



CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

FINAL REPORT FOR 1903 OF THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL OF STATISTICS, RELATIVE TO MARRIAGES, BIRTHS AND DEATHS IN THE COLONY.

(THE TABULAR STATEMENTS APPEARED IN G. 85-'04.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Excellency the Governor.
1904.

POPULATION.

The number of persons in the Cape Colony, including British Bechuanaland, Pondoland and the Transkei, may be taken to have been 2,350,634 approximately in April, 1903.

IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION.

According to the Customs Department returns—which do not include Naval and Military passengers, and in which children are reckoned at the ordinary scale—the excess of arrivals by sea over departures between the 1st January, 1891 (the census was held in April of that year), and the 31st December, 1903, was 103,312, practically all Europeans.

ADMINISTRATION.

The provisions of the Act have been carried out, for obvious reasons, since October, 1899, more mildly than ever. In 1895 twenty persons were charged, in 1896 sixty (thirteen being Europeans), in 1897 one hundred and seven (twenty-nine being Europeans), in 1898 one hundred and twenty-four (fifty-five being Europeans), in 1899 two hundred and twenty-one (fifty-four being Europeans), in 1900 one hundred and eighteen (fifty-one being Europeans), with the result that one hundred and eight convictions followed, in 1901 only forty-eight (twenty being Europeans) were charged, with forty convictions, in 1902 fifty Europeans and forty Coloured persons were accused and 84 convicted; and in 1903, one hundred and two (fifty being Europeans) were charged and 97 convicted.

There are 115 Deputy Registrars all told, the area comprised in their jurisdiction being 276,995 square miles.

An important alteration was made by G.N., No. 763, of 5th November, 1900, in Regulation No. XXIV., and since that date Births can be registered within 7 instead of 5 years.

The Resident Magistrate, Port Nolloth, is the only officer who still (31st October, 1904), retains the appointment of Deputy-Registrar *ex-officio*.

In all other cases, special appointments are made.

Owing to the severe drought in the Karoo districts during the year, the work of registration has been interrupted, many of the farmers being compelled to leave their districts with their stock in search of pasturage.

During the last fourteen months (August, 1903, to 30th September, 1904) some few alterations as to Urban Areas have been made. *Somerset West* (Stellenbosch), *Laingsburg* (Prince Albert), *Komgha*, *Keiskama Hoek* (King Williamstown), *Matatiele*, *Butterworth*, *De Aar* (Britstown), *Peddie* and *Hermanus* (Caledon) have by Proclamations 350, 387 of 1903, 26, 72, 107, 118, 159, 170 and 298 of 1904, respectively, been created Municipalities, while *Parow* (Cape), *Van Rhyn's Dorp*, and *Loriesfontein* (Calvinia) have by Proclamations 369 of 1903, 40 and 154 of 1904 been placed under the "Village Management Act."

[G. 96—1904.]

BIRTHS.

PROPORTION OF THE SEXES, 1903.

It appears to be the general rule in European countries for male births to exceed the female. This rule also applies to the Cape Colony.

Taking the figures for the Colony Proper for 1902-1903 we can derive the following percentages, viz.:-

Race.	1902	To each 100 Girls.	1903	To each 100 Boys.	Race.	1902	To each 100 Girls.	1903	To each 100 Boys.
European	106-07	106-07 boys.	94-28	94-28 girls.	Mixed and others	103-37	104-29 boys.	95-88	95-88 girls.
Fingo, Kaffir and Bechuana	102-21	102-21 "	97-84	97-84 "	All Races	104-46	104-46 "	95-73	95-73 "
Malay	122-14	122-14 "	81-87	81-87 "	Other than European	103-77	103-77 "	96-36	96-36 "
	1903	112-79	88-66	88-66		1903	103-07	97-02	97-02

Placing the figures above quoted alongside of those given in the Census Tables, the following interesting comparison attracts attention, viz.:-

Race.	Females alive 7th April, '01, to every 100 males.	Females born in 1903, to every 100 males.	Females born in 1902, to every 100 males.
European	92-38	93-49	94-28
Fingo, Kaffir and Bechuana	101-86	97-91	97-84
Mixed, Other and Hottentot	99-52	96-74	95-88
Malay	107-17	88-66	81-87

GENERAL COMPARATIVE SUMMARY. COLONY PROPER, 1901, 1902 AND 1903, WITH PROPORTIONS.

