

be less than 12 or more than $13\frac{1}{2}$ 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 History, obtaining not less than two-fifths of the whole number of marks assigned in each subject; and a second examination in any two of the following subjects, viz., Elementary Mathematics, Latin, Geography, and the outlines of English History. When a cadet is entered, he will be required to pay annually the sum of £70 for a period of two years, to be spent on board the *Britannia* training ship, besides expenses of outfit and of all necessary books and instruments, during which time he must pass four examinations in seamanship and study. He is subsequently to pay £50 per annum until he passes his final examination for the rank of lieutenant.*

PART IX.—RELIGIOUS, MORAL, AND INTELLECTUAL PROGRESS.

Abolition of State aid to religion.

1404. It was provided by the Constitution Act that, for the advancement of the Christian religion in Victoria, the sum of £50,000 should be set apart each year from the general revenue to promote the erection of buildings for public worship and the maintenance of ministers of religion, which sum should be apportioned to each denomination according to the number of its members at the preceding census. This provision was, however, repealed by an Act (34 Vict. No. 391) which came into operation on the 31st December, 1875. Since that date no further State assistance to religion has been given.

Difficulty in obtaining statistics of religious bodies.

1405. Great difficulty exists in obtaining accurate statistics from several of the religious bodies. In the instances referred to, the returns are not furnished until after repeated applications, and even then they are often forwarded in so manifestly incorrect a condition that it is necessary to send them back for correction, frequently more than once. It is surprising that a matter which must be of interest to every member of these denominations should not receive more attention at the hands of their clergy or other recognised heads.

Clergy and services.

1406. The following table contains a statement of the number of clergy in 1885, and the approximate number of religious services

* For latest regulations respecting naval cadetships for the colonies, containing full particulars of the clothing, books, and instruments required by cadets and of the examinations, &c., see *Government Gazette* of the 30th June, 1881.

performed in connexion with each denomination during the last two years *:—

CLERGY AND SERVICES PERFORMED.

Religious Denominations.	Number of Clergy, Ministers, &c., 1885.	Approximate Number of Services Performed.		
		1884.	1885.	Increase.†
Church of England ...	194	41,562	44,785	3,223
Presbyterians ...	191	48,892	44,442	-4,450
Methodists ...	203	102,636	108,390‡	5,754
Bible Christians ...	35	10,468	10,955	487
Independents ...	54	14,000	14,000§	...
Baptists ...	43	7,566	8,734	1,168
Evangelical Lutherans	14	3,338	3,350	12
Welsh Calvinists ...	5	416	1,166	750
Church of Christ ...	20	6,001	6,100	99
Society of Friends ...	1	364	208	-156
Moravians ...	3	1,430	1,430	...
Protestants unattached	10	1,913	1,956	43
Roman Catholics ...	130	62,183	66,820	4,637
Unitarians ...	1	42	104	62
Swedenborgians ...	1	170	118	-52
Catholic Apostolic ...	16	1,420	1,360	-60
Christian Israelites ...	2	156	157	1
Spiritualists ...	...	104	71	-33
Jews ...	8	1,335	1,408	73
Total ...	931	303,996	315,554	11,558

1407. In 1885, as compared with 1884, increases in the number of services performed will be observed in the case of the Church of England, the Methodists, the Bible Christians, the Lutherans, the Baptists, the Welsh Calvinists, the Church of Christ, the Protestants unattached, the Roman Catholics, the Unitarians, and the Jews; and decreases in the case of the Presbyterians, Society of Friends, Swedenborgians, the Catholic Apostolic Church, and the Spiritualists. No returns were supplied by the Independents for the year 1885.

1408. The next table shows for the same two years the number of churches or other buildings used for public worship, the number of persons they can accommodate, and the number of persons usually attending at the principal services on the Sabbath:—

* The information in this and the next two tables was obtained from the heads or clergy of the different denominations.

† The minus sign (-) indicates decrease.

‡ The New Connection Methodists not having sent in returns for 1885, the figures for 1884 are embodied with those of the other Methodist denominations in this line.

§ No returns for 1885; therefore the figures for 1884 have been repeated.

CHURCHES, ACCOMMODATION AND ATTENDANCE.

Religious Denominations.	Churches and other Buildings used for Public Worship.			Persons for whom there is accommodation.			Average Attendance at Principal Service.		
	1884.	1885.	In-crease*	1884.	1885.	In-crease.*	1884.	1885.	In-crease.*
Church of England	768	841	73	93,598	96,926	3,328	57,400	58,104	704
Presbyterians ...	906	904	-2	92,435	90,435	-2,000	74,145	74,252	107
Methodists† ...	962	1,157	195	135,948	137,902	1,954	65,973	66,800	827
Bible Christians...	154	142	-12	13,988	14,885	897	7,302	7,097	-205
Independents‡ ...	76	76	...	17,400	17,400	...	9,000	9,000	...
Baptists ...	99	116	17	15,170	15,995	825	9,600	9,335	-265
Evangelical Lu- therans ...	48	49	1	4,850	4,870	20	2,710	2,860	150
Welsh Calvinists	4	5	1	950	1,120	170	373	600	227
Church of Christ	65	65	...	8,026	8,150	124	3,526	3,600	74
Society of Friends	3	2	-1	230	200	-30	52	56	4
Moravians ...	2	3	1	345	315	-30	137	136	-1
Protestants unat- tached ...	12	23	11	3,745	6,450	2,705	2,415	4,910	2,495
Roman Catholics	618	580	-38	109,976	112,975	2,999	81,270	86,776	5,506
Unitarians ...	1	1	...	250	300	50	250	300	50
Swedenborgians...	2	2	...	230	230	...	90	90	...
Catholic Apostolic	5	5	...	460	460	...	210	200	-10
Christian Israelites	1	1	...	200	200	...	70	85	15
Spiritualists ...	3	2	-1	1,250	660	-590	320	359	39
Jews ...	6	8	2	2,030	2,220	190	493	474	-19
Total ...	3,735	3,982	247	501,081	511,693	10,612	315,336	325,034	9,698

Increase or decrease of churches of different sects.

1409. It will be seen that the Church of England, the Baptists, the Methodists, the Lutherans, the Calvinists, the Moravians, the Protestants unattached, and the Jews returned more, and the Presbyterians, Bible Christians, the Society of Friends, the Roman Catholics, and the Spiritualists returned fewer, church edifices in 1885 than in 1884; that the only denominations which returned less accommodation were the Presbyterians, the Society of Friends, the Moravians, and the Spiritualists; and that the only denominations which returned a smaller attendance at their principal services were the Bible Christians, the Baptists, the Moravians, the Catholic Apostolic, and the Jews. The condition of the Independents cannot be ascertained, as the information for 1885 was not furnished.

Total in-crease or decrease in churches, &c.

1410. As compared with the number in 1884, there was an increase of 247 in the number of church buildings, and of 10,612 in the accommodation; also of 11,558 in the number of services performed, and of 9,698 in average church attendance.

* The minus sign (—) indicates decrease.

† See note (†) on previous page.

‡ See note (§) on previous page.

1411. The number of Sabbath schools attached to each religious denomination, the number of teachers, and the number of scholars, were returned as follow for 1884 and 1885:—

SABBATH SCHOOLS, TEACHERS, AND SCHOLARS.

Religious Denominations.	Sabbath Schools.			Teachers.			Average Attendance of Scholars.		
	1884.	1885.	Increase*	1884.	1885.	Increase*	1884.	1885.	Increase.*
Church of England	406	431	25	3,530	3,480	-50	28,712	27,903	-809
Presbyterians ...	390	395	5	2,852	2,689	-163	31,755	29,710	-2,045
Methodists † ...	619	692	73	5,838	6,390	552	37,398	39,675	2,277
Bible Christians ...	80	87	7	775	821	46	4,576	4,835	259
Independents ‡ ...	82	82	...	770	770	...	7,400	7,400	...
Baptists ...	63	69	6	647	663	16	5,362	4,981	-381
Evangelical Lutherans ...	20	19	-1	67	66	-1	759	747	-12
Welsh Calvinists ...	4	5	1	40	46	6	210	322	112
Church of Christ ...	39	40	1	310	312	2	2,100	2,300	200
Moravians ...	2	2	...	5	4	-1	61	61	...
Protestants unattached ...	9	12	3	122	181	59	1,131	1,627	496
Roman Catholics ...	318	312	-6	1,424	1,385	-39	26,848	23,751	-3,097
Swedenborgians ...	2	2	...	10	10	...	50	50	...
Christian Israelites	1	1	...	4	2	-2	35	25	-10
Spiritualists ...	2	3	1	31	35	4	169	204	35
Jews ...	7	5	-2	21	15	-6	348	175	-173
Total ...	2,044	2,157	113	16,446	16,869	423	146,914	143,766	-3,148

1412. As compared with the numbers in 1884, whilst the Sabbath schools increased by 113, and the teachers by 423, the scholars in average attendance decreased by 3,148. An increase in Sabbath schools, teachers, and scholars took place in the case of the Methodists, the Bible Christians, the Welsh Calvinists, the Church of Christ, the Protestants unattached, and the Spiritualists; but a falling-off occurred in the number of the schools, teachers, and scholars in the case of the Lutherans, the Roman Catholics, and the Jews, and of the teachers and scholars in the case of the Church of England, the Presbyterians, and the Christian Israelites.

1413. The ages of the children attending Sabbath schools are not ascertained. Many, no doubt, are below, whilst a few may be above, the school age, or that between 6 and 15 years; but comparing the number of Sabbath scholars with the estimated numbers at the school age in the population, amounting to 202,379, the proportion would be 71 per cent. as compared with 73½ per cent. in 1884.

* The minus sign (-) indicates decrease.

† See third footnote to table on page 665 ante.

‡ See fourth footnote on page 665 ante

Melbourne
University

1414. The Melbourne University was established under a special Act of the Victorian Legislature (16 Vict. No. 34), which was assented to on the 22nd January, 1853. This Act, as amended by the University Act 1881 (44 Vict. No. 691), which came into force on the 7th June, 1881, provides for the endowment of the University by the payment of £9,000* annually out of the general revenue; also, that no religious test shall be administered to any one to entitle him to be admitted to the rights and privileges of the institution; also for the election by the senate of a council consisting of twenty members (all males), of whom not more than three may be members of the teaching staff, and for the election by them out of their own body of a chancellor and a vice-chancellor; also for the constitution of a senate, to consist of all male persons who had been admitted to the degree of master or doctor, and for the election by them annually, or after the occurrence of a vacancy, of one of their body as warden as soon as such superior degrees should amount to not less than 100. The required number was reached in 1867, and the senate was constituted on the 14th of June of that year. The council are empowered by these Statutes to grant in any faculty except divinity any degree, diploma, certificate, or licence which can be conferred in any University in the British dominions. The recent Act also gives power to the senate to amend Statutes or regulations sent to them by the council; and it also reduces the tenure of office of members of council from life to five years.

University
ranks with
British Uni-
versities.

1415. Royal letters patent, under the sign manual of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, were issued on the 14th March, 1859, declaring that the degrees of Bachelor and Master of Arts, and Bachelor and Doctor of Medicine, Laws, and Music, which had been granted or might thereafter be granted by the Melbourne University should be recognised as academic distinctions and rewards of merit, and should be entitled to rank, precedence, and consideration in the United Kingdom, and in British colonies and possessions throughout the world, just as fully as if they had been granted by any University in the United Kingdom.

Date of
founding
University.

1416. The foundation stone of the University was laid on the 3rd July, 1854, by His Excellency Sir Henry Barkly, K.C.B., the then Governor of Victoria, and the building was opened on the 3rd October of the following year.

University
thrown open
to females.

1417. On the 22nd March, 1880, the University was thrown open to females, and they can now be admitted to all its corporate privileges, except as regards the study of medicine, from which they are restricted

* Besides this amount, an additional grant of £2,000 was voted by Parliament in 1884, and £11,500 in 1885.

until special provision has been made for their instruction in that subject.

1418. The following is a statement of the fees payable at the ^{University} Melbourne University :— fees.

FOR MATRICULATION EXAMINATION.

	£	s.	d.
For admission to examination at any matriculation examination ...	0	10	0
For each subject of examination selected by the candidate at any such examination	0	5	0

BY MATRICULATED STUDENTS.

For attendance on any number of courses of lectures, except as is hereinafter provided, and for examination in the subjects thereof within six months from the conclusion of the course—for each course	3	0	0
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Students who pay for four courses the fee above prescribed may, without further payment, attend two other such courses, but not more, and be in like manner examined in the subjects thereof.

For the fourth year for the degree of Bachelor of Civil Engineering	24	0	0
For attendance on any course of lectures on Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Chemistry	6	6	0
For attendance on any course of lectures presented for degrees in medicine only—for certificate of such attendance and for examination in the subjects thereof, within six months from the conclusion of the course	6	6	0
For a course of dissections and for certificate thereof	4	4	0
For attendance upon any course of lectures by any lecturer in law or engineering, and for examination in the subjects thereof within six months from the conclusion of the course	12	0	0
For examination in any subject in which the candidate has not paid the fee for attendance on a course of lectures concluded within six months of that examination, same fee as would have been payable for attendance on the lectures.			
For each year for the degree of LL.B.	24	0	0

These fees shall include the examinations for such degrees in the October Term of such year and in the next following February Term, and all lectures in such year upon the subjects of such examinations, and shall be payable, at the option of the candidate, either in one sum or in three equal instalments, at such times as the council shall from time to time direct.

For examination for the degree of LL.D.	12	0	0
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BY NON-MATRICULATED STUDENTS.

For any attendance on lectures, or for any examination other than the matriculation examination, the fee payable in the like case by matriculated students with the addition of one-fourth.

FOR CERTIFICATES AND DEGREES.

For matriculation and certificate thereof	1	1	0
For certificate of Civil Service examination	0	10	6
For any other certificate of examination, with or without attendance on lectures	0	10	6
For any degree of Bachelor	5	0	0
For any higher degree	10	0	0
For admission <i>ad eundem gradum</i>	3	0	0
For admission <i>ad eundem statum</i>	2	0	0

Wilson Hall. 1419. The memorial stone of the University Hall, called the "Wilson Hall," was laid on the 2nd October, 1879, in the presence of His Excellency the Marquis of Normanby and a large concourse of spectators, by Sir Samuel Wilson, Knt., then a Member of the Legislative Council, who, by his munificent gift of £30,000 (which by interest had increased to £37,000 before the University authorities were in a position to expend it), was the means of the Hall being erected. The building, which, except the organ loft, is now completed, is of the perpendicular Gothic style of architecture, in length 140 feet; breadth 47 feet; height of walls 45 feet, and of apex of roof 84 feet. Its cost has exceeded £40,000.

Affiliated colleges.

1420. Provision had been made in the Act of Incorporation for the establishment of affiliated colleges in connexion with religious denominations, and ground for the erection of such colleges was reserved near the University. Up to the present period this privilege has been taken advantage of only by the Church of England and the Presbyterian Church. Their colleges are named respectively Trinity and Ormond.

Trinity College.

1421. The following information respecting Trinity College has been supplied for this work* :—

"Trinity College, which, though connected with the Anglican Church, extends its advantages of residence and training to members of all religious denominations, stands in a section of the University reserve facing the Sydney road. It was founded in 1870, and was for several years the only University College in Victoria. From the time of its affiliation to the University the progress of the college has been rapid and uninterrupted. Before the end of 1877 a considerable increase in the accommodation for students was required, and a large pile of buildings was consequently erected. Three years later the additional rooms thus provided were all occupied, and the building of another wing was rendered necessary. Through the munificence of Sir Wm. Clarke, Mr. Joseph Clarke, and other friends of the college, the council was in the year 1882 placed in a position to erect the new structure. Even these additional rooms are now occupied, and a further extension of the buildings is urgently required. The existing buildings, in addition to apartments for the warden, tutors, and students, contain a chapel, dining hall, lecture rooms, billiard room, chemical and biological laboratories, libraries, &c. The college, while maintaining its primary character as a place of residence and education, both religious and secular, for University students belonging to the various professional schools, has also, since the year 1878, served as the Theological Training-school for the Diocese of Melbourne.

"Lectures on the subjects of the Arts, Law, Engineering, and Medical courses are regularly delivered at the college during term. A considerable part of these lectures are given in the evening, in order to meet the requirements of bank-clerks, teachers, and others who may be prevented, by the nature of their employment, from attending lectures at the University. The college lectures are intended to be ancillary to those delivered in the University, and are given with a view to preparing students for the University Examinations. The college provides students with extra private tuition in any subject in which they may require special assistance. All the lectures are open to lady students, and a large number have already availed themselves of this privilege.

"The college offers exceptional facilities for the study of the subjects of the University Medical course in its chemical and biological laboratories.

* Further particulars will be found in the *Calendar of Trinity College* for 1887. G. Robertson or S. Mullen, Melbourne.

“Special attention is devoted by the Science Lecturers to the preparation of First Year Medical Students in the subjects of Natural Philosophy, Part I, and Chemistry (both practical and medical).

“During the year 1887, practical demonstrations will also be regularly given in Biology, Physiological Chemistry, and Histology, and will form an important feature of the college teaching. The use of microscopes, &c., will be allowed to the students without extra charge.

“Abundant means for recreation have been provided, including two asphalted tennis courts, a billiard room, and a reading room supplied with the best English and Australian newspapers and periodicals. A special feature of the college is its students’ library, containing about six thousand volumes, which comprise many rare and valuable works. The buildings of the college represent an outlay of about £30,000, the whole of which has been derived from the liberality of Victorian churchmen. About 250 names have already been entered on the college books, and in 1886 there were over 70 students residing or attending lectures. There are a number of valuable scholarships, open without restriction as to religion, age, or profession, for which examinations are held annually in the beginning of March. The fees payable to the college for residence and commons are £50 per annum (first term, £18; second, £12; third, £20); and for tuition, £2 2s. per course per term. In the case of students who have not yet entered upon residence, the payment of the enrolment fee (£2 2s.) secures a grant of rooms upon the first vacancy occurring. Each student is provided with a separate bedroom. The sitting-rooms are for the most part jointly occupied by two students, but a separate sitting-room can be arranged for if desired.

“A hall or hostel, connected with Trinity College and under its control, has been established in the immediate neighbourhood of the college buildings for the benefit of lady students attending the college lectures. A principal presides over it, who undertakes the religious and moral supervision of the students.”

1422. Ormond College is named after its founder, the Hon. Francis Ormond, M.L.C. Although allied to the Presbyterian body, it is open to members of all religious denominations. The following account of this institution has been supplied by the Master of the college :—

Ormond
College.

