

OCEANICA, No. IV.—AUSTRALASIA—(CONTINUED).

textile fabrics, hardware, wines, ales and spirits, tea, coffee and sugar, tobacco and cigars, etc. The value of the exports and imports for the 15 years, ending with 1859, was as follows:

Years.	Exports.	Imports.	Years.	Exports.	Imports.
1845	£1,092,359	£283,551	1850	£1,237,754	£1,238,413
1846	1,056,338	1,314,851	1851	1,796,912	1,563,931
1847	1,201,535	1,544,827	1852	4,004,084	1,900,436
1848	1,155,009	1,182,874	1853	4,223,346	6,342,577
1849	1,135,944	1,313,398	1854	4,040,126	5,950,063
			1859	4,768,049	6,597,063

—These exports and imports include the commerce of Moreton Bay, Queensland, which, up to this period, was a part of New South Wales. The shipping engaged in the commercial movement of 1859, and the ports of entrance and clearance, were as follows:

Vessels.	Tonnage.	Ports.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
1,299	387,015	Sydney	776	264,071
		Moreton Bay	10	4,418
		Newcastle	459	91,309
		Eden	9	2,397
		Rockhampton	2	332
Total	1,299		1,296	383,527

During the year 15 vessels (789 tons) were built in the Colony; and 60 vessels (7,200 tons) were registered at the several ports.

Another source of wealth to the Colony is the whale and seal fisheries, chiefly carried on in the sea adjacent to the eastern entrance to Bass' Strait or in the Strait itself; but of late years this interest has considerably declined.

For facilitating inland communication and trade there have been effected many improvements, and various lines of roads which have been opened at large expense traverse the settled districts, while others are being constantly opened to accommodate the expansion of the settlements. As yet, however, only three railroads have been brought into operation—viz., the Great Southern, from Sydney to Picton—51 miles; the Great Western, from Paramatta to Penrith—20 miles; and the Great Northern, 51 miles—from Newcastle to Singleton. The extension of these and the building of others is progressing. All the sea-board towns have communication by steam-vessels which ply regularly; and all the chief places are connected by the electric telegraph. A submarine telegraph has also been carried across Bass' Strait to Tasmania.

GOVERNMENT REVENUE, ETC.—The government of the Colony is vested in a governor-general and an executive council appointed by the crown; and of a legislative council (of not less than 21 members) and an assembly of 54 members elected by the freeholders and others qualified to vote. The affairs of the Colony are administered without reference to the mother country; but any acts of the legislature contravening the laws of the United Kingdom are *de facto* void. The judiciary consists of county courts of request, circuit and sessions courts, and a superior court. For ecclesiastical purposes the Colony is divided into the dioceses of Newcastle and Sydney, the latter being the metropolitan see of Australasia.

The revenue is derived chiefly from customs duties, excise and gold duties, land revenues, railroad tolls, etc. The expenditures are for the various establishments, interest on loans, railroads, roads and bridges, management of lands, etc. The total revenue in 1859 (including £836,822 borrowed) was £2,339,491, and the total disbursements (including £43,839 repayments) £1,858,167.

The schools of New South Wales are supported partly by government and partly by voluntary contributions. The following shows the number of schools and scholars at the end of 1859, and the cost of their support for that year:

Description of Schools.	Number of Schools.	Scholars.		Cost of Support.	
		Male.	Female.	Government.	Voluntary.
Orphan schools	2	205	169	£7,396	£2
Asyl. for destitute child.	1	301	93	1,500	1,651
Denominational schools	217	7,836	6,054	13,290	12,585
National schools	125	4,555	3,592	8,447	9,587
Universities and colleges	4	387	—	23,895	4,151
Total public	349	12,634	10,908	£27,544	£27,974
Private schools	391	4,947	5,051	9,998	—
Total	740	17,581	15,959	£37,542	£27,974