* Events having been extracted to 15th April, 1904, in regard to 1901 and 1902, and to the 15th January, 1904, in regard to 1903, the grand total of Births for 1901 computes to 53,450, for 1902 to 53,867, and for 1903 to 55,536. The figures for Bechuanaland are 1,452, 1,309, 1,450 respectively. The figures for Walfish Bay are small, only 27, 20 and 21 respectively, Pondoland 1,089, 1,089, 952, while for the combined other Transkeian Territories they are 9,690, 9,258 and 9,821. For purposes of comparison it is expedient to restrict attention to the Colony Proper, although even then in some of the areas like Glen Grey, carrying an overwhelming Kaffir, Fingo, and Bechuana population, birth reports, owing to the strong prejudices of the people, are manifestly imperfect. The figures are :-

COLONY PROPER, excluding BECHUANALAND AND NATIVE TERRITORIES.

SEX AND YEAR.	White.	Malay.	Fingo, Kaffir and Bechuana.	Mixed and Other.	Total other than European or White.	Total.
M. 1901	7,576	321	5,552	7,580	13,453	21,029
M. 1902	7,761	342	5,837	7,626	13,805	21,566
M. 1903	8,107	344	5,757	7,909	14,010	22,117
F. 1901	7,153	364	5,395	7,247	13,006	20,159
F. 1902	7,317	280	5,711	7,312	13,303	20,620
F. 1903	7,579	305	5,637	7,651	13,593	21,172

The undermentioned percentage proportions are calculated on these figures :-

SEX AND YEAR.	White.	Malay.	Fingo, Kaffir and Bechuana.	Mixed and Other.	Total other than European or White.	Total.
M. 1901	36-03	1-53	26-40	36-04	63-97	100-00
M. 1902	35-99	1-59	27-06	35-36	64-01	100-00
M. 1903	36-66	1-55	26-03	35-76	63-34	100-00
F. 1901	35-48	1-81	26-76	35-95	64-52	100-00
F. 1902	35-48	1-36	27-70	35-46	64-52	100-00
F. 1903	35-80	1-44	26-62	36-14	64-20	100-00

* Including "at Sea" cases.

It is estimated that the population of the Colony Proper was 1,449,060 in April, 1903, which would give a Birthrate of 29-87 per 1,000.

Birthrates for European Countries and Australasian States and Colonies may be quoted from Coghlan's *Wealth and Progress of N.S.W.*, 1900-1901, and *Seven Colonies*, 1902-3, as follows :-

EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.—1899, per 1,000 of population: Hungary, 39-2; Austria, 37-0; Italy, 34-3; German Empire, 35-9; England and Wales, 29-4; Scotland, 30-6; Norway, 30-9; Belgium, 28-8; Switzerland, 28-4; Ireland, 22-9; France, 22-1.

AUSTRALASIAN STATES.—1902, per 1,000 of population: Queensland, 27-7; New South Wales, 27-1; Tasmania, 28-9; South Australia, 24-5; New Zealand, 25-9; Western Australia, 30-4; Victoria, 25-2.

The subjoined return shows as regards a selection of the Principal Cities and Towns the total number of Births which occurred during the three years 1901-1902 and 1903, and had so far been registered.

CITIES AND CHIEF TOWNS, 1901, 1902, 1903.

Cities and Towns—(Order of 1902).	1901.	1902.	1903.	Cities and Towns—(Order of 1902).	1901.	1902.	1903.
Cape Town	2,624	2,577	2,489	Oudtshoorn	369	406	486
Port Elizabeth	1,743	1,720	1,530*	Graaff-Reinet	392	401	407
Kimberley	942	1,001	848	Queenstown	304	374	386
East London	582	673	657	Paarl	390	367	429
Graham's Town	474	467	477	King William's Town	289	332	296
Uitenhage	397	415	434	Worcester	280	303	341

If attention be paid to European Births by themselves, the results show themselves thus :-

CITIES AND TOWNS.	M.			F.			CITIES AND TOWNS.	M.			F.		
	1901.	1902.	1903.	1901.	1902.	1903.		1901.	1902.	1903.	1901.	1902.	1903.
Cape Town	438	458	427	427	428	439	Oudtshoorn	76	80	79	71	63	86
Port Elizabeth	314	329	340	314	333	329	Graaff-Reinet	55	61	71	67	69	68
Kimberley	240	224	223	241	274	209	Queenstown	71	84	74	65	77	77
East London	220	220	228	182	214	192	Paarl	66	57	73	64	63	60
Graham's Town	111	119	116	93	93	93	King William's Town	83	109	86	94	94	92
Uitenhage	91	96	88	94	110	112	Worcester	48	50	61	41	35	45

* The removal of natives to the location established outside the Municipality of Port Elizabeth accounts for the fall in Births for 1903.

URBAN AND RURAL CASES, 1901, 1902 and 1903.

Not only are Municipalities treated as Urban areas, but localities under the operation of the Village Management Act and regions specially proclaimed to be Urban.