“The foundation stone of the college, which is built on a section of the University reserve, was laid by the Marquis of Normanby on the 14th November, 1879; and the college was opened by His Excellency on the 18th March, 1881, and affiliated to the University on the 17th May of the same year. In 1884, owing to the number of applicants for admission, it was found necessary to enlarge the buildings. A new wing containing students’ bedrooms, sitting-rooms, bath-rooms, students’ common-room, &c., was erected and formally opened by Mrs. Ormond on the 23rd December, 1885. Tutorial assistance is provided by the college for students in preparing for the University lectures and examinations in Arts, Law, Medicine, and Engineering, and the college lectures are open to both resident and non-resident students. A chemical laboratory, reading room, billiard room, and lawn-tennis court, have been provided for the use of the students. During the session 1886, there were in all 80 students attending the college lectures; of these 44 were resident students, 20 were theological, and the remainder were non-resident University students. An examination for entrance scholarships, each of which is of the value of either £18 18s. or £50, is held at the beginning of March in each year, and is open to all, irrespective of age or creed. The total yearly cost for tuition and residence varies from a maximum of £80 13s. to £61 15s. according to the number of subjects in which a student receives tuition. Breakfast, luncheon, and dinner are provided in hall by the college, so that a student need have no extra expenses except his laundry bill. The lectures in connexion with the Theological Hall of the Presbyterian Church are delivered in Ormond College by two Professors appointed by the General Assembly. The number of students attending these classes during the session 1886 was 20.*

* For further particulars respecting Ormond College, see *Melbourne University Calendar* and *Ormond College Calendar*.

Matricula-
tion exami-
nation.

1423. The matriculation examination of the Melbourne University is at present held three times a year, viz., at the beginning and end of the February term, and at the end of the October term; but no person is admitted to the first of these unless he gives a guarantee of his intention to matriculate and to continue his studies at the University. The subjects of examination are fourteen in number, viz., Greek, Latin, algebra, geometry,* English, history, French, German, arithmetic, geography, elementary chemistry, elementary physics, elementary physiology, and elementary botany. In the first eight of these, honour as well as pass papers are set, but the candidate must decide before entering for the examination which he intends to present himself for. The last four are called science subjects, any two, but not more, of which may be selected. To pass the matriculation course it is necessary, at one and the same examination, either to pass in six subjects, or obtaining honours in one subject to pass in four others, or obtaining honours in two subjects to pass in two others.

Matricula-
tion class
lists.

1424. In addition to the lists published after every matriculation examination, containing a record of honours, pass, or failure in each subject presented by the various candidates, four class lists are published of those who have passed creditably the honour papers set in—(a) Classics (Greek and Latin); (b) Mathematics (algebra, geometry, and trigonometry); (c) English and history; (d) Modern languages (French and German). In these lists the names of candidates are arranged in two classes—those in the first class being placed in order of merit, those in the second in alphabetical order.

Exhibitions
at matricu-
lation.

1425. At the matriculation examination in the October term in each year, four exhibitions of the value of £25 each are awarded to the candidates who, being under 21 years of age, severally stand highest in the first class of the four class lists published after that examination.

Candidates
at matricu-
lation ex-
amination.

1426. During the year 1885, the total number of candidates at matriculation was 1,101, viz., 779 males and 322 females; but of these, only 667 males and 287 females presented themselves for the matriculation. Of the males, 222, or 33 per cent., and of the females, 117, or 41 per cent., passed that examination. Of those who passed, 49 males and 66 females obtained honours; † viz., 22 males and 36 females

* Trigonometry as well as geometry is set in the honour papers, but geometry only in the pass papers.

† See paragraph 1424 *ante*.

in one subject, 15 males and 22 females in two subjects, 5 males and 4 females in three subjects, 7 males and 3 females in four subjects, and 1 female in five subjects.

1427. A large majority of those who pass the matriculation examination have no intention of pursuing a University career any further, and therefore do not matriculate, to do which it is necessary to go through a formal ceremony, which involves making a declaration and signing the matriculation book—the matriculation examination being, as a matter of course, passed beforehand. Although 339 persons passed the matriculation examination in 1885, only 154 matriculated, as against 173 in the previous year. From the date of its opening to the end of 1885, the total number who matriculated was 2,241. In accordance with the privilege already referred to,* 11 of the persons who matriculated in 1885 were females. Matriculated students.

1428. In 1885, 444 students attended lectures, as against 431 in 1884, and only 177 eleven years previously. The numbers in the year under review attending lectures in the different subjects taught at the University were as follow :— Attendance at lectures.

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS, 1885.

Course of Lectures.	Number of Students attending Lectures.		
	Matriculated.	Non-matriculated.	Total.
Arts	151	5	156
Laws	76	1	77
Engineering	10	1	11
Medicine	198	2	200
Total	435	9	444

1429. In 1885, the number of graduates was 90, of whom 80 took direct and 10 *ad eundem* degrees. The direct graduates numbered 80 in 1884, 64 in 1883, 73 in 1882, and 55 in 1881. The *ad eundem* graduates numbered 11 in 1884, 10 in 1883, 7 in 1882, and 10 in 1881. The following table shows the number of degrees conferred at the University between the date of its first opening and the end of 1885, also those in the year 1885 :— Graduates.

* See paragraph 1417 *ante*.

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY GRADUATES,* 1855 TO 1885.

Degrees.	Prior to 1885.			During 1885.			Total.		
	Direct.	<i>Ad eundem.</i>	Total.	Direct.	<i>Ad eundem.</i>	Total.	Direct.	<i>Ad eundem.</i>	Total.
Bachelor of Arts	230	62	292	24	5	29	254	67	321
Master of Arts ...	119	98	217	7	4	11	126	102	228
Bachelor of Medicine	120	9	129	18	...	18	138	9	147
Doctor of Medicine	22	69	91	3	1	4	25	70	95
Master of Surgery	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	..	1
Bachelor of Surgery	80	1	81	11	...	11	91	1	92
Bachelor of Laws	107	6	113	7	...	7	114	6	120
Master of Laws ...	9	...	9	3	...	3	12	...	12
Doctor of Laws ...	6	14	20	1	...	1	7	14	21
Doctor of Music ...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	1
Bachelor of En- gineering ...	...	1	1	1	...	1	1	1	2
Master of En- gineering ...	1	...	1	4	...	4	5	...	5
Total ...	694	261	955	80	10	90	774	271	1,045

University
receipts and
expendi-
ture.

1430. The following is a statement of the receipts and expenditure of the University in the last two years. The amounts received for and expended on buildings are not included. An increase appears under each head :—

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY.—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE,
1884 AND 1885.

Year.	Receipts from—				Expenditure.
	Government.	College Fees.	Other Sources.	Total.	
	£	£	£	£	£
1884 ...	11,000	11,912	688	23,600	22,754
1885 ...	20,500†	12,009	4,967	37,476	25,581
Increase ...	9,500	97	4,279	13,876	2,827

State
schools.

1431. The present Education Act (36 Vict. No. 447), providing free instruction of a secular character to all willing to accept it, but prescribing that, whether willing to accept State education or not, all children must be educated up to a certain standard, came into operation on the 1st January, 1873. The following is a statement, based upon returns supplied by the Education Department, of the number of schools aided or supported by the State, and of the instructors and

* The figures in this table do not always refer to distinct individuals. The total number of graduates was only 702; of these, 431 received 1 degree only, 216 received 2 degrees, 44 received 3 degrees, 9 received 4 degrees, and 2 received 5 degrees.

† This amount includes a special grant of £9,500, of which £6,000 was voted for apparatus.

scholars in such schools, for the year prior to and for each of the years which have elapsed since that period :—

STATE SCHOOLS, 1872 TO 1885.

Year.	Number of Schools.*	Number of Instructors.†	Number of Scholars.		
			Enrolled during the Year.	In Average Attendance.	Distinct Children (estimated).‡
1872	1,049	2,416	136,055	68,456	113,197
1873	1,107	3,149	209,406	99,536	174,236
1874	1,167	3,715	221,164	106,886	184,010
1875	1,320	3,826	220,533	101,495§	183,484
1876	1,498	3,772	231,560	106,758§	192,658
1877	1,626	3,860	234,519	116,015	194,994
1878 ¶	1,664	3,906	231,169	116,608	189,455
1879	1,713	4,130	227,775	119,259	193,588
1880	1,810	4,215	229,723	119,520	195,736
1881	1,757	4,303	231,423	121,250	195,526
1882	1,762	4,162	222,945	118,279	187,390
1883	1,777	4,169	222,428	118,328	188,949
1884	1,803	4,199	222,054	120,701	188,238
1885	1,826	4,050	224,685	119,488	189,637

1432. In 1885, as compared with the previous year, the number of schools increased by 23, but the number of instructors decreased by 149; and although the number of scholars on the rolls increased by 2,631, and the number of distinct scholars by 1,400, the number in average attendance fell off by 1,213.

1433. The net increase of schools during the year, amounting to 23, as just stated, is made up of 30 new day schools opened, less 7 night schools closed.

1434. By comparing the figures on the lowest and uppermost lines in the table following paragraph 1431 *ante*, it will be ascertained that, during the period the present Education Act has been in force, the

* In accordance with the principle followed in the Education Department, each night school as well as each day school (although both kinds of schools may be carried on in the same building) is considered as a separate school, and is included as such in this column. There was only 1 night school in 1872, there were 29 in 1873, 56 in 1874, 117 in 1875, 181 in 1876, 216 in 1877, 208 in 1878, 180 in 1879, 186 in 1880, 41 in 1881, 35 in 1882, 27 in 1883, 30 in 1884, and 23 in 1885.

† Including workmistresses, who in 1885 numbered 524.

‡ The figures in this column are derived from estimates formed by the Education Department, the principle adopted being to reduce the numbers on the rolls by the following percentages in the years named :—1872 to 1877, 16·8 per cent. on all descriptions of schools; 1878 and 1879, 16·163 per cent. for day schools and 43·65 per cent. for night schools; 1880, 13·6 per cent. for day schools and 33·0 per cent. for night schools; 1881, 14·48 per cent. for day schools and 49·42 per cent. for night schools; 1882, 15·1 per cent. for day schools and 47·14 per cent. for night schools; 1883, 14·55 for day schools and 36·81 for night schools; 1884, 14·45 for day schools, and 47·26 for night schools; 1885, 14·98 for day schools, and 43·10 for night schools.

§ The average attendance was affected in 1875, and to a certain extent also in 1876, by the prevalence of epidemics of scarlatina and measles.

¶ With the commencement of 1878 capitation grants were abolished, the consequence being that 30 schools, which in 1877 had been receiving such grants, ceased to be connected with the State.

¶ During this period the number of children at school age in the colony increased by 15 per cent., and the total population by about 30 per cent.

following increases have taken place in, and in connexion with, the schools supported by the State :—

STATE SCHOOLS.—INCREASE BETWEEN 1872 AND 1885.

	Number.	Percentage.
Schools	777	74·07
Instructors	1,634	67·63
Scholars on the rolls	88,630	65·14
„ in average attendance	51,032	74·55
Distinct children attending (estimated)	76,440	67·53

Teachers,
1884 and
1885.

1435. The instructors referred to consist of masters and mistresses, male and female assistant teachers, and pupil-teachers and work-mistresses. According to the following table, there was a falling-off of 62 in the male and 87 in the female teachers, the figures showing a decrease in the male teachers of all grades except assistants, and a decrease in the female teachers of all grades except pupil-teachers, during the year :—

TEACHERS IN STATE SCHOOLS, 1884 AND 1885.

Year.	Males.				Females.				
	Masters.	Assistants*	Pupil-teachers.	Total.	Mistresses.	Assistants.	Work-mistresses.	Pupil-teachers.	Total.
1884	1,348	180	248	1,776	413	627	556	827	2,423
1885	1,304	184	226	1,714	388	581	521	846	2,336
Increase ... ..	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	19	...
Decrease	44	...	22	62	25	46	35	...	87

State education systems of Australasian colonies.

1436. In every one of the Australasian colonies the State system of education is compulsory and undenominational (or secular). Western Australia, however, grants some assistance to private denominational schools. Public instruction is free in Victoria, Queensland, and New Zealand ; but fees are charged in the other colonies, although they are partially or entirely remitted in cases where the parents are unable to pay them. The prescribed school age varies in the different colonies—in Victoria, it is from 6 to 15 years ; in New South Wales, from 6 to 14 ; in Queensland, from 6 to 12 ; in South Australia, from 7 to 13 ; in Tasmania, from 7 to 14 ; and in New Zealand, from 7 to 13 years.†

Schools, teachers, and scholars in Australasian colonies.

1437. The following table shows the number of State schools, teachers, and scholars in each Australasian colony during the year 1885 ; also the proportion of scholars in average attendance to population :—

* Including 15 relieving teachers.

† For a full account of the education systems of the various colonies, see *Victorian Year-Book* 1880-81, Appendix B, page 431 *et seq.*

STATE SCHOOLS, TEACHERS, AND SCHOLARS IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1885.

Colony.	Number of Schools.	Number of Teachers.	Scholars in Average Attendance.	
			Number.	Number per 100 of the population.
Victoria ...	1,826	3,529*	119,488	12.25
New South Wales ...	2,046	3,502	100,462	10.79
Queensland ...	447	1,284	30,117	9.75
South Australia ...	472	1,021	27,005	8.62
Western Australia ...	77	108	2,333	6.85
Total ...	4,868	9,444	279,405	10.91
Tasmania ...	194	378	7,465	5.65
New Zealand ...	1,021	2,619	78,327	13.83†
Grand total ...	6,083	12,441	365,197	11.20

1438. It will be observed that, in proportion to population, the average attendance at State schools is larger in Victoria than in any other of the Australasian colonies except New Zealand, where, however, the proportion is swelled by Maori children being included amongst the scholars, whereas they are not included in the population. The following is the order of the colonies in this respect:—

Order of colonies in respect to State school scholars.

ORDER OF THE COLONIES IN REFERENCE TO PROPORTION OF STATE SCHOOL SCHOLARS TO POPULATION.

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

1439. By the figures in the last column of the following table it is shown that in proportion to the total number of children enrolled in State schools, the average number attending is greater in Victoria than in New South Wales or Tasmania, but less than in any of the other Australasian colonies:—

School attendance in Australasian colonies.

STATE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1885.

Colony.	Number of Scholars—		Percentage of Average Attendance to Enrolment.
	Enrolled during Year.	In Average Attendance.	
1. Western Australia ...	3,192	2,333	73.09
2. New Zealand ...	141,298	78,327	55.43
3. South Australia ...	49,664	27,005	54.38
4. Queensland ...	55,772	30,117	54.00
5. Victoria ...	224,685	119,488	53.18
6. New South Wales ...	197,090	100,462	50.97
7. Tasmania ...	15,418	7,465	48.42

* Exclusive of workmistresses, who numbered 521. It is believed, however, that these are included in the returns of the other colonies.

† This high proportion is partly accounted for by the circumstance that Maoris are included amongst the scholars, but excluded from the population.

Ages of
State school
scholars.

1440. Of the gross number of children on the rolls of Victorian State schools in 1885, 219,737, or nearly 98 per cent., were in day, and 4,948, or a little over 2 per cent., were in night, schools. The following is a statement of the numbers of such children, at each age, placed side by side with the estimated numbers living at the same ages :—

AGES OF STATE SCHOOL SCHOLARS ENROLLED, 1885.

Ages.	Number of Children Enrolled.			Estimated population at each Age.
	In Day Schools.	In Night Schools.	Total.	
3 years ...	2,843	...	2,843	22,732
4 „ ...	9,487	...	9,487	21,098
5 „ ...	15,962	...	15,962	21,937
6 „ ...	20,325	...	20,325	23,118
7 „ ...	21,839	...	21,839	22,781
8 „ ...	21,872	...	21,872	22,614
9 „ ...	22,489	...	22,489	22,448
10 „ ...	22,111	...	22,111	22,061
11 „ ...	20,857	...	20,857	21,787
12 „ ...	19,959	432	20,391	21,817
13 „ ...	17,587	1,156	18,743	22,361
14 „ ...	13,290	1,334	14,624	23,392
15 „ ...	7,202	1,089	8,291	21,841
16 to 18 years ...	2,814	760	3,574	16,517*
Unspecified ...	1,100	177	1,277	...
Total ...	219,737	4,948	224,685	306,504
Total, 6 to 15 years	180,329	2,922	183,251	202,379

School
attendance
at various
ages.

1441. It will be observed that the difference at the school age (6 to 15 years) between the enrolments and the numbers living is more than 19,000 ; also, that between the ages of 6 and 13 years the enrolments do not fall far short of the numbers living at the same ages, but that below the age of 6 and above that of 14 the difference is considerable. The close agreement between the enrolments and the numbers living between 8 and 12 years will be readily noticed ; whilst at 9 and 10 years of age the former even exceeded the latter. It must, however, be remembered that the gross annual enrolment is that given, under which a child attending several schools in the year would be entered afresh at each such school ; also that the population, although carefully estimated from the best information available, may possibly be more or less wide of the truth.

Ages of
distinct
children in
State
schools.

1442. Grouping the numbers in this table so as to distinguish the scholars below, at, and above the school age, and adopting the correction applied by the Education Department—already alluded to†—to allow for children who attended at more than one school in the year, the following results, showing the probable number of distinct children who attended State schools in the year, are obtained :—

* Age 16 to 17 only.

† See footnote (†) to table following paragraph 675 ante.

AGES OF DISTINCT CHILDREN ATTENDING STATE SCHOOLS, 1885.

Ages.	Distinct Children Attending—					
	Day Schools.		Night Schools.		Total.	
	Number	Per-centage.	Number.	Per-centage.	Number.	Per-centage.
Under 6 years ...	24,175	12·94	...	...	24,175	12·75
6 to 15 „ ...	154,088	82·48	1,725	61·26	155,813	82·16
15 years and upwards...	8,558	4·58	1,091	38·74	9,649	5·09
Total ...	186,821	100·00	2,816	100·00	189,637	100·00

1443. In the State schools, boys exceed girls; and the proportion, viz.—92 of the latter to every 100 of the former—has not varied in the last two years. In 1885, however, there was a falling-off in the average attendance of scholars of both sexes, as is shown in the following table:—

Sexes of scholars in State schools.

SEXES OF SCHOLARS IN STATE SCHOOLS, 1884 AND 1885.

Year.	Scholars in Average Attendance.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
1884 ...	62,847	57,854	120,701
1885 ...	62,196	57,292	119,488
Decrease ...	651	562	1,213

1444. The 13th section of the Education Act prescribes that the parents of children between the ages of 6 and 15 shall cause such children to attend school for at least 60 days in each half-year, unless there is some valid reason to prevent them from so doing. The returns, which are made up quarterly, show that in 1885 those who completed a 30 days' attendance ranged from 71 to 72 per cent. of those attending in the June, March, and December quarters to 77 per cent. of the whole number attending in the September quarter; the mean 30 days' attendance for the whole year being 73 per cent. The following are the figures for the four quarters of 1885; also the average for the year:—

State school attendance.

