

## PART 8.—DEFENCES.

1643. The Military Forces of Victoria consist of Permanent Forces, Militia, and Volunteer Forces. The Permanent Forces are made up of the Head-quarters Staff, the Victoria Regiment, Royal Australian Artillery, the Permanent Section of the Engineer Corps, and the Permanent Staff of the Militia, Mounted Rifles, Rangers, Scottish Regiment, Cadets, and Staff Clerks; the Militia embrace the Head-quarters Staff, Field and Garrison Artillery, Engineers, Infantry, Ambulance, Army Service Corps, and Medical Staff; and the Volunteer Forces comprise the Mounted Rifles, Victorian Rangers, Scottish Regiment, and Senior Cadet Battalion.\* During 1899 the strength of the various corps in all cases approximated closely to the establishment, which is as follows :—

## MILITARY FORCES.—ESTABLISHMENT, 1899.

Corps.	Total all Ranks.
<b>PERMANENT.</b>	
Head-quarters Staff ... ..	4
Victoria Regiment, R.A.A. ... ..	289
Permanent Section, Victorian Engineers ... ..	35
Permanent Staff of Militia ... ..	33
Mounted Rifles ... ..	11
Victorian Rangers ... ..	12
Scottish Regiment ... ..	1
Cadet Corps ... ..	2
Military Staff Clerks ... ..	6
<b>Total Permanent Forces ... ..</b>	<b>393</b>
<b>MILITIA.</b>	
Head-quarters Staff ... ..	7
Field Artillery—Three Batteries ... ..	269
Garrison Artillery—	
<i>a.</i> Western Brigade—	
Geelong Artillery, 2 cos. ... ..	249
Western Artillery, 1 co. ... ..	144
<i>b.</i> Metropolitan Brigade—	
Staff ... ..	1
North Melbourne Artillery, 2 cos. ..	186
Williamstown Artillery, 1 co. ... ..	102
Harbor Trust Artillery, 2 cos. ... ..	186
Victorian Engineers—Submarine Mining Company ...	84
"  "  "  "  "  Queenscliff ... ..	20
"  "  "  "  "  Field Company ... ..	75
Infantry Brigade—	
Staff ... ..	2
1st Battalion, Melbourne ... ..	455
2nd Battalion, " ... ..	455
3rd Battalion, Ballarat ... ..	455
4th Battalion, Castlemaine ... ..	301
5th Battalion, Bendigo ... ..	301
Ambulance Corps ... ..	46
Army Service Corps ... ..	50
Medical Staff ... ..	16
<b>Total Militia ... ..</b>	<b>3,404</b>

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

## MILITARY FORCES.—ESTABLISHMENT, 1899—continued.

Corps.						Total all Ranks.
VOLUNTEERS.						
Mounted Rifles	...	...	...	...	...	800
Victorian Rangers	...	...	...	...	...	850
Scottish Regiment	...	...	...	...	...	452
Senior Cadet Battalion	...	...	...	...	...	488
						2,590
Grand Total	...	...	...	...	...	6,387

Establishment of naval forces.

1644. The Naval Force of the colony consists of a Permanent Force and a Naval Brigade, with an establishment as follows:—

## NAVAL FORCES.—ESTABLISHMENT, 1899.

Permanent Force	...	...	...	157 Officers and Men.
Naval Brigade	...	...	...	152 "

Ships of naval forces.

1645. The naval flotilla consists of six ships and torpedo boats, Provision has also been made to arm two steamers as scouts when required for active service, which have accordingly been fitted so as to carry quick-firing guns. The following are the names of the vessels:—

## VICTORIAN WAR VESSELS, 1899.

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

*Countess of Hopetoun*—Steel torpedo boat.

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

*Gordon*—Torpedo launch.

Harbor Trust tug-boat, iron.

Harbor Trust hopper-barge, iron.

Harbor Trust hopper-barge, iron.

Torpedo launches.