In the Colony Proper there had been 21,792 Urban Births and 19,396 Rural in 1901, 22,481 Urban and 19,705 Rural in 1902, and 22,430 Urban and 20,859 Rural in 1903. For the White and Coloured Races and for the two Sexes the comparative figures are as follows :-

COLONY PROPER, excluding BECHUANALAND AND NATIVE TERRITORIES.

YEAR.	White.				Coloured.				Total.			
	Urban.		Rural.		Urban.		Rural.		Urban.		Rural.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1901	4,400	4,179	3,176	2,974	6,694	6,519	6,759	6,487	11,094	10,698	9,935	9,461
1902	4,561	4,320	3,200	2,997	6,861	6,739	6,944	6,564	11,422	11,059	10,144	9,561
1903	4,648	4,379	3,459	3,200	6,801	6,602	7,209	6,991	11,449	10,981	10,668	10,191

and they give the understated percentage proportions :-

YEAR.	White.	Coloured.	Total.
1901	10-69	10-14	7-71
1902	10-81	10-24	7-59
1903	10-74	10-12	7-99

As a similar statement has been abstracted in regard to the Deaths which occurred in and outside the Cities and Towns, we are enabled to make an interesting comparison, showing the concentration of population in the Townships, thus:—

YEAR.	Births.					Deaths.				
	Urban.		Rural.		Both.	Urban.		Rural.		Both.
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	
1901 ...	11,094	10,698	9,935	9,461	41,188	10,983	8,775	5,791	5,614	31,163
Percentage ...	26.94	25.97	24.12	22.97	100.00	35.24	28.16	18.58	18.02	100.00
1902 ...	11,422	11,059	10,144	9,561	42,186	10,674	8,826	6,095	5,750	31,345
Percentage ...	27.08	26.21	24.05	22.66	100.00	34.05	28.16	19.44	18.35	100.00
1903 ...	11,449	10,981	10,668	10,191	43,289	10,551	8,397	6,783	6,301	32,032
Percentage ...	26.45	25.37	24.64	23.54	100.00	32.94	26.21	21.18	19.67	100.00

URBAN CASES ALONE, 1903.

Births.—Discarding all rural cases, it is found that at present there are only 22,430 events in the Colony excluding Bechuanaland and the Native Territories, to be treated of, and it is only too evident that there are numerous unreported cases. For sex, the division is 51.04 per cent. boys and 48.96 girls. European or White infants absorbed 40.25 per cent. of the whole; Malay 2.73; Fingo, Kaffir and Bechuana, 15.97; Hottentot, Mixed and Other, 41.05.

Deaths.—There is no reason to think, on the contrary, that the Town mortality statistics are not fairly comprehensive. There were in 1903 in Cities, Towns and special Urban Areas in the old Colony no less than 18,948 cases, whereof considerably more than half (55.68 per cent.) were of males. Europeans contributed 26.64 per cent. of the total; Malays, 2.73; Fingo, Kaffirs and Bechuanas, 27.93; Hottentots, Mixed and Others, 42.70.

The above returns may be exhibited side by side thus:—

	Urban Total.	%		European.	Malay.	Fingo, Kaffir and Bechuana.	Hottentot, Mixed and Other.
		M.	F.				
		Births ...	22,430					51.04	48.96	40.25	2.73	15.97	41.05
Deaths ...	18,948	55.68	44.32	26.64	2.73	27.93	42.70

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.

The total number of births of *European or White* infants was 15,686 in the Colony Proper, comprising 8,107 males and 7,579 females; of these 409 were illegitimate, 215 being male and 194 of the female sex. It follows, therefore, that the percentage of illegitimate to total births was 2.61. By way of comparison, the following figures taken from *Coghlan's "Wealth and Progress"* are given:—

VARIOUS COUNTRIES.—Illegitimate births to every 100 children born; Austria, 14.55; Sweden, 10.80; German Empire, 9.21; Belgium, 8.51; France, 8.26; Prussia, 7.84; Scotland, 6.97; Norway, 7.35; Italy, 6.34; England, 4.15; Ireland, 2.65; New South Wales, 6.59; Victoria, 5.55; West Australia, 3.96; Queensland, 6.04; Tasmania, 6.11; New Zealand, 4.46; South Australia, 4.35.