PRINCIPAL CITIES, TOWNS, ETC.—*Sydney*, the capital, is situated on Sydney Cove on the south side of Port Jackson (lat. 33° 52' and long. 151° 14') and stands partly on a freestone promontory, having Darling Harbor on the west, and partly in a narrow valley. Its streets, except in the older parts, intersect at right angles, are spacious, well paved, and lighted with gas. The houses seldom exhibit taste, but are substantial and commodious. George and Pitt streets, however, present ranges of handsome edifices and elegant shops. It has extensive and increasing suburbs as Pyramt and Balmain across Darling Harbor; Woolloomooloo and Henrietta-Town on the east; Paddington and Surrey Hills on the south-east; Renfern and Chippendale to the south; and Camperdown, Newton, and the Glebe to the south-west. The most important public buildings are the churches, about 26 in number. The other buildings worthy of notice are—the Government House, the University (founded 1852), the Sydney Grammar School, the Court House and Jail, a theatre, a museum, the legislative chambers, barracks, custom-house, etc. For commercial purposes Sydney enjoys extraordinary facilities; its haven about 15 miles long, and in some parts three miles wide, is completely landlocked and indented with numerous creeks, with a depth of water admitting the largest ships to its quays. For its defense fortifications have been erected on all the commanding points. Being the chief commercial centre it monopolizes at least four-fifths of the whole commerce of the Colony. With the other settlements it has communication by railroad, steamboat, coaches, etc. The city was founded in 1788 and incorporated in 1842. In 1860 it contained 56,470, or with its suburbs 93,202 inhabitants. *Paramatta*, on the river of the same name at the head of Port Jackson, 13 miles from Sydney and connected therewith by railroad, consists mostly of a single street, but contains the summer residence of the governor; also a college, an observatory, and two lunatic asylums. *Windsor*, on the Hawkesbury, is a town of 10,000 inhabitants 28 miles north-west from Sydney, with an active trade. *Newcastle*, on Port Hunter, 70 miles north from Sydney has a large coal trade. *Maitland*, on the same river, 14 miles from Newcastle, consists of two towns and 15,000 inhabitants—in East Maitland is the jail and court-house, and in West Maitland, the most thriving, are numerous large stores, etc. Good coal is abundant in the vicinity. *Bathurst* (population 12,000), on the Macquarie, 93 miles west from Sydney, being the principal town of the gold region, has rapidly increased in population and wealth. It is also a noted wool market. *Goulburn*, 128 miles south-west from Sydney, is a thriving town of 8,000 inhabitants near the head of the Hawkesbury River. Other towns of note are *Boyd*, on the Towamba, where it falls into Twofoed Bay; *Campbelltown*, on the coast, 20 miles south from Sydney; *Port Macquarie*, at the mouth of Hastings' River, etc.

HISTORY.—In 1770 Captain Cook, after sailing along the east coast of Australia, landed on a low swampy creek, to which from the number of plants found in it he gave the name of Botany Bay, and to the whole coast that of New South Wales. In 1788 Captain Arthur Phillip, the first governor, arrived out with 757 convicts. In its first settlement the Colony suffered much from scarcity of provisions, and afterward more from mismanagement. From this time to 1840 Botany Bay was the principal penal settlement of the United Kingdom,

but in this year the introduction of convicts was prohibited, and the free-labor system encouraged. In 1843 representative institutions were introduced, and the Colony became so flourishing, that in 1850 it was deemed necessary to erect its southern portion into the Victoria Colony and to grant to both extensive franchises. In April, 1851, the discovery of gold was announced and a new era of prosperity dawned on the Colony; and again in 1854 the government was further liberalized, and all but in name made independent. In 1859 the portion north of 29° was added to the new colony of Queensland.

THE COLONY OF VICTORIA.

VICTORIA, formerly Port Phillip District, is situated between latitudes 34° and 39° south, and longitudes 141° and 159° east; and is bounded north and north-east by New South Wales, from which it is separated chiefly by the Murray River; south by Bass' Strait, and west by South Australia. Extent east and west 480 miles, and north and south from a few miles to 280 miles—averaging 180 miles. Area, 86,940 square miles.

COAST, HARBORS, ETC.—The entire sea-board has a southern aspect, and following its sinuosities is not far from 800 miles in length. The coast is generally low and unbroken in the west from the mouth of the Glenelg to Cape Otway, between which are situated the available harbors of Portland, Port Fairy, and Warrnambool; and in the east, from the harbor of Port Albert to Cape Howe, the only features which tend to diversify its monotonous appearance are a series of lagoons, of which Lake King is the largest. Between Wilson Promontory and Cape Otway a remarkable contrast is presented, and the coast becomes skirted by perpendicular cliffs rising from 500 to 1,000 feet above the sea, and containing openings into numerous bays and anchorages. Of these the most remarkable is Port Phillip, which, scarcely two miles wide at its entrance, forms a kind of inland sea stretching north and south about 35 miles, and expanding east and west near its centre to 50 miles, although its average width does not exceed 20 miles. Separated from Port Phillip by a low promontory is the well-formed but shallow harbor of Western Port; and still farther east, the most remarkable feature of the coast is Wilson Promontory, connected with the mainland by a low sandy isthmus, but consisting of a lofty mass of granite with summits rising to the height of 3,000 feet, and usually enveloped in mist. On the north of this is the last great indentation of the coast, Corner Basin, protected south and east by several low sand islands.

