

QUEENSLAND.

DESCRIPTION.—This colony contains an area of about 700,000 square miles, and has a population of about 300,000, of which about 6000 are Chinese. The capital of the colony is Brisbane, a thriving town situated on the Pacific coast, with a population of 33,000.

LAND.—Wheat-growing land may be had at 15s. per acre, payable at the rate of 1s. 6d. per acre per annum. Pasturage in twenty-five miles of run can be leased from the Government for twenty-one years, at 5s. per square mile for the first seven years, 10s. for the second, and 15s. for the third seven years. A lessee is entitled to purchase 2560 acres in one block at 10s. per acre.

CLIMATE, SOIL, AND PRODUCTIONS.—The heat in summer is very great, though the evenings are cool. A large portion of the colony being tropical or sub-tropical, it is not suited for white labour, and emigrants from Great Britain should be particular in not selecting the most northerly part of the country for settlement, as there it is the hottest. The southern part of the colony enjoys a beautiful climate, somewhat resembling that of the South of Europe. The soil is productive. Sugar-cane, cotton, maize, grapes, and other semi-tropical fruits, as well as more hardy cereals, are grown.

MINERALS.—Gold is found in the eastern portion of the colony. Coal, iron, copper, tin, and precious stones are also amongst the mineral products.

EXPORTS.—Cotton, sugar, maize, wheat, and mutton are amongst the exports, but as yet the colony is to a very great extent undeveloped.

AVERAGE RATE OF WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.—Farm labourers, married, £45 to £50 per annum, with rations; ditto, single, £35 to £40; bookbinders, 10s. per day without rations; bakers, £50 to £60 per annum, with rations; bricklayers and blacksmiths, 10s. to 12s. per day, without rations; carpenters and joiners, 12s. to 14s.; compositors, 1s. 6d. per 1000; plasterers, painters, and glaziers, 10s. to 12s. per day, without rations; shoemakers, 9s. to 10s.; shepherds, £45 to £50 per annum, with rations; tailors, 9s. to 10s. per day, without rations; wheelwrights, 10s. to 12s. per day, without rations; cooks, £30 to £50 per annum, with rations; housemaids, £25 to £30 per annum, with rations; needlewomen, 2s. 6d. to 4s. per day, without rations; washerwomen, 3s. to 3s. 6d. per day, without rations; butchers, £1 10s. to £1 15s. per week, with rations; engineers, £14 to £15 per month; general servants, 12s. to 15s. per week, with rations.

Provisions are low. Workmen's cottages can be rented in the neighbourhood of towns at from 8s. to 12s. per week.

Passengers by the Orient Line of steamers from London are booked to Brisbane at the following additions to the fares to Melbourne:—1st class, £3 15s.; steerage, £1 15s.

Assisted passages are granted to farmers, shepherds, farm labourers, vine-dressers, labourers, mechanics, and their families, and to female domestic servants, at from £1 to £6 per head. Forms of application and further particulars can be obtained from the Agent-General for Queensland, Westminster Chambers, London, S.W.

TASMANIA.

DESCRIPTION.—Tasmania is an island lying to the south of the Australian continent. It is divided from the colony of Victoria by Bass's Straits, 120 miles wide. Its area is nearly 17,000,000 acres, and its population about 120,000, of which Hobart Town contains about 22,000; the next town of importance being Launceston, with a population of 13,000.

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