Before discussing the subject of percentages obtained from the figures published on other pages, it is worth while to advert to the difficult question of marriage by *Native Custom*. The Chief Justice, in deciding on the appeal case of *Nggobela vs Sihole*, heard in the Supreme Court, December, 1893, delivered an elaborate judgment, from which the following items of information are taken. Act No. 16 of 1860 provides for the appointment of Marriage Officers for solemnising the marriages of persons professing the Mohammedan faith according to the Mohammedan customs and usages, but not for marriages according to Native custom, and a union therefore founded only upon native usage and custom within the Colony proper is not a marriage, and Courts of Law are bound to treat the intercourse as illicit. Any marriage which would be regarded as valid in any of the dependencies of the Colony, must be regarded as valid in the Colony, although Colonial solemnities have not been observed (and this is important), if it is not opposed to the essential nature of the contract as

understood in the Colony. The Court held the effect of Proclamation No. 14 of 1885 is to dispense with the solemnities required by the laws of the Colony proper in the case of natives electing to marry in Tembuland (it was a case originating there that was before the Court) according to their own customs. If they register the marriage it has the same effect as marriage contracted under Colonial law; if they do not register it remains valid, but its effect must be judged by the native custom of the territory. The Supreme Court can only administer the law of the Colony, but for that purpose it may become necessary to give effect to the laws of other countries and dependencies so far as they affect the validity of any contract entered into by the parties to the suit, &c.

From the foregoing considerations it will be evident that from the information obtainable from the general run of natives, it is impossible to state for certain how many births are legitimate or natural. In the Registration Books specially framed for use in Native Locations no enquiry is made as to the date or place of marriage, and under the numerical system the sole question asked is whether the infant is a boy or girl. The returns of Fingo and Kafir births have been tabulated under three headings, Legitimate Cases, Native Custom, Illegitimate, but such an arrangement can only be viewed as a temporary expedient. When the difficulties of deciding the validity of certain native marriages in the Transkeian Territories are so great as to necessitate appeals to the Supreme Court to settle the moot points, this Department must reasonably be excused from tabulating decisively births the result of Native marriages as to which there is no evidence to prove the domicile of the parties at the time of the union.

It would be futile to investigate any proportion where such uncertainty exists.

Births of children belonging to the *Mixed, Other and Hottentot Races with Malays* amounted in 1903, in the *Colony Proper* only, to 16,209 in all, 8,253 being boys and 7,956 girls; of these events 5,021 were illegitimate, consisting of 2,511 males and 2,510 females, giving the following percentage proportions, viz.:—

Illegitimate births to total Mixed and Other births (Colony proper only) ... 30.98

STILL BIRTHS.

The number of Still Births reported in the Urban Areas was as follows for the three years 1901, 1902, 1903, the events being taken out to 15th January, 1904:—

YEAR.	European.		Coloured.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
	1901	153	108	284	261
1902	153	130	334	247
1903	157	124	324	269

DEATHS.

GENERAL COMPARATIVE SUMMARY.—COLONY PROPER, 1901, 1902 AND 1903—with proportions.

In all, deaths to the number of *41,007 had been recorded for the year 1903.

Adding to the deaths registered in 1902, the events of that year subsequently recorded, a grand total of 41,203 cases is arrived at: similar figures for 1901 are stated to be 41,043. The figures for Walfish Bay are insignificant—44, 32 and 58 deaths for the three years—while those for the Transkeian Territories 6,690, 7,341 and 7,460; Bechuanaland, 1,162, 1,293 and 1,276; Pondoland, 1,031, 1,031 and 974, for 1903, 1902 and 1901 are unavoidably imperfect, consequently it is advisable to compare—partially as it can now be done—simply the Colony Proper occurrences, which in 1903 numbered 17,334 as regards Males, and 14,698 for Females. 25.28 per cent. of the Male Deaths were amongst Whites and 74.72 amongst the Coloured Races: similar figures for Females show 22.32 and 77.68 per cent. respectively. It will be noticed that the percentages for European or White Deaths are remarkably similar to those of the previous year. The subjoined statement affords a general view of the data:—(vide page 9.)

* Including "at Sea" cases.

DEATHS, 1901, 1902 AND 1903.—GENERAL SUMMARY.

RETURN showing for each of the Four Main Races, with distinction of sex, the total number of Deaths which were registered, having occurred during each of the years 1901, 1902 and 1903, in the Colony Proper, Bechuanaland, Transkeian Territories, Pondoland and Walfish Bay (including "At Sea," but excluding Refugees in Concentration Camps and War Cases). Events taken out to 15th April, 1904.

TERRITORY.	European or White.						Malay.						Fingo, Kafir and Bechuana.						
	M.		F.		Total		M.		F.		Total		M.		F.		Total		
	1901.	1902.	1903.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1901.	1902.	1903.	
Colony Proper	3,788	4,117	4,382	3,256	3,256	3,280	292	292	292	245	245	259	6,191	6,348	6,650	5,048	5,120	5,120	
Bechuanaland	86	67	67	60	60	45	1	1	1	1	1	1	429	453	429	501	428	428	
Transkeian Territories	75	76	86	52	59	69	1	1	1	1	1	1	3,555	3,360	3,488	3,513	3,068	3,068	
Pondoland	7	3	8	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	549	548	548	427	466	466	
Walfish Bay	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	17	1	5	1	3	3	
TOTAL FOR COLONY	3,957	4,260	4,513	3,372	3,372	3,399	293	293	293	246	246	260	11,911	10,714	9,989	9,538	9,085	9,085	
"At Sea"	94	140	32	6	6	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1
GRAND TOTAL	4,051	4,400	4,575	3,128	3,378	3,405	294	260	294	246	246	260	11,914	10,715	9,999	9,538	9,085	9,085	

TOTAL—Other than European or White.

