

PART III.—FINANCE.

221. 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 is treated in this work as a local body.

222. On reference to the accounts of the General Government, which it is proposed to deal with first, it is found that during the year ended 30th June, 1884, the receipts exceeded the expenditure by £219,000, and as a credit balance of £95,000 was brought forward from the previous year, it follows that the credit balance carried forward to 1884-5 amounted to £314,000:—

FINANCE ACCOUNT, 1883-4.*

	£	s.	d.
Receipts	5,934,686	14	7
Expenditure †	5,715,293	3	5
Receipts in excess of expenditure	219,393	11	2
Credit balance from 1882-3	94,680	4	3
Credit balance carried forward to 1884-5	314,073	15	5

* According to a statement distributed to Members of the Legislative Assembly on the 22nd July, 1885, by the Honorable the Treasurer, the revenue of 1884-5 was £6,290,653, and the expenditure was £6,212,517. The estimated mean population of the same twelve months was 960,000; so that the revenue per head was £6 11s. 0d., and the expenditure per head £6 9s. 5d. It was understood that the figures in the statement referred to were not final. Further details are given in an Appendix.

† Not including £10,100 expended towards the redemption of Treasury bonds.

223. The expenditure as stated is less than that shown in the Treasurer's finance statement by £10,100, which sum was paid during the year for the redemption of the outstanding Treasury bonds (amounting originally to £500,000) issued in the year 1880-81 for the temporary relief of the revenue.* For the present purpose it is desirable that such transactions should be kept apart from the ordinary transactions of revenue and expenditure.

Treasury bonds.

224. It has been shown that during the year under review there was a surplus of revenue amounting to £219,394. If, however, 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 surplus will be slightly reduced. This was only the fourth occasion during the last eleven years on which the receipts were in excess of the expenditure. 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 :—

Excess of receipts and contrary.

SURPLUS OR DEFICIENCY OF REVENUE, 1873-4 TO 1883-4.

	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
1883-4	219,285	...

225. According to these figures, the total transactions of the eleven years resulted in a net debit balance of £13,327. There was, however, a credit balance at the commencement of the period sufficient not only to wipe out this amount but to admit of £314,000 being carried forward to credit as already shown. ‡

Debit balance in eleven years.

226. During the financial year under review the railways were extended by an average length of 200 miles, and if £1,326 § per mile be allowed for such extension, the extra revenue derivable therefrom would be £265,200. On the other hand, the excise duty on beer was

Changes in the sources of revenue.

* See also paragraph 339 post.

† See paragraph 239; also footnote (**) to table following paragraph 237 post.

‡ See paragraph 222 ante.

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

abandoned on the 31st August, 1882, up to which time it had added £11,250 to the revenue of the then financial year; moreover, accidental or exceptional decreases occurred as follow:—£9,500 in the amount received from estates of deceased persons, and £1,700 in that from the irregularly-paid land tax, or £11,200 in all. Thus, from changes in the sources of revenue alone, the receipts of 1883-4 as compared with those of the previous twelve months are shown to have increased under certain heads by £265,200, and to have decreased under others by £22,450; the net result being an increase of £242,750.

Revenue,
1882-3 and
1883-4 com-
pared.

227. The total revenue raised in 1883-4 was £323,434 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, the excess is reduced to £89,762, thus:—

COMPARATIVE REVENUES, 1882-3 AND 1883-4.

	1882-3. £	1883-4. £
Total revenue	5,611,253	5,934,687
Deduct recoups, &c.*	9,187	109
Revenue proper	£5,602,066	£5,934,578
Deduct amounts from sources } not common to both years }	22,450	265,200
Comparative amounts	£5,579,616	£5,669,378

Revenue,
1883-4 and
previous
years.

228. The revenue of 1883-4 was the largest ever raised in Victoria. It exceeded the revenue of 1882-3, which was the year in which the largest revenue had previously been realized, by over £323,000, as already stated, and exceeded the revenue of 1881-2, which was the year in which the next highest revenue had been raised, by over £345,000.†

Expenditure
1883-4 and
former
years.

229. The expenditure of 1883-4 also was above that of any previous year, it being greater than in 1882-3—the year in which the next largest expenditure occurred—by £63,400.† 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 four years it has ranged from five to nearly five and three-quarter millions.

Revenue and
expenditure
per head,
1851 to
1883-4.

230. The revenue and expenditure per head for each year from that of separation from New South Wales to 1883-4 will be found in the following table:—

* See paragraph 239 *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*.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE PER HEAD, 1851 TO 1883-4.*

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	668,092	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
1883-4	930,940	6	7	6	6	2	9

231. The revenue per head in 1883-4 was greater by 3s. 5d., but the expenditure per head was less by 2s. 2d., than in the previous year. The former, moreover, was larger than in any previous year since 1857; whilst the latter was, with the single exception just named, viz., 1882-3, larger than in any year since 1859. 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.

232. In the twenty and a half years ended with 1883-4 the revenue raised exceeded the Treasurer's estimate on thirteen occasions, or by

Revenue and expenditure per head in 1883-4 and former years.

Revenue estimated and raised.

* For amounts per head in 1884-5, see footnote to paragraph 222 ante.

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

£2,094,124; 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 £676,460. 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, 1864 TO 1883-4.*

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
1883-4	5,779,775	5,934,687	+ 154,912

Years of excessive and defective estimates.

233. 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.

234. 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 twenty and a half years ended with 1883-4 :—

* The revenue for 1884-5 was estimated, in July, 1884, at £5,963,720; and that for 1885-6 is estimated at £6,285,308.

† 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.

AMOUNTS VOTED AND EXPENDED, 1864 TO 1883-4.

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
1883-4	4,732,241	4,243,170	489,071

235. By adding the figures in the last column, it is found that the sum of the unexpended balances in the twenty and a half years amounted to nearly 5 millions sterling, the exact amount being £4,978,363. Amount unexpended, 1864-84.

236. The various sources from which the revenue of Victoria is derived may be grouped in five main divisions, viz. :—Taxation, Land, Public Works, Post and Telegraphs, and 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, together with the increase or decrease under each head :— Heads of revenue, 1882-3 and 1883-4.

HEADS * OF REVENUE, 1882-3 AND 1883-4.

Heads of Revenue.	Amounts Received.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1882-3.	1883-4.		
	£	£	£	£
TAXATION.				
Customs duties (including also wharfage rates)	1,769,004	1,769,108	104	...
Excise	134,711†	123,654	...	11,057†
Ports and harbours (chiefly tonnage dues)	27,787	30,871	3,084	...

* 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. For further details, see paragraph 238 post.

† The falling-off under this head is due to the Act imposing the beer duty having lapsed on 31st August, 1882.

HEADS * OF REVENUE, 1882-3 AND 1883-4—continued.

Heads of Revenue.	Amounts Received.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1882-3.	1883-4.		
TAXATION—continued.				
	£	£	£	£
Licences (business)	28,381	31,623	3,242	...
Duties on estates of deceased persons	86,648	77,154	...	9,494
Duties on bank notes	28,685	28,575	...	110
Stamp duty	133,433	133,651†	218	...
Land tax	125,606	123,884	...	1,722
Total	2,334,255	2,318,520	...	15,735‡
LAND REVENUE.				
Land sales (including rents counting towards purchase money)	563,790	614,548	50,758	...
Rents of Crown lands (not counting towards purchase money)	114,845	103,189	...	11,656
Penalties under Land Acts	1,298	1,572	274	...
Total	679,933	719,309	39,376‡	...
PUBLIC WORKS.				
Railways	1,838,284	2,079,249	240,965	...
Water supply §	152,328	165,033	12,705	...
Other public works	2,357	1,866	...	491
Total	1,992,969	2,246,148	253,179‡	...
POST AND TELEGRAPHS.				
Postal receipts|| ... ..	242,826	262,322†	19,496	...
Telegraph receipts	82,141	86,956	4,815	...
Total	324,967	349,278†	24,311	...
OTHER SOURCES.				
Mint charges	11,292	10,415	...	877
Mint subsidy returned	4,103	4,852	749	...
Fees, fines, &c. (inclusive of fee stamps)	117,296	111,695†	...	5,601
Interest on public account	55,922	85,537	29,615	...
Rents (other than Crown lands)	1,548	3,058	1,510	...
Reimbursements in aid ¶	33,570	49,441	15,871	...
Miscellaneous receipts	46,211	36,325	...	9,886
Total	269,942	301,323	31,381‡	...
Total Revenue Proper	5,602,066	5,934,578	332,512‡	...
Recoups or assets realized **	9,187	109	...	9,078
Grand Total	5,611,253	5,934,687	323,434‡	...

* For further details see paragraph 238 post.

† Partly estimated by the Postal authorities. Since the 1st January, 1884, the stamps hitherto used to denote stamp duty, postage, and fees have been made interchangeable, and only one class of stamps for all purposes is to be issued in future.

‡ Net figures.

§ Including interest on loans to local bodies for waterworks.

|| Including commission on money orders.

¶ 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.

** 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.

237. It will be observed that the increase of £332,500 in the total revenue proper of 1883-4, as compared with that of the previous year, was the net result of an increase of £39,300 in the Land Revenue, of £253,200 under the head of Public Works, of £24,300 under the head of Post and Telegraphs, and of £31,400 under Other Sources, less a decrease of £15,700 under the head of Taxation. The increase in the Land Revenue resulted from an additional amount of £51,000 having been raised from land sales, as against a falling-off of £12,000 in the receipts from rents for temporary occupation of Crown lands. The most important increases in the Public Works division were £241,000 under the head of Railways, which is not quite so large as might have been expected from the increased length opened for traffic, already estimated at £265,200;* and nearly £13,000 under the head of Water Supply, owing to extended service in the suburbs of Melbourne. It is satisfactory to note an increase of £24,000 in the revenue from Post and Telegraphs, notwithstanding that reductions were made in the rates of postage on newspapers and packets to the neighbouring colonies from the 1st January, 1884.† The decrease in the amount raised by taxation will be referred to subsequently.

Increased revenue, 1883-4, under various heads.

238. 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 below:—

Heads of revenue detailed.

HEADS OF REVENUE DETAILED, 1882-3 AND 1883-4.

Heads of Revenue.	1882-3.	1883-4.
LAND SALES.		
Sales by Auction	£ 109,293	£ 116,093
„ under Deferred Payments	453,320	496,965
„ otherwise	1,177	1,490
Total	563,790	614,548
RENTS OF CROWN LANDS.		
Pastoral Occupation	66,288	55,509
Auriferous and Mineral Lands (including Miners' Rights)	20,497	19,899
Licences and Leases (not agricultural)	26,974	26,636
Miscellaneous	1,086	1,145
Total	114,845	103,189
WATER SUPPLY.		
Melbourne (Yan Yean)	105,493	121,545
Geelong	7,026	7,342
Gold-fields	18,039	17,575
Interest on Loans to Local Bodies	21,770	18,571
Total	152,328	165,033

* See paragraph 226 ante.

† See paragraph relating to Post Office Act 1883 in Part "Interchange" post.

‡ See paragraph 275 et seq. post.

HEADS OF REVENUE DETAILED—*continued.*

Heads of Revenue.	1882-3.	1883-4.
	£	£
OTHER PUBLIC WORKS.		
Alfred Graving-dock	1,899	1,353
Patent Slip	87	151
Fifty-ton Crane	371	362
Total	2,357	1,866
POST AND TELEGRAPHS.		
Postage	235,169	254,096*
Commission on Money Orders	7,657	8,226
Electric Telegraphs	82,141	84,842
Telephones ... ..	...	2,114
Total	324,967	349,278
FINES, FEES, ETC.		
Fee Stamps sold	61,161	58,375*
Fees, Preparation and Registration of Grants and Leases, and Survey of Lands	30,999	28,484
„ Customs and Harbour Departments	9,098	9,382
„ Law Courts	3,595	4,262
„ Curator of Estates of Deceased Persons	1,857	1,265
„ Registration, selling tobacco	895	†
„ Mining Department	836	703
„ Other	2,875	2,859
Fines (principally in law courts)	5,980	6,365
Total	117,296	111,695
REIMBURSEMENTS IN AID.		
Towards Maintenance of Industrial School children, prisoners, and lunatics	15,217	15,544
Receipts for Miscellaneous services rendered (Police protection, &c.)	5,253	6,372
Sale of Books and Documents (Government Printer) ...	12,328	18,791
Paid by Harbour Trust for excavations performed by Government	...	8,581
Other Reimbursements	772	153
Total	33,570	49,441
MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS.		
Sale of Government Property	3,896	6,235
Transfers from Trust Funds to Revenue	11,174	10,649
Melbourne City Council, &c. (on account of park lands) ...	3,000	3,250
Immigration Tax on Chinese	920	1,320
Repayments to the Credit of Appropriations	3,621	554
Refunds of Compensation	1,638	57
Harbour Trust (for collection of Wharfage)	787	...
Customs Overtime receipts	310	322
Government of Tasmania—Lighthouse, Currie Harbour ...	...	902
Government Experimental Farm	1,509	1,771
South Australian Government—Contribution towards eradication of <i>Phylloxera</i>	...	6,667
Education	6,348	612
Fire Insurance—Government Printing Office	12,000	...
Mrs. Wills' Debentures and interest thereon ... ..	...	1,199
Other Receipts	1,008	2,787
Total	46,211	36,325

* Partly estimated. See note (†) on page 102 *ante*.

† Now included with Taxation under the head of "Business Licences."

239. 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 repayment by a volunteer corps of a sum of £349, advanced for the erection of an orderly room. The only recoup in 1883-4 was one of £109, being the last instalment of the repayment of the advance to the volunteer corps just referred to.

Recoups,
1882-3 and
1883-4.

240. At the end of the financial year 1883-4, the total amount owing to the revenue was £67,251. More than two-thirds of 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:—

Unrecouped
advances,
1883-4.

AMOUNTS DUE TO THE REVENUE, 30TH JUNE, 1884.

Particulars.	Balance Outstanding.
	£
Advanced to Labour Bureau	760
„ Mining Companies, to assist in development of mining industry, &c.	19,313
Interest due by Corporations on Loans for Waterworks	46,938
Balance of Compensation—to be refunded	240
Total	67,251

241. In the following table the heads of revenue* and the amounts received under each head are given for the last ten financial years:—

Heads of
revenue,
1874-5 to
1883-4.

HEADS OF REVENUE, 1874-5 TO 1883-4.

Heads of Revenue.	Year.	Amounts Received.	Heads of Revenue.	Year.	Amounts Received.
TAXATION.		£	TAXATION—		£
Customs duties (including also wharfage rates)	1874-5	1,628,235	<i>continued.</i>	1874-5	32,475
	1875-6	1,657,788		1875-6	33,437
	1876-7	1,631,832		1876-7	34,768
	1877-8	1,487,448†		1877-8	36,309
	1878-9	1,378,384	Excise‡ ...	1878-9	36,088
	1879-80	1,377,782		1879-80	41,230
	1880-81	1,474,778		1880-81	136,661
	1881-2	1,694,652		1881-2	216,547
	1882-3	1,769,004		1882-3	134,711
	1883-4	1,769,108		1883-4	123,654

* See footnote to paragraph 236 *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.

HEADS OF REVENUE 1874-5 TO 1883-4—continued.