Expenditure on defences, 1898-9.

1646. The following table shows the total expenditure on military and naval defences for the financial year ended 30th June, 1899. The total was about £11,345 more than in the preceding year, but over £44,000 less than in 1893-4:—

## MILITARY AND NAVAL EXPENDITURE, 1898-9.

CIVIL STAFF.						£	£
Salaries and pay	...	...	...	...	...	5,931	
Contingencies	...	...	...	...	...	695	
							6,626
NAVAL FORCES.							
Permanent Forces—Salaries and pay	...	...	...	...	...	18,587	
" " Contingencies	...	...	...	...	...	5,374	
							23,961
Naval Brigade—Pay	...	...	...	...	...	1,260	
" " Contingencies	...	...	...	...	...	802	
							2,062

## MILITARY AND NAVAL EXPENDITURE, 1898-9—continued.

	£	£
<b>MILITARY FORCES.</b>		
<i>Permanent.</i>		
Head-quarters Staff—Pay ... ..	2,826	
"    "    Contingencies ... ..	517	
		3,343
Permanent Staff (instructors and adjutants)—Pay ...	4,710	
"    "    "    "    Contingencies	734	
		5,444
Military Staff Clerks—Pay ... ..	952	
"    "    Contingencies ... ..	62	
		1,014
Victoria Regiment, R.A.A.—Pay ... ..	21,000	
"    "    Contingencies ... ..	9,775	
		30,775
Victorian Engineers—Pay ... ..	4,602	
"    "    Contingencies ... ..	844	
		5,446
<b>MILITIA.</b>		
Militia pay, Field and Garrison Artillery, Engineers, Submarine Mining Company (Queenscliff Section), and Field Company, Infantry, &c.	21,700	
Militia contingencies, effective allowance, horsing guns, band allowances, &c.	10,874	
		32,574
<b>AUXILIARY FORCES.</b>		
Cadet Corps—Pay ... ..	705	
"    Contingencies ... ..	1,497	
		2,202
Mounted Rifles—Pay ... ..	2,000	
"    "    Contingencies ... ..	4,499	
		6,499
Victorian Rangers—Pay ... ..	2,142	
"    "    Contingencies ... ..	4,283	
		6,425
Rifle Clubs—Contingencies ... ..	...	1,000
<b>ORDNANCE BRANCH.</b>		
Warlike stores, accoutrements, &c., and rail transport ...	4,354	
Chase-hooping heavy ordnance ... ..	7,123	
		11,477
<b>ENCAMPMENTS.</b>		
Easter camp and course instruction, Submarine Mining Company	...	2,800
<b>MISCELLANEOUS.</b>		
Expenses officers despatched to England for instruction	769	
Annual Grant and Queen's Prize, V.R.A. ... ..	425	
Railway Department, passes to members ... ..	276	
Ammunition fund recoup ... ..	5,200	
Compensation, &c., for injuries on duty., &c., Permanent and Militia Forces	1,148	
Refund of duty, Colonial Ammunition Company ...	26	
Competitions in Gunnery ... ..	299	
		8,143
<b>Total Expenditure Victorian Defences*</b> ...	...	149,791
<b>DEFENCE WORKS AND BUILDINGS.</b>		
Erection and inspection of forts, repairs drill rooms, &c.	...	9,047

\* Exclusive of works and buildings.

## MILITARY AND NAVAL EXPENDITURE, 1898-9—continued.

AUSTRALASIAN DEFENCE FORCES.		£	£
Annual contribution maintenance Auxiliary Squadron ...		33,222	
„ subsidy toward defence Thursday Island (Qld.)...		4,225	
„ „ „ „ King George's Sound (W.A.)		1,300	
			38,747
Total Expenditure Defences, 1898-9 ...		...	197,585

Expenditure  
on defences,  
1852 to  
1898-9.