TERRITORY.	Total—Other than European or White.					
	M.		F.		Total	
	1901.	1902.	1903.	1901.	1902.	1903.
Colony Proper	5,490	6,203	6,314	12,986	12,986	11,418
Bechuanaland	126	101	80	566	603	517
Transkeian Territories	78	75	53	3,413	3,588	3,122
Pondoland	4	1	2	478	478	468
Walfish Bay	16	13	20	14	24	19
TOTAL FOR COLONY	5,714	6,393	6,469	17,918	17,414	15,544
"At Sea"	8	12	9	106	155	106
GRAND TOTAL	5,722	6,405	6,478	18,024	17,569	15,650

RETURN showing for each of the years 1901, 1902 and 1903 the number of Deaths of Male and Female persons of each of the four Main Races with percentage proportions.

COLONY PROPER ONLY, excluding BECHUANALAND AND NATIVE TERRITORIES.

SEX AND YEAR.	White.	Malay.	Fingo, Kafir and Bechuana.	Mixed and Other.	Total other than White.	Total.
M. 1901	3,788	292	7,204	5,490	12,986	16,774
1902	4,117	258	6,191	6,203	12,652	16,769
1903	4,382	290	6,348	6,314	12,952	17,334
F. 1901	3,009	277	5,650	5,453	11,380	14,389
1902	3,256	245	5,048	6,027	11,320	14,576
1903	3,280	259	5,120	6,039	11,418	14,698

From the above data, the following percentages are derived:—

SEX AND YEAR.	White.	Malay.	Fingo, Kafir and Bechuana.	Mixed and Other.	Total other than White.	Total.
M. 1901	22.58	1.74	42.95	32.73	77.42	100.00
1902	24.55	1.54	36.92	36.99	75.45	100.00
1903	25.28	1.67	36.62	36.43	74.72	100.00
F. 1901	20.91	1.92	39.27	37.90	79.09	100.00
1902	22.34	1.68	34.63	41.35	77.66	100.00
1903	22.32	1.76	34.83	41.09	77.68	100.00

The estimated population of the Colony Proper was 1,449,060 in April, 1903, which would give a death rate of 22.10 per 1,000.

The death rates for the undermentioned countries have been taken from Coghlan's "Wealth and Progress of New South Wales, 1900-1," and "Seven Colonies, 1902-3."

EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.—1899, per 1,000 of population: Austria, 25.3; Italy, 22.2; German Empire, 21.5; France, 21.2; Ireland, 17.6; Switzerland, 17.6; England and Wales, 18.4; Scotland, 18.7; Norway, 16.8; AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES AND STATES.—1902, per 1,000 of population: W. Australia, 13.8; Victoria, 13.4; Tasmania, 10.9; S. Australia, 11.8; Queensland, 12.1; N.S. Wales, 11.9; New Zealand, 10.5.

CHIEF TOWNS, 1901, 1902 and 1903.

After the non-resident hospital cases have been deducted from the total number of deaths that happened in the most important centres of population, it is seen that the following comparative results show themselves, namely:—

Cities and Towns— (Order of 1902).	1901.	1902.	1903.	Cities and Towns— (Order of 1902).	1901.	1902.	1903.
	Cape Town...	1,868	1,922		2,010	Uitenhage ...	263	357	349
Port Elizabeth ...	1,257	1,425	1,138*	Worcester ...	349	347	267
Kimberley ...	1,771	1,243	1,208	Queenstown ...	365	346	328
Graaff-Reinet ...	597	487	410	Oudtshoorn ...	257	312	299
East London ...	406	397	419	Paarl ...	251	298	370
Graham's Town ...	354	396	445	King William's Town...	230	221	217

*The removal of Natives to the Location established outside the Municipality of Port Elizabeth accounts for the fall of deaths in 1903.

URBAN AND RURAL CASES, 1901, 1902 and 1903.

