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FRIDAY, AUGUST 21.

[1891.

VITAL STATISTICS OF MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS (GREATER MELBOURNE), JULY, 1891.

(Area of district, exclusive of water, 163,942 acres.)

**R**ETURN, showing the population according to the recent Census; also, for the Month of July, 1891, the numbers of registered births and deaths, and excess of the former over the latter, in the Statistical District of Greater Melbourne, embracing a radius of ten miles, and divided into twenty-six sub-districts.

POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND DEATHS IN GREATER MELBOURNE, JULY, 1891.

Sub-districts.	Enumerated Population, 1891.*	Births—					Deaths—			Excess of Births over Deaths. †
		Including Twins and Illegitimate Children.			Cases of Twins.	Illegitimate Children.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	
		Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.						
Melbourne City—Bourke Ward ...	13,950	40	19	21	...	7	13	6	7	27
" Gipps Ward ...	8,856	4	2	2	...	2	8	7	1	- 4
" Lonsdale Ward ...	2,644	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	- 2
" La Trobe Ward ...	3,968	2	1	1	...	...	5	3	...	- 3
" Albert Ward ...	7,750	14	8	6	...	2	6	3	3	8
" Smith Ward ...	17,077	25	11	14	...	4	16	8	8	9
" Victoria Ward ...	19,269	65	32	33	1	2	26	15	11	39
North Melbourne Town ...	20,985	72	43	29	1	9	21	12	9	51
Fitzroy City ...	32,455	115	62	53	1	11	35	15	20	80
Collingwood City ...	35,066	121	63	58	1	12	41	22	19	80
Richmond City ...	38,770	132	70	62	2	7	38	21	17	94
Brunswick Town ...	21,955	96	46	50	1	4	22	12	10	74
Northcote Town ...	7,741	32	12	20	...	2	4	1	3	28
Prahran City ...	39,699	105	57	48	1	3	27	18	9	78
South Melbourne City ...	41,730	141	67	74	...	8	41	26	15	100
Port Melbourne Borough ...	13,058	56	35	21	2	1	12	5	7	44
St. Kilda City ...	19,835	51	24	27	...	1	19	9	10	32
Brighton Town ...	9,887	38	20	18	...	1	9	4	5	29
Essendon Town ...	14,411	49	24	25	...	...	9	7	2	40
Flemington and Kensington Borough	9,958	29	13	16	...	...	10	6	4	19
Hawthorn City ...	19,623	67	43	24	...	3	21	11	10	46
Kew Borough ...	8,476	27	13	14	2	...	3	1	2	24
Footscray City ...	19,149	66	35	31	2	1	15	9	6	51
Williamstown Town ...	15,936	65	35	30	...	1	20	10	10	45
Oakleigh Borough ...	1,235	6	3	3	...	...	1	1	...	5
Remainder of District (118,064 acres)	45,874	147	77	70	4	3	49	33	16	98
Hospitals, Asylums, &c. ‡ ...	...	31	14	17	1	20	126	74	52	- 95
Shipping in Hobson's Bay and River	1,971	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	- 1
Total ...	491,378	1,596	829	767	19	104	600	342	258	996
Daily average ...	...	51.48	26.74	24.74	.61	3.35	19.35	11.03	8.32	32.13

\* Subject to future revision.

† In cases where the minus sign (-) is prefixed to any number, it implies that the deaths exceeded the births by that number.

‡ Including the Melbourne, Alfred, Women's, Children's, Homeopathic, and Austin Hospitals, the Metropolitan and Yarra Bend Lunatic Asylums, the Immigrants' Home, the Benevolent Asylum, the Infant Asylum, and the Convent of the Little Sisters of the Poor.