1647. A statement of the expenditure on the establishment and maintenance of defences in various periods during the last 47½ years will be found in the following table:—

## EXPENDITURE ON DEFENCES, 1852 TO 1898-9.

Period.	Ordinary Expenditure. (Maintenance.)		Construction and Main- tenance of Buildings, Fortifica- tions, War- ships, &c.	Australasian Defences.		Total.
	Military.	Naval.		Construc- tion.	Mainten- ance.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1852 to 1855 ...	353,490	3,974	72,788	...	...	430,252
1856 to 1864 ...	525,000	123,000	233,000	...	...	881,000
1865 to 1874-5	419,619	158,198	139,993	...	...	717,810
1875-6 to 1884-5	495,127	246,924	499,756	...	...	1,241,807
1885-6 ...	132,052	37,886	150,000	...	...	319,938
1886-7 ...	118,918	38,324	147,522	...	...	304,764
1887-8 ...	134,445	39,913	147,761	...	...	322,119
1888-9 ...	126,051	46,578	173,994	...	...	346,623
1889-90 ...	152,985	44,192	153,644	...	...	350,821
1890-91 ...	191,697	45,287	57,983	...	37,723	332,690
1891-2 ...	170,861	46,611	29,610	4,314*	37,633	289,029
1892-3 ...	137,122	43,519	17,860	...	39,144†	237,645
1893-4 ...	118,691	40,675	8,570	7,915‡	39,297†	215,148
1894-5 ...	114,278	38,741	6,281	139‡	39,362†	198,801
1895-6 ...	97,666	27,759	5,874	...	38,282†	169,581
1896-7 ...	109,173	27,592	7,107	...	37,777†	181,649
1897-8 ...	114,292	26,391	6,620	...	37,013†	184,316
1898-9 ...	123,768	26,023	9,047	...	38,747†	197,585
Total ...	3,635,235	1,061,587	1,867,410	12,368	344,978	6,921,578

Arms, ammunition, and stores generally, unapportioned to particular years, prior to 1874 ...	47,408
Value of land certificates granted to Volunteers prior to 1874 ...	139,683
Grand Total ...	7,108,669

NOTE.—The totals, which are derived from the departmental accounts, do not exactly agree in all cases with those taken from the Treasurer's Finance Statement, and shown on pages 165 and 166 *ante*, owing to the closing of the accounts not being exactly simultaneous. For expenditure in each year prior to 1889-90, see issue of this work for 1893, paragraph 682.

\* Fortifications at King George's Sound.

† Including contributions towards cost of maintenance of garrison at King George's Sound—£1,156 in 1892-3, £1,126 in 1893-4, £1,285 in 1894-5, £1,150 in 1895-6, £1,155 in 1896-7, £1,175 in 1897-8, and £1,300 in 1898-9; and at Thursday Island—£750 in 1892-3, £1,700 in 1893-4, £2,116 in 1894-5, £2,000 in 1895-6, £2,100 in 1896-7 and 1897-8, and £4,225 in 1898-9. The balances are towards maintenance of the Auxiliary Squadron.

‡ Fortifications at Thursday Island.

1648. It will be noticed that the annual amount expended on the maintenance of military defence has fallen from a maximum of £192,000 in 1890-1 to an average of less than £113,000 in the last six years, and that on naval defences from an average of £45,600 in the four years ended with 1891-2 to about £28,000 in the last four years; whilst the expenditure on buildings, fortifications, and warships, &c., has decreased from about £174,000 in 1898-9 to an average of £7,000 during the last six years. Taking the expenditure as a whole, it has been less than £200,000 per annum since 1893-4, having rapidly fallen off from over £350,000 in 1889-90. Since the year 1889-90 the expenditure on the Australasian Auxiliary Squadron has been included.

Expenditure on defences in various years compared.