For the purposes of the Act No. 7 of 1894, areas under Municipal and Village Board control, as well as certain specially so proclaimed, are termed and treated as "Urban." Confining attention to the Colony Proper alone, it will be seen that there were 19,758 Urban and 11,405 Rural in 1901, and 19,500 Urban and 11,845 Rural in 1902, and 18,948 Urban Deaths and 11,747 Rural in 1903, and that the component items for the two Races and Sexes give the following results:—

YEAR.	White.				Coloured.				Total.			
	Urban.		Rural.		Urban.		Rural.		Urban.		Rural.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1901...	2,777	2,072	1,011	937	8,206	6,703	4,780	4,677	10,983	8,775	5,791	5,614
1902...	2,884	2,146	1,233	1,110	7,790	6,680	4,862	4,640	10,674	8,826	6,095	5,750
1903...	2,983	2,065	1,399	1,215	7,568	6,332	5,384	5,086	10,551	8,397	6,783	6,301

From these figures the subjoined percentages are derived:—

YEAR.	White.	Coloured.	Total.
1901...	8.91	6.65	3.24
1902...	9.20	6.85	3.93
1903...	9.31	6.44	4.37

AGES, NUMBERS AND PERCENTAGES, 1901, 1902 and 1903.

In the Colony Proper European children under 5 years of age to the number of 3,269 died, compared with 3,104 in 1902, and 2,926 in 1901, and Coloured Children to the number of 12,333, 12,625 and 12,433 respectively. There is a large fluctuation in the number of Europeans over 5 years that passed away in the three years (4,393, 4,269 and 3,871), and the Coloured Deaths of that age period had decreased from 11,933 in 1901 to 11,347 in 1902, and rose to 12,037 in 1903.

The main results of the return may be stated as follows:—

COLONY PROPER, *excluding* BECHUANALAND AND NATIVE TERRITORIES.

YEAR.	European.									Coloured.									
	Total.			Unspeci- fied.		Over Five Years.		Under Five Years.		Persons.	Total.			Unspeci- fied.		Over Five Years.		Under Five Years.	
	M.	F.	Per- sons.	C.	U.	C.	U.	C.	U.		M.	F.	Per- sons.	C.	U.	C.	U.	C.	U.
1901 ...	3788	3009	6797	...	...	2852	1019	1993	933	12986	11380	24366	...	...	5379	6554	4419	8014
1902 ...	4117	3256	7373	...	...	3138	1131	1974	1130	12652	11320	23972	...	...	5198	6149	5143	7482
1903 ...	4382	3280	7662	...	...	3200	1193	2047	1222	12952	11418	24370	...	...	5688	6349	5395	6938

or arranged by percentages thus:—

1901 ...	12.15	9.66	21.81	...	...	9.15	3.27	6.40	2.99	41.67	36.52	78.19	...	...	17.26	21.03	14.18	25.72
1902 ...	13.13	10.39	23.52	...	...	10.01	3.61	6.30	3.60	40.36	36.12	76.48	...	...	16.58	19.62	16.41	23.87
1903 ...	13.68	10.24	23.92	...	...	9.99	3.72	6.39	3.82	40.43	35.65	76.08	...	...	17.76	19.82	16.84	21.66

DETAILED AGES OF DECEASED.

By the commendable exertions of the quite inadequate staff of Tabulators the Department has been enabled again to present some details on the important subject of the ages of persons who died in 35 chief towns. The statistics are arranged to show (a) the number of certified and uncertified European and Coloured cases and (b) the principal certified causes of death in each chief town.

The subjoined analysis relates to 12,638 events, the specific ages being wanted in 23 instances of adults and 1 infant, and we find that amongst Europeans 21.51 per cent. were males under 5 and 19.12 females; 38.26 males over 5 and 21.11 females. For Coloured persons the figures were, under 5, 26.96 and 25.20 per cent.; over 5 years 29.49 and 18.35.

As the return may fairly be taken as typical of the age distribution of the general death tables it is as well to give a short abstract in the following shape:—

PROPORTIONS PER CENT.—FOR EUROPEANS AND ALL OTHERS SEPARATELY—OF DEATHS AT EACH AGE PERIOD TO TOTAL DEATHS.

Race.	0 Days to 1 Month.		1 to 6 Months.		6 to 12 Months.		12 Months to 2 Years.		2 to 3 Years.		3 to 4 Years.		4 to 5 Years.		Total Under 5 Years.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
	M.		F.		M.		F.		M.		F.		M.		F.	
European ...	3.59	3.46	6.86	5.74	5.66	5.05	3.46	3.11	.80	.98	.66	.51	.48	.27	21.51	19.12
All Others ...	4.74	3.98	6.73	5.92	6.31	6.00	5.51	5.65	2.15	2.12	1.04	.75	.47	.78	26.95	25.20

(a) Two Adults (b) One Adult (c) 18 Adults (d) Two Adults (e) One under 5 Years: For which detailed ages were not shown.

DETAILED AGES, 1902 AND 1903.—EUROPEAN CASES.