STATE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IN EACH QUARTER OF 1885.

Quarter ended.	Number who Attended School.		Percentage who Completed 30 days' Attendance.
	Total in each Quarter.	For at least 30 days in each Quarter.	
31st March ...	172,592	123,343	71·46
30th June ...	174,031	123,437	70·92
30th September ...	175,791	135,805	77·25
31st December ...	172,424	124,058	71·94
Average ...	173,709	126,660	72·91

Reasons for non-attendance.

1445. It should be mentioned that a considerable proportion of those who attended less than 30 days in all the quarters were exempt or excusable for various reasons. During the last quarter of the year, for example, 48,366 of the enrolled children attended for less than 30 days; but to 10,862 of these the compulsory provisions of the Statute did not apply, as they were either above or below the school age; 7,840 were exempt on account of living beyond the prescribed distance (from 2 to 3 miles) from a State school; and 4,049 on account of having been educated up to the standard, whilst 6,840 were excusable on account of sickness, and 10,321 entered late in the quarter or left before its termination; thus the number of actual defaulters was reduced to 8,454 or to 4·9 per cent. of the number enrolled. Taking the year as a whole, the defaulters who had no reasonable excuse averaged only 3·7 per cent.

Pupils who have passed the standard.

1446. In 1885, the children who passed the examination qualifying for the certificate of exemption from further attendance at school numbered 7,667, or less by about 300 than in 1884, in which year the number passing was less by 2,000 than in 1883. The falling-off during the last two years is ascribed to the increased stringency with which the examinations were conducted. During the 13 years which have elapsed since the passing of the present Education Act, 83,895 children passed this examination; some of these, however, were above the school age.

Prosecutions for non-attendance at school.

1447. In order to carry out the compulsory portion of the system, 6,582 prosecutions against parents were instituted in 1885, with the result that 5,933 convictions were obtained, whilst in 439 other instances the case was withdrawn or not proceeded with, and in 210 instances the case was dismissed. The total amount of fines inflicted was £1,874, also costs amounting to £376. Nearly three-fourths of the prosecutions were instituted by the Boards of Advice.

Free subjects.

1448. In 1885, military drill was taught in 196 schools to 12,051 pupils, and in 5 of these schools instruction in gymnastics was also given to 335 pupils; singing was taught in 237 schools, by 27 visiting teachers and 99 members of the ordinary staff, to 35,199 pupils; and drawing was taught, in 193 schools, to 22,896 pupils. All these are free subjects.

Extra subjects.

1449. The number of schools in which extra subjects were taught in 1885 was 185, as against as many as 204 in 1884, and the amount paid by pupils for instruction in such subjects was £3,749, as against £4,496 in 1884. As compared with the previous year, there was a marked decrease in the pupils being instructed in most of the important subjects, such as French, Latin, mathematics, bookkeeping, physiology,

physics, mensuration, and history; those studying the last three having decreased one-half. The falling-off in the three first-named subjects is probably accounted for by the circumstance that these subjects are now no longer required of scholars competing for exhibitions.* The following is a list of the subjects and the number of pupils instructed in each subject in 1885 :—

EXTRA SUBJECTS TAUGHT IN STATE SCHOOLS, 1885.

	Pupils.
Advanced English	8
French	769
German	39
Latin	894
Greek	5
Euclid	806
Geometry	1
Algebra	1,212
Mensuration	83
Bookkeeping	1,978
History	56
Natural Science	8
Physiology	55
Physics	53
Physical Geography	56
Shorthand	27
Ornamental Printing	20

1450. Eleven exhibitions, each of the yearly value of £35, are annually awarded for competition to scholars under 15 years of age attending State schools. Each exhibition is tenable for six years—two of which may be passed at a grammar school approved of by the Minister of Public Instruction, and the remainder must be spent at the University. The subjects for examination have hitherto included Latin or French, together with Euclid and algebra, which subjects, not being included in the ordinary school course, could only be taught as extra subjects ; but it has recently been decided that in future the subjects of examination for exhibitions shall be those of the free programme only, so as to place all children attending State schools on an equal footing.† In 1885 there were 56 candidates for the State school exhibitions; and in 1886 there were 23 exhibitioners attending at the University, and 33 at various approved grammar schools.

1451. In addition to the eleven scholarships, it has recently been decided to award scholarships annually to 200 pupils of State schools, to be selected in accordance with the results of competitive examinations, all being under 15 years of age. Each scholarship will be of the value of £10 tenable for three years, on condition that the scholar attends at and obtains favorable reports annually from the authorities of one of the

See next paragraph.

† See Education Report, 1884-5, page xiv.

public grammar schools, one of the Schools of Mines at Ballarat, Sandhurst, or Geelong, one of the Agricultural Colleges, or some other school to be approved by the Minister. If the scholar does not live within three miles from the approved place of education, the Minister may allow him such sum as will cover his cost of transit to and fro, or may commute the scholarship for one of £40 tenable for one year. The subjects for competitive examination are to be spelling, composition, penmanship, arithmetic, grammar, and geography; and to these, after 1886, history and elementary science are to be added.

Expenditure
on State
education.

1452. The following is a statement of the expenditure from all sources on State education during the financial years 1884-5 and 1885-6. The amounts on the lowest line were paid by parents, all the remainder by the State :—

EXPENDITURE ON PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,* 1884-5 AND 1885-6.

Heads of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1884-5.	1885-6.		
	£	£	£	£
Office Staff †	16,589	16,922	333	...
Inspection ‡	15,797	17,457	1,660	...
Teachers' Salaries	307,787	335,155	27,368	...
„ payments on Results	107,128	120,897	13,769	...
Singing	7,308	7,026	...	282
Drawing	4,208	4,255	47	...
Drill and gymnastics	2,903	2,941	38	...
Bonuses	4,619	4,773	154	...
Training Institute §	5,366	3,546	...	1,820
Stores, books, and requisites	4,961	4,818	...	143
Maintenance expenses of schools	31,584	32,811	1,227	...
Compulsory clause	11,885	8,228	...	3,657
Exhibitions	1,915	1,837	...	78
Purchase of carbines and encouragement of rifle shooting	293	154	...	139
Boards of Advice	576	843	267	...
Compensation, retiring allowances, gratuities, &c.	13,036	13,235	199	...
Rent of Buildings, &c.	2,400	2,700	300	...
Other expenditure || ... ..	1,307	2,738	1,431	...
Extra subjects ¶	4,496	3,749	...	747
Total exclusive of cost of Buildings	544,158	584,085	39,927 **	...
Buildings—Cost of erection of	81,935	73,550	...	8,385
Grand Total	626,093	657,635	31,542 **	...

* For a summary of the expenditure on State Education for a series of years, see table following paragraph 232 ante.

† Including temporary clerical assistance.

‡ Including travelling expenses.

§ Including allowance for board of students.

|| Consisting of teachers' travelling expenses and expenses of examiners in singing, drawing, and science, which amounted in 1884-5 to £1,136 and £171 respectively; and in 1885-6 to £2,588 and £150.

¶ This is the only item paid by parents. The amounts are for the calendar years 1884 and 1885.

** Net increase.

1453. In view of the large sums the State expends upon elementary education, the amount parents are willing to pay to have extra subjects taught their children appears extremely small. If the whole sum so expended be divided by the number of children in average attendance, the proportion per child would be only 7½d. per annum; and if it be divided by the number of distinct children enrolled, the proportion per child would be less than 5d. Amount paid for extra subjects.

1454. The following table shows the cost of public instruction in all the Australasian colonies during the year ended 31st December, 1885, the amount paid by scholars being given separately from that contributed by the State. The expenditure on the construction of school buildings is excluded in all cases, but the departmental expenses are included in the figures for Victoria and New Zealand, and probably also in those for the other colonies:— Cost of instruction in Australasian colonies.

COST OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION* IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1885.

Colony.	Amount contributed by the State.	Fees paid by Scholars, &c.	Total.
	£	£	£
Victoria	580,336†	3,749‡	584,085*
New South Wales	663,697	58,926	722,623
Queensland	123,764	...	123,764
South Australia	96,685	24,798	121,483
Western Australia	10,044	1,445	11,489
Total	1,474,526	88,918	1,563,444
Tasmania	25,710	8,030	33,740
New Zealand	300,759	30,818§	331,577
Grand Total	1,800,995	127,766	1,928,761

1455. The large amount paid by New South Wales, as compared with the other colonies, will be at once noticed. Although the average number of scholars under instruction in that colony was fewer by 19,026, or 16 per cent., than the number in Victoria (as was shown in a previous table||), the cost of instructing them is here shown to have been more by £138,538, or by 24 per cent. Large amount paid in New South Wales.

1456. Exclusive of expenditure on the erection of State school buildings, the total cost in 1885 per scholar in average attendance at State schools was between £4 and £5 in all the colonies except New South Cost of instruction per scholar in each colony.

* Exclusive of cost of erection of State school buildings. See table following paragraph 1452 ante.
 † The figures, being for the calendar year 1885, instead of for the financial year 1884-5, departmental expenses being also excluded, differ from those in the previous table.
 ‡ For extra subjects only.
 § This amount is made up of £29,762 derived from education reserves, only £360 fees paid by scholars, and £696 from other local sources.
 || See table following paragraph 1437 ante.

Wales, where it was over £5. In Victoria it was £4 17s. 9d. per scholar, or lower than in New South Wales or Western Australia, but higher than in any of the other colonies. Of the total cost, as much as £1 1s. 6d. per head was derived from school fees in Tasmania, 18s. 4d. in South Australia, and about 12s. in New South Wales and Western Australia, whilst in New Zealand nearly 8s. was derived from education reserves; on the other hand, in Victoria almost the whole amount, and in Queensland the whole amount, was provided direct from the public revenue. The following table shows the average cost of instruction per scholar, distinguishing the proportions defrayed by the State and by parents or otherwise, in each colony:—

COST OF INSTRUCTION PER SCHOLAR IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES,
1885.

Colony.	Cost of Instruction per Scholar in average attendance.								
	Paid by State.			Paid by Parents, &c.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1. New South Wales ...	6	12	1	0	11	9	7	3	10
2. Western Australia ...	4	6	1	0	12	5	4	18	6
3. Victoria ...	4	17	2	0	0	7*	4	17	9
4. Tasmania ...	3	8	11	1	1	6	4	10	5
5. South Australia ...	3	11	7	0	18	4	4	9	11
6. New Zealand ...	3	16	9	0	7	10†	4	4	7
7. Queensland ...	4	2	2				4	2	2

1457. In regard to the net cost to the State of instruction per head of population, New South Wales still stands at the head of the list, the amount being 14s. 3d., and Tasmania stands at the bottom with only 3s. 11d. Victoria occupies the second place, the amount per head being 11s. 11d. The following is the order of the colonies in this respect.

ORDER OF COLONIES IN REFERENCE TO COST TO STATE OF
INSTRUCTION PER HEAD OF POPULATION.

	Amount paid per head of Population.					
	s.	d.				
1. New South Wales ...	14	3				
2. Victoria ...	11	11				
3. New Zealand...	10	7				
4. Queensland ...	8	0				
5. South Australia ...	6	2				
6. Western Australia ...	5	11				
7. Tasmania ...	3	11				

* For extra subjects only.

† Principally derived from education reserves. See footnote (§) on previous page.

Order of colonies in respect to cost per head.

1458. In Australia, taken as a whole, the cost per scholar in average attendance is £5 5s. 7d., and the cost per head of population is 11s. 6d. In Australia, with the addition of Tasmania and New Zealand, the cost per scholar is £4 18s. 8d., and the cost per head of population is 11s.

Cost per scholar and per head in Australia and Australasia.

1459. Notwithstanding the proportionate amounts in Victoria devoted to public instruction are smaller than in some of the other colonies, it is gratifying to note that the result, so far as children's education is concerned, is much superior to that achieved elsewhere, the last census having shown that, in respect to the education of children, Victoria was much in advance of any of her neighbours, whilst she was only behind one of them in respect to the education of adults. The census figures relating to these matters will be given later on.*

Success of education system greatest in Victoria.

1460. About the middle of 1886 the Department of Education possessed 1,853 school-houses, having accommodation for 172,286 children; also 1,353 teachers' residences. Of the latter, 1,023 were attached to, and 330 were detached from, the school-houses. The following is a classification of the buildings and of the accommodation they afforded according to the material of which they are constructed:—

State School buildings held in fee simple.

SCHOOL BUILDINGS BELONGING TO THE STATE, 1886.

Materials.	School-houses.		Number of Teachers' Residences.
	Number.	Accommodation.	
Brick or stone	450	98,668	89
Wood or other light material ...	1,382	66,006	1,252
Part brick or stone, part wood ...	21	7,612†	12
Total	1,853	172,286	1,353

1461. In addition to the above, which are the property of the State, 192 buildings are held on lease by the department for school purposes. The aggregate rent paid for these is £2,732 per annum.

State school buildings rented.

1462. Under the "Public Service Act 1883" (47 Vict. No. 773), State schools are classified as follows, according to the number of pupils in average attendance at each:—

Classification of schools.

* See tables following paragraph 1486 et seq. post.

† Of which 5,584 was the accommodation of the brick or stone portion, and 2,028 of the wooden portion.

CLASSIFICATION OF SCHOOLS.

					Average Attendance of Scholars.
First Class	...	...	...	...	Over 700
Second Class	...	...	...	...	400 to 700
Third Class (Subdivision A)	...	...	...	...	250 to 400
" (Subdivision B)	...	...	...	...	150 to 250
Fourth Class	...	...	...	...	50 to 150
Fifth Class	...	...	...	...	Under 50

Classifica-
tion and
salaries of
teachers.

1463. Under the same Act, the teachers are classified and salaried according to the honors or certificates they hold, and the schools in which they officiate. Subjoined is a statement of the basis upon which the classification is regulated:—

CLASSIFICATION AND SALARIES OF TEACHERS.

First-class teachers.—Male teachers who are certificated, and are classified in First Honors, or hold a degree of the University of Melbourne, and also are in charge of first-class schools. Minimum fixed salary, £280 per annum, rising by five annual increments of £10 to a maximum of £330.

Second-class teachers.—Male teachers who are certificated, and are classified in Second Honors, and also are in charge of second-class schools; also certificated female teachers who are first assistants in first-class schools, and are classified in First or Second Honors, or hold a degree of the University of Melbourne. Minimum fixed salary for males, £220 per annum, rising by five annual increments of £10 to a maximum of £270.

Third-class teachers.—Teachers who are certificated, and have also passed the matriculation examination; or are certificated, and hold two of the department's science certificates; or have obtained the trained teacher's certificate subsequently to 31st December, 1875; or obtained a trained teacher's certificate of first or second class under the Board of Education; or possess a certificate of competency alone in the case of teachers employed at the passing of this Act. And, in addition to possessing any such qualification, also hold one of the following positions, that is to say:—As head teachers of third-class schools, subdivision A, or as first female assistants in first-class schools; or as head teachers of third-class schools, subdivision B, or as first male assistants in first-class schools. Minimum fixed salary for males, £152 per annum, rising by seven annual increments of £8 to a maximum of £208 in the case of teachers holding either of the first two positions hereinbefore mentioned; and by four annual increments of £8 to a maximum of £184 in the case of teachers holding other positions.

Fourth-class teachers.—Teachers who are certificated, and also are in charge of fourth-class schools, or hold positions as first male or first female assistants in second class schools, or as first female assistants in subdivision A of third-class schools. Minimum fixed salary for males, £112 per annum, rising by four annual increments of £8 to a maximum of £144.

Fifth-class teachers.—Teachers who are licensed to teach, and also are in charge of fifth-class schools, or hold other assistantships than those specified above, or act as relieving teachers. Minimum fixed salary for males, £80 per annum, rising by three annual increments of £8 to a maximum of £104; but teachers employed as "junior assistants" receive no increment.

Female teachers.—The salaries of female teachers are one-fifth less those of male teachers, as above stated, but under no circumstances can a female teacher be paid the salary of a second-class until she have in regular course attained the maximum salary of the third-class, or unless she was receiving such salary at the passing of the Act.

NOTE.—In addition to the fixed salary, a sum equal to one-half the amount of such salary is obtainable by way of results. Relieving teachers are paid an amount equal to one-half the amount of the fixed salary in lieu of results.

Pupil-teachers, Class I.—Salary, Males £50 ; Females £40 per annum.

” ” II. ” ” 40 ; ” 32 ”

” ” III. ” ” 30 ; ” 24 ”

” ” IV. ” ” 20 ; ” 16 ”

Sewing Mistresses—Salary, £30 per annum.

1464. It is claimed for the Public Service Act that it has introduced, in the institution of a classified roll, a system whereby every teacher can ascertain his actual position in the service, and can form an estimate of his prospect of promotion ; also that it provides that promotion shall be dependent solely upon good conduct, proved ability, industry, and length of service ; that it secures teachers from the frequent fluctuations of income, to which they were liable when salaries were made to vary with slight changes in the attendance at their schools ; and that a teacher is enabled to advance from the lower to the higher positions in the service with less changing of schools, and, therefore, with less inconvenience and expense than was necessary under the former system.*

Advantages to teachers under new Act.

1465. The following is a statement of the number of male and female teachers of each class at the end of 1885, and their classification under the “ *Public Service Act 1883* ” :—

Teachers of each class.

TEACHERS OF EACH CLASS, 1885.

Classification.	Head Teachers.		Assistants.		Pupil-teachers.	
	Males	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
First class	36	...	...	...	72	280
Second class	36	...	...	28	62	202
Third class	93	...	37	5	37	163
Fourth class	339	5	36	73	55	201
Fifth class	800	383	84†	240	...	...
Juniors ... ..	...	...	27	235	...	...
Total	1,304	388	184	581	226	846

NOTE.—In addition to the above, there were 521 sewing-mistresses.

1466. The following table gives the number of private schools, and of the teachers and scholars connected therewith, according to the returns of the fourteen years, 1873 to 1886 :—

Private schools, 1873 to 1886.

* See Education Report 1884-5, page xvi.

† Including 15 relieving teachers.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS, 1873 TO 1886.

Year.*			Number of Schools.	Number of Instructors.	Number of Scholars. †
1873	...	...	888	1,841	24,781
1874	...	...	653	1,446	18,428
1875	...	...	610	1,509	22,448
1876	...	...	565	1,511	27,481
1877	...	...	645	1,646	28,847
1878	...	...	530	1,457	28,422
1879	...	...	585	1,656	35,873
1880	...	...	568	1,587	34,824
1881 (Census)	...	...	643	1,516	28,134
1882	...	...	645	1,553	34,062
1883	...	...	655	1,551	34,443
1884	...	...	670	1,638	35,773
1885 ‡	...	...	655	1,635	35,115
1886	...	...	665	1,645	34,787

Private schools, 1873 and 1886, compared.

