

convicted of various crimes, and of these one hundred and twelve more than once. We find that one thousand and two hundred and seventy-one decrees *nisi* for divorce were granted in the last three years. Illegitimacy has also increased throughout the colony. In 1873 the percentage of such births was 4.14, but in 1894, 6.14. In England and Wales from 1890 to 1894 the percentage was 4.33, and in Ireland 2.66. Again in New South Wales between 1885 and 1894 there were 1223 suicides, an increase of from 6.22 per one thousand deaths in 1885 to 9.95 in 1894. If calculated per million of the population, the suicides of young persons under twenty years of age has been one hundred and two on an average from 1890 to 1894. The average between 1871 and 1880 being only thirty-one.

"In Victoria the picture is not much brighter, indeed, in some respects, less so. In 1893, 268 boys and 198 girls under ten years of age were arrested, and of youths from ten to fifteen years of age 268 were brought before the courts and 66 girls of the same ages; in other words 115 per 10,000 of the male population under fifteen and of girls

25 per 10,000. Most of these were of School age or had passed through the schools." The proportion of persons convicted for assault of various kinds, of robberies with violence and of horse, sheep and cattle stealing in 1891 was just double that of the United Kingdom.

"When we find all forms of evil more or less increasing we can scarcely avoid the conclusion that a system of Education which has now been at work so long, if it had been of a sound and healthy kind, would have done more to restrain the corrupt tendencies of the Communities, and to raise them to a higher moral and religious tone."

One of the School Inspectors. Mr. Summons, had the courage in his report for 1894-5 to protest officially in these words:—"For the well being of the nation if for no other reason, it is of the utmost value that religion should be taught to the children attending the Elementary schools."

We will close these observations with some words of Sir Julian Salomans spoken in Sydney a short while ago:—

"When I was a young man—and no one can doubt my sincerity—I subscribed to the meeting

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