Taking advantage of the opportunity now afforded of instituting a comparison between the proportions per cent. by the different age periods of deaths amongst males and females to total deaths of Europeans in Sydney and in the Chief Towns of this Colony we are enabled to exhibit the following figures, noting in passing that the New South Wales returns account for 5,937 (3,190 males and 2,747 females) fatal cases in 1902, and ours for 3,724 (2,177 males and 1,547 females) for the same year, and 3,761 (2,248 males and 1,513 females) in 1903.

LOCALITIES.	0 Months to under 12 Months.		12 Months and under 2 Years.		2 Years and under 3 Years.		3 Years and under 4 Years.		4 Years and under 5 Years.		Total under 5 years.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Cape, Chief Towns, 1903	16.11	14.25	3.46	3.11	.80	.98	.66	.51	.48	.27	21.51	19.12
" " " " 1902	16.25	13.69	2.87	2.82	1.15	1.18	.89	.59	.43	.38	21.59	18.66
Sydney " " " " 1902	13.17	11.37	2.31	2.22	.79	.69	.32	.37	.27	.27	16.86	14.92

LOCALITIES.	5 Years and under 20.		20 Years and under 30.		30 Years and under 45.		45 Years and under 65.		65 Years and Upwards.		Total over 5 Years.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Cape, Chief Towns, 1903	3.35	2.98	7.07	2.82	9.92	4.23	11.19	5.63	6.68	5.42	38.21a	21.08b
" " " " 1902	3.44	3.33	5.51	3.34	10.09	5.02	10.36	5.42	7.47	5.77	36.87	22.88
Sydney " " " " 1902	3.18	2.78	3.34	4.06	8.00	6.27	11.69	8.52	10.66	9.72	36.87	31.35

Excluding (a) Two Male Adults = .05; (b) One Female Adult = .03. For which detailed ages were not shown.

It will be observed that while in Sydney 24.54 per cent. of the European deaths occurred before children had reached the age of 12 months we had unfortunately a percentage of 29.94 in 1902, and 30.36 in 1903. The higher age at time of demise becomes apparent in the Australian statement from the age 30 years and under 45.

DETAILED AGES, 1902 AND 1903.—COLOURED CASES.

The Registrar-General's 1901 Report on the Vital Statistics of Ceylon supplies the means of placing side by side data stating the relative proportions of deaths in a temperate and a tropical climate at various age points to all deaths, the only factor for which no allowance can be made is the impracticability of assessing the influence of rural cases in the Ceylon figures (98,664), which are for the Island generally, whereas ours (8,877, including 21 unspecified for exact age in 1903, and 9,160, with 9 unspecified in 1902) are simply urban.

LOCALITIES.	0 Days to under 12 Months.		12 Months and under 2 Years.		2 Years and under 3 Years.		3 Years and under 4 Years.		4 Years and under 5 Years.		Total under 5 Years.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Cape, Chief Towns, 1903	17.78	15.90	5.51	5.65	2.15	2.12	1.04	.75	.47	.78	26.95a	25.20
" " " " 1902	18.36	16.81	5.28	5.80	2.19	2.24	1.06	.93	.61	.75	27.50	26.53
Ceylon " " " " 1901	12.20	10.89	2.25	2.45	2.31	2.71	2.32	2.68	1.58	1.63	20.66	20.36

Race.	5-10.		10-15.		15-20.		20-25.		25-35.		35-45.		45-55.		55-65.		65-75.		75 up.		Total Over 5.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.			
Cape, Chief Towns, 1903 ...	1.62	1.03	1.85	2.93	7.42	5.33	3.67	2.39	1.50	1.55	29.29b										
" " " " 1902 ...	1.50	1.18	1.50	1.85	3.55	2.67	1.94	1.33	1.24	1.57	18.33c										
Cape, Chief Towns, 1902 ...	1.77	1.17	1.56	3.06	7.80	5.12	2.89	1.94	1.34	1.48	28.13										
Ceylon 1901 ...	1.59	1.04	1.35	1.99	3.74	2.18	1.73	1.55	1.19	1.48	17.84										
" " " " 1901 ...	3.29	2.25	1.89	1.97	4.65	4.30	3.76	3.56	2.32	2.91	30.90										
" " " " 1901 ...	3.56	1.95	1.57	2.46	5.39	3.46	2.64	2.45	1.84	2.76	28.08										

Excluding (a) One Male Under 5 years = .01. (b) Eighteen Male Adults = .20. (c) Two Female Adults = .02. For which detailed ages were not shown.

It was found that the Cape figures for *Europeans* contrasted most unfavourably with those for Sydney as regards the tender ages of children, and we remark a similar bad feature now as to *Coloured* persons, and in relation to a worse climate. The proportions are—

Cape—Coloured Infants under 1 year	...	...	(1903) 33.68	(1902) 35.17
Ceylon	..	..	(1901) 23.09	(1900) 23.94

The excess of male over female deaths is readily accounted for by the fact of the existence of large locations of male adults at Kimberley, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and other towns.