1467. The figures in the first line of the table relate to the early part of the year in which the Education Act came into operation. Since then there appears to have been a falling-off of 223 in the number of private schools, and of 196 in the number of instructors, but an increase of 10,000 in the number of scholars.

Denominations of private schools.

1468. For the last ten years a column has been placed in the schedule used for collecting the returns of private schools for the purpose of ascertaining to what religious sect, if any, each school was attached. This column was on each occasion filled, in a considerable number of instances, with the name of some denomination; but it is believed that this entry was frequently meant to indicate merely the religion of the principal teacher or proprietor of the school, and perhaps the principles on which the establishment was conducted, not that it was recognised as connected with his church, or was subordinate to the clergy thereof. The exceptions to this are believed to be most of the schools returned as Roman Catholic, Lutheran, and Jewish, and a few as of the Church of England, but scarcely any connected with other denominations. The following are the returns of the ten years:—

* The statistics of private schools are generally collected in the month of March. See next footnote.

† The numbers for 1881 are those returned by the census sub-enumerators as actually attending school on the 4th April of that year. The numbers given for other years are, or ought to be, those upon the school rolls at the time of the collector's visit, which is generally in the month of March.

‡ The Education Report for 1885-6 gives a return of 680 private schools, and in these there were said to be 43,352 scholars, or 8,565 more than in the returns furnished to the Government Statist. The difference in the number of schools is accounted for by the fact that 15 of the schools appearing in the returns of the Education Department have been reported by the municipal collectors of statistics as *closed*. It is probable they were in existence for only a portion of the year. With reference to the scholars, it is likely that the figures in the Report represent the whole number which appeared on the school rolls during any portion of the year.

RELIGIOUS SECTS OF PRIVATE SCHOOLS, 1877 TO 1886.

Year ended March.	Total.	Religious Denomination.									
		Church of England.	Presbyterian.	Wesleyan.	Independent.	Lutheran.	Protestant (undefined).	Roman Catholic.	Jewish.	Other Sects.*	Not any, or not stated.
SCHOOLS.											
1877 ...	645	41	4	2	1	3	9	111	2	...	472
1878 ...	530	47	4	7	...	3	7	115	4	...	343
1879 ...	585	62	7	6	1	4	1	179	3	2	320
1880 ...	568	75	6	5	1	3	1	163	2	2	310
1881 (Census) ...	643	57	10	5	1	10	17	187	3	1	352
1882 ...	645	58	8	3	...	3	14	180	2	2	375
1883 ...	655	61	8	4	...	5	...	175	2	4	396
1884 ...	670	56	13	2	1	5	...	182	2	3	406
1885 ...	655	48	11	3	2	4	...	172	2	2	411
1886 ...	665	40	5	3	2	4	...	182	2	3	424
TEACHERS.											
1877 ...	1,646	159	46	12	1	4	27	338	10	...	1,049
1878 ...	1,457	210	32	19	...	4	10	345	13	...	824
1879 ...	1,656	242	43	18	1	4	1	539	11	2	795
1880 ...	1,587	270	50	18	2	3	2	473	7	4	758
1881 (Census) ...	1,516	146	50	18	1	9	33	544	13	3	699
1882 ...	1,553	161	43	12	...	3	25	537	8	3	761
1883 ...	1,551	185	46	22	...	5	...	527	10	7	749
1884 ...	1,638	177	52	20	2	5	...	555	9	7	811
1885 ...	1,635	154	51	22	2	4	...	514	11	5	872
1886 ...	1,645	162	35	24	4	4	...	527	11	5	873
SCHOLARS.											
1877 ...	28,847	1,491	612	221	20	68	338	13,430	270	...	12,397
1878 ...	28,422	1,730	638	333	...	142	123	15,631	293	...	9,532
1879 ...	35,873	2,055	744	314	22	183	57	23,225	231	30	9,012
1880 ...	34,824	2,200	793	327	23	108	69	22,514	190	56	8,544
1881 (Census) ...	28,134	1,582	836	248	13	206	449	16,430	276	26	8,068
1882 ...	34,062	1,596	947	199	...	121	380	20,377	196	65	10,181
1883 ...	34,443	2,061	914	319	...	170	...	20,340	178	113	10,348
1884 ...	35,773	1,996	1,010	288	18	142	...	21,019	180	87	11,033
1885 ...	35,115	1,728	1,019	363	28	126	...	20,369	173	93	11,216
1886 ...	34,787	1,466	799	387	39	129	...	20,315	133	118	11,401

1469. By the figures relating to 1886 it may be ascertained that, in that year, 241 private schools or 36 per cent., employing 772 instructors or 47 per cent., and educating 23,386 children or 67 per cent., of the

Proportion of denominational schools.

* Including, in 1879, 2 Baptist schools, with 2 teachers and 30 scholars; in 1880, 1 Unitarian school, with 2 teachers and 16 scholars, and 1 Moravian school, with 2 teachers and 40 scholars; in 1881, 1 school connected with the "Brethren," with 3 teachers and 26 scholars; in 1882, 1 school connected with the "Brethren," with 2 teachers and 52 scholars, and 1 school connected with the Moravians; with 1 teacher and 13 scholars; in 1883, 2 Baptist schools, with 4 teachers and 45 scholars, 1 school connected with the "Brethren," with 2 teachers and 52 scholars, and 1 school connected with the Moravians, with 1 teacher and 16 scholars; in 1884, 1 Baptist school, with 2 teachers and 18 scholars; 1 school connected with the "Brethren," with 4 teachers and 55 scholars, and 1 school connected with the Moravians, with 1 teacher and 14 scholars; in 1885, 1 school connected with the "Brethren," with 4 teachers and 77 scholars, and 1 school connected with the Moravians, with 1 teacher and 16 scholars; and in 1886, 1 school connected with the Bible Christians, with 1 teacher and 5 scholars, 1 school connected with the "Brethren," with 3 teachers and 95 scholars, and 1 Moravian school, with 1 teacher and 18 scholars.

total numbers claimed to be connected with some religious denomination; also that 20,315 children, or about 58 per cent. of the total number attending private schools, or 87 per cent. of the number attending schools connected with some religious sect, were being educated in schools claiming connexion with the Roman Catholic church.

Proportion
of other
children
educated
by each
sect.

1470. The number of children at the school age belonging to each religious denomination was ascertained from the census returns, and the amount of rudimentary education they respectively possessed will shortly be referred to.* In the following table the numbers are collated with the numbers who attended the schools connected with the same denomination on the census day, and the proportion of the latter to the former is also shown:—

CHILDREN OF EACH SECT ATTENDING PRIVATE DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOLS ON CENSUS DAY, 1881.

Religious Denomination.	Children at School Age (6 to 15 years).		
	Total Number of each Denomination living (3rd April, 1881).	Attending Denominational Schools on School Census Day (4th April, 1881).	
		Number.	Percentage of Total Number living.
Church of England ...	68,202	988	1·45
Presbyterian ...	29,848	491	1·65
Wesleyan ...	24,270	138	·57
Independent ...	4,431	13	·29
Lutheran ...	1,816	199	10·96
Roman Catholic...	49,982	13,442	26·89
Jewish ...	1,000	248	24·80

Proportions
educated
by Roman
Catholics,
Jews, and
Lutherans.

1471. Judging from the results of the census enumeration, it appears that, so far as children at the school age are concerned, the Roman Catholics educate in their own schools nearly 27 per cent., the Jews nearly 25 per cent., and the Lutherans nearly 11 per cent., of the whole numbers belonging to their respective denominations. Compared with these, the proportions of their children educated by the other denominations are very small indeed.

Teachers in
private
schools.

1472. The male teachers in private schools returned in 1886 were fewer by 20, but the female teachers were more numerous by 30 than those in 1885, the result being a net increase of 10. The number and sexes of the teachers returned in the year under review and the previous one are compared in the following table:—

* See paragraph 1490 *et seq. post.*

TEACHERS IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS, 1885 AND 1886.

Year.				Males.	Females.	Total.
1885	...	...	...	449	1,186	1,635
1886	...	...	...	429	1,216	1,645
Increase				...	30	10
Decrease				20	...	...

1473. In private schools connected with religious bodies the number of scholars entrusted to each teacher is generally larger than in purely secular institutions. The following are the proportions as derived from the returns of 1886 :—

Scholars to each teacher in denominational and other schools.

In schools attached to religious bodies there was 1 teacher to 30 scholars.
 „ not attached „ „ „ 13 „

1474. The authorities of the different religious bodies vary greatly in regard to the number of scholars they deem it expedient to entrust to each instructor. Thus, whilst in the Church of England schools the average is 9 scholars to each teacher, in the Roman Catholic schools it is as high as 39 to each. The following are the proportions of scholars to each teacher in the schools attached to the different sects :—

Scholars to each teacher in schools of different sects.

In schools of the Church of England there was 1 teacher to 9 scholars.
 „ Jews ... „ 12 „
 „ Wesleyans ... „ 16 „
 „ Presbyterians ... „ 23 „
 „ Lutherans ... „ 32 „
 „ Roman Catholics „ 39 „

1475. In State schools the mean number of scholars in average attendance committed to the charge of each teacher is 30.* This is higher than the number so committed in the schools of any of the religious sects except the Lutherans and the Roman Catholics.

Scholars to each teacher in public and denominational schools.

1476. In 1886, as compared with 1885, there was a decrease of 555 in the number of boys, but an increase of 227 in the number of girls, in private schools. The following are the numbers according to the returns of the years referred to :—

Sexes of scholars in private schools.

SEXES OF SCHOLARS IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS, 1885 AND 1886.

Year.				Boys.	Girls.	Total.
1885	...	...	...	17,090	18,025	35,115
1886	...	...	...	16,535	18,252	34,787
Increase				...	227	...
Decrease				555	...	328

* If workmistresses be excluded, this number would be increased to 34.

Proportion
of male to
female
scholars.

1477. The number of girls educated in private schools is greater than that of boys. The proportion fell from 114 girls to every 100 boys in 1884 to 105 to every 100 in 1885, but rose again to 110 to every 100 in 1886. In State schools the reverse is the case, as has been already shown,* the proportion being only 92 girls to every 100 boys.

Ages of
scholars.

1478. The age prescribed by law as that at which children are to attend school, unless there be some reasonable excuse for their not doing so, is from 6 to 14 years last birthday, both inclusive. The following are the numbers in both descriptions of schools at, above, and below those ages during the past year :—

AGES OF SCHOLARS, 1885.

Ages.	State Schools. (Distinct Children.)	Private Schools.	Total.
Under 6 years ...	24,175	4,636	28,811
6 to 15 years (school age)	155,813	26,630	182,443
15 years and upwards ...	9,649	3,521	13,170
Total ...	189,637	34,787	224,424

Proportion
of scholars
at school
age.

1479. In public schools 82 per cent., and in private schools 77 per cent., of the scholars were at the school age. In the former 5 per cent., and in the latter 10 per cent., were above that age; whilst in both descriptions of schools 13 per cent. were below that age.

Scholars,
1885.

1480. The number of children of all ages receiving education in Victoria during any portion of the year 1885 may be stated as follows :—

Being educated—

In State schools (distinct children) ...	189,637
In private schools ...	34,787
In industrial and reformatory schools ...	381
At home (census figures) ...	11,547
Total ...	236,352

Scholars at
school age.

1481. Of these children the following were at the school age :—

CHILDREN AT SCHOOL AGE RECEIVING EDUCATION, 1885.

Being educated—

In State schools ...	155,813
In private schools ...	26,630
In industrial and reformatory schools ...	265
At home (census figures) ...	5,800
Total ...	188,508

* See paragraph 1443 *ante*.

1482. The estimated total number of children at the school age living in Victoria in 1885 was 202,379. The following, therefore, will be the number and percentage receiving and not receiving education:—

Children receiving and not receiving instruction.

CHILDREN AT SCHOOL AGE RECEIVING AND NOT RECEIVING EDUCATION, 1885.

	Numbers.	Per cent.
Being educated	188,508	93·15
Not being educated	13,871	6·85
Total at school age	202,379	100·00

1483. By the foregoing figures it would appear that 188,508 children, or over 93 per cent. of the children at the school age living in Victoria, were being educated during some portion of the year, of whom 155,813, or 83 per cent., were at State schools. These are the "distinct children," whose number it will be remembered has not been ascertained by actual counting but by an estimate made by the Education Department. If the number of children in average attendance be used in the computation instead of the estimated distinct children, the number of State school children at the school age would be reduced to about 98,000,* and the total number at that age receiving education in the whole colony would be reduced to 130,700, whilst the number of children not receiving education would be increased to 71,700.

Proportion of children being educated.

1484. If the distinct children have been accurately estimated, the total number receiving education during some portion of the year would be correct also, but it should be clearly understood that the stay of some of these in the schools is so short that practically they are not being educated at all. It has already been shown that the prescribed number of days in each quarter, viz., 30, was not reached in the case of 27 per cent. of the children who attended State schools during some portion of one or more of the quarters of 1885.†

Proportion of children not attending full time.

1485. Five of the schools included with the private schools are called colleges or grammar schools. These at some former period received sums of money and grants of land from the Government for the erection of school buildings, but no State assistance has been given them of late years. They receive male pupils only, and are all attached to some religious denomination; and in connexion with several of them there are exhibitions, chiefly with the view of assisting the ablest scholars to complete their education at the University. The following is a return, derived from statements furnished by the authorities, of these institutions for the year under review:—

Colleges, grammar schools, &c.

* Eighty-two per cent. of the whole number attending have been assumed to be at the school age. This was the proportion of distinct children at the school age as estimated by the Education Department.

† See paragraph 1444 *ante*.

COLLEGES AND GRAMMAR SCHOOLS,* 1885.

Name of Institution.	Religious Denomination.	Amount received towards Building in former Years.	Number of Masters.	Number of Scholars.
Grammar School, Melbourne	Church of England	£ 13,784	13	217
Scotch College, „	Presbyterian Church	6,445	10	299
Wesley „ „	Wesleyan Methodist	2,769	9	150
St. Patrick's „ „	Roman Catholic ...	10,002	8	126
St. Francis Xavier College, Kew	„ ...	...	11	120
Grammar School, Geelong ...	Church of England	7,000	8	89
	Total ...	40,000	59	1,001

Education at school age, 1881.

1486. The returns of the census of 1881 showed 194,979 children at the school age, of whom 97,722 were boys and 97,257 were girls. The following are the numbers of these who could read, who could also write, and who could not read :—

EDUCATION OF CHILDREN AT THE SCHOOL AGE, 1881.

	Boys.	Girls.
Could read	92,362	92,489
Could write	82,714	83,708
Could not read	5,360	4,768

Education at school age, 1871 and 1881.

1487. The present Education Act came into operation twenty-one months after the census of 1871 was taken, and thus the returns of that census and of the census of 1881 afford an opportunity of comparing the state of children's education before and since the passing of that Act. Such a comparison is made in the following table, the education of children being reduced to a common standard, the numbers per 10,000 being taken as such at both periods :—

* At the Melbourne Grammar School there are three Council scholarships of the annual value of £21 for boys under 14, open only to members of the school, and tenable at it for three years; and two exhibitions of the annual value of £20, tenable for two years, open to the competition of boys proceeding to the Melbourne University, whose names have been for the two previous years on the school register, and who have passed the matriculation examination with credit; the head master also offers every year for open competition two scholarships of the annual value of £30 and £25 respectively, and two exhibitions of the value of 15 and 10 guineas; and there is a Witherby scholarship, which entitles the holder to exemption from school fees for three years. In connexion with the Scotch College there are two scholarships, each of the value of 20 guineas, open to boys under 15, tenable at the college for one year; one scholarship of the value of 20 guineas, open to all boys who have passed the matriculation examination, tenable at the college for two years; one of the value of 20 guineas, open to all boys who have passed the matriculation examination, tenable at the college for one year; also one of the annual value of 20 guineas, tenable for two years, and one of the same value, tenable for one year, open to those boys only who have already passed the matriculation examination from the college. In connexion with the Wesley College there is a scholarship called the "Draper Scholarship"—established in memory of the late Rev. D. J. Draper, who perished in the *London*—of the value of £25, tenable for one year; two "Walter Powell Scholarships," founded by Mrs. Powell, in memory of her late husband, of the value of £40 each, payable in two annual instalments of £20; also the "Waugh," the "Eggleston," and "Corrigan" scholarships, each of the value of 16 guineas, tenable for two years. At the Geelong Grammar School there is an exhibition, given by Mrs. F. W. Armytage, of the value of £60, tenable for two years on condition that the holder shall be a resident student of Trinity College, Melbourne, and shall have been for two years previously a pupil of the Grammar School; the head master also receives one son of a clergyman of the Church of England as a resident boarder, exempt from all school fees and cost of residence.

EDUCATION OF CHILDREN AT THE SCHOOL AGE, 1871 AND 1881.

Educational Attainment.	Proportions per 10,000 living at the School Age (6 to 15 years).					
	Boys.		Girls.		Both.	
	1871.	1881.	1871.	1881.	1871.	1881.
Could read ...	8,955	9,451	9,045	9,510	9,000	9,481
Could write ...	7,072	8,464	7,124	8,607	7,098	8,535
Could not read ...	1,045	549	955	490	1,000	519

1488. In 1881, as compared with 1871, an increase is observed in the numbers of both sexes able to read, but a much larger one in those able to write, the increase of the former (the returns of the two periods being reduced to a common standard) being about 5 per cent., whilst that of the latter was over 20 per cent.; at the same time the decrease of those unable to read was 48 per cent. Improvement in ten years.

1489. It will be noticed that at both periods rudimentary education was rather more common amongst girls than boys, the numbers of the former able to read and to write being greater, and the numbers unable to read being smaller, than those of the latter. Education of boys and girls.

1490. The degree of education at the school age is found to differ according to the religious denomination. In the following table (which has been based upon the returns of the last census) the numbers of and proportionate amount of primary instruction possessed by the children belonging to each of the principal sects are shown:— Education of children of different denominations, 1881.

EDUCATION OF CHILDREN OF DIFFERENT RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS,* 1881.

