

PART II.—FINANCE.

198. There are in most countries two bodies which have the power of levying taxes for certain defined objects, viz., the Central or General Government, and the Municipal or Local Government; therefore, in dealing with questions affecting the total amounts raised and expended, it is desirable that the accounts of both these bodies should be taken into consideration. It has been too often the custom, in making statements respecting the finances of a country, to take no account of municipal revenue, taxation, and expenditure. It will, however, be at once obvious that these elements cannot be ignored except at the expense of accuracy. Taxation for local purposes forms part of the burdens of a people just as much as that for general services; and in some countries certain functions are performed by the one government which in other countries are performed by the other. It should further be pointed out that, in comparing the amounts raised in the same country in different years, allowance should be made for changes arising from transfer of portion of the revenue of the General Government to Local Bodies, and *vice versa*; also for the abandonment of revenue for special public purposes which it is considered desirable to carry on by means of trusts, &c., and of the resumption of such revenue, should these be abolished. Of trusts in operation by which revenue has been affected, there is only one in Victoria, viz., the Melbourne Harbour Trust, which, for the sake of convenience, is treated in this work as a local body.

199. During the financial year 1882-3* the expenditure exceeded the receipts by £41,000, but a credit balance of £135,000 from the previous year not only wiped out this deficiency, but allowed of a credit balance of £95,000 being carried forward to the ensuing year. The exact figures are as follow:—

FINANCE ACCOUNT, 1882-3.†						£	s.	d.
Receipts	...	...	...	...	...	5,611,253	5	2
Expenditure ‡	...	...	...	...	...	5,651,885	8	4
						<hr/>		
Expenditure in excess of receipts	...	...	...	...	...	40,632	3	2
Credit balance from 1881-2	...	...	...	...	...	135,312	7	5
						<hr/>		
Credit balance carried to 1883-4	...	...	...	...	...	94,680	4	3
						<hr/>		

* Year ended 30th June, 1883.

† According to a statement distributed to Members of the Legislative Assembly on the 16th July, 1884, by the Honorable the Treasurer, the revenue of 1883-4 was £5,934,241, and the expenditure (exclusive of £10,100 for redemption of Treasury bonds) was £5,776,813. The estimated mean population of the same twelve months was 930,940; so that the revenue per head was £6 7s. 6d., and the expenditure per head £6 4s. 1d. It was understood that the figures in the statement referred to were not final.

‡ Not including £18,000 expended towards the redemption of Treasury bonds.

Treasury
bonds.

200. The expenditure as stated is less than that shown in the Treasurer's finance statement by £18,000, which sum was paid during the year towards the redemption of the Treasury bonds (amounting originally to £500,000) issued in the year 1880-81 for the temporary relief of the revenue.* For the present it is desirable that such transactions should be kept apart from the ordinary tables of revenue and expenditure, following out which principle the amount of the bonds still outstanding (£10,100) is excluded from the apparent credit balance shown by the Treasurer's statement (£104,780), whereby the actual credit balance (£94,680) is obtained as shown above.

Excess of
receipts and
contrary.

201. It has been shown that during the year under review there was a deficiency of revenue amounting to £40,632. If, moreover, recoups, &c.—which do not properly form part of the transactions of the year, but are included for the sake of convenience—be deducted, the actual deficiency will be increased to £49,819. This was the seventh occasion during the last ten years on which the expenditure was in excess of the receipts. The following figures show the surplus or deficiency in each of those years—the advances to be recouped and the recoups† being left out of the account :—

SURPLUS OR DEFICIENCY OF REVENUE, 1873-4 TO 1882-3.

		Receipts in Excess of Expenditure.		Expenditure in Excess of Receipts.
		£		£
1873-4	...	...	...	80,485
1874-5	...	...	...	126,949
1875-6	...	...	...	84,131
1876-7	...	177,599	...	...
1877-8	...	...	...	50,400
1878-9	...	...	...	274,504
1879-80	...	...	...	205,310
1880-81	...	14,079	...	...
1881-2	...	447,308	...	...
1882-3	...	...	...	49,819

Debit
balance in
ten years.

202. According to these figures, the transactions of the decennial period resulted in a net debit balance of £232,612. There was, however, a credit balance at the commencement of the decade sufficient not only to wipe out this amount but to admit of nearly £95,000 being carried forward to credit as already shown.‡

Changes
effected by
legislation,
&c.

203. The only change made during the year 1882-3 affecting the sources of revenue was the abolition of the beer duty, the Act under

* For particulars relating to these bonds, see paragraphs 318 and 319 *post*.† See paragraph 216; also tables following paragraphs 218 and 222 *post*.‡ See paragraph 99 *ante*.

which it was imposed having been allowed to lapse by effluxion of time. This took place on the 31st August, and thus the duty on beer was collected for only two months of the financial year, in consequence of which the receipts under that head show a decrease of £87,700.* On the other hand, the railways were extended by an average length of 131 miles over and above the extent open for traffic in 1881-2, and if £1,370 † per mile be allowed for such extension, the extra revenue derivable therefrom would be £179,500. Moreover, accidental or exceptional increases occurred as follow:—£12,300 in the amount received from estates of deceased persons, and £4,100 in that from the irregularly-paid land tax, or £16,400 in all. The revenue of 1882-3, as compared with that of the previous twelve months, is thus shown to have decreased by £87,700 as a result of the abandonment of the beer duty; but to have increased by £179,500 on account of the extension of railways, and by £16,400 in consequence of accidental causes—the net result being an increase of £108,200.

204. The total revenue raised in 1882-3 was £18,891 in excess of that in the previous year; but, by making allowances for recoups and for receipts from sources not common to both years, as shown in the last paragraph, there appears to have been an actual decrease of £95,600, thus:—

COMPARATIVE REVENUES, 1881-2 AND 1882-3.

	1881-2.	1882-3.
	£	£
Total revenue ...	5,592,362	5,611,253
Deduct recoups †	2,890	9,187
Revenue proper ...	£5,589,472	£5,602,066
Deduct amounts from sources not com- mon to both years	87,700	195,900
Comparative amounts ...	£5,501,772	£5,406,166

205. The revenue of 1882-3 was the largest ever raised in Victoria. It exceeded the revenue of 1881-2, which was the year in which the largest revenue had previously been realized, by about £19,000, as already stated, and exceeded the revenue of 1880-81, which was the year in which the next highest revenue had been raised, by over £420,000. §

* See table following paragraph 257 *post*.

† See table of "Earnings and Expenses of Railways per mile open" in Part Interchange *post*.

‡ See paragraph 216 *post*.

§ Figures showing the revenue and expenditure in each year from the first settlement of the colony will be found in the Statistical Summary of Victoria (first folding sheet) *ante*.

Expenditure,
1882-3 and
former
years.

206. The expenditure of 1882-3 also was much above that of any previous year, it being greater than in 1881-2—the year in which the next largest expenditure occurred—by over £500,000.* Prior to 1853, the annual expenditure never exceeded one million sterling; from 1853 to 1872-3 it usually fluctuated between two and three millions; from 1873-4 to 1879-80 it was between four and four and three-quarter millions; and in the last three years it exceeded five millions.

Revenue and
expenditure
per head,
1851 to
1882-3.

207. The revenue and expenditure per head for each year from that of separation from New South Wales to 1882-3 will be found in the following table:—

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE PER HEAD, 1851 TO 1882-3.†

Year.	Average Population of each Financial Year.	Revenue per Head.			Expenditure per Head.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1851	86,825	4	10	5	4	14	8
1852	132,905	12	5	11	7	7	4
1853	195,378	16	11	2	16	9	3
1854	267,371	11	11	0	15	13	1
1855	338,315	8	1	4	7	14	6
1856	380,942	7	16	1	7	0	1
1857	430,347	7	14	8	6	17	11
1858	483,827	6	2	11	6	7	10
1859	517,390	6	6	1	6	11	3
1860	534,055	5	15	5	6	4	2
1861	539,824	5	9	4	5	14	6
1862	548,080	5	19	3	5	10	11
1863	562,960	4	18	6	5	2	5
1864	586,450	5	0	9	4	19	11
1865	611,218	5	0	8	4	17	7
1866	629,038	4	17	11	5	2	5
1867	644,276	4	19	10	5	0	7
1868	663,092	4	17	5	4	16	2
1869	687,202	4	18	6	4	13	10
1870	713,195	4	11	5	4	16	2
1871 (six months)‡	731,528	2	6	3	2	8	0
1871-2	747,412	4	19	11	4	17	11
1872-3	758,984	4	16	0	4	12	4
1873-4	772,039	5	6	5	5	8	3
1874-5	783,274	5	8	2	5	10	3
1875-6	791,399	5	9	4	5	15	7
1876-7	801,717	5	17	10	5	8	9
1877-8	815,494	5	10	6	5	13	8
1878-9	827,439	5	11	8	5	16	10
1879-80... ..	840,620	5	9	11	5	16	0
1880-81... ..	860,067	6	0	7	5	18	10
1881-2	880,280	6	7	1	5	16	11
1882-3	904,646	6	4	1	6	4	11

* See footnote (§) to preceding page.

† For amounts per head in 1883-4, see footnote to paragraph 199 *ante*.

‡ The financial year was changed in 1871, so as to terminate on the 30th June instead of on the 31st December as formerly.

208. The revenue per head in 1882-3 was less by 3s., but the expenditure per head was greater by 8s., than in the previous year. The latter, moreover, was larger than in any previous year since 1859; as also was the former, with the exception of one year, viz., 1881-2. It will be observed that, in proportion to population, both revenue and expenditure declined pretty steadily year by year from 1862 to 1872-3, but in 1873-4 an augmentation took place, which has been maintained ever since.

Revenue and expenditure per head in 1882-3 and former years.

209. In the nineteen and a half years ended with 1882-3 the revenue raised exceeded the Treasurer's estimate on twelve occasions, or by £1,939,212; and was less than that estimate on eight occasions, or by £1,417,664. Deducting the latter from the former, the net amount by which the result exceeded the estimate is found to have been £521,548. The following table shows the revenue estimated and actually raised, also the difference between those amounts in each of the years:—

Revenue estimated and raised.

REVENUE ESTIMATED AND RAISED, 1864 TO 1882-3.*

Year.	Revenue.		
	According to Treasurer's Estimate.	Actually Raised.	More (+) or less (-) than Estimate.†
	£	£	£
1864	2,973,000	2,955,338	- 17,662
1865	3,095,400	3,076,885	- 18,515
1866	3,186,265	3,079,160	- 107,105
1867	3,379,078	3,216,317	- 162,761
1868	2,963,050	3,230,754	+ 267,704
1869	3,241,500	3,383,984	+ 142,484
1870	3,529,100	3,261,883	- 267,217
1871 (six months)	1,664,700	1,691,266	+ 26,566
1871-2	3,538,750	3,734,422	+ 195,672
1872-3	3,611,920	3,644,135	+ 32,215
1873-4	3,883,650	4,106,790	+ 223,140
1874-5	4,259,135	4,236,423	- 22,712
1875-6	4,109,750	4,325,156	+ 215,406
1876-7	4,385,716	4,723,877	+ 338,161
1877-8	4,476,880	4,504,413	+ 27,533
1878-9	4,855,666	4,621,520	- 234,146
1879-80... ..	5,208,828	4,621,282	- 587,546
1880-81... ..	5,093,647	5,186,011	+ 92,364
1881-2	5,241,544	5,592,362	+ 350,818
1882-3	5,584,104	5,611,253	+ 27,149

* The revenue for 1883-4 was estimated, in July 1883, at £5,779,775.

† If certain sums which were not included in the Treasurer's estimate be deducted, the deficiency in 1866 would be increased to £149,250; the excess in 1868 would be reduced to £197,864, and that in 1873-4 to £181,473, whilst the excess in 1871 (6 months) would be changed to a deficit of £7,612.

Years of excessive and defective estimates.

210. The year in which the revenue exceeded the estimate by the largest amount is shown to have been 1881-2, viz., by £350,818, whilst that in which it fell most short of the estimate was 1879-80, viz., by £587,546.

Expenditure authorized and incurred.

211. The sums voted by the Legislature in any year exceed, as is well known, those actually spent, the difference being sometimes erroneously designated the "savings" of the year. The following table shows the amounts voted and expended and the difference in each of the nineteen and a half years ended with 1882-3 :—

AMOUNTS VOTED AND EXPENDED, 1864 TO 1882-3.

Year.	Amounts—		Balance Unexpended.
	Voted.	Expended.	
	£	£	£
1864	2,153,324	1,968,053	185,271
1865	2,399,936	1,976,587	423,349
1866	2,493,213	2,227,297	265,916
1867	2,316,423	2,190,279	126,144
1868	2,355,307	2,199,504	155,803
1869	2,378,772	2,202,798	175,974
1870	2,338,927	2,086,736	252,191
1871 (six months)	1,077,228	1,004,283	72,945
1871-2	2,175,505	2,064,436	111,069
1872-3	2,405,238	2,074,127	331,111
1873-4	3,045,430	2,751,313	294,117
1874-5	3,226,289	2,869,488	356,801
1875-6	3,074,198	2,917,422	156,776
1876-7	2,996,676	2,815,361	181,315
1877-8	3,369,151	3,040,060	329,091
1878-9	3,423,656	3,186,240	237,416
1879-80... ..	3,699,552	3,499,089	200,463
1880-81... ..	3,775,604	3,628,061	147,543
1881-2	3,748,019	3,571,667	176,352
1882-3	4,538,516	4,228,871	309,645

Amount unexpended, 1864-83.

212. By adding the figures in the last column, it is found that the sum of the unexpended balances in the nineteen and a half years amounted to nearly 4½ millions sterling, the exact amount being £4,489,292.

Heads of revenue, 1881-2 and 1882-3.

213. The various sources from which the revenue of Victoria is derived may be grouped in four main divisions, viz. :—Taxation, Land Revenue, Revenue from Public Works, and that from Other Sources. The following is a statement of the amounts received under various heads* in each of those divisions during the last two financial years :—

* The heads of Revenue and Expenditure are arranged according to a classification agreed upon at a conference of representatives of several of the Australian colonies upon the subject of statistics, which was held in Tasmania in January, 1875.—See Report of Conference, with introductory letter by the Government Statist of Victoria, Parliamentary Paper No. 11, Session 1875.

HEADS OF REVENUE, 1881-2 AND 1882-3.

Heads of Revenue.*	Amounts Received.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1881-2.	1882-3.		
TAXATION.				
	£	£	£	£
Customs duties (including also wharf- age rates)	1,694,652	1,769,004	74,352	...
Excise	216,547	134,711†	...	81,836
Ports and harbours (chiefly tonnage dues)	26,263	27,787	1,524	...
Licences (business)	25,977	28,381	2,404	...
Duties on estates of deceased persons	74,368	86,648	12,280	...
Duties on bank notes	27,324	28,685	1,361	...
Stamp duty	131,020	133,433	2,413	...
Land tax	121,555	125,606	4,051	...
Total Taxation	2,317,706	2,334,255	16,549‡	...
LAND REVENUE.				
Land sales (including rents counting towards purchase money)	697,558	563,790	...	133,768
Rents of Crown lands (not counting towards purchase money)	126,268	114,845	...	11,423
Penalties under Land Acts	2,313	1,298	...	1,015
Total Land Revenue	826,139	679,933	...	146,206
PUBLIC WORKS.				
Railways	1,715,260	1,838,284	123,024	...
Water supply	126,624	130,558	3,934	...
Other public works	4,035	2,357	...	1,678
Total Public Works	1,845,919	1,971,199	125,280‡	...
OTHER SOURCES.				
Post and telegraphs	297,701	324,967	27,266	...
Mint charges	10,917	11,292	375	...
Mint subsidy returned	5,344	4,103	...	1,241
Fines, fees, and forfeitures (exclusive of Land Act penalties)	120,768	117,296	...	3,472
Rents (ordinary)	997	1,548	551	...
Reimbursements in aid	33,675	33,570	...	105
Interest and exchange	103,675	77,692	...	25,983
Miscellaneous receipts	26,631	46,211	19,580	...
Total Other Sources	599,708	616,679	16,971‡	...
Total Revenue Proper	5,589,472	5,602,066	12,594‡	...
Assets realized	2,890	9,187	6,297	...
Grand Total	5,592,362	5,611,253	18,891	...

* For further details, see paragraph 215 *post*.

† The excise duty on beer was in force for only the first two months of the financial year 1882-3; hence the falling-off as compared with 1881-2.

‡ Net figures.

214. It will be observed that the increase of £12,600 in the total revenue proper of 1882-3, as compared with that of the previous year, was the net result of an increase of £16,500 under the head of Taxation, of £125,300 under the head of Public Works, and of £17,000 under Other Sources—less a decrease of £146,200 in the land revenue. The increase in the amount raised by taxation will be referred to in subsequent paragraphs;* that under the Public Works division resulted from an increase under the head of Railways of £123,000,† Water Supply of £4,000—less a decrease under other Public Works of nearly £1,700; whilst the improvement under the division “Other Sources” was caused principally by an increase of £27,000 in the revenue from Post and Telegraphs, and of £20,000 in Miscellaneous Receipts; against which must be set a decrease of £26,000 under the head of Interest. Of the decrease in the land revenue, £134,000 occurred under the head of Land Sales, and over £11,000 under that of Rents.

215. The heads of revenue arranged in the preceding table are necessarily comprehensive, but, in order to give some idea of the subordinate items embraced therein, the details for the two years under some of the more important heads, except taxation, which will be dealt with later on,* are summarized as follow:—

HEADS OF REVENUE DETAILED, 1881-2 AND 1882-3.

Heads of Revenue.						1881-2.	1882-3.
						£	£
LAND SALES.							
Sales by Auction	...	...	...	...	...	165,547	109,293
„ under Deferred Payments	...	...	...	...	...	530,638	453,320
„ otherwise	...	...	...	...	...	1,373	1,177
Total						697,558	563,790
RENTS OF CROWN LANDS.							
Licences and Leases (not agricultural)	...	...	...	...	...	24,110	26,974
Pastoral Occupation	...	...	...	...	...	79,880	66,288
Auriferous and Mineral Lands (including Miners' Rights)	...	...	...	...	...	21,111	20,497
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	1,167	1,086
Total						126,268	114,845
WATER SUPPLY.							
Melbourne (Yan Yean)	...	...	...	...	...	101,258	105,493
Geelong	...	...	...	...	...	7,343	7,026
Gold-fields	...	...	...	...	...	18,023	18,039
Total						126,624	130,558

* See paragraph 256 *et seq.*

† It has been already stated that an increase of £179,500 is calculated to be due to the opening of new lines of railway. This, it will be observed, is greater by £56,500 than the whole increase in the Railway revenue, so that there must have been a considerable falling-off in the average revenue per mile.—See paragraph 203 *ante.*

Increased revenue, 1882-3, under various heads.

Heads of revenue detailed.

HEADS OF REVENUE DETAILED—*continued.*

Heads of Revenue.	1881-2.	1882-3.
PUBLIC WORKS (EXCLUSIVE OF RAILWAYS, ETC.).		
Alfred Graving-dock	£ 3,676	£ 1,899
Patent Slip	176	87
Fifty-ton Crane	183	371
Total	4,035	2,357
POST AND TELEGRAPHS.		
Postage	216,789	235,169
Commission on Money Orders	7,001	7,657
Electric Telegraphs	73,911	82,141
Total	297,701	324,967
FINES, FEES, ETC.		
Fines (principally in law courts)	4,557	5,980
Fees, Preparation and Registration of Grants, and Survey of Lands	36,669	30,999
„ Customs and Harbour Departments	8,503	9,098
„ Law Courts	3,339	3,595
„ Stamps, sale of	61,652	61,161
„ Other	6,048	6,463
Total	120,768	117,296
INTEREST AND EXCHANGE.		
Interest on Public Account	91,993	55,771
„ Loans to Local Bodies	11,650	21,770
„ Sundry	32	151
Total	103,675	77,692
MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS.		
Sale of Government Property	5,559	3,896
Transfers from Trust Funds to Revenue	11,904	11,174
Melbourne City Council (on account of park lands)	3,000	3,000
Immigration Tax on Chinese	400	920
Repayments to the Credit of Appropriations	926	3,621
Refunds of Compensation	115	1,638
Harbour Trust (for collection of Wharfage)	1,100	787
Customs Overtime receipts	471	310
Government Experimental Farm	1,319	1,509
Education	553	6,348
Fire Insurance—Government Printing Office ... ..	...	12,000
Other receipts	1,284	1,008
Total	26,631	46,211

216. The recoups in 1881-2 (£2,890) included £2,310 for mail service, of which all but £3 was received from the Imperial Government; £500 in repayment of an advance made to a mining company; and £80 towards the repayment by a volunteer corps of a sum of £349, advanced for the erection of an orderly room. The recoups in 1882-3 (£9,187) consisted of £9,107 received on account of moneys advanced to the loan account, viz., £6,107 for railway construction, and £3,000 for water supply; and £80 towards the further repayment of the advance to the volunteer corps referred to.

Recoups,
1881-2 and
1882-3.

Unrecouped
advances,
1882-3.

217. At the end of the financial year 1882-3, the total amount owing to the revenue was £64,709. More than half this consisted of interest due by local bodies on moneys lent for the construction of waterworks, it being arranged not only that the interest should be paid annually, but that a further amount, generally equal to about 2 per cent. upon the sum advanced, should be lodged each year to the credit of a sinking fund, in order that the debt might be eventually extinguished. The following are the particulars of the outstanding balances referred to:—

AMOUNTS DUE TO THE REVENUE, 30TH JUNE, 1883.

Particulars of Amounts owing.	Balance Outstanding.
	£
Advanced to Labour Bureau	760
„ Mining Companies, to assist in development of mining industry, &c.	19,313
„ a Volunteer Corps, for erection of an orderly room	109
„ for purchase of Echuca Waterworks, repayable in yearly instalments of £120 *	3,728
Interest on Loans for Local Waterworks	39,338
Balance of Compensation—to be refunded	361
The Treasurer—for debentures in trust	1,100
Total	64,709

Heads of
revenue,
1874-5 to
1882-3.

218. In the following table the heads of revenue † and the amounts received under each head are given for the last nine financial years:—

HEADS OF REVENUE, 1874-5 TO 1882-3.

Heads of Revenue.	Year.	Amounts Received.	Heads of Revenue.	Year.	Amounts Received.
TAXATION.		£	TAXATION—continued.		£
Customs duties (including also wharfage rates)	1874-5	1,628,235	Ports and harbours (chiefly tonnage dues)	1874-5	19,935
	1875-6	1,657,788		1875-6	22,104
	1876-7	1,631,832		1876-7	20,993
	1877-8	1,487,448 †		1877-8	22,647
	1878-9	1,378,384		1878-9	20,310
	1879-80	1,377,782		1879-80	19,194
	1880-81	1,474,778		1880-81	20,577
	1881-2	1,694,652		1881-2	26,263
	1882-3	1,769,004		1882-3	27,787
Excise § ...	1874-5	32,475	Licences (business)	1874-5	10,714
	1875-6	33,437		1875-6	10,712
	1876-7	34,768		1876-7	11,688
	1877-8	36,309		1877-8	17,150 ||
	1878-9	36,088		1878-9	20,116
	1879-80	41,230		1879-80	21,761
	1880-81	136,661		1880-81	23,906
	1881-2	216,547		1881-2	25,977
	1882-3	134,711		1882-3	28,381

* Since commuted for a cash payment of £1,504.

† See footnote to paragraph 213 ante.

‡ During and after this year, four-fifths of the wharfage rates for the Port of Melbourne, which had previously formed part of the Customs revenue, were transferred to the Harbour Trust.

§ Including revenue from beer and tobacco duties, which were imposed on the 1st November, 1880, and produced in 1880-81 £84,429. The beer duty expired by effluxion of time on the 31st August, 1882.

|| Including a proportion, amounting to £4,600, of publicans' licence fees, &c., received, for the first time, under Act 40 Vict. No. 566, section 111.

HEADS OF REVENUE 1874-5 TO 1882-3—continued.

Heads of Revenue.	Year.	Amounts Received.	Heads of Revenue.	Year.	Amounts Received.
TAXATION— <i>continued.</i>		£	LAND REVENUE— <i>continued.</i>		£
Duties on estates of deceased persons	1874-5	32,526	Rents of Crown lands (not counting towards purchase money)	1874-5	173,601
	1875-6	48,963		1875-6	184,776
	1876-7	44,104		1876-7	208,872
	1877-8	72,500		1877-8	186,337
	1878-9	47,983		1878-9	163,207
	1879-80	37,928		1879-80	147,994
	1880-81	78,141		1880-81	133,913
	1881-2	74,368		1881-2	126,268
1882-3	86,648	1882-3	114,845		
Duties on bank notes	1874-5	...	Penalties under Land Acts	1874-5	5,528
	1875-6	7,191*		1875-6	53,167
	1876-7	27,248		1876-7	54,232
	1877-8	26,672		1877-8	14,704
	1878-9	24,956		1878-9	3,774
	1879-80	22,470		1879-80	1,749
	1880-81	23,807		1880-81	1,281
	1881-2	27,324		1881-2	2,313
1882-3	28,685	1882-3	1,298		
Stamp duty ...	1874-5	...	PUBLIC WORKS.	1874-5	921,714
	1875-6	...		1875-6	983,033
	1876-7	...		1876-7	1,078,082
	1877-8	...		1877-8	1,202,280
	1878-9	...		1878-9	1,222,241
	1879-80	83,005†		1879-80	1,468,909§
	1880-81	115,844		1880-81	1,578,432
	1881-2	131,020		1881-2	1,715,260
1882-3	133,433	1882-3	1,838,284		
Land tax ‡ ...	1874-5	...	Water supply ...	1874-5	88,556
	1875-6	...		1875-6	92,947
	1876-7	...		1876-7	100,219
	1877-8	50,227		1877-8	104,819
	1878-9	202,251		1878-9	115,287
	1879-80	87,553		1879-80	117,871
	1880-81	129,990		1880-81	119,562
	1881-2	121,555		1881-2	126,624
1882-3	125,606	1882-3	130,558		
Tolls ...	1874-5	937	Other Public works	1874-5	5,897
	1875-6	197		1875-6	5,845
	1876-7	52		1876-7	5,638
	1877-8	...		1877-8	5,190
	1878-9	...		1878-9	5,879
	1879-80	...		1879-80	4,142
	1880-81	...		1880-81	2,470
	1881-2	...		1881-2	4,035
1882-3	...	1882-3	2,357		
LAND REVENUE.			OTHER SOURCES.		
Land sales (including rents counting towards purchase money)	1874-5	767,624	Post & telegraphs	1874-5	198,326
	1875-6	782,069		1875-6	209,213
	1876-7	783,311		1876-7	226,597
	1877-8	756,674		1877-8	239,002
	1878-9	802,254		1878-9	244,761
	1879-80	694,321		1879-80	249,414
	1880-81	701,276		1880-81	272,316
	1881-2	697,558		1881-2	297,701
1882-3	563,790	1882-3	324,967		

* For six months only.