Heads of Revenue.	Year.	Amounts Received.	Heads of Revenue.	Year.	Amounts Received.
TAXATION— continued.		£	TAXATION— continued.		£
Ports and harbours (chiefly tonnage dues)	1874-5	19,935	Land tax § ...	1874-5	...
	1875-6	22,104		1875-6	...
	1876-7	20,993		1876-7	...
	1877-8	22,647		1877-8	50,227
	1878-9	20,310		1878-9	202,251
	1879-80	19,194		1879-80	87,553
	1880-81	20,577		1880-81	129,990
	1881-2	26,263		1881-2	121,555
	1882-3	27,787		1882-3	125,606
	1883-4	30,871		1883-4	123,884
Licences (business)	1874-5	10,714	Tolls ...	1874-5	937
	1875-6	10,712		1875-6	197
	1876-7	11,688		1876-7	52
	1877-8	17,150*		1877-8	...
	1878-9	20,116		1878-9	...
	1879-80	21,761		1879-80	...
	1880-81	23,906		1880-81	...
	1881-2	25,977		1881-2	...
	1882-3	28,381		1882-3	...
	1883-4	31,623		1883-4	...
Duties on estates of deceased persons	1874-5	32,526	LAND REVENUE.	1874-5	767,624
	1875-6	48,963		1875-6	782,069
	1876-7	44,104		1876-7	783,311
	1877-8	72,500		1877-8	756,674
	1878-9	47,983		1878-9	802,254
	1879-80	37,928		1879-80	694,321
	1880-81	78,141		1880-81	701,276
	1881-2	74,368		1881-2	697,558
	1882-3	86,648		1882-3	563,790
	1883-4	77,154		1883-4	614,548
Duties on bank notes	1874-5	...	Rents of Crown lands (not count- ing towards pur- chase money)	1874-5	173,601
	1875-6	7,191†		1875-6	184,776
	1876-7	27,248		1876-7	208,872
	1877-8	26,672		1877-8	186,337
	1878-9	24,956		1878-9	163,207
	1879-80	22,470		1879-80	147,994
	1880-81	23,807		1880-81	133,913
	1881-2	27,324		1881-2	126,268
	1882-3	28,685		1882-3	114,845
	1883-4	28,575		1883-4	103,189
Stamp duties ‡ ...	1874-5	...	Penalties under Land Acts	1874-5	5,528
	1875-6	...		1875-6	53,167
	1876-7	...		1876-7	54,232
	1877-8	...		1877-8	14,704
	1878-9	...		1878-9	3,774
	1879-80	83,005		1879-80	1,749
	1880-81	115,844		1880-81	1,281
	1881-2	131,020		1881-2	2,313
	1882-3	133,433		1882-3	1,298
	1883-4	133,651		1883-4	1,572

* 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.

† For six months only.

‡ The duties were imposed on the 18th December, 1879, and consequently the amount received in 1879-80 was for only 6½ months. Since 1st January, 1884, the revenue from stamp duty has been estimated. See footnote (†) on page 102 ante. For particulars of the duties levied, see paragraph 296 post.

§ 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.

HEADS OF REVENUE, 1874-5 TO 1883-4—continued.

Heads of Revenue.	Year.	Amounts Received.	Heads of Revenue.	Year.	Amounts Received.
PUBLIC WORKS.		£	OTHER SOURCES.		£
Railways ...	1874-5	921,714	Mint charges ...	1874-5	7,504
	1875-6	983,033		1875-6	7,659
	1876-7	1,078,082		1876-7	7,512
	1877-8	1,202,280		1877-8	7,247
	1878-9	1,222,241		1878-9	7,906
	1879-80	1,468,909*		1879-80	10,158
	1880-81	1,578,432		1880-81	10,197
	1881-2	1,715,260		1881-2	10,917
	1882-3	1,838,284		1882-3	11,292
	1883-4	2,079,249		1883-4	10,415
Water supply† ...	1874-5	96,707	Mint subsidy re- turned	1874-5	4,299
	1875-6	102,438		1875-6	10,695
	1876-7	115,869		1876-7	7,104
	1877-8	112,183		1877-8	447
	1878-9	116,489		1878-9	6,624
	1879-80	118,456		1879-80	6,350
	1880-81	139,411		1880-81	5,628
	1881-2	138,274		1881-2	5,344
	1882-3	152,328		1882-3	4,103
	1883-4	165,033		1883-4	4,852
Other Public works	1874-5	5,897	Fees, fines, &c. (ex- clusive of Land Act penalties)	1874-5	111,304
	1875-6	5,845		1875-6	112,664
	1876-7	5,638		1876-7	121,676
	1877-8	5,190		1877-8	119,632
	1878-9	5,879		1878-9	113,177
	1879-80	4,142		1879-80	110,639
	1880-81	2,470		1880-81	113,736
	1881-2	4,035		1881-2	120,768
	1882-3	2,357		1882-3	117,296
	1883-4	1,866		1883-4	111,695
POST AND TELE- GRAPHS.	Postage, tele- graphs, &c.	tele- tele-	Interest on Public Account, &c.	1874-5	66,874
				1875-6	38,595
				1876-7	79,456
				1877-8	70,716
				1878-9	42,281
				1879-80	45,611
				1880-81	78,605
				1881-2	92,025
				1882-3	55,922
				1883-4	85,537
Rents (other than Land)	1874-5	198,326	1874-5	749	
	1875-6	209,213	1875-6	674	
	1876-7	226,597	1876-7	730	
	1877-8	239,002	1877-8	824	
	1878-9	244,761	1878-9	935	
	1879-80	249,414	1879-80	799	
	1880-81	272,316	1880-81	921	
	1881-2	297,701	1881-2	997	
	1882-3	324,967	1882-3	1,548	
	1883-4	349,278†	1883-4	3,058	

* 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.

† Including interest on loans to local bodies.

‡ Partly estimated.

HEADS OF REVENUE, 1874-5 TO 1883-4—continued.

Heads of Revenue.	Year.	Amounts Received.	Heads of Revenue.	Year.	Amounts Received.
OTHER SOURCES— <i>continued.</i>		£	OTHER SOURCES— <i>continued.</i>		£
Reimbursements in aid	1874-5	28,981	Miscellaneous receipts*	1874-5	55,770
	1875-6	37,619		1875-6	16,317
	1876-7	34,372		1876-7	19,602
	1877-8	36,774		1877-8	20,449
	1878-9	28,637		1878-9	28,167
	1879-80	23,860		1879-80	24,655
	1880-81	31,290		1880-81	41,124
	1881-2	33,675		1881-2	26,631
	1882-3	33,570		1882-3	46,211
1883-4	49,441	1883-4	36,325		

SUMMARY.

Year.	Revenue derived from—					Total Revenue Proper.	Recoups from Loans and Assets realized.	Grand Total Revenue.
	Taxation.	Land.	Public Works.	Post and Telegraphs.	Other Sources.			
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1874-5	1,724,822	946,753	1,114,318	198,326	185,481	4,169,700	66,723	4,236,423
1875-6	1,780,392	1,020,012	1,091,316	209,213	224,223	4,325,156	...	4,325,156
1876-7	1,770,685	1,046,415	1,199,589	226,597	270,452	4,513,738	210,139	4,723,877
1877-8	1,712,953	957,715	1,319,653	239,002	256,089	4,485,412	19,001	4,504,413
1878-9	1,730,088	969,235	1,344,609	244,761	227,727	4,516,420	105,100	4,621,520
1879-80	1,690,923	844,064	1,591,507	249,414	222,072	4,597,980	23,302	4,621,282
1880-81	2,003,704	836,470	1,720,313	272,316	281,501	5,114,304	71,707	5,186,011†
1881-2	2,317,706	826,139	1,857,569	297,701	290,357	5,589,472	2,890	5,592,362
1882-3	2,334,255	679,933	1,992,969	324,967	269,942	5,602,066	9,187	5,611,253
1883-4	2,318,520	719,309	2,246,148	349,278	301,323	5,934,578	109	5,934,687

Heads of expenditure, 1882-3 and 1883-4.

242. The following are the heads of expenditure‡ during the years 1882-3 and 1883-4, also the increase or decrease in the latter year:—

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE, § 1882-3 AND 1883-4.

Heads of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1882-3.	1883-4.		
GENERAL GOVERNMENT.	£	£	£	£
Civil list ||	29,926	31,127	1,201	...
Legislature ...	65,788	53,681	...	12,107
Civil establishment ¶	117,610	113,628	...	3,982
Retiring allowances and pensions	60,569	65,689	5,120	...
Gratuities, compensations, &c. ...	28,256	31,062	2,806	...
Total ...	302,149	295,187	...	6,962

* 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.

‡ See footnote to paragraph 236 ante.

§ For further details, see table following paragraph 244 post.

|| Including Governor's salary, and salaries of Ministers, Commissioners of Audit, Agent-General, expenses of Executive Council, and Public Service Board.

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

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE,* 1882-3 AND 1883-4—continued.

Heads of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1882-3.	1883-4.		
LAW, PROTECTION, DEFENCE.				
Judicial and legal	£ 176,689	£ 174,974	£ ...	£ 1,715
Police	204,561	216,973	12,412	...
Gaols and penal establishments	57,128	55,836	...	1,292
Defences	191,360	231,038	39,678	...
Total	629,738	678,821	49,083	...
EDUCATION, SCIENCE, CHARITY, ETC.				
Public instruction, science, &c. †	598,970	607,822	8,852	...
Charitable institutions, medical, &c. ‡	267,400	259,983	...	7,417
Total	866,370	867,805	1,435	...
CROWN LANDS.				
Administration and survey	100,367	98,209	...	2,158
Agriculture, &c.	54,834	42,418	...	12,416
Mining	42,440	47,834	5,394	...
Total	197,641	188,461	...	9,180
PUBLIC WORKS.				
Railways	1,173,535	1,157,035	...	16,500
Water supply	34,534	31,472	...	3,062
Other Public works §	636,611	617,148	...	19,463
Total	1,844,680	1,805,655	...	39,025
POST AND TELEGRAPHS. ||				
Total	472,246	501,260	29,014	...
PUBLIC DEBT.				
Interest and expenses—Railways... ..	1,180,576	1,078,192	34,494	...
„ „ Water supply		118,560		
„ „ Other works		18,318		
Total	1,180,576	1,215,070	34,494	...
TRADE, NAVIGATION, ETC.				
Customs	65,047	72,978	7,931	...
Harbours and lights	26,763	24,632	...	2,131
Total	91,810	97,610	5,800	...
OTHER EXPENDITURE.				
Mint subsidy ¶	20,000	20,000	...	...
Aborigines	7,498	10,857	3,359	...
Miscellaneous services	39,177	34,567	...	4,610
Total	66,675	65,424	...	1,251
Grand Total	5,651,885	5,715,293	63,408	...

* For further details, see table following paragraph 244 *post*.

† 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.

§ The cost of erecting and repairing Government Offices, and making and repairing furniture therefor, is not charged to the respective departments, but is placed under this head, which also embraces the cost of all Public Works, except Railways, Waterworks, Telegraph lines, and any other works provided, for out of loans; it also includes expenditure on Roads and Bridges, and the annual subsidy of £310,000 to Municipalities. For a summary of the various works, see detailed table, page 112 *post*.

|| Including interest on Post Office Savings Banks deposits.

¶ Although the annual subsidy to the Mint is £20,000, portion of that sum has been repaid each year to the revenue.—See table following paragraph 236 *ante*, under the head "Mint subsidy returned."

Chief items
of increased
and
diminished
expenditure.

243. It will be observed that the principal heads under which increased expenditure is shown in 1883-4 are Defences, Interest on Public Debt, Police, and Post and Telegraphs; whilst considerable decreases took place under "Other Public Works," Railways, Agriculture, and Legislature. The decrease under the head of Agriculture is chiefly accounted for by its not having been necessary to spend much during the year upon the eradication of the phylloxera; and the decrease under the head of Legislature is almost entirely confined to the one item, electoral expenses.

Heads of
expenditure
detailed.

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

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE DETAILED, 1882-3 AND 1883-4.

Heads of Expenditure.	1882-3.	1883-4.
CIVIL LIST.		
	£	£
Governor's Salary	10,000	9,548
Salaries of Ministers	14,000	14,308
Executive Council	1,476	1,363
Agent-General	2,000	2,000
Commissioners of Audit (Appropriation £3,000)	2,450	2,033
Public Service Board (" £4,500) ... ..	...	1,875
Total	29,926	31,127
LEGISLATURE.		
Legislative Council	5,819	5,210
" Assembly	10,907	10,522
Parliamentary Library	2,546	2,654
" Refreshment Rooms	987	1,057
Victorian Hansard... ..	2,180	2,118
Expenses of Members of the Legislative Assembly	21,029	22,622
Electoral Expenses... ..	22,320	9,498
Total	65,788	53,681
CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.		
Chief Secretary's Office	10,456	9,011
Secretary to Premier ... ..			5,288
Shorthand Writer	2,860	2,732
Agent-General's Office	3,698	3,995
Audit Office	7,323	7,594
Treasury	32,053	32,371
Government Printer	60,916	52,202
Friendly Societies	304	415
Sundries ... ..	...	20
Total	117,610	113,628
JUDICIAL AND LEGAL.		
Judges' Salaries (including Master-in-Equity)	17,000	16,655
" other Expenditure	2,225	3,216
Crown Law Officers	15,645	15,618
Crown Solicitor	5,763	6,339
Prothonotary	1,987	2,298
Master-in-Equity and Lunacy	3,539	3,661

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE DETAILED—*continued.*

Heads of Expenditure.	1882-3.	1883-4.
JUDICIAL AND LEGAL—<i>continued.</i>		
	£	£
Court of Insolvency	2,531	2,678
Registrar-General and Registrar of Titles	30,150	29,629
Deputy Registrars	5,500	5,500
Sheriffs	21,169	21,050
County Courts, Courts of Mines, and General Sessions	25,697	25,721
Police Magistrates and Wardens	17,176	16,922
Clerks of Courts	18,144	17,648
Coroners	6,151	5,664
Curator of Estates of Deceased Persons	1,122	1,239
Land Tax Act Administration	1,926	1,136
Sundries	964	...
Total	176,689	174,974
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, SCIENCE, ETC.		
State School Education *	543,423	547,155
University	9,000	11,000†
Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery	16,843	17,215
Mechanics' Institutes	9,000	9,000
Zoological and Acclimatisation Society, &c.	1,500	1,700
Royal Society	200	200
Schools of Mines	4,000	8,000
" Design	1,035	1,150
Government Statist	4,796	6,354
" Astronomer	6,153	3,868
" Botanist	2,120	2,119
Purchase of Dr. Sonder's Collection of Dried Plants	900	...
Other Expenditure... ..	...	61
Total	598,970	607,822
CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, MEDICAL, ETC.		
Charitable Institutions	110,560	110,171
Industrial and Reformatory Schools... ..	51,486	45,377
Hospitals for the Insane	93,441	95,769
Central Board of Health and Quarantine, &c.	3,740	2,802
Vaccination Allowances	5,500	5,132
Claims and Expenses in connexion with alleged case of Small-pox at Hamilton	408	537
Royal Humane Society of Australasia ... ..	...	100
Other Expenditure	2,265	95
Total	267,400	259,983
CROWN LANDS.		
Survey, Sale, and Management of Crown Lands	69,901	68,709
Parks, Gardens, &c.—		
Botanical Gardens and Reserves	6,687	6,699
Public Parks, Gardens, and Reserves in and around Melbourne	9,184	9,791
Public Parks and Gardens in Country Districts—Fencing and Improving	11,362	7,671
Other Expenditure... ..	3,233	5,339
Total	100,367	98,209

* See also table following paragraph 247 *post*.

† In addition to this amount, the University also received a grant of £10,000 during the year for buildings. See next page under head of "Other Public Works."

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE DETAILED—*continued.*

Heads of Expenditure.	1882-3.	1883-4.
AGRICULTURE, ETC.		
Grants to Agricultural and Horticultural Societies, &c. ...	15,750	15,442
State Forests and Nurseries	4,283	5,565
Government Experimental Farm	1,297	1,578
Eradication of Vine Diseases*	11,020	1,062
Bordeaux Wine Exhibition... ..	1,663	...
Scab Prevention and Diseases in Stock	7,788	7,938
Extirpation of Rabbits and other Wild Animals	12,000	9,963
Departmental and other Expenditure	1,033	870
Total	54,834	42,418
RAILWAYS.		
Salaries and Wages	72,616	81,163
Contingencies	1,100,862	1,068,372
Other Expenditure... ..	57	7,500
Total	1,173,535	1,157,035
WATER SUPPLY.		
Melbourne—Salaries and Maintenance	16,101	16,248
Country Waterworks—Salaries and Maintenance	10,104	10,950
” ” Construction, &c.†	8,329	4,274
Total	34,534	31,472
“ OTHER PUBLIC WORKS.”		
Works and Buildings (including Furniture, Fittings, &c.)—		
Government House	2,199	1,269
Parliamentary Buildings	6,424	2,720
Public Offices, &c.—		
Offices for the Governor—Repairs, &c. ... ..	...	1,364
Treasury Buildings, &c.	1,355	350
Printing Office, Removal of, &c.	8,984	64
Sandhurst Public Offices, Erection of	7,572	5,832
Rents and Furniture	19,498	20,497
Court Houses	15,416	5,713
Police Buildings	15,883	14,426
Gaols and Penal Establishments	2,083	1,812
University—Grant in aid of Buildings ... ..	...	10,000
Public Library, National Gallery, and Museums	500	5,628
Observatory	325	1,497
Lunatic Asylums	11,826	11,245
Industrial and Reformatory Schools	1,809	1,500
Cemeteries	994	911
Sanatory Station—Fencing, Repairs, &c. ... ..	...	870
Lands and Agriculture	2,206	2,015
Raising Low-lying Lands, Draining Lands, Spreading Silt, &c.	64,512	28,606
Post and Telegraph Offices	24,069	30,696
Customs Buildings	2,873	3,734
Wharfs, Jetties, Harbours, Rivers, &c.	41,747	52,497
Lighthouses and Lightships	7,957	19,876

* The Government of South Australia contributed £6,667 during 1883-4 towards this object. See Miscellaneous Receipts, page 104 *ante*.