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Year.	High Number.	Depth Number.	Mean Temperature.	Mean Height of Barometer. Inches.	Rainfall. inches.
1881	721	446	48.5	30.180	.68
1882	751	494	47.7	29.942	2.25
1883	881	422	47.8	30.021	2.55
1884	930	582	46.5	30.166	.78
1885	1,009	521	46.2	30.150	1.13
1886	1,023	610	47.5	30.126	.83
1887	1,187	663	49.6	29.918	2.68
1888	1,292	994	48.4	29.942	1.51
1889	1,561	851	47.8	30.158	1.64
1890	1,621	718	47.0	29.993	2.71
Mean of month in ten years	1,096	580	47.7	30.061	1.68

The deaths registered in July numbered 600, viz., 342 of males and 258 of females; the births thus exceeded the deaths by 996, or 166 per cent. The deaths were less than those in June by 49, and exceeded the average of July during the previous ten years by 20; if, however, allowance be made for the increase of population, they will be found to have been less than that average by 136.

The highest temperature in the shade recorded at Melbourne Observatory during the month was  $61.3^{\circ}$  on the 8th, and the lowest was  $33.9^{\circ}$  on the 31st. The mean temperature of the month ( $49.5^{\circ}$ ) was nearly two degrees above the average. The greatest range of the thermometer in any one day ( $26.1^{\circ}$ ) took place on the 31st, and the least range ( $4.5^{\circ}$ ) on the 28th. The mean daily range was  $12.2^{\circ}$ . The highest atmospheric pressure recorded was  $30.436$  inches on the 19th, and the lowest was  $29.354$  inches on the 5th. The mean atmospheric pressure ( $30.027$  inches) differed from the average by a fraction.

As much as 5-29 inches of the rainfall in the month under notice fell on the three days ended with Monday, the 13th of that month, viz. 1-162 inch on the 11th, 2-71 inches on the 12th, and .96 inch on the 13th. This resulted in a disastrous flood, which spread over the low-lying grounds of Melbourne and suburbs, chiefly along the course of the Yarra and Saltwater Rivers, and lasted for several days. In the flood, 3-13 inches of rain fell on the 13th, 3-05 inches on the 15th, and .80 inch on the 16th of that month. In the flood, the great flood of December, 1863, the fall in the five days ended with the 17th of that month was 5-48 inches, viz. 1-89, 1-85, 1-47, .99, and .28 inch respectively. It should be mentioned that on all these occasions of rain which fell in Melbourne floods was not regulated entirely by the local rainfall, but was largely dependent upon the amount of rain which fell in the ranges forming the watershed of the streams which discharge themselves at that city.

[illegible]

Thirty-three violent deaths took place during the month, of which 21 were set down to accident, 1 to homicide, and 11 to suicide. The following are the particulars of the accidental deaths:—A commercial traveller, aged 49, was killed by a railway train; a labourer, aged 47, was crushed to death between railway trucks; a telegraph operator, aged 30, died of fracture of the skull, the result of being knocked down by a tram-car; a female cook, aged 60, of laceration of the brain, caused by being knocked down by a cab; a female child, aged 4, of burns; three males were accidentally drowned, viz., a labourer, aged 17, in the Moonsee Ponds Creek, a stonemason, aged 25, at South Yarra, during the recent flood, and a railway employé, aged 41, in the River Yarra; three persons were found drowned, viz., a seaman, aged 30, in Hobson's Bay, a female, aged 41, in a bath, and a printer, aged 53, in the River Yarra; four male and one female infants were suffocated, viz., a male, aged 3 months, who was overlain by another child, a male, aged 2 months, in bed, also a new-born male, a female, aged 1 month, and a male, aged 3 months; two new-born male infants died of asphyxia during parturition; a female child, aged 1 month, died of supposed injury to the brain at birth; a male child, aged 3 weeks, of umbilical hæmorrhage; and a female servant, aged 32, succumbed to an operation for amputation of the femur. The homicidal death was that of a new-born female infant, who was suffocated—a verdict of wilful murder being returned. The suicidal deaths were those of a boy, aged 12, a springmaker, aged 19, a bootmaker, aged 32, and a manager, aged 37, who shot themselves; a dairyman, aged 54, who cut his throat; the following who poisoned themselves—a mining speculator, aged 33, the nature of the drug not stated, a chemist, aged 40, and a female, aged 56, with opium, a doctor of medicine, aged 49, with carbolic acid, and a female, aged 32, with strychnine; and a female, aged 28, who threw herself in front of a railway train.