† For about six months and a half only. The duty was imposed on the 18th December, 1879.

‡ The amount of land tax payable annually varied in the years named from £126,000 to £124,000. The fluctuations in the revenue above and below this limit were due to the irregular payment of the tax.

§ Including, for the first time, revenue derived from the Melbourne and Hobson's Bay system—purchased by the Government—amounting to £203,679. This amount consists of £43,728 net revenue for 1878-9 and £159,951 gross revenue for 1879-80.

HEADS OF REVENUE, 1874-5 TO 1882-3—continued.

Heads of Revenue.	Year.	Amounts Received.	Heads of Revenue.	Year.	Amounts Received.
OTHER SOURCES— continued.		£	OTHER SOURCES— continued.		£
	1874-5	7,504		1874-5	55,770
	1875-6	7,659		1875-6	16,317
	1876-7	7,512		1876-7	19,602
	1877-8	7,247		1877-8	20,449
Mint charges ...	1878-9	7,906	Miscellaneous receipts†	1878-9	28,167
	1879-80	10,158		1879-80	24,655
	1880-81	10,197		1880-81	41,124
	1881-2	10,917		1881-2	26,631
	1882-3	11,292		1882-3	46,211
	1874-5	4,299	SUMMARY.	1874-5	1,724,822
	1875-6	10,695		1875-6	1,780,392
	1876-7	7,104		1876-7	1,770,685
Mint subsidy re- turned	1877-8	447	Total taxation ...	1877-8	1,712,953
	1878-9	6,624		1878-9	1,730,088
	1879-80	6,350		1879-80	1,690,923
	1880-81	5,628		1880-81	2,003,704
	1881-2	5,344		1881-2	2,317,706
	1882-3	4,103		1882-3	2,334,255
	1874-5	111,304		1874-5	946,753
Fines, fees, and for- feitures (exclusive of Land Act penalties)	1875-6	112,664	Total land revenue	1875-6	1,020,012
	1876-7	121,676		1876-7	1,046,415
	1877-8	119,632		1877-8	957,715
	1878-9	113,177		1878-9	969,235
	1879-80	110,639		1879-80	844,064
	1880-81	113,736		1880-81	836,470
	1881-2	120,768		1881-2	826,139
	1882-3	117,296		1882-3	679,933
	1874-5	749		1874-5	1,106,167
Rents (ordinary)...	1875-6	674	Total public works revenue	1875-6	1,081,825
	1876-7	730		1876-7	1,183,939
	1877-8	824		1877-8	1,312,289
	1878-9	935		1878-9	1,343,407
	1879-80	799		1879-80	1,590,922
	1880-81	921		1880-81	1,700,464
	1881-2	997		1881-2	1,845,919
	1882-3	1,548		1882-3	1,971,199
	1874-5	28,981		1874-5	391,958
Reimbursements in aid *	1875-6	37,619	Total revenue from other sources	1875-6	442,927
	1876-7	34,372		1876-7	512,699
	1877-8	36,774		1877-8	502,459
	1878-9	28,637		1878-9	473,690
	1879-80	23,860		1879-80	472,071
	1880-81	31,290		1880-81	573,666
	1881-2	33,675		1881-2	599,708
	1882-3	33,570		1882-3	616,679
	1874-5	75,025	TOTAL REVENUE PROPER	1874-5	4,169,700
Interest and ex- change	1875-6	48,086		1875-6	4,325,156
	1876-7	95,106		1876-7	4,513,738
	1877-8	78,080		1877-8	4,485,412
	1878-9	43,483		1878-9	4,516,420
	1879-80	46,196		1879-80	4,597,980
	1880-81	98,454		1880-81	5,114,304†
	1881-2	103,675		1881-2	5,589,472
	1882-3	77,692		1882-3	5,602,066

* Embracing amounts received by departments which are not charged, or are only casually charged, with the collection of revenue, such as proceeds of the labour of prisoners, sums paid for the care of lunatics and of children in Industrial and Reformatory Schools; for the services of the police when specially applied for; for the sale of works by the Government Printer; for the storage of gunpowder; for quarantine expenses, &c.

† Including "Immigration deposits," £23,074, and accumulation of pension fund transferred to revenue, £14,500, in 1874-5; and fire insurance on Government Printing Office, £12,000, in 1882-3.

‡ Not including £500,000 raised by means of Treasury bonds.

HEADS OF REVENUE, 1874-5 TO 1882-3—continued.

Heads of Revenue.	Year.	Amounts Received.	Heads of Revenue.	Year.	Amounts Received.
		£			£
Recoups* from loans and assets realized	1874-5	66,723	GRAND TOTAL REVENUE	1874-5	4,236,423
	1875-6	...		1875-6	4,325,156
	1876-7	210,139		1876-7	4,723,877
	1877-8	19,001		1877-8	4,504,413
	1878-9	105,100		1878-9	4,621,520
	1879-80	23,302		1879-80	4,621,282
	1880-81	71,707		1880-81	5,186,011†
	1881-2	2,890		1881-2	5,592,362
	1882-3	9,187		1882-3	5,611,253

219. The following are the heads of expenditure‡ during the years 1881-2 and 1882-3, also the increase or decrease in the latter year:—

Heads of expenditure, 1881-2 and 1882-3.

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE, 1881-2 AND 1882-3.

Heads of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1881-2.	1882-3.		
	£	£	£	£
Civil list §	31,469	29,926	...	1,543
Legislature	56,487	65,788	9,301	...
Civil establishment ||	98,843	125,398	26,555	...
Judicial and legal	158,182	176,689	18,507	...
Police	201,063	204,561	3,498	...
Gaols and penal establishments	53,032	57,128	4,096	...
Defences	79,442	191,360	111,918	...
Public instruction, science, &c. ¶	600,799	598,970	...	1,829
Charitable institutions, medical, &c. **	249,367	267,400	18,033	...
Crown lands and agriculture	141,470	147,413	5,943	...
Railways	829,103	1,173,535	344,432	...
Placed to Railway Loan Liquidation and Construction Account ††	200,000	...	...	200,000
Water supply	37,269	34,534	...	2,735

* A recoup is a recovery in after years of moneys advanced in previous years from the revenue. It is included in the revenue in order to balance a similar amount charged to the expenditure of a previous year. Such advances are usually voted by Parliament in anticipation of a loan.

† Not including £500,000 raised by means of Treasury Bonds.

‡ See footnote to paragraph 213 ante.

§ Including Governor's salary, and salaries of Ministers, Commissioners of Audit, Agent-General, and expenses of Executive Council.

|| Including cost of the following departments:—Chief Secretary, Shorthand Writer, Agent-General's Office, Audit Office, Registrar of Friendly Societies, Inspector of Stock, Treasury, Stores and Transport, and Government Printer.

¶ Including expenditure under the following heads:—Education; Government Statist; Observatory; Government Botanist; Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery; Grants to Mechanics' Institutes, Free Libraries, &c; and Grants to Schools of Mines and Design.

** Including expenditure under the following heads:—Chief Medical Officer; Central Board of Health; Hospitals for Insane; Industrial and Reformatory Schools; and Grants to Charitable Institutions.

†† This account was created under the Land Act 1869 (33 Vlt. No. 360, secs. 42 and 43), whereby it was provided that an amount of £200,000, proceeding from the alienation of land, should be placed annually to a trust account, the moneys standing to the credit of which should be available for the repurchase of debentures or the further construction of railways. The total amount paid to this fund in accordance with these provisions, up to the 30th June, 1882, was £2,200,000, all of which, with the exception of a balance of £35,087, had been expended on the survey or construction of lines of railway. As no payment was made in 1879-80, the final payment was not made until 1881-2, the Act having previously expired on the 31st December, 1880.

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE, 1881-2 AND 1882-3—continued.

Heads of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1881-2.	1882-3.		
	£	£	£	£
Public works (exclusive of railways and water supply) *	550,681	636,611	85,930	...
Post and telegraphs	402,939	430,147	27,208	...
Customs	63,330	65,047	1,717	...
Harbours and lights	25,471	26,763	1,292	...
Mining	42,879	42,440	...	439
Mint subsidy †	20,000	20,000	...	...
Interest	1,173,350	1,222,675	49,325	...
Retiring allowances and pensions	57,789	60,569	2,780	...
Gratuities, compensations, &c.	32,127	28,256	...	3,871
Aborigines	7,498	7,498	...	...
Miscellaneous services	29,574	39,177	9,603	...
Total expenditure proper	5,142,164	5,651,885	509,721	...
Amounts to be recouped from loans, &c.	3,600	...	...	3,600
Grand Total	5,145,764	5,651,885	506,121	...

Chief items of increased and diminished expenditure

220. It will be observed that the principal heads under which increased expenditure is shown in 1881-2 are railways and other public works, defences, and interest. In regard to the decreases shown, the final payment to the Railway Loan and Construction Account under the Land Act 1869 having been made in 1881-2, the sum of £200,000, which was the amount paid to that account in 1881-2, appears as a decrease, and is the only important one shown.

Heads of expenditure detailed.

221. The details of the expenditure for the same two years under some of the more important heads are as follow:—

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE DETAILED, 1881-2 AND 1882-3.

Heads of Expenditure.	1881-2.	1882-3.
	£	£
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, SCIENCE, ETC.		
State School Education ‡	552,615	543,423
University	9,000	9,000
Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery	13,257	16,843
Mechanics' Institutes	9,000	9,000
Zoological and Acclimatisation Society	2,000	1,500
Royal Society	200	200
Schools of Mines	4,000	4,000
„ Design	1,087	1,035
Government Statist	3,639	4,796
„ Astronomer	3,983	6,153
„ Botanist	2,018	2,120
Purchase of Dr. Sonder's collection of dried plants ... ..	...	900
Total	600,799	598,970

* Exclusive of school buildings and of all public works paid for out of loans, but including endowments of municipalities under the Local Government Act.

† The annual subsidy to the Mint is £20,000; portion of this sum, however, has been repaid each year to the revenue.—See table following paragraph 213 *ante*, under the head “Mint subsidy returned.”

‡ See also table following paragraph 225 *post*.

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE DETAILED—*continued.*

Heads of Expenditure.	1881-2.	1882-3.
CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, MEDICAL, ETC.		
Charitable Institutions	£ 110,000	£ 110,560
Industrial and Reformatory Schools... ..	43,145	51,486
Hospitals for the Insane	86,973	93,441
Vaccination Allowances	5,500	5,500
Other Expenditure	3,749	6,413
Total	249,367	267,400
CROWN LANDS AND AGRICULTURE.		
Survey, Sale, and Management of Crown Lands	70,289	69,901
Melbourne Botanical Gardens and Domain	6,360	6,687
Other Public Parks, Gardens, and Reserves in and around Melbourne	9,564	9,184
Agricultural and Horticultural Societies, &c.	17,904	15,750
Fencing and Improving Public Parks and Gardens in country districts	8,414	11,362
Extirpation of Rabbits and other wild animals	9,949	12,000
Expenses under Vine Diseases Eradication Act	10,900	11,020
Other Expenditure... ..	8,090	11,509
Total	141,470	147,413
WATER SUPPLY.		
Melbourne—Salaries and Maintenance	15,835	16,101
Country Waterworks—Salaries and Maintenance	10,421	10,104
Sundry Works*	11,013	8,329
Total	37,269	34,534
PUBLIC WORKS (EXCLUSIVE OF RAILWAYS, ETC.).		
Works and Buildings (including furniture, fittings, &c.)—		
Government House	1,200	2,199
Parliamentary Buildings	1,999	6,424
Treasury Buildings	1,017	1,355
Printing Office, removal of, &c.	395	8,984
Sandhurst Public Offices, erection of	35	7,572
Court Houses	5,265	15,416
Police Buildings	15,594	15,883
Gaols and Penal Establishments	3,328	2,083
Military Road, works in connexion with	1,403	...
Public Library, National Gallery, and Museums	500	500
Observatory	350	325
Lunatic Asylums	8,992	11,826
Industrial and Reformatory Schools	1,867	1,809
Cemeteries	1,155	994
Sanatory Station—fencing, repairs, &c.	306	...
Lands and Agriculture	2,340	2,206
Raising Low-lying Lands, Spreading Silt, &c.	21,788	57,383
Draining Low-lying Lands	8,366	7,129
Post and Telegraph Offices	19,107	24,069
Customs Buildings	79	2,873
Wharves, Jetties, Harbours, Rivers, &c.	43,044	41,747
Lighthouses and Lightships	7,821	7,957

* Including the cost of conveying water by trains to districts suffering from drought in northern and north-western parts of the colony.

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE DETAILED—*continued.*

Heads of Expenditure.	1881-2.	1882-3.
PUBLIC WORKS (EXCLUSIVE OF RAILWAYS, ETC.)—<i>continued.</i>		
Works and Buildings (including furniture, fittings, &c.)—		
Rents and Furniture	20,495	19,498
Miscellaneous	4,426	7,850
Total Works and Buildings ...	170,872	246,082
Subsidy to Municipalities	310,000	310,000
Roads and Bridges	53,017	62,375
Other Expenditure (including cost of department)	16,792	18,154
Total	550,681	636,611
POST AND TELEGRAPHS.		
Post and Telegraph Office	229,901	245,853
Inland Mail Service	96,999	101,627
Steam Postal Communication*	44,144	44,141
Expenditure on Telegraph Lines	17,470	24,044
Subsidy towards Duplicate Telegraph Cable	14,080	14,421
Miscellaneous	345	61
Total	402,939	430,147
MINING.		
Mining Department	17,747	19,229
Purchase and Working of Diamond Drills	20,000	18,040
Mining Boards	3,500	3,500
Miscellaneous	1,632	1,671
Total	42,879	42,440
MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES (VOTES).		
Expenses of Commissions of Inquiry	1,948	5,202
Expenses in connexion with Melbourne International Exhibition	4,000	448
Expenses incurred by the Exhibition Trustees	926	4,148
Expenses in connexion with the Amsterdam Exhibition ... ..	...	1,645
Advertising	4,203	4,221
Expenses in connexion with the Census of 1881 †	7,000	500
Transport, &c.	1,132	1,168
Refunds, &c.	50	2,010
Carriage of Volunteer Fire Brigades	1,000	1,500
Rewards in connexion with the capture of the Kelly outlaws ... ..	...	4,425
Other Expenditure	5,315	9,910
Total	25,574	35,177

Heads of expenditure, 1874-5 to 1882-3.

222. The following are the heads of expenditure during the last nine financial years and the amounts expended under each head, the expenditure specially appropriated by Acts of Parliament other than the Appropriation Act being distinguished from that sanctioned under that Act in accordance with the annual votes of the Legislature:—

* Including sums paid as gratuities to masters of vessels.

† The whole cost of taking and compiling the Census of 1881 was £23,133.

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE, 1874-5 TO 1882-3.

Heads of Expenditure.	Year.	Expenditure from—		Total.
		Special Appropriations.	Votes.	
		£	£	£
Civil list* ...	1874-5	70,984	...	70,984
	1875-6	71,227	...	71,227
	1876-7	29,604	...	29,604
	1877-8	29,564	...	29,564
	1878-9	29,636	...	29,636
	1879-80	27,728	...	27,728
	1880-81	24,509	...	24,509
	1881-2	28,469	3,000	31,469
	1882-3	29,926	...	29,926
Legislature ...	1874-5	40,813	15,739	56,552
	1875-6	41,612	15,909	57,521
	1876-7	43,918	14,889	58,807
	1877-8	48,162	15,878	64,040
	1878-9	42,710	16,502	59,212
	1879-80	44,306	16,502	60,808
	1880-81	45,664	16,964	62,628
	1881-2	39,677	16,810	56,487
	1882-3	47,768	18,020	65,788
Civil establishment † ...	1874-5	...	101,207	101,207
	1875-6	...	97,626	97,626
	1876-7	...	99,914	99,914
	1877-8	...	98,625	98,625
	1878-9	...	98,224	98,224
	1879-80	...	101,704	101,704
	1880-81	...	98,274	98,274
	1881-2	...	98,843	98,843
	1882-3	...	125,398	125,398
Judicial and legal ...	1874-5	16,417	156,558	172,975
	1875-6	16,125	154,469	170,594
	1876-7	16,750	154,932	171,682
	1877-8	16,567	154,498	171,065
	1878-9	14,000	158,056	172,056
	1879-80	14,000	157,664	171,664
	1880-81	15,047	142,444	157,491
	1881-2	16,919	141,263	158,182
	1882-3	17,000	159,689	176,689
Police ...	1874-5	...	198,312	198,312
	1875-6	...	199,738	199,738
	1876-7	...	197,371	197,371
	1877-8	...	207,119	207,119
	1878-9	...	209,041	209,041
	1879-80	...	233,732	233,732
	1880-81	...	207,674	207,674
	1881-2	...	201,063	201,063
	1882-3	...	204,561	204,561

* Including Governor's salary, and salaries of Ministers, Commissioners of Audit, Agent-General, and expenses of Executive Council, in all the years; also Public Worship until the middle of 1875-6, when State Aid was abolished.

† Including cost of the following departments:—Chief Secretary, Shorthand Writer, Agent-General's Office, Audit Office, Registrar of Friendly Societies, Inspector of Stock, Treasury, Stores and Transport, and Government Printer.

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE, 1874-5 TO 1882-3—continued.

Heads of Expenditure.	Year.	Expenditure from—		Total.
		Special Appropriations.	Votes.	
		£	£	£
Gaols and penal establishments	1874-5	...	60,469	60,469
	1875-6	...	61,051	61,051
	1876-7	...	60,008	60,008
	1877-8	...	58,132	58,132
	1878-9	...	58,442	58,442
	1879-80	...	56,636	56,636
	1880-81	...	53,565	53,565
	1881-2	...	53,032	53,032
	1882-3	...	57,128	57,128
Defences	1874-5	...	53,507	53,507
	1875-6	...	58,233	58,233
	1876-7	...	74,020	74,020
	1877-8	...	121,266	121,266
	1878-9	...	118,122	118,122
	1879-80	...	93,779	93,779
	1880-81	...	78,732	78,732
	1881-2	...	79,442	79,442
	1882-3	...	191,360	191,360
Public instruction, science, &c.*	1874-5	9,000	408,136	417,136
	1875-6	9,000	466,280	475,280
	1876-7	9,000	483,939	492,939
	1877-8	9,000	512,725	521,725
	1878-9	9,000	563,900	572,900
	1879-80	11,250	560,742	571,992
	1880-81	9,000	575,225	584,225
	1881-2	9,000	591,799	600,799
	1882-3	9,000	589,970	598,970
State school buildings † ...	1874-5	...	181,440	181,440
Charitable institutions, medical, &c. ‡	1874-5	...	273,537	273,537
	1875-6	...	270,318	270,318
	1876-7	...	278,970	278,970
	1877-8	...	281,509	281,509
	1878-9	...	277,016	277,016
	1879-80	...	272,539	272,539
	1880-81	...	241,907	241,907
	1881-2	...	249,367	249,367
	1882-3	...	267,400	267,400
Crown lands and agriculture ...	1874-5	...	140,246	140,246
	1875-6	...	139,070	139,070
	1876-7	...	164,011	164,011
	1877-8	...	150,248	150,248
	1878-9	...	152,850	152,850
	1879-80	...	159,010	159,010
	1880-81	...	127,374	127,374
	1881-2	...	141,470	141,470
	1882-3	...	147,413	147,413

* Including expenditure under the following heads:—Education; Government Statist; Observatory; Government Botanist; Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery; Grants to Mechanics' Institutes, Free Libraries, &c.; and Grants to Schools of Mines and Design.

† Since 1874-5 the amount expended on school buildings has been paid entirely out of loans.—See table following paragraph 224 *post*.

‡ Including expenditure under the following heads:—Chief Medical Officer; Central Board of Health; Hospitals for Insane; Industrial and Reformatory Schools; and Grants to Charitable Institutions.

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE, 1874-5 TO 1882-3—continued.

Heads of Expenditure.	Year.	Expenditure from—		Total.
		Special Appropriations.	Votes.	
		£	£	£
Railways	1874-5	...	437,931	437,931
	1875-6	...	489,751	489,751
	1876-7	...	562,517	562,517
	1877-8	...	616,207	616,207
	1878-9	...	662,178	662,178
	1879-80	...	771,527	771,527
	1880-81	...	818,601	818,601
	1881-2	...	829,103	829,103
	1882-3	...	1,173,535	1,173,535
Placed to railway loan liquidation and construction account*	1874-5	100,000	...	100,000
	1875-6	300,000	...	300,000
	1876-7	200,000	...	200,000
	1877-8	100,000	...	100,000
	1878-9	200,000	...	200,000
	1879-80	...	...	...
	1880-81	200,000	...	200,000
	1881-2	200,000	...	200,000
	1882-3	...	...	...
Water supply	1874-5	...	17,013	17,013
	1875-6	...	17,192	17,192
	1876-7	...	18,099	18,099
	1877-8	...	22,621	22,621
	1878-9	...	28,501	28,501
	1879-80	...	26,053	26,053
	1880-81	...	32,339	32,339
	1881-2	...	37,269	37,269
	1882-3	...	34,534	34,534
Public works (exclusive of railways and water supply)†	1874-5	315,640	339,855	655,495
	1875-6	347,754	332,465	680,219
	1876-7	310,704	242,283	552,987
	1877-8	310,000	252,505	562,505
	1878-9	310,000	276,401	586,401
	1879-80	155,000‡	476,593‡	631,593
	1880-81	...	587,593	587,593
	1881-2	...	550,681	550,681
	1882-3	...	636,611	636,611

* This account was created under the Land Act 1869 (33 Vict. No. 360, secs. 42 and 43), whereby it was provided that an amount of £200,000, proceeding from the alienation of land, should be placed annually to a trust account, the moneys standing to the credit of which should be available for the repurchase of debentures or the further construction of railways. The total amount paid to this fund in accordance with these provisions, up to the 30th June, 1883, was £2,200,000, all of which, with the exception of a balance of £36,224, had been expended on the survey or construction of lines of railway. This Act expired on the 31st December, 1880, and the final payment was made in 1881-2.

† Exclusive of school buildings and of all public works paid for out of loans, but including endowments of municipalities under the Local Government Act. The expenditure on the Port of Melbourne, included under this head prior to 1st January, 1877, has since been paid out of the Harbour Trust fund; see next table.

‡ The provision of the Local Government Act 1874 authorizing the annual subsidy of £310,000 to municipalities having lapsed on the 31st December, 1879, amounts equivalent to the subsidy have since been voted by Parliament. This accounts for the gradual transfer of this item of expenditure from Special Appropriations to Votes.

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE, 1874-5 TO 1882-3—continued.

Heads of Expenditure.	Year.	Expenditure from—		Total.
		Special Appropriations.	Votes.	
		£	£	£
Post and telegraphs *	1874-5	63,164	294,726	357,890
	1875-6	20,928	280,981	301,909
	1876-7	42,930	298,467	341,397
	1877-8	31,091	312,958	344,049
	1878-9	33,329	333,120	366,449
	1879-80	38,243	338,088	376,331
	1880-81	38,541	375,533	414,074
	1881-2	44,144	358,795	402,939
	1882-3	44,141	386,006	430,147
Customs	1874-5	...	57,364	57,364
	1875-6	...	56,311	56,311
	1876-7	...	56,186	56,186
	1877-8	...	64,058	64,058
	1878-9	...	59,467	59,467
	1879-80	...	62,226	62,226
	1880-81	...	58,621	58,621
	1881-2	...	63,330	63,330
	1882-3	...	65,047	65,047
Harbours and lights ...	1874-5	...	35,035	35,035
	1875-6	...	34,703	34,703
	1876-7	...	29,980	29,980
	1877-8	...	29,017	29,017
	1878-9	...	28,876	28,876
	1879-80	...	29,272	29,272
	1880-81	...	23,448	23,448
	1881-2	...	25,471	25,471
	1882-3	...	26,763	26,763
Mining	1874-5	3,500	27,153	30,653
	1875-6	3,500	34,653	38,153
	1876-7	3,500	34,043	37,543
	1877-8	3,500	24,780	28,280
	1878-9	3,500	30,082	33,582
	1879-80	3,500	24,204	27,704
	1880-81	3,500	27,406	30,906
	1881-2	3,500	39,379	42,879
	1882-3	3,500	38,940	42,440
Mint subsidy † ...	1874-5	20,000	...	20,000
	1875-6	20,000	...	20,000
	1876-7	18,333	...	18,333
	1877-8	20,000	...	20,000
	1878-9	20,000	...	20,000
	1879-80	20,000	...	20,000
	1880-81	20,000	...	20,000
	1881-2	20,000	...	20,000
	1882-3	20,000	...	20,000

* Under this head the amounts paid out of Special Appropriations represent, as nearly as possible, the net expenditure on account of Steam Postal Communication (including gratuities to masters of vessels), the contributions by other Governments having been deducted.

