5,050	1,142,130	114,213	20,157
Creswick ...	4,760	3,800	780	81,732	13,622	3,293
Daylesford... ..	5,758	4,100	1,095	167,030	16,703	3,502
Dunolly ...	5,758	1,600	475	79,352	9,919	2,544
Eaglehawk ...	3,735	7,334	1,450	280,000	28,000	4,056
Echuca ...	5,760	4,765	986	582,324	48,527	5,547
Emerald Hill ...	2,292	25,000	4,680	1,615,120	161,512	20,527
Essendon & Flemington	4,907	3,919	756	336,355	33,636	4,321
Fitzroy ...	800	19,160	4,150	1,493,120	149,312	20,542
Footscray ...	5,760	5,350	1,118	794,680	39,234	5,869
Geelong ...	3,100	12,000	2,200	709,475	70,948	13,894
Geelong West ...	800	5,000	1,139	176,670	17,667	2,195
Graytown ...	5,696	150	70	8,500	701	72
Hamilton ...	5,280	3,300	593	268,800	19,200	3,040
Hawthorn ...	2,240	4,868	943	595,436	49,628	6,098
Heathcote ...	3,483	1,550	290	50,360	6,295	995
Hotham ...	579	15,317	3,533	916,090	91,609	14,422
Inglewood ...	1,280	1,325	315	55,031	6,253	1,066
Kew ...	3,445	3,700	554	344,580	34,458	3,850
Koroit ...	5,760	1,569	264	163,788	13,649	2,115
Majorca ...	5,760	1,600	344	39,800	3,980	540
Malmsbury ...	3,840	1,000	300	66,560	6,656	1,365
Maryborough ...	5,760	3,500	650	131,500	16,204	3,894
Melbourne ...	4,480	62,500	13,170	9,454,640	945,464	116,909
Newtown and Chilwell	1,600	5,000	1,000	227,520	22,752	3,094
Portland ...	2,400	2,500	540	183,200	18,320	2,503
Prahran ...	2,400	19,200	3,900	2,575,385	171,639	23,672
Queenscliff ...	1,760	1,000	220	65,760	6,576	1,237
Raywood ...	5,760	650	165	12,889	2,015	367
Richmond ...	1,200	20,153	4,751	996,380	113,872	17,115
Rutherglen ...	1,280	560	200	15,000	2,964	644
Sale ...	4,900	3,000	550	191,000	19,157	2,377
Sandhurst ...	7,500	26,163	6,774	1,789,570	178,957	25,894
Sandridge ...	2,400	7,900	1,784	533,178	59,242	8,960
Sebastopol... ..	2,000	2,500	518	32,652	5,442	983
Smythesdale ...	1,440	750	220	17,255	3,451	488
St. Arnaud ...	6,306	2,511	558	153,410	15,341	2,228
Stawell ...	5,760	7,722	1,915	378,950	37,895	6,061
Steiglitz* ...	5,760	350	130	20,000	2,046	222
St. Kilda ...	1,920	10,000	2,109	1,240,000†	124,000	12,455
Talbot ...	5,760	3,200	720	57,285	11,457	1,620
Tarnagulla... ..	5,760	859	243	54,240	5,424	1,168
Walhalla ...	5,120	1,700	446	51,910	10,382	1,628
Wangaratta ...	5,760	1,487	319	105,475	10,548	1,798
Warrnambool ...	3,262	4,853	820	286,120	28,612	6,907
Williamstown ...	2,540	8,200	1,760	525,000	49,366	8,801
Wood's Point ...	2,560	500	186	15,318	2,553	296
Total ...	232,215	414,880	89,731	31,887,816	3,141,720	453,665

* No information for 1878, figures copied from return for 1877.

† No information, figures estimated from annual value.

Shires.

99. The next table gives a list of the shires, together with a statement of the estimated area, estimated population, number of dwellings, total and annual value of rateable property, and total revenue of each shire during the year 1878 :—

SHIRES, 1878.