1649. The land forces of the Australasian Colonies at the end of 1898 numbered 30,101, of which 20,321 were upon the Australian Continent. The largest numbers were in New South Wales, but about one-sixth of these were only reserves, a force which is possessed by two of the colonies. The militia predominates in all the colonies except New Zealand, where nearly the whole force consists of volunteers. In New South Wales and South Australia the latter are partially paid. New South Wales also has 356 more regular troops than Victoria, besides 1,500 men attached to reserves, as before alluded to, but about 1,000 fewer under other arms. In South Australia, however, all adult males under 45 years of age, and in New Zealand all between 17 and 55, are liable to be called out in case of necessity. The following is a statement of the land forces in each colony of the group:—

Land forces in Australasian Colonies.

#### LAND FORCES IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1898.

Colony.	Regular Troops.	Militia.	Volunteers.	Reserves (including rifle clubs)	Total.
Victoria ... ..	381	3,385	2,101	...	5,867
New South Wales ... ..	737	4,141*	2,344	1,500	8,722
Queensland ... ..	206	1,855	487	...	2,548
South Australia ... ..	34	1,290*	...	1,136†	2,460
Western Australia ... ..	43	...	681	...	724
Total ... ..	1,401	10,671	5,613	2,636	20,321
Tasmania ... ..	17	1,928	...	...	1,945
New Zealand ... ..	...	288	7,547	...	7,835
Grand Total ‡ ... ..	1,418	12,887	13,160	2,636	30,101

\* Partially paid.

† Including 349 civil police.

‡ Exclusive of cadets, who numbered 490 in Victoria, 414 in Queensland, 234 in Tasmania, and 2,293 in New Zealand.

Naval forces  
in Austral-  
asian  
Colonies.

1650. Of all the Australasian Colonies only Victoria, Queensland, and New Zealand possess regular naval forces of any importance, but all the colonies on the mainland possess a few irregular naval forces, who generally receive a small payment for their services, and are sometimes called the naval reserve. The largest force of this description belongs to Queensland. New South Wales has, moreover, 230, and New Zealand as many as 729, naval volunteers. The regular force in New Zealand consists entirely of Torpedo Corps. The following table contains a statement of the number of such forces in each of the colonies from which particulars have been received :—

NAVAL FORCES IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1898.

Colony.	Regular Forces.	Forces only casually employed.*	Volunteers.	Total.
Victoria ... ..	157	152	...	309
New South Wales ... ..	4	332	230	566
Queensland ... ..	42	470	...	512
South Australia ... ..	17	143	...	160
Total ... ..	220	1,097	230	1,547
Tasmania ... ..	...	...	1†	1
New Zealand ... ..	76†	...	729	805
Grand Total ... ..	296	1,097	960	2,353

Relative proportions of various forces.

1651. According to a table published in a former issue of this work, the local troops in the self-governing colonies of the Empire numbered 77,000 in 1889, and half of these (38,238) were in Canada, whilst 41 per cent. (31,994) were in Australasia, and 9 per cent. (6,710) in South Africa. The partially paid forces amounted to five-sixths of the whole, whilst the permanent and the volunteer forces—the latter of which existed only in Australasia—amounted to but a fifteenth and a tenth of the whole respectively.

Defence expenditure in Australasian Colonies.

1652. In 1898-9 Victoria spent nearly £200,000 on defences, or about one-fourth of the amount so expended by all the colonies on the Australian Continent, whilst New South Wales spent nearly £300,000, or five-thirteenths of that amount. The Australasian

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

† Torpedo Corps.

Colonies, as a whole, spent about £780,000 on defences in the same year, as is shown in the following table:—

EXPENDITURE ON DEFENCES IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1898.