† The annual subsidy to the Mint is £20,000; portion of this sum, however, has been repaid each year to the revenue.—See table following paragraph 218 *ante*, under the head "Mint subsidy returned."

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE, 1874-5 TO 1882-3—continued.

Heads of Expenditure.	Year.	Expenditure from—		Total.
		Special Appropriations.	Votes.	
		£	£	£
Redemption of loans ...	1874-5	35,000	...	35,000
	1875-6	...	...	...
	1876-7	...	...	...
	1877-8	...	...	...
	1878-9	...	...	...
	1879-80	...	...	...
	1880-81	...	...	...
	1881-2	...	...	...
	1882-3	...	...	...
Interest and expenses ...	1874-5	742,008	...	742,008
	1875-6	793,600	...	793,600
	1876-7	816,803	1,867	818,670
	1877-8	920,911	...	920,911
	1878-9	914,698	3,842	918,540
	1879-80	1,002,722	...	1,002,722
	1880-81	1,068,223	43,927*	1,112,150
	1881-2	1,157,340	16,010*	1,173,350
	1882-3	1,204,294	18,381*	1,222,675
Retiring allowances and pensions † ...	1874-5	26,529	2,587	29,116
	1875-6	27,423	2,426	29,849
	1876-7	26,214	4,725	30,939
	1877-8	28,370	5,587	33,957
	1878-9	33,952	9,153	43,105
	1879-80	35,202	9,336	44,538
	1880-81	36,817	12,499 †	49,316
	1881-2	41,749	16,040 †	57,789
	1882-3	40,474	20,095 †	60,569
Gratuities, compensations, &c. †	1874-5	3,078	10,884	13,962
	1875-6	1,752	5,963	7,715
	1876-7	3,478	7,187	10,665
	1877-8	42,582	7,146	49,728
	1878-9	13,159	33,444	46,603
	1879-80	2,544	19,416	21,970
	1880-81	12,970	34,085	47,055
	1881-2	9,299	22,828 §	32,127
	1882-3	2,911	25,345	28,256
Aborigines ...	1874-5	...	6,209	6,209
	1875-6	...	6,100	6,100
	1876-7	...	7,500	7,500
	1877-8	...	7,464	7,464
	1878-9	...	10,499	10,499
	1879-80	...	7,500	7,500
	1880-81	...	7,499	7,499
	1881-2	...	7,498	7,498
	1882-3	...	7,498	7,498

* Chiefly interest and expenses in connexion with the Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway Debentures.

† Extensive reductions in the public service were made in the years 1877-8 to 1879-80, which caused an increase in the amount of retiring allowances, gratuities, and compensations.

‡ Including a vote of £2,600 in 1880-81, of £5,000 in 1881-2, and of £8,000 in 1882-3, to meet deficiencies in the Police Superannuation Fund.

§ Including £10,207 paid as compensation to officers whose services were dispensed with between the 8th January and 9th April, 1878.

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE, 1874-5 TO 1882-3—continued.

Heads of Expenditure.	Year.	Expenditure from—		Total.
		Special Appropriations.	Votes.	
		£	£	£
Miscellaneous services * ...	1874-5	2,500	30,108	32,608
	1875-6	2,500	30,627	33,127
	1876-7	2,500	21,497	23,997
	1877-8	2,500	31,222	33,722
	1878-9	2,500	36,724	39,224
	1879-80	2,500	29,772	32,272
	1880-81	4,000	58,244	62,244
	1881-2	4,000	25,574	29,574
	1882-3	4,000	35,177	39,177
TOTAL EXPENDITURE PROPER	1874-5	1,448,633	2,848,016	4,296,649
	1875-6	1,655,421	2,753,866	4,409,287
	1876-7	1,523,734	2,812,405	4,336,139
	1877-8	1,562,247	2,973,565	4,535,812
	1878-9	1,626,484	3,164,440	4,790,924
	1879-80	1,356,995	3,446,295	4,803,290
	1880-81	1,478,271	3,621,954	5,100,225
	1881-2	1,574,097	3,568,067	5,142,164†
	1882-3	1,423,014	4,228,871	5,651,885†
Amounts to be recouped from loans, &c....	1874-5	...	21,472	21,472
	1875-6	...	163,556	163,556
	1876-7	19,001	2,956	21,957
	1877-8	32,042	66,495	98,537
	1878-9	20,655	21,800	42,455
	1879-80	18,945	52,794	71,739
	1880-81	2,310	6,107	8,417
	1881-2	...	3,600	3,600
	1882-3	...	...	...
GRAND TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1874-5	1,448,633	2,869,488	4,318,121
	1875-6	1,655,421	2,917,422	4,572,843
	1876-7	1,542,735	2,815,361	4,358,096
	1877-8	1,594,289	3,040,060	4,634,349
	1878-9	1,647,139	3,186,240	4,833,379
	1879-80	1,375,940	3,499,089	4,875,029
	1880-81	1,480,581	3,628,061	5,108,642
	1881-2	1,574,097	3,571,667	5,145,764†
	1882-3	1,423,014	4,228,871	5,651,885†

Increased or decreased expenditure in 1882-3 under various heads.

223. It will be observed that in 1882-3, as compared with the previous year, a decrease of about £151,000 occurred in the total expenditure from Special Appropriations, but an increase of £657,000 in that from Votes—resulting in a net increase of £506,000. The decrease of £151,000 is more than accounted for by the non-appearance in the

* The amounts in the column for Special Appropriations are the unexpended balances of the Pension Fund (Schedule D, Part V.), repaid each year to the revenue.

† Not including £471,900 in 1881-2 and £18,000 in 1882-3 towards the redemption of Treasury bonds.

accounts for 1882-3 of the usual payment of £200,000 to the Railway Loan Liquidation and Construction Account—the last instalment authorized by the Act having been paid in the previous year,* whilst, on the other hand, an increase of £47,000 took place under the head of Interest. The most important increases in the expenditure from votes are:—Railways, £344,000, being greater by over £200,000 than the corresponding increase in the railway revenue†; Defences, £112,000; Public Works, £86,000; Civil Establishment, £27,000; Post and Telegraphs, £27,000; Judicial and Legal, £18,000; Charitable Institutions, &c., £18,000; Miscellaneous, nearly £10,000; thus accounting for an increase of £643,000.

224. In addition to the ordinary expenditure from revenue, large sums are annually disbursed for various purposes from amounts raised by means of loans. The following table shows the details of such expenditure prior to 1876-7 and during each subsequent year; also the expenditure on the Port of Melbourne during each of the seven years which have elapsed since the establishment of the Harbour Trust on 1st January, 1877. This is intended to supplement the table of ordinary expenditure‡ by exhibiting those items which, having never been, or having ceased to be, a charge on the general revenue, are treated in separate accounts:—

EXPENDITURE OF PROCEEDS OF LOANS AND OF THE HARBOUR TRUST FUND.

Purposes of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended.§							
	Prior to 1876-7.	1876-7.	1877-8.	1878-9.	1879-80.	1880-81	1881-2.	1882-3.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Railways	12,075,958	118,724	445,842	1,082,781	1,240,668	618,427	794,468	2,187,183
Water supply	2,537,767	245,647	185,165	45,787	101,968	107,171	53,886	392,814
State school buildings || ..	99,899	168,320	240,386	91,427	66,514	85,395	12,817	94,439
Alfred graving-dock	339,152	2,442	225	..	..	..	..	..
Defences	98,299	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other public works, &c. ..	92,664	58,851	55,217	85,370	78,403	66,740	72,174	42,856
Total from Loans ..	15,243,739	593,984	926,835	1,305,365	1,487,553	877,733	933,345	2,717,292
Maintenance & improvement of the Port of Melbourne ¶ ..	||	16,940	92,136	91,014	103,540	93,890	121,580	189,573
Grand Total ..	15,243,739	610,924	1,018,971	1,396,379	1,591,093	971,623	1,054,925	2,906,865

* See footnote (*) to page 119 *ante*.

† See table following paragraph 213 *ante*.

‡ See table following paragraph 222 *ante*.

§ These are the actual payments during the various years shown, whether made direct from the loans, &c., or indirectly through the general revenue, to be subsequently recouped.

|| The expenditure on State school buildings prior to 1875-6, and that on the Port of Melbourne prior to the middle of 1876-7, were chargeable to the general revenue, and are therefore included in the table following paragraph 222 *ante*.

¶ The figures in this line apply to the years ended 31st December. For details of Harbour Trust expenditure, see table following paragraph 300 *post*.

Expenditure
on public
instruction.

225. The system of free public instruction, which was legalized under Act 36 Vict. No. 447, came into force on the 1st January, 1873, and since that date nearly six and a quarter millions sterling have been expended by the State in giving effect to its provisions. Of this amount more than a fifth was for the erection, maintenance, and rent of school buildings; and the remainder, with the exception of £47,000 expended on pensions and gratuities, represents the cost of education, including the cost of office staff, inspection, instruction, and contingencies. The following table shows the expenditure under those heads for each year from 1872-3 to 1882-3, also the total for the period:—

EXPENDITURE ON PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,* 1872-3 TO 1882-3.

Year.	Cost of Instruction, including Salaries and Contingencies.	Pensions and Gratuities.	Cost of Erection† and Maintenance, and Rent of School Buildings.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1872-3 ...	217,704	208	8,759	226,671
1873-4 ...	347,641	500	154,976	503,117
1874-5 ...	367,898	500	191,440	559,838
1875-6 ...	423,694	555	112,599	536,848
1876-7 ...	439,723	2,155	178,337	620,215
1877-8 ...	469,547	2,760	248,649	720,956
1878-9 ...	519,545	6,134	98,944	624,623
1879-80 ...	503,923	10,366	82,413	596,702
1880-81 ...	515,644	6,726	105,189	627,559
1881-2 ...	526,397	8,321	39,035	573,753
1882-3 ...	517,849	9,167	120,013	647,029
Total ...	4,849,565	47,392	1,340,354	6,237,311

Cost of
system at
different
periods.

226. It will be observed that the annual cost of instruction increased rapidly until 1878-9, but during the last five years it has been tolerably uniform, averaging about £516,000 per annum. During the same five years, as a natural consequence of the system becoming matured, the expenditure on school buildings has considerably fallen off—the cost for the last year, however, being somewhat higher than in the four preceding years. It may be remarked that prior to 1872-3 the total annual expenditure on public instruction was under £200,000.

Expenditure
on immi-
gration.

227. Since the separation of Victoria from New South Wales upwards of two millions sterling have been expended on the introduction of immigrants from the United Kingdom. Of late years, however, it has not been the policy of the State to devote much money to this object, and only £11 was so spent during the last two years. The following are the amounts spent in introducing immigrants during each year, beginning with the one in which separation took place:—

* Further details are given in Part Religious, Moral, and Intellectual Progress, *post*.

† Including expenditure from loans.

EXPENDITURE ON IMMIGRATION, 1851 TO 1882-3.*

		£			£
1851	...	116,363	1869	...	50,637
1852	...	206,552	1870	...	33,313
1853	...	209,925	1871 (six months)		14,840
1854	...	390,352	1871-2	...	21,808
1855	...	187,355	1872-3	...	4,094
1856	...	115,716	1873-4	...	2,251
1857	...	115,877	1874-5	...	1,583
1858	...	59,023	1875-6	...	760
1859	...	48,809	1876-7	...	500
1860	...	6,948	1877-8	...	366
1861	...	63,739	1878-9	...	342
1862	...	115,209	1879-80	...	28
1863	...	50,081	1880-81	...	104
1864	...	47,887	1881-2	...	...
1865	...	41,808	1882-3	...	11
1866	...	35,813			
1867	...	38,402	Total	...	£2,013,045
1868	...	32,549			

228. Victoria is the only one of the Australasian colonies which now expends virtually no money on immigration. The other colonies in 1882 spent in all £197,000 on that object, as against £173,000 in the previous year, the amounts per head of the population in the former year ranging from 1d. in New Zealand to 10s. in Queensland. The following are the total amounts and the amounts per head expended in each colony:—

Expenditure on immigration in Australasian colonies, 1882.

EXPENDITURE ON IMMIGRATION IN THE AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES.

Colony.	Year.	Expenditure on Immigration.	
		Total Amount.	Amount per Head of Population.
		£	s. d.
Victoria	1882-3	11	...
New South Wales	1882	46,131	1 1
Queensland	1881-2	113,689	10 0
South Australia	1882	30,490	2 1
Western Australia	"	3,000	1 11
Tasmania	"	1,870	0 3
New Zealand	"	1,982	0 1
Total	...	197,173	1 4

229. During the ten years ending with 1880 the total expenditure on immigration was as follows in the colonies named:—Victoria, £31,836; New South Wales, £395,826; South Australia, £440,776; New Zealand, £1,961,478.†

Expenditure on immigration in Australasian colonies, 1871-80.

* Prior to 1870 the figures denote the whole expenditure in connexion with immigration, but from that date onwards it has not been possible to include the amounts for salaries and contingencies, in consequence of the Immigration Department having been amalgamated with the departments of Mercantile Marine and Distilleries.

including £74,410 expenditure by the Provincial Governments during the years 1871-6.

Expenditure
on public
works.

230. During the last thirty-three years over forty-five millions sterling have been expended—partly out of loans and partly out of the general revenue—by the General Government of Victoria on public works, including railways, roads and bridges, water supply, and other works and buildings. Of this amount, nearly three millions were spent in 1883. The whole is exclusive of the sums expended by local bodies on public works, roads, &c., and on the Port of Melbourne* since the 1st January, 1877. The following table gives the amounts expended by the State prior to and during 1883:—

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON PUBLIC WORKS. †

Public Works.	Amount Expended.		
	Prior to 1883.	During 1883.	Total.
	£	£	£
Railways	21,897,778	2,117,336	24,015,114
Roads and bridges	7,015,632	62,376	7,078,008
Waterworks, Melbourne (Yan Yean)	1,698,370	174,956	1,873,326
„ Country	2,036,736	204,325	2,241,061
Other public works	9,488,423	422,754	9,911,177
Total	42,136,939	2,981,747	45,118,686

Revenue and
expenditure
of Mel-
bourne
Water-
works.

231. The expenditure on the Melbourne Waterworks, as given in the above table, viz., £1,873,326, consists of £1,780,979 for “construction” and £92,347 for maintenance. And from a return presented to Parliament in September, 1882, it appears that, besides these items, the total cost of management since 1858 was £161,960, making a total cost of £1,860,330; as against which the gross revenue received since the opening of the works in 1854 has amounted to £1,738,957.

Revenue and
expenditure
in Austral-
asian
colonies.

232. The total revenue and expenditure, and the amount of each per head of the living population, in each of the Australasian colonies are shown in the following table for the ten years ended with 1882. As the financial year of Victoria terminates on the 30th June, the items for this colony are given for eleven years, the last year but one being six months behind, and the last year being six months in advance, of

* See table following paragraph 300 *post*.

† The Railway returns are brought down to the 31st December; those of the other works to the 30th June of the year named.

the latest period in respect to which returns are given for the other colonies except Queensland, in which the financial year also now ends on the 30th June, so the returns of it are twelve months behind those of Victoria and six months behind those of all the other colonies :—

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES.

Colony.	Year.	Revenue.			Expenditure.				
		Total Amount.	Amount per Head.			Total Amount.	Amount per Head.		
		£	£	s.	d.	£	£	s.	d.
Victoria	1872-3	3,644,135	4	16	0	3,504,953	4	12	4
	1873-4	4,106,790	5	6	5	4,177,338	5	8	3
	1874-5	4,236,423	5	8	2	4,318,121	5	10	3
	1875-6	4,325,156	5	9	4	4,572,844	5	15	7
	1876-7	4,723,877	5	17	10	4,358,096	5	8	8
	1877-8	4,504,413	5	10	6	4,634,349	5	13	8
	1878-9	4,621,520	5	11	8	4,833,379	5	16	10
	1879-80	4,621,282	5	9	11	4,875,029	5	16	0
	1880-81	5,186,011	6	0	7	5,108,642	5	18	10
	1881-2	5,592,362	6	7	1	5,145,764	5	16	11
	1882-3	5,611,253	6	4	1	5,651,885	6	5	0
New South Wales	1873	3,324,713	6	0	11	2,333,166	4	4	10
	1874	3,509,966	6	2	8	2,939,227	5	2	9
	1875	4,121,996	6	18	5	3,341,324	5	12	3
	1876	5,033,828	8	2	10	4,749,013	7	13	8
	1877	5,748,245	8	17	11	4,627,979	7	3	3
	1878	4,983,864	7	7	0	5,672,154	8	7	4
	1879	4,475,059	6	5	4	5,839,150	8	3	7
	1880	4,904,230	6	16	0	5,560,078	7	14	2
	1881	6,707,963	8	15	10	5,890,580	7	14	5
	1882	7,410,737	9	5	5	6,347,810	7	18	10
Queensland	1873	1,120,034	7	19	10	956,335	6	16	6
	1874	1,160,947	7	9	8	1,121,710	7	4	8
	1875	1,261,464	7	6	4	1,404,198	8	2	11
	1875-6	1,263,268	6	19	4	1,283,520	7	1	7
	1876-7	1,436,582	7	13	7	1,382,806	7	7	10
	1877-8	1,559,111	7	13	6	1,543,820	7	12	0
	1878-9	1,461,824	6	18	10	1,678,631	7	19	6
	1879-80	1,612,314	7	8	0	1,673,695	7	13	8
	1880-81	2,023,668	9	8	2	1,757,654	8	3	5
1881-2	2,102,095	9	5	3	1,904,201	8	7	9	
South Australia...	1873	937,648	4	16	1	839,152	4	6	0
	1874	1,003,820	4	19	8	1,051,622	5	4	5
	1875	1,143,312	5	10	2	1,176,412	5	13	4
	1876	1,320,204	6	1	1	1,323,337	6	1	4
	1877	1,441,401	6	4	8	1,443,653	6	4	10
	1878	1,592,634	6	11	2	1,620,310	6	13	5
	1879	1,662,498	6	10	10	1,847,256	7	5	5
	1880	2,027,963	7	13	11	1,923,605	7	6	0
	1881	2,171,988	7	10	4	2,054,285	7	2	4
	1882	2,087,076	7	4	0	2,146,599	7	8	1

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES—*continued.*

Colony.	Year.	Revenue.		Expenditure.	
		Total Amount.	Amount per Head.	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.
		£	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.
Western Australia	1873	134,832	5 4 9	114,270	4 8 9
	1874	148,073	5 13 11	143,266	5 10 3
	1875	157,775	5 19 3	169,230	6 7 11
	1876	162,189	6 0 1	179,484	6 12 10
	1877	165,412	5 19 11	182,959	6 12 8
	1878	163,344	5 16 8	198,243	7 1 7
	1879	196,315	6 18 2	195,812	6 17 10
	1880	180,050	6 4 10	204,338	7 1 8
	1881	254,313	8 11 4	197,386	6 13 0
	1882	250,372	8 4 9	205,451	6 15 3
Tasmania	1873	324,257	3 2 7	303,947	2 18 8
	1874	333,732	3 4 0	325,195	3 2 5
	1875	342,606	3 5 11	388,090	3 14 8
	1876	327,017	3 2 6	341,889	3 5 4
	1877	366,118	3 8 11	352,461	3 6 4
	1878	385,936	3 11 1	379,232	3 9 11
	1879	375,570	3 7 6	481,216	4 6 6
	1880	442,158	3 17 10	415,196	3 13 1
	1881	505,872	4 6 3	468,613	3 19 11
	1882	551,213	4 11 4	502,771	4 3 4
New Zealand	1873	2,776,388	9 13 0	2,119,524	7 7 4
	1874	3,063,811	9 12 2	3,035,711	9 10 4
	1875	2,813,928	7 16 10	3,431,973	9 11 3
	1876	3,580,294	9 4 10	4,305,337	11 2 3
	1877	3,916,023	9 11 9	3,822,426	9 7 2
	1878	4,167,889	9 17 8	4,365,275	10 7 1
	1879	3,134,905	6 19 11	3,845,036	8 11 7
	1880	3,283,396	6 18 5	4,019,850	8 9 6
	1881	3,757,493	7 12 3	3,675,797	7 9 0
	1882	3,917,160	7 13 10	3,824,735	7 10 2

NOTE.—For revenue and expenditure of the neighbouring colonies during 1883, see Summary of Australasian Statistics (third folding sheet) *ante*; also Appendix A *post*.

Revenue and expenditure compared.

233. In the last year named in the table there was a surplus of revenue over expenditure in all the colonies except Victoria and South Australia. The surplus alluded to amounted to rather more than a million sterling in New South Wales, to nearly £200,000 in Queensland, to £93,000 in New Zealand, to £48,000 in Tasmania, and to £45,000 in Western Australia. The deficiency in Victoria amounted to £41,000, that in South Australia to £60,000. During the past ten years there has been a surplus seven times in New South Wales and Tasmania, six times in Queensland, five times in Western Australia and New Zealand, and three times in South Australia and Victoria.

234. A larger revenue than in any previous year was raised in Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland, and Tasmania in the last year named in the table. The revenue of New South Wales in particular, which in 1881 made a most remarkable bound—being greater by £1,800,000 than in the previous year—still continues to show a large increase. The expenditure was also greater in the last than in any previous year in all the colonies except New Zealand.

Revenue and expenditure in colonies, 1882 and former years.

235. The revenue per head was larger in the last year than in any of the previous ones in two of the colonies, viz., New South Wales and Tasmania. The colonies in which the expenditure per head was greatest in the last year were Victoria, Queensland, and South Australia.

Revenue and expenditure per head in colonies.

236. In the years shown in the table the revenue of New South Wales has exceeded that of Victoria on seven occasions, and the expenditure of New South Wales has exceeded that of Victoria on six occasions. In both these respects the two colonies named stood much above all the others of the group. The following is the order in which the respective colonies stood in regard to the total amount they raised and expended in the last year named :—

Order of colonies in respect to revenue and expenditure.

ORDER OF COLONIES IN REFERENCE TO REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1882.

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

237. In regard to the revenue and expenditure per head, Victoria occupied in the last year the same place she had held in the seven previous years, viz., the sixth. In 1882 New South Wales was first in regard to revenue per head, and Queensland first in point of expenditure per head. The following is the order in which the colonies stood in these respects :—

Order of colonies in respect to revenue, &c., per head.

ORDER OF COLONIES IN REFERENCE TO AMOUNTS OF REVENUE AND OF EXPENDITURE PER HEAD, 1882.

Revenue per Head.	Expenditure per Head.
1. New South Wales.	1. Queensland.
2. Queensland.	2. New South Wales.
3. Western Australia.	3. New Zealand.
4. New Zealand.	4. South Australia.
5. South Australia.	5. Western Australia.
6. Victoria.	6. Victoria.
7. Tasmania.	7. Tasmania.

Revenue and expenditure of Australia and Australasia.

238. Adding together the amounts of revenue and likewise the amounts of expenditure for 1882,* it will be found that the aggregate revenue of the colonies on the continent of Australia amounted to nearly $17\frac{1}{2}$ millions, and their aggregate expenditure to about $15\frac{3}{4}$ millions, sterling; also that the aggregate revenue of Australia, with the addition of that of Tasmania and New Zealand, amounted to nearly 22 millions, and the aggregate expenditure to over 20 millions, sterling. The surplus on the year's transactions was thus nearly $1\frac{3}{4}$ millions sterling for Australia, and over $1\frac{4}{5}$ millions for Australasia. The following are the exact figures, also the proportions per head of population:—

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF AUSTRALIA AND AUSTRALASIA,
1882.

	Revenue.		Expenditure.	
	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.
	£	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.
Continent of Australia ...	17,442,642	7 15 11	15,749,825	7 0 9
Ditto, with Tasmania and New Zealand	21,911,015	7 12 10	20,077,331	7 0 0

Increased revenue of Australasia in nine years.

239. A comparison of the aggregate revenue of the colonies upon the Australian continent in 1873 and in 1882 shows that in the nine years it had risen from £9,161,000 to £17,442,000, the increase being over $8\frac{1}{4}$ millions sterling, or 89 per cent. If the revenues of Tasmania and New Zealand be added, the sum shows an aggregate revenue for the whole of Australasia of £12,262,000 at the former and of £20,077,000 at the latter period, the increase being over $7\frac{4}{5}$ millions, or 64 per cent. In the same nine years, the population of the Australasian continent increased from 1,702,840 to 2,296,223, or 35 per cent., and the population of the whole of Australasia increased from 2,103,000 to 2,936,409, or 40 per cent.

Heads of revenue of Australasian colonies.

240. The following is a comparative statement of the amounts received under various heads of revenue in the respective Australasian colonies during the most recent year for which the particulars are available. The figures have all been derived from official sources:—

* In the case of Victoria and Queensland the figures for 1881-2 have been taken.

HEADS OF REVENUE IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1882.

