

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

A Crown Colony. *Area*, 1,000,000 square miles. Population, 32,958 (14,335 females), mainly along the coast in Perth, Fremantle (4,500), Geraldton (1,000), and Albany (1,000). Capital, Perth, 8,000. Products: Wool, timber, copper, pearls, a little wheat in the south (13 bushels an acre) wine, and guano; 1,547,061 sheep. Land, 5s. to 10s. an acre. Pastural leases, 5s. to 20s. per 1,000 acres. Gold has just been discovered in the Kimberley district.

Climate.—Hot, but fine in S.W. district; very oppressive in Kimberley district in the far north. Rainfall at Perth is 32 inches, in N.W. 9, and Geraldton 17.

Education is compulsory.

Free passages are given (A) to certain classes of respectable emigrants *nominated* by friends in the colony, viz., (1) artisans, farmers, agricultural labourers, vine dressers, miners, shepherds, and gardeners, under 45 years, and, if married, their wives and families; (2) single female domestic servants or widows, under 35 years; (B*) to agricultural labourers, families and women as above, *without* the necessity of being nominated.

Emigrants must (1) provide their own outfit (*see* specimen under Queensland), (2) pay £1 to Government for their kit on board, (3) pay their fares to port, (4) should take their tools, (5), may take 20 cubic feet of luggage, (6) will be maintained in depôts until employment be found, (7) will be supplied with railway passes in Colony. *N.B.*—Female servants will be *given* free passes to port and their kit.

Wages.—(1) With board and lodging (*a*), per week, farm labourers and ploughmen, 15s.; (*b*), per year, shepherds and stockriders, £40 to £50; married couples as servants, £50 to £70; general female servants, £16 to £24; housemaids, £18 to £25; generally useful men on stations, £36 to £45. (2) per day without rations, masons, carpenters, blacksmiths, painters, &c., 7s. to 10s.; navvies, 6s. to 7s.; gardeners and general labourers, 5s. to 6s. Work is pretty plentiful.

* These are practically stopped, more applications having been received than are required for this year.