One hundred and twenty-nine deaths, or 21 per cent. of the whole, took place in public institutions, viz.:—48 in the Melbourne Hospital, 20 in the Alfred Hospital, 3 in the Women's Hospital, 6 in the Children's Hospital, 3 in the Homeopathic Hospital, 2 in the Austin Hospital, 13 in the Metropolitan Lunatic Asylum, 6 in the Yarra Bend Lunatic Asylum, 11 in the Immigrants' Home, 8 in the Benevolent Asylum, 3 in the Infant Asylum, 3 in the Convent of the Little Sisters of the Poor, 2 in the Melbourne Gaol, and 1 in the Protestant Refuge.

The deaths of children under five years of age numbered 196, of which 117, or 60 per cent., were of females. Of those who died, 154 were under one year of age, 20 were between one and two, 12 were between two and three, 4 were between three and four, and 6 were between four and five.

The persons who died at a more advanced age than five years numbered 404. Of these, 225, or .56 per cent., were males, and 179, or 44 per cent., were females: 19 were between five and ten, 11 were between ten and fifteen, 12 were between fifteen and twenty, 25 were between twenty and twenty-five, 40 were between twenty-five and thirty, 30 were between thirty and thirty-five, 20 were between thirty-five and forty, 23 were between forty and forty-five, 25 were between forty-five and fifty, 24 were between fifty and fifty-five, 23 were between fifty-five and sixty, 45 were between sixty and sixty-five, 25 were between sixty-five and seventy, 24 were between seventy and seventy-five, 22 were between seventy-five and eighty, and 31 were upwards of eighty.

The following table shows the causes of death of persons of both sexes under and over five years of age, and the proportions per cent. of deaths from each cause in Greater Melbourne during the month under review:—

## CAUSES OF DEATH IN GREATER MELBOURNE, JULY, 1891.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN CHINA							
Classes.	Causes of Death.	Number of Deaths.				Proportions per cent.	
		Males.		Females.			Total.
		Under five years.	Over five years.	Under five years.	Over five years.		
I.	Specific febrile or zymotic diseases ...	6	7	12	9	34	5·67
II.	Parasitic diseases ...	...	...	...	4	4	·97
III.	Dietic diseases ...	...	...	...	3	3	·50
IV.	Constitutional diseases ...	9	57	4	47	117	19·50
V.	Developmental diseases ...	20	5	10	10	45	7·50
VI.	Local diseases ...	57	139	30	96	322	53·66
VII.	Violence ...	7	16	4	6	33	5·50
VIII.	Ill-defined and not specified causes ...	18	1	19	4	42	7·00
	All causes ...	117	225	79	179	600	100·00

## CLASS I.—SPECIFIC FEBRILE OR ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

Sub-class 1. *Miasmatic diseases*.—Influenza 1; whooping-cough, 5; diphtheria, 9; typhoid, enteric fever, 10.

" 2. *Diarrhoeal diseases*.—Diarrhoea, 1.

" 5. *Veneral diseases*.—Syphilis, 5.

" 6. *Septic diseases*.—Pyæmia, septicæmia, 2; puerperal fever, 1.

## CLASS II.—PARASITIC DISEASES.

Hydatids, 4.

## CLASS III.—DIETIC DISEASES.

Chronic alcoholism, 3.

## CLASS IV.—CONSTITUTIONAL DISEASES.

Rheumatic fever, rheumatism of heart, 5; rheumatism, 5; cancer, malignant disease, 26; tabes mesenterica, 2; tubercular meningitis (acute hydrocephalus), 12; phthisis, 59; other forms of tuberculosis, scrofula, &c., 3; purpura, 1; anæmia, chlorosis leucocythæmia, 3; diabetes mellitus, 1.

## CLASS V.—DEVELOPMENTAL DISEASES.

Premature birth, 25; atelectasis, 2; cyanosis, 1; imperforate anus, 1; cleft palate, 1; old age, 15, at the following ages:—67, 70, 78, 79, 80, 80, 81, 82, 83, 83, 84, 84, 88, and 91.