Heads of Revenue.	Victoria.*	New South Wales.	Queensland.*	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
TAXATION.							
Customs ...	1,769,004	1,552,706†	639,007	636,091	119,879	288,523	1,515,026
Excise ‡	134,711	5,637	52,647	...	...	14,432	61,709
Licences (business) ...	28,381	116,932	38,606	27,316	3,903	11,445	\$48,000
Stamp duties, &c. ||	248,766	228,138	76,459	17,773	5,140	21,916	\$150,320
Land and property taxes	125,606	...	...	...	...	¶28,662	223,945
Tonnage, &c.	27,787	...	...	...	4,265	...	...
Miscellaneous ...	...	...	...	...	1,471	5,878	...
Total taxation ...	2,334,255	1,903,413	806,719	**681,180	134,658	370,856	1,999,000
LAND REVENUE.							
Alienation in fee-simple and progressive ††	563,790	2,455,041	416,299	435,440	9,068	43,236	269,275
Temporary occupation	114,845	} 459,354 {	223,261	} 99,828 {	55,663	30,995	229,454
Miscellaneous ...	1,298		40,521		1,188	326	10,081
Total land revenue	679,933	2,914,395	680,081	535,268	65,919	74,557	508,810
OTHER SOURCES.							
Railways †† ...	1,838,284	1,828,094	371,210	461,234	12,572	27,513	938,599
Water Supply ...	130,558	...	...	55,489	...	...	...
Telegraphs ...	} 324,967	} 358,525	51,847	65,502	3,630	7,913	91,503
Postage, &c. ...			56,936	94,016	10,346	24,962	\$144,576
Pilotage, harbour, and light rates §§	...	46,850	18,452	11,729	...	...	4,775
Mint receipts ...	11,292	10,795	...	...	...	...	...
Rents (exclusive of lands)	1,548	55,476	919	1,142	80	2,672	...
Public school fees ...	...	51,312	...	24,406	...	...	...
Fines, fees, and forfeitures	117,296	83,721	24,256	53,488	4,810	18,915	\$173,642
Interest ...	77,692	38,752	63,061	40,522	2,612	3,413	11,937
Miscellaneous ...	95,428	119,404	28,614	63,100	15,745	20,412	44,318
Total other sources	2,597,065	2,592,929	615,295	870,628	49,795	105,800	1,409,350
Grand total ...	5,611,253	7,410,737	2,102,095	2,087,076	250,372	551,213	3,917,160

241. In this table the large amount raised by excise duties in Victoria and the comparatively small amount in the other colonies will be at Excise and land tax in Victoria.

* The figures for Victoria are for the year ended 30th June, 1883; those for Queensland for the year ended 30th June, 1882.

† Including duty received on refined sugar and molasses, viz., £72,660.

‡ The excise duties were collected on spirits, beer (for the first two months only), and tobacco in Victoria; on spirits and cider in Queensland; on spirits only in New South Wales and South Australia; and on beer in Tasmania and New Zealand. The Act imposing the excise on beer in Victoria expired on the 31st August, 1882, and was not re-imposed.

§ Estimated. The amounts received under the heads of "Licences," "Stamp duties," "Postage," and "Fines, fees, and forfeitures," are not now distinguished in the revenue returns of New Zealand—these being embraced under the general heading "Stamp duties."

|| Including duties on estates of deceased persons, duties on bank notes, on cheques and receipts, &c.

¶ Including "Dividend Tax," amounting to £10,034.

** The taxation of South Australia, as here given, is higher by £27,316 than that furnished by the colonial authorities, and given in a subsequent table (see paragraph 276 *post*), since the item "Business licences" has not been reckoned as taxation in that colony.

†† Including interest on land sold on credit.

‡‡ Tramways are included in the case of New South Wales.

§§ In Victoria, the pilotage collected at the port of Melbourne is paid direct to the pilots, whilst the small amount received at the outports (£200) is included with "Tonnage, &c.," under the head of "Taxation."

once noticed, also the fact that the land tax in Victoria did not in the year under review produce much more than half as much as the property tax of New Zealand.

Heds of re-
venue in
Victoria and
New South
Wales com-
pared.

242. It will further be remarked that the land revenue was over four times as large in New South Wales as in Victoria, which item alone accounts for the total revenue of the former being the greater. Indeed, if the land revenues be deducted from the total revenues of the two colonies, the revenue of Victoria would exceed that of New South Wales by £435,000, the respective amounts for 1882 being £4,931,320 and £4,496,342. The total taxation of Victoria was greater than that of New South Wales by about £430,000, or nearly a fourth, and the revenue from railways greater by about £10,000. Under the head of taxation, "Licences" in New South Wales produced £88,000 more than in Victoria, but the Customs revenue of the latter was the greater by over £216,000, the revenue from excise by £129,000, and the revenue from stamp duties by £20,000, whilst the Victorian land tax, which has no parallel in the neighbouring colony, brought in a further sum of £126,000. Under other heads, the revenue from post and telegraphs, rents (exclusive of lands), and miscellaneous sources, preponderated in favour of New South Wales, but Mint receipts, "Fines, fees, and forfeitures" and interest in favour of Victoria.

Land revenue
in Austral-
asian
colonies.

243. In 1882 the aggregate land revenue of the Australasian colonies amounted to £5,458,963, of which £4,192,149 was received for alienation, and £1,266,814 for temporary occupation, &c. The following table—derived from the preceding one—shows the receipts from the sale and occupation of Crown Lands and their proportion to the total revenue in each Australasian colony during 1882. The colonies are arranged in order according to that proportion :—

LAND REVENUE IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1882.

Colony.	Revenue derived from Crown Lands for—			Proportion of Land Revenue to Total Revenue.
	Alienation in Fee-simple, and Progressive Alienation.	Temporary Occupation, and Miscel- laneous.	Total.	
	£	£	£	Per Cent.
1. New South Wales	2,455,041	459,354	2,914,395	39·33
2. Queensland	416,299	263,782	680,081	32·35
3. Western Australia	9,068	56,851	65,919	26·33
4. South Australia	435,440	99,828	535,268	25·65
5. Tasmania	43,236	31,321	74,557	13·53
6. New Zealand	269,275	239,535	508,810	12·99
7. Victoria	563,790	116,143	679,933	12·12
Total	4,192,149	1,266,814	5,458,963	24·91

244. It will be noticed that nearly a fourth of the aggregate revenues of the Australasian colonies in 1882 was derived from Crown lands ; and that the proportion ranged from about a seventh or eighth in Victoria, Tasmania, and New Zealand, to more than a fourth in South and Western Australia, to not quite a third in Queensland, and to nearly two-fifths in New South Wales. It will also be remarked that in most of the colonies the bulk of the land revenue was derived from alienation in fee-simple.

Prospective
diminution
of land
revenue in
colonies.

245. The total land revenue of the Australasian colonies amounted in 1878 to £5,814,388, in 1879 to £3,565,349, in 1880 to £3,802,143, in 1881 to £5,744,306, and in 1882 to £5,458,963. In 1878 the proportion to the total revenue was 33 per cent.; in 1879, 22½ per cent.; in 1880 only 17½ per cent.; in 1881, 27 per cent.; and in 1882, 25 per cent. The large decrease in 1879 as compared with 1878 is almost entirely confined to New South Wales and New Zealand, in which colonies the falling-off amounted to £1,000,437 and £1,190,520 respectively ; whilst of the increase in 1881, as compared with 1880, over £1,200,000 was in New South Wales, over £400,000 in Queensland, and nearly £200,000 in New Zealand.

Decrease of
land re-
venue in
Australasia.

246. The following table gives a statement of the public revenues of the United Kingdom and the various British possessions throughout the world, according to the latest official information available ; also the average amount of revenue to each person in the population of the different countries and colonies named. All the calculations have been made in the office of the Government Statist, Melbourne :—

Revenues of
British
dominions.

REVENUES OF BRITISH DOMINIONS.

Country or Colony.	Year.	Revenue.	
		Gross Amount.	Average per Head.*
		£	£ s. d.
EUROPE.			
United Kingdom	1882-3	89,004,456	2 10 6
Gibraltar	1882	50,161	2 14 7
Malta	"	205,884	1 7 6

* For populations on which most of these calculations have been based, see table following paragraph 129 ante.

REVENUES OF BRITISH DOMINIONS—*continued.*

Country or Colony.	Year.	Revenue.			
		Gross Amount.	Average per Head.*		
		£	£	s.	d.
ASIA.					
India	1881-2	73,695,806	0	7	3
Ceylon	1882	1,140,147	0	8	3
Straits Settlements	"	441,673	1	0	10
Labuan	"	4,867	0	15	5
Hong Kong	"	251,983	1	11	5
AFRICA.					
Mauritius	"	955,163	2	15	11
Natal	"	657,737	1	11	10
Cape of Good Hope	1881-2	3,524,858	2	16	5
St. Helena	1882	11,500	2	5	5
Lagos	"	44,636	0	11	10
Gold Coast	"	104,817	0	5	3
Sierra Leone	"	65,537	1	1	8
Gambia	"	26,625	1	17	7
AMERICA.					
Canada	"	6,954,886	1	12	2
Newfoundland	"	228,373	1	5	5
Bermudas	"	31,924	2	5	9
Honduras	"	46,384	1	13	9
British Guiana	"	458,694	1	16	5
West Indies—					
Bahamas	"	46,085	1	1	2
Turk's Island	"	9,400	1	19	9
Jamaica	1881-2	576,881	0	19	10
St. Lucia	1882	38,953	1	0	3
St. Vincent	"	31,565	0	15	7
Barbadoes	"	141,714	0	17	1
Grenada	"	42,453	1	0	0
Tobago	"	13,661	0	15	2
Virgin Islands	"	1,643	0	6	3
St. Christopher	"	33,666	1	3	1
Nevis	"	9,285	0	15	8
Antigua	"	47,008	1	6	8
Montserrat	"	5,692	0	11	3
Dominica	"	20,283	0	14	5
Trinidad	"	437,383	2	17	1
AUSTRALASIA AND SOUTH SEAS.					
Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand †	"	21,911,015	7	12	10
Fiji	"	111,314	0	17	1
Falkland Islands	"	8,289	5	6	9
Total ... ..	...	201,392,401	0	16	0

* For populations on which most of these calculations have been based, see table following paragraph 129 *ante*.

† See table following paragraph 232 *ante*.

247. It will be noticed that, out of the 201 millions sterling which represent the aggregate annual revenue of the British dominions, 91 per cent. is raised in the United Kingdom, India, and Australasia, the proportion contributed by each respectively being 44 per cent., 36 per cent., and 11 per cent. Of the total amount, 44 per cent. is raised in Europe, 38 per cent. in Asia, $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in Africa, $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in America, and 11 per cent. in Australasia.

Aggregate revenue of British dominions.

248. The very large amount of revenue in proportion to population raised in every one of the Australasian colonies, as compared with other British possessions, will be at once noticed.* It will, however, be remembered that these colonies possess an immense territory, scantily peopled, and that a considerable revenue is derived from the usufruct of the unsold lands, which is not generally the case elsewhere; also that the revenues are swelled by the large sums which are received annually from the alienation of Crown lands in fee-simple and from the working of the State railways.†

Large revenue per head in Australasian colonies.

249. Besides the Australasian colonies and the comparatively insignificant possessions of Gibraltar and the Falkland Islands—in which the revenues from all sources are exceptionally high in proportion to population—the only colonies which raise a larger amount per head than the United Kingdom are Mauritius, the Cape of Good Hope, and Trinidad.

Revenue per head in colonies and United Kingdom.

250. The following table shows the actual or estimated revenues of the principal Foreign countries at recent dates, according to the best information obtainable. In most cases sums raised by means of loans and other extraordinary receipts have been eliminated. The calculations in the last column have been made in the office of the Government Statist, Melbourne :—

Revenues of Foreign countries.

REVENUES OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Country.	Year.	Revenue.	
		Gross Amount. (000's omitted.)	Amount per Head.‡
EUROPE.			
		£	£ s. d.
Austria-Hungary	1883-4	74,552,§	1 18 0
Belgium	1883	11,982,	2 2 10
Denmark	1882-3	2,979,	1 10 4

* See table following paragraph 232 *ante*.

† For a comparison of the railway revenues and land revenues of the Australasian colonies with the total revenues, see paragraphs 240 and 243 *ante*.

‡ The populations of Foreign countries on which these calculations are based are generally those given in paragraph 132 *ante*.

§ This amount is made up of £45,201,000, revenue of Austria in 1883; £29,351,000, revenue of Hungary in 1884.

REVENUES OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES—*continued.*

Country.	Year.	Revenue.	
		Gross Amount. (000's omitted.)	Amount per Head.*
EUROPE.			
France	1884	124,148,	3 5 11
Germany	1883-5	105,803,†	2 6 9
Greece	1882	2,236,	1 2 7
Holland	1883	9,263,	2 4 5
Italy	"	57,181,	2 0 2
Portugal	1882-3	7,178,	1 13 4
Roumania	"	4,860,	0 18 1
Russia	1880	103,077,	1 4 6‡
Spain	1882-3	31,319,	1 17 3
Sweden and Norway	1881-2	7,075,§	1 1 9
Switzerland	1882	1,749,	0 12 3
Turkey	1883-4	14,681,	0 12 1
ASIA.			
Japan	1883-4	15,121,	0 8 3
AFRICA.			
Egypt	1882	9,148,	1 6 11
Tunis	"	502,	0 4 9
AMERICA.			
Argentine Confederation	1884	6,492,	2 3 5
Brazil	1881-2	14,792,	1 3 0
Mexico	1883-4	6,932,	0 14 2
Peru	1876	13,012,	4 6 6
United States	1882	84,068,	1 13 4

251. According to this table and that following paragraph 246 *ante*, the country which raises the largest revenue of any in the world is France, then Germany, Russia, and the United Kingdom, in the order

* The populations of foreign countries on which these calculations are based are generally those given in paragraph 132 *ante*.

† This amount is made up of the estimated ordinary revenue of the Empire for 1884-5, £23,626,200 (exclusive of contributions by the States), and of the revenues of the following States, according to their budget estimates, for the dates named, viz.:—Alsace-Lorraine, £1,980,590 in 1883-4; Anhalt, £946,320 in 1883-4; Baden, £2,009,830 in 1883; Bavaria, £11,435,266 in 1883; Bremen, £545,133 in 1883; Brunswick, £463,645 in 1884; Hamburg, £1,764,565 in 1883; Hesse, £877,910 in 1884; Lippe, £48,821 in 1884; Lübeck, £145,718 in 1883; Oldenburg, £296,374 in 1884; Prussia, £54,152,894 in 1883-4; Reuss-Greiz, £36,577 in 1884; Reuss-Schleiz, £65,106 in 1884; Saxe-Altenburg, £120,908 in 1883; Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, £294,280 in 1884-5; Saxe-Meiningen, £250,083 in 1884; Saxe-Weimar, £315,261 in 1884; Saxony, £3,499,076 in 1884; Schaumburg-Lippe, £26,784 in 1883; Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt, £96,438 in 1883; Schwarzburg-Sonderhausen, £105,969 in 1883; and Württemberg, £2,699,329 in 1884-5.

‡ This calculation is based on the population of Russia in Europe.

§ This amount is made up of £4,389,777 revenue of Sweden in 1882-3, and £2,685,125, revenue of Norway in 1881-2.

named. After the revenues of these countries, the largest amounts are raised in the United States, Austria-Hungary, British India, Italy, and Spain. These are the only countries whose revenues exceed the united revenues of the Australasian colonies. The revenue of Victoria is larger than that of Denmark, Greece, Roumania, Switzerland, or Tunis.

252. Omitting Peru, in which it is understood that the nominal revenue is sustained by large issues of paper money and other irregular means, France is the only country named in the table which raises more per head than the United Kingdom. In Victoria, about twice as much per head is raised as in France, and nearly two and a half times as much as in the United Kingdom. Countries raising largest amounts per head.

253. The amounts of which revenue is made up may be divided into two classes, viz., those raised by taxation and those raised otherwise. In Victoria, the former class consists of Customs and Excise duties, wharfage rates, port and harbour dues, business licences, duties on bank notes, duties on estates of deceased persons, a land tax, and stamp duties. The latter class comprises amounts derived from the sale or occupation of Crown lands, from railways, water supply, and other public works, from post and telegraph offices, from fees, fines, and forfeitures, from the labour of prisoners, from the interest on the public account, &c. The following figures show the result of a division of the Victorian revenue upon this principle :— Taxation.

TAXATION, 1882-3.

			£	s.	d.
Revenue raised by taxation ...	...	...	2,334,255	6	2
„ otherwise ...	...	...	3,276,997	19	0
Total ...	...	...	5,611,253	5	2

254. Numerous difficulties lie in the way of estimating the extent to which the various heads of revenue are affected by the imposition, increase, or reduction of taxes. An attempt has, however, been made to form such an estimate in the following table for the last eight years, which, although giving necessarily imperfect results, will afford some idea of the direction in which the direct contributions of the people have been added to or reduced, also the extent of such increase or reduction during the period :— Taxes repealed and imposed.

TAXES REPEALED AND IMPOSED, 1875-6 TO 1882-3.

Year ended 30th June.	Taxes Repealed or Reduced.			Taxes Imposed or Increased.		
	Heads of Taxation.	Estimated Loss to the Revenue—		Heads of Taxation.	Estimated Gain to the Revenue—	
		During the Financial Year.	In Complete Years.		During the Financial Year.	In Complete Years.
		£	£		£	£
1876	Nil ... ..	...	...	Succession duties increased from 5 to 5-10 per cent. on estates over £20,000	*	*
				Tax on bank notes imposed... ..	7,200	27,000
1877	Nil ... ..	...	...	Nil ... ..	...	...
1878	Customs— Wharfage rates for port of Melbourne transferred to Harbour Trust ...	85,000	85,000	Land tax imposed...	50,000	124,000
	Various alterations resulting in a net remission of about	26,000	85,000†	Excise— Percentage of publicans' licence fees from municipal bodies ...	4,600	4,800
1879	Nil ... ..	...	...	Customs— Stock tax imposed	28,300	37,000
1880	... ..	...	...	Nil ... ..	...	...
	Customs— (See contra) ...	...	...	Stamp duties imposed	83,005	120,000
1881	... ..	...	...	Customs— Duties increased on— Wine, opium, rice, hops, and malt; several 10 per cent. and 20 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> duties increased by 5 per cent., besides numerous other alterations, for the most part in the direction of increased duties, about	47,800	53,000†
	Nil ... ..	...	...	Customs— Tobacco and snuff increased	(Revenue decreased) 2,300	*
1882	... ..	...	...	Cigars increased		3,500
	Customs — Duty on undressed rice reduced...	3,000	3,500	Excise— Tobacco duty imposed	21,872	65,000
1883	Excise—Beer duty remitted ...	88,000	100,000	Beer " "	62,557	100,000
	... ..	...	...	Nil ... ..	...	...

* Of this item no satisfactory estimate can be given.

† This amount has been arbitrarily assumed to be the difference in the average annual revenue from those items on which the duty has been altered during the two years preceding and following the date of the alteration in the Tariff.

255. In 1882-3 nearly 42 per cent. of the total revenue was raised by taxation; and if the amount so raised be divided by the estimated mean population of the financial year, already stated to have been 904,646, an average will be obtained of £2 11s. 7d. to each individual. The following table contains a statement of the gross amount of taxation, the average amount per head, and the proportion of taxation to the total revenue, during each year since 1853:—

TAXATION, 1853 TO 1882-3.*

Year.	Taxation.			Year.	Taxation.		
	Gross Amount.	Average per Head.†	Percentage of Total Revenue.		Gross Amount.	Average per Head.†	Percentage of Total Revenue.
	£	£ s. d.			£	£ s. d.	
1853 ...	800,577	4 1 11	24·74	1869 ...	1,539,495	2 4 10	45·49
1854 ...	1,052,462	3 18 8	34·08	1870 ...	1,394,333	1 19 1	42·75
1855 ...	1,193,309	3 10 6	43·73	1871 (6 months)	724,261	0 19 10	42·82
1856 ...	1,458,647	3 16 7	49·07	1871-2	1,612,034	2 3 2	43·17
1857 ...	1,331,362	3 1 10	40·00	1872-3	1,784,056	2 7 0	48·96
1858 ...	1,414,511	2 18 6	47·57	1873-4	1,896,842	2 9 2	46·19
1859 ...	1,414,760	2 14 8	43·38	1874-5	1,724,822	2 4 0	40·71
1860 ...	1,330,761	2 9 10	43·11	1875-6	1,780,392	2 5 0	41·16
1861 ...	1,244,389	2 6 1	42·15	1876-7	1,770,685	2 4 2	37·48
1862 ...	1,183,194	2 3 2	36·19	1877-8	1,712,953	2 2 0	38·03
1863 ...	1,158,219	2 1 2	41·74	1878-9	1,730,088	2 1 10	37·44
1864 ...	1,167,036	1 19 10	39·49	1879-80	1,690,923	2 0 3	36·59
1865 ...	1,214,479	1 19 9	39·47	1880-81	2,003,704	2 6 7	38·64
1866 ...	1,219,567	1 18 9	39·61	1881-2	2,317,706	2 12 8	41·44
1867 ...	1,516,231	2 7 1	47·14	1882-3	2,334,255	2 11 7	41·60
1868 ...	1,352,818	2 0 10	41·87				

NOTE.—An export duty on gold existed from May, 1855, to the end of 1867. The receipts from that source have not, for the purposes of this table, been considered as taxation.

256. It will be observed that an increase of £6,500 took place in the gross amount produced by taxation in 1882-3, as compared with the preceding year. The taxation per head was less by 1s. 1d. than in 1881-2, but much greater than in any previous year since 1859; and the proportion of taxation to revenue was higher than in any year since 1873-4.

257. The following is a statement of the amounts received under the various heads of taxation during each of the last eight years:—

* According to figures contained in a statement distributed to Members of the Legislative Assembly by the Honorable the Treasurer on the 16th July, 1884, the taxation in 1883-4 (partly estimated) amounted to £2,308,873, or £2 9s. 8d. per head of the estimated mean population (930,940) of that financial year.

† For mean population of each year, see table following paragraph 207 *ante*.

HEADS OF TAXATION, 1875-6 TO 1882-3.*

Heads of Taxation.	Amount Received.							
	1875-6.	1876-7.	1877-8.	1878-9.	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-2.	1882-3.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Customs duties	1,550,461	1,522,795	1,459,628	1,351,864	1,353,656	1,450,137	1,667,306	1,740,467
Wharfage rates	107,327	109,037	†27,820	26,520	24,125	24,641	27,346	28,537
Excise :—								
Spirits	33,437	34,768	36,309	36,088	41,230	52,232	52,620	52,522
Beer .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	62,557	98,955	11,256
Tobacco .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	21,872	64,972	70,933
Ports and Harbours† ..	22,104	20,993	22,647	20,310	19,194	20,577	26,263	27,787
Licences (not territorial) ..	10,712	11,638	§17,150	20,116	21,762	23,906	25,977	28,381
Duties on estates of deceased persons	48,963	44,104	72,500	47,983	37,928	78,141	74,368	86,648
Duties on bank notes ..	7,191	27,248	26,672	24,956	22,470	23,807	27,324	28,685
Land tax .. ..	..	..	50,227	202,251	87,553	129,990	121,555	125,606
Stamp duty .. ..	..	..	..	..	83,005	115,844	131,020	133,433
Toll receipts	197	52	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	1,780,392	1,770,685	1,712,953	1,730,088	1,690,923	2,003,704	2,317,706	2,334,255

Heads of taxation, 1881-2 and 1882-3 compared.

258. The only important alteration in the taxation of the colony which took place during 1882-3 was the abandonment of the beer duty, which, as it was in force for only two months of that financial year, produced no more than £11,256, as against £98,955 in the preceding twelve months, the falling-off thus being £87,700. The total amount raised by taxation, however, having increased by £16,500, as already stated, it is evident that a substantial increase of £104,200 occurred under such heads of taxation as were common to the two years; nearly £73,200 of this increase appears under the head of Customs duties, || £12,300 under the head of duties on estates of deceased persons, £6,000 under the head of tobacco, and £4,000 under the head of land tax, whilst the balance is distributed over the other items, all of which, without exception, show satisfactory increases.

Proportion of Customs revenue to total taxation, &c.

259. The greater portion of the General Government taxation is derived from Customs duties. The proportion from that source, however, has gradually decreased from 89 per cent. in 1874-5, and 87 per cent. in 1875-6, to as low as 72 per cent. in 1881-2, and 75 per cent. in 1882-3. The revenue derived from Customs duties during 1882-3 was equivalent to a charge of nearly $9\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. on the total value of imports. ¶

* See footnotes on pages 110 and 111 *ante*.

† Chiefly tonnage dues.

‡ Decrease caused by transfer of four-fifths of the wharfage rates for the port of Melbourne to the Melbourne Harbour Trust.

§ Owing to a proportion of certain licence fees, formerly received in full by local bodies, having in 1878 been made payable to the general revenue, an increase under the head of licences will be observed in the general taxation for that year, but a corresponding decrease in the local taxation.—See table following paragraph 305 *post*.

|| See also paragraph 261 *post*.

¶ See also table following paragraph 288 *et seq. post*.

260. The following is a comparative statement for the same eight financial years of the principal heads under which taxation was levied by means of Customs duties :—

Customs revenue,
1875-6 to
1882-3.

TAXATION BY CUSTOMS DUTIES,* 1875-6 TO 1882-3.