Names of Shires.	Estimated Area.	Estimated Population.	Number of Dwellings.	Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue.
				Total.	Annual.	
	Acres.			£	£	£
Alberton ...	1,543,680	2,600	700	282,256	17,641	1,809
Alexandra ...	512,000	3,000	570	200,000	20,211	3,542
Ararat ...	1,165,280	8,500	1,700	2,124,210	106,211	9,789
Avoca ...	261,120	7,800	1,600	279,960	27,996	3,138
Avon ...	160,000	1,475	297	289,730*	21,445	2,744
Bacchus Marsh ...	115,200	2,500	500	194,065	19,406	2,713
Bairnsdale ...	2,129,920	4,200	1,200	625,009	41,667	3,800
Ballan ...	230,400	7,000	1,433	394,925	39,493	5,637
Ballarat ...	126,720	7,500	1,000	390,108	39,108	5,939
Bannockburn ...	76,800	2,700	420	275,000	18,004	2,391
Barrabool ...	163,200	1,453	500	438,410	21,920	3,118
Beechworth ...	206,080	7,497	2,000	451,240	45,125	7,646
Belfast ...	140,800	2,668	497	758,074	36,099	4,342
Bellarine ...	74,240	3,700	740	228,521	22,852	3,260
Benalla ...	2,304,000	14,000	2,000	910,788	75,899	7,819
Berwick ...	380,160	2,350	650	580,000	29,000	2,533
Bet Bet ...	192,000	5,500	1,500	200,000	29,796	3,005
Boroondara ...	8,000	1,352	269	123,016	15,377	2,536
Braybrook ...	57,600	1,034	235	204,780	20,478	3,104
Bright ...	512,000	5,400	900	139,446	23,241	3,645
Broadford ...	166,400	1,400	200	112,000	7,000	668
Broadmeadows ...	46,720	1,500	299	186,900	18,690	1,659
Bulla ...	65,920	2,350	265	255,000	24,745	2,351
Bulleen ...	21,760	1,650	324	160,000	11,000	1,621
Bungaree ...	71,680	4,000	950	427,600	31,674	4,354
Buninyong ...	192,000	10,840	2,036	458,515	45,852	5,555
Caulfield ...	6,400	2,500	510	434,476	31,034	2,961
Chiltern ...	64,000	2,200	516	52,995	10,599	1,748
Coburg ...	4,480	1,700	350	122,860	12,286	1,801
Colac ...	486,400	5,500	960	951,324	79,277	8,500
Corio ...	128,000	2,630	500	300,000	29,069	3,812
Cranbourne ...	256,000	2,600	490	222,000	22,000	3,062
Creswick ...	140,800	6,400	1,210	764,780	38,239	4,606
Dandenong ...	37,760	1,650	260	147,234	12,269	2,280
Darebin ...	51,200	1,200	200	142,000	14,200	1,381
Dundas ...	896,000	4,200	700	1,460,350	73,018	6,547
Dunmunkle ...	416,000	3,500	900	832,000	43,156	2,370
East Loddon ...	360,960	3,500	400	638,000	31,900	3,401
Echuca ...	1,382,400	10,000	2,500	1,960,000	140,000	14,954
Eltham ...	128,000	2,200	350	200,000	13,532	2,008
Flinders & Kangarong	121,600	1,500	470	178,044	14,837	1,958
Gisborne ...	83,200	3,200	500	210,000	17,500	1,926
Glenelg ...	896,000	4,600	1,650	689,520	86,190	7,818
Glenlyon ...	76,800	2,500	590	156,580	15,658	1,709
Goulburn ...	206,080	1,704	358	207,130	20,713	2,735

* No information. Figures estimated from annual value.

SHIRES, 1878—continued.