## CLASS VI.—LOCAL DISEASES.

Sub-class 1. *Diseases of the nervous system*.—Inflammation of brain or its membranes, 8; apoplexy, 17; softening of brain, 1; hemiplegia, 1; paralysis, 8; insanity (general paralysis of insane), 13; chorea, 1; epilepsy, 3; convulsions, 17; paraplegia, diseases of spinal cord, 2; others, 9.

" 3. *Diseases of the circulatory system*.—Endocarditis, valvular disease, 13; pericarditis, 1; syncope, 10; aneurism, 4; embolism, 1; heart disease, undefined, 35.

" 4. *Diseases of the respiratory system*.—Croup, 3; diphtheritic croup, 2; asthma, emphysema, 2; bronchitis, 42; pneumonia, 31; congestion of lungs, 3; pleurisy, 2; others, 2.

## CLASS VI.—LOCAL DISEASES—continued.

Sub-class 5. *Diseases of the digestive system*.—Dentition, 2; sore throat, 1; dyspepsia, 1; hæmatemesis, 2; diseases of stomach, 4; enteritis, 15; ulceration of intestines, 2; ileus, obstruction of intestine, 4; hernia, 3; peritonitis, 6; ascites, 1; gallstone, 2; cirrhosis of liver, 7; other diseases of liver, 14; others, 1.

" 6. *Diseases of the lymphatic system and ductless glands*.—Bronchocele, 1.

" 7. *Diseases of the urinary system*.—Nephritis, 5; Bright's disease, 10; diseases of bladder and of prostate, 3.

" 8. *Diseases of the organs of generation*.—Pelvic abscess, 1.

" 9. *Diseases of parturition*.—Puerperal convulsions, 1; other accidents of childbirth, 1.

" 10. *Diseases of the organs of locomotion*.—Caries, necrosis, 3.

" 11. *Diseases of the integumentary system*.—Eczema, 1.

## CLASS VII.—VIOLENCE.

Sub-class 1. *Accident or negligence*.—Fractures, contusions, 4; burn, 1; drowning, 6; suffocation, 7; otherwise, 3.

" 2. *Homicide*.—Murder and manslaughter, 1.

" 3. *Suicide*.—Gunshot wounds, 4; cut, 1; poison, 5; otherwise, 1.

## CLASS VIII.—ILL-DEFINED AND NOT SPECIFIED CAUSES.

Dropsy, 2; debility, atrophy, inanition, 38; abscess, 2.

Typhoid fever caused only 10 deaths in July, as compared with 11 in the preceding month; these being the lowest monthly numbers recorded since November, 1890. Diphtheria caused only 9 deaths in July, as compared with 16 in June and 23 in May. During the first seven months of the current year, the mortality from typhoid fever was only one-third and one-half respectively of that in the corresponding periods of 1889 and 1890; whilst that from diphtheria was only one-half and one-third of that in the same periods respectively. Deaths from phthisis fell from 75 in June to 59 in the month under review, but those from diseases of the circulatory system rose from 43 to 64. Suicides, moreover, increased from 5 to 11, the latter being the largest number since March, 1889, when 14 occurred.

The following is a statement of the number of deaths set down to typhoid fever and diphtheria in each of the first seven months of 1891 and the two previous years:—

DEATHS FROM TYPHOID FEVER AND DIPHTHERIA, 1889 TO 1891.  
(First seven months in each year.)

Months.	Deaths from Typhoid Fever.			Deaths from Diphtheria.		
	1889.	1890.	1891.	1889.	1890.	1891.
January ...	71	78	25	15	25	7
February ...	64	73	32	13	46	9
March ...	91	89	36	18	56	19
April ...	113	63	30	26	50	11
May ...	92	36	20	35	39	23
June ...	36	20	11	30	45	16
July ...	17	12	10	48	41	9
Total ...	484	371	164	185	302	94

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Office of the Government Statist,  
Melbourne, 18th August, 1891.