Articles.	Amounts Received.							
	1875-6.	1876-7.	1877-8.	1878-9.	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-2.	1882-3.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Spirits	520,557	499,568	489,236	455,157	420,872	430,909	443,431	468,746
Wine—								
Sparkling ..	} 37,716	39,139	37,893	31,462	34,095	43,171	45,112	44,100
Other								
Beer and Cider ..	27,096	30,352	29,346	27,143	27,372	29,721	29,770	32,372
Tobacco—								
Manufactured ..	} 100,001	97,034	82,830	75,161	59,384	53,379	71,525	85,844
Unmanufactured								
Snuff	14,295	16,929	17,639	17,818	16,404	21,691	24,927	29,453
Cigars	74,225	69,907	69,628	68,703	68,541	76,540	81,706	80,298
Tea	90,038	90,394	84,372	93,197	89,379	94,312	103,466	108,087
Sugar and molasses	17,069	15,622	14,814	13,380	13,153	13,882	14,491	14,883
Coffee, chicory, cocoa, and chocolate	17,021	15,520	14,214	13,988	18,877	21,645	21,359	20,897
Opium	16,657	13,489	13,681	12,434	15,555	23,136	20,169	20,576
Rice	6,412	9,934	7,586	8,277	9,364	7,805	14,948	8,318
Hops	16,810	14,129	12,870	12,710	10,907	3,371	4,272	1,750
Malt	42,863	42,994	43,714	38,297	34,809	34,312	47,510	48,418
Fruits and vegetables, dried and preserved								
Live Stock—								
Horses and cattle	} ..	..	28,270	30,115	43,056	39,167	34,948	32,945
Sheep								
Pigs								
Articles subject to <i>ad valorem</i> duties	301,575	329,617	268,656	248,622	273,835	334,296	434,532	444,038
All other articles..	268,126	238,167	244,810	205,391	218,053	222,800	275,140	299,742
Export duty on timber	..	..	69	9	..	..	..	..
Total ..	1,550,461	1,522,795	1,459,628	1,351,864	1,353,656	1,450,137	1,667,306	1,740,467

261. The large increase in the revenue raised from Customs duties in 1881-2, referred to in the last issue of the *Victorian Year-Book*,† was more than maintained in the year under review, the total amount received being greater than in that year by £73,161. This increase was distributed over all the items named in the table except wine, tea, opium, hops, malt, and live stock, the revenue from which items decreased by £14,000. The principal increases were £25,300 under spirits, £18,800 under tobacco, and £4,600 under sugar; together with an increase of £9,500 distributed over articles subject to *ad valorem* duties, and £24,600 under “All other articles.” With the exception of a slight, and so far as the comparative Customs revenues are concerned inappreciable, reduction on the duty on undressed rice, made on the 1st August, 1881, the same tariff was in existence throughout the two years.

Customs duties,
1881-2 and
1882-3
compared.

* Wharfage rates, which form part of the Customs revenue, are not included in this table.

† Paragraph 195.

Duty on bank notes.

262. The tax on bank notes was imposed under the Act 39 Vict. No. 526, which came into operation on the 1st January, 1876. It is at the rate of £2 on every £100 of the average amount of notes circulated by any bank between the 1st July and the 30th June of each financial year.

Land tax.

263. The Act for imposing a land tax (41 Vict. No. 575) came into operation on the 28th August, 1877. It provides that all estates over 640 acres in extent, valued at upwards of £2,500, whether consisting of one block or several blocks of land not more than five miles apart, shall be taxed at the rate of one and a quarter per cent. upon their capital value after deducting therefrom the sum of £2,500—only one exemption, however, being allowed in the case of a proprietor holding more than one estate. For the purpose of ascertaining the capital value, the estates in question are divided into four classes, the value being estimated according to the number of sheep they are able to carry, as follows :—

			Value per Acre.
Class I.,	carrying 2 or more sheep per acre	...	£4
Class II.,	„ 3 sheep to 2 acres	...	3
Class III.,	„ 1 sheep per acre	...	2
Class IV.,	„ under 1 sheep per acre	...	1

Extent of land assessed for land tax.

264. The extent of land assessed under this Act amounted in 1883 to over seven million acres, nearly half of which was placed in the lowest class, more than a third in the third class, about a ninth in the second class, and not quite a twentieth in the first class.

Proportion of land assessed to total available and alienated land.

265. The land in Victoria suitable for occupation in its present condition is estimated to amount to about 45,000,000 acres,* of which 21,000,000 acres either had been alienated in fee-simple or were in process of alienation† when the year commenced. The area assessed for land tax thus amounted to 16 per cent. of the available land in the colony, or to 33 per cent. of the area alienated or in process of alienation.

Number of estates assessed.

266. The number of estates assessed was 1,028. As some proprietors own more than one estate, their number is less than the number of estates, and is set down as 865. It is, however, actually less than this, as, whilst the returns show where the proprietor holds more than one estate in the same class, they do not distinguish cases of proprietors holding estates embraced in two or more classes.

Average size of estates assessed.

267. The average size of all the estates assessed is 6,854 acres, which is slightly above the average of those in Class III. In Classes I. and II. the estates average between 3,000 and 4,000 acres, and in Class IV. not quite 11,000 acres.

* See Part Production *post*.

† The land in process of alienation amounted to about 7,400,000 acres, on which, on the average, half the purchase money had been paid.

268. The following table shows, for each class, the number and area of estates assessed for land tax, the number of proprietors of such estates, and the average number of acres to each estate and to each proprietor:—

Proprietors and number and size of estates assessed.

PROPRIETORS AND NUMBER AND SIZE OF ESTATES ASSESSED FOR LAND TAX.

(According to the Returns of the Half-year ended 27th February, 1884.)

Class.	Number of Proprietors.*	Estates Assessed.				
		Number.	Area.		Average Area to each—	
			Total.	Percentage of each Class.	Proprietor.	Estate.
			Acres.		Acres.	Acres.
I.	100	111	332,549	4·72	3,325	2,996
II.	202	223	810,542	11·50	4,013	3,635
III.	321	384	2,511,408	35·65	7,824	6,540
IV.	242	310	3,391,348	48·13	14,014	10,940
Total	865	1,028	7,045,847	100·00	8,145	6,854

269. The capital value of the estates, according to the valuation prescribed by the Statute, is about twelve millions sterling; but, after deducting the exemptions allowed, viz., £2,500, from the value of the estate or estates of each proprietor, the net taxable value is reduced to ten millions sterling. It may be pointed out that, although it may perhaps have been necessary to fix arbitrarily a scale for valuing estates for purposes of taxation, yet there is no doubt that the taxable value so arrived at is, in most cases, very much below the actual value of the estate.

Valuation of estates assessed.

270. The capital value of the estates in each class, according to their estimated carrying capacity, the value of the exemptions, and the net taxable value after deducting these, and the proportion of the net taxable value to the capital value, are given in the following table:—

Valuation of estates of each class.

VALUE OF ESTATES ASSESSED FOR LAND TAX.

(According to the Returns of the Half-year ended 27th February, 1884.)

Class.	Capital Value.	Value of Exemptions.	Net Taxable Value.	Proportion of Net Taxable Value to Capital Value.
	£	£	£	Per Cent.
I.	1,330,196	250,000	1,080,196	81·21
II.	2,431,626	505,000	1,926,626	79·23
III.	5,022,816	802,500	4,220,316	84·02
IV.	3,391,348	605,000	2,786,348	82·16
Total	12,175,986	2,162,500	10,013,486	82·24

* See paragraph 266 *ante*.

Amount of
land tax
payable.

271. The land tax payable varied from 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per acre in Class I. to 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per acre in Class IV., the average being about 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per acre; the amount payable by each holder averaged £145, ranging from an average of £164 in Class III. to one of £119 in Class II.; and the amount payable for each estate averaged £122, and ranged from an average of £137 in Class III. to one of £108 in Class II. Subjoined is a statement of the total amount payable annually in respect to the estates of each class; also the average amount payable per acre, per holder, and per estate:—

LAND TAX PAYABLE ANNUALLY.

(According to the Returns of the Half-year ended 27th February, 1884.)

Class.	Total Amount per Annum.	Amount per Acre.	Amount by each Holder.	Amount for each Estate.
	£	d.	£	£
I.	13,503	9·745	135·0	121·6
II.	24,083	7·131	119·2	108·0
III.	52,754	5·041	164·3	137·4
IV.	34,829	2·465	143·9	112·4
Total	125,169	4·264	144·7	121·7

Difference in
payments
in each
class.

272. It will be observed that, although the average amount payable per acre goes, as may be supposed, in regular succession, according to classes, the difference between the acreable payment by each class and its successor is very marked; thus, between Classes I. and II. it is about 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; between II. and III. over 2d.; and between III. and IV. about 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. It will also be noticed that the amount paid on behalf of each estate in Class III. is about 20 per cent. more than that paid on behalf of those in Class IV., notwithstanding that the average area of each estate in the latter class is, as is shown in a previous table, nearly double that in the former.

Cost of ad-
ministering
Land Tax
Act.
Stamp
duties.

273. The cost of administering the Land Tax Act during the year 1882-3 amounted to £1,926, as against £1,794 in the previous year.

274. Stamp duties were first imposed during the year 1879-80, under Act 43 Vict. No. 645, which came into force on the 18th December, 1879. The following, in a condensed form, are the particulars of the duties levied thereunder, together with a list of the chief exemptions:—

STAMP DUTIES.

I.—BILLS OF EXCHANGE AND PROMISSORY NOTES.	£	s.	d.
Bills of exchange, payable on demand, cheques, &c., each	0	0	1
All other kinds (except bank notes)—			
For every £25 or fraction thereof of the total value up to £100	0	0	6
For every additional £50 or fraction thereof	0	1	0

(The maximum duty chargeable on any bill of exchange or promissory note, whatever be its amount or value, to be £10.)

STAMP DUTIES—*continued.*

II.—RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.
Receipts or discharges for payment of £5 or upwards, each ...	0	0	1

III.—CONVEYANCE ON SALE OF ANY REAL PROPERTY, APPLICATIONS, CONSENTS, AND TRANSFERS UNDER TRANSFER OF LAND STATUTE.

For every £50 of consideration or fraction thereof after deducting the first £50	0	5	0
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IV.—ANNUAL LICENCE.

Fire, fidelity guarantee, or marine assurance or insurance company— For every £100 of premiums received or fraction thereof, a licence-fee per annum of	1	10	0
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EXEMPTIONS.

Class I.—Cheques drawn on public accounts, or on those of a registered building or friendly society; drafts or instruments affecting the transmission of public moneys; drafts, orders, &c., of post office or other savings banks; and Government or municipal debentures.

Class II.—Receipts for moneys paid to or from public accounts for municipal rates, for deposits in banks in current account, or for moneys paid into a charitable institution, a registered friendly society, a fire, life, fidelity guarantee, or marine insurance (or assurance) company, or into a post office or other savings bank.

Class III.—Crown grants; instruments for conveyance of property to the Crown or a public department, to a registered friendly society, or to a religious, charitable, or educational association; and marriage settlements.

Class IV.—Any private guarantee fidelity insurance scheme promoted amongst and sustained solely for the benefit of the officers and servants of any one particular public department, company, firm, or person, or of the officers or members of a registered friendly society.

275. The amount collected by means of stamp duties during the financial year 1882–3 has already been shown* to have been £133,433 as compared with £131,020 in the previous year. During the calendar year 1883, according to the last report of the Post Office, the duty stamps issued or impressed on documents numbered 9,766,190, of a total value of £139,821. Of these as many as 9,218,316, valued at £38,410 were penny stamps—the remainder being of higher denominations. The expenses connected with the manufacture and issue of duty and fee stamps during 1883 amounted to about £4,000.

Revenue
from stamp
duties.

276. The following table shows the gross amount raised by taxation, the amount of taxation per head, and the proportion of taxation to the total revenue, in Victoria during each of the last eleven financial years, and in the other Australasian colonies during each of the ten years ended with 1882 :—

Taxation in
Austral-
asian co-
lonies.

* See table following paragraph 258 *ante*.

TAXATION IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES.

Colony.	Year.	Taxation.		
		Gross Amount.	Average per Head.	Percentage of Total Revenue.
		£	£ s. d.	
Victoria* ...	1872-3	1,784,056	2 7 0	48·96
	1873-4	1,896,842	2 9 2	46·19
	1874-5	1,724,822	2 4 0	40·71
	1875-6	1,780,392	2 5 0	41·16
	1876-7	1,770,685	2 4 2	37·48
	1877-8	1,712,953	2 2 0	38·03
	1878-9	1,730,088	2 1 10	37·44
	1879-80	1,690,923	2 0 3	36·59
	1880-81	2,003,704	2 6 7	38·64
	1881-2	2,317,706	2 12 8	41·44
	1882-3	2,334,255	2 11 7	41·60
New South Wales ...	1873	1,382,752	2 10 4	41·59
	1874	1,217,401	2 2 6	34·68
	1875	1,138,901	1 18 3	27·63
	1876	1,161,406	1 17 7	23·07
	1877	1,235,021	1 18 3	21·49
	1878	1,309,717	1 18 8	26·28
	1879	1,272,721	1 15 8	28·44
	1880	1,417,293	1 19 3	28·90
	1881	1,770,848	2 6 5	26·40
	1882	1,903,413	2 7 7	25·68
Queensland† ...	1873	546,732	3 14 6	48·81
	1874	552,758	3 11 3	47·61
	1875	562,227	3 5 3	44·57
	1875-6	568,776	3 2 9	45·02
	1876-7	609,861	3 5 2	42·45
	1877-8	694,062	3 8 4	44·52
	1878-9	631,289	3 0 0	43·19
	1879-80	600,236	2 15 1	37·23
	1880-81	657,753	3 1 2	32·50
	1881-2	806,719	3 11 1	38·38
South Australia ...	1873	362,246	1 17 1	38·63
	1874	370,440	1 16 9	36·90
	1875	339,103	1 12 8	29·66
	1876	445,548	2 0 10	33·75
	1877	499,885	2 3 2	34·68
	1878	519,254	2 2 9	32·60
	1879	526,366	2 1 5	31·66
	1880	529,450	2 0 2	26·11
	1881	557,188	1 18 7	25·65
	1882	653,864‡	2 5 1	31·33

* The financial year of Victoria ends on the 30th June.

† Since 1875 the financial year of Queensland has ended on the 30th June.

‡ This amount is less than that given in the table following paragraph 240 *ante*.—See footnote (**)
to that table.

TAXATION IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES—*continued.*

Colony.	Year.	Taxation.		
		Gross Amount.	Average per Head.	Percentage of Total Revenue.
		£	£ s. d.	
Western Australia	1873	71,625	2 15 8	55·35
	1874	82,275	3 3 4	55·56
	1875	80,645	3 0 11	51·11
	1876	85,177	3 3 1	52·52
	1877	81,286	2 18 11	49·14
	1878	75,849	2 14 2	46·44
	1879	88,329	3 2 2	44·19
	1880	101,257	3 10 2	56·24
	1881	109,199	3 13 7	42·94
	1882	134,658	4 8 7	53·78
Tasmania*	1873	192,229	1 17 1	59·28
	1874	207,311	1 19 10	62·12
	1875	207,851	2 0 0	60·67
	1876	210,611	2 0 3	64·40
	1877	230,652	2 3 5	62·99
	1878	241,732	2 4 7	62·64
	1879	232,360	2 1 9	61·87
	1880	300,241	2 12 10	67·89
	1881	350,146	2 19 8	69·22
	1882	370,856	3 1 5	67·28
New Zealand	1873	1,055,296	3 13 4	38·01
	1874	1,294,276	4 1 2	42·24
	1875	1,350,296	3 15 3	47·98
	1876	1,350,025	3 9 8	37·71
	1877	1,343,945	3 5 10	34·32
	1878	1,533,393	3 12 9	36·79
	1879	1,441,838	3 4 4	45·99
	1880	1,535,700	3 4 9	46·77
	1881	1,881,024	3 16 3	50·66
	1882	1,999,000	3 18 6	51·03

NOTE.—For returns of taxation in these colonies during 1883, see Summary of Australasian Statistics (third folding sheet) *ante*; also Appendix A *post*.

277. The amount of taxation per head in the last year referred to in the table was lower in Victoria than in any of the other colonies except New South Wales and South Australia, whilst in Western Australia it was higher than in any other colony. The following is the order in which the colonies stood in this respect during that year, the colony with the highest taxation per head being placed at the top, and that with the lowest at the bottom, of the list:—

ORDER OF COLONIES IN REFERENCE TO AMOUNT OF TAXATION
PER HEAD.

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

* The figures for Tasmania have been revised, and therefore differ from those given in previous issues of this work.

Order of colonies in respect to revenue raised by taxation.

278. The colonies differ considerably in respect to the proportion that the amount raised by taxation bears to the total revenue. Thus, in the last year named, whilst Tasmania raised nearly seven-tenths of her revenue by taxation, Victoria and Queensland raised about four-tenths, and New South Wales little more than a fourth. The following is the order in which they respectively stand in this particular, the colony in which the proportion raised by taxation is largest being placed first, and the remainder in succession :—

ORDER OF COLONIES IN REFERENCE TO PROPORTION OF REVENUE RAISED BY TAXATION.

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

Taxation of Australia and Australasia.

279. If the gross amounts raised by taxation in the different colonies during 1882* of which particulars are given in the table be added together, it will be found that the total taxation levied on the continent of Australia amounted to nearly six millions sterling; and the total taxation of the colonies on the continent, added to that of Tasmania and New Zealand, amounted to over eight millions sterling. The exact figures will be found in the following table, also the average amount of taxation per head of the population, and the proportion that the taxation bore to the total revenue :—

TAXATION OF AUSTRALIA AND AUSTRALASIA, 1882.

—	Taxation.		
	Gross Amount.	Average per Head.	Percentage of Total Revenue.†
	£	£ s. d.	
Continent of Australia	5,816,360	2 12 2	33·34
Ditto, with Tasmania and New Zealand	8,186,216	2 17 4	37·36

Comparison of Victoria and Australasia.

280. By comparing the above figures with those of this colony, it will be found that in Victoria the taxation per head of the population is somewhat less, but the proportion of taxation to the total revenue is slightly higher, than the same items in the Australasian colonies, taken as a whole.

Taxation in British possessions.

281. The taxation in the United Kingdom and the few British possessions respecting which particulars are at hand is given in the following table :—

* In the case of Victoria and Queensland, the figures for 1881-2 have been taken.

† For figures of revenue, see table following paragraph 238 *ante*.

TAXATION IN BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

Country or Colony.	Year.	Taxation.				
		Gross Amount.	Average Per Head.	Percentage of Total Revenue.		
EUROPE.				£	£ s. d.	
United Kingdom	1882-3	73,128,000	2 1 6	82·16		
ASIA.						
India	1881-2	29,840,417	0 2 11	40·49		
AFRICA.						
Mauritius	1878	519,194	1 8 3	65·76		
Natal	1882	278,097	0 13 6	42·28		
Cape of Good Hope	1878	1,216,332	1 4 2	58·39		
Lagos	1878	44,037	0 14 7	86·54		
Gambia	1878	22,971	1 12 5	89·27		
AMERICA.						
Canada	1881-2	5,740,600	1 6 7	82·53		
Newfoundland	1877	173,555	1 1 6	81·75		
Bermudas	1877	23,267	1 13 8	86·48		
West Indies—						
Jamaica	1879-80	392,149	0 13 5	67·80		
Barbadoes	1878	119,358	0 13 7	90·98		
Grenada	1880	33,321	0 15 8	91·66		
Virgin Islands	1876	1,463	0 4 5	95·19		
Antigua	1878	35,723	1 0 0	94·85		
Dominica	1879	14,939	0 10 7	73·68		
Trinidad	1877	205,913	1 17 7	43·76		
AUSTRALASIA.						
Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand*	1882	8,186,216	2 17 4	37·36		
Fiji	1882	59,518	0 9 6	53·47		

282. It will be observed that nearly half as much again is raised by taxation in Australasia as in Canada, that the taxation in the former is equal to more than a fourth of that raised in India, and to more than a ninth of that raised in the United Kingdom. It might be supposed that those countries which depended almost entirely on taxation for their revenue would be more heavily taxed than countries which had other ample resources. The reverse, however, is the case with the Australasian colonies; for whilst they raise only 37 per cent. of their revenue by taxation—or the smallest proportion of any of the British possessions named—their average taxation per head exceeds by nearly 16s. that in the United Kingdom, which raises 82 per cent. of its revenue by taxation, and is, moreover, in proportion to population, more heavily taxed than any of its dependencies of which particulars are at hand, except the Australasian colonies.

* For gross amount of taxation and taxation per head, and proportion of taxation to total revenue, in the various Australasian colonies, see table following paragraph 276 ante.

Taxation in Australasia and other British possessions compared.

Taxation in
Victoria
and other
British
possessions
compared.

283. In Victoria, where the gross amount of taxation is less than half that in Canada, the average per head is 10s. higher than in the United Kingdom, whilst the taxation in proportion to revenue, being but little higher than the average of Australasia, is extremely low when compared with the other portions of the British dominions of which information is available.

Taxation in
Foreign
countries.

284. From the manner in which the statistical returns of Foreign countries are compiled, it is not always easy to separate the items of taxation from other sources of revenue. An endeavour, which it is believed is fairly successful, has, however, been made to do this in the case of the countries named in the following table :—

TAXATION IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Countries.	Year.	Taxation.		
		Gross Amount. (000's omitted.)	Average per Head.*	Percentage of Total Revenue.†
EUROPE.				
Austria-Hungary ...	1883-4	£ 41,764,‡	£ 1 1 4	56·02
Belgium ...	1884	6,005,	1 1 6	50·12
Denmark ...	1882-3	2,326,	1 3 7	78·08
France ...	1884	109,691,	2 18 3	88·35
Greece ...	1883	2,146,	1 1 8	95·97
Holland ...	1883	7,920,	1 17 11	85·50
Italy ...	1883	40,826,	1 8 8	71·40
Portugal ...	1882-3	6,036,	1 8 0	84·09
Russia ...	1880	78,453,	0 18 8	76·11
Spain ...	1882-3	30,689,	1 16 6	97·99
Switzerland ...	1882	680,	0 4 9	41·72
Turkey ...	1883-4	12,712,	0 10 4	86·59
ASIA.				
Japan ...	1883-4	14,051,	0 7 9	92·92
AFRICA.				
Egypt ...	1882	4,769,	0 14 0	52·13
AMERICA.				
Argentine Confederation	1884	5,445,	1 17 0	83·87
Brazil ...	1881-2	9,911,	0 15 5	67·00
Mexico ...	1883-4	5,680,	0 11 7	81·94
United States ...	1882	76,473,	1 6 4	90·97

Gross amount of taxation in various countries.

285. It will be observed that the gross amount raised by taxation is larger in France than in any other country of which information is given, and that Russia and the United States come next in this respect ;

* For figures of population, see table following paragraph 132 *ante*.

† For figures of revenue, see table following paragraph 250 *ante*.

‡ This amount is made up of £22,560,820 taxation in Austria for the year 1883, and £19,203,000 taxation in Hungary for the year 1884.

the United Kingdom* follows; then Austria-Hungary, Italy, and Spain, in the order named. The amount of taxation in the Australasian colonies,* taken as a whole, is much above that levied in Portugal, and is slightly above that in Holland; whilst the amount in Victoria is much above that in Switzerland or Greece, also somewhat above that levied in Denmark, but considerably below that in any other of the countries named.

286. The taxation per head is larger in the United Kingdom than in any other independent country except France, and in this respect Holland, the Argentine Confederation, and Spain stand next. The taxation per head, however, in all the Australasian colonies † is larger than in the United Kingdom;* and in the majority of those colonies it is larger than in France.

Taxation per head in various countries.

287. It will be observed that, with one exception—Switzerland—all the countries named in the last table raise more than half their revenue by taxation; whilst the Australasian colonies, † on the other hand, with three exceptions—Tasmania, Western Australia, and New Zealand—raise much less than half from that source. The revenues of Spain, Greece, and Japan appear to be almost entirely derived from taxation; and, although the United Kingdom raises nearly five-sixths of its revenue from that source, as many as nine of the countries named raise a higher proportion.

Proportion of revenue raised by taxation in various countries.

288. In all the Australasian colonies the principal part of the taxation is raised through the Customs. In the following table, the amount so raised in each of those colonies is given for a recent year, together with the proportion of such revenue to the total taxation and the total imports:—

Taxation by Customs in Australasian colonies.

TAXATION BY CUSTOMS IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1882.

Colony.	Customs Revenue. ‡		
	Amount. §	Proportion to—	
		Total Taxation.	Total Value of Imports.
	£	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
Victoria	1,769,004	75·78	9·69
New South Wales	1,552,706	81·57	7·29
Queensland	639,007	79·21	12·30
South Australia	636,091	93·38	9·48
Western Australia... ..	119,879	89·02	23·56
Tasmania... ..	288,523	77·79	17·26
New Zealand	1,515,026	75·79	17·59

* See table following paragraph 281 *ante*.

† See table following paragraph 276 *ante*.

‡ Including, besides duties, a few items in some of the colonies such as wharfage rates, rents of bonded warehouses, &c.

§ See table following paragraph 240 *ante*.

Customs revenue in proportion to total taxation.

289. It will be observed that in Victoria, Tasmania, and New Zealand, during 1882, between 76 and 78 per cent. of the taxation was raised through the Customs, and that this was a lower proportion than in any of the other colonies. The colony in which the proportion was highest was South Australia, in which all but about 7 per cent. was levied through the Customs.

Customs revenue in proportion to total imports.

290. It will, moreover, be noticed that, in proportion to the imports, Victoria collected about the same amount through the Customs as South Australia, but less than any other Australasian colony, except New South Wales, in which the dutiable articles are comparatively few in number. Since the duties on manufactured articles are for the most part much higher in Victoria than in any of the other colonies, this is probably owing to her importing, in a larger proportion than many of the others, raw, and consequently undutiable, material.

Taxation by Customs in British dominions.