Names of Shires.	Estimated Area.	Estimated Population.	Number of Dwellings.	Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue.
				Total.	Annual.	
	Acres.			£	£	£
Grenville ...	197,120	8,800	2,100	298,890	36,928	6,692
Hampden ...	1,280,000	4,931	1,100	2,353,500	117,675	10,610
Heidelberg ...	28,800	3,200	350	300,000	17,000	2,903
Howqua... ...	311,040	1,419	400	27,867	7,338	669
Huntly ...	172,800	3,500	890	338,330	33,833	4,319
Jika	12,800	2,640	600	152,000	19,000	2,710
Keilor ...	33,280	668	160	126,021	12,602	1,398
Kilmore... ...	60,160	2,700	870	206,365	20,637	2,066
Korong ...	896,000	11,500	2,500	1,017,000	67,800	7,109
Kowree... ...	874,000	2,000	460	261,700	26,170	2,571
Kyneton ...	147,200	9,000	1,800	1,157,265	57,863	8,266
Leigh ...	217,600	2,029	500	415,530	41,554	5,759
Lexton ...	183,680	2,500	550	500,000	27,075	3,503
Lilydale ...	128,000	2,000	500	248,760	20,730	5,558
Lowan ...	4,928,000	2,500	800	588,959*	43,594	5,283
Maffra ...	512,000	3,000	512	500,000	35,000	4,322
Maldon ...	97,280	5,250	1,820	400,000	37,000	6,689
Malvern ...	3,840	1,600	300	370,580	18,529	2,888
Mansfield ...	1,088,000	3,000	520	230,340	30,712	4,413
Marong ...	422,400	8,272	2,000	333,650	66,730	9,297
Melton ...	73,600	1,200	233	168,791	16,880	1,943
Meredith ...	114,240	1,210	255	137,350	13,735	1,851
Merriang ...	83,200	1,200	200	217,544*	16,102	1,695
Metcalfe ...	132,480	5,000	1,080	307,690	30,769	5,279
Minhamite ...	288,000	2,200	550	814,000	40,700	6,252
Moorabbin ...	19,200	3,075	671	278,532	23,211	2,281
Mornington ...	79,360	2,200	500	402,800	20,140	2,242
Mortlake ...	538,880	2,550	400	793,120	79,312	7,190
Mount Alexander ...	39,040	5,000	1,400	112,599	18,766	2,654
Mount Franklin ...	68,053	3,150	966	148,280	18,535	1,943
Mount Rouse ...	339,200	3,000	550	950,000	60,197	6,031
McIvor ...	448,000	3,500	880	240,000	24,987	2,956
Newham ...	86,400	3,350	600	263,850	17,590	2,772
Newstead ...	64,000	5,726	818	162,575	16,258	2,671
North Ovens ...	140,800	2,118	440	151,935	15,193	2,034
Nunawading ...	15,360	1,390	350	128,687	12,869	2,460
Oakleigh ...	19,200	1,750	300	124,590	12,459	3,276
Omeo ...	659,200	1,600	322	220,000	11,000	1,621
Oxley ...	787,840	4,000	760	266,040	26,604	3,792
Phillip Island and Woolamai ...	192,000	1,150	375	170,000	9,500	1,877
Portland ...	640,000	5,850	1,150	533,530	53,353	6,831
Pyalong ...	134,400	2,000	305	200,000	12,500	1,124
Ripon ...	345,600	4,800	1,200	721,920	72,192	7,232
Romsey ...	35,200	1,600	270	372,120	18,606	3,300
Rosedale ...	768,000	3,825	850	415,000	51,920	5,586
Rutherglen ...	92,800	2,200	250	130,000	16,000	1,454
Seymour ...	152,960	2,000	490	185,360	23,170	2,762
South Barwon ...	35,840	1,761	448	120,806	12,806	2,538
Springfield ...	68,480	1,000	200	157,890	15,789	1,454
St. Arnaud ...	2,240,000	15,000	3,200	2,180,400	109,120	9,846
Stawell ...	544,000	3,900	900	553,692	46,141	5,951
Strathfieldsaye ...	113,280	4,000	800	188,546	22,854	3,041

* No information. Figures estimated from annual value.

SHIRES, 1878—continued.

Names of Shires.	Estimated Area.	Estimated Population.	Number of Dwellings.	Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue.
				Total.	Annual.	
	Acres.			£	£	£
Swan Hill ...	9,600,000	8,000	2,250	1,430,910	95,394	6,280
Talbot ...	113,920	4,200	600	185,925	18,592	2,612
Towong ...	921,600	2,900	480	236,250	18,899	2,352
Tullaroop ...	136,960	5,000	1,000	224,059	32,009	2,796
Wannon ...	467,200	3,245	600	678,470	67,847	6,339
Waranga ...	736,000	10,000	2,000	1,389,255	92,617	8,063
Warrnambool ...	387,200	8,151	1,760	1,986,660	99,333	11,651
Whittlesea ...	80,640	1,550	304	160,000	16,000	1,539
Wimmera ...	1,350,400	12,000	2,000	1,638,567	81,928	12,062
Winchelsea ...	384,000	2,500	500	550,000	40,425	5,451
Wodonga ...	57,600	1,150	300	112,050	11,205	1,915
Wyndham ...	183,680	1,530	292	918,400	43,644	3,892
Yackandandah ...	320,000	4,000	800	482,800	24,140	3,414
Yarrawonga ...	384,000	3,300	1,200	392,360	39,236	...
Yea ...	256,000	1,400	500	156,710	15,672	1,968
Total ...	52,997,573	428,993	91,230	52,545,666	3,889,276	455,593

Area of municipalities.

100. The total area included in the two descriptions of municipalities is as follows :—

ESTIMATED AREA EMBRACED IN MUNICIPALITIES, 1878.

	Acres.
Cities, towns, and boroughs ...	232,215
Shires ...	52,997,573
Total ...	53,229,788

Proportion to total area of Victoria.

101. The estimated area of Victoria is 56,446,720 acres. It thus appears that about sixteen-seventeenths of this area is included within the limits of municipal districts.

Population of municipalities.

102. The estimated population of the two kinds of districts was as follows in 1878 :—

ESTIMATED POPULATION OF MUNICIPALITIES, 1878.

Cities, towns, and boroughs ...	414,880
Shires ...	428,993
Total ...	843,873

Proportion to population of Victoria.

103. It has been already stated that the estimated mean population of Victoria during 1878 was 869,040. It therefore follows that during that year thirtythree-thirtyfourths of the inhabitants of the colony enjoyed the advantages of local self-government.

Ratepayers in municipalities.

104. The ratepayers in the two kinds of municipal districts numbered as follow in 1878 :—

RATEPAYERS IN MUNICIPALITIES, 1878.