† 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.	1882-3.	1883-4.
"OTHER PUBLIC WORKS"—continued.		
Works and Buildings (including Furniture, Fittings, &c.)—	£	£
Miscellaneous	7,850	5,993
Total Works and Buildings ...	246,082	229,115
Subsidy to Municipalities	310,000	310,000
Roads and Bridges	62,375	59,816
Other Expenditure (including Cost of Department)	18,154	18,217
Total	636,611	617,148
POST AND TELEGRAPHS.		
Post and Telegraph Office Administration*	245,853	258,941
Inland Mail Service	101,627	105,392
Steam Postal Communication †	44,141	56,339
Telegraph Lines—Construction, Repairs, &c.	24,044	28,147
Subsidy towards Duplicate Telegraph Cable	14,421	14,520
Interest on Post Office Savings Banks Deposits	42,099	37,876
Miscellaneous	61	45
Total	472,246	501,260
MINING.		
Mining Department	19,229	19,835
Mining Boards	3,500	3,500
Purchase and Working of Diamond Drills	18,040	12,540
To assist Miners in Prospecting Operations ... ..	...	8,621
Miscellaneous	1,671	3,338
Total	42,440	47,834
MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES.		
Expenses of Commissions of Inquiry	5,202	3,079
Expenses in connexion with International Exhibitions	4,596	5,802
Expenses incurred by the Exhibition Trustees	1,645	5,829
Interest on Temporary Loans, &c. ... ..	...	1,435
Advertising	4,221	4,276
Transport, &c.	1,168	1,371
Refunds, &c.	2,010	...
Carriage of Volunteer Fire Brigades	1,500	2,500
Rewards for Capture of the Kelly outlaws	4,425	...
Other Expenditure ‡	14,410	10,275
Total	39,177	34,567

245. The following are the heads of expenditure during the last ten financial years and the amounts expended under each head, the expenditure specially appropriated by Acts of Parliament other than the

Heads of expenditure, 1874-5 to 1883-4.

* Exclusive of post and telegraph offices, which are included under the head "General Public Works."

† Including sums paid as gratuities to masters of vessels.

‡ Including balance at credit of Pension Fund returned to revenue, viz., \$4,000 in each year.

Appropriation Act being distinguished from that sanctioned under that Act in accordance with the annual votes of the Legislature:—

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE, 1874-5 TO 1883-4.

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
1883-4	31,127	...	31,127	
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
1883-4	35,930	17,751	53,681	
Civil establishment* ...	1874-5	...	90,422	90,422
	1875-6	...	87,647	87,647
	1876-7	...	89,837	89,837
	1877-8	...	90,215	90,215
	1878-9	...	90,059	90,059
	1879-80	...	91,872	91,872
	1880-81	...	89,987	89,987
	1881-2	...	90,833	90,833
	1882-3	...	117,610	117,610
1883-4	...	113,628	113,628	
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
1883-4	41,334	24,355	65,689	

* For particulars of the items included under these heads, see footnotes to table following paragraph 242 ante. State aid to religion is also included in "Civil List" prior to July 1876, when it was abolished.

† Including votes of £2,600 in 1880-81, of £5,000 in 1881-2, of £8,000 in 1882-3, and of £10,000 in 1883-4, to meet deficiencies in the Police Superannuation Fund.

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE, 1874-5 TO 1883-4—continued.

Heads of Expenditure.	Year.	Expenditure from—		Total.
		Special Appropriations.	Votes.	
		£	£	£
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
	1883-4	10,173	20,889	31,062
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
	1883-4	16,655	158,319	174,974
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
	1883-4	...	216,973	216,973
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
	1883-4	...	55,836	55,836
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
	1883-4	...	231,038	231,038

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE, 1874-5 TO 1883-4—continued.

Heads of Expenditure.	Year.	Expenditure from—		Total.
		Special Appropriations.	Votes.	
		£	£	£
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
	1883-4	9,000	598,822	607,822
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
	1883-4	...	259,983	259,983
Crown lands ‡	1874-5	...	129,558	129,558
	1875-6	...	128,026	128,026
	1876-7	...	149,210	149,210
	1877-8	...	130,519	130,519
	1878-9	...	129,617	129,617
	1879-80	...	136,889	136,889
	1880-81	...	103,279	103,279
	1881-2	...	99,169	99,169
	1882-3	...	100,367	100,367
	1883-4	...	98,209	98,209
Agriculture, &c.	1874-5	...	21,473	21,473
	1875-6	...	21,023	21,023
	1876-7	...	24,878	24,878
	1877-8	...	28,139	28,139
	1878-9	...	31,398	31,398
	1879-80	...	31,953	31,953
	1880-81	...	32,382	32,382
	1881-2	...	50,311	50,311
	1882-3	...	54,834	54,834
	1883-4	...	42,418	42,418

* For particulars of the items included under these heads, see footnotes to table following paragraph 242 *ante*.

† Since 1874-5 the amount expended on school buildings has been paid entirely out of loans.—See table following paragraph 246 *post*.

‡ Expenditure on agriculture, &c., is now excluded from this head.

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE, 1874-5 TO 1883-4—continued.

Heads of Expenditure.	Year.	Expenditure from—		Total.
		Special Appropriations.	Votes.	
		£	£	£
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
	1883-4	3,500	44,334	47,834
Railways *	1874-5	100,000	437,931	537,931
	1875-6	300,000	489,751	789,751
	1876-7	200,000	562,517	762,517
	1877-8	100,000	616,207	716,207
	1878-9	200,000	662,178	862,178
	1879-80	...	771,527	771,527
	1880-81	200,000	818,601	1,018,601
	1881-2	200,000	829,103	1,029,103
	1882-3	...	1,173,535	1,173,535
	1883-4	2,750	1,154,285	1,157,035
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
	1883-4	...	31,472	31,472
Other public works †	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	
1883-4	...	617,148	617,148	

* The amounts entered under the head of Special Appropriations represent, until 1881-2, payments to the Railway Loan Liquidation and Construction Account which was created under *The Land Act 1869* (33 Vict. No. 369, 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 re-purchase of debentures or the further construction of railways. The total amount paid to this fund in accordance with these provisions was £2,200,000, all of which, with the exception of an unexpended balance of £33,713, has 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. The amount set down for 1883-4 represents the salaries of the Commissioners of Railways.

† 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 table following paragraph 322 *post*.

‡ The provision of the Local Government Act 1874, authorizing the annual subsidy of £310,000 to municipalities, lapsed on the 31st December, 1879, but 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 1883-4—continued.

Heads of Expenditure.	Year.	Expenditure from—		Total.
		Special Appropriations.	Votes.	
		£	£	£
Post and telegraphs *	1874-5	85,890	294,726	380,616
	1875-6	42,129	280,981	323,110
	1876-7	64,542	298,467	363,009
	1877-8	53,996	312,958	366,954
	1878-9	55,855	333,120	388,975
	1879-80	61,101	338,088	399,189
	1880-81	63,229	375,533	438,762
	1881-2	77,348	358,795	436,143
	1882-3	86,240	386,006	472,246
1883-4	94,215	407,045	501,260	
Interest and expenses of Public Debt †	1874-5	719,282	...	719,282
	1875-6	772,399	...	772,399
	1876-7	795,191	...	795,191
	1877-8	898,006	...	898,006
	1878-9	892,172	...	892,172
	1879-80	979,864	...	979,864
	1880-81	1,043,535	43,927	1,087,462
	1881-2	1,124,136	16,010	1,140,146
	1882-3	1,162,195	18,381	1,180,576
1883-4	1,203,440	11,630	1,215,070	
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	...	...	...
1883-4	...	...	...
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
1883-4	...	72,978	72,978	

* 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 interest paid on Savings Banks' Deposits is also included.

† The expenditure under the head of Votes represents interest and expenses in connexion with the Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway Debentures.

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE, 1874-5 TO 1883-4—continued.

Heads of Expenditure.	Year.	Expenditure from—		Total.
		Special Appropriations.	Votes.	
		£	£	£
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	
1883-4	...	24,632	24,632	24,632
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	
1883-4	20,000	...	20,000	20,000
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	
1883-4	...	10,857	10,857	10,857
Miscellaneous services †	1874-5	2,500	30,108	32,608
	1875-6	2,500	30,627	33,127
	1876-7	2,500	23,364	25,864
	1877-8	2,500	31,222	33,722
	1878-9	2,500	40,566	43,066
	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	
1883-4	4,000	30,567	34,567	34,567

* The annual subsidy to the Mint is £20,000; portion of this sum, however, has been repaid each year to the revenue.—See page 107 ante, under the head “Mint subsidy returned.”

† 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.

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE, 1874-5 TO 1883-4—continued.

Heads of Expenditure.	Year.	Expenditure from—		Total.
		Special Appropriations	Votes.	
		£	£	£
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	1,336,995	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
1883-4	1,472,124	4,243,169	5,715,293	
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	...	...	...
1883-4	...	...	...
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
1883-4	1,472,124	4,243,169	5,715,293	

Expenditure
of loans,
&c.

246. 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. This is intended to supplement the last table by exhibiting those items which, having never been, or having ceased to be, a charge on the general revenue, are treated in separate accounts:—

* Not including £471,900 in 1881-2, £18,000 in 1882-3, and £10,100 in 1883-4 towards the redemption of Treasury bonds.

EXPENDITURE OF NET PROCEEDS OF LOANS TO 30TH JUNE, 1884.

Purposes of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended.*							
	Prior to 1878-9.	1878-9.	1879-80.	1880-81	1881-2.	1882-3.	1883-4.	Total.
Railways	£ 12,640,524	£ 1,082,781	£ 1,240,668	£ 618,427	£ 794,468	£ 2,187,183	£ 1,191,132	£ 19,755,183
Water supply	3,017,732	16,032	121,476	63,415	149,903	367,416	304,535	4,040,559
Alfred graving-dock ..	341,819	..	..	..	..	..	..	341,819
Law Courts and Parliament Houses	58,551	77,152	78,425	63,821	67,952	44,800	45,505	436,266
Public Offices	148,146	13,000	1,123	11	..	..	..	162,280
Defences	98,299	..	..	..	..	..	..	98,299
State school buildings †	514,064	89,252	66,086	84,831	50,693	56,651	36,923	898,500
Yarra Bridge .. ..	..	..	..	..	1,500	300	8,382	10,182
Harbour Works, &c. ..	..	..	..	..	..	400	13,706	14,106
Total	16,819,135	1,278,217	1,507,778	830,505	1,064,516	2,656,810	1,600,233	25,757,194

NOTE.—The figures in this table in many cases differ from those given in the previous issues of the *Victorian Year-Book*, as they have been obtained on the present occasion from the various Government Departments instead of from the Treasurer's Finance Statement, as formerly.

247. 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 seven millions sterling have been expended by the State in giving effect to its provisions. Of this amount over a fifth was for the erection, maintenance, and rent of school buildings; and the remainder, with the exception of £57,000 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 1883-4, also the total for the period:—

Expenditure on public instruction.

EXPENDITURE ON PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, † 1872-3 TO 1883-4.

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	126,700	550,949
1876-7 ..	439,723	2,155	172,890	614,768
1877-8 ..	469,547	2,760	245,454	717,761
1878-9 ..	519,545	6,134	96,769	622,448
1879-80 ..	503,923	10,366	81,884	596,173
1880-81 ..	515,644	6,726	104,625	626,995
1881-2 ..	526,397	8,321	76,911	611,629
1882-3 ..	517,849	9,167	82,225	609,241
1883-4 ..	522,063	9,849	62,015	593,927
Total ..	5,371,628	57,241	1,404,648	6,833,517

* These are the actual payments during the various years shown, whether made direct from the loans, &c., or indirectly by means of advances from the general revenue—to be subsequently recouped.

† The expenditure on State school buildings prior to 1875-6 were chargeable to the general revenue, and are therefore included in the last table.

‡ Further details for the last two years are given in Part Religions, Moral, and Intellectual Progress, *post*.

§ Including expenditure from loans.

248. It will be observed that the annual cost of instruction increased rapidly until 1878-9, but during the last six years it has been tolerably uniform, averaging about £517,000 per annum. During the same six years, as a natural consequence of the system becoming matured, the expenditure on school buildings has considerably fallen off. It may be remarked that prior to 1872-3 the total annual expenditure on public instruction was under £200,000.

249. 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 money to this object, and only £58 was so spent during the last three years. The following are the amounts spent in introducing immigrants during each year, beginning with the one in which separation took place :—

EXPENDITURE ON IMMIGRATION, 1851 TO 1883-4.*

	£		£
1851	116,363	1870	33,313
1852	206,552	1871 (six months)	14,840
1853	209,925	1871-2	21,808
1854	390,352	1872-3	4,094
1855	187,355	1873-4	2,251
1856	115,716	1874-5	1,583
1857	115,877	1875-6	760
1858	59,023	1876-7	500
1859	48,809	1877-8	366
1860	6,948	1878-9	342
1861	63,739	1879-80	28
1862	115,209	1880-81	104
1863	50,081	1881-2	...
1864	47,887	1882-3	11
1865	41,808	1883-4	47
1866	35,813		
1867	38,402		
1868	32,549	Total	£2,013,092
1869	50,637		

250. All the Australasian colonies except Victoria expend considerable amounts on the introduction of immigrants, and all spent much larger sums in 1883 than in the previous year. As much as half a million sterling was spent by the colonies on immigration in 1883, of which Queensland contributed about half, or within a fraction of £1 per head of her population, the average for the whole of Australasia being 3s. 6d. per head. The following are the total amounts, and the amounts per head, expended in each colony in 1882 and 1883 :—

* 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.

EXPENDITURE ON IMMIGRATION IN THE AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES,
1882 AND 1883.

Colony.	Expenditure on Immigration.			
	Total Amount.		Amount per Head of Population.	
	1882.	1883.	1882.	1883.
	£	£	s. d.	s. d.
Victoria	11	47	...	...
New South Wales	46,131	112,319	1 1	2 8
Queensland	113,689	246,889	10 0	19 11
South Australia	30,490	73,218	2 1	4 11
Western Australia	3,000	5,500	1 11	3 6
Tasmania	1,870	11,703	0 3	1 10
New Zealand	1,982	52,998	0 1	2 0
Total	197,173	502,674	1 4	3 6

251. During the ten years ended 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.

252. During the last thirty-four years over forty-six 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, over two millions were spent in 1883-4. The whole is inclusive of loans to local bodies for the construction of waterworks, but exclusive of the sums expended by such 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 1883-4:—

Expenditure on public works.

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON PUBLIC WORKS.‡

Public Works.	Amount Expended.		
	Prior to 1883-4.	During 1883-4.	Total.
	£	£	£
Railways	23,188,894	1,399,148	24,588,042
Roads and bridges	7,078,007	55,879	7,133,886
Waterworks, Melbourne (Yan Yean)	1,873,326	93,506	1,966,832
„ Country	2,241,061	192,059	2,433,120
Other public works	9,893,132	454,121	10,347,253
Total	44,274,420	2,194,713	46,469,133

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

† See table following paragraph 322 *post*.

‡ All the Returns are brought down to the 30th June, except those relating to country waterworks.

Revenue and
expenditure
of Mel-
bourne
Water-
works.

253. The expenditure on the Melbourne Waterworks, as given in the above table, viz., £1,966,832, consists of £1,869,128 for "construction" and £97,704 for maintenance. And from a return presented to Parliament in October, 1883, it appears that, besides these items, the total cost of management since 1858 was £170,686, making a total cost of £2,137,518; as against which the gross revenue received since the opening of the works in 1854 has amounted to £1,850,551.