291. In the United Kingdom, a very much smaller proportion of the taxation is raised through the Customs than in any Australasian colony; but in Canada and the Cape of Good Hope the proportion is somewhat larger than in Victoria, Tasmania, and New Zealand, but below that in any other Australasian colony. As compared with the imports, the proportion in the United Kingdom is only half that in Victoria, but in the great majority of British possessions it is much above that in Victoria, New South Wales, or South Australia. The following are the figures for these and other British possessions respecting which the information is at hand :—

TAXATION BY CUSTOMS IN BRITISH DOMINIONS.

Country or Colony.	Year.	Customs Revenue.		
		Amount.	Proportion to—	
			Total Taxation.*	Total Value of Imports.†
		Per Cent.	Per Cent.	
EUROPE.				
United Kingdom ...	1882-3	£ 19,657,000	26·88	4·76
Gibraltar ...	1882	10,091	...	...
Malta ...	"	113,160	...	0·42
ASIA.				
India... ..	1881-2	4,710,270	15·78	7·79
Ceylon ...	1882	257,855	...	5·89
AFRICA.				
Mauritius ...	1882	272,034	...	9·57
Natal... ..	"	220,759	79·38	9·97
Cape of Good Hope ...	"	1,340,936	...	13·88

* For figures of taxation, see table following paragraph 281 *ante*.

† For values of imports, see Part Interchange *post*.

TAXATION BY CUSTOMS IN BRITISH DOMINIONS—*continued.*

Country or Colony.	Year.	Customs Revenue.		
		Amount.	Proportion to—	
			Total Taxation.*	Total Value of Imports.†
		£	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
AFRICA—<i>continued.</i>				
St. Helena	1882	8,253	...	8·76
Lagos	"	38,189	...	8·90
Gold Coast	"	90,089	...	22·92
Sierra Leone	"	44,041	...	11·04
Gambia	"	22,964	...	13·20
AMERICA.				
Canada	1882	4,496,160	78·32	18·07
Newfoundland... ..	"	210,286	...	12·08
Bermudas	"	24,950	...	8·99
Honduras	"	21,230	...	9·11
British Guiana	"	254,432	...	12·11
West Indies—				
Bahamas	"	37,275	...	17·21
Turk's Island	"	5,435	...	20·26
Jamaica	"	267,344	...	20·22
St. Lucia	"	20,350	...	15·24
St. Vincent	"	20,695	...	13·58
Barbadoes	"	89,681	...	7·71
Grenada	"	18,621	...	13·65
Tobago	"	6,544	...	13·90
Virgin Islands	"	1,051	...	17·56
St. Christopher	"	23,872	...	12·63
Nevis	"	7,068	...	14·61
Antigua	"	28,726	...	15·97
Montserrat	"	3,010	...	10·44
Dominica	"	8,834	...	12·21
Trinidad	"	196,987	...	8·20
AUSTRALASIA AND SOUTH SEAS.				
Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand	1882	6,520,236	79·64	10·21
Falkland Islands	"	2,679	4·50	7·20

292. Of ten Foreign countries respecting which information is available, only two, viz., Denmark and the United States, appear to raise as much as half their taxation through the Customs, but the proportion even in these is much less than in any of the Australasian colonies. The proportion of Customs revenue to the total value of imports is higher than in Victoria in four out of the ten countries, and in five it is higher than in New South Wales, whilst in Spain it is higher than in any Australasian colony except Western Australia, and in the United States it is even higher than in Western Australia. The following are the particulars of the Foreign countries alluded to:—

Taxation by
Customs
in Foreign
countries.

* For figures of taxation, see table following paragraph 281 *ante.*

† For value of imports, see Part Interchange *post.*

TAXATION BY CUSTOMS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Countries.	Year.	Customs Revenue.		
		Total Amount. (000's omitted.)	Proportion to—	
			Total Taxation.	Value of Imports.*
		£	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
Austria-Hungary ...	1883	4,276,	10·23	4·11
Belgium ...	1884	888,	14·79	0·73
Denmark ...	1881-2	1,221,	52·45	8·65
France ...	1884	12,899,	11·09	5·01
Germany ...	1884-5	17,694,	...	7·20
Holland ...	1884	401,	5·06	0·48
Italy ...	1883	6,204,	15·19	10·61
Russia ...	1879	9,815,	11·84	9·76
Spain ...	1883-4	4,952,	16·14	19·03
United States ...	1882	45,919,	60·05	28·73

Revenue and expenditure of local bodies.

293. It has been already stated † that, in connexion with the general revenue, taxation, and expenditure, the revenue, taxation, and expenditure of local bodies should be considered. There are at present two such bodies in Victoria, viz., the Municipalities and the Melbourne Harbour Trust.

Municipal revenue and expenditure.

294. The following table gives a statement of the revenue and expenditure of municipalities in the year 1883, the amounts raised and expended in cities, towns, and boroughs being shown separately from those in shires :—

MUNICIPAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1883.

				Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.	Shires.	Total.
REVENUE.				£	£	£
From Government	{	Endowment ...	...	43,205	301,227	344,432 †
		Other receipts	...	15,787	33,116	48,903
„ Rates	...	...	...	242,001	203,960	445,961 §
„ Licences	...	...	...	64,981	27,629	92,610
„ Registration of dogs and goats	...	...	...	5,524	6,243	11,767
„ Market and weighbridge rents and dues	...	...	...	42,756	1,039	43,795
„ Other sources	...	...	...	72,075	26,959	99,034
Total	...	...	...	486,329	600,173	1,086,502
EXPENDITURE. ||						
Public works	...	...	...	279,805	477,123	756,928
Salaries, &c.	...	...	...	49,005	70,345	119,350
Other expenditure	...	...	...	164,666	83,136	247,802
Total	...	...	...	493,476	630,604	1,124,080

* For total values of imports on which these calculations were based, see Part Interchange *post*.

† See paragraph 198 *ante*.

‡ This amount differs from that named in the next paragraph, the reason being that the financial year of the municipalities terminates in September, whilst that of the General Government ends in June.

§ Of this amount £28,827 was levied as *special rates*.

|| Including expenditure of proceeds of loans. For amount of outstanding loans, see paragraph 347 *post*.

295. Although the appropriation of the sum of £310,000 to the endowment of municipalities, under the Local Government Act 1874 (38 Vict. No. 506), ceased by effluxion of time at the end of 1879, equivalent amounts have since been annually voted by Parliament.

296. According to the Act just mentioned, the endowment payable to any city, town, or borough was not to exceed £2,000; and if the rate levied in a municipality exceeded one shilling in the pound, the endowment was to be calculated on an amount which bears the same proportion to the total amount of rates received as one shilling bears to the rate levied.* Subject to these conditions, the endowment was paid to shires in the proportion of £2, and to cities, towns, and boroughs in the proportion of £1, for every £1 of general rates collected. This is also the basis on which the equivalent subsidy, voted after the appropriation terminated, was calculated. Where the rates levied in municipalities were in excess of one shilling in the pound, the amount of subsidy payable during the first six months of 1883 was at the average annual rate of £1 5s. 5½d. to shires, and 12s. 9d. to cities, towns, and boroughs, for every £1 of rates; as compared with annual averages payable in the preceding six months of £1 5s. 3¾d. and 12s. 8d. respectively.†

297. The total expenditure of municipalities exceeded the total revenue in 1883 by 3½ per cent.; or the expenditure of cities, towns, and boroughs exceeded the revenue by 1½ per cent.; and that of shires by 5 per cent. In the previous year, on the contrary, the revenue of municipalities exceeded the expenditure by 7 per cent.; that of cities, towns, and boroughs by 3 per cent.; and that of shires by 9 per cent.

298. The expenditure was greater than the revenue in 19 of the 58 individual cities, towns, and boroughs, and in 35 of the 119 individual shires, in 1882; and in 28 out of 60 cities, towns, and boroughs, and in 67 shires, in 1883.

299. Payments for salaries formed nearly 11 per cent. of the expenditure of cities, towns, and boroughs in 1882, and nearly 10 per cent. in 1883. The same item formed 11 per cent. of the expenditure of shires in both years.

300. Subjoined is a statement of the revenue and expenditure of the Melbourne Harbour Trust‡ during the seven years which have elapsed since the Act was passed under which that body was created. The net

* For ratings in municipalities, see paragraph 170 *et seq. ante*.

† An exception to the rule was, however, made in the case of twelve shires, which received £3 for every £1 of rates.

‡ For a short account of the objects of the Trust, and improvements made, see Part Interchange *post*.

receipts here shown are less than the gross receipts by about one-fifth, that being the proportion payable by the Commissioners of the Trust into the consolidated revenue :—

MELBOURNE HARBOUR TRUST.—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE,
1877 TO 1883.

—	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
NET RECEIPTS.							
Wharfage rates ...	43,106*	84,731	75,295	67,827	83,493	105,854	98,809
Leases ...	55	143	126	94	103	99	95
Licences ...	1,072	1,140	1,789	2,670	2,738	4,487	4,729
Interest ...	82	687	1,116	445	...	...	...
Sundries ...	120	45	191	224	308	409	377
Total ...	44,435	86,746	78,517	71,260	86,642	110,849	104,010
EXPENDITURE.							
Plant ...	5,055	38,786	30,568	22,034	9,603	18,220	55,158
Harbour improvements and maintenance ...	111	894	5,027	15,065	7,128	13,571	18,082
Dredging, landing, and depositing silt ...	4,872	9,872	31,276	40,179	43,513	48,116	58,596
Wharves and approaches ...	421	20,989	7,161	10,434	9,527	16,249	23,246
Special survey by Sir John Coode ...	...	4,635	3,005	...	...	...	...
Timber ...	371	3,412	764	218	8,698	7,551	15,512
General expenses ...	2,332	3,078	2,897	4,523	3,485	5,452	16,183
Contingent expenses	838	1,770	1,547	2,418	2,255	1,695	
General management	2,940	5,720	6,322	6,744	7,066	7,879	1,542
Commissioners' fees...	...	2,980	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	
Interest ...	...	...	...	...	1,061	1,332	1,241
Sundries ...	...	...	947	425	54	15	13
Total ...	16,940	92,136	91,014	103,540	93,890	121,580	189,573

Receipts and expenditure compared.

301. In the seven years the Trust has been in existence, the receipts have amounted to £582,459, and the expenditure to £708,673, thus showing a deficiency of £126,214. It will be observed that the revenue, which had fallen to a minimum in 1880, has since greatly improved, and although the amount received in 1883 was less than in 1882 by nearly £7,000, it was much greater than in any other previous year. The expenditure of the Trust may be condensed into three main divisions, the first being Plant, on which, during the seven years the

* Wharfage rates did not form part of the revenue of the Trust until after the 30th June, 1877.

Trust has been in existence, £179,424 has been laid out, or rather more than a fourth of the whole expenditure; the second being Improvement and Maintenance of Harbour, Wharves and Approaches, on which £450,262 has been laid out, or upwards of three-fifths of the whole expenditure; and the third being Management, on which £78,987 has been expended, or nearly an eighth of the whole amount.

302. The Commissioners floated their first loan, amounting to £250,000, in London, on the 17th July, 1883, by means of debentures, bearing interest at 5 per cent., and due in 1908. The minimum price fixed for tenders was £100 *ex* accrued interest, and the average obtained was £100 6s. 9d. The amount tendered was £355,000, at prices ranging from £100 to £104. The balance on hand on 31st December was £135,711.

Harbour
Trust Loan.

303. A statement of the revenue and expenditure of the General Government added to those of the Municipalities and of the Melbourne Harbour Trust during the last seven years will be found in the following table. From the totals of municipal revenue and expenditure the amounts granted by the State have been deducted. The expenditure of the proceeds of loans is entirely left out of account in the Government returns, but is included in the municipal expenditure:—

General and
local reve-
nue and
expendi-
ture.

**GENERAL AND LOCAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE,
1877 TO 1883.***

	Total Amounts Received and Expended.						
	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.
REVENUE.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Government ...	4,723,876	4,504,413	4,621,520	4,621,282	5,186,011	5,592,362	5,611,253
Municipalities	674,436	639,428	624,681	616,132	651,597	653,891	693,167
Melbourne Har- bour Trust ...	44,435	86,746	78,517	71,260	86,642	110,849	104,010
Total ...	5,442,747	5,230,587	5,324,718	5,308,674	5,924,250	6,357,102	6,408,430
EXPENDITURE.							
Government ...	4,358,096	4,634,349	4,833,379	4,875,029	5,108,642	5,145,764	5,651,885
Municipalities	632,094	713,503	583,476	771,054	574,947	583,037	730,745
Melbourne Har- bour Trust ...	16,940	92,136	91,014	103,540	93,890	121,580	189,573
Total ...	5,007,130	5,439,988	5,507,869	5,749,623	5,777,479	5,850,381	6,572,203

* The financial year of the General Government ends on the 30th June; that of Melbourne and Geelong on the 31st August; that of other municipalities on the 30th September; and that of the Melbourne Harbour Trust on the 31st December.

General and local revenue and expenditure per head.

304. The next table gives the general and local revenue and expenditure per head of population in the same seven years. It will be observed that in the last year named the local revenue, embracing that of the Municipal Bodies and that of the Harbour Trust, amounted to over 17s. per head, and the general and local revenue combined to over £7 per head :—

GENERAL AND LOCAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE PER HEAD,
1877 TO 1883.*

	Amounts Received and Expended per Head. †						
	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.
REVENUE.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Government ...	5 17 10	5 10 6	5 11 8	5 9 11	6 0 7	6 7 1	6 4 1
Municipalities	0 16 10	0 15 8	0 15 1	0 14 8	0 15 2	0 14 10	0 15 4
Melbourne Harbour Trust ...	0 1 1	0 2 1	0 1 11	0 1 9	0 2 0	0 2 6	0 2 4
Total ...	6 15 9	6 8 3	6 8 9	6 6 4	6 17 9	7 4 5	7 1 9
EXPENDITURE.							
Government ...	5 8 9	5 13 8	5 16 10	5 16 0	5 18 10	5 16 11	6 4 11
Municipalities	0 15 9	0 17 6	0 14 1	0 18 4	0 13 4	0 13 3	0 16 2
Melbourne Harbour Trust ...	0 0 5	0 2 3	0 2 3	0 2 6	0 2 2	0 2 8	0 4 2
Total ...	6 4 11	6 13 5	6 13 2	6 16 10	6 14 4	6 12 10	7 5 3

General and local taxation.

305. The amount of taxation under the General Government, under the Municipal Bodies, and under the Melbourne Harbour Trust is given in the following table for the same years, the items being specified in the last two cases. The principle upon which the items of taxation are separated from the general revenue has been already explained. ‡ The local taxation is separated from the whole municipal revenue by rejecting—besides all grants received from the General Government—rents of buildings and land, proceeds of the letting of halls, &c., the balance being considered as taxation. The taxation levied by the Harbour Trust consists only of wharfage rates :—

* The financial year of the General Government ends on the 30th June; that of Melbourne and Geelong on the 31st August; that of other municipalities on the 30th September; and that of the Melbourne Harbour Trust on 31st December.

† Although the financial years of the respective bodies named in this table terminate at different dates (see last footnote), the same populations as have already been taken (see table following paragraph 207 *ante*) to calculate the amount of general revenue and general expenditure per head have been used to make these calculations. As the population varies very slightly, this will scarcely, if at all, affect the result.

‡ See paragraph 253 *ante*.

GENERAL AND LOCAL TAXATION, 1877 TO 1883.*

Heads of Taxation.	Amounts Received.						
	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
GOVERNMENT TAXATION } †	1,770,685	1,712,953	1,730,088	1,690,923	2,003,704	2,317,706	2,334,255
MUNICIPAL TAXATION.							
Rates	381,580	401,208	398,303	401,096	417,642	422,033	445,961
Toll receipts ...	57,078	‡ 13,895	...	...	...	...	...
Licences	108,367	§ 102,732	98,441	94,713	95,258	94,731	92,610
Registration of dogs and goats ...	10,843	10,293	10,521	10,370	10,311	10,961	11,767
Market dues ...	32,742	32,776	32,095	37,451	39,295	38,088	43,795
Total	590,610	560,904	539,360	543,630	562,506	565,813	594,133
MELBOURNE HARBOUR TRUST TAXATION.							
Wharfage rates ...	43,106	84,731	75,295	67,827	83,493	105,854	98,809
Total general & local taxation }	2,404,401	2,358,588	2,344,743	2,302,380	2,649,703	2,989,373	3,027,197

306. The aggregate amounts of taxation raised by the General Government and local bodies represented, in 1877, a proportion of £3 to each individual in the community; in 1878, £2 17s. 10d.; in 1879, £2 16s. 8d.; in 1880, £2 14s. 9d.; in 1881, £3 1s. 7d.; in 1882, £3 7s. 11d.; and in 1883, £3 6s. 11d.

General and local taxation per head.

307. It has already been pointed out that by far the greater portion of the General Government taxation is derived from Customs duties || —the proportion varying in different years from 72 to 89 per cent. Sixty-five per cent. of the Municipal taxation in 1877, 71 per cent. in 1878, 74 per cent. in 1879, 1880, 1881, and 1882, and 75 per cent. in 1883, was derived from rates.

Chief sources of taxation.

* The financial year of the General Government ends on the 30th June; that of Melbourne and Geelong on the 31st August; that of other municipalities on the 30th September; and that of the Melbourne Harbour Trust on the 31st December.

† For details of Government taxation, see table following paragraph 257 *ante*.

‡ The diminution under this head was due to the abolition of tolls on the 1st January, 1878.

§ For explanation of decrease, see footnote (§) to table following paragraph 257 *ante*.

|| See paragraph 259 *ante*.

Public debt. 308. The public debt of Victoria amounted on the 30th June, 1883,* to £26,103,202,† and consisted of—

	£	s.	d.
Debentures	25,450,220	0	0‡
Stock	642,881	18	0
Treasury Bonds	10,100	0	0
Total	£26,103,201	18	0‡

Purposes for which loans were incurred.

309. The amount of public debt authorized, the amount paid off, and amount outstanding at the end of June, 1883, under each of the purposes for which the debt was incurred, are shown in the following table:—

PURPOSES FOR WHICH LOANS WERE RAISED.

Purposes.	Amount authorized.	Amount paid off.	Amount outstanding on 30th June, 1883.
	£	£	£
Railways §	20,509,566	68,100	20,441,466
Water supply—			
Melbourne	1,582,107	800,000	782,107
Country	2,442,609	...	2,442,609 ||
Defences	100,000	...	100,000
Public offices	166,195	...	166,195
Law courts and Parliament Houses	468,514	...	468,514
Schools	1,000,000	...	1,000,000
Yarra bridge	60,000	...	60,000
Graving-dock	350,464	...	350,464
Harbours, &c.	250,000	...	250,000
Melbourne and Geelong improvements	735,000 ¶	735,000	...
To provide for prospective loss on sale of debentures	31,747	...	31,747
Treasury bonds	500,000	489,900	10,100
Total	28,196,202	2,093,000	26,103,202

Public debt, when authorized.

310. Of the debt outstanding on the 30th June, 1883, 8 millions sterling were authorized as early as 1857, nearly 4 millions during the ten years ended with 1870, and over 14 millions in the eleven years ended with 1881, as will be seen by the following table, which shows the years in which the various amounts of which the debt is composed were

* On the 30th June, 1884, the public debt amounted to £28,325,112.

† This is exclusive of a liability of £222,800 (originally £465,300), incurred in the purchase of the Melbourne and Hobson's Bay United Railway Company's lines of railway for debentures falling due between 1st July, 1886, and 1st January, 1897. The interest on these debentures averages about 5½ per cent. per annum, payable half-yearly. For particulars of this liability, see Part Interchange *post*.

‡ Of this amount, £4,000,000 may be either in debentures or inscribed stock, at option of holders.

§ For details of the expenditure of railway loans, see portion relating to Railways in Part Interchange *post*.

|| Of this amount, £660,270 is authorized to be re-lent to municipal bodies for local waterworks, the principal and interest being repaid by annual instalments—the former into a sinking fund, the latter into the general revenue. For accumulation of Sinking Fund (Loan Redemption Account), see table following paragraph 350 *post*.

¶ This amount was borrowed in 1854 by the city of Melbourne and town of Geelong, the principal and interest being guaranteed out of the general revenue of the colony.

authorized and the number of the Act by which such authorization was given :—

AUTHORIZATION OF THE PUBLIC DEBT.

Authorization.			Rate of Interest.	Amount Outstanding on the 30th June, 1883.
Year.	Act.			
			Per Cent.	£
1857	...	21 Vict. No. 36	6	8,000,000
1862	...	25 Vict. No. 150	6	300,000
1865	...	20 Vict. No. 287	6	850,000
1868	...	32 Vict. Nos. 331 and 332	5	2,717,000
1870	...	34 Vict. No. 371	4	100,000
1872	...	36 Vict. Nos. 428 and 439	4	1,113,000
1873	...	37 Vict. No. 468	4	1,500,000
1876	...	39 Vict. No. 531	4	2,500,000
1878	...	42 Vict. No. 608	4½	5,000,000
1880	...	44 Vict. No. 663*	5	10,100
1881	...	45 Vict. No. 717	4	4,000,000
Increase of debt by conversion of debentures			4	13,102
Total			...	26,103,202

311. The gross total of the public debt increased from £5,000,000 in 1860 to nearly £12,000,000 in 1870, and again to over £22,000,000 in 1880–81—the amount at the end of each decennial period being about double that at the commencement. During the two years subsequent to 1880–81, an amount of £4,000,000 was added to the debt. The whole increase in 22 years was in a much greater ratio than the increase of population, for the indebtedness per head gradually rose from £9 10s. in 1860 to £28 10s. in 1882–3. A considerable increase also took place as compared with the total revenue, for, whilst in 1860, or three years after the colony commenced to borrow, the debt was equivalent to only 1½ year's revenue, in 1870 it was equivalent to 3½ years', and in 1882–3 to nearly 4½ years' revenue. The amount of debt outstanding, together with the average per head and the multiple of revenue at the end of three decennial periods, and of the year 1882–3, is shown in the following table :—

GROWTH OF THE PUBLIC DEBT, 1860 TO 1882–3.†

At end of the Year.	Amount Outstanding.	Average per Head.			Multiple of Revenue.
	£	£	s.	d.	
1860	5,118,100	9	10	4	1·66
1870	11,924,800	16	8	5	3·66
1880–81	22,593,102	26	1	2	4·36
1882–3	26,103,202	28	10	0	4·62

NOTE.—On the 30th June, 1884, the public debt was £28,325,112. At the same date the estimated population was 945,703. The amount of indebtedness per head was thus £29 19s.; and the multiple of the revenue was 4·90.

* Treasury bonds.

† For amount of the public debt at the end of each year, see first folding sheet *ante*.

Increase of
debt, 1882-3.

312. At the end of the financial year 1881-2 the debt amounted to £22,121,202, and thus in twelve months it increased by £3,982,000, which amount was made up of a loan of £4,000,000 floated in London in the early part of 1883, less Treasury bonds redeemed amounting to £18,000.* The indebtedness per head increased by £3 14s. 2d., and the additional liability incurred was equivalent to more than two-thirds of a year's revenue.

Repayment
of debt.

313. As already stated, the debt is composed of debentures, stock, and bonds. The stock may be paid off any time after the 29th December, 1897, by giving a year's notice in the *Government Gazette*. The bonds are repayable on the 1st October, 1883. The debentures are repayable at the following dates and places:—

REPAYMENT OF DEBENTURES.

When Repayable.	Rate of Interest.	Amount Repayable.		
		In Melbourne.	In London.	Total.
		£	£	£
1st October, 1883	6 per cent.	236,600	3,587,500	3,824,100
" 1884	"	...	812,500	812,500
" 1885	"	580,620	2,600,000	3,180,620
" 1888	"	130,000	...	130,000
" 1889	"	276,100	...	276,100
1st January, 1891	"	...	850,000	850,000
" 1894	5 per cent.	312,900	2,107,000	2,419,900
1st July, 1899	4 per cent.	...	1,500,000	1,500,000
" 1901	"	...	3,000,000	3,000,000
" "	4½ per cent.	...	5,000,000	5,000,000
1st January, 1904	4 per cent.	...	457,000	457,000
1st July, 1907	"	...	4,000,000	4,000,000
Total ... ..	...	1,536,220	23,914,000	25,450,220†

Loans falling
due.

314. It will be observed that an amount of nearly £4,000,000 fell due on the 1st October, 1883, and a similar amount will be repayable in 1884 and 1885; also, that the whole of that portion of the debt which bears 6 per cent. interest, amounting to £9,073,320, is to be repaid on or before the 1st January, 1891. The loans falling due up to 1885 are being replaced by the issue of redemption loans (inscribable as stock) bearing 4 per cent. interest. The first of these, of the nominal value of £2,000,000, was successfully floated in London on the 3rd July, 1883, and the second, of the nominal value of £1,824,100 (being portion of a

* For particulars respecting the issue of Treasury bonds, see paragraph 318, and for those relating to the £4,000,000 loan, see paragraph 327, *post*.

† See footnote (†) to paragraph 308 *ante*.

loan of £4,000,000), was floated on the 22nd January, 1884.* The saving in the annual interest payable by the substitution of 4 per cent. debentures for the 6 per cent. loans falling due up to 1885 will amount to over £156,000 per annum.

315. Under the Public Works Loan Act 1872 (36 Vict. No. 428), Victorian stock. 5 per cent. debentures to the value of £287,000, and 4 per cent. debentures to the value of £100,000, were converted into stock, but the whole was subsequently reconverted into debentures under Act 42 Vict. No. 611. Victorian Government stock was also authorized to be erected under the Public Works Loan Act 1872, and originally amounted to £1,113,000. On the 30th June, 1883, however, it had become reduced to £642,882, as particularized below :—

VICTORIAN STOCK.