Religious Denomination.	Numbers at the School Age who—			Proportions per 10,000 Living at the School Age who—		
	Could Read.	Could Write.	Could not Read.	Could Read.	Could Write.	Could not Read.
Church of England ...	63,211	57,431	3,327	9,500	8,631	500
Presbyterians ...	28,218	25,633	1,135	9,614	8,733	386
Methodists ...	25,808	23,664	949	9,645	8,844	355
Bible Christians ...	1,677	1,543	53	9,694	8,919	306
Independents ...	4,193	3,900	145	9,666	8,990	334
Baptists ...	4,219	3,913	160	9,635	8,936	365
Lutherans ...	1,658	1,529	115	9,352	8,624	648
Other Protestants ...	1,710	1,589	77	9,569	8,892	431
Total Protestants ...	130,694	119,202	5,961	9,564	8,723	436
Roman Catholics ...	45,630	40,053	3,306	9,325	8,185	675
Jews ...	954	920	33	9,666	9,321	334
Residue ...	3,310	2,953	257	9,280	8,279	720
Grand Total ...	180,588	163,128	9,557	9,500	8,577	500

* This table includes the few Chinese and Aborigines who were at the school age, but is exclusive of those whose education was unspecified. The latter numbered as follow:—Members of the Church of England, 1,664; Presbyterians, 495; Methodists, 511; Bible Christians, 46; Independents, 93; Baptists, 101; Lutherans, 43; Other Protestants, 48; Roman Catholics, 1,043; Jews, 13; Residue, 252. Total, 4,309.

Denominations compared.

1491. According to the table, the children of the Bible Christians, in proportion to their numbers, stood higher than those of the members of any of the other denominations, so far as the ability to read was concerned; but the children of the Jews stood the highest in reference to the ability to write, in which respect the children of the Independents and Baptists also surpassed those of the Bible Christians. The children of the Roman Catholics were apparently less instructed, both in reading and writing, than any of the others; the next less instructed being the children of the Lutherans, and then those of the members of the Church of England.

Education of children of different denominations, 1861-1881.

1492. Prior to the passing of the present Education Act, which defined the school age as that between 6 and 15 years, the period between 5 and 15 years was accepted as the school age; therefore to compare the education of children of adherents of the different sects, as returned in 1881, with similar information obtained from previous censuses, it has been necessary to add the year 5 to 6 to the grouping in the last table; the degree of education shown, viz., that of children between 5 and 15, being naturally not quite so high as that there indicated. This being done, the result has been embodied in the following table, the figures being placed side by side with similar figures derived from the census returns of 1871 and 1861:—

EDUCATION OF CHILDREN OF DIFFERENT RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS
AT LAST THREE CENSUSES.

Religious Denominations.	Proportion per 10,000 Children (5 to 15 years) Living who—								
	Could Read.			Could Write.			Could not Read.		
	1861.	1871.	1881.	1861.	1871.	1881.	1861.	1871.	1881.
Church of England ...	7,703	8,446	9,095	4,751	6,438	8,043	2,297	1,554	905
Presbyterians ...	8,202	8,700	9,245	5,009	6,658	8,142	1,798	1,300	755
Methodists ...	8,777	8,972	9,281	5,697	6,895	8,239	1,223	1,028	719
Bible Christians ...	9,020	9,014	9,297	5,490	6,766	8,224	980	986	703
Independents ...	8,785	9,083	9,253	6,112	7,494	8,379	1,215	917	747
Baptists ...	8,699	9,000	9,234	6,023	7,314	8,353	1,301	1,000	766
Lutherans ...	6,491	7,877	8,922	4,529	6,539	8,131	3,509	2,123	1,078
Other Protestants ...	8,194	8,987	9,143	6,032	7,479	8,323	1,806	1,013	857
Total Protestants...	8,029	8,648	9,174	5,038	6,659	8,130	1,971	1,352	826
Roman Catholics ...	6,923	7,909	8,881	4,124	5,643	7,584	3,077	2,091	1,119
Jews ...	8,285	8,983	9,280	6,303	7,805	8,781	1,715	1,017	720
Residue ...	7,272	8,201	8,595	4,842	5,614	7,302	2,728	1,799	1,405
Grand total ...	7,790	8,464	9,088	4,858	6,398	7,977	2,210	1,536	912

Improvement in all denominations.

1493. Every one of the denominations shows a satisfactory improvement from census to census, the advancement of all during the twenty years ended with 1881 being most encouraging. Even the Roman Catholic children, who at the date of the census under review were

still less educated than those of the members of any other denomination, showed an amount of education which ten years previously was only surpassed by a few of the best instructed sects.

1494. The school age prescribed by law differs in the various Australasian colonies.* In scarcely one of them, strange to say, were the census returns compiled in such a manner that the state of education at its own school age could be ascertained from the published tables, much less compared with that obtaining at the school age of this colony. All of the colonies, however, published their education returns in quinquennial periods, so the period from 5 to 15 years is adopted for Victoria, as well as for the others, as an age at which the success of the respective educational systems can be conveniently judged. The following figures measure the education of the children of each colony at that age, the colonies being arranged in order :—

Education of children in Australasian colonies.

EDUCATION OF CHILDREN IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1881.

Colony.	Proportions per 10,000 Children (5 to 15 years) Living who—		
	Could Read.	Could Write.	Could not Read.
1. Victoria	9,088	7,977	912
2. New Zealand	8,254	6,851	1,746
3. South Australia	8,138	6,956	1,862
4. Queensland	8,082	6,676	1,918
5. New South Wales	7,832	6,495	2,168
6. Western Australia	7,809	6,075	2,191
7. Tasmania	7,632	6,160	2,368

1495. It will be observed that Victoria stood easily at the head of the list, being much in advance of all the other colonies, both as regards reading and writing. As the arrangement is in accordance with the numbers able to read, South Australia is placed below New Zealand, and Tasmania below Western Australia; but the order in these cases would have been reversed had the arrangement been in accordance with the numbers able to write, as the proportion of such was greater in South Australia than in New Zealand, and greater in Tasmania than in Western Australia.

Colonies compared.

1496. The persons above the school age may be designated adults. The following are the numbers of those of either sex returned as able to read, as able also to write, and as uninstructed :—

Adult education, 1881.

EDUCATION OF ADULTS (15 YEARS AND UPWARDS), 1881.

	Males.	Females.
Could read	263,830	236,380
Could write	256,315	223,901
Could not read	9,238	8,867

* The prescribed school age is in Victoria from 6 to 15 years, in New South Wales from 6 to 14 years, in Queensland from 6 to 12 years, in South Australia from 7 to 13 years, in Tasmania from 7 to 14 years, and in New Zealand from 7 to 13 years.

Adult
education,
1871 and
1881.

1497. Education amongst adults was more general in 1881 than in 1871. This is especially the case as regards female education, the improvement in which is very striking. The following table shows the number of male and female adults, per 10,000 living, able to read and to write, and unable to read, at the two periods :—

EDUCATION OF ADULTS, 1871 AND 1881.

Educational Attainments.	Proportions per 10,000 Adults (15 years and upwards) Living.					
	Males.		Females.		Both.	
	1871.	1881.	1871.	1881.	1871.	1881.
Could read	9,537	9,662	9,463	9,638	9,505	9,651
Could write	9,074	9,386	8,514	9,129	8,829	9,265
Could not read	463	338	537	362	495	349

Education of
male and
female
adults.

1498. It will be observed that at both periods the amount of education respecting which the census supplies information was rather more general amongst male than female adults. This is especially the case as regards writing, although the difference between the sexes in this respect is not so marked in 1881 as 1871.

Adult
education
in Austral-
asian
colonies.

1499. In compiling their returns of education, most of the colonies of this group excluded the Aborigines, but several of them did not separate the Chinese, or distinguish their educational attainments so as to admit of their being accurately deducted from the remainder of the population : and as the Chinese were set down as illiterate if not able to read English, which few of them were able to do, the view which such colonies gave of the state of adult education within their borders was not so favorable as it should have been. To rectify this, and to enable fair comparison to be made between the different colonies, it has been assumed in these cases that the bulk of the Chinese are included amongst the adults unable to read, and they have been deducted therefrom accordingly, so that the state of adult education in all the colonies is given, as nearly as possible, exclusive of Chinese and Aborigines. Upon the number so obtained, the following proportions have been based :—

EDUCATION OF ADULTS IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1881.

Colony.	Proportions per 10,000 Adults (15 years and upwards) Living who—		
	Could Read.	Could Write.	Could not Read.
1. New Zealand	9,699	9,390	301
2. Victoria	9,651	9,265	349
3. South Australia	9,619	9,179	381
4. Queensland	9,446	8,918	554
5. New South Wales	9,298	8,747	702
6. Western Australia	9,004	8,362	996
7. Tasmania	8,897	8,153	1,103

1500. Victoria, it will be observed, is no longer at the top of the list, but is below New Zealand, although only slightly so; South Australia, in like manner, being slightly below Victoria. New South Wales, as in the case of the education of children, occupies the fifth place on the list, and stands below all the other colonies except Western Australia and Tasmania. Colonies compared.

1501. Schools of Mines have been established at Sandhurst and Ballarat. The following account of the former has been supplied for this work by Mr. R. Brough Smyth, the Director and Curator:— School of Mines, Sandhurst.

“The School of Mines and Industries, Sandhurst, was formally opened on the 21st April, 1873, in a portion of the large and commodious building belonging to the Mechanics’ Institute and Free Library. During the past few years important additions have been made to the institution. There is now a museum with some thousands of specimens illustrative of the geology, mineralogy, and the living and fossil flora and fauna of the globe, as well as some few valuable examples of the arts of the Aboriginal natives of Australia and the islands of the Pacific. The walls are hung with geological maps, and sections and sketches of scenery exhibiting some of the striking features of the rock formations in Australia. One department is of more than common interest, including, as it does, models of mining machinery and mining plant, showing to scale the methods of timbering shafts, &c., &c., the application of contrivances to prevent over-winding, the action of safety cages, &c. A building has been erected which will afford largely increased accommodation to those attending the classes in mechanical and architectural drawing and the School of Design. On the ground floor, the room for workshops and for giving instruction in practical mechanics, surveying, mathematics, &c., is 66 feet long by 40 feet in width; and above are two class-rooms together 72 feet by 40 feet. The building is plain in appearance, but is solid and thoroughly well built. That portion of the old building formerly used as class-rooms on the same floor as the museum is furnished as a lecture hall. It affords space for several wall-cases where specimens of natural history can be exhibited, and for the exhibition also of geological and mining maps and sections and diagrams. The average number of visitors to the Museum of Geology and Natural History is about 1,000 per month. In a separate building are the chemical and metallurgical laboratories, a weighing-room, a library, and a lecture room, and adjacent is a store-house. There are numerous students in the classes in chemistry and metallurgy, and analyses and assays are made for the public. The meteorological instruments—rain-gauge, thermometers, and other instruments connected with a Meteorological Observatory—are placed in a clear space in the gardens, and observations are made four times a day in accordance with instructions issued by the Government Astronomer, R. L. J. Ellery, Esq. The purposes for which the School of Mines and Industries has been established are the following:—(a) To impart sound instruction in the various branches of science connected with mining operations; to instruct students in the theory and practice of mining, the management and safe conduct of mining works, mine surveying, and mining engineering; and to afford the means of students acquiring such a knowledge of geology, mineralogy, physical geography, meteorology, and ethnology as will fit them to pursue independent inquiries in these several branches of science. To teach (b) chemistry and chemical physics, metallurgy and assaying, materia medica, biology, and botany. (c) Arithmetic, mathematics, algebra, Euclid, trigonometry, mensuration, gauging, conic sections, astronomy, geodesy, mechanics, surveying, drawing and plotting from field books; mechanical and architectural drawing, practical geometry, free-hand drawing from the flat and round, and from nature; illuminating and decorative painting, mezzo-tinting, linear perspective, isometrical projection, painting in oil and water colours, lithography, photo-lithography, wood engraving, the use of tools in trade, and modelling and carving. (d) The ancient and modern languages. (e) Shorthand writing, telegraphy, the construction and use of the telephone, and illumination by electricity. (f) Such other subjects as may from time to time be deemed desirable.

The methods of imparting instruction, whether by lectures with demonstrations, or by teaching and assisting students, have been found successful, many of those who have been trained in the institution having taken highly creditable positions in this and other colonies. Examinations are held from time to time; and the administrative council, on hearing the reports of the examiners, grant certificates to students who have proved their efficiency.

“Popular science lectures are given monthly during the autumn and winter, and the attendance on some occasions is very large. Lectures on geology, physical geography, mineralogy, and ethnology, are delivered every Wednesday.

“Good progress is being made by the Bendigo School of Mines Science Society. Lectures are delivered monthly, and the annual *conversazione* attracts crowds of visitors. It is designed to promote the study of natural science; and is at once a microscopical society, a field club, and a health society.

“The average number of students attending the several classes in the School of Mines in 1885 was 416, and for the ten months ending the 31st October, 1886, 420. The number of lecturers and teachers is twelve.

“During the year 1885 the receipts (General Fund) were £2,748, of which £2,074 was received from Government; and the expenditure was £2,687.”

School of
Mines,
Ballarat.

1502. Mr. Andrew Berry, Registrar of the School of Mines at Ballarat, has supplied the following account of that institution:—

“The School of Mines, Ballarat, was opened on the 26th October, 1870. Through the liberality of Parliament, this school is in a position to supply technical instruction on an extended scale. Classes, conducted by eleven lecturers, including two professors, are formed in mathematics, mining, land, and engineering surveying; mechanical engineering; mechanical, freehand, architectural, and model drawing; metallurgy, and assaying; mineralogy, and geology; natural philosophy; applied electricity and magnetism; elementary, inorganic, organic, applied, analytical, and pharmaceutical chemistry; botany, materia medica, pharmacy, physiology, telegraphy, and astronomy; at a cost to the student of from five shillings to three guineas per term of ten weeks for ordinary evening and day classes respectively. Provision is made for students whose means are such as to prevent them from paying even the small fees mentioned; and for those who can afford to devote their whole time to instruction, arrangements are made for training indentured students for the scientific professions. The academical year is divided into four terms, each of ten weeks' duration, and at the end of each term examinations, by means of printed questions and otherwise, are held at the school in scientific and technical subjects, both theoretical and practical. Any person, whether or not a student at the school, may present for examination, and if the report of the examiners be favorable, the council grant a certificate. Up to the end of the year 1885, 454 certificates had been thus awarded, embracing the subjects of mathematics, chemistry, geology, mineralogy, materia medica, botany, &c., also testifying to the competency of the successful candidates as captains of shifts, managers in mines, assayers, telegraphists, engineers, and engine-drivers. The museum contains collections of minerals, rocks, and technological products, shells, stuffed birds, &c.; geological maps, plans, and sections of mines, &c. The library, accessible to students, contains books of reference, and is kept supplied with current numbers of selected technical English, continental, and American journals. The museum and library are open to the public daily, free. The school possesses the most complete apparatus in the southern hemisphere for testing vacuum and steam pressure-gauges. A meteorological station has been established at the school, and the usual daily observations of rainfall, temperature, atmospheric pressure, &c., are regularly recorded and forwarded to the Government Astronomer. A commencement has been made in the erection of a local observatory on a site granted for the purpose by the Government, a 12½-inch Newtonian reflector telescope being already in position. A second instrument, with a disk of 26 inches, will shortly be added, a building 60 x 25 feet being now in course of erection for its reception. Standing at an elevation of 1,420 feet above sea level, the meteorological and astronomical observations will, it is expected, prove useful auxiliaries to Melbourne work. During the year 1885 the numbers of students attending at the several terms were, respectively, 522, 515, 477, and 485.

Free science classes in elementary, agricultural, and industrial chemistry, botany, physics, mineralogy, geology, physiology, electricity and magnetism, and astronomy, are now established in connexion with the State schools; teachers attending lectures on Saturdays, and scholars on Wednesdays and Fridays. Half-yearly examinations of these pupil classes are held, and free scholarships, tenable for one year, are awarded to such as distinguish themselves. The total receipts from all sources for the year were £4,432, of which the sum of £3,000, including a special grant of £1,000 for buildings and apparatus, was from the Government; and the expenditure amounted to £4,262."

1503. Forty-one Schools of Design have been established at various places in Victoria in connexion with a Royal Commission for promoting technological and industrial instruction. The subjects taught comprise practical geometry; mechanical and architectural drawing; isometrical perspective and free-hand drawing; figure drawing; ornamental drawing from models, flat examples, and from nature. Each school receives two shillings and sixpence from Government for every pupil who attends at least eight times in one quarter, besides which, fees, varying from 2s. to 5s. per quarter for one lesson a week, are paid by pupils. The number of pupils on the rolls on the 31st December, 1885, was 2,701, of whom 2,030, or about three-fourths, had attended eight or more times during the quarter ended with that day. An exhibition of the works of pupils is held yearly in Melbourne, and local exhibitions are held in other towns.

Schools of
Design.

1504. The buildings of the Melbourne Public Library have cost from first to last £111,604, and are still unfinished. These funds were provided by Government, as also were further moneys, amounting, with the sum just named, to a total of £405,978, of which £26,651 was received by the trustees during the year under review. The private contributions, consisting of books, pamphlets, maps, newspapers, &c., have amounted in all to 247,723, of which 132,312 were presented to the institution, and the remainder were deposited under the Copyright Statute. The estimated value of these contributions is £17,675. The total number of volumes, pamphlets, &c., in the library at the end of 1885 was 174,830. It is open to the public, without payment, on week days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 10 p.m., and was visited during the year by 326,114 persons. A dictionary catalogue, which it is hoped will greatly aid readers to find the books they want with ease and certainty, has been compiled by the librarian and his assistants.

Melbourne
Public
Library.

1505. The National Gallery, at the end of 1885, contained 13,544 works of art, viz., 137 oil paintings, 912 objects of statuary, &c., and 12,495 drawings, engravings, and photographs. It is opened at noon and closed at 5 p.m. daily, Sundays and certain holidays excepted. The school of painting in connexion with this institution was attended in

National
Gallery.

the year by 6 male and 27 female students, and the school of design by 30 male and 70 female students.

Industrial
Museum.

1506. The Industrial and Technological Museum joins the National Gallery, and was opened on the 7th September, 1870. It now contains 1,502 publications, 44,455 specimens, and 158 drawings. It is open on the same days and during the same hours as the National Gallery. Class lectures, given in 1885, on chemistry and mineralogy, were attended by 34, on engineering by 29, and on telegraphy by 100 students, of whom all but 2 were females. Some interesting experiments with kaolin and other natural products of Victoria suitable for the manufacture of keramic ware are being made at the institution, and it is reported that the results obtained so far are very encouraging.

National
Museum.

1507. The collections of the National Museum are kept in a building situated on the grounds of the Melbourne University. They consist of stuffed animals and birds, insects, specimens of minerals, and other objects of curiosity. The cost of the edifice was about £8,500. It is open to the public free of charge on all week days throughout the year, except Christmas Day and Good Friday, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., and in 1885 was visited by 119,756 persons. During the same year some presentations of exceptional value and interest were made to the institution, and purchases were made to the extent of £876. The payments for salaries and wages amounted to £1,307.