Revenue and
expenditure
in Austral-
asian
colonies.

254. 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 five years ended with 1883. As the financial year of Victoria terminates on the 30th June, the items for this colony are given for six years, the last year but one being six months behind, and the last year being six months in advance, of the latest period in respect to which returns are given for 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	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 4 11
	1883-4	5,934,687	6 7 6	5,715,293	6 2 9
New South Wales	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
	1883	6,470,341	7 13 5	8,048,319	9 10 10
Queensland	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
	1883	2,583,444	9 12 11	2,242,971	8 7 6
South Australia...	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
	1883	2,060,140	6 17 10	2,330,079	7 15 10
Western Australia	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
	1883	284,364	9 2 1	240,566	7 14 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.
Tasmania	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
	1883	562,189	4 10 5	533,036	4 5 9
New Zealand	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
	1883	3,871,267	7 6 3	3,924,005	7 8 3

NOTE.—For revenue and expenditure of the neighbouring colonies during 1884, see Summary of Australasian Statistics (third folding sheet) *ante*; also Appendix A *post*.

255. In the last year named in the table there was a surplus of revenue over expenditure in Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia, and Tasmania, but a deficit in the other colonies. The surplus alluded to amounted to nearly £220,000 in Victoria, to over £340,000 in Queensland, to nearly £44,000 in Western Australia, and to £29,000 in Tasmania. The deficiency in New South Wales amounted to over 1½ millions, that in South Australia to £270,000, and that in New Zealand to over £50,000. During the past five years there has been a surplus four times in Western Australia and Tasmania, three times in Victoria and Queensland, and twice in New South Wales, South Australia and New Zealand.

Revenue and expenditure compared.

256. A larger revenue than in any previous year was raised in Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia, and Tasmania in the last year named in the table. The revenue of New South Wales, however, which in 1881 and 1882 made a remarkable bound—having increased in those two years by 2½ millions—fell off by a million sterling. On the other hand, the expenditure was much greater in the last than in any previous year in all the colonies except New Zealand; the expenditure of New South Wales especially having increased in the last year by nearly 1¾ millions.

Revenue and expenditure in colonies, 1882 and former years.

257. In three of the colonies, viz., Victoria, Queensland, and Western Australia, the revenue per head was larger in the last year than in any of the previous ones named. The colonies in which the expenditure per head was greatest in the last year were New South Wales, South Australia, and Western Australia.

Revenue and expenditure per head in colonies.

Order of colonies in respect to revenue and expenditure.

258. In the three out of the five years shown in the table the revenue of New South Wales exceeded that of Victoria, but in all the years the expenditure of New South Wales exceeded that of Victoria. 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 REFERENCE TO REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1883.

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

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

259. In regard to the revenue and expenditure per head, Victoria occupied the same place in all the years, viz., the sixth. In 1883 Queensland was first in regard to revenue per head, and New South Wales first in point of expenditure per head. The following is the order in which the colonies stood in these respects :—

ORDER OF COLONIES IN REFERENCE TO AMOUNTS OF REVENUE AND OF EXPENDITURE PER HEAD, 1883.

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

Revenue and expenditure of Australia and Australasia.

260. Adding together the amounts of revenue and likewise the amounts of expenditure for 1883,† it will be found that the aggregate revenue of the colonies on the continent of Australia amounted to over 17 millions, and their aggregate expenditure to about 18½ millions, sterling; also that the aggregate revenue of Australia, with the addition of that of Tasmania and New Zealand, amounted to nearly 21½ millions, and the aggregate expenditure to nearly 23 millions, sterling. The deficit on the year's transactions made good by means of balances carried forward from previous years, was thus about 1½ millions sterling for both Australia and Australasia. The following are the exact figures, also the proportions per head of population :—

* The revenue of Queensland exceeded that of South Australia, but the reverse was the case in regard to expenditure.

† In the case of Victoria, the figures for 1882-3 have been taken.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF AUSTRALIA AND AUSTRALASIA,
1883.

	Revenue.		Expenditure.	
	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.
	£	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.
Continent of Australia ...	17,009,542	7 5 0	18,513,820	7 17 10
Ditto, with Tasmania and New Zealand	21,442,998	7 3 0	22,970,861	7 13 2

261. A comparison of the aggregate revenue of the colonies upon the Australian continent in 1873 and in 1883 shows that in the ten years it had risen from £9,161,000 to £17,042,000, the increase being nearly 8 millions sterling, or 86 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 £21,443,000 at the latter period, the increase being nearly 9½ millions, or 75 per cent. In the same ten years, the population of the Australasian continent increased from 1,702,840 to 2,424,790, or 42 per cent., and the population of the whole of Australasia increased from 2,103,000 to 3,091,887, or 47 per cent.

Increased revenue of Australasia in ten years.

262. 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:—

Heads of revenue of Australasian colonies.

HEADS OF REVENUE IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1883.*

Heads of Revenue.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
TAXATION.							
Customs, &c. ...	1,769,108	1,546,857	753,703	618,871	122,388	297,175	1,411,495
Excise † ...	123,654	12,193	51,362		...	15,058	59,396
Licences (business) ...	31,623	117,683	44,339	27,306	4,221	12,665	\$203,284
Stamp duties, &c. ‡ ...	239,380	214,975	87,337	18,880	4,862	23,286	
Land and property taxes	123,884	...	...	...	...	||33,911	405,909
Tonnage, &c. ...	80,871	...	...	...	4,026	...	...
Miscellaneous ...	...	...	...	...	1,333	6,311	...
Total ...	2,318,520	1,891,708	936,741	¶665,057	¶136,830	388,406	\$2,080,084

* The figures for Victoria are for the year ended 30th June, 1884; those for Queensland for the year ended 30th June, 1883. For a summary of the revenue for a later year in some of the colonies see Table IV., Appendix A *post*.

† The excise duties were collected on spirits and tobacco in Victoria; on spirits and cedar in Queensland; on spirits only in New South Wales and South Australia; and on beer in Tasmania and New Zealand.

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

§ 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 "Dividend Tax," amounting to £9,866.

¶ The taxation of South Australia, as here given, is higher by £27,306 than that furnished by the colonial authorities, and given in a subsequent table (see paragraph 298 *post*), since the item "Business licences" has not been reckoned as taxation in that colony. For like reasons, the taxation of Western Australia is greater by £10,699.

HEADS OF REVENUE IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1883—
continued.

Heads of Revenue.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
LAND REVENUE.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Alienation in fee-simple and progressive *	614,548	1,269,469	435,896	332,200	17,475	42,461	224,801
Pastoral and mining occupation	103,189	357,879	229,549	91,730	76,323	24,105	+167,998
Miscellaneous ...	1,572	28,721	7,941	8,588						8,277
Total ...	719,309	1,656,069	673,386	432,518	93,798	66,566	401,076
PUBLIC WORKS.							
Railways † ...	2,079,249	2,081,128	475,859	519,097	14,516	29,559	953,910
Water Supply ...	165,033	...	...	63,612	...	...	11,409
Other Public Works ...	1,866	...	2,114	...	...	2,010	...
Total ...	2,246,148	2,081,128	477,973	582,709	14,516	31,569	965,319
POST AND TELEGRAPH.							
Postal receipts § ...	262,322	272,903	70,292	101,944	14,650	25,032	181,687
Telegraph receipts ...	86,956	130,891	66,009	75,877					9,165	92,696
Total ...	349,278	403,794	136,301	177,821	14,650	34,197	274,383
OTHER SOURCES.							
Mint receipts ...	¶ 15,267	8,351	...	...	...	...	...
Fees, fines, &c. ...	111,695	89,267	54,311	49,857	5,258	14,822	109,255
Interest on Public Account	85,537	35,282	63,672	28,217	5,751	8,826	10,444
Rents (other than land)	3,058	45,782	3,205	1,078	76	3,565	...
Pilotage, harbour, and light rates **	...	51,802	16,462	12,588	...	...	4,920
Public school fees ...	...	51,427	...	24,241	...	...	...
Miscellaneous ...	85,875	155,731	21,808	86,054	13,485	14,238	25,786
Total ...	301,432	437,642	159,458	202,035	24,570	41,451	150,405
Grand total ...	5,934,687	6,470,341	2,383,859	2,060,140	284,364	562,189	3,871,267

Excise and land tax in Victoria.

263. In this table the large amount raised by excise duties in Victoria and the comparatively small amount in the other colonies will be at once noticed; also, the fact that the land tax in Victoria did not in the year under review produce one-third as much as the property tax of New Zealand.

Heads of revenue in Victoria and New South Wales compared.

264. It will further be remarked that the land revenue was over twice as large in New South Wales as in Victoria, which item alone accounts for the larger total revenue of the former colony. Indeed if the land revenues be deducted from the total revenues of the two

* including interest on land sold on credit.

† including "Gold Duty," £24,579.

‡ Including tramways in the case of New South Wales.

§ Including commission on money orders.

¶ Estimated. See footnote (§) on previous page.

** Including £4,852, being unexpended balance of Mint subsidy returned to revenue.

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."

colonies, the revenue of Victoria would exceed that of New South Wales by over £400,000, the respective amounts for 1883 being £5,215,378 and £4,814,272. It also appears that the railway revenues of the two colonies, which now form about one-third of their total revenues, are about equal. The total taxation of Victoria was greater than that of New South Wales by about £427,000, or nearly a fourth; under which head "Licences" produced £86,000 more in New South Wales than in Victoria, but the Customs revenue of the latter was the greater by over £222,000, the revenue from excise by £111,000, and the revenue from stamp duties by £24,000, whilst the Victorian land tax, which has no parallel in the neighbouring colony, brought in a further sum of £124,000. 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, Fees, fines, and forfeitures, and Interest in favour of Victoria.

265. In 1883 the aggregate land revenue of the Australasian colonies amounted to over £4,000,000, of which nearly £3,000,000 was received for alienation, and over £1,000,000 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 1883. The colonies are arranged in order according to that proportion:—

Land revenue
in Austral-
asian
colonies.

LAND REVENUE IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1883.

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. Western Australia ...	17,475	76,323	93,798	32·99
2. Queensland ...	435,896	237,490	673,386	28·24
3. New South Wales ...	1,269,469	386,600	1,656,069	25·60
4. South Australia ...	332,200	100,318	432,518	20·99
5. Victoria ...	614,548	104,761	719,309	12·10
6. Tasmania ...	42,461	24,105	66,566	11·84
7. New Zealand ...	224,801	176,275	401,076	10·36
Total ...	2,936,850	1,105,872	4,042,722	18·75

266. It will be noticed that nearly a fifth of the aggregate revenues of the Australasian colonies in 1883 was derived from Crown lands; and that the proportion ranged from an eighth to about a tenth in Victoria, Tasmania, and New Zealand, and amounted to over a fifth in South Australia, to over a fourth in New South Wales and Queensland, and

Prospective
diminution
of land
revenue in
colonies.

to as much as a third in Queensland. It will also be remarked that in most of the colonies the bulk of the land revenue was derived from alienation in fee-simple.

Fluctuations in land revenue in Australasia. 267. 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, in 1882 to £5,458,963 and in 1883—as shown above—to £4,042,722. In 1878 the proportion to the total revenue was 33 per cent.; in 1879, 22 $\frac{1}{3}$ per cent.; in 1880 only 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; in 1881, 27 per cent.; in 1882, 25 per cent.; and in 1883, 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. In 1883, as compared with 1882, a decrease of nearly £1,300,000 occurred in New South Wales, and of over £100,000 each in South Australia and New Zealand, but, on the other hand, increases amounting to about £40,000 and £30,000 took place in Victoria and Western Australia respectively.

Revenues of British dominions. 268. 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.

Country or Colony.	Year.	Revenue.	
		Gross Amount.	Average per Head.*
EUROPE.			
United Kingdom	1883-4	£ 87,205,184	£ s. d. 2 8 10
Gibraltar	1883	48,335	1 19 6
Malta	"	205,566	1 6 7
ASIA.			
India	1882-3	70,125,231	0 7 1
Ceylon	1883	1,162,179	0 8 5
Straits Settlements	"	559,024	1 3 3
Labuan	"	5,114	0 16 3
Hong Kong	"	268,635	1 13 6
AFRICA.			
Mauritius	1883	889,265	2 0 11
Natal	"	620,496	1 9 8
Cape of Good Hope	1882-3	5,443,486†	4 7 1
St. Helena	1883	10,266	2 0 11
Lagos	"	50,559	0 11 7
Gold Coast	"	105,648	0 3 3
Sierra Leone	"	65,491	1 1 8
Gambia	"	28,866	2 0 10

* For populations on which most of these calculations have been based, see table following paragraph 151 ante.

† Including temporary loans.

REVENUES OF BRITISH DOMINIONS—*continued.*

Country or Colony.	Year.	Revenue.	
		Gross Amount.	Average per Head.*
AMERICA.			
Canada	1883	£ 7,667,430	£ s. d. 1 12 7
Newfoundland	"	261,036	1 9 1
Bermudas	"	30,764	2 2 11
Honduras	"	52,278	1 18 1
British Guiana	"	478,216	1 16 11
West Indies—			
Bahamas	"	52,475	1 4 1
Turk's Island	"	10,017	2 2 4
Jamaica	1882-3	594,474	0 19 10
St. Lucia	1883	43,026	1 1 3
St. Vincent	"	34,509	0 16 4
Barbadoes	"	140,079	0 16 4
Grenada	"	43,883	0 19 2
Tobago	"	14,175	0 15 0
Virgin Islands	"	1,708	0 6 6
St. Christopher }	"	43,203	0 19 6
Nevis ... }	"		
Antigua	"	44,055	1 2 3
Montserrat	"	5,863	0 11 1
Dominica	"	21,172	0 15 0
Trinidad	"	458,344	2 16 5
AUSTRALASIA AND SOUTH SEAS.			
Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand † ...	1883	21,442,998	7 3 0
Fiji	"	106,814	0 16 5
Falkland Islands	"	8,337	5 7 5
Total ... ..	...	198,348,201	0 15 9

269. It will be noticed that, out of the 198 millions sterling which represent the aggregate annual revenue of the British dominions, 90 per cent. is raised in the United Kingdom, India, and Australasia, the proportion contributed by each respectively being 44 per cent., 35 per cent., and 11 per cent. Of the total amount, 44 per cent. is raised in Europe, 36 per cent. in Asia, 4 per cent. in Africa, 5 per cent. in America, and 11 per cent. in Australasia.

Aggregate revenue of British dominions.

270. 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

Large revenue per head in Australasian colonies.

* See footnote (⁂) to preceding page.

† See table following paragraph 260 *ante*.

‡ See table following paragraph 254 *ante*.

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.*

Revenue per head in colonies and United Kingdom. 271. Besides the Australasian colonies and the comparatively insignificant possession of the Falkland Islands—in which the revenue is exceptionally high in proportion to population—the only colonies which raise a larger amount per head than the United Kingdom are the Cape of Good Hope and Trinidad.

Revenues of Foreign countries. 272. 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.

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

* For a comparison of the railway revenues and land revenues of the Australasian colonies with the total revenues, see paragraphs 263 and 265 *ante*.

† The populations of Foreign countries on which these calculations are based are generally those given in paragraph 153 *ante*.

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

§ 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-Sondershausen, £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

REVENUES OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES—*continued.*

Country.				Year.	Revenue.	
					Gross Amount. (000's omitted.)	Amount per Head.*
ASIA.					£	£ s. d.
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

273. According to this table and that following paragraph 268 *ante*, the country which raises the largest revenue of any in the world is France, then Germany, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States, in the order named. After the revenues of these countries, the largest amounts are raised in 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, and slightly less than that of the Argentine Confederation. Countries raising largest revenue.

274. 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 more than two and a half times as much as in the United Kingdom. Countries raising largest amounts per head.

275. 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, from water supply, from post and telegraph offices, from the Mint, from fees, fines, and forfeitures, from the interest on the public account, from the labour of Taxation.

* See footnote (f) to preceding page.

prisoners, &c. The following figures show the result of a division of the Victorian revenue upon this principle :—

TAXATION, 1883-4.

			£	s.	d.
Revenue raised by taxation ...	...	...	2,318,519	12	7
" otherwise ...	...	...	3,616,167	2	0
Total ...	...	...	5,934,686	14	7

Taxation per head.