			£	s.	d.
Stock erected under Act 36 Vict. No. 428	...	...	1,113,000	0	0
Converted into stock under Act 36 Vict. No. 439 :—					
Six per cent. debentures	...	...	£76,680	0	0
Five ditto ditto	...	...	10,100	0	0
			<hr/>		
			86,780	0	0
Increase by conversion	...	...	13,101	18	0
			<hr/>		
			£1,212,881	18	0
Deduct stock converted into debentures :—					
Under Act 39 Vict. No. 531	...	...	£500,000	0	0
Under Act 42 Vict. No. 611	...	...	70,000	0	0
			<hr/>		
			570,000	0	0
			<hr/>		
Total on 30th June, 1883	...	...	£642,881	18	0
			<hr/>		

316. Of the total amount of Victorian stock on the 30th June, 1883, Stock held by Treasurer and public. about two-fifths (£269,186) was held by the Treasurer, and the remaining three-fifths (£373,696) was held by the public.

317. The whole of the Victorian stock bears interest at the rate of 4 Interest on stock. per cent. per annum. The debentures into which portion of the stock was converted bear interest at the same rate.

318. In order to provide for a temporary deficit in the public Issue of Treasury bonds. finances, Treasury bonds of the nominal value of £500,000 were issued in the colony towards the close of the year 1880. These bonds were

* For particulars of these issues, see paragraph 327 *post*.

legalized under Act 44 Vict. No. 663. Each bond was of the value of £100, and bore interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum. The bonds were divided into three lots of £166,600, £166,700, and £166,700, redeemable in one, two, and three years respectively, and were successfully disposed of on the 19th October, 1880. The tenderers numbered 35, the tenders 78,* and the total amount tendered was £1,228,900. The whole of the bonds, however, with the exception of 291 of those for three years, were obtained by one Sydney firm. The price obtained for the one year's bonds was £101 5s. 2d.; for the two years', £101 10s. 2d.; and the average for the three years' was £101 2s. 4d. The proceeds of the first was £168,696; of the second, £169,215; and of the third, £168,564; or a total of £506,475. The money was thus obtained at the rate of $3\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., $4\frac{1}{4}$ per cent., and $4\frac{3}{5}$ per cent. per annum for the one, two, and three years' bonds respectively.

Redemption
of Treasury
bonds.

319. The bonds for one year (£166,600) were redeemed in due course on the 1st November, 1881, and subsequently, in February, 1882, the revenue being in a flourishing condition, the sum of £166,700, representing the whole of the bonds for two years, and the sum of £138,600, being portion of those for three years—or in all £305,300—was paid off. Further sums, amounting to £18,000, were paid off during the financial year 1882-3, so that the balance outstanding on the 30th June, 1883, was reduced to £10,100.

Rates of
interest.

320. The following are the rates of interest payable on the various amounts of which the public debt of Victoria is composed:—

Rates of Interest.					Amount at each Rate.		
					£	s.	d.
6 per cent.	...	...	...	...	9,073,320	0	0
5 per cent.	...	...	...	...	2,430,000	0	0
$4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	...	...	...	...	5,000,000	0	0
4 per cent.	...	...	...	...	9,599,881	18	0
Total ...					£26,103,201	18	0

Interest on
debt.

321. Nearly three-fifths of the interest on the debt is payable in July and January, and nearly all the remainder in October and April. In connexion with this, Messrs. W. Westgarth and Co. in their circular,

* There were 36 tenders for the one-year, 10 for the two-year, and 32 for the three-year bonds.

No. 221, of the 12th January, 1883, whilst admitting the inconvenience to the colony of having large interest amounts falling due at one time, point out that the greatest degree of negociability for the stock can only be attained by making the periods of payment uniform for all loans. Upwards of eight-ninths of the interest is payable in London, and the remainder in Melbourne. The following table shows the amounts payable during the ensuing financial year at those times and places on the debt existing on the 30th June, 1883 :—

INTEREST ON PUBLIC DEBT.

Rate per Cent.	When Due.	Amount Payable Annually—					
		In Melbourne.		In London.		Total.	
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
6	July and January	...			51,000	0	0
5	„ „	15,645	0	0	105,350	0	0
4½	„ „	...			225,000	0	0
4	„ „	...			358,280	0	0*
	Total ...	15,645	0	0	739,630	0	0
6	October and April	73,399	4	0	420,000	0	0
4	„ „	25,715	5	6	...		
	Total ...	99,114	9	6	420,000	0	0
5	May and November	505	0	0	...		
	Grand Total ...	115,264	9	6	1,159,630	0	0
							505 0 0†
							1,274,894 9 6

NOTE.—The figures in this table represent the amount of interest payable in 1883–4 on the debt as it stood at the commencement of that financial year. It should be pointed out, however, that, owing to the redemption of £3,824,100 at 6 per cent. on the 1st October, 1883, by a new issue of debentures at 4 per cent., the annual interest after that date will be reduced by £76,482; also that, owing to portion of the redemption loan being floated before the old loan was paid off, interest was payable for portion of the year on both amounts.

322. The rate of interest payable on the public debt, taken as a whole, as it existed at the end of 1882–3, was about £4 17s. 7¼d. per cent., the rates on the amounts borrowed for the different works varying from 4 to 6 per cent. No money has been borrowed at 6 per cent. since 1866; and the 5, 4½, and 4 per cent. loans floated since have brought down the rate of interest upon the amount borrowed for railway construction, the average of which was, at the end of 1882–3, only a trifle

Interest on loans for different works.

* Inclusive of £18,280, payable on debentures which are held by the Government.

† Only half this amount was actually paid, as the bonds became due on the 1st November, 1883.

over 5 (£5 0s. 7¼d.) per cent. The following are the particulars of the amounts borrowed for the different works, and the amount and average rate of interest payable thereon annually :—

INTEREST ON LOANS FOR DIFFERENT WORKS.

Purpose for which raised.	Amount outstanding on 30th June, 1883.	Interest payable annually.*	
		Amount.	Average Rate.
	£	£	Per Cent.
Railways	20,441,466†	1,028,978	5·03
Water Supply { Melbourne	782,107	32,388	4·14
{ Country	2,442,609	109,821	4·50
Defences	100,000	6,000	6·00
Public Offices	166,195	6,789	4·09
Law Courts and Parliament Houses	468,514	19,977	4·25
Schools	1,000,000	41,000	4·10
Yarra Bridge	60,000	2,700	4·50
Graving-dock	350,464	15,308	4·37
Harbours, &c.	250,000	10,000	4·00
To provide for prospective loss on sale of Debentures	31,747	1,428	4·50
Treasury Bonds	10,100	505	5·00
Total	26,103,202	1,274,894	4·88

Prospective reduction of rate of interest.

323. On the 1st October, 1883, or four months after the date to which the table relates, £3,824,100 of the old 6 per cent. debentures were redeemed by the substitution of 4 per cent. debentures therefor, and thus the average rate of interest on the amount borrowed for railways was reduced to 4·66 per cent., and that on the whole debt to 4·59 per cent. It may, moreover, be pointed out that, after the £812,500 falling due on the 1st October, 1884, and the £3,180,620 on the 1st October, 1885, are paid off, the average rate of interest on the railway debt will be further reduced to 4·27 per cent., and that on the whole debt to 4·29 per cent.

Interest payable and paid.

324. By the last two tables it appears that the total sum payable annually as interest is £1,274,894; but as interest on debentures held by the Government is not paid, and as a portion of the debt did not bear interest during the whole of the year, the amount actually paid in 1882-3 was only £1,148,077.

Expenses of paying interest on debt.

325. The expenses connected with the public debt, consisting chiefly of premium on remittances to London, discount, and commission—viz.,

* See note to last table.

† This is exclusive of £222,800, amount outstanding on the Melbourne and Hobson's Bay United Railway Company's debentures.

$\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on interest payable thereat—amounted to £14,118 in 1882–3, as against £10,473 in the previous year.

326. The interest and expenses of the public debt of Victoria thus amounted, in 1882–3, to £1,162,195,* being in the proportion of £1 5s. 8d. per head of population, and equal to nearly a fifth of the total expenditure. In a former issue of the *Victorian Year-Book*† it was shown that in the Australasian colonies the interest and expenses of the public debt per head varied from £2 11s. in New Zealand and £1 17s. in Queensland to 15s. in New South Wales and 6s. in Western Australia, and that the proportion to the total expenditure varied from 27 and 25 per cent. respectively in the two former to 9 and 4 per cent. respectively in the two latter; also, that in only one of 29 of the principal countries in the world—viz., France—is the annual charge per head in respect to the public debt higher than in Victoria.

327. A loan of £4,000,000, bearing interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum, the principal repayable on the 1st July, 1907, was placed on the London market in the early part of 1883, the debentures being of the nominal value of £100. This loan differed from former Victorian loans, inasmuch as holders of the debentures had for the first time the right of optional inscription of stock, free of stamp or other cost. The minimum price fixed for tenders was par. The debentures were first offered on the 9th January, but as only £455,500 was subscribed on that day, tenders were received up to the 17th January, when the loan was temporarily withdrawn, with the result that only £600,700 altogether was taken up, nearly all at, or at only a small fraction over, the minimum. The balance, however, amounting to £3,399,300, was offered and successfully disposed of on the 6th March following, when there were 512 tenderers for the total sum of £8,820,700. Although the minimum price fixed on both occasions was nominally par, that amount, *ex interest*, represented on 9th January only 99 $\frac{5}{8}$, and on the 6th March a little under 98 $\frac{1}{2}$; whilst the average price, *ex interest*, realized on the latter occasion was £98 12s. 6d. Taking the loan as a whole, the gross proceeds amounted to £3,953,408, which gives an average of £98 16s. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; and the net proceeds—after deducting all expenses, which amounted to £46,177, or £1 3s. 1d. per cent.—were £3,907,230, or an average of £97 13s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per £100 debenture. The following is a comparison of the leading particulars of this loan with the corresponding ones for the loan floated in 1879–80—the quotations being, in all cases, exclusive of accrued interest:—

* This amount differs by £60,480 from that shown in the table following paragraph 219 *ante*. The difference is chiefly made up of interest and expenses of Savings Banks' Deposits and of the Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway Debentures.

† See *Victorian Year-Book*, 1879–80, paragraph 255 *et seq.*

PARTICULARS OF LOANS FLOATED SINCE 1878.

Particulars.	£5,000,000—4½ per cent. (42 Vict. No. 608.)		£4,000,000—4 per cent.—Inscribable. (45 Vict. No. 717.)
	First Portion— £3,000,000.	Remaining Portion —£2,000,000.	
When floated	13th March, 1879	29th Sept., 1880	9th-17th Jan. and 6th March, 1883*
Minimum price fixed per £100 ...	£96 16 1	£100 0 0	£98 13 7
Number of tenders	1,407	872	735
Amount tendered	£8,503,200	£10,786,900	£9,421,400
Number of tenders accepted ...	427	18	494
Highest tender per £100 ...	£101 1 1	£103 11 6	£101 3 7
Lowest tender accepted per £100	£97 14 7	£103 2 0	£98 13 7
Gross proceeds, average per £100	£97 17 5½	£103 3 8½	£98 16 8½
Deduct expenses, ditto	£0 18 3	£0 17 9½	£1 3 1
Net proceeds, ditto	£96 19 2½	£102 5 11	£97 13 7½

Causes of failure in first instance to float loan.

328. The failure of the first attempt to float the £4,000,000 loan of 1883 is thus accounted for by Messrs. Westgarth and Co. in their Circular, 230, of the 12th January, 1883 :—

“ The Victoria Government, looking to the former success, as well as to the prices latterly got for the like stocks of sister colonies, instead of considering the circumstances special to their own case in hand, had fixed too high a price. Nothing is better ascertained in market experience than the fact that the quantity offered causes a difference in price as well as the quality. The usual buyers will not load and overload themselves with any particular stock without adequate consideration for so doing ; nor can the new or additional buyers, necessary for a large operation, be moved without the like inducement. Besides the £4,000,000 now, £3,800,000 had also been announced for July following, to take up that amount of a previous loan issue falling due on the 1st October, and there was again the same amount for the like purpose in 1885. These two latter amounts were not indeed additions to the colony's debt, and on this account, together with the expectation that in most cases, instead of money, an exchange into the inscribable loan would be accepted, the colony had quite under-estimated the effect upon the market from the very large issues additional to the £4,000,000. But, in fact, the nearly-maturing bonds of previous loans are already largely in the hands of banks, which, regarding them as ordinary first-class bills, looked for cash and not renewal of loan. Again, the issue of two like loans so close on each other was a tactical mistake. Indeed, there was further bad management in throwing together so great a mass of stock, and risking the market so close upon the time of the money being wanted. The £4,000,000 might have been sold on very favorable terms eight months before, and thus all difficulty would have been removed. Lastly, a bank rate of 5 per cent.

* Since the 30th June, 1883, two other 4 per cent. inscribable loans have been successfully floated in London, viz.—On the 3rd July, 1883, one of £2,000,000 (a redemption loan), repayable in 1908 ; and on the 22nd January, 1884, one of £4,000,000 (of which £1,824,100 was for redemption of an old loan), repayable in 1913. For the former, the minimum price, *ex interest*, fixed for tenders was about £96 13s. 3d., whilst the total amount tendered was £5,137,700—the lowest tender being at £97 8s. 9d., and the average price obtained £97 14s. 1½d. For the latter, the minimum price fixed was £98 9s., whilst the amount tendered was £5,561,700—the lowest tender being at £98 7s. 6½d., and the average price obtained £98 9s. It is believed that the price obtained for the last loan was reduced fully 5s. per cent. in consequence of the unusual occurrence of large shipments of gold to Australia.

was to local experience here a sure indicator of a narrow market for fresh loan operations. Altogether, the case is one more illustration that such distant borrowers should give a larger discretion to their financial agents on the spot. The injurious and inconvenient failure that has just occurred would thus have been avoided. The Stock Exchange dealers could not venture upon a bond of the loan upon the terms offered, because with such a mass of fresh stock in view there was no prospect of a profit within reasonable time. The Stock Exchange, as is well known, takes nearly all of a loan in the first instance. The result was, therefore, perfectly foreseen. Indeed, the common prediction of the market had correctly limited the possibility of sale to only one-eighth to one-tenth of the total £4,000,000. And yet, withal, the colony is in excellent credit, and its financial position as sound as could be desired. There has only been bad management."

329. The circumstances which contributed chiefly to the final success of the loan on the 6th March following are thus described in Westgarth's Circular, No. 232, of the 9th March, 1883 :—

Causes of
final success
in floating
loan.

"This great loan, which, from the uncertainty and divided counsels, since its first announcement, as to the exact time and the exact terms of its issue, has hung like a wet blanket over our still comparatively-limited Colonial market, was finally disposed of on the 6th instant, and with a success which was quite as striking as the previous failure which occurred less than two months ago. The unsold balance amounted to no less than £3,399,300. The price declared was, as before, a minimum of 100, payable by instalments running to 20th June. These deferred payments, together with accrued interest from 1st January, made a net reduction of price to a little under 98½, or about 1 per cent. cheaper than when offered in January. The success this time was extraordinary, but this was rather as regarded the very large amount tendered for than the advance upon the price asked. The allotment was at £100 2s. and upwards—that particular price, at which nearly £4,000,000 was tendered for, being the market's precise estimate of the value of the loan. The average price obtained was only £100 3s. 6d.; but, on the other hand, there were 525 lenders for a total application of £8,994,000. This remarkable result, as compared with the previous failure, calls for some explanation; but the explanation is not difficult, nor was the result unforeseen towards the time by those acquainted practically with this kind of business. In the first place, besides the 1 per cent. reduction in price explained above, the bank rate of discount, which was 5 per cent. when the loan was previously offered, was now down to 3 per cent., with even a still lower rate as the probability ahead. Thus, the dealer in a 4 per cent. stock had the prospect, on the first occasion, of holding at continuous loss by time, and on the second of holding at continuous profit. It will be readily seen how important is this consideration where a large amount of stock is concerned. But, again, because £9,000,000 was tendered for we must not infer that this amount, or even near it, was actually wanted. Excessive over-tendering is a well-understood feature whenever the market has reason to infer that its orders to buy may prove rather more than the amount offered. If the larger dealers or brokers are agreed as to price, they may each tender for twice or thrice what they really want, and possibly even then may not get their desired amount. The tenders, as above, at £100 2s. received, in fact, only about 18½ per cent. Although £9,000,000 had been thus bid for, yet, had as much as that been actually offered for sale, the result might have again been all but entire failure, with the prospect of such over-supply of the stock. Another comparative advantage on this occasion was the reduction of the further sum of £3,800,000 required to take up a previous loan issue of that amount falling due 1st October. The colony's exchequer was so well provided that £2,000,000 of this amount could stand over till next year; and, the Agent-General having promised accordingly, an additional impetus was thus given to the tendering. But still more in its favour was the inscription of the stock which had already been brought into full operation by the prompt and admirable method instituted by the London and Westminster Bank. This example, it may be hoped, will stimulate New South Wales and South Australia with their promised inscription, the want of which, especially in the unaccountably deferred case of the former, is most injurious to the value of these colonies' stocks."

Particulars
of loans
floated in
London.

330. Particulars respecting the various loans, forming part of the public debt of Victoria, raised in London from 1859 to 1884 are given in the following table :—

VICTORIAN LOANS FLOATED IN LONDON, 1859 TO 1884.

When raised.	Amount of Loan.	Rate of Interest.	When due.	Per £100 Debenture.					
				Minimum Price fixed.	Average Price obtained, <i>ex</i> Interest.				
	£	Per Cent.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1859	1,000,000	6	1st Oct. 1883	107	0	0	105	1	11 $\frac{3}{4}$
"	750,000	"	"	108	0	0	107	17	7 $\frac{1}{4}$
1860	1,837,500	"	"	} 105	0	0	104	17	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	812,500	"	1st Oct. 1884						
1861	1,000,000	"	1st Oct. 1885	105	5	0	103	1	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
1862	1,600,000	"	"	102	0	0	102	19	7
1866	850,000	"	1st Jan. 1891	102	10	0	100	8	11 $\frac{3}{4}$
1869	588,600	5	1st Jan. 1894	} Par, <i>ex</i> interest, with power to reduce 1 per cent.			98	4	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
1870	1,518,400	"	"						
1874	1,500,000	4	1st July 1899	90	0	0*	90	2	7
1876	3,000,000	"	1st July 1901	93	0	0*	94	16	10 $\frac{3}{4}$
1879	3,000,000	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	1st Jan. 1904	96	15	10 $\frac{1}{4}$ *	96	19	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
1880	2,000,000	"	"	100	0	0*	102	5	11
1883	4,000,000	4	1st July 1907	98	13	7*	98	16	8 $\frac{1}{4}$
"	2,000,000†	"	1st Oct. 1908	96	12	6*	97	16	0
1884	4,000,000‡	"	1st Oct. 1913	98	8	0*	98	8	3§
Total ...	29,457,000								

Terms upon
which loans
have been
obtained.

331. Up to the year 1866, the rate of interest contracted to be paid on loans was uniformly 6 per cent.; but on the loan raised in 1869 the interest was reduced to 5 per cent., and on that raised in 1874 it was further reduced to 4 per cent., which rate has prevailed ever since, except on the loans raised in 1879 and 1880, which were floated at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. All the 6 per cent. loans, it will be noticed, were floated at a premium varying from 9s. to nearly £8 per cent. (*ex* accrued interest); but not one of the 4 per cent. loans realized a higher rate than par. For the most successful of the last named, £98 16s. 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. was obtained in the early part of 1883, whilst the first of this class issued (*viz.*, in 1874) was floated with considerable difficulty for little more than £90.

Expenses of
floating
loans.

332. The total expenses connected with floating Victorian loans to the 30th June, 1883, including bank charges, brokerage, &c., amounted to £285,462, which figures furnish a proportion of £1 1s. 2d. per cent.

* Exclusive of accrued interest.

† Redemption loan.

‡ Of which £1,824,100 was for redemption of an old loan.

§ It is believed that a higher price by fully 5s. per cent. would have been obtained but for the simultaneous, but unusual, occurrence of the shipment of large quantities of gold to Australia.

on the amount borrowed to that date. It therefore follows that the proceeds of the loans, *ex interest*, as given in the last table, will, on the average, have to be reduced by this proportion in order to show the net proceeds. It should be mentioned that another charge, not taken into account, is the banks' commission of $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent., with the usual exchange and brokerage, for redemption of the debentures when they arrive at maturity.

333. The following table shows the total amount of debt, and the indebtedness per head, in Victoria and the other Australasian colonies on the 31st December of each of the ten years ended with 1882; also the number of years' revenue the debt is equal to in each year:—

Debts of
Austral-
asian
colonies.

PUBLIC DEBTS OF THE AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES.

Colony.	Year.	On the 31st December.		
		Total Amount of Debt.	Amount of Indebtedness per Head.	Number of Years' Revenue Debt is equal to.
		£	£ s. d.	
Victoria ...	1873	12,445,722	16 2 5	3·42
	1874	13,990,553	17 17 4	3·41
	1875	13,995,093	17 13 8	3·30
	1876	17,011,382	21 4 5	3·60
	1877	17,018,913	20 17 5	3·78
	1878	17,022,065	20 11 5	3·78
	1879	20,050,753	23 17 0	4·34
	1880	22,060,749	25 13 0	4·77
	1881	22,426,502	25 8 5	4·32
	1882	22,103,202	24 7 10	3·95
New South Wales	1873	10,842,415	19 7 0	3·25
	1874	10,516,371	18 0 0	3·00
	1875	11,470,637	18 18 2	1·78
	1876	11,759,519	18 13 5	2·34
	1877	11,724,419	17 14 1	2·04
	1878	11,688,119	16 16 11	2·35
	1879	14,937,419	20 6 10	3·34
	1880	14,903,919	20 3 2	3·04
	1881	16,924,019	21 13 3	2·52
	1882	18,721,219	22 18 0	2·53
Queensland ...	1873	4,782,850	32 12 1	4·27
	1874	5,249,350	32 2 1	4·52
	1875	6,435,250	35 9 11	5·10
	1876	6,435,250	34 7 11	5·09
	1877	7,685,350	37 16 10	5·35
	1878	8,935,350	42 8 11	5·73
	1879	10,192,150	46 15 8	6·97
	1880	12,192,150	53 18 7	7·56
	1881	13,245,150	58 7 1	6·55
	1882	13,125,350	52 17 5	6·24

PUBLIC DEBTS OF THE AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES—*continued.*

Colony.	Year.	On the 31st December.		
		Total Amount of Debt.	Amount of Indebtedness per Head.	Number of Years' Revenue Debt is equal to.
		£	£ s. d.	
South Australia ...	1873	2,174,900	10 19 7	2·17
	1874	2,989,750	14 12 3	2·98
	1875	3,320,600	15 15 7	2·85
	1876	3,837,100	17 0 1	2·91
	1877	4,737,200	20 0 0	3·29
	1878	5,329,600	21 8 5	3·35
	1879	6,605,750	25 9 2	3·97
	1880	9,865,500	36 17 5	4·86
	1881	11,196,800	38 3 6	5·16
	1882	12,472,600	42 9 10	5·98
Western Australia	1873	35,000	1 7 2	·26
	1874	119,000	4 10 10	·80
	1875	135,000	5 1 1	·86
	1876	135,000	4 18 10	·83
	1877	161,000	5 15 8	·97
	1878	184,556	6 11 0	1·13
	1879	361,000	12 11 10	1·84
	1880	361,000	12 8 9	2·00
	1881	511,000	17 0 6	2·01
	1882	511,000	16 12 2	2·04
Tasmania ...	1873	1,477,600	14 3 7	5·03
	1874	1,476,700	14 3 6	4·50
	1875	1,489,400	14 7 4	4·33
	1876	1,520,500	14 8 3	4·64
	1877	1,589,705	14 16 10	4·39
	1878	1,747,400	15 17 10	4·57
	1879	1,786,800	15 17 9	4·76
	1880	1,943,700	16 18 9	4·42
	1881	2,003,000	16 16 10	3·96
	1882	2,050,600	16 14 10	3·72
New Zealand* ...	1873	10,913,936	36 17 7	3·93
	1874	13,366,936	39 2 0	4·36
	1875	17,400,031	46 5 11	6·19
	1876	18,678,111	46 16 1	5·22
	1877	20,691,111	49 10 11	5·28
	1878	22,608,311	52 5 5	5·42
	1879	23,958,311	51 13 3	7·64
	1880	28,583,231	58 19 0	8·71
	1881	29,659,111	59 4 2	7·89
	1882	30,235,711	58 8 1	7·72

NOTE.—For public debts of the respective colonies at the end of 1883, see Summary of Australasian Statistics (third folding sheet) *ante*; also Appendix A *post*.

334. According to the returns of the last year named, by far the most heavily-indebted colony, in proportion to population, was New Zealand, and next to it Queensland. Victoria was much less heavily indebted than either of these or than South Australia, but was more

* New Zealand has, as a set-off against the debt, an accrued sinking fund, which amounted on the 31st December, 1882, to £2,462,496.

Order of colonies in respect to indebtedness.

so than any of the other colonies. The following is the order in which the colonies stood in respect to their indebtedness per head, the most heavily-indebted colony being placed first. Except in the case of Western Australia and Tasmania, which are about equal in this respect, the order is the same as in the previous four years :—

ORDER OF COLONIES IN REFERENCE TO AMOUNT OF INDEBTEDNESS PER HEAD.

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

335. The public debt in the different colonies varied in 1882 from an amount equal to about $7\frac{3}{4}$ years' revenue in New Zealand and from $6\frac{1}{4}$ to 6 years' revenue in Queensland and South Australia to a sum equal to 2 years' revenue in Western Australia. Victoria occupied a central position amongst the colonies, her debt being equal to her revenue for 4 years. The following is the order in which the colonies stood in respect to this matter :—

Order of colonies in respect to proportion of revenue to debt.