Cities, towns, and boroughs ...	93,188
Shires ...	93,204
Total ...	186,392

105. By comparing these figures with those showing the estimated municipal population, it appears that about 1 person in every 4·5 persons living in municipalities is a ratepayer. Proportion of ratepayers to population.

106. According to a return laid before the Legislative Council, in July 1878, on the motion of the Honorable Sir Charles Sladen, the ratepayers assessed at £20 and upwards numbered 86,667. The following is the classification of these ratepayers as stated in the return, also the number (found by subtraction), amounting to 52 per cent. of the whole, rated at less than £20. The figures are for the year 1877 :— Ratepayers classified according to rating.

RATEPAYERS IN MUNICIPALITIES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO RATING, 1877.

Number of Ratepayers.		Number of Ratepayers.	
Under £20	... 93,104	£150 to £200	... 1,740
£20 to £25	... 19,825	£200 to £250	... 979
£25 to £30	... 10,967	£250 to £300	... 590
£30 to £35	... 10,736	£300 to £350	... 561
£35 to £40	... 6,021	£350 to £400	... 234
£40 to £50	... 11,284	£400 and upwards...	... 1,391
£50 to £100	... 17,742		
£100 to £150	... 4,597	Total	... <u>179,771</u>

107. The following is a statement of the number of dwellings in the two kinds of municipal districts :— Dwellings in municipalities.

DWELLINGS IN MUNICIPALITIES, 1878.

Cities, towns, and boroughs	...	...	...	89,731
Shires	...	...	...	91,230
Total	...	...	...	<u>180,961</u>

108. The dwellings in the colony have not been enumerated since 1871. At that time the number of all descriptions amounted to 158,481. The houses in municipal districts therefore now exceed by 22,480 the whole number returned at the last census. Increase in number of dwellings.

109. The area contained in shires is about 228 times that in cities, towns, and boroughs ; but the population and dwellings in the former only slightly exceed those in the latter. The ratepayers in the two kinds of districts are about equal. Area, population, &c., in shires and boroughs compared.

110. The population in municipal districts in 1878 exceeded by 15,373 that in 1877 ; the ratepayers exceeded the number in 1877 by 6,621, and the dwellings exceeded the number in the same year by 1,442. The increase of ratepayers is greater, but the increases of population and dwellings less than those in 1877, as compared with 1876, when the population in municipalities increased by 18,648, the ratepayers by 809, and the dwellings by 1,630. Increase of population, dwellings, &c., in municipalities.

111. The increase of population in shires, which amounted to 7,326, was less by 721 than that in cities, towns, and boroughs, which amounted to 8,047. In 1877 the increase of population in shires Increase of population in boroughs and shires.

amounted to 9,932, whilst that in cities, towns, and boroughs amounted only to 8,716.

Amount of rating in municipalities.

112. The following is the number of cities, towns, and boroughs, and the number of shires, in which rates were struck in the last three years at the amounts set down in the first column. It will be observed that no municipality in any year was rated at the lowest amount allowed by law, viz., 6d. in the pound; also, that not one levied rates up to the full amount allowed by law, viz., 2s. 6d. in the pound:—

RATINGS IN MUNICIPALITIES, 1876 TO 1878.

Amount levied in the £.	Number of Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.			Number of Shires.		
	1876.	1877.	1878.	1876.	1877.	1878.
0s. 8½d. ...	1	...	...	...	...	...
0 9 ...	1	...	...	5	4	5
0 10 ...	...	...	...	1	...	...
1 0 ...	28	24	26	100	99	95
1 3 ...	5	7	8	1	3	3
1 4 ...	2	1	1	...	1	1
1 6 ...	12	15	13	2	3	6
1 6½ ...	...	1	1	...	...	...
1 7 ...	1	...	1	...	...	...
1 8 ...	1	2	2	...	...	...
1 9 ...	2	5	3	...	...	...
1 10 ...	1	...	...	...	...	...
2 0 ...	5	4	4	1	...	2
Not stated ...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Total ...	59	59	59	110	111	112

Municipalities rated at 1s. in the pound.

113. Of the cities, towns, and boroughs, 47 per cent. in 1876, 41 per cent. in 1877, and 44 per cent. in 1878, were rated at 1s. in the pound; of the shires, 91 per cent. in 1876, 89 per cent. in 1877, and 85 per cent. in 1878, were rated at that amount.

Municipalities rated under and over 1s. in the pound.

114. In 1876, 8; in 1877, 4; and in 1878, 5 municipal districts were rated at less than 1s. in the pound. In 1876, 33; in 1877, 42; and in 1878, 45 municipal districts were rated at over that amount.

Classification of properties rated.