276. In 1883-4 about 39 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 930,940, an average will be obtained of £2 9s. 10d. 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 1883-4.*

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	1870 ...	1,394,333	1 19 1	42·75
1854 ...	1,052,462	3 18 8	34·08	1871 (6 months)	724,261	0 19 10	42·82
1855 ...	1,193,309	3 10 6	43·73	1871-2	1,612,034	2 3 2	43·17
1856 ...	1,458,647	3 16 7	49·07	1872-3	1,784,056	2 7 0	48·96
1857 ...	1,331,362	3 1 10	40·00	1873-4	1,896,842	2 9 2	46·19
1858 ...	1,414,511	2 18 6	47·57	1874-5	1,724,822	2 4 0	40·71
1859 ...	1,414,760	2 14 8	43·38	1875-6	1,780,392	2 5 0	41·16
1860 ...	1,330,761	2 9 10	43·11	1876-7	1,770,685	2 4 2	37·48
1861 ...	1,244,389	2 6 1	42·15	1877-8	1,712,953	2 2 0	38·03
1862 ...	1,183,194	2 3 2	36·19	1878-9	1,730,088	2 1 10	37·44
1863 ...	1,158,219	2 1 2	41·74	1879-80	1,690,923	2 0 3	36·59
1864 ...	1,167,036	1 19 10	39·49	1880-81	2,003,704	2 6 7	38·64
1865 ...	1,214,479	1 19 9	39·47	1881-2	2,317,706	2 12 8	41·44
1866 ...	1,219,567	1 18 9	39·61	1882-3	2,334,255	2 11 7	41·60
1867 ...	1,516,231	2 7 1	47·14	1883-4	2,318,520	2 9 10	39·05
1868 ...	1,352,818	2 0 10	41·87				
1869 ...	1,539,495	2 4 10	45·49				

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.

Comparison of taxation 1883-4 with former years.

277. It will be observed that a decrease of £15,700 took place in the gross amount produced by taxation in 1883-4, as compared with the preceding year. The taxation per head was less by 1s. 9d. than in 1882-3, and less by 2s. 10d. than in 1881-2, but greater than in any

* According to figures contained in a statement distributed to Members of the Legislative Assembly by the Honorable the Treasurer on the 22nd July, 1885, the taxation in 1884-5 (partly estimated) amounted to £2,543,700, or £2 13s. per head of the estimated mean population (960,000) of that financial year.

† For mean population of each year, see table following paragraph 230 *ante*.

previous year since 1860; and the proportion of taxation to revenue was lower than in 1882-3 or 1881-2, but somewhat higher than in the five years again preceding the last named year.

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

Heads of
taxation
1877-84.

HEADS OF TAXATION, 1876-7 TO 1883-4.

Heads of Taxation.	Amount Received.							
	1876-7.	1877-8.	1878-9.	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-2.	1882-3.	1883-4.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Customs duties	1,522,795	1,459,628	1,351,864	1,353,656	1,450,137	1,667,306	1,740,467	1,741,053
Wharfage rates	109,037	* 27,820	26,520	24,125	24,641	27,346	28,537	28,055
Excise:—								
Spirits	34,768	36,309	36,088	41,230	52,232	52,620	52,522	53,638
Beer .. ..	..	..	..	..	62,557	98,955	11,256	..
Tobacco .. ..	..	..	..	..	21,872	64,972	70,933	70,016
Ports and Harbours † ..	20,993	22,647	20,310	19,194	20,577	26,263	27,787	30,871
Licences (not territorial) ..	11,638	† 17,150	20,116	21,702	23,906	25,977	28,381	31,623
Duties on estates of deceased persons	44,104	72,500	47,983	37,928	78,141	74,368	86,648	77,154
Duties on bank notes	27,248	26,672	24,956	22,470	23,807	27,324	28,685	28,575
Stamp duty .. ..	..	..	..	83,005	115,844	131,020	133,433	133,651
Land tax .. ..	..	50,227	202,251	87,553	129,990	121,555	125,806	123,884
Toll receipts	52	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	1,770,685	1,712,953	1,730,088	1,690,923	2,003,704	2,317,706	2,334,255	2,318,520

279. Of the decrease in the total taxation of 1883-4 as compared with the previous year, viz., £15,700, it will be observed that £11,256 is accounted for by the abandonment, in 1882-3, of the beer duty; the remaining decrease chiefly resulted from a falling-off of £9,500 under duties on estates of deceased persons, of £1,700 in land tax, and of £900 in excise duties on tobacco—which decreases were partly counterbalanced by an increase of £3,200 under licences, £3,100 under ports and harbours, and £1,100 under spirits (excise).

Heads of
taxation,
1882-3 and
1883-4 com-
pared.

280. 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 and 1883-4. The revenue derived from Customs duties during 1883-4 was equivalent to a charge of nearly 10 per cent. on the total value of imports during the same year. §

Proportion
of Customs
revenue to
total taxa-
tion, &c.

281. 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,
1877 to
1884.

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

† Chiefly tonnage dues.

‡ 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 328 post.

§ See also table following paragraph 310 et seq. post.

TAXATION BY CUSTOMS DUTIES,* 1876-7 TO 1883-4.

Articles.	Amounts Received.							
	1876-7.	1877-8.	1878-9.	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-2.	1882-3.	1883-4.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Spirits	499,568	489,236	455,157	420,872	430,909	443,431	468,746	472,259
Wine	39,139	37,893	31,462	34,095	43,171	45,112	44,100	39,096
Beer and cider ..	30,352	29,346	27,143	27,372	29,721	29,770	32,372	33,845
Tobacco and snuff	97,034	82,830	75,161	59,384	53,379	71,525	85,844	97,420
Cigars	16,929	17,639	17,818	16,404	21,691	24,927	29,453	31,311
Tea	69,907	69,628	68,703	68,541	76,540	81,706	80,298	73,970
Sugar and molasses	90,394	84,372	93,197	89,379	94,312	103,466	108,087	119,248
Coffee, chicory, co- coa, and chocolate	15,622	14,814	13,380	13,153	13,882	14,491	14,883	15,665
Opium	15,520	14,214	13,988	18,877	21,645	21,359	20,897	21,389
Rice	13,489	13,681	12,434	15,555	23,136	20,169	20,576	16,607
Hops	9,934	7,586	8,277	9,364	7,805	14,948	8,318	4,416
Malt	14,129	12,870	12,710	10,907	3,371	4,272	1,750	3,301
Fruits and vege- tables, dried and preserved	42,994	43,714	38,297	34,809	34,312	47,510	48,418	43,973
Live stock .. ..	..	28,270	30,115	43,056	39,167	34,948	32,945	38,359
Articles subject to <i>ad valorem</i> duties	329,617	268,656	248,622	273,835	334,296	434,532	444,038	441,470
All other articles..	238,167	244,810	205,391	218,053	222,800	275,140	299,742	288,724
Export duty on timber	..	69	9	..	..	..	..	..
Total	1,522,795	1,459,628	1,351,864	1,353,656	1,450,137	1,667,306	1,740,467	1,741,053

Customs
duties,
1882-3 and
1883-4
compared.

282. It will be observed that the amount of Customs revenue raised in 1883-4 was almost identical with that in the previous year. The amounts received in regard to individual articles, however, varied considerably, the principal increases in 1883-4 being £13,500 under the head of tobacco and cigars, £11,100 under sugar, £5,400 under live stock, and £4,900 under spirits and beer; as against which there was a decrease of £6,300 under tea, £5,000 under wine, £4,400 under fruits and vegetables, £4,000 under rice, £3,900 under hops, and £11,000 under "all other articles." It will be remarked that, doubtless owing to increased production within the colony, the revenue from hops fell off from £15,000 in 1881-2 to £4,400 in 1883-4. It should be mentioned that no alteration took place in the Customs tariff during the the last two years.

Taxes re-
pealed and
imposed.

283. 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 nine 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:—

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

TAXES REPEALED AND IMPOSED, 1875-6 TO 1883-4.

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
				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†		
1881	Nil ... ..	...	...	Customs— Tobacco and snuff increased	(Revenue decreased) 2,300	*
				Cigars increased		3,500		
1882	Customs — Duty on undressed rice reduced...	3,000	3,500	Excise— Tobacco duty imposed	21,872	65,000		
				Beer " "	62,557	100,000		
1883	Excise—Beer duty remitted ...	88,000	100,000	Nil ... ..	...	...
1884	Nil ... ..	...	...	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.

Duty on bank notes.

284. 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.

285. 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.

286. The extent of land assessed under this Act amounted in 1884 to over 7,000,000 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.

287. The land in Victoria available for occupation is estimated to amount to about 40,000,000 acres,* of which 21,100,000 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 17 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.

288. The number of estates assessed was 1,042, or 14 more than in 1883. As some proprietors own more than one estate, their number is less than the number of estates, and is set down as 861. 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.

289. The average size of all the estates assessed is about 6,800 acres, which is somewhat above the average of those in Class III. In Classes I. and II. the estates average 3,000 and 3,600 acres respectively, and in Class IV. not quite 11,000 acres.

* Exclusive of the *Mallee country*. See Part Production *post*.

† The land in process of alienation amounted to nearly 7,600,000 acres, on which, on the average, half the purchase-money had been paid.

290. 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 FOR LAND TAX.

(According to the Returns of the Half-year ended 27th February, 1885.)

Class.	Number of Proprietors.	Estates Assessed.				
		Number.	Area.		Average Area to each—	
			Total.	Percentage of each Class.	Proprietor.	Estate.
		Acres.		Acres.	Acres.	
I.	100	112	334,455	4.73	3,345	2,986
II.	201	223	802,944	11.34	3,995	3,601
III.	321	391	2,527,038	35.70	7,872	6,463
IV.	239	316	3,413,196	48.23	14,281	10,801
Total	861	1,042	7,077,633	100.00	8,220	6,792

291. The capital value of the estates, according to the valuation prescribed by the Statute, is nearly twelve and a quarter 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.

292. 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:—

VALUE OF ESTATES ASSESSED FOR LAND TAX.

(According to the Returns of the Half-year ended 27th February, 1885.)

Class.	Capital Value.	Value of Exemptions.	Net Taxable Value.	Proportion of Net Taxable Value to Capital Value.
		£	£	Per Cent.
I.	1,337,820	250,000	1,087,820	81.31
II.	2,408,832	502,500	1,906,332	79.14
III.	5,054,076	802,500	4,251,576	84.12
IV.	3,413,196	597,500	2,815,696	82.49
Total	12,213,924	2,152,500	10,061,424	82.38

Amount of
land tax
payable.

293. 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 £146, ranging from an average of £165 in Class III. to one of £119 in Class II.; and the amount payable for each estate averaged £121, and ranged from an average of £136 in Class III. to one of £107 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, 1885.)

Class.	Total Amount per Annum.	Amount per Acre.	Amount by each Holder.	Amount for each Estate.
	£	d.	£	£
I.	13,597	9·760	136·0	121·4
II.	23,829	6·998	118·6	106·9
III.	53,145	5·047	165·6	135·9
IV.	35,196	2·475	147·3	111·4
Total	125,767	4·265	146·1	120·7

Difference in
payments
in each
class.

294. 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 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.; between II. and III. nearly 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 only 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, two-thirds larger than that in the former.

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

295. The cost of administering the Land Tax Act during the year 1883-4 amounted to £1,136, as against £1,926 in the previous year.

296. 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
--	---	----	---

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.

297. The amount collected by means of stamp duties during the financial year 1883-4 (partly estimated) has already been shown* to have been £133,651 as compared with £133,433 in the previous year. Revenue from stamp duties.

298. 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 six financial years, and in the other Australasian colonies during each of the five years ended with 1883 :— Taxation in Australasian colonies.

TAXATION IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES.

Colony.	Year.	Taxation.			
		Gross Amount.	Average per Head.	Percentage of Total Revenue.	
		£	£ s. d.		
Victoria †	... } ...	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
		1883-4	2,318,520	2 9 10	39·05

* See table following paragraph 278 ante.

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

TAXATION IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES—*continued.*

Colony.	Year.	Taxation.		
		Gross Amount.	Average per Head.	Percentage of Total Revenue.
		£	£ s. d.	
New South Wales	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
	1883	1,891,708	2 4 10	29·24
Queensland*	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
	1883	929,430	3 9 5	35·98
South Australia	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
	1883	637,751†	2 2 8	30·96
Western Australia	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
	1883	126,131†	4 0 9	39·82
Tasmania ‡	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
	1883	388,406	3 2 6	69·09
New Zealand	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
	1883	2,080,084	3 18 7	53·73

NOTE.—For returns of taxation in these colonies during 1884, see Summary of Australasian Statistics (third folding sheet) *ante*; also Appendix A *post*.

299. 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:—

* Since 1875 the financial year of Queensland has ended on the 30th June. The figures for 1883, however, are for the year ended 31st December.

† This amount is less than that given in the table following paragraph 212 *ante*.—See footnote (T) to that table.

‡ The figures for Tasmania for the last two years are subject to future revision.

Order of colonies in respect to taxation.

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. | |

300. 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, Western Australia and Victoria raised about four-tenths, and New South Wales and South Australia not quite a third. 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 respect to revenue raised by taxation.

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

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

301. If the gross amounts raised by taxation in the different colonies during 1883* 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 and a quarter 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.

TAXATION OF AUSTRALIA AND AUSTRALASIA, 1883.

	Taxation.		
	Gross Amount.	Average per Head.	Percentage of Total Revenue.†
	£	£ s. d.	
Continent of Australia	5,919,275	2 10 5	34·73
Ditto, with Tasmania and New Zealand	8,387,765	2 15 11	39·06

302. By comparing the above figures with those of this colony, it will be found that in Victoria the taxation per head of the population

Comparison of Victoria and Australasia.

* In the case of Victoria, the figures for 1882-3 have been taken.

† For figures of revenue, see table following paragraph 260 ante.

is somewhat less than, but the proportion of taxation to the total revenue about the same as, the corresponding item in the Australasian colonies taken as a whole.

Taxation in British possessions. 303. The taxation in the United Kingdom and the few British possessions respecting which particulars are at hand is given in the following table:—

TAXATION IN BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

Country or Colony.	Year.	Taxation.		
		Gross Amount.	Average Per Head.	Percentage of Total Revenue.
EUROPE.				
United Kingdom	1883-4	£ 71,766,000	£ s. d. 2 0 4	82·29
ASIA.				
India	1882-3	29,077,564	0 2 11	41·47
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	1883	24,102	1 13 8	78·34
West Indies—				
Turk's Island	1883	6,805	1 8 9	67·93
Jamaica	1882-3	436,822	0 15 1	73·41
St. Lucia	1883	35,581	0 17 7	82·70
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*	1883	8,387,765	2 15 11	39·06
Fiji	1883	74,805	0 11 6	70·03

Taxation in Australasia and other British possessions compared.

304. It will be observed that nearly half as much again is raised by taxation in Australasia as in Canada; also that the amount raised by taxation in India is about three-and-a-half times, and in the United Kingdom about nine times, that so raised in Australasia. 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

* 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 298 *ante*.

Australasian colonies; for whilst they raise only 39 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.

305. In Victoria, the gross amount of taxation is nearly twice that in the Cape of Good Hope, but is less than half that in Canada. The average per head is 9s. 6d. higher than in the United Kingdom; but, in proportion to revenue, the taxation of Victoria being even smaller 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 Victoria and other British possessions compared.

306. 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.

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

* For figures of population, see table following paragraph 153 *ante*.

† For figures of revenue, see table following paragraph 272 *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.

Gross amount of taxation in various countries.

307. 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; 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 also above that in Holland; whilst the amount in Victoria is much above that in Switzerland or Greece, about the same as that levied in Denmark, but considerably below that in any other of the countries named.

Taxation per head in various countries.

308. 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.

Proportion of revenue raised by taxation in various countries.

309. 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 as a whole raise no more than two-fifths 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.

Taxation by Customs in Australasian colonies.

310. 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, 1883.

Colony.	Customs Revenue. †		
	Amount. §	Proportion to—	
		Total Taxation.	Total Value of Imports.
	£	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
Victoria	1,769,108	76·28	9·97
New South Wales	1,546,857	81·77	7·38
Queensland	753,703	80·45	12·10
South Australia	618,871	93·05	9·81
Western Australia... ..	122,388	91·64	23·66
Tasmania... ..	297,175	76·51	16·22
New Zealand	1,411,495	67·84	17·70

* See table following paragraph 303 *ante*.

