

found to be $51^{\circ}35'$. The quantity of rain which fell at Launceston during the year was 28·716 inches, being 6·794 less than fell at Hobart Town, corroborating, as remarked on a former occasion, the well-known fact that rain falls in varying quantities at points not far distant from one another.

II. *Observations upon the Census taken throughout Van Diemen's Land, 1st March, 1851.* By J. BARNARD, Esq. [*Read 10th July, 1851.*]

THE circumstances under which the recent Census of the Population of Van Diemen's Land have been taken possess more than ordinary interest: for not only has a most important local purpose been served, by the data thus afforded for the arrangement of the electoral districts under the new Constitution granted to the Colony; but, regarded as an integral part of the British dominions,—of that mighty empire on which the Sun never sets,—and the whole of which was almost simultaneously in course of registration, the proportion which Van Diemen's Land contributes, however insignificant in itself, towards the aggregate sum of those who live under British sway, can scarcely be viewed with indifference.

Apart, however, from merely political or national considerations, there are others, of a social and moral character, which must prove influential with those whose views are bounded by the soil on which they dwell. Without identifying themselves, perhaps, in feeling with the pride of nationality which boasts of subject millions beyond the Atlantic or the Ganges, it is yet a source of gratification to them to trace the progress of their adopted country, and the increase of their fellow-Colonists: and, besides, there are

circumstances connected with Van Diemen's Land which render the periodical Census an object of the deepest interest and curiosity.

The present Census of the Population was taken March 1st, 1851, and the date of the previous Census was January 1st, 1848, being an interval of $3\frac{1}{4}$ years between the two returns.

An important error in the Census of 1848, by which the aggregate population had been returned at 70,164 instead of 67,351, has been now corrected. The explanation is, that 2813 convicts had been included twice in the Census of 1848—first, in the Richmond district, and then in a separate return from the Convict Department of the number employed in public works irrespective of locality. The actual number thus employed should have been stated to be, not 3739, but 926, as shown in a note appended to a Council Paper illustrative of the present Census.

Having given this needful explanation of the error in the population returns of 1848, we turn to the examination of the Census taken on 1st March, 1851.

It appears, then, that the grand total of the population was 70,130, being an increase of 2779 souls or 4.12 per cent. since the return of 1848. Of this aggregate 62.85 per cent. were males, and 37.14 per cent. were females. But, taking both sexes together, the *free* comprise 75.6 per cent., and the *bond* 24.3 per cent., or in the proportion of 3 to 1; showing an increase to the former, since the Census of 1848, of 15.34 per cent., and a decrease in the number of the latter of 20 per cent.

Of the males, independently of the Military, and the Convicts on public works, 71. per cent. were free, and 28.97 per cent. were bond; and of the females, 84.15 per cent. were free, and 15.84 per cent. were bond.

By further analysis, we obtain the following generic divi-

sions of the two classes of the population, with a similar exception of the Military, and the Convicts under punishment:—

		Males per cent.	...	Females per cent.
Free	Emigrants.....	24·8	....	32·5
	Born in the Colony	34·7	....	51·
	Have been Prisoners	40·3	....	16·5
Bond	Holding Tickets-of-leave	58·	....	31·
	In Government employment....	13·7	....	32·5
	In private Assignment	14·5	....	14·9
	In private employment.....	13·28	....	21·5

Again, of the males, 22·4 per cent. were married, and 77·5 per cent. were single; and of the females, 38· per cent. were married, and 62· per cent. were single.

The respective ages of the people, grouped into periods, omitting the Military and the Convicts on public works, may be thus stated:—

		Males per cent.	...	Females per cent.
Under 2 years.....		4·56	....	8·
2 and under 7		9·1	....	15·
7 ——— 14		8·55	....	13·9
14 ——— 21		6·33	....	11·3
21 ——— 45		57·94	....	42·68
45 ——— 60		10·77	....	7·
60 and upwards		2·6	....	1·5

The religion professed by the inhabitants, also exclusive of the Troops; and the Convicts under punishment, is thus shown, with a comparison of the last Census:—

	1848 per cent.	1851. per cent.	Increase per cent.	Decrease per cent.
Church of England	69·32	65·69	....	3·63
——— Scotland	7·09	6·52	....	0·57
Wesleyans	3·99	5·49	1·50	
Other Protestant Dissenters.	3·40	3·46	0·06	
Roman Catholics	15·43	18·1	2·67	
Jews	0·70	0·63		

The Mahommedans and Pagans show a reduction of 8 in number, there having been 29 in 1848, and 21 returned in the last Census.

The industrial occupations of the people, with a comparison of the return under the former Census, may be thus grouped :—

	1848 per cent.	1851 per cent.
Landed Proprietors, Merchants, Bankers, and Professional persons	2·14	2·2
Shopkeepers and other Retail Dealers.....	1·67	2·
Mechanics and Artificers	7·95	8·2
Farmers .....	....	3·69
Market Gardeners.....	....	0·4
Shepherds	1·56	2·1
Gardeners, Stockmen, and Farm Servants..	16·66	14·
Domestic Servants	6·89	8·
Licensed Boatmen .....	....	0·5
Seamen in Coasting and River Craft .....	....	0·4
Whalers .....	....	*0·0006
Unenumerated	54·7	57·7

It should here be stated that the Military, with their wives and children, bear the proportion of 1·35 per cent. to the entire population; and the Convicts on Public Works a similar proportion of 0·08 per cent.