115. The number of properties in boroughs and in shires during the five years ended with 1878, arranged in groups according to their rateable values, will be found in the following table. It will be noticed that a steady increase is shown in nearly all the groups, and that the figures for 1878, excepting those relating to properties rated at between £400 and £500, in both kinds of districts, and at £500 and upwards in shires, are greater than in any of the four previous years; also, that the total number of properties in 1875 exceeded by 8,598 that in 1874, the total number in 1876 exceeded by 3,826 that in 1875, the total number in 1877 exceeded by 3,047 that in 1876, and the total number in 1878 exceeded by 5,661 that in 1877; the total increase of properties in the four years being thus 21,132.

CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTIES RATED, 1874 TO 1878.

Year.	Number of Properties Rated.							Total.
	Under £50.	£50 to £100.	£100 to £200.	£200 to £300.	£300 to £400.	£400 to £500.	£500 and upwards.	
CITIES, TOWNS, AND BOROUGHES.								
1874	91,320	7,981	2,964	764	289	153	235	103,706
1875	94,769	8,253	3,040	782	301	160	242	107,547
1876	94,898	8,466	3,035	786	300	162	265	107,907
1877	95,911	8,628	3,170	812	332	155	278	109,286
1878	98,942	8,895	3,211	829	363	151	294	112,685
SHIRES.								
1874	75,852	7,537	2,398	552	268	117	612	87,336
1875	79,425	8,326	2,671	568	279	128	696	92,093
1876	82,817	8,407	2,654	563	256	157	705	95,559
1877	83,583	9,067	2,778	641	283	149	726	97,227
1878	84,338	10,442	2,901	666	300	140	702	99,489
TOTAL MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS.								
1874	167,172	15,518	5,362	1,316	557	270	847	191,042
1875	174,194	16,579	5,711	1,350	580	288	938	199,640
1876	177,710	16,873	5,689	1,349	556	319	970	203,466
1877	179,494	17,695	5,948	1,453	615	304	1,004	206,513
1878	183,280	19,337	6,112	1,495	663	291	996	212,174

116. The following table gives the estimated total value (or value in fee-simple) of rateable property in cities, towns, and boroughs, and in shires, during the five years ended with 1878, arranged in groups according to the value of the properties of which the amounts are made up. In 1878, larger figures will be observed under every head than in any of the four previous years; as compared with 1877, the valuation of urban properties increased by £2,555,786, and that of country properties by £4,262,946—making a total increase of £6,818,732:—

Total value of rateable property.

CLASSIFICATION OF TOTAL VALUE OF RATEABLE PROPERTY, 1874 TO 1878.

Year.	Total Value of Rateable Properties.				Total.
	Under £50.	£50 to £100.	£100 to £200.	£200 and upwards.	
	£	£	£	£	£
CITIES, TOWNS, AND BOROUGHES.					
1874	12,620,396	5,201,090	3,717,516	5,785,603	27,324,605
1875	13,425,920	5,236,868	3,710,671	5,750,344	28,123,803
1876	14,107,710	5,615,811	3,774,874	6,140,120	29,638,515
1877	13,878,561	5,442,678	3,901,064	6,109,727	29,332,030
1878	15,120,374	5,778,025	4,148,800	6,840,617	31,887,816
SHIRES.					
1874	13,105,624	5,070,283	3,319,425	13,401,702	34,897,034
1875	14,807,648	6,106,437	3,749,993	15,138,977	39,803,055
1876	18,218,513	6,790,706	4,328,945	16,805,458	46,143,622
1877	19,185,139	7,430,460	4,578,389	17,088,731	48,282,719
1878	19,922,055	9,111,830	5,197,287	18,314,493	52,545,665
TOTAL MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS.					
1874	25,726,020	10,271,373	7,036,941	19,187,305	62,221,639
1875	28,233,568	11,343,305	7,460,664	20,889,321	67,926,858
1876	32,326,223	12,406,517	8,103,819	22,945,578	75,782,137
1877	33,063,700	12,873,138	8,479,453	23,198,458	77,614,749
1878	35,042,429	14,889,855	9,346,087	25,155,110	84,433,481

117. According to the above table, during the four years ended with 1878, the total increase in the value of rateable property has amounted, in cities, towns, and boroughs, to £4,563,211, and in shires to £17,648,631.

118. The annual value of rateable property is arranged in similar groups in the next table. In both descriptions of districts the totals and most of the groups show increase from year to year. The only group in which smaller numbers appear in 1878 than in the previous year is that relating to properties of an annual value of less than £50 in shires:—

CLASSIFICATION OF ANNUAL VALUE OF RATEABLE PROPERTY,
1874 TO 1878.