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

‡ See table following paragraph 298 *ante*.

§ See table following paragraph 262 *ante*.

311. It will be observed that in Victoria and Tasmania during 1883 76 per cent. of the taxation was raised through the Customs, and that this was a lower proportion than in any of the other colonies, except New Zealand, where it was only 68 per cent. 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 taxation.

312. 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 the others, raw, and consequently undutiable, material. The proportion of Customs duties to imports is seen to be highest in Western Australia, New Zealand, and Tasmania, ranging from nearly a fourth in the first to something less than a sixth in the last named colony.

Customs revenue in proportion to total imports.

313. In the last issue of the *Victorian Year-Book** it was shown that in the United Kingdom only 27 per cent. of the taxation was raised through the Customs, or a very much smaller proportion than in any Australasian colony; that in Canada the proportion—78 per cent.—was somewhat larger than in Victoria, Tasmania, and New Zealand, but below that in the other Australasian colonies. Also, that as compared with the imports, the proportion in the United Kingdom— $4\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.—was only half that in Victoria, but that in the great majority of British possessions, especially the West India Islands, it was much above that in Victoria, New South Wales, or South Australia.

Taxation by Customs in British dominions.

314. It was also shown that out of ten Foreign countries respecting which information was available, only two, viz., Denmark and the United States, appeared to raise as much as half their taxation through the Customs, but the proportion (52 and 60 per cent. respectively) even in these is much less than in any of the Australasian colonies; also the proportion of Customs revenue to the total value of imports was higher than in Victoria in four out of the ten countries, and in five it was higher than in New South Wales, whilst in Spain—where it amounted to nearly a fifth—it was higher than in any Australasian colony except Western Australia, and in the United States—where it was as high as 29 per cent.—it was much higher than in Western Australia.

Taxation by Customs in Foreign countries.

315. The returns of the general revenue, taxation, and expenditure of the colonies having been dealt with in the preceding paragraphs, it

Revenue and expenditure of local bodies.

* Paragraph 291.

now remains to consider those of the local bodies, which embrace the Municipalities and the Melbourne Harbour Trust.

316. The following table gives a statement of the revenue and expenditure of municipalities in the year 1884, the amounts raised and expended in cities, towns, and boroughs being shown separately from those in shires :—

MUNICIPAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1884.

					Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.	Shires.	Total.
REVENUE.					£	£	£
From Government	{	Endowments...	...	...	41,596	274,896	316,492*
		Other receipts	...	...	15,934	39,776	55,710
„ Rates	...	...	...	...	258,341	215,071	473,412†
„ Licences	...	...	...	...	60,899	27,026	87,925
„ Registration of dogs and goats	...	...	...	...	5,840	6,304	12,144
„ Market and weighbridge rents and dues	...	...	...	...	44,851	2,541	47,392
„ Other sources	...	...	...	...	108,458	27,635	136,093
Total	...	...	...	...	535,919	593,249	1,129,168
EXPENDITURE.‡							
Public works	...	...	...	...	333,477	461,351	794,828
Salaries, &c.	...	...	...	...	47,993	72,590	120,583
Other expenditure	...	...	...	...	214,838	80,960	295,798
Total	...	...	...	...	596,308	614,901	1,211,209

317. 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.

318. 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

* This amount differs slightly 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 £29,070 was levied as *special rates*.

‡ Including expenditure of proceeds of loans. For amount of outstanding loans, see paragraph 370 *post*.

§ For ratings in municipalities, see paragraph 192 *et seq. ante*.

Municipal
revenue and
expenditure.

Endowment
of municipi-
palities.

Rate of
endowment.

municipalities were in excess of one shilling in the pound, the amount of subsidy payable during the first six months of 1884 was at the average annual rate of £1 4s. 3½d. to shires, and 12s. 1¼d. to cities, towns, and boroughs, for every £1 of rates; as compared with annual averages payable in the preceding six months of £1 5s. 4½d. and 12s. 8¼d. respectively.*

319. The total expenditure of municipalities exceeded the total revenue in 1884 by 7 per cent.; or the expenditure of cities, towns, and boroughs exceeded the revenue by 11 per cent.; and that of shires by 3½ per cent. In the previous year the expenditure of municipalities as a whole exceeded the revenue by 3½ per cent.; that of cities, towns, and boroughs by 1½ per cent.; and that of shires by 5 per cent. Municipal expenditure in excess of revenue.

320. The expenditure was greater than the revenue in 28 of the 60 individual cities, towns, and boroughs, and in 67 of the 119 individual shires, in 1883; and in 34 out of 60 cities, towns, and boroughs, and in 63 out of 120 shires, in 1884. Municipalities in which expenditure exceeded revenue.

321. Payments for salaries formed nearly 10 per cent. of the expenditure of cities, towns, and boroughs in 1883, and 8 per cent. in 1884. The same item formed 11 per cent. of the expenditure of shires in 1883, and nearly 12 per cent. in 1884. Salaries in municipalities.

322. Subjoined is a statement of the revenue and expenditure of the Melbourne Harbour Trust† during the seven and a half years which have elapsed since the Act was passed under which that body was created. The net 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:— Harbour Trust receipts and expenditure.

**MELBOURNE HARBOUR TRUST.—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE,
1877 TO 1884.**

—	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.
NET RECEIPTS.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Wharfage rates ...	43,106	84,731	75,295	67,827	83,493	105,854	98,809	108,019
Leases ...	55	143	126	94	103	99	95	95
Licences ...	1,072	1,140	1,789	2,670	2,738	4,487	4,575	4,521
Interest ...	82	687	1,116	445	...	...	...	...
Sundries ...	120	45	191	224	308	409	456	506
Total ...	44,435	86,746	78,517	71,260	86,642	110,849	103,935	‡113,141

* An exception to the rule was, however, made in the case of thirteen 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*.

‡ In addition to this, the sum of £14,562 was received as premium on a loan of £250,000 net, after deducting all expenses.

MELBOURNE HARBOUR TRUST.—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE,
1877 TO 1884—*continued.*

	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.
EXPENDITURE.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Plant	5,055	38,786	30,568	22,034	9,603	18,220	55,158	70,881
Harbour improve- ments and mainte- nance	111	894	5,027	15,065	7,128	13,571	18,082	43,741
Dredging, landing, and depositing silt Wharves and ap- proaches: Construc- tion and mainte- nance	4,872	9,872	31,276	40,179	43,513	48,116	58,596	85,629
Special survey by Sir John Coode	421	20,989	7,161	10,434	9,527	16,249	23,246	59,072
Timber	371	3,412	764	218	8,698	7,551	15,512	19,667
General expenses ...	2,332	3,078	2,897	4,523	3,485	5,452	16,183	15,023
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	1,700
Commissioners' fees	...	2,980	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500		
Interest ... ..	...	...	...	...	1,061	1,332	1,241	7,354
Spencer-street ferry: Working expenses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	*213
Sundries ... ..	...	...	947	425	54	15	13	...
Total	16,940	92,136	91,014	103,540	93,890	121,580	189,573	303,280

Receipts and
expenditure
compared.

323. In the seven and a half years the Trust has been in existence, the receipts have amounted to £695,525, and the expenditure to £1,011,953, or £316,428 in excess of the receipts. To meet this excess loans amounting to £500,000 have been raised. It will be observed that the revenue, which had fallen to a minimum in 1880, has since greatly improved, and the amount received in 1884 was greater than in any previous year. The expenditure of the Trust may be condensed into three main divisions, the first being Plant, on which, during the period the Trust has been in existence, £250,305 has been laid out, or rather less than a fourth of the whole expenditure; the second being on Improvement and Maintenance of Harbour, Wharves and Approaches, on which £658,371 has been laid out, or nearly two-thirds of the whole expenditure; and the third being Management and Interest on Loans, on which £103,277 has been expended, or rather more than one-tenth of the whole amount. The balance on hand on 31st December was £213,375.

* For two months only.

324. 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.

Harbour
Trust Loans
First Loan.

325. On the 16th July, 1884, a second loan—also of £250,000—was floated by the Melbourne Harbour Trust, in London, by the issue of debentures having a currency of 25 years, and bearing interest at the same rate as the previous loan, viz., 5 per cent. per annum. In this instance the minimum was fixed at £105, and 170 tenders, amounting to £760,000, were received, at prices ranging from the minimum to £110. The average price obtained was £106 13s. 2d.,—the average price *ex* accrued interest being £106 12s. 9d., the Trust having thus to pay a fraction over $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for their money.

Second Loan.

326. 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,
1878 TO 1884.*

	Total Amounts Received and Expended.						
	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.
REVENUE.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Government ...	4,504,413	4,621,520	4,621,282	5,186,011	5,592,362	5,611,253	5,934,687
Municipalities	639,428	624,681	616,132	651,597	653,891	693,167	756,966
Melbourne Har- bour Trust ...	86,746	78,517	71,260	86,642	110,849	103,935	113,141
Total ...	5,230,587	5,324,718	5,308,674	5,924,250	6,357,102	6,408,355	6,804,794
EXPENDITURE.							
Government ...	4,634,349	4,833,379	4,875,029	5,108,642	5,145,764	5,651,885	5,715,293
Municipalities	713,503	583,476	771,054	574,947	583,037	730,745	839,007
Melbourne Har- bour Trust ...	92,136	91,014	103,540	93,890	121,580	189,573	303,280
Total ...	5,439,988	5,507,869	5,749,623	5,777,479	5,850,381	6,572,203	6,857,580

* 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.

327. 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 18s. per head, and the general and local revenue combined to over £7 per head :—

GENERAL AND LOCAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE PER HEAD,
1878 TO 1884.*

	Amounts Received and Expended per Head. †																							
	1878.			1879.			1880.			1881.			1882.			1883.			1884.					
REVENUE.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.			
Government ...	5	10	6	5	11	8	5	9	11	6	0	7	6	7	16	6	4	1	6	7	6			
Municipalities	0	15	8	0	15	1	0	14	8	0	15	2	0	14	10	0	15	4	0	16	3			
Melbourne Harbour Trust ...	0	2	1	0	1	11	0	1	9	0	2	0	0	2	6	0	2	4	0	2	5			
Total ...	6	8	3	6	8	9	6	6	4	6	17	9	7	4	5	7	1	9	7	6	2			
EXPENDITURE.																								
Government ...	5	13	8	5	16	10	5	16	0	5	18	10	5	16	11	6	4	11	6	2	9			
Municipalities	0	17	6	0	14	1	0	18	4	0	13	4	0	13	3	0	16	2	0	18	0			
Melbourne Harbour Trust ...	0	2	3	0	2	3	0	2	6	0	2	2	0	2	8	0	4	2	0	6	6			
Total ...	6	13	5	6	13	2	6	16	10	6	14	4	6	12	10	7	5	3	7	7	3			

General and local taxation.

328. 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 230 *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 275 *ante*.

GENERAL AND LOCAL TAXATION, 1878 TO 1884.*

Heads of Taxation.	Amounts Received.						
	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.
GOVERNMENT TAXATION } †	£ 1,712,953	£ 1,730,088	£ 1,690,923	£ 2,003,704	£ 2,317,706	£ 2,334,255	£ 2,318,520
MUNICIPAL TAXATION.							
Rates	401,208	398,303	401,096	417,642	422,033	445,961	473,412
Toll receipts ...	‡ 13,895	...	...	...	...	...	...
Licences	102,732	98,441	94,713	95,258	94,731	92,610	87,925
Registration of dogs and goats ...	10,293	10,521	10,370	10,311	10,961	11,767	12,144
Market dues ...	32,776	32,095	37,451	39,295	38,088	43,795	47,392
Total	560,904	539,360	548,630	562,506	565,813	594,133	620,873
MELBOURNE HARBOUR TRUST TAXATION.							
Wharfage rates ...	84,731	75,295	67,827	83,493	105,854	98,809	108,019
Total general & local taxation } ‡	2,358,588	2,344,743	2,302,380	2,649,703	2,989,373	3,027,197	3,047,412

329. The aggregate amounts of taxation raised by the General Government and local bodies represented, in 1878, a proportion of £2 17s. 10d. to each individual in the community; in 1879, £2 16s. 8d.; in 1880, £2 14s. 9d.; in 1881, £3 1s. 7d.; in 1882, £3 7s. 11d.; in 1883, £3 6s. 11d.; in 1884, £3 5s. 6d.

General and local taxation per head.

330. 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. Seventy-one per cent. of the Municipal taxation in 1878, 74 per cent. in 1879, 1880, 1881, and 1882, 75 per cent. in 1883, and 76 per cent. in 1884, was derived from rates.

Chief sources of taxation.

331. The public debt of Victoria amounted on the 30th June, 1884, || to £28,325,112, ¶ and consisted of moneys—

	£	s.	d.
Borrowed in Victoria	1,998,611	10	6
„ Great Britain	26,326,500	0	0
Total	£28,325,111	10	6 ¶

Public debt.

* 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 278 ante.

‡ Tolls were abolished on the 1st January, 1878.

§ See paragraph 280 ante.

|| On the 30th June, 1885, the public debt amounted to £31,534,607.

¶ 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 under the head of Railways in Part Interchange post.

Purposes for which loans were incurred.

332. The aggregate amount of the loans raised up to the 30th June, 1884, was £34,252,312 ; but of this amount a total of £5,927,200 has been repaid, viz., £2,103,100 out of the general revenue, and £3,824,100 out of redemption loans. The amount of public debt authorized, the amount paid off, and amount outstanding at the end of June, 1884, under each of the purposes for which the debt was incurred, are shown in the following table:—

PURPOSES FOR WHICH LOANS WERE RAISED.

Purposes.	Authorized amount borrowed.	Amount paid off.	Amount outstanding on 30th June, 1884.*
	£	£	£
Railways	21,676,473	68,100	21,608,373
Water supply—			
Melbourne	1,711,881	800,000	911,881
Country	2,565,438	...	2,565,438 †
Graving-dock	350,464	...	350,464
Law courts and Parliament Houses	468,514	...	468,514
Public offices	166,195	...	166,195
Defences	100,000	...	100,000
State Schools	1,000,000	...	1,000,000
Yarra bridge	60,000	...	60,000
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	500,000	...
	29,615,712	2,103,100 §	27,512,612
Redemption of loans	4,636,600	3,824,100	812,500 ||
Total	34,252,312	5,927,200	28,325,112

Public debt, when authorized.

333. Of the debt outstanding on the 30th June, 1884, over 4 millions sterling were authorized as early as 1857, nearly 4 millions during the ten years ended with 1870, over 10 millions in the next decade, and another 10 millions—nearly half, however, being for purposes of redemption—in the three years ended with 1883, as will be seen by the following table, which shows the years in which the various amounts of which the debt is composed were authorized and the number of the Act by which such authorization was given:—

* For expenditure of the net proceeds of these amounts, see table following paragraph 245 *ante*, and for further 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, and £500,000 to Water Trusts, 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 373 *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.

§ Out of the general revenue.

|| Available for the redemption of a loan falling due on 1st October, 1885.

AUTHORIZATION OF THE PUBLIC DEBT.

Year.		Authorization.		Rate of Interest.	Amount Outstanding on the 30th June, 1884.
		Act.		Per Cent.	£
1857	...	21	Vict. No. 36	6	4,175,900
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
1881	...	45	Vict. No. 717	4	4,000,000
1882	...	46	Vict. No. 741	4	56,110
"	...	46	Vict. No. 739	4	2,000,000
1883	...	47	Vict. No. 760	4	4,000,000
		Increase of debt by conversion of debentures		4	13,102
		Total		...	28,325,112

334. 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 three years subsequent to 1880-81, an amount of £5,732,000 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 £29 19s. in 1883-4. 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 1883-4 to nearly 5 years' revenue. The amount of debt outstanding, together with the average per head and the multiple of revenue at the end of 1860 and the two following decennial periods, and of the years 1882-3 and 1883-4, are shown in the following table:—

GROWTH OF THE PUBLIC DEBT, 1860 TO 1883-4.*

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
1883-4	...	28,325,112	29	19	0	4·90

NOTE.—On the 30th June, 1885, the public debt was £31,757,407. At the same date, the estimated population was about 973,000. The amount of indebtedness per head was thus £32 8s. 2d.; and the multiple of the revenue was 5·01.