In estimating in further detail the centesimal proportion of increase or decrease with the Census of Population taken in 1848, it is necessary, to avoid mistake, to explain some apparent discrepancies, occasioned by a change in arrangement of several districts. For instance, five parishes have

* This small proportion of whalers (42), of course, comprises those only who were residing on shore at the date of taking the Census; the number of vessels employed whaling in 1849, as appears by the "Statistics" of that year, was 34, —which, upon an average crew of 20 men, would give an addition of 680 persons to the list of those engaged in this branch of Colonial industry.

been withdrawn from Hobart Town and transferred to the Huon, occasioning a corresponding alteration in the total numbers of both. The actual increase of Hobart Town amounts to 3616, or 16·8 per cent. ; but of these 1938 are now added to the Huon population, leaving 1678 only, or 7·8 per cent. as the apparent increase.

In the same way, Sorell shows as considerable an increase as Richmond a decrease, occasioned by the present Census having been taken in accordance with the limits of the Police districts, and not under the Census division as in 1848 ; the consequence of which alteration has been to take several parishes from Richmond and to restore them to Sorell.

The centesimal proportions of increase or decrease, as compared with the previous Census, will, then, be as under :—

	Increase per cent.	Decrease per cent.
Bothwell	7·3	
Brighton	3·6	
Campbell Town.....	4·9	
Fingal .....	...	8·9
George Town	10·	
Great Swanport	58·	
Hamilton	4·	
Hobart Town	7·83	
Horton	14·8	
Huon.....	328·	
Launceston	7·47	
Longford	3·7	
Morven .....	...	6·7
New Norfolk.....	...	6·6
Oatlands	17·5	
Port Sorell	14·	
Richmond .....	...	61·7
Sorell	282·	
Westbury	63·	

	Increase per cent.	Decrease per cent.
Military.....	...	57·5
Convicts on Public Works .....	....	38·
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total increase	14·72	10·59
— decrease	10·59	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total net increase	4·13	

The increase or decrease of the *Free* population in the several districts of the Colony, since the Census of 1848, is detailed in the following table :—

	Increase per cent.	Decrease per cent.
Bothwell	18·8	
Brighton	15·28	
Campbell Town.....	10·	
Fingal	8·7	
George Town	20·6	
Great Swanport	112·	
Hamilton	20·	
Hobart Town.....	10·6	
Horton	30·	
Huon.....	329·	
Launceston	14·5	
Longford	15·	
Morven	6·	
New Norfolk.....	8·	
Oatlands	42·	
Port Sorell	43·	
Richmond .....	..	35·
Sorell	223·	
Westbury	91·8	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Military.....	....	57·5
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	21·	5·65
Deduct decrease	5·65	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total increase of <i>free</i> population	15·35	

A similar analysis of the *Convict* population in the several districts gives the following centesimal proportions of increase or decrease since the date of the previous Census :—

	Increase per cent.	Decrease per cent.
Bothwell .....	....	13·7
Brighton .....	....	23·
Campbell Town.....	....	4·
Fingal .....	....	34·7
George Town .....	....	30·
Great Swanport	4·	....
Hamilton .....	....	24·
Hobart Town.....	....	0·8
Horton .....	....	4·
Huon.....	324·	....
Launceston .....	....	17·
Longford .....	....	21·6
Morven .....	....	35·
New Norfolk .....	....	33·
Oatlands .....	....	16·8
Port Sorell .....	....	32·
Richmond .....	....	83·5
Sorell.....	41·	....
Westbury	8·	....
Convicts on Public Works .....	....	28·3
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	8·8	28·8
Deduct <i>increase</i> ....	....	8·8
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total <i>decrease</i> of <i>Convict</i> population ....	....	20·

The total number of houses in the Colony is 11,844, being an increase of 1657, or 16·26 per cent., since the Census of 1848. Of the whole, 48·3 per cent. are built of stone or brick, and the wooden houses are 51·7 per cent.

The proportion unfinished are 4·7 per cent., and 95·8 per cent. finished. The number of houses inhabited are 95 per cent., and 5 per cent. are uninhabited. Leaving out the Military, and the Convicts on public works, who are lodged in barracks, an average is given of 1 house to every 6 persons in the Colony. The increase in house-building has been progressing at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum since the previous Census.

III. *Correspondence on the Introduction of Salmon from Scotland into the Rivers of Tasmania.* [Read 11th December, 1850.]

SIR W. DENISON to EARL GREY.

“13th August, 1849.

“MY LORD,

“Mr. James Burnett, Chief Clerk in the Survey Department, when on leave in England visited Mr. Young, the manager of the Duke of Sutherland’s Salmon Fisheries, for the purpose of consulting him as to the practicability of introducing the Salmon into the rivers of this Colony.

“Several attempts have been made to bring out the spawn, but they have all failed: as, however, Mr. Young is a practical man, who is probably better acquainted with the habits of the fish than any person to whom application could be made,—as he is willing to supply the fish,—to superintend all the necessary arrangements which may be made for their safe conveyance to this Colony,—it would, I submit, be very desirable to make the experiment, which can cost but little, and the result of which, if successful, may prove of great benefit to the Colony.

“The simple plan would be, to allow the tanks, or whatever may be necessary to contain the fish, to be placed upon the poop of one of the Convict Ships coming out to the Colony, with directions to the surgeon to take charge of the fish, and comply with the directions given by Mr. Young. A trifling premium may be held out, should the fish arrive in safety, as an inducement to the surgeon to take some trouble in the matter.