Year.	Annual Value of Rateable Properties.				
	Under £50.	£50 to £100.	£100 to £200.	£200 and upwards.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£
CITIES, TOWNS, AND BOROUGHES.					
1874	1,352,679	537,885	381,885	584,033	2,856,482
1875	1,384,125	539,887	382,546	592,823	2,899,381
1876	1,414,565	563,091	378,503	615,664	2,971,823
1877	1,436,377	563,296	403,745	632,333	3,035,751
1878	1,489,722	569,275	408,757	673,966	3,141,720
SHIRES.					
1874	1,220,327	492,313	315,056	1,111,299	3,138,995
1875	1,320,284	544,464	334,358	1,349,826	3,548,932
1876	1,441,050	537,132	342,412	1,329,280	3,649,874
1877	1,488,197	576,383	355,147	1,325,578	3,745,305
1878	1,474,572	674,431	384,688	1,355,585	3,889,276
TOTAL MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS.					
1874	2,573,006	1,030,198	696,941	1,695,332	5,995,477
1875	2,704,409	1,084,351	716,904	1,942,649	6,448,313
1876	2,855,615	1,100,223	720,915	1,944,944	6,621,697
1877	2,924,574	1,139,679	758,892	1,957,911	6,781,056
1878	2,964,294	1,243,706	793,445	2,029,551	7,030,996

119. During the four years ended with 1878, the total increase in the annual valuation of rateable property has amounted to £285,238 in cities, towns, and boroughs, and to £750,281 in shires.

120. The increase in the value of rateable properties is no doubt partly due to the greater extent and number of properties rated, as well as to the improvements made. The following table shows the total increase and the increase under each group in the number of properties, and in their total and annual value, during the four years intervening between 1874 and the end of 1878, the increase in cities, towns, and boroughs being added to that in shires.

INCREASE IN NUMBER AND VALUE OF RATEABLE PROPERTIES,
1874 TO 1878.

Rateable Values.	Increase during Four Years in the—		
	Number of Properties.	Total Value.	Annual Value.
		£	£
Under £50	16,108	9,316,409	391,288
£50 to £100	3,819	4,618,482	213,508
£100 to £200	750	2,309,146	96,504
£200 and upwards	455	5,967,805	334,219
Total increase	21,132	22,211,842	1,035 519

121. By far the greatest increase in the number of properties, amounting to nearly four-fifths of the whole increase, was in properties rated at less than £50. The largest increase in the total value of properties, amounting to 41 per cent. of the total gain, was in properties of a similar rating. The largest increase in the annual value was also in properties rated at less than £50, and was equal to 38 per cent. of the whole increase. The next largest increase under the last head was in properties rated at £200 and upwards, which amounted to about a third of the whole increase.

Largest increase in small properties.

122. Letters of naturalization are granted to aliens residing in Victoria upon their taking an oath of allegiance to Her Majesty, as prescribed by the Aliens Statute 1865 (28 Vict. No. 256); but, without becoming naturalized, alien friends resident in the colony may acquire real and personal property, and may convey, devise, and bequeath it in the same manner as if they had been British subjects by birth. Alien women married to British subjects thereby become naturalized. The following table shows the native countries of those who have obtained letters of naturalization during the year 1878 and the previous ten years. It will be observed that more than half were Germans:—

Naturalization.

NATURALIZATION, 1868 TO 1878.

Native Countries.	Ten Years: 1868-77.	Year 1878.
France	32	4
Belgium	5	...
Holland	11	1
Austria	13	1
Germany	541	43
Italy	27	2
Spain	4	1
Portugal	4	...
Russia	9	...
Other European countries	274	14
United States	20	...
South and Central American States	1	...
China	33	6
Other countries	6	...
Total	980	72

Occupations
of persons
naturalized.

123. Of the 72 persons naturalized in 1878, 17 were agriculturists, 14 miners, 11 traders, 10 artisans and mechanics, 5 bootmakers, 4 hotel-keepers, 1 was a teacher of music, 1 a master-mariner, and 10 were of other occupations.

Number of
electoral
districts and
members.

124. By the Electoral Act Amendment Act 1876 (40 Vict. No. 548), the number of electoral districts in Victoria was increased from 49 to 55, and the number of members of the Legislative Assembly was increased from 78 to 86. With the exception of this change, and a few minor details provided for in the amending Act, the electoral system is the same as that described in the *Victorian Year-Book*, 1874.*

Members
to each
district.

125. Of the present electoral districts, 5 are represented by 3 members, 21 by 2 members, and 29 by 1 member.

Electors on
the rolls.

126. The number of electors on the rolls of both Houses of the Legislature, about the end of March 1878 and 1879, was as follows. An increase appears in the electors for the Legislative Council, but a falling-off in those for the Legislative Assembly. The ratepaying electors have in both cases increased, but the non-ratepayers considerably diminished :—

ELECTORS ON THE ROLLS, 1878 AND 1879.

	Legislative Council.		Legislative Assembly.	
	26th March 1878.	31st March 1879.	26th March 1878.	31st March 1879.
Ratepayers	28,098	29,727	151,218	154,012
Non-ratepayers	1,956	1,714	33,188	22,010
Total	30,054	31,441	184,406	176,022

Proportion of
non-rate-
paying
electors.