Patent
Office
Library.

1508. There is a free library in connexion with the Patent Office, attached to the Registrar-General's Office, Melbourne. This contains about 3,000 volumes, consisting of the patent records of Great Britain, Victoria, New South Wales, New Zealand, Canada, the United States, Italy, Germany, &c., and other works. Here also are on view about 300 models of patented or protected inventions, and 152 models of designs under the Copyright Act. The approximate value of the books is £4,000, and of the models £250. The library is open to the public on each week day, except Saturday, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., and on Saturday from 9 a.m. until noon.

Supreme
Court
Library.

1509. The Supreme Court Library at Melbourne has branches in the ten assize towns. It is free to members of the legal profession between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., except on Saturdays, when it closes at noon. It is supported by fees paid under rules of court for the admission of barristers and attorneys. The number of volumes at the end of 1885 was 16,185. The expenditure from the commencement has amounted to £21,991, of which £1,053 was spent in 1885.

Free
libraries,
&c.

1510. There are free libraries, athenæums, or scientific, literary, or mechanics' institutes in most of the towns of the colony. Some of

these institutions receive books on loan from the Melbourne Public Library. Two hundred and eighty* furnished returns for 1885 to the Government Statist. Their statements show that their total receipts in that year amounted to £38,569, of which £10,904 was contributed by Government, and £27,665 by private individuals; that the number of volumes in all the institutions amounted to 352,959, and that during the year 2,076,714 visits were paid to 174 of them which kept attendance-books. If visitors attended the others in the same proportion, the total number of visits during 1885 must have amounted to fully 3,340,000.

1511. Greater Melbourne is amply supplied with public reserves and parks (mostly permanent), the total area of which is 5,101 acres. Of these reserves, 1,723 acres are in Melbourne city, 646 in Kew, 472 in South Melbourne, 433 in Williamstown, 197½ in Richmond, 117½ in Port Melbourne, 166½ in Brighton, 230 in St. Kilda, 38 in Footscray, 49 in Fitzroy, 29 in Collingwood, 46 in Essendon, 14 in Northcote, 13 in Hawthorn, 9 in Hotham, 304¾ in Flemington and Kensington, and 581 outside urban municipalities.

1512. The following list of these reserves together with a statement of their respective areas has been supplied by the Lands Department:—

PUBLIC RESERVES IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS,† 1886.

Municipality.	Name of Reserve.	Area.
		Acres.
Melbourne City	Royal Park	444
"	Yarra	157
"	Prince's	97
"	Fawkner	102
"	Flinders	44
"	Botanic Garden and Domain	235
"	Zoological	55
"	Carlton	63
"	Fitzroy	64
"	Spring	21
"	Flagstaff Garden	18
"	Argyle Square	3¼
"	Curtain	3½
"	Darling	2
"	Lincoln	3¼
"	Macarthur	1
"	Murchison	1
"	University Square	3½
"	University Grounds	106
"	Friendly Societies' Grounds	33
"	Industrial Schools	117
"	Melbourne Cricket Ground	9½
"	East Melbourne	7
"	Scotch College	7
"	Richmond	6
"	Carlton	5

* Exclusive of the Melbourne Public Library, for which see paragraph 1504 ante.

† A description of the most important of these reserves, as well as of the Botanic and other public gardens in several of the country towns, was published in the *Victorian Year-Book*, 1883-4, following paragraph 1315.

PUBLIC RESERVES IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS,* 1886—continued.

Municipality.	Name of Reserve.	Area.
		Acres.
Melbourne City ...	General Cemetery ...	101
" ...	Old Cemetery ...	8½
" ...	Military Parade Ground ...	5
Hotham Town ...	Recreation ...	9¼
Fitzroy City ...	Edinburgh Park ...	42
" ...	Recreation ...	7
Collingwood City ...	Mayor's Park ...	6
" ...	Recreation ...	7
" ...	Darling Gardens ...	16
Richmond City ...	Richmond Park ...	157
" ...	Horticultural Gardens ...	33½
" ...	Barkly Square ...	7
Northcote Borough ...	Jika Park ...	14½
South Melbourne City ...	Albert Park (part of) ...	464
" ...	St. Vincent Gardens ...	7⅞
Port Melbourne Borough ...	Cricket Ground ...	5
" ...	Recreation ...	99
" ...	Ornamental Plantations ...	13½
Prahran City ...	Recreation ...	23
St. Kilda Borough ...	St. Kilda Gardens ...	16
" ...	Albert Park (part of) ...	106
" ...	Recreation ...	54
" ...	" ...	4¾
" ...	" ...	11
" ...	" ...	15¾
" ...	" (Dandenong Road) ...	22½
Brighton Borough ...	Elsternwick Park ...	85
" ...	Recreation (Elsternwick) ...	14½
" ...	Beach Park ...	67
Essendon Borough ...	Recreation ...	10½
" ...	" ...	5
" ...	Agricultural Society's Yards ...	30
" ...	Ornamental Plantations ...	8¼
Flemington and Kensington Borough ...	Racecourse ...	301
" ...	Recreation ...	3¾
Hawthorn Borough ...	" ...	13½
Kew Borough ...	Studley Park ...	203
" ...	Lunatic Asylum ...	396
" ...	Cemetery... ...	31
" ...	Recreation ...	16
Footscray Borough ...	Public Gardens ...	26
" ...	Cricket Ground, &c. ...	12
Williamstown Borough ...	Park ...	36
" ...	" ...	20
" ...	Beach Park ...	20
" ...	Cemetery... ...	15
" ...	Rifle Range ...	332
" ...	Cricket Ground ...	6¾
" ...	Recreation ...	3½
Outside urban municipalities	Yarra Bend Asylum ...	350
	St. Kilda Cemetery ...	20
	Malvern Recreation ...	5
	Caulfield Park ...	62
	" Racecourse ...	144
	Total ...	5,101

* See footnote (f) to preceding page.

1513. The Melbourne Botanic Garden is situated on the south side of the River Yarra, at a distance of about a mile and a half from the heart of the city. The area of the garden proper is 83 acres, but with the Domain and Government House grounds adjoining it covers about 300 acres. This garden, although nominally in existence before his time, was virtually created by Dr. (now the Baron Sir Ferdinand von) Mueller, who was for 16 years its director, but retired from that post in 1873. It was early extremely rich in rare plants, these being in very many instances then new to the colony. The garden under the present director, Mr. W. R. Guilfoyle, still maintains its beauty. An interesting description of it from his pen appears in the *Victorian Year-Book*, 1881-2.*

Botanic Garden.

1514. The gardens of the Zoological and Acclimatisation Society of Victoria are situated in the centre of the Royal Park, on the northern side of the city, distant nearly two miles from the Post Office, and can be reached by the Brunswick omnibuses, which pass within a short distance of the gardens every few minutes. The ground enclosed contains fifty acres, rather more than half of which is laid out as a Zoological Garden and the rest in deer paddocks. An interesting account of the operations of this society was contributed to the *Victorian Year-Book*, 1882-3,† by the Director of the Gardens, Mr. A. A. C. Le Souef.

Zoological and Acclimatisation Gardens.

1515. A measure calculated to exercise an important influence upon the social condition of the people was passed into law in 1885, and came into operation on the 1st March, 1886. This was the Factories and Shops Act 1885 (49 Vict. No. 862), its chief objects being to provide for the supervision and regulation of factories and workrooms,‡ and for the limitation of the hours of trading in shops. It applies, in the first instance, only to establishments situated in cities, towns, or boroughs; but power is given to the Governor in Council to extend its operations to extra-urban municipalities, under certain conditions. The principal provisions of this Act are as follow:—

Factories and Shops Act 1885.

Power is given to appoint a chief inspector of factories, inspectors of factories, and certifying medical practitioners.

In addition to the other duties of the chief inspector, he is required to furnish the Minister with an annual report as to the number of persons engaged in

* See that work, paragraph 1170.

† See that work, paragraph 1248.

‡ A "factory or workroom" is defined as "any office building or place in which six or more persons are engaged either directly or indirectly in working for hire or reward in any handicraft or in preparing or manufacturing any articles for trade or sale, and any office building or place in which steam or other mechanical power is used."

factories and workrooms, classifying them according to sex, age, and average weekly earnings; their hours of labour; whether they work on wages or piece-work; what proportion of work is done in and outside of factories or workrooms, and such other particulars of a general nature as the Minister may require.

Factories and workrooms are to be registered; and every person commencing business in any such establishment must—under a penalty of ten pounds in case of default—give notice to the chief inspector, and furnish particulars of the name and description of the premises, where situate, the nature of the work to be carried on, a description of the motive power to be used therein, and the name of the firm under which the business is carried on, together with such other particulars as may be required by regulations to be made under the Act; the premises also, before registration, must first be approved of by the Central or by a Local Board of Health.

In each factory or workroom a record is to be kept of the names of all persons, employed, together with the ages of those under 20, and particulars of the kind of work they perform, to be produced to the inspector when required; and, in addition, a notice must be posted in a conspicuous place on the premises showing the names and addresses of the inspector and certifying medical practitioner of the district. Every employer must also keep, for the information of the inspectors, a record of the description and quantity of work done outside his establishment, together with the names and addresses of the persons by whom it is done.

The sanitary clauses of the Act deal with the making and keeping clean and the ventilating of factories and workrooms (including bakehouses); they also provide for preventing the overcrowding of workrooms, and, in the case of persons under the age of 18 or women, for a sufficient interval for meals after five hours' continuous employment, and for compelling employers to provide suitable accommodation outside the workroom for the persons employed whilst taking their meals. All these matters are entrusted to the supervision of the Central and Local Boards of Health.

Persons in charge of machinery or boilers must hold certificates; all dangerous machinery must be fenced; persons under the age of 18 must not clean certain kinds of machinery when in motion, and must not work between parts of self-acting machinery. Moreover, due notice of accidents causing death or bodily injury must be sent to the inspector and the certifying medical practitioner of the district.

No child, and no person under 15 years of age, may be employed in any factory or workroom unless a certificate has been obtained from an inspector of schools that the provisions of the Education Act have been complied with; the occupier of a factory must obtain a medical certificate of the age and fitness of those employed; no boy under 14 or girl under 16 may work in any factory between 6 o'clock in the evening and 6 o'clock in the morning; and no boy of 16 or girl of 18 may work as type-setter for longer than eight hours; no person under 18 years of age may be employed in a factory in which the process of silvering of mirrors by mercurial process, or the making of white lead, is carried on; no boy under 14 or girl under 18 may be employed in that portion of a factory in which the process of melting or annealing glass is carried on; no girl under 16 may be employed in brick, tile, or salt works; no girl under 16 may be employed in dry grinding in the metal trade, or in dipping lucifer matches; and no person under the age of 14 may be employed in metal grinding (other than dry grinding), or in fustian cutting.

All shops, except chemists' shops, coffee or eating houses and restaurants, confectioners, fish and oyster shops, fruit and vegetable shops, tobacconists, booksellers, and news-agents, must close at 7 o'clock on ordinary days, and 10 o'clock on Saturdays and on days immediately preceding holidays. Power, however, is given to any municipal council, on petition of a majority of the shop-keepers interested, to make by-laws fixing hours of closing in the municipality.

Such sitting accommodation or intervals of rest must be provided for persons employed in shops as may be considered necessary by the Central Board of Health.

1516. The following is a list of the principal Charitable Institutions in Victoria,* and a statement of the accommodation which, according to the returns of the year ended 30th June, 1885, was available for indoor patients :—

Accommodation of charities.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.—AMOUNT OF ACCOMMODATION, 1884-5.†

Description of Institution.	Number of Institutions.	Dormitories.		Number of Beds for Inmates.	Number of Cubic Feet to each Inmate.
		Number.	Capacity in Cubic Feet.		
General hospitals ‡ ...	38	290	2,753,028	2,247	1,225
Lying-in Hospital § ...	1	21	61,610	60	1,027
Children's Hospital ...	1	7	39,669	53	748
Eye and Ear Hospital ...	1	6	33,301	41	812
Hospitals for the Insane ...	5	802	1,923,210	3,139	603
Benevolent asylums ...	5	138	928,441	1,371	677
Immigrants' Home || ...	1	17	307,662	497	619
Blind Asylum ...	1	5	78,658	104	756
Deaf and Dumb Asylum ...	1	4	75,130	74	1,015
Orphan asylums ...	7	61	448,711	912	492
Industrial Schools ...	7	25	237,777	370	643
Reformatory Schools ...	3	12	209,274	227	922
Infant Asylum ...	1	5	18,407	52	354
Female refuges ...	5	96	272,750	368	741
Total ...	77	1,489	7,387,628	9,515	776

1517. According to regulations issued by the Central Board of Health in Melbourne, not less than 1,200 cubic feet in the wards of a hospital, or other institution of a like nature, should be allowed for each individual. It will be observed by the figures in the last column of the foregoing table that this amount of space for inmates is not attained in the case of any of the institutions, except the general hospitals. It may be remarked that one important authority considers so large an amount of space unnecessary. Dr. Paley, in his report on the Hospitals for the Insane for 1878, ¶ mentioned 500 feet for each patient in ordinary wards, and 1,000 feet in hospital wards, as a sufficient allowance ; but, on the other hand, Dr. McCrea, the late Chief Medical Officer, in a paper contributed by him to a "Précis of Information concerning the Colony of Victoria," prepared some years since, under the editorship of the present writer, for the Intelligence Department of the

Cubic space in wards.

* For a complete account of the various Charitable Institutions, see *Victorian Year-Book*, 1874, paragraph 565 *et seq.*

† Except in the case of the Industrial and Reformatory Schools, for which the returns, both in this and the following tables, are for the year ended 31st December, 1885.

‡ A list of the general hospitals is given in the table following paragraph 690 *ante.*

§ Including the Hospital for Diseases of Women and Children.

|| The name of this institution is misleading ; it is really a benevolent asylum

¶ Parliamentary Paper No. 36, Session 1879.

Imperial War Office, gave it as his opinion that, whilst 600 feet of cubic space is sufficient for each person in a well-ventilated sleeping room, as much as from 1,500 to 2,000 cubic feet ought to be allowed in hospital wards.

Inmates and deaths in charities.

1518. The following table shows the total and average number of inmates in the same institutions during the year ended 30th June, 1885; also the number of deaths, and the proportion of deaths to inmates. It will be noticed that no death occurred in the Deaf and Dumb Asylum:—

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.—INMATES AND DEATHS, 1884-5.

Description of Institution.	Number of Inmates.		Number of Deaths.	Proportion of Deaths to Total Number of Inmates.
	Total during Year.	Daily Average.		
				Per Cent.
General hospitals	14,876	1,701·5	1,653	11·11
Lying-in-Hospital, &c.*	953	40·8	44	4·62
Children's Hospital	407	44·0	35	8·60
Eye and Ear Hospital	307	35·0	1	·33
Hospitals for the Insane	3,831	3,229·0	223	5·82
Benevolent asylums	1,735	1,185·2	217	12·51
Immigrants' Home	2,358	619·0	89	3·77
Blind Asylum	117	102·5	1	·85
Deaf and Dumb Asylum	85	73·5	...	...
Orphan asylums	1,286	1,060·0	4	·31
Industrial and Reformatory Schools †	3,296	3,273·5	38	1·15
Infant Asylum ‡	70	43·0	8	11·43
Female refugees*	712	316·5	7	·98
Total	30,033	11,723·5	2,320	7·72

Inmates in excess of beds.

1519. With reference to the over-crowding of some of the institutions, a comparison of the last two tables will show that the daily average of inmates in the year under review was greater than the number of beds in the Hospitals for the Insane, the Immigrants' Home, the Orphan asylums, and the Infant asylum; and it would appear that in the case of the Blind and Deaf and Dumb Asylums the accommodation is also somewhat strained. The children attached to the Industrial and Reformatory Schools greatly outnumber the beds, but as the majority of these are boarded-out, § the institutions are not over-crowded.

* Exclusive of infants.

† Including those boarded-out and sent to service from Industrial Schools as well as the inmates of the institution.

‡ Exclusive of mothers, who are also admitted to the asylum; the number of mothers during the year was 44, and 14 remained at the end of the year.

§ See paragraph 1544 post.

1520. Nearly all the institutions give returns of the birthplaces of their inmates. These are summarised in the following table, and the totals are compared with the estimated numbers of the same birthplaces in the population:—

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.—BIRTHPLACES OF INMATES, 1884-5.

Description of Institution.	Australasian Colonies.	England and Wales.	Scotland.	Ireland.	China.	Other Countries and Unknown.	Total.
General hospitals ...	5,388	4,184	1,048	2,787	301	1,168	14,876
Lying-in Hospital ...	614	160	40	108	...	31	953
Eye and Ear Hospital ...	126	76	26	68	2	9	307
Hospitals for the Insane ...	454	1,007	382	1,228	108	652	3,831
Benevolent asylums ...	92	789	159	523	47	125	1,735
Immigrants' Home ...	386	882	287	662	2	139	2,358
Blind Asylum ...	96	14	2	3	...	2	117
Deaf and Dumb Asylum ...	79	4	...	1	...	1	85
Orphan asylums ...	1,176	17	3	17	...	73	1,286
Industrial and Reformatory Schools *	356	3	...	1	...	21	381
Total ...	8,767	7,136	1,947	5,398	460	2,221	25,929
Proportions per 1,000 of population † ...	14.41	42.72	35.72	55.13	33.98	...	26.59

1521. The same institutions which furnish returns of the birthplaces furnish also returns of the religions of their inmates, and the result is given in the following table. The figures in the lower line express the proportions to the estimated living population of each sect:—

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.—RELIGIONS OF INMATES, 1884-5.

Description of Institution.	Protestants.	Roman Catholics.	Jews.	Pagans.	Of other Sects, of no Sect, and Unknown.	Total.
General hospitals ...	9,842	4,529	58	249	198	14,876
Lying-in Hospital ...	627	310	10	...	6	953
Eye and Ear Hospital ...	208	96	...	...	3	307
Hospitals for the Insane ...	2,117	1,270	23	96	325	3,831
Benevolent asylums ...	1,182	498	7	21	27	1,735
Immigrants' Home ...	1,578	774	1	2	3	2,358
Blind Asylum ...	88	28	...	...	1	117
Deaf and Dumb Asylum ...	75	10	...	...	...	85
Orphan asylums ...	656	630	...	...	...	1,286
Industrial and Reformatory Schools	127	254	...	...	...	381
Total ...	16,500	8,399	99	368	563	25,929
Proportions per 1,000 of population ‡ ...	23.61	36.53	20.23	28.73	...	26.59

* The figures in this line represent the number of inmates of Industrial and Reformatory Schools (exclusive of those boarded-out, &c.) at the end of the year. The total number under the control of the institution during some portion of the year was 3,296.