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

337. A 6 per cent. loan of £3,824,100 was duly paid off on the 1st October, 1883, and it will be observed that another amount of £812,500 became due on the 1st October, 1884, and that one of £3,180,620 will fall due on the 1st October, 1885. When the last-named loan is repaid, the portion of the debt bearing 6 per cent. interest will have become reduced to only £1,256,100. As these loans fall due they are being replaced by the issue of redemption loans bearing 4 per cent. interest, full particulars of which will be given in a subsequent paragraph.* The saving in the annual interest payable by the substitution of 4 per cent. debentures for the 6 per cent. loans recently paid off or falling due up to 1885 will amount to over £156,000 per annum.

Loans falling due.

338. Victorian Government stock on the Melbourne register was first authorized under the Public Works Loan Act 1872 (36 Vict. No. 428), and originally amounted to £1,500,000. Owing to portion of this being converted into debentures, which operation was counter-balanced to some extent by reconversions and fresh issues, the amount outstanding became reduced on the 30th June, 1884, to £698,992; at which date, however, a further authorized amount of £111,490 had not been issued. In the case of the last three loans issued in London—amounting to £10,000,000—the option was given to holders of converting their debentures into stock, to be registered in London. This privilege, at the 30th June, 1884, had been availed of to the extent of £6,427,900, so that the stock then outstanding upon the two registers amounted to £7,126,892. The whole of the Victorian stock bears interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum.

Victorian Government stock.

339. The last instalment, viz., £10,100, of the Treasury bonds, issued in 1880 for the temporary relief of the revenue, and fully described in the last *Victorian Year-Book*, 1883-4,† was duly paid off on the 1st October 1883.

Redemption of Treasury bonds.

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

Rates of interest.

Rates of Interest.					Amount at each Rate.	
6 per cent.	£5,249,220
5 per cent.	2,419,900
4½ per cent.	5,000,000
4 per cent.	15,655,992
Total					...	£28,325,112

* Paragraph 347 post.

† Paragraphs 318 and 319.

Interest on
debt.

341. 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, 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. About eleven-twelfths 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, 1884 :—

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	59,203	4	0	204,750	0	0
4	" "	27,959	13	2	240,000	0	0
	Total ...	87,162	17	2	444,750	0	0
	Grand Total ...	102,807	17	2	1,184,380	0	0
							1,287,187 17 2

NOTE.—The figures in this table represent the amount of interest payable in 1884-5 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 £812,500 at 6 per cent. on the 1st October, 1884, by a new issue of debentures at 4 per cent., the annual interest after that date will be reduced by £16,250; also that, owing to portion of the redemption loan being floated before the old loan was paid off, interest was payable for three months of the year on both amounts.

Interest on
loans for
different
works.

342. The annual interest payable on the public debt, taken as a whole, as it existed at the end of 1883-4, was equivalent to an average rate of about £4 10s. 10d. 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.

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

loans floated since, together with the substitution of 4 per cent. debentures for the 6 per cents. which had become due, have brought down the rate of interest upon the amount borrowed for railway construction, the average of which was, at the end of 1883-4, only $4\frac{5}{8}$ (£4 12s. 5d.) 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, 1884.	Interest payable annually.*	
		Amount.	Average Rate.
	£	£	Per Cent.
Railways ...	21,608,373†	999,172	4·62
Water Supply { Melbourne ...	911,881	37,579	4·12
{ Country ...	2,565,438	114,735	4·47
Graving-dock ...	350,464	15,308	4·57
Law Courts and Parliament Houses ...	468,514	19,977	4·25
Public Offices ...	166,195	6,789	4·09
Defences ...	100,000	6,000	6·00
State Schools ...	1,000,000	41,000	4·10
Yarra Bridge ...	60,000	2,700	4·50
Harbours, &c. ...	250,000	10,000	4·00
To provide for prospective loss on sale of Debentures	31,747	1,428	4·50
Redemption of Railway Loans‡ falling due in October, 1885	812,500	32,500	4·00
Total ...	28,325,112	1,287,188	4·54

343. On the 1st October, 1884, or three months after the date to which the table relates, £812,500 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 4·53 per cent., and that on the whole debt to 4·49 per cent. It may, moreover, be pointed out that, after the £3,180,620 falling due on the 1st October, 1885, is paid off, the average rate of interest on the railway debt will be further reduced to 4·25 per cent., and that on the whole debt to 4·27 per cent.

344. By the last two tables it appears that the total sum payable annually as interest is £1,287,188; but as interest on debentures held

* 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, the interest on which is £11,529 annually.

‡ Included above.

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 1883-4 was only £1,117,709.

Expenses of
paying
interest
on debt.

345. The expenses connected with interest of the public debt, consisting chiefly of premium on remittances to London, discount, and commission—viz., $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on interest payable thereat—amounted to £16,543 in 1883-4, as against £14,118 in the previous year.

Interest on
debt per
head.

346. The interest and expenses of the public debt of Victoria thus amounted, in 1883-4, to £1,134,252,* being in the proportion of £1 4s. 4d. 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—was the annual charge per head in respect to the public debt higher than in Victoria.

Loans floated
in 1883-4
and pre-
vious years.

347. During the year 1883-4, two 4 per cent. inscribable loans were successfully floated in London, viz., on the 3rd July, 1883, one of £2,000,000 (entirely a redemption loan), repayable in 1908; and on the 29th January, 1884, one of £4,000,000 (of which £2,636,600 ‡ was for the redemption of loans falling due), repayable in 1913. In the case of these loans, as well as the loan previously floated in 1883, the right of optional inscription, free of stamp or other cost, was given to the holders of debentures. For the former loan the minimum price fixed for tenders was £98 10s. per £100, with accrued interest from the 1st April, equivalent to £1 16s. 9d. per cent.; the tenders received numbered 684, the amount tendered was £5,137,700, and allotments were made at prices ranging from £99 5s. 6d.—the lowest successful tender—to £100 15s., whilst the average price obtained was £99 10s. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. For the £4,000,000 loan the minimum price fixed was par, with accrued interest from the 1st October, 1883, being equivalent to £1 17s. 4d. per cent.; 529 tenders were received, for £5,561,700; and allotments were made at prices ranging from £100 1s. 6d.—the

* This amount differs by £80,818 from that shown in the table following paragraph 242 *ante*. The difference is chiefly made up of interest of the Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway Debentures, and of expenses of redeeming and floating loans in London.

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

‡ Exclusive of £138,400 for expenses incurred in connexion with the floating of the loan, and to provide for any deficiency caused by debentures being sold below par.

lowest successful tender—to £102 5s., the average price obtained being £100 2s. 11¼d. All the quotations just given include accrued interest, but if this and the expenses of floating the loan be deducted, the net proceeds will be found to have averaged £96 10s. 11½d. and £97 2s. 8¼d. respectively. Notwithstanding the difficulty at first experienced in floating the previous loan, these averages are considerably lower than the average price eventually obtained for it, viz., £97 13s. 7½d. It is stated, however, that the price obtained for the second loan of 1883–4 was reduced fully 5s. per cent. in consequence of the unusual occurrence of large shipments of gold to Australia. The following is a statement of the leading particulars of these loans, and of the loan of March, 1883, to which is added, in the last line, a statement of the Bank of England minimum rate of discount at the time of floating each loan:—

PARTICULARS OF LOANS FLOATED, 1883 AND 1884.*

Particulars.	£4,000,000, 4 per cent.— Inscribable. (45 Vict. No. 717.)	£2,000,000, 4 per cent.— Inscribable. (46 Vict. No. 739.)	£4,000,000, 4 per cent.— Inscribable. (47 Vict. No. 760.)
When floated	9th–17th Jan. and 6th March, 1883	3rd July, 1883	29th January, 1884
Minimum price fixed per £100 ...	£98 13 7	£96 13 3	£98 2 8
Number of tenders	735	684	529
Amount tendered	£9,421,400	£5,137,700	£5,561,700
Number of successful tenders † ...	494	362	428
Highest tender per £100	£101 3 7	£98 18 3	£100 7 8
Lowest successful tender per £100	£98 13 7	£97 8 9	£98 4 2
Gross proceeds, average per £100	£98 16 8½	£97 14 1½	£98 5 7
Deduct expenses, ditto	£1 3 1	£1 3 2	£1 2 10¼
Net proceeds, ditto	£97 13 7½	£96 10 11½	£97 2 8¼
Bank of England minimum rate of discount per cent.	5–3	4	3

NOTE.—The quotations in this table are exclusive of accrued interest.

* A further 4 per cent. loan for £4,000,000 (of which £3,180,000 was for purposes of redemption), repayable in 1919, was floated in London on the 13th May, 1885. The minimum price fixed for tenders was £99, equal to about £97 10 8d., *ex interest*, &c. The amount tendered was 11½ millions sterling—the lowest successful tender being at £100 13s. 0d., and the average price obtained £100 13s. 9d. At the time of issue the money market was much affected by a crisis with Russia and rumors of war with that country, and the Bank of England minimum rate of discount was 3½ per cent.

† Wholly or partly.

Expenses of floating and redemption of loans.

348. The total expenses connected with floating Victorian loans from 1855 (the time the first loans were authorized) to the 30th June, 1884, including bank charges, brokerage, &c., have amounted to £331,779, which figures furnish a proportion of £1 0s. 1d. per cent. on the gross amount borrowed to that date. 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.

Prices fixed and obtained for loans.

349. The minimum price for tenders for a loan is fixed after due inquiry from those supposed to be best acquainted with the state of the money market. The results, however, are very various, and in the case of the loans from 1874 onwards the amounts obtained per £100 debenture have ranged from 2s. 7d. to as much as £3 3s. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. above the minimum fixed, as is shown in the last column of the following table:—

VICTORIAN LOANS.—PRICES FIXED AND OBTAINED, 1874 TO 1884.

When Raised.	Price per £100 Debenture, <i>ex</i> Interest.		Amount above Minimum Obtained.
	Minimum Fixed.	Average Obtained.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1874	90 0 0	90 2 7	0 2 7
1876	93 0 0	94 16 10 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 16 10 $\frac{3}{4}$
1879	96 16 1	97 17 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 1 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
1880	100 0 0	103 3 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 3 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
1883	98 13 7	98 16 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 3 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
„	96 13 3	97 14 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 0 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
1884	98 2 8	98 5 7	0 2 11

Particulars of loans floated in London.

350. Particulars respecting the amounts, nominal rates of interest, due dates of, and average prices obtained for, the various loans, forming part of the public debt of Victoria, raised in London from 1859 to 1884 are given in the following table; also the average prices obtained after deducting expenses of floating, as well as of accrued interest; and to which is added, in the last column, the rates of interest to which such prices are equivalent, which are really those payable by the colony on the moneys actually available (net proceeds) for the purposes for which the loans were raised. It is believed that this is the first time such a calculation has been applied to the Victorian loans:—

VICTORIAN LOANS FLOATED IN LONDON, 1859 TO 1884.

When raised.	Amount of Loan.	Nominal Rate of Interest. Per Cent.	When due.*	Average price per £100 Debenture obtained.		Actual Rate of interest per £100. †
				Ex accrued interest.	Ex interest and expenses. † (Net proceeds.)	
	£			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1859 ...	1,000,000	6	1883	105 1 11 ³ / ₄	104 1 11 ³ / ₄	5 13 9
" ...	750,000	"	"	107 17 7 ¹ / ₄	106 17 7 ¹ / ₄	5 9 10
1860 ...	1,837,500	"	1884 }	104 17 10 ¹ / ₂	103 17 10 ¹ / ₂	5 14 1
" ...	812,500	"				
1861 ...	1,000,000	"	1885	103 1 6 ¹ / ₄	102 1 6 ¹ / ₄	5 16 10
1862 ...	1,600,000	"	"	102 19 7	101 19 7	5 16 11
1866 ...	850,000	"	1891	100 8 11 ³ / ₄	99 8 11 ³ / ₄	6 0 10
1869 ...	588,600	5	1894	...	...	...
1870 ...	1,518,400	"	"	100 17 6 ¹ / ₄	99 17 6 ¹ / ₄	4 19 10
1874 ...	1,500,000	4	1899	90 2 7	98 2 7	4 15 3
1876 ...	3,000,000	"	1901	94 16 10 ³ / ₄	93 18 11 ³ / ₄	4 8 1
1878 ...	457,000	"	1904	...	...	...
1879 ...	3,000,000	4 ¹ / ₂	"	97 17 5 ¹ / ₂	96 19 2 ¹ / ₂	4 14 0
1880 ...	2,000,000	"	"	103 3 8 ¹ / ₂	102 5 11	4 6 11
1883 ...	4,000,000	4	1907	98 16 8 ¹ / ₂	97 13 7 ¹ / ₂	4 3 0
" ...	2,000,000 §	"	1908	97 14 1 ¹ / ₂	96 10 11 ¹ / ₂	4 4 6
1884 ...	4,000,000 ||	"	1913	98 5 7 ¶	97 2 8 ¹ / ₄	4 3 3
Total	29,914,000**					

351. It will be noticed that all the 6 per cent. loans, one of the 5 per cent. loans, and the second portion of the 4¹/₂ per cent. loan of 1879-80, were floated at a premium; 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. 8¹/₂d. per £100 debenture 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.

Terms upon which loans have been obtained.

352. By the last column of the table, it appears, in respect to the earlier loans that, although the nominal rate of interest was 6 per cent., the money was usually obtained for about 5³/₄ per cent.—the lowest rate being 5¹/₂ per cent. in 1859, and the highest a small fraction over 6 per cent. in 1866. Since that year, however, the credit of the colony seems to have considerably improved, for in 1870—or four years later—it was

Actual rate of interest on loans.

* All Victorian loans, except the loan floated in 1884, which is for 30 years, have had a currency of 25 years.

† For loans raised prior to 1876, the expenses have been uniformly assumed to have been £1 per cent. See paragraph 348 ante.

‡ Based on the prices given in the previous column. These results have been derived from "The Investor's Sinking Fund and Redemption Tables," by Robert Lucas Nash, London; Effingham Wilson, Royal Exchange.

§ Redemption loan.

|| Of which £2,636,600 was for the redemption of old loans.

¶ It is believed that a higher price by fully 5s. per cent. would have been obtained but for the unusual occurrence of the shipment of large quantities of gold to Australia, which took place just prior to the loan being floated.

** Including redemption loans amounting to £4,636,600, of which £4,400,000 was for loans falling due in London. This being deducted, the net amount borrowed there is reduced to £25,414,000.

able to secure the money for a little less than 5 per cent., and in the early part of 1883 a loan was obtained for $\text{£}4\frac{3}{10}$ per cent., which, although the nominal rate of interest in recent years has been only $\text{£}4$ per cent., is actually the lowest rate at which any Victorian loan has yet been raised.

353. The following table, giving similar information respecting the loans of New South Wales, is taken in substance from the *Sydney Morning Herald*, in which journal several interesting and able articles, bearing on the interest and expenses of the various loans of that colony, have appeared at various times :—

NEW SOUTH WALES LOANS, 1858 TO 1884.

Date of Loan.	Years' Currency.	Amount of Loan.	Amount raised.	Average rate per cent. less charges, &c.	Nominal Interest per cent.	Actual Interest per cent.
		£	£			£ s. d.
1858	30	130,400	125,888	90·59	5	5 13 3
1859	30	818,100	916,778	99·09	5	5 1 3
1860	30	560,900	560,654	99·20	5	5 1 0
1861	30	206,960	205,887	98·85	5	5 1 7
1862	30	495,500	485,391	97·22	5	5 3 10
1863	30	610,000	613,247	99·78	5	5 0 3
1864	30	288,300	287,609	90·01	5	5 1 5
1865	30	292,800	269,974	91·49	5	5 11 6
1866	30	1,001,900	899,216	88·49	5	5 16 4
1867	30	312,800	267,448	84·32	5	5 2 1
1868	30	1,500,000	1,430,204	88·52	5	5 16 4
1869	...	1,000,000	981,655	96·85	5	5 4 2
1870 } 1871 }	30	985,100	973,696	97·91	5	5 2 11
1872	30	406,800	422,666	103·90	5	4 15 0
1873	Inter.	222,284	217,270	97·74	4	4 2 0
1874	Inter.	282,955	268,808	95·	4	4 5 11
1875	30	1,000,000	900,581	89·12	4	4 13 0
1876	30	901,500	837,180	92·22	4	4 9 4
1879	30	3,249,500	3,099,443	97·81	4	4 2 8
1881	30	2,050,000	2,120,639	102·86	4	3 16 10
1882	30	2,000,000	2,042,916	101·57	4	3 18 2
1883	50	3,000,000	3,001,067	98·94	4	4 1 0
"	50	3,000,000	...	98·75	4	4 1 3
1884	40	5,500,000	...	92·10	3½	3 18 0

NOTE.—The calculations in the last three lines were made in the office of the Government Statist, Melbourne, from official documents and from information contained in the monthly circulars issued by W. Westgarth & Co., 8 Finch Lane, London.