127. The non-ratepaying electors on the rolls of the Legislative Council amounted in 1879 to $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. and in 1878 to $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the whole ; whilst the non-ratepaying electors on the rolls of the Legislative Assembly amounted to $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the whole in 1879 and to 18 per cent. in 1878.

Electors who
voted for the
Legislative
Council.

128. At the last biennial election for the Legislative Council, which took place in August and September 1878, the seat was contested in two out of the six provinces, and in these more than 45 per cent. of the electors recorded their votes. The following table shows the names of the provinces, the number of electors on the rolls, the number who voted in each contested province, and the proportion of the latter to the former, also the number of electors on the rolls in March 1879.

* Paragraphs 262 to 270.

NUMBER OF ELECTORS.—LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, 1878 AND 1879.

Electoral Provinces.	Number of Electors—			On the Rolls 31st March 1879.
	At Biennial Election, 1878—			
	On the Rolls.	Who Voted.		
Total Number.		Percentage of Number on the Rolls.		
Central	10,305	5,525	53·61	10,543
South	3,793	*	*	3,704
South-Western	3,732	*	*	3,354
Western	2,910	*	*	2,846
North-Western	7,207	2,462	34·16	7,159
Eastern	3,860	*	*	3,835
Total	31,807	...	...	31,441
Deduct for uncontested provinces	14,295	...	...
Net result	17,512	7,987	45·61	

129. At the general election for the Legislative Assembly held on the 11th May 1877 all the seats were contested except four. Returns have been received from all the districts except one, and these show that over 62 per cent. of the electors in contested districts voted. The following table shows the results for each electoral district. It also contains an estimate of the total population and of the number of males over 21 years of age in each district at the time of the election, and a statement of the number of electors in each district according to the rolls made up on the 31st March 1879 :—

Assembly's
population
and elec-
tors.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.—POPULATION AND ELECTORS.

Electoral Districts.	At General Election, 1877.					Number of Electors on the Rolls 31st March 1879.
	Estimated Population.		Number of Electors—			
	Of both Sexes and all Ages.	Males over 21 years of age.	On the Rolls.	Who Voted.		
Total Number.				Percentage of Number on the Rolls.		
Ararat	5,800	2,300	1,716	1,079	62·87	1,370
Avoca	24,500	9,500	4,193	1,952	46·55	4,492
Ballarat East	28,100	7,700	4,515	2,690	59·57	3,954
Ballarat West	27,900	8,300	7,108	3,771	53·05	6,248
Barwon	9,300	2,800	2,021	1,485	73·47	1,962
Belfast	5,300	1,600	1,111	788	70·92	1,014
Benambra	4,700	1,900	1,136	685	60·29	1,285
Boroondara	10,000	2,400	1,816	1,374	75·66	2,008
Bourke, East	7,600	2,100	1,749	1,309	74·84	1,594
Bourke Boroughs, East	9,100	3,100	2,037	1,423	69·80	1,985
Bourke, South	9,600	2,400	1,927	1,373	71·25	1,898
Bourke, West	18,300	5,200	4,200	2,452	58·38	4,129

* No contest.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.—POPULATION AND ELECTORS—*continued.*