Colony.	Ordinary Expenditure.		Expenditure on Fortifications. †	Grand Total.
	Military.	Naval.*		
	£	£	£	£
Victoria ... ..	123,767	68,293	5,525	197,585
New South Wales ... ..	191,551	47,326	59,774‡	298,651
Queensland ... ..	61,019	23,886	9,498	94,403
South Australia ... ..	15,762	16,642	372	32,776
Western Australia ... ..	18,214	4,021	1,624	23,859
Total ... ..	410,313	160,168	76,793	647,274
Tasmania ... ..	7,866	4,841	...	12,707
New Zealand ... ..	88,461	20,830	10,158	119,449
Grand Total ... ..	506,640	185,839	86,951	779,430

NOTE.—The figures for Victoria are for the financial year 1898-9; those for the other colonies for the calendar year 1898.

1653. The military forces of the Australasian Colonies were inspected in 1889 by Major-General J. B. Edwards, a distinguished officer in the Imperial service, specially sent by the Horse Guards to perform that duty. General Edwards reported (9th October, 1889) in regard to Victoria that the troops were in a satisfactory condition, and capable of fulfilling the duty for which they are maintained, viz., the defence of the colony. He, however, strongly recommended that, for the general defence of Australasia, there should be a federation of the forces of the different colonies. §

Inspection of Australasian troops.

1654. According to an agreement entered into with the Imperial Government, and embodied in Acts passed by the several Legislatures (the Victorian Act being 54 Vict. No. 1083), an additional naval force, or auxiliary squadron, consisting of five fast cruisers and two torpedo boats, is maintained for the protection of the floating trade in Australasian waters. The agreement, which is to remain in force for ten years, provides that three cruisers and one gunboat shall always be kept in

Additional naval defences for Australasian Colonies.

\* Including contributions towards maintenance of Australasian Naval Defence Force as follow:—Victoria, £33,222; New South Wales, £37,812; Queensland, £14,030; South Australia, £10,372; Western Australia, £4,021; Tasmania, £4,841; and New Zealand, £20,830. See also paragraph 1654 *infra*.

† Including contributions towards cost of garrisons at King George's Sound and Thursday Island:—Victoria, £5,525; New South Wales, £4,857; Queensland (approximately), £1,815; South Australia, £372; and Western Australia, £1,624. See paragraph 1655 *post*.

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

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

commission, the remainder being kept in reserve, in Australasian ports, ready for commission whenever occasion arises ; that the vessels shall be retained within the limits of the Australasian station, and in times of peace or war shall be employed within such limits in the same way as are Her Majesty's ships of war, or employed beyond those limits only with the consent of the Colonial Governments. It was also stipulated that the first cost of the vessels should be paid out of Imperial funds, but that the Colonial Governments should pay interest on the prime cost at 5 per cent. but not exceeding £35,000 per annum, and a sum not exceeding £91,000 towards annual maintenance of the vessels in commission, or a total annual contribution of £126,000. In times of emergency or actual war the cost of commissioning and maintaining the three vessels kept in reserve during peace shall be borne by the Imperial Government. These vessels shall be placed in every respect on the same status as Her Majesty's ships of war, whether in commission or not. The officers and men of such of these vessels as are in commission shall be changed triennially. The tenth annual contribution, which was payable in advance on the 1st March, 1900, is thus apportioned amongst the various colonies on a population basis:—Victoria, £32,749; New South Wales, £37,973; New Zealand, £21,304; Queensland, £13,585; South Australia, £10,439; Tasmania, £4,776; Western Australia, £4,816.

1655. In terms of an understanding arrived at between the several colonies on the Continent of Australia, the defence works connected with the fortification of Albany (Western Australia) and Thursday Island (Queensland) have now been completed and the forts themselves garrisoned at the joint expense of the contributing colonies.

1656. By new regulations issued by the War Office in 1899, two army commissions in the British infantry are granted annually to the following colonies:—New South Wales, South Australia, Victoria, Queensland, New Zealand, Cape Colony; six to Canada; one to Tasmania; one biennially to Natal; and two every three years to the Royal Malta Militia. An officer of the colonial forces who is a candidate will be required:—(a) To be unmarried and to be between 18 and 22 years of age on the 1st of January of the year in which he is allowed to present himself for examination; (b) to have served as an officer in the local military force of the colony from which he is nominated, and to have attended two annual trainings, each training to be in a distinct year, or to have had active service in the field. The qualifying literary examination by the Civil Service Commissioners comprises Mathematics, French or German (translation and grammar), Writing, Geography, and the elements of Geometrical Drawing. Then there is a second and more advanced literary test, and finally a military examination.