ORDER OF COLONIES IN REFERENCE TO PROPORTION OF REVENUE TO PUBLIC DEBT.

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

336. If the amounts of debt at the latest period shown in the table be added together, it will be found that the aggregate debt of the colonies on the continent of Australia was nearly sixty-seven millions, being over two and a half millions more than in 1881; and the aggregate debt of Australia, with the addition of Tasmania and New Zealand, exceeded ninety-nine millions sterling, being over three millions more than in 1881. The following are the exact figures, also the proportion of indebtedness per head of the population, and the proportion the aggregate debt bore to the aggregate revenue of the colonies within the same limits :—

Public debt of Australia and Australasia.

PUBLIC DEBT OF AUSTRALIA AND AUSTRALASIA, 1882.

	Public Debt.		
	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.	Multiple of Revenue.
	£	£ s. d.	
Continent of Australia	66,933,371	29 3 0	3·84
Ditto, with Tasmania and New Zealand	99,219,682	33 15 9	4·53

337. It will be observed that a combination of the indebtedness of the insular colonies with that of the colonies upon the Australian continent gives a proportion of debt per head higher by £4 12s. 9d.

Debt per head higher in Australasia than in Australia.

than such a proportion applied to the continental colonies alone, in explanation of which it will be remembered that although Tasmania is almost the most lightly, New Zealand is the most heavily, indebted colony of the group.

Increase of debt in Australasia in nine years. 338. During the nine years ended with 1882, the public debt of Australasia, taken as a whole, increased 133 per cent., and the burden per head of population increased by nearly two-thirds. The debt also increased in a greater ratio than the public revenue, for whereas in 1873 it was equal to the income of the colonies for only about three and a half years, in 1882 it was equal to their income for four and a half years. This will be observed by the following figures :—

INCREASE OF PUBLIC DEBT OF AUSTRALASIA, 1873 TO 1882.

Year.	Public Debt of Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand.		
	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.	Multiple of Revenue.
	£	£ s. d.	
1873... ..	42,672,423	20 2 3	3·46
1882... ..	99,219,682	33 15 9	4·53
Increase	56,547,259	13 13 6	1·07

Public debts of British dominions.

339. The next table shows the amounts of public debt in Great Britain and her various possessions at latest dates, so far as the information can be gathered from official documents existing in this colony; also the amount of debt per head of the population of each possession, and the number the revenue of each would have to be multiplied by in order to make an amount equal to its debt. All the calculations have been made in the office of the Government Statist, Melbourne :—

PUBLIC DEBTS OF BRITISH DOMINIONS.

Country or Colony.	Year.	Public Debt.		
		Total Amount.	Amount per Head.*	Multiple of Revenue.†
		£	£ s. d.	
EUROPE.				
United Kingdom	1883	756,376,519	21 9 3	8·49
Malta	1882	383,630	2 11 2	1·86
ASIA.				
India	"	156,820,614	0 15 6	2·13
Ceylon	"	1,687,477	0 12 3	1·47
Straits Settlements	"	70,000	0 3 4	·15

* For population of Great Britain and the various colonies, see table following paragraph 129 *ante*.
 † For revenue of Great Britain and the various colonies, see table following paragraph 246 *ante*.

PUBLIC DEBTS OF BRITISH DOMINIONS—*continued.*

Country or Colony.	Year.	Public Debt.		
		Total Amount.	Amount per Head.	Multiple of Revenue.
AFRICA.				
Mauritius	1882	£ 698,100	£ s. d. 1 17 0	·73
Natal	"	2,101,500	5 1 9	3·19
Cape of Good Hope... ..	"	16,098,409	12 17 7	4·56
St. Helena	"	8,750	1 14 6	·76
Lagos	"	441	0 0 1	·01
Sierra Leone	"	73,000	1 4 1	1·11
AMERICA.				
Canada	"	32,012,844	7 8 1	4·60
Newfoundland	"	312,245	1 14 9	1·36
Bermudas	"	7,984	0 11 5	·25
British Guiana	"	396,190	1 11 5	·86
West Indies—				
Bahamas	"	55,833	1 5 7	1·21
Jamaica	"	1,238,750	2 2 8	2·14
St. Lucia	"	33,000	0 17 2	·85
St. Vincent	"	3,500	0 1 8	·11
Grenada	"	9,690	0 4 6	·22
St. Christopher	"	2,700	0 1 11	·06
Antigua	"	48,562	1 8 1	1·03
Montserrat	"	3,000	0 5 11	·52
Dominica	"	11,900	0 8 6	·58
Trinidad	"	591,760	3 17 3	1·35
AUSTRALASIA.				
Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand *	"	99,219,682	33 15 9	4·53
Fiji	"	254,025	1 19 1	2·28
Total	1882	1,068,520,105	4 4 5	5·32

340. It will be observed that the total indebtedness of Great Britain and her dependencies exceeds a thousand millions sterling, that nearly three-fourths of the amount is owing by Great Britain herself, and nearly one-tenth by the Australasian colonies. Indebtedness of British dominions.

341. In Australasia, taken as a whole, the indebtedness, in proportion to population, is half as large again as that of the United Kingdom, which in this respect is far above any of its other dependencies. As regards individual colonies, the indebtedness per head of New Zealand and of Queensland is more than two and a half times as large as the indebtedness per head of the United Kingdom; whilst that of South Australia is about twice as large, and that of Victoria is larger by about a seventh. The two first-named colonies are, in proportion to population, by far the most heavily indebted countries in the world. Indebtedness per head of British dominions.

342. In proportion to revenue, the debt of Great Britain is far larger than that of any of her dependencies. Canada and the Cape of Good Proportion of debts to revenues of British dominions.

* For public debts and amounts per head, and proportion of debt to revenue, in the various Australasian colonies, see table following paragraph 333 *ante*.

Hope are the only ones of these in which the debt is as great a multiple of the revenue as the united debts of the Australasian colonies are of their united revenues.

Public debts
of foreign
countries.

343. The public debts of foreign countries at the latest dates are next shown, so far as the information is available. The calculations as to the amount of indebtedness per head and the multiple of the revenue of each country have all been made in the office of the Government Statist, Melbourne:—

PUBLIC DEBTS OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Country.	Year.	Public Debt.		
		Total Amount (000's omitted).	Amount per Head.*	Multiple of Revenue.
EUROPE.				
Austria-Hungary ...	1883	£ 458,884,†	£ 11 14 2	6·16
Belgium... ..	"	83,383,	14 18 6	6·96
Denmark	1882	11,204,	5 13 9	3·76
France	1884	786,117,	20 17 4	6·33
Germany	1882-3	294,668,‡	6 10 3	2·71
Greece	1883	15,921,	8 0 11	7·12
Holland... ..	1884	84,916,	20 6 11	9·16
Italy	1883	440,381,	15 9 6	7·70
Portugal	1881	96,163,	22 6 7	13·39
Roumania	1883	27,782,	5 3 4	5·72
Russia	1879	417,892,§	4 19 4	4·05
Spain	1881	512,000,	30 9 2	16·35
Sweden and Norway ...	1882-3	18,684,||	2 17 2	2·64
Switzerland	1883	1,340,¶	0 9 5	·76
Turkey	1878	292,830,**	11 19 2	19·87
ASIA.				
Japan	1883	67,073,	1 16 11	4·43
AFRICA.				
Egypt	1883	96,439,††	14 3 8	10·54
Tunis	1882	5,000,‡‡	2 7 8	9·96

* For populations on which these calculations are based, see table following paragraph 132 ante.

† This amount is made up of £277,309,000, general debt of the whole empire; £65,125,000, special debt of Austria Proper; and £116,450,000, special debt of Hungary.

‡ This amount is made up of the debt of the empire, £26,108,210 (including Treasury bills) in 1883, together with the debts of the following States at the dates named, viz.:—Alsace-Lorraine, £1,348,260 in 1883; Anhalt, £218,988 in 1882; Baden, £18,667,122 in 1883; Bavaria, £67,366,037 in 1883; Bremen, £4,004,100 in 1882; Brunswick, £4,036,962 in 1883; Hamburg, £7,191,302 in 1882; Hesse, £1,383,153 in 1883; Lippe, £108,625 in 1883; Lübeck, £1,141,331 in 1882; Mecklenburg-Schwerin, £1,041,685 in 1883; Oldenburg, £1,912,533 in 1883; Prussia, £102,984,071 in 1882-3; Reuss-Greiz, £48,269 in 1883; Reuss-Schleiz, £63,335 in 1883; Saxe-Altenburg, £83,188 in 1883; Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, £531,389 in 1883; Saxe-Meiningen, £647,040 in 1882; Saxe-Weimar, £327,172 in 1883; Saxony, £33,174,127 in 1883; Schaumburg-Lippe, £813,000 in 1882; Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt, £218,255 in 1883; Schwarzburg-Sondershausen, £171,387 in 1883; and Würtemberg, £21,078,500 in 1883-4. A large proportion of the debts of the German states was contracted for the construction of Railways. As a set-off against the "Debt of the Empire," there exist various invested funds amounting to £35,965,828.

§ Including the debt bearing no interest (forced paper currency), estimated at £161,000,000, the State's debt to the Imperial bank on open account, amounting to £68,701,000, and Treasury bonds to the amount of £34,200,000; but excluding the Railway debt (guaranteed by the State), amounting to £91,541,000.

|| This amount is made up of £12,719,000, debt of Sweden; and £5,965,000, debt of Norway.

¶ The above amount excludes the debts of the various Cantons, amounting in the aggregate to about £12,000,000. There exists, as a set-off against the debt, State property ("federal fortune") valued at £1,814,000.

** Consisting of foreign debt, £217,830,000, and estimated internal and floating debt, £75,000,000. Paper money estimated at £90,000,000 excluded.

†† Not including the Turkish debt secured upon the Tribute of £11,918,800, or the floating debt, estimated at over £5,000,000.

‡‡ Exclusive of a floating debt of at least £822,468.

PUBLIC DEBTS OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES—*continued.*

Country.	Year.	Public Debt.		
		Total Amount (000's omitted).	Amount per Head.	Multiple of Revenue.
AMERICA.				
Argentine Confederation ...	1883	£ 45,000,	£ s. d. 15 5 11	6·93
Brazil	„	81,365,	6 6 9	5·50
Mexico	1880	28,290,	2 17 9	4·08
Peru	„	43,000,*	14 5 10	3·45
United States	1883	376,834,	7 9 4	4·48

344. The public debt of the United Kingdom is larger than that of any other country in the world except France, which is the larger by £30,000,000. Next to these in point of indebtedness are Spain, Austria-Hungary, Italy, Russia, the United States, Germany, Turkey, and British India, in the order named. These are the only countries which have larger debts than the present united debts of the Australasian colonies.†

Gross amount of debt in different countries.

345. In proportion to population, the most heavily indebted independent countries are Spain and Portugal, which are, however, in this respect far behind the colonies of New Zealand, Queensland, and South Australia.‡ Besides Spain, Portugal, and the colonies named, no country has as large a debt per head as the United Kingdom, which is, however, in this respect, closely approached by France and Holland.

Amount of debt per head in different countries.

346. Turkey and Spain are much more heavily indebted in proportion to their revenues than any other country. The debts of Turkey, Spain, Portugal, Egypt, Tunis, and Holland are all larger in proportion to their revenues than the debt of the United Kingdom † is to its revenue. The united debts of the Australasian colonies ‡ are much smaller in proportion to their united revenues than the debts of most of the Foreign countries named in the table are to theirs.

Proportion of debt to revenue in different countries.

347. Municipalities in Victoria are empowered by the Local Government Act (38 Vict. No. 506) to borrow money for permanent works or undertakings, but the amount so borrowed—except in the case of cities, which have additional powers§—is not to exceed ten times their average annual net income during the three years preceding the contraction of the loan. The following is a statement of the number of cities, towns, and boroughs, and the number of shires, which had loans outstanding in September, 1883, also of the total amounts included therein. These amounts are exclusive of sums borrowed by the municipalities through the General Government for waterworks (viz., £681,428, of which

Municipal debt.

* Exclusive of an internal floating debt of an unknown amount.

† See table following paragraph 339 *ante*.

‡ See table following paragraph 333 *ante*.

§ Under the Local Government Act Amendment Act 1883 (47 Vict. No. 786), section 26.

£21,055 has been repaid into a sinking fund)—they being included in the public debt of the colony* :—

MUNICIPAL DEBT, 1883.

Municipalities.	At the end of the Municipal Financial Year.	
	Number of Districts which had Loans outstanding.	Total Amount of outstanding Loans.
Cities, towns, and boroughs... ..	38	£ 657,058
Shires	30	119,625
Total... ..	68	776,683

Rates of interest paid by municipalities.

348. The rates of interest paid by municipalities were from 6 to 8 per cent., except in the case of three shires, in which the rate on portion of the loan, and two in which the rate on all the loan, was 5 per cent.; and in one city (Melbourne), where the rate on portion of the loan was as low as 4½ per cent., and eight other urban municipalities, in which the rate on the whole or portion of the loan was 5 per cent. Only one municipality, viz., Raywood, paid as high as 9 per cent. for its loan.

General and municipal debt.

349. If the municipal debts, as shown above, be added to the debt of the General Government on 30th June, 1883, viz., £26,103,202,† it will appear that the total liability of the colony was £26,879,885, or a proportion of £29 6s. 11d. per head of population.

Trust funds, 1883.

350. At the end of June, 1883, there was a total balance of £1,453,924 to the credit of the various trust funds, of which £726,186, or 50 per cent., were invested in debentures or inscribed stock, bearing interest at the rate of 4 per cent. The following are the particulars of each fund :—

TRUST FUNDS, 1883.

Accounts.	Balances at Credit, 30th June, 1883.	Invested in Debentures or Inscribed Stock.
	£	£
Assurance fund	81,052	50,000
Suitors' fund	48,920	35,381
Police superannuation fund	72,485	70,000
Intestate estates	96,832	46,446
Municipalities Investment account	48,021	48,021
Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway Deposit account	9,338	9,338
Trustees, Executors, and Agency Company	10,000	10,000
Exhibition Commissioners	60	...
Permanent Artillery — Deferred pay fund	876	...

* See table following paragraph 309 *ante*.

† On the 30th June, 1884, the debt of the General Government had increased to £28,325,112.

TRUST FUNDS, 1883—*continued.*

Accounts.	Balances at Credit, 30th June, 1883.	Invested in Debentures or Inscribed Stock.
	£	£
Post Office Savings Banks ...	1,005,418	} 457,000
Insolvency (unclaimed dividends) ...	3,708	
Customs officers' and goods overtime	666	
Loan redemption account ...	21,055	
Education result fund ...	7	
Sundries ...	86,001	...
Total ...	1,484,439	726,186
Deduct remittances and advances ...	30,515	...
Total ...	1,453,924	726,186

351. In 1883, as compared with the previous year, a falling-off of £127,000 took place in the total amount at credit of trust funds, which is more than accounted for by a decrease of over £140,000 in the amount to the credit of the Post Office Savings Banks fund. The following table shows the amount at credit of the funds, and the manner of its investment, at the end of each of the last fourteen financial years:—

TRUST FUNDS, 1870 TO 1883.

On the 30th June.	Amount at Credit of Trust Funds.			
	Invested in Debentures or Inscribed Stock.	Deposited in Banks.	Held otherwise.*	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1870 ...	129,000	320,181	...	449,181
1871 ...	250,000	267,421	...	517,421
1872 ...	297,000	390,877	...	687,877
1873 ...	553,600	347,035	...	900,635
1874 ...	605,574	361,799	...	967,373
1875 ...	608,454	237,090	76,451	921,995
1876 ...	613,344	89,909	240,370	943,623
1877 ...	626,844	290,645	66,249	983,738
1878 ...	642,746	155,005	200,048	997,799
1879 ...	675,423	114,628	316,518	1,106,569
1880 ...	690,511	...	308,616	999,127
1881 ...	709,872	546,014	...	1,255,886
1882 ...	725,045	574,984	281,351	1,581,380
1883 ...	726,186	394,851	332,887	1,453,924

352. The retiring allowances paid from the Victorian revenue are, as I have pointed out in previous issues of this work, of two kinds, viz., those awarded to persons without reference to whether they are old or disabled, or are still fit for duty, in consideration of eminent services rendered to the State either by themselves or their relatives; and those granted only to public servants who, by reason of age or infirmity, are

* In agent's hands, London; owing by other Governments; advanced on account of Stock Act in anticipation of sales; advanced on account of loans; "deficiency met," "charges on account finance of succeeding year," &c.

incapacitated from the performance of duty. The first are strictly pensions; the second, although often called pensions, are, properly speaking, not so, but superannuation allowances.

353. The amount of a pension does not depend upon the age of the recipient, or whether the service for which it is granted has extended over a long period or a short one. The recipient of a superannuation allowance, unless suffering from infirmity supposed to be incurable, must have reached a certain minimum age, and must have served for not less than a certain time, the amount of his allowance depending upon the position attained in the service and the number of years served.

354. Of pensions there were in 1882-3 four in all, embracing allowances to two former Ministers released from office on political grounds, to the widow of a former Governor of Victoria, and to the daughter of an eminent explorer of the Australian coasts. The total amount included in these pensions was £2,900.

355. The persons entitled to superannuation allowances in the same year numbered 264, and consisted of four former judges of County Courts, and 246 ex-officers of the Civil Service, also of 14 ex-officers of the Lunacy Department. The aggregate amount of the allowances to these persons was £35,574, or an average of £134 15s. to each recipient.

356. Taken together, the pensions and superannuation allowances numbered 268, or 14 more than in the previous year, and amounted to £38,474, or £283 more than in that year. The average to each recipient was £143 11s. 2d., or £6 16s. less than in 1881-2.

357. The different authorities under which pensions and superannuation allowances are legalized, and the recipients to whom they were awarded, also the number on the list during 1882-3, and the gross and average amount of the pensions and superannuation allowances payable, will be found in the following table:—

PENSIONS AND SUPERANNUATION ALLOWANCES, 1882-3.

Authority under which legalized.	Description of the Recipients.	Number of Persons on the List.	Amount Payable.*					
			Total.			Average to each Recipient.		
			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
	PENSIONS.							
18 & 19 Vict. cap. 55 (Constitution Act, Schedule D)	Former Ministers of the Crown	2	1,800	0	0	900	0	0
21 Vict. No. 20 ...	Daughter of the late Captain Flinders, R.N.	1	100	0	0	100	0	0
33 Vict. No. 362 ...	Widow of a former Gov- ernor of Victoria	1	1,000	0	0	1,000	0	0

* These columns contain the amounts payable according to the Treasurer's statement. The sums actually paid were in some instances less, as in most cases the reductions in consequence of the deaths of recipients during the year are not taken into account in the figures.

Age an element in certain cases only.

Pensions.

Superannuation allowances.

Pensions, &c., 1882 and 1883.

Pensions, &c., 1882-3.

PENSIONS AND SUPERANNUATION ALLOWANCES, 1882-3—
continued.

Authority under which legalized.	Description of the Recipients.	Number of Persons on the List.	Amount Payable.					
			Total.			Average to each Recipient.		
			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
SUPERANNUATION ALLOWANCES.								
33 Vict. No. 345 (County Court Statute)	County Court Judges ...	4	3,000	0	0	750	0	0
25 Vict. No. 160 (Civil Service Act)	Officers in the Civil Service	246	32,276	8	4	131	4	1
31 Vict. No. 309 (Lunacy Statute)	Officers in the Lunacy Department	14	297	7	4	21	4	10
	Total ...	268	38,473	15	8*	143	11	2

358. Superannuation allowances to the police are not included in the foregoing statement, as they are paid under the Police Regulations Statute (37 Vict. No. 476) out of a fund called the Police Superannuation Fund, which is maintained by an annual income of £2,800 arising from the investment of £70,000 in Government stock; by an annual grant of £2,000 from the consolidated revenue; by a moiety of the fines inflicted by courts of Petty Sessions under various Statutes; and, if necessary, by a deduction not exceeding $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. from the pay of the members of the force, and a further grant in aid from the consolidated revenue. In all cases of a police superannuation allowance being granted, the option is given to the retiring member to commute it for a gratuity equal to one month's pay for each year of service.

Police pensions, how granted.

359. The number of recipients of police retiring allowances in 1882-3 was 158, the gross amount payable was £13,279, or an average of £84 0s. 10d. to each recipient. In addition, gratuities in lieu of retiring allowances were paid in 35 instances. These gratuities amounted in the aggregate to £10,358, or an average of £295 18s. 10d. to each recipient.

Number of police pensions and gratuities, 1882-3.

360. In the year under review, for the sixth time, a deduction was made from the pay of the police for the purpose of enabling the superannuation fund to meet the demands made thereon. The deduction made was at the rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., or the full amount allowed by law, and realized £4,068. Even with this addition, however, the ordinary receipts proved insufficient, and, the balance from previous years having

Deduction from pay of police.

* Not including a retiring allowance of £500 per annum paid to Mr. G. W. Rusden, late Clerk of the Parliaments.

become exhausted, it became necessary for Parliament to vote in aid of the fund a sum of £2,600 in 1880-81, of £5,000 in 1881-2, and of £8,000 in 1882-3.

Retiring allowances granted for infirmity.

361. Except in cases of infirmity of mind or body, the minimum age at which retiring allowances are granted to members of the civil service is sixty years, and to members of the police force fifty-five years. Of the existing retiring allowances, however, 29 per cent. of those granted to civil servants, and as many as 53 per cent. of those granted to the police, were awarded in consequence of infirmity or disablement before the full age had been attained.

Allowances voted by Parliament.

362. Besides the superannuation allowances and pensions for which amounts are specially appropriated, certain allowances are voted by Parliament each year to retired public servants who, whilst in the employment of the State, were attached to the unclassified branches of the service, and consequently were not comprehended in any of the several Statutes under which retiring allowances are legalized; and, in addition, pensions were voted to three persons—two being the widows of constables who were shot by the Kelly gang of outlaws. Over two-thirds of the retired public servants referred to were prior to their retirement connected with the Education Department, chiefly as State school teachers. The number of retiring allowances voted in 1882-3, the gross amount paid, and the average to each recipient, also the departments in which the several recipients served, will be found in the following table:—

SUPERANNUATION ALLOWANCES AND PENSIONS VOTED BY
PARLIAMENT, 1882-3.

Department.	Number of Recipients.	Allowances Voted.					
		Total Amount Paid.			Average to each Recipient.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
SUPERANNUATION ALLOWANCES.							
Education	110	7,047	19	5	64	1	10
Railways	9	2,009	14	9	223	6	1
Public Works and Water Supply ...	18	1,718	14	10	95	9	8
Chief Secretary	7	508	9	2	72	12	10
Trade and Customs	1	450	0	0	450	0	0
Treasurer	2	114	11	3	57	5	7
Crown Lands	1	75	0	0	75	0	0
Post Office... ..	1	32	4	0	32	4	0
PENSIONS.							
Widows of Constables shot by the Kelly gang of outlaws	2	86	15	8*	43	7	10
Ex-Constable of Police	1	52	0	0*	52	0	0
Total	152	12,095	9	1	79	11	6

* In addition to amount paid out of the Police Superannuation Fund.

363. The following is a summary of the pensions and superannuation allowances, of all descriptions, payable out of the general revenue during the year 1882-3 :—

Summary of retiring allowances.

SUMMARY OF PENSIONS AND RETIRING ALLOWANCES PAYABLE *
FROM THE REVENUE, 1882-3.

	£	s.	d.
Former Ministers of the Crown	1,800	0	0
Lady Darling and Mrs. Petrie	1,100	0	0
Former judges of County Courts	3,000	0	0
„ officers of the Civil Service	32,276	8	4
„ „ Lunacy department	297	7	4
„ police	10,000	0	0†
Allowances voted by Parliament	12,095	9	1
Total	£60,569	4	9‡

364. Retiring allowances, pensions, and gratuities to officers to be thereafter appointed in the public service were abolished on the 24th December, 1881, by Act 45 Vict. No. 710. Judges of the Supreme Court, officers and members of the police force, and persons then employed in the public service, are specially exempted from the operation of the Act.

Abolition of pensions.

PART III.—VITAL STATISTICS.

365. In pursuance of the provisions of Act 28 Vict. No. 268, records are kept of all marriages, births, and deaths which are known to occur in Victoria. The marriages are recorded by registrars of marriages or by clergymen throughout the colony, and the births and deaths by deputy registrars. The marriage registrations are made in triplicate, one copy being forwarded to the Registrar-General, one retained by the lay registrar or officiating clergyman, as the case may be, and the third given to the parties married. The birth and death registrations are made in duplicate, one copy being forwarded to the Registrar-General and the other retained by the deputy registrar.

Registration system for marriages, births, and deaths.

366. It is found convenient to deal with the records according to the periods in which the marriages, births, and deaths are registered, rather than those in which they occur. And—since the registration of a death should in all cases precede burial, and the registration of a marriage is simultaneous with the marriage itself—the registrations in the former case closely, and in the latter case entirely, agree with the actual occurrences during any period. In the case of births,

Time of registration dealt with in compiling statistics.

* The amounts actually paid were, owing to the deaths of recipients, in some instances less, and, owing to the payment of arrears, in some instances more, than these.

† These figures represent the amount payable from the general revenue, which consist of the usual endowment of £2,000 and an additional amount of £8,000 which was voted by Parliament. For total of retiring allowances to the police from all sources, see paragraph 359 ante.

‡ Not including a retiring allowance of £500 per annum paid to Mr. G. W. Rusden, late Clerk of Parliaments.