

State religion; 672 Church of England places of worship and 171 clergy are voluntarily supported.

Products.—(1) Gold to the value of £208,856,600 was raised between 1851 and 1883. Chief mines are round Ballarat and Sandhurst. Population, 40,000 each. (2) Wheat (14 bushels to the acre) and a little barley and oats; capital vegetables and fruits. Government land (320 acres) costs £1 an acre, payable over twenty years. £1 per acre must also be spent on improvement. Pastoral leases 2*d.* to 4*d.* an acre; from 2*s.* 6*d.* per square mile in the Mallee country. Improved farms from £2 per acre. Sheep number about 11,000,000. (3) Vines, olives, and gum-trees.

Drawbacks.—Droughts and rabbits are destructive, and flies are very troublesome at first.

Wages in 1884.—(1) Per year, with board and lodging, cooks, £30 to £60; laundresses, £35 to £52; housemaids, £25 to £40; nursemaids, £20 to £35; general servants, £26 to £36; married couples, £60 to £90. (2) Per year, with rations, shepherds, £36 to £52; stockmen, £60 to £75. (3) Per week, and found, sheep-washers and farm-labourers, 15*s.* to 20*s.* (4) Per day of eight hours, blacksmiths, masons, moulders, plasterers, carpenters, bricklayers, wharf labourers, 10*s.* to 12*s.*; sailors, navvies, 6*s.* to 7*s.* (5) Per week, miners, £2 to £3. "Work brisk, steady demand for servants and labour." *Melbourne Argus*, April 19, 1886.

Prices.—Per lb., beef, 5*d.* to 8*d.*; mutton, 4*d.* to 6*d.*; bread, 1½*d.*; tea, 1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*; bacon, 10*d.* to 1*s.* House-rent for artisans is dear, *i.e.* 8*s.* to 15*s.*, or good wooden houses 7*s.* 6*d.* a week. Clothes are dearer than in England. They are obtained cheapest at auction marts. Victoria being a highly protectionist colony, all imported articles are very dear.

There are no free or assisted passages to Victoria. Unassisted steerage fare by sail, £13 13*s.* and £14 14*s.*; apply to C. Bethell & Co., 110, Fenchurch Street, E.C. By Orient Line steamer (Anderson, Anderson, & Co., 5, Fenchurch Avenue, London, E.C.), £16 16*s.* (for men only), £21, and £23. By Colonial Line (112, Fenchurch Street, E.C.), and Aberdeen Line (24, Leadenhall Street, E.C., and Aberdeen),

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