SURFACE, ETC.—The interior is well diversified by mountains and plains, but is chiefly characterized by the latter, which are often of great extent. The mountains form two principal ranges near the opposite extremities of the Colony; the Alps on the east and nearly parallel with the coast; and the Gramians on the west, where they form three distinct masses or ridges. The highest summits of these chains are respectively Mount Kosciusko 8,500 feet, and Mount William 4,600 feet. Notwithstanding the position of these two chains at opposite extremities, they are visibly connected by their ramifications, so as to form parts of the same mountain system; and they constitute a continuous watershed, sending the whole drainage of the Colony either north to the Murray or south to the ocean.

The whole system may be considered as a vast region of primary and transition formation extending east and west for about 300 miles, with a breadth varying from 100 to 150 miles, exhibiting numerous cones and distinct craters, apparently sub-marine, and composed chiefly of metamorphic rocks, overlain on their slopes by more recent secondary and tertiary formations. Within this region lie all the gold-fields of Victoria.

The sites of the gold-deposits of this Colony extend over the whole basin of the Murray, partly east of the Australian Alps, but chiefly in the west among the east ramifications of the Gramians. The largest continuous field, however, is that which has Mount Alexander for its centre. The principal districts now being worked are Ballarat, Castlemaine, Maryborough, Ararat, Sandhurst, and Beechworth.

Gold, however, is not the only source of wealth possessed by the Colony. Copper found so abundantly in South Australia, without doubt exists here also. Limestone, freestone, sandstone, granite, bluestone, and slate are already worked in quarries apparently inexhaustible; and extensive fields of coal have been traced along the coast and are now being opened; iron and plumbago are also abundant.

The agricultural capacities of Victoria are excellent, and the soil which is of a light texture possesses great natural fertility, and is capable of raising cereal crops of the best quality. The climate is neither so hot nor so dry as that of New South Wales, nor is it liable to the influence of the heated winds from the interior plains. The vine thrives well, and both the ordinary and many of the finer fruits and vegetables of the northern temperate zone have already been acclimatized and are abundant.

POPULATION, ETC.—In consonance with the inviting prospects held out to immigrants, the population has been rapidly increased from that source. In 1851, when the first census was taken, the number of inhabitants was 77,345, and annually thereafter 151,127, 203,587, 273,865, 319,379, 382,152, 463,135, 504,519, 530,262, and 544,677—an increase in 10 years of 467,332, or 504.2 per centum. The distribution of the sexes under the last four enumerations was thus:

Years.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Years.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1857	297,347	165,588	462,935	1859	335,708	194,554	530,262
1858	323,576	180,943	504,519	1860	342,510	201,867	544,677

The estimated population in each mining district of the gold-fields, on the 1st January, 1860, was as follows:

Mining Districts.	Other than Chinese.			Chinese (Males).	Grand Total.
	Men.	Women.	Children.		
Ballarat	36,040	7,000	10,000	53,040	4,500
Castlemaine	14,919	5,350	4,250	24,519	5,374
Maryborough	80,875	5,146	10,292	96,313	3,380
Ararat	8,059	1,156	2,236	11,451	1,809
Sandhurst	8,570	4,450	4,820	18,170	3,700
Beechworth	14,429	3,852	3,542	21,823	6,311
Total	113,194	27,014	35,170	175,378	26,044