1657. It has been decided that commissions in the Royal Engineers or Royal Artillery cannot be granted to Australian colonists until Australia possesses a Royal Military College, similar to that established at Kingston, in Canada. The Kingston College was founded in 1875, since which date 81 candidates have received commissions in

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

Military  
cadetships.

Commissions  
in engineers  
and  
artillery.



the Imperial Army; in 1891 four cadets received commissions, viz., one in the Royal Engineers, one in the Royal Artillery, and two in the Infantry.

1658. Six nominations to naval cadetships are placed annually at the disposal of the Secretary of State for distribution to sons of gentlemen in certain colonies. The Governor in any of such colonies has the right of submitting an application in favour of a candidate, with any recommendation he may think fit. The qualifications of a candidate are—that he must be a colonist in the strict sense of the term, must not be less than  $14\frac{1}{2}$  or more than  $15\frac{1}{2}$  years of age, must be in good health and perfectly free from any physical defect or disease, and must be able to pass a preliminary examination in English, Arithmetic, Elementary Algebra, Elementary Geometry, Latin, French, and must obtain such an aggregate of the marks in Arithmetic, Algebra, and Geometry combined and also in these subjects as a whole as shall satisfy the Civil Service Commissioners. Candidates will be permitted to present themselves for examination also in Drawing and one of the following subjects, for which they will be able to gain additional marks:—Drawing (freehand and simple rectangular model), Mathematics, German, and Natural Science. A candidate who passes the test examination, but fails in the competition, will be entitled to compete at the next examination, provided he be still within the limits of age; but a candidate who fails to pass the test cannot compete again unless nominated afresh, and be still within the age limits. When a cadet is entered, he will be required to pay annually the sum of £75 for a period of two years, to be spent on board the *Britannia* training ship, besides expenses of outfit and of all necessary books or instruments. A cadet who fails at the final examination to obtain 45 per cent. of the maximum marks in the mathematical subjects, including the Theory of Navigation and Nautical Astronomy or in seamanship, and 40 per cent. in Charts, Instruments, French, Steam, and Drawing combined, will be ordered to be withdrawn. He has subsequently to pay £50 per annum until he passes his final examination for the rank of lieutenant.

1659. Special provision is made by the Admiralty for the entry into the Royal Navy of men and boys of Australian and New Zealand birth. The following are the arrangements:—

Colonial  
applicants  
for service in  
Royal Navy.

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

Australasian  
contingents  
to South  
African war.

1660. The following are particulars of the various contingents sent by the Australasian Colonies to the war in South Africa, from the end of October, 1899, to the beginning of May, 1900:—

AUSTRALASIAN CONTINGENTS SENT TO SOUTH AFRICAN WAR,  
1899-1900.

Contingent.	Victoria.		New South Wales.		Queensland.		New Zealand.		Other Colonies.		Total.
	Officers.	Others.	Officers.	Others.	Officers.	Others.	Officers.	Others.	Officers.	Others.	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
First and Second ..	31	490	89	1,304	25	394	25	517	33	573	3,481
Australian Bushmen ..	15	261	30	499	15	298	32	704	16	253	2,123
Imperial Bushmen ..	31	598	40	722	32	366	27	485	24	454	2,779
Total .. ..	77	1,349	159	2,525	72	1,058	84	1,706	73	1,280	8,383
Number of Horses ..	1,611		2,560		1,373		1,971		1,141		8,656

NOTE.—The first and second Contingents were paid by the Colonial Governments, the Australian Bushmen by local subscriptions, and the Imperial Bushmen by the Imperial Government.