Electoral Districts.	At General Election, 1877.						Number of Electors on the Rolls 31st March 1879.
	Estimated Population.		Number of Electors—				
	Of both Sexes and all Ages.	Males over 21 years of age.	On the Rolls.	Who Voted.			
				Total Number.	Percentage of Number on the Rolls.		
Brighton	7,000	1,700	1,327	1,075	81·00	1,469	
Carlton	12,600	3,500	2,616	1,869	71·44	2,911	
Castlemaine	18,600	6,000	4,239	3,053	72·02	3,661	
Collingwood	20,900	6,000	5,003	2,940	58·76	4,882	
Creswick	33,100	11,200	6,255	4,290	68·59	5,714	
Dalhousie	10,400	3,300	1,970	*	*	1,669	
Delatite	14,000	2,800	2,212	1,528	69·07	2,144	
Dundas	9,300	2,600	1,562	*	*	1,565	
Emerald Hill	27,300	6,300	4,994	3,310	66·28	4,749	
Evelyn	4,600	1,500	1,434	1,032	71·96	1,466	
Fitzroy	20,200	5,100	4,462	2,920	65·44	4,457	
Footscray	5,500	1,700	1,412	938	66·43	1,516	
Geelong	22,500	4,900	4,726	2,810	59·45	4,161	
Gippsland, North	15,700	6,000	3,912	†	†	3,898	
Gippsland, South	6,400	2,100	1,503	824	54·82	1,476	
Grant	19,000	4,700	3,381	2,093	61·90	2,989	
Grenville	17,500	5,200	3,981	2,471	62·06	3,261	
Kara Kara	17,700	4,600	2,575	1,736	67·41	2,658	
Kilmore and Anglesey	9,800	3,300	2,105	1,414	67·17	1,908	
Kyneton Boroughs	5,600	1,500	1,463	1,076	73·54	1,272	
Maldon	11,300	3,100	1,754	*	*	1,495	
Mandurang	29,200	9,900	8,155	4,934	60·50	7,894	
Maryborough and Talbot	18,700	6,600	4,704	2,994	63·64	3,770	
Melbourne, East	19,000	6,700	4,402	3,087	70·12	4,229	
Melbourne, North	30,600	7,600	5,983	3,950	66·02	5,737	
Melbourne, West	17,700	6,100	4,961	3,371	67·95	5,479	
Moira	21,500	8,400	4,725	3,049	64·52	5,293	
Mornington	10,700	3,200	2,275	1,158	50·90	2,769	
Normanby	8,200	1,900	1,666	868	52·10	1,621	
Ovens	19,000	7,500	3,745	2,279	60·85	3,546	
Polwarth and South Grenville	8,000	2,300	1,580	962	60·88	1,614	
Portland	6,500	1,500	1,354	619	45·71	1,444	
Richmond	22,500	6,400	5,764	3,847	66·74	5,951	
Ripon and Hampden	11,500	3,900	2,011	1,201	59·72	1,870	
Rodney	21,000	7,700	5,136	3,310 [‡]	64·44	4,935	
Sandhurst	33,500	10,100	6,932	4,693	67·70	6,008	
Sandridge	8,000	2,300	1,916	1,301	67·90	1,809	
St. Kilda	27,300	7,200	5,892	4,128	70·06	6,257	
Stawell	11,600	4,300	2,371	1,495	63·05	2,086	
Villiers and Heytesbury	17,400	4,800	3,838	2,043	53·23	3,784	
Warrnambool	6,600	1,600	1,468	*	*	1,506	
Williamstown	8,200	2,200	1,845	1,220	66·12	1,884	
Wimmera	19,700	8,100	4,285	2,538	59·20	5,276	
Total	845,600	256,700	181,423	...	...	176,022
Deduct for uncontested districts ... ..	...	...	6,754	...	...	...
Net result ... ..	...	...	174,669	108,807	62·29	...

* No contest.

† Information not furnished.

‡ Returns incomplete.

130. At the time of the last general election, 3 in every 14 persons in the colony, or 5 in every 7 males over 21 years of age, was an elector. The proportion of members to the total population was 1 to every 9,833, or 1 member to every 2,985 males over 21 years of age.

Proportion of electors and members to population.

131. The United Kingdom returns 650 members to the Imperial Parliament, viz., 485 for England, 60 for Scotland, and 105 for Ireland. The proportion of members to the population of the United Kingdom at the end of 1877 was 1 to every 51,453; or, for England, 1 member to every 50,613 persons; for Scotland, 1 member to every 59,345 persons; and for Ireland, 1 member to every 50,823 persons.

Proportion of members of Imperial Parliament to population.

132. If Victoria were to be represented according to population in the same proportion as the United Kingdom, she would in 1877, instead of sending 86 members to Parliament, have returned only 16; if in the same proportion as England, she would have returned 17; if in the same proportion as Ireland, rather less than 17; and if in the same proportion as Scotland, 14.

Representation to population. Victoria and United Kingdom compared.

PART III.—FINANCE.

133. In the financial year ended with the 30th June 1878 the general revenue was diminished by about £85,000 in consequence of the transfer of four-fifths of the wharfage rates for the Port of Melbourne to the Harbor Trust, and by a net remission of about £26,000 in Customs duties; but, on the other hand, it was augmented by the imposition, for the first time, of a land tax which realised £50,000, and by a proportion of the amounts received for publicans' licenses, &c., which produced about £5,000. A net deficiency of £56,000 is thus attributable to the sources of revenue being disturbed by legislation.

Changes effected by legislation.

134. The financial year commenced with a credit balance of £207,000, which not only wiped out a deficiency of £130,000 which occurred on the year's transactions, but also allowed of a credit balance of £77,000 being carried forward to the ensuing year. The exact figures are as follow:—

Finance account, 1877-8.

FINANCE ACCOUNT, 1877-8.*

	£	s.	d.
Net receipts	4,504,412	13	11
Net expenditure	4,634,349	0	0
Expenditure in excess of receipts	129,936	6	1
Credit balance of 1876-7 brought forward	206,888	0	5
Credit balance to carry forward to 1878-9	76,951	14	4

* The revenue and expenditure of 1878-9, made up whilst these pages were going through the press, but not audited, were as follow:—Revenue, £4,516,418; expenditure, £4,944,966. The estimated mean population of the same twelve months was 878,243; so that the revenue per head was £5 2s. 10d., and the expenditure per head £5 12s. 7½d.