INDUSTRIAL PURSUITS.—Gold-mining is by far the most valuable occupation of the colonists, and, as above shown, employs more than one-half of the working population. In 1859, 80 mines and 132 quartz reefs were being worked; and in this branch there were employed 503 steam-engines, 6,447 puddling machines, 144 quartz-crushing machines, 473 tours, sluices, and dams, 305 whims and whips, 97 horse and steam pumps, 164 water-wheels, 5 boring machines, and 1 smelting machine—total 8,139 works and machines. The shipments of gold from the Colony since the first discovery of the deposits in 1851 have been yearly as follows—1851 (3 months) 145,146; 1852, 1,974,975; 1853, 2,497,723; 1854, 2,144,699; 1855, 2,576,745; 1856, 3,003,811; 1857, 2,762,461; 1858, 2,528,479; and 1859, 2,280,950 ounces—total in 8 1/2 years 19,914,989 ounces, or in value, at \$20 per ounce, \$398,299,780. To this amount officially returned, however, may be added 50 per cent., represented by the quantities retained in the Colony or exported as specie, and that carried away by passengers returning to Europe. The extent of other mines and quarries in 1859 may be estimated from the returns. In that year there were open two coal and two iron mines; and 157 quarries, including lime, free, sand, granite, flag, blue, and other stones; 10 quarries for repairing roads, 7 slate quarries, and 10 gravel pits. There were also in operation 47 limekilns and 149 brick grounds.

The total area of land under crop in 1859 was 358,729 acres; and the quantity held by 13,175 occupiers was 2,872,354 acres. The area and crops in the same year were as follows:

Crops.	Acres.	Products.	Crops.	Acres.	Products.
Wheat	107,093	2,296,157	Other vegetables	297	663
Maize	738	7,375	Tobacco	50	595
Barley	4,102	25,493	Hay	98,870	125,246
Oats	90,167	2,558,637	Sown grasses	10,851	—
Turnips	221	673	Vines	811	No. 1,896,939
Mangel-wurzel	852	4,645	Wine produced	—	gals. 18,966
Potatoes	27,622	48,967	Other crops	18,824	—

The quantity of live-stock in the Colony was—horses 69,288, horned cattle 688,534, sheep 5,794,127, and swine 50,965; and the number of animals slaughtered during the year was—horned cattle 165,730, sheep 745,457, and swine 26,563. The quantity of animals and animal products exported was—horses 1,590, cattle 6,969, sheep 26,054 (to other colonies); hides 167,186, skins 251,293, tallow 245 tons, and wool 21,660,295 pounds (chiefly to the United Kingdom)—valued together at £2,078,515, of which £1,756,950 was the value of wool. Connected with agriculture there were in operation for grinding and dressing grain 97 mills (81 steam, 14 water, and 1 each wind and horse power), 6 steam threshing machines, and 11 wine and 3 cider presses. There were also in operation 56 saw-mills.

Manufactures are mainly confined to the making of the rough implements and appliances of colonial industry and primitive societies. Among these are enumerated—breweries 46, soap and candle factories 18, agricultural implements 41, curled hair 5, bone-crushing 3, biscuit 6, tobacco 2, foundries 16, potteries 6, electro-plating 4, tanneries 31, saws 4, scale 2, truss 2, carriages 48, ships and boats 6, machinery 22, etc. Organs, mathematical instruments, billiard tables, etc., are also manufactured, and of course all the common handicrafts are carried on to some extent.

The commerce of the Colony is more extensive than that of all the other Australian colonies combined. In 1859 the exports were valued at £13,867,859, and the imports at £15,622,891. The principal exports consisted of gold (£9,122,037), specie (£1,805,951), animals and animal products (£2,078,515), etc. The imports include the textile fabrics, apparel, boots and shoes; spirits and wines; iron and steel, hardware, machinery, etc.; flour, grain, and provisions; groceries, etc. Three-fourths of this trade is with the United Kingdom, and the remainder chiefly with the other Australian colonies and the East Indies. The following table exhibits the values taken and returned by the home, colonial, and foreign markets respectively:

Country.	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
United Kingdom	£10,542,849	£9,176,428	£19,719,277
British colonies	2,758,686	4,207,410	6,966,096
United States	16,176	789,180	805,356
Other foreign states	550,143	1,449,773	1,999,921

The exports and imports for the eight years ending with 1859, yearly, have been as follows:

Years.	Exports.	Imports.	Years.	Exports.	Imports.
1852	£1,422,909	£1,056,437	1856	£16,137,219	£17,951,850
1853	7,451,549	4,043,890	1857	15,075,512	17,256,209
1854	11,051,543	16,842,637	1858	13,932,308	15,108,249
1855	14,939,710	16,107,519	1859	13,867,859	15,622,891