† For numbers of each birthplace, see table following paragraph 56 ante.

‡ For numbers of each sect, see table following paragraph 68 ante.

Ages of inmates of charities.

1522. The ages of the inmates of most of the institutions are given as follow; also the proportion of the numbers at each age period to the numbers at the same age in the population:—

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.—AGES OF INMATES, 1884-5.

Description of Institution.	Ages.										Total.
	Under 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 35.	35 to 45.	45 to 55.	55 to 65.	65 and upwards.	Unknown.	
General hospitals ..	156	372	757	2,425	2,242	2,086	2,522	2,171	1,974	171	14,876
Lying-in Hospital ..	..	..	3	122	575	182	52	14	..	5	953
Eye and Ear Hospital ..	2	29	39	71	36	34	51	29	16	..	307
Hospitals for the Insane ..	..	17	39	341	619	837	902	484	213	379	3,831
Benevolent asylums ..	29	..	1	48	26	51	150	303	1,127	..	1,735
Immigrants' Home ..	103	66	17	237	438	456	407	350	284	..	2,358
Blind Asylum ..	..	3	10	65	32	4	2	1	..	..	117
Deaf and Dumb Asylum ..	..	12	44	28	..	..	..	1	..	..	85
Orphan asylums ..	89	561	575	59	2	..	..	..	..	..	1,286
Industrial and Reformatory Schools*	..	45	225	108	..	..	..	..	..	..	381
Infant Asylum ..	70	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	70
Female refuges ..	..	..	5	407	98	109	77	16	..	..	712
Total ..	452	1,105	1,715	3,911	4,068	3,759	4,163	3,369	3,614	555	26,711
Proportions per 1,000 of population †	3.79	9.77	15.39	17.53	26.00	42.03	45.11	58.37	..	..	27.39

Receipts and expenditure.

1523. The total receipts of these institutions in 1884-5 amounted to £371,941, of which £222,556, or nearly two-thirds, was contributed by Government; and the expenditure amounted to £366,859. Of the Government contribution, £126,151 was expended on the Hospitals for the Insane and the Industrial and Reformatory Schools, which are Government institutions; and the balance (£95,405) was distributed as grants in aid to the other institutions. It may be mentioned that the total amount voted annually in aid of Charitable Institutions, including, besides those named in the table, Charitable Societies, is £110,000.† A statement of the receipts and expenditure for the year of the Charitable Institutions is given in the following table:—

* The figures in this line represent the number of inmates of Industrial and Reformatory Schools (exclusive of those boarded-out, &c.) at the end of the year. The total number under the control of the institution during some portion of the year was 3,296.

† For numbers living at each age, see table following paragraph 72 ante.

‡ See table following paragraph 231 ante.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1884-5.

Description of Institution.	Receipts.			Expenditure.
	From Government.	From other Sources.	Total.	
	£	£	£	£
General hospitals ...	54,768	72,896	127,664	132,481
Lying-in Hospital ...	2,100	3,837	5,937	5,937
Children's Hospital ...	500	2,656	3,156	2,538
Eye and Ear Hospital ...	500	1,178	1,678	1,824
Hospitals for the Insane ...	84,525	15,273*	99,798	99,798
Benevolent asylums ...	18,252	22,929	41,181	29,859
Immigrants' Home ...	5,300	2,077	7,377	7,900
Blind Asylum ...	2,000	3,792	5,792	5,728
Deaf and Dumb Asylum ...	1,600	1,854	3,454	3,515
Orphan asylums ...	9,670	10,709	20,379	20,349
Industrial and Reformatory Schools ...	41,626	1,694†	43,320	43,320
Infant Asylum ...	325	780	1,105	1,141
Female refuges ...	1,390	9,710	11,100	12,469
Total ...	222,556	149,385	371,941	366,859

1524. The following table gives a statement of the average number of inmates of the respective institutions during the year ended with June, 1885, the total cost of their maintenance, and the average cost per annum of each inmate:—

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.—AVERAGE COST OF EACH INMATE, 1884-5.

Description of Institution.	Daily Average Number of Inmates.	Total Cost of Maintenance.‡	Average Cost of each Inmate per annum.		
			£	s.	d.
General hospitals ...	1,701·5	102,532	60	5	2
Lying-in Hospital ...	40·8	5,548 §	...	...	...
Children's Hospital ...	44·0	2,538	57	13	8
Eye and Ear Hospital ...	35·0	1,721	49	3	5
Hospitals for the Insane ...	3,229·0	99,798	30	18	1
Benevolent asylums ...	1,185·2	23,386	19	14	7
Immigrants' Home ...	619·0	7,541	12	3	8
Blind Asylum ...	102·5	4,528	44	3	6
Deaf and Dumb Asylum ...	73·5	3,328	45	5	7
Orphan asylums ...	1,060·0	17,439	16	9	0
Industrial and Reformatory Schools ...	3,273·5	43,320 ¶	13	4	8
Infant Asylum ...	43·0	1,141	26	10	8
Female refuges ...	316·5	12,469	39	7	11
Total ...	11,723·5	325,289	27	14	11

* This represents the amount paid into the Treasury in 1885 by the Master-in-Lunacy on account of the maintenance of lunatic patients; and it is entered in this table as being a set-off against the total cost to Government of these institutions.

† Of this amount, £1,369 was received and paid into the Treasury during the year from parents and others for the maintenance of Industrial and Reformatory School children, and £325 was derived from the sale of articles produced, making a total of £1,694. No information is furnished of the amounts received from private sources by the assisted Industrial and Reformatory Schools.

‡ The amounts in this column represent the expenditure of the institutions less the cost of building and repairs and of out-door relief.

§ This, no doubt, includes the cost of boarded-out patients, which, it is believed are not included in the daily average given in the previous column. Under these circumstances, the average cost per inmate cannot be given.

¶ Cost to the State only. The assisted schools, which receive annually about £5,000 out of the Government grant, are also partly supported by private contributions.

Expenditure
per inmate.

1525. The average cost of inmates, as will readily be supposed, is generally greater in hospitals than in other institutions. Omitting the Lying-in Hospital—the average cost per inmate of which cannot be given, for reasons stated in a footnote to the last table—the most expensive institutions in 1884-5 were the general hospitals, with an average per inmate of £60; the Children's Hospital, with £58; the Eye and Ear Hospital, with £49; the Deaf and Dumb Asylum, with £45; and the Blind Asylum, with £44 per inmate. The institutions in which the relative cost was least were the Industrial and Reformatory Schools and the Immigrants' Home, with an average of £13; and the Orphan asylums, with an average of £16, per inmate. The children of the first and last named institutions are, however, for the most part, not resident in the Schools, but are boarded out or licensed.

Hospital
Saturday
and Sunday.

1526. In Melbourne and suburbs, during the month of October of each year, the last Saturday and Sunday are set apart for making collections in aid of the charitable institutions. The movement is taken up warmly by the clergy of all denominations, who, on Hospital Sunday, preach sermons in aid thereof, and devote thereto all the offerings collected in their churches. Superintendents of Sunday and head masters of State schools, and the proprietors and persons employed in many places of business, also render important assistance in the collection of funds. The following are the amounts collected in each year since the movement was inaugurated:—

HOSPITAL SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, AMOUNTS COLLECTED,
1873 TO 1885.

						£
1873	...	...	...	...	...	4,219
1874	...	...	...	...	...	5,542
1875	...	...	...	...	...	5,493
1876	...	...	...	...	...	5,171
1877	...	...	...	...	...	6,195
1878	...	...	...	...	...	6,203
1879	...	...	...	...	...	5,583
1880	...	...	...	...	...	6,053
1881	...	...	...	...	...	6,984
1882	...	...	...	...	...	7,022
1883	...	...	...	...	...	7,091
1884	...	...	...	...	...	8,253
1885	...	...	...	...	...	9,516
						<hr/>
					Total	£83,325
						<hr/>

Distribution
of oneys
collected.

1527. The following table shows the distribution of the amounts collected and the extent to which the respective charitable institutions have profited thereby:—

DISTRIBUTION OF HOSPITAL SATURDAY AND SUNDAY FUND,
1873 TO 1885.

Institution.	Amount Distributed.		
	1873 to 1884.	1885.	Total.
Melbourne Hospital	£ 27,343	£ 2,810	£ 30,153
Alfred Hospital	9,868	1,295	11,163
Benevolent Asylum	8,407	905	9,312
Lying-in Hospital	6,263	842	7,105
Hospital for Sick Children	6,616	1,019	7,635
Eye and Ear Hospital	3,341	489	3,830
Homœopathic Hospital	2,072	346	2,418
Immigrants' Aid Society	3,124	380	3,504
Richmond Dispensary	600	50	650
Collingwood Dispensary	800	75	875
Austin Hospital for Incurables	1,036	984	2,020
Total distributed	69,470	9,195	78,665
Total collected	73,809	9,516	83,325

1528. The proportion of recoveries of patients in the Victorian Lunatic Asylums (Hospitals for the Insane) is higher in Victoria than in England and Wales or in New South Wales or South Australia, as is shown by the following figures :—

RECOVERIES OF LUNATIC ASYLUM PATIENTS IN AUSTRALIAN COLONIES AND ENGLAND.

Country.	Recoveries per 10,000 Admissions.*		
	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.
1. Victoria	4,812	5,796	5,240
2. England and Wales	3,534	4,517	4,033
3. South Australia	4,793	2,840	3,971
4. New South Wales	3,421	4,114	3,691

1529. In Victoria it is invariably noticed that the proportion of recoveries of female patients is greater than that of male patients, and this appears to be also the case in England and in New South Wales; but in South Australia the proportion of recoveries of males seems to be greater than that of females.

1530. In proportion to the numbers resident, the mortality in the Victorian Asylums is less than that in the asylums of the other countries named, as is thus shown :—

* Figures from page 14 of Report of Inspector of Lunatic Asylums 1885. Parliamentary Paper No. 54, Session 1886.

MORTALITY OF LUNATIC ASYLUM PATIENTS IN AUSTRALIAN
COLONIES AND ENGLAND.

Country.	Deaths per 10,000 Patients Resident.*		
	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.
1. England and Wales ...	1,145	786	951
2. South Australia ...	1,020	850	950
3. New South Wales ...	818	622	743
4. Victoria ...	886	554	736

Deaths of
male and
female
lunatics.

1531. It will be noticed that the proportion of deaths of female patients is in all cases smaller than that of male patients; also that although the total mortality of lunatic patients is less in Victoria than in New South Wales, the mortality of male patients is higher in the former than in the latter.

Proposal to
board out
lunatics.

1532. In his reports for 1884 and 1885† Dr. Dick, the Inspector of Lunatic Asylums, mentions that the asylums are much overcrowded, and in the former he makes the following remarks upon the question of boarding-out some of the patients which has been suggested as a means of relieving the strain upon the institutions:—

“The boarding-out of patients has been suggested as a promising outlet for the surplus asylum population, and in some quarters sanguine expectations are entertained that this system will be found a substantial remedy for the present overcrowded state of the asylums. While it is certainly worthy of a fair trial, and would appear to promise some measure of relief, its success on a large scale is not to be taken for granted. Various considerations occur to suggest difficulties. The ruling incentive to strangers to receive lunatics into their families would surely be self-interest; they would expect to be recompensed for their trouble either by an equivalent in money or by services rendered by the patient. Doubtless persons could be found whom a moderate contribution of money might induce to undertake such a responsibility, but the number of such persons in a community like ours is problematical. It is to be remembered also that hitherto relatives and friends have removed patients in considerable numbers, independently of any pecuniary inducement. Last year, 457 patients were absent from the asylums in this way. The question arises, whether these guardians might not claim the payments allowed to strangers, and whether they might not successfully resist the responsibility of caring for their insane relatives on other terms. In this way the operations hitherto carried out might be impeded by the very success of the boarding-out system. Nor is it to be forgotten that the patients so removed would consist of the least troublesome or most useful portion of the inmates, and in proportion as they left the asylum so would the efficiency of the attendants' staff be diminished. At present the attendants are in the proportion of one to every ten patients, but if the boarding-out system were to result, as is probable, in removing the best class of patients, such a proportion of attendants might be found insufficient for the care and control of those who would be left.”

* Figures from page 15 of Report of Inspector of Lunatic Asylums 1885. Parliamentary Paper No. 54, Session 1886.

† Pages 13 and 19 respectively.

1533. In the same report* Dr. Dick has the following remarks as to the probable causes of insanity in Victoria:— Causes of Insanity.

“Of these, intemperance in drink occupies a conspicuous place, and is no doubt a fruitful cause of insanity. Out of a total of 549 admissions and re-admissions, 86 cases were entered in the books as having been induced by drunkenness, or a proportion of 15·6 per 100. This result must not, however, be unconditionally accepted, as it is recognised by all authorities that a propensity to alcoholic indulgence is frequently a premonitory symptom of mental disease. The returns from the asylum records, again, would make it appear that hereditary predisposition has only to answer for an insignificant proportion of our insanity, a conclusion which to any medical man with asylum experience is manifestly untenable. This inconsistency is, in a great measure, to be explained by the difficulty experienced in obtaining a trustworthy history of patients, who frequently enter the asylums in charge of the police, unaccompanied by relatives or friends, their antecedents unknown, and they themselves unable to reveal the history of their past life. In estimating the import of the tables presented, which have been compiled with such care and accuracy as were practicable, the sources of uncertainty just indicated must be allowed due weight, and indeed must necessarily detract very considerably from the value of the conclusions founded on them.”

1534. The following are stated to be the probable or predisposing causes of insanity in the male and female patients admitted into the Lunatic Asylums of Victoria in the last two years:— Causes of Insanity, 1884 & 1885.

CAUSES OF INSANITY OF LUNATIC ASYLUM PATIENTS,
1884 AND 1885.

Probable Causes.	Number of Admissions.					
	Males.			Females.		
	1884.	1885.	Total.	1884.	1885.	Total.
Domestic trouble (including loss of relatives and friends)	11	10	21	11	21	32
Adverse circumstances (including business anxieties and pecuniary difficulties)	17	10	27	4	12	16
Mental anxiety and worry (not included above)	9	9	18	12	13	25
Religious excitement	19	8	27	20	13	33
Love affairs (including seduction)	1	3	4	2	3	5
Fright and nervous shock	1	4	5	3	2	5
Intemperance in drink	67	52	119	25	21	46
" sexual	3	...	3	4	...	4
Self-abuse	27	31	58	...	...	...
Venereal disease	4	...	4	...	...	...
Over exertion	...	4	4	1	...	1
Sunstroke	11	12	23	1	...	1
Accident or injury	17	8	25	...	...	...
Pregnancy	...	...	...	2	1	3
Parturition and the puerperal state	...	...	...	13	13	26
Lactation	...	...	...	4	1	5
Uterine and ovarian disorders	...	...	...	16	9	25
Puberty	...	...	...	1	1	2

CAUSES OF INSANITY OF LUNATIC ASYLUM PATIENTS, 1884 AND
1885—continued.

Probable Causes.	Number of Admissions.					
	Males.			Females.		
	1884.	1885.	Total.	1884.	1885.	Total.
Fevers ... ..	...	...	...	...	4	4
Privation and starvation	9	1	10	2	1	3
Old age	21	7	28	15	1	16
Change of life ... ..	...	...	...	6	5	11
Other bodily diseases or disorders ...	22	28	50	8	7	15
Hereditary influences ascertained (direct and collateral)	17	11	28	6	16	22
Congenital defect ascertained ...	10	10	20	12	10	22
Blood poisoning ... ..	...	...	...	...	1	1
Cerebral disease	4	...	4	3	...	3
Epilepsy	9	1	10	7	1	8
Too large dose of chloral ... ..	...	...	...	1	...	1
Other ascertained causes	10	2	12	1	...	1
Unknown	71	142	213	22	93	115
Previous attacks	48	11	59	43	39	82
	408	364	772	245	288	533

Blind
Asylum.

1535. The following information respecting the Victorian Asylum and School for the Blind has been supplied by the Rev. William Moss, secretary and superintendent of the institution:—

“The Victorian Asylum and School for the Blind was founded in November, 1866.

“The building in which its operations are conducted is situated on the St. Kilda road, within the boundaries of the city of Melbourne, and within about $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles from the central Post Office. It is of the Italian style of architecture, built of bluestone with white brick facings, and covers an area of 176 x 64 feet. The middle portion is three stories high, and has a tower, the latter rising 80 feet. On each side there is a wing of two stories, comprising school-room, dormitories, girls' work-room and play-room, laundries, &c. The dining-hall is in the quadrangle, and measures about 50 x 30 feet. This hall is also used at present for concerts and religious services. Three substantial stone workshops have been built, a short distance from the main building, measuring in the aggregate 200 x 22 feet. A play-shed, sitting-room, and cottage hospital have also been recently erected for the use of the inmates. Accommodation is afforded for 106 blind, viz., 60 males and 46 females.

“The land, in the centre of which the main building has been erected, consists of four acres, three of which were granted by Government, and the other acre was purchased by the committee. The entire cost of the premises, including land, is about £12,500.

“The objects of the institution are the instruction of the blind in the ordinary branches of an English education, including music, both vocal and instrumental, and in such trades and modes of obtaining a living as the blind are capable of learning. The principal method of instruction employed in the school is the Braille system. All the scholars are likewise taught to read Moon's type, as being more adapted to those whose sense of touch has become less sensitive through manual labour. The trades at present taught are brush, mat, and basket

making. The boys are also instructed in netting and the girls in knitting. The latter also assist in the laundry and general household work.

“Since the establishment of the institution 280 blind have been received into it, and, with few exceptions, those who have from time to time been discharged have been fairly educated, and a considerable portion were able when they left, either wholly or in part, to maintain themselves. Seven former pupils are earning a respectable living as teachers of the piano and other musical instruments, three of whom are also engaged as church organists.

“At the close of the year ending 30th June, 1886, the number of inmates was 103. During the year 12 new inmates were received, 11 were discharged, and 2 died. Of the 103 remaining, 57 were engaged in the industrial department, viz., 20 in the basket-shop, 14 in the brush-shop, 3 in the mat-shop, two lads were employed as netters, the wool-work and knitting class was composed of 18 girls. In the musical department, 22 were being taught the piano, 5 the organ, the band and choir numbered in all 30 members. The wool-work class having been separated from the school, the number of regular scholars was 30. Valuable additions had been made to the teaching apparatus and school library. A class had also been commenced for the study of the rudiments of Latin, French, Algebra, Physiology and Physical Geography.

“The following improvements were effected in the premises, viz., the erection of a new and commodious bath-room for the boys, a sitting room and lavatory for the girls, the plastering of the school-room, kitchen, lower dormitories, side walls of the stairs, passages &c., also additional asphaltting of the grounds adjoining the main building on both sides. The total cost of these improvements was £735.