354. By this table it appears that during the last four years New South Wales has floated five loans, amounting in the aggregate to $\text{£}15,550,000$; that on three occasions the money was obtained—after allowing for all charges—for considerably less than, and on the other two occasions for a little over, 4 per cent., the most successful loan being that floated in 1881 at a rate of interest equivalent to only $\text{£}3$ 16s. 10d. per $\text{£}100$ borrowed. The last loan, it will be observed,

New South
Wales loans.

Success of
recent
New South
Wales loans.

was launched nominally at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., it being the first Australian, and the second Colonial,* loan bearing a lower nominal rate of interest than 4 per cent. The actual rate of interest on this loan was £3 18s. per £100 borrowed, or not quite so low as that at which the 4 per cent. loan of 1881, just referred to, was obtained.

355. 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 five years ended with 1883; 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 ...	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
	1883	24,308,175	26 1 9	4·33
New South Wales	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
	1883	21,632,459	24 17 8	3·34
Queensland ...	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
	1883	14,907,850	51 17 2	5·77
South Australia ...	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
	1883	13,891,900	45 12 5	6·74
Western Australia	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
	1883	611,000	19 5 6	1·93

* Canada was the first British colony to float a $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. loan, viz., in June 1884, or only about four months before New South Wales. According to Messrs. Westgarth & Co., this Canadian loan was disposed of at a price which, with various allowances, actually yields to the investors £3 17s. 6d. per cent. But if allowances were made for cost of floating, &c., as is done in the case of the New South Wales loan, the latter would probably be found the more successful of the two loans from the borrowers' standpoint.

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.	
Tasmania	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
	1883	2,385,600	18 18 0	4·24
New Zealand*	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
	1883	31,385,411	58 0 6	8·11

NOTE.—For public debts of the respective colonies at the end of 1884, see Summary of Australasian Statistics (third folding sheet *ante*), which gives a statement of the debts of the respective colonies at the end of each of the twelve years 1873 to 1884; also Appendix A *post*.

356. In 1883, as compared with the previous year, most of the colonies show an increase of indebtedness per head varying from £2 to £3. According to the returns of the same year, by far the most heavily-indebted colony, in proportion to population, was New Zealand, with £58, and next to it Queensland, with £52 per head. Victoria was only half as heavily indebted as either of these, also much less so than South Australia, but more 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. Western Australia. |
| 2. Queensland. | 5. New South Wales. | 7. Tasmania. |
| 3. South Australia. | | |

357. The public debt in the different colonies varied in 1883 from an amount equal to about 8 years' revenue in New Zealand and from $6\frac{3}{4}$ to $5\frac{3}{4}$ years' revenue in South Australia and Queensland to a sum equal to no more than 2 years' revenue in Western Australia. Victoria occupied a central position amongst the colonies, her debt being equal to her

* New Zealand has, as a set-off against the debt, an accrued sinking fund, which amounted on the 31st December, 1883, to £2,715,094.

Order of colonies in respect to indebtedness.

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

revenue for $4\frac{1}{2}$ years. The following is the order in which the colonies stood in respect to this matter :—

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

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

358. 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 over seventy-five millions, being over eight millions more than in 1882; and the aggregate debt of Australia, with the addition of Tasmania and New Zealand, exceeded one hundred and nine millions sterling, being ten millions more than in 1882. 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, 1883.

	Public Debt.		
	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.	Multiple of Revenue.
	£	£ s. d.	
Continent of Australia	75,351,384	31 1 6	4.42
Ditto, with Tasmania and New Zealand	109,122,395	35 5 10	5.09

359. 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 4s. 4d. 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.

Debt per head higher in Australasia than in Australia.

360. During the ten years ended with 1883, the public debt of Australasia, taken as a whole, increased 156 per cent., and the proportion per head of population increased by three-fourths. 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 1883 it was equal to their income for over five years. This will be observed by the following figures :—

Increase of debt in Australasia in ten years.

INCREASE OF PUBLIC DEBT OF AUSTRALASIA, 1873 TO 1883.

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
1883... ..	109,122,395	35 5 10	5·09
Increase	66,449,972	15 3 7	1·63

Public debts
of British
dominions.

361. 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	1884	746,423,964	20 15 3	8·56
Malta	1883	390,339	2 10 7	1·90
ASIA.				
India	1882	156,820,614	0 15 9	2·24
Ceylon	1883	2,124,108	0 15 4	1·83
Straits Settlements	1883	63,100	0 2 8	·11
AFRICA.				
Mauritius	1883	753,500	2 1 9	·85
Natal	"	2,554,000	6 1 11	4·12
Cape of Good Hope... ..	"	20,811,009	16 7 9	3·82
St. Helena... ..	"	7,750	1 10 5	·75
Lagos	1882	441	0 0 1	·01
Sierra Leone	1883	63,000	1 0 10	·97
AMERICA.				
Canada	1883	33,013,899	7 0 5	4·31
Newfoundland	"	322,773	1 16 0	1·24
Bermudas	"	5,484	0 7 8	·18
British Guiana	"	311,759	1 4 1	·65

* For population of Great Britain and the various colonies, see table following paragraph 151 *ante*.

† For revenue of Great Britain and the various colonies, see table following paragraph 268 *ante*.

PUBLIC DEBTS OF BRITISH DOMINIONS—*continued.*

Country or Colony.	Year.	Public Debt.		
		Total Amount.	Amount per Head.*	Multiple of Revenue.†
		£	£ s. d.	
<i>AMERICA—continued.</i>				
West Indies—				
Bahamas	1883	48,626	1 2 4	·93
Jamaica	"	1,257,916	2 1 11	2·12
St. Lucia	"	32,400	0 15 11	·75
St. Vincent	"	2,840	0 1 4	·08
Grenada	"	8,750	0 3 11	·20
St. Christopher } Nevis }	"	2,200	0 1 0	·05
Antigua	"	48,071	1 4 3	1·03
Montserrat	"	4,200	0 6 2	·72
Dominica	"	11,900	0 8 5	·56
Trinidad	"	598,630	3 16 11	1·31
<i>AUSTRALASIA.</i>				
Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand †	1883	109,122,395	35 5 10	5·09
Fiji	"	254,025	1 19 2	2·38
Total	1883	1,075,057,693	4 5 7	5·42

362. 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.

363. In Australasia, taken as a whole, the indebtedness, in proportion to population, is 70 per cent. larger than 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 more than twice as large, and that of Victoria is larger by nearly a third. The two first-named colonies are, in proportion to population, by far the most heavily indebted countries in the world. It may be observed that the indebtedness per head of Canada is only a fifth of that of Australasia. Indebtedness per head of British dominions.

364. In proportion to revenue, the debt of Great Britain is far larger than that of any of her dependencies, of which Australasia stands first in this respect. Canada, Natal, and the Cape of Good Hope are the only other possessions in which the debt even approaches to so high a multiple of the revenue as the united debts of the Australasian colonies do of their united revenues. Proportion of debts to revenues of British dominions.

* See footnote (*) to preceding page.

† See footnote (†) to preceding page.

‡ For public debts and amounts per head, and proportion of debt to revenue, in the various Australasian colonies, see table following paragraph 355 *ante*.

Public debts
of Foreign
countries.

365. 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,†	£ s. d. 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	"	91,437,	21 4 7	12·74
Roumania	"	27,782,	5 3 4	5·72
Russia	1882	483,104,§	5 6 1	4·69
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
AMERICA.				
Argentine Confederation ...	1883	45,000,	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

* For populations on which these calculations are based, see table following paragraph 153 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, together with the debts of the various States, for particulars of which see *Victorian Year-Book* 1883-4, footnote (†) to table following paragraph 343. 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, consisting of paper currency amounting to £86,300,000, and the State's debt to the Imperial bank on open account, amounting to £55,416,000, also Treasury bonds to the amount of £34,200,000; but excluding the Railway debt (guaranteed by the State), amounting to £99,838,000.

|| 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.

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

366. 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 £40,000,000. Next to these in point of indebtedness are Spain, Russia, Austria-Hungary, Italy, 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.

367. In proportion to population, the most heavily indebted independent country is Spain, which is, however, in this respect far behind the colonies of New Zealand, Queensland, and South Australia.† The debt per head in the United Kingdom is much smaller than in Spain, about the same as in Portugal, France, or Holland, but larger than in any other country outside Australasia.

Amount of debt per head in different countries.

368. 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.

369. In comparing the indebtedness of the Australasian colonies with that of other countries it should be borne in mind that whereas the latter was mainly issued for war purposes, the former was, as a rule, contracted for the construction of railways, water supply, and other works of a reproductive character.

Objects of Australasian and other debts.

370. 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, 1884, also of the total amounts included therein. These amounts are exclusive of sums borrowed by the municipalities through the General Government for waterworks (viz., £660,270, towards the redemption of which £22,023 has been repaid into a sinking fund)—they being included in the public debt of the colony§ :—

Municipal debt.

* See table following paragraph 361 *ante*.

† See table following paragraph 355 *ante*.

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

§ See table following paragraph 332 *ante*.

MUNICIPAL DEBT, 1884.

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	39	£ 952,422
Shires	28	131,191
Total... ..	67	1,083,613

371. The rates of interest paid by municipalities were from 6 to 8 per cent., except in the case of two shires in which the rate on portion of the loan, and three 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 $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and twelve 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.

372. If the municipal debts, as shown above, together with the Harbour Trust loan of £500,000,* be added to the debt of the General Government on 30th June, 1884, viz., £28,325,112,† it will appear that the total liability of the colony was £29,908,725, or a proportion of £31 12s. 6d. per head of population.

373. At the end of June, 1884, there was a total balance of £1,515,111 to the credit of the various trust funds, of which £756,980, or 50 per cent., was 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, 1884.

Accounts.	Balances at Credit, 30th June, 1884.	Invested in Debentures or Inscribed Stock.
	£	£
Assurance fund	88,166	57,140
Suitors' fund	51,235	28,986
Police superannuation fund	79,001	70,000
Intestate estates	100,941	52,515
Municipalities Investment account	60,671	60,671
Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway Deposit account	10,668	10,668
Trustees, Executors, and Agency Company, and two Insurance Companies	20,000	20,000
Permanent Artillery — Deferred pay fund	1,843	...

* See paragraphs 324 and 325 ante.

† On the 30th June, 1885, the debt of the General Government had increased to £31,534,807.

Rates of interest paid by municipalities.

General and municipal debt.

Trust funds, 1884.

TRUST FUNDS, 1884—continued.

Accounts.	Balances at Credit, 30th June, 1884.	Invested in Debentures or Inscribed Stock.
	£	£
Post Office Savings Banks ...	1,043,018	} 457,000
Insolvency (unclaimed dividends) ...	3,751	
Customs officers' and goods overtime	476	
Loan redemption account ...	22,023	
Sundries ...	64,683	...
Total ...	1,546,476	756,980
Deduct remittances and advances ...	31,365	...
Total ...	1,515,111	756,980

374. In 1884, as compared with the previous year, an increase of £61,000 took place in the total amount at credit of trust funds, portion of which is accounted for by an increase of £38,000 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 fifteen financial years:—

TRUST FUNDS, 1870 TO 1884.

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
1884 ...	756,980	673,736	84,395	1,515,111

375. 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.

376. 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.

377. Of pensions there were in 1883-4 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.

378. The persons entitled to superannuation allowances in the same year numbered 273, and consisted of five former judges of County Courts, 249 ex-officers of the Civil Service, 16 ex-officers of the Lunacy Department, and 3 others. The aggregate amount of the allowances to these persons was £36,997, or an average of £136 10s. to each recipient.

379. Taken together, the pensions and superannuation allowances numbered 277, or 9 more than in the previous year, and amounted to £39,897, or £1,423 more than in that year. The average to each recipient was £144 0s. 8d., or 9s. 6d. more than in 1882-3.

380. 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 1883-4, and the gross and average amount of the pensions and superannuation allowances payable, will be found in the following table:—

PENSIONS AND SUPERANNUATION ALLOWANCES, 1883-4.

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., 1883 and 1884.

Pensions, &c., 1883-4.

PENSIONS AND SUPERANNUATION ALLOWANCES, 1883-4—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.								
18 & 19 Vict. cap. 55	Former Clerk of the Parliaments	1	500	0	0	500	0	0
33 Vict. No. 345 (County Court Statute)	County Court Judges ...	5	3,375	0	0	675	0	0
25 Vict. No. 160 (Civil Service Act)	Officers in the Civil Service	249	32,714	6	10	131	7	8
47 Vict. No. 767 (Victorian Railways Act)	Officers in the Railway Department	1	55	8	3	55	8	3
31 Vict. No. 309 (Lunacy Statute)	Officers in the Lunacy Department	16	342	14	3	21	8	5
47 Vict. No. 777 (Discipline Act)	... ..	1	9	9	0	9	9	0
	Total	277	39,896	18	4	144	0	8

381. 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 subsidy 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.

382. The number of recipients of police retiring allowances in 1883-4 was 166, the gross amount payable was £14,065, or an average of £84 14s. 7d. to each recipient. In addition, gratuities in lieu of retiring allowances were paid in 16 instances, amounting in the aggregate to £4,646, or an average of £290 7s. 6d. to each recipient.

Number of police pensions and gratuities, 1883-4.

383. In the year under review, for the seventh 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 £4,299. Even with this addition, however, the ordinary receipts proved insufficient, and, the balance from previous years having 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, of £8,000 in 1882-3, and of £10,000 in 1883-4.

Deduction from pay of police, and votes in aid.

Retiring allowances granted for infirmity.

384. 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, 30 per cent. of those granted to civil servants, and as many as 58 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.

385. 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; in addition to which there was voted a grant in aid of the Police Superannuation Fund, and pensions to six 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 1883-4, 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, 1883-4.

Department.	Number of Recipients.	Allowances Voted.	
		Total Amount Paid.	Average to each Recipient.
SUPERANNUATION ALLOWANCES.			
Education	129	£ 8,412	£ 65 4 0
Railways	8	1,992	249 0 0
Public Works	17	1,719	101 2 4
Chief Secretary	7	503	71 17 2
Trade and Customs	2	660	330 0 0
Attorney-General	2	566	283 0 0
Treasurer	1	21	21 0 0
Crown Lands	1	75	75 0 0
Post Office... ..	2	51	25 10 0
Defences	1	69	69 0 0
PENSIONS.			
Widows of Constables shot by the Kelly gang of outlaws	2	87*	43 10 0
Ex-Constables of Police	3	104*	34 13 4
Pioneer of overland route to India and Australia	1	96	96 0 0
	176	14,355	81 11 3
Grant in aid of Police Superannuation Fund	...	10,000	...
Total ... ..	...	24,355	...

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

386. The following is a summary of the pensions and superannuation allowances, of all descriptions, payable out of the general revenue during the year 1883-4 :—

Summary of retiring allowances.

SUMMARY OF PENSIONS AND RETIRING ALLOWANCES PAYABLE *
FROM THE REVENUE, 1883-4.

	£	s.	d.
Former Ministers of the Crown	1,800	0	0
Lady Darling and Mrs. Petrie	1,100	0	0
Former clerk of Parliaments	500	0	0
„ judges of County Courts	3,375	0	0
„ officers of the Civil Service	32,714	6	10
„ „ Railway department	55	8	3
„ „ Lunacy department	342	14	3
„ members of Defence forces	9	9	0
„ police	12,000	0	0†
Other allowances, voted by Parliament	14,355	1	0
Total	£66,251	19	4

387. 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 IV.—VITAL STATISTICS.

388. 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

Registration system for marriages, births, and deaths.

* 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 grant of £10,000 voted by Parliament. For total of retiring allowances to the police from all sources, see paragraph 382 ante.