The shipping employed in the trade of 1859 amounted to—2,056 vessels (661,518 tons) cleared and 2,026 vessels (634,131 tons) entered. The navigation and nationality of these are represented as follows:

Clearance.	Entrance.		Clearance.	Entrance.	
	Navigation.	Nationality.		Navigation.	Nationality.
94,600	213,730	United Kingdom	291,075	214,440	
337,530	314,693	British colonies	218,313	214,440	
11,744	41,367	United States	74,745	77,152	
208,344	64,891	Other foreign states	77,380	75,959	

The ports of clearance and entrance were:

Vessels.	Tons.	Ports.	Vessels.	Tons.
1,710	603,111	Melbourne	1,687	577,103
198	35,545	Geelong	200	33,250
24	4,325	Portland	39	7,833
8	969	Port Fairy	5	618
23	12,242	Port Albert	87	14,173
22	3,126	Warrnambool	8	1,059

The shipping belonging to the Colony consisted of 482 vessels, measuring 47,111 tons.

Inland commerce has hitherto been much restricted by the want of good roads; but these hindrances have already been materially overcome, and two railroads now bring the principal gold-digging into connection with Melbourne and Geelong, and another connects Melbourne and Geelong. These are the Geelong and Melbourne Railroad, 43 miles; the Melbourne and Mt. Alexander, 50 miles, and the Geelong and Ballarat, 53 miles long. There are also several suburban lines connecting the capital with Brighton, Hobson's Bay, St. Kilda, etc. Steamboats ply regularly from and to all the ports and to the ports of the adjacent colonies. The telegraph also connects the more important towns.

There are nine banks (colonial and English) in the Colony, which, in 1859, had a circulation of £1,950,820. Savings-banks are in operation at Melbourne, Geelong, Portland, Belfast, Castlemaine, Sandhurst, and Ballarat. During the year 6,368 accounts (£317,313) had been opened, and there remained at the end of the year 8,854 accounts (£468,779). The amount withdrawn was £351,872. The amount of registered mortgages on land was £2,093,612, and on live-stock £1,002,297; and of liens on wool £194,277.

GOVERNMENT REVENUE, ETC.—With a few reserved points in reference to imperial rights, the charter of 1855 secured to the Colony the management of its own affairs, and in particular the administration of its lands. The legislature consists of two chambers—the council, having 30 members, and the assembly, 60 members. Members of the council must be native-born subjects, at least 30 years of age, and possessed of real estate valued at £5,000. Members of the assembly must be at least 21 years of age, and possessed of real estate valued at £2,000. Judges, ministers, and persons convicted of treason or felony are excluded. No person unable to read and write is to be placed on the register of voters. The imperial authority is represented by a lieutenant-governor. Justice is administered by a chief and three puisne justices, who have criminal jurisdiction, and exercise also the powers of the Queen's Bench, Common Pleas, and Exchequer courts.

The revenue is derived from duties on imports generally, and on the export of gold, land sales, licenses, etc. In 1859 the receipts amounted to £3,257,724, and the expenditures to £2,754,744. The income and expenditures yearly, 1852–59, have been as follows:

Years.	Income.	Expenditures.	Years.	Income.	Expenditures.
1852	£279,824	£400,884	1856	£4,008,313	£4,117,227
1853	1,576,801	734,961	1857	3,407,214	3,011,722
1854	3,202,243	3,265,009	1858	3,693,731	2,365,556
1855	4,962,333	4,716,006	1859	3,257,724	2,754,744

Government grants aid both to churches and schools, and alike to all denominations. The annual grant for religious purposes is £50,000. The sum granted in aid of denominational and national schools in 1859 was £168,289. The school statistics for that year were as follows:

Description of Schools.	Number of Schools.	Scholars.		Contributions.	
		Male.	Female.	Government.	Voluntary.
Denominational	452	16,850	15,019	£23,205	£44,242
National	153	8,513	4,079	13,192	13,418
Total public	605	25,363	19,098	£36,397	£57,660
Private	167	1,845	2,555	3,904	257,660
Total	772	26,709	21,653	£40,301	£258,320

The principal religious denominations are— Wesleyan Methodists, Roman Catholics, Church of England, Presbyterian, etc. The Colony comprises the diocese of Melbourne.