“The Institution is supported by Government and municipal grants, private contributions, payments in aid of maintenance and education of pupils, and by earnings of the inmates. The total income for the year 1885-6, amounted to the sum of £6,228, viz., Government grant for maintenance, £2,000, and for building £500; municipal grants £292; private contributions £656; church collections £69; net profits of concerts and band performances £921; Legacy £25; interest on endowment fund £21; payments in aid of maintenance and education £513; sales of manufactures £1,193; other sources £38; making a total of £6,228. The entire expenditure for the year including the sum already mentioned for building, was £5,934. So that the income for the year exceeded the outlay by £294, and the bank overdraft was thus reduced from £942 to £648. To this overdraft, however, must be added the outstanding accounts for June, 1886, viz. £381, leaving a total liability for the year of £1,029, as against £1,256, the amount of the liability of the previous year.

“The average number of inmates for the year was 105, and by deducting the sums expended for new buildings, and for the raw material used in the workshops, viz., £735 and £869 respectively, which do not come under the heading of maintenance, the average cost per inmate for the year amounted to £39 18s. 2¼d.”

1536. The committee of the Victorian Deaf and Dumb Institution have supplied the following information for this work:—

Deaf and
Dumb
Institution.

“During the year the institution has fully maintained its efficiency and usefulness. The number of inmates on the roll at the beginning of the year was 72. Since then 12 have been discharged and 9 received, so that on the 30th June, 1886, there were 69 remaining in the institution, and the total number admitted since its establishment, in November, 1860, is 260. The health of the inmates, generally, has throughout the year remained good.

“The school work in every branch has been carried on with energy and success, and the pupils generally are making good progress, but there are a few exceptions, mainly arising from mental incapacity. The oral class is still carried on, and consists of six boys and three girls, some of whom are doing well.

“In the industrial department, four boys are being taught bootmaking, five tailoring, and twelve gardening, and all the girls are taught needlework and household duties.

“The receipts for the year, including the Government grant of £1,600, amounted in the aggregate to £3,296, and the expenditure to £3,189. The liabilities on 30th June were £349, and the assets £322, leaving a deficit of £27.

The above receipts included a legacy of £25, received from the executors of the late Mr. W. Sheeky, which sum has been added to the endowment fund, making a total to the credit of that account of £1,011.

“A former pupil of the institution, Mr. M. L. Miller, has presented to the committee a copperplate engraving of the building, executed by himself. The engraving forms an excellent frontispiece for the annual reports, and presents one illustration, among many others, of the benefits conferred by the institution in so educating the deaf and dumb that they can readily acquire a knowledge of trades whereby they are able to maintain themselves in after life.

“The committee commend the institution to their fellow citizens as one well worthy of their continued and generous support.”

Eye and Ear
Hospital.

1537. The Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital was established with the object of treating a class of diseases which not only are the cause of extreme suffering, but also, where unchecked, produce much helplessness and poverty, arising from deafness and blindness, thus entailing a heavy burden on the community. It received 267 in-patients during the year ended 30th June, 1885, making, with 40 in the institution at its commencement, a total of 307 treated. The patients discharged numbered 276, of whom 268 were stated to be cured or relieved, and 8 to be incurable; and 1 died.

Children's
Hospital.

1538. The Melbourne Free Hospital for Sick Children had 43 in-door patients at the beginning of the financial year. During the year ended 30th June, 1885, 364 patients were admitted, 327 were discharged, 35 died, and 45 remained at its close. This institution has deposited a small sum in one of the banks to form the nucleus of a convalescent fund.

Victorian
Infant
Asylum.

1539. The objects of the Victorian Infant Asylum are the prevention of infanticide, the saving of infant life from the many evils arising from baby-farming, and the rescuing of mothers of illegitimate children from further degradation. Every child admitted must be brought by the mother, or some authorized person, who must enter the child's name and the date of birth in a register kept for the purpose, and must undertake to contribute something towards its support. During the year ended 30th June, 1885, the number of infants admitted was 32, besides which 38 were in the institution at the commencement of the year. The number who died during the year was 8, and 48 were remaining at its close. Besides the infants, there were 44 mothers in the institution during the year, and 14 remained at the close of the year. The receipts during the year amounted to £1,105, of which £325 was from Government, and £780 from private sources; and the expenditure was £1,141.

Royal
Humane
Society of
Austral-
asia.

1540. A Humane Society was established in 1874, under the name of “The Victorian Humane Society,” for the purpose of circulating information respecting the most effectual methods of, and providing

suitable apparatus for, restoring persons apparently drowned or dead, and of bestowing rewards on those who risk their own lives to save those of their fellow-creatures. The following information respecting this society has been supplied by its secretary, Captain C. B. Payne, R.N.:—

“In April, 1883, Her Majesty’s permission having been first obtained, the Society assumed its present title, and in 1885 the society was incorporated as ‘The Royal Humane Society of Australasia.’ In 1881, the Hon. Sir W. J. Clarke, Bart., generously presented to the society the sum of £250 for the purpose of founding a gold or silver medal, to be awarded annually to the best case that comes before the society. Since its establishment, it has dealt with 543 cases, and made 371 awards. During the year ended 30th June 1886, 119 applications for awards were investigated (besides 52 cases still pending), with the result that 20 certificates, 27 bronze medals, 7 silver medals, and the Clarke silver medal, were granted. The receipts during the year amounted to £971, and the expenditure to £562. The institution has placed and maintains 238 life-buoys at various places on the coast, rivers, lakes, and reservoirs throughout all the Australasian colonies (its operations extend throughout the Australasian colonies) and Fiji. Of the honorary awards distributed in 1886, 22 were for deeds of bravery performed in Victoria, 5 for similar acts in New South Wales, 10 in Queensland, 10 in New Zealand, 4 in Tasmania, and 3 in South Australia. The society has 173 honorary correspondents, residing as follows, viz.:—36 in New South Wales, 28 in New Zealand, 27 in Queensland, 10 in Tasmania, 3 in South Australia, 5 in Western Australia, and 64 in Victoria. Owing to the appointment of these gentlemen and to the awards made by the society appearing to give complete satisfaction throughout the colonies, there is no urgency for forming local branches of the society in the other colonies. Renewed exertion is being made to induce both the Imperial and Australasian Governments to amend the law for the protection of life and property at sea, by introducing provisions respecting the carriage on board ship of suitable life-saving apparatus, to meet the numerous cases of shipwreck (which so often occur even to the best constructed and appointed ships, by collision, stranding, or foundering), and which alone can prevent or avert the lamentable loss of human life which, under the inadequacy of the present law, so often happens. The views of the society on this subject have been embodied in a letter transmitted for the consideration of the members of the Royal Commission on ‘Loss of Life at Sea,’ now sitting in London. Instructions for saving life from drowning, sunstroke, snake-bites, &c., are taught in the State schools throughout the colony, but this year the directors of this society are urging that something more is now required; and, to give practical effect to their views, have determined to award bronze medallions for proficiency in swimming exercise, with reference to saving life; the competition to be open to the scholars at all public and private schools in Victoria and hereafter in all the Australasian colonies. Efforts are being made to induce the Education departments of the other colonies to adopt the plan followed in Victoria by making the instructions for saving life, &c., a part of the curriculum in the public schools.”

1541. Since 1873 a society has been in existence in Melbourne for the purpose of affording assistance to discharged prisoners, and offering them inducements to return to the paths of honesty and industry. Relief is afforded by gifts of money, clothes, blankets, and other necessaries, and those who desire it are supplied for a time with board and lodging in Melbourne, or are provided with means to go into the interior or to leave the colony. The society also takes charge of and distributes the sums earned by the prisoners whilst under detention. The number of individuals relieved in 1884–5 was 485, of whom 465 were males and

Victorian
Discharged
Prisoners’
Aid Society.

20 females. The receipts in the same year amounted to £962, viz., £469 from the Penal Department, and £493 from private sources, and the expenditure to £1,025.

Industrial
Schools.

1542. There are 7 Industrial Schools in the colony, of which 4 are wholly and 3 partly maintained by the State; 2 of the latter are in connexion with the Roman Catholic denomination, and 1 is a Servants' Training School. The Government schools include the Experimental Farm at Dookie* and the Macedon State Nursery, where some of the boys are trained in farming and gardening pursuits; whilst the remaining two Government schools are merely receiving depôts, it being the policy of the department to send the children, as soon as possible after they are committed, either to the farm or nursery just alluded to, or to the assisted schools or foster-homes. The number of Industrial School children at the end of 1885 was 2,881, viz., 1,442 males and 1,439 females. Of these, only 46 were in the Government receiving depôts and 191 in assisted schools; of the remainder, 16 were at the Government Experimental Farm, 2 at the Macedon State Nursery, and 1,944† were boarded-out or adopted, and 682‡ were at service. The children committed to the Industrial Schools in 1885 numbered 289, viz., 171 boys and 118 girls. They were placed in the schools for the following reasons:—

	Boys.	Girls.
Neglected	167	114
Having committed a punishable offence ... ..	...	2
Uncontrollable	4	2
Total	171	118

Discharges
from Indus-
trial Schools.

1543. The number of distinct children who left the control of the Industrial Schools during the year was 349. These were discharged as follow:—

	Boys.	Girls.
From schools and boarded-out homes	24	42
From situations on expiration of term	216	30
Died (in schools, 10; while boarded-out, 22; at service, 1; in hospital, 3; with parents on probation, 1)	25	12
Total	265	84

Children
boarded-out
&c., from
Industrial
Schools.

1544. Children are boarded-out from the Industrial Schools from the time they are weaned to that at which they are able to earn their own living, the welfare of the boarded-out children being cared for by honorary committees, who send in reports to the Industrial Schools Department. The rate paid by the Government to persons in charge of

* For particulars of this farm, see paragraph 1030 *ante*.

† Of these, 96 were boarded out to parents, on probation, without pay.

‡ Of these, 46 were licensed to parents, on probation, without wages.

the boarded-out and adopted children is five shillings per week for each child. The number of such children at the end of 1885 was 1,944,* or 16 less than at the end of the previous year. In addition to these, 682† children at the end of 1885, as against 647 at the end of 1884, were at service or apprenticed.

1545. According to the figures, the number of children boarded out amounts to about two-thirds of the whole. It is stated by Mr. George Guillaume, the Secretary to the Victorian Industrial Schools Department, that in Scotland only about 1 in 6, and in England no more than 1 in 40 of the non-criminal State maintained children are boarded out.‡

Children boarded out in Victoria, England, and Scotland.

1546. Under the same management and control as the Industrial Schools, there are also 3 Reformatory Schools, one of which is a Roman Catholic institution. These schools are intended for children who have been convicted of crime; and criminal children committed by magistrates to industrial schools may be transferred thereto, and, in like manner, children not of sufficiently depraved habits to warrant their being detained in reformatories may be transferred to the Industrial Schools. The number of children belonging to reformatories at the commencement of the year 1885 was 355, and during the year there were 73 new committals, thus making a total of 428. Of these, 57 were discharged, viz., 30 at the request of relatives, 25 on expiration of term, and 2 to hospitals; and 1 died. At the end of the year 370 children—267 boys and 103 girls—remained in connexion with the institutions. Of the boys, 70 were in the reformatory at Ballarat, and 197 were at service; and of the girls, 33 were in the Protestant reformatory at Coburg, 23 were in the assisted reformatory school maintained under the supervision of the nuns at Oakleigh, and 47 were at service.

Reformatories.

Inmates of reformatories.

1547. The Government expenditure for the maintenance of industrial and reformatory school children amounted in 1885 to £43,320, as against which £1,369 was received for maintenance from parents, and £325 was derived from the sale of farm produce, &c., or £1,694 in all, which leaves £41,626 as the net amount expended by Government. The mean number of children maintained was 3,273; and the average net cost of each to the State was thus £12 14s. 4d.

Cost of maintenance of industrial and reformatory children.

1548. Of the 712 females who were inmates of Refuges during the year ended 30th June, 1885, 240 were at the Temporary Home at Collingwood; 353 were at the Magdalen Asylum, Abbotsford; 65 at the Melbourne Refuge; 29 at the Ballarat, and 25 at the Geelong, Refuge. Of the 240 fallen women in the Collingwood Home, 130

Refuges for fallen women.

* Of these, 96 were boarded out to parents, on probation, without pay.

† Of these, 46 were licensed to parents, on probation, without wages.

‡ See Industrial and Reformatory Schools Report, 1885, page 13.

were in a state of pregnancy, and, in due time, were sent to the Lying-in Hospital, and besides these there were 525 merely friendless women, who were admitted for short periods; and, in addition to the women, 29 children were allowed to accompany their mothers to the Madeline-street Refuge, and 4 to the Ballarat, and 3 to the Geelong Refuge. From the Magdalen Asylum 6, and from the Melbourne Refuge 2, were discharged for misconduct; and 5 in the Magdalen Asylum, and 2 in the Temporary Home, died. Besides these numbers, 213 from all the institutions were placed in service or restored to friends, 141 left voluntarily, and 4 (at the Temporary Home) were married. At the end of the year, the number remaining in the institutions was 332, of whom 262 were in the Magdalen Asylum.

Inebriate
Retreat.

1549. Forty-five patients — viz., 36 males and 9 females — were received into the Inebriate Retreat in 1885, as against 31 males and 14 females in 1884. Of those admitted in 1885, 37 entered voluntarily and 8 compulsorily; 20 had been constant and 24 periodical drinkers; 41 had had delirium tremens; 33 had been accustomed to use tobacco, and 3 are known to have had intemperate parents.* Forty-five patients were discharged during the year, and 8 remained in the institution at its close. This institution at present receives no pecuniary aid from the Government.

Governesses'
Institute
and Mel-
bourne
Home.

1550. The Governesses' Institute and Melbourne Home contains 12 sleeping-rooms, having 27,354 feet of cubic space, and makes up 35 beds. The inmates in 1885 numbered 159, of whom 107 were needle-women and servants, and 52 were governesses. The receipts during the year, all from private sources, amounted to £671, and the expenditure to £636.

Sailors'
Home.

1551. The Melbourne Sailors' Home contains 3 wards, divided into 95 separate rooms, each containing one bed. The total number of cubic feet in the wards is 42,156. The total number of inmates in 1885 was 1,854. No aid was received from Government during the year. The receipts from private sources amounted to £7,704, and the expenditure to £7,333.

Free dispen-
saries.

1552. Three free dispensaries furnished returns for 1884-5. One of these was a homœopathic institution. The individuals treated during the year ended 30th June, 1885, numbered 3,946, viz., 1,331, males and 2,615 females. The visits to or by these persons numbered 18,548. The total receipts amounted to £787, of which £260 was from Government and £527 from private sources. The total expenditure was £771.

* It is said that some patients are unwilling to acknowledge parental intemperance, and, consequently, this number is understated.

1553. Forty-three benevolent or philanthropic societies furnished returns for the year ended 30th June, 1885. These associations are for the relief of distressed or indigent persons, and are generally managed by ladies. The names of three of the societies indicate their connexion with the Jewish body, but no distinctive denomination is perceptible in the titles of the others. The persons relieved during the year numbered 7,263; the receipts amounted to £12,573, of which £4,530 was from Government and £8,043 from private sources, and the expenditure to £12,934.

Benevolent societies.

1554. Friendly Societies are associations chiefly of working men, whose object is, by means of small periodical payments, to provide for medical and monetary relief in sickness, and for payments to the families of members at the death of themselves and their wives. The following is an abstract of the particulars furnished respecting the Victorian Societies for 1878 and the last three years:—

Friendly Societies.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

	1878.	1883.	1884.	1885.
Number of societies	34	32	31	31
Number of branches	759	769	788	816
Average number of members ...	45,552	55,081	58,859	62,253
Number of members sick	8,207	9,482	9,286	10,920
Weeks for which aliment was allowed	55,289	70,722	71,907	78,508
Number of deaths of members ...	467	593	640	631
Number of deaths of registered wives	291	321	326	353
Income of benefit fund	£78,863	£104,077	£112,940	£122,102
Income of incidental fund	£83,016	£105,760	£112,727	£112,356
Total income	£161,879	£209,837	£225,667	£234,458
Expenditure of benefit fund	£59,325	£73,680	£73,781	£80,451
Expenditure of incidental fund ...	£80,725	£102,972	£108,250	£110,361
Total expenditure	£140,050	£176,652	£182,031	£190,812
Amount to credit of benefit fund...	£372,598	£496,793	£535,952	£577,603
Amount to credit of incidental fund	£16,310	£29,524	£34,001	£35,996
Amount of benefit fund invested...	...	£461,064	£491,123	£533,448
Amount of incidental fund invested	...	£19,681	£22,106	£23,989
Total amount invested	£348,429	£480,745	£513,229	£557,437

1555. From the figures in this table it may be ascertained that whilst during the seven years ended with 1885 the number of members, the annual expenditure of the benefit fund, and the annual income and expenditure of the incidental fund, increased at the same rate, viz., 36 per cent., the annual income of the benefit fund increased by as much as 55 per cent.; also that no less a sum than £205,005 was added to

Growth of Friendly Societies.

the benefit fund in the same period, or an increase of 55 per cent. on the amount (£372,598) standing to its credit at the end of 1878.

Sickness and
death rates.

1556. In proportion to the number of members of Friendly Societies, the average amount of sickness remains tolerably steady from year to year. The days per member for which alimant was allowed numbered 7·3 in 1878, 7·8 in 1879, 7·5 in 1880, 7·9 in 1881, 7·6 in 1882, 7·7 in 1883, 7·3 in 1884, and 7·7 in 1885. The death rate shows more fluctuation than the sick rate, as deaths per 1,000 members numbered 10·25 in 1878, 9·93 in 1879, 9·26 in 1880, 11·92 in 1881, 11·87 in 1882, 10·77 in 1883, 10·87 in 1884, and 10·14 in 1885.

Valuations
of Friendly
Societies.

1557. Friendly Societies are regulated under the Friendly Societies Act 1877 (41 Vict. No. 590), which, amongst other provisions, prescribes that each society shall furnish returns annually to the Government Statist, and once in every five years shall cause its assets and liabilities to be valued to the satisfaction of the same officer. As, in the event of the valuations being made outside the department of the Government Statist, which was originally contemplated under the Statute, it would probably have been necessary to reject some of them, which would have occasioned delay and caused trouble and expense to the societies, a qualified actuary has been appointed to that department, and the valuations are effected by him. The fees for valuation have purposely been fixed low, and average no more than threepence per member, the result being that, although it is competent for the societies to employ outside valuers if they desire it, as a matter of fact, they very rarely do so, and nearly all the valuations are now made by the departmental actuary, an arrangement which has worked in a most satisfactory manner.

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