The mortality statements for the Colony of *British Guiana* allow us to show another comparison—also unfavourable to ourselves.

LOCALITIES.	Under 1 Year.	1 Year to under 5.	Total under 5.	5-10.	10-20.	20-30.	30 up.	Total over 5.	REMARKS.
Cape, Chief Towns, 1903	33.68	18.47	52.15 ^a	3.12	5.56	10.56	28.38	47.62 ^b	Percentages worked on 8,877 deaths—4,247 over 5 Years.
" " 1902	35.17	18.86	54.03	3.36	5.12	11.41	26.08	45.97	Percentages worked on 9,160 Deaths—4,211 over 5 years.
British Guiana ... 1902	23.25	11.39	34.64	3.38	5.33	13.32	43.33	65.36	Percentages worked on 7,990 deaths—5,222 over 5 Years.

Excluding (a) One Infant = .01; (b) Twenty Adults = .22. For which detailed ages were not shown.

Thus it appears that *more than half* of the Cape Coloured persons who died in 1902 or 1903 in the cities and large towns were under 5 years of age, whereas in tropical British Guiana only *one third* of the total deaths took place before the fifth year of age was reached. The proportion for Ceylon was just 41 per cent.

CERTIFICATION, 1901, 1902 and 1903.

COLONY PROPER, EXCLUDING BECHUANALAND AND NATIVE TERRITORIES.

Of the Deaths which occurred in 1903, 16,330 were certified compared with 15,453 in the previous year, and 14,643 in 1901; and 15,702 uncertified contrasted with 15,892 in 1902, and 16,520 in 1901. In other words 50.98 per cent. of the cases in 1903 were certified and 49.02 uncertified; again for 6.39 per cent. of the European infantile deaths medical evidence was afforded, compared with 3.82 per cent. wherein such was absent, and 16.84 per cent. of the Coloured infantile deaths were certified and 21.66 per cent. not. In these figures are included reports from the native districts like Herschel, Glen Grey, parts of Queenstown, Peddie and K. W. Town, rarely supported by medical evidence. The data may be summarised as follows:—

YEAR.	Certified Cases.									Uncertified Cases.														
	Total.			Unspeci-fied.			Over Five Years.			Under Five Years.			Total.			Unspeci-fied.			Over Five Years.			Under Five Years.		
	E.	C.	Per-sons.	E.	C.	E.	C.	E.	C.	E.	C.	E.	C.	Per-sons.	E.	C.	E.	C.	E.	C.	E.	C.		
1901	4845	9798	14643	...	...	2852	5379	1993	4419	1952	14568	16520	...	...	1019	6554	933	8014	...	...	1130	7482
1902	5112	10341	15453	...	...	3138	5198	1974	5143	2261	13631	15892	...	...	1131	6149	1222	6938	...	...	1150	7482
1903	5247	11083	16330	...	...	3200	5688	2047	5395	2415	13287	15702	...	...	1193	6349	1222	6938	...	...	1150	7482

These results may be represented from another point of view, thus:—

1901	...	15.55	31.44	46.99	...	...	9.15	17.26	6.40	14.18	6.26	46.75	53.01	...	...	3.27	21.03	2.99	25.72
1902	...	16.31	32.99	49.30	...	...	10.01	16.58	6.30	16.41	7.21	43.49	50.70	...	...	3.61	19.62	3.60	23.87
1903	...	16.38	34.60	50.98	...	...	9.99	17.76	6.39	16.84	7.54	41.48	49.02	...	...	3.72	19.82	3.82	21.66

PRINCIPAL DISEASES, CHIEF TOWNS, 1903.

RETURN showing for each of the Cities and Chief Towns of the Colony Proper, the certified deaths during 1903, from eight of the principal zymotic and four of the chief other causes, distinguishing in each case between European and Coloured, together with the Totals of all deaths, Certified and Uncertified, European and Coloured.

CITIES AND CHIEF TOWNS.	Principal Zymotic Causes.								Other Causes.					Total All Deaths.				Total Persons.								
	Measles.		Typhoid Fever.		Whooping-cough.		Diphtheria and Croup.		Diarrhoea.		Dysentery.		Tuberculosis, including Phthisis, etc.		Pneumonia.		Bronchitis.			Enteritis.		Certified.		Uncertified.		
	E.	C.	E.	C.	E.	C.	E.	C.	E.	C.	E.	C.	E.	C.	E.	C.	E.			C.	E.	C.	E.	C.	E.	C.
Aliwal North...
Beaufort West...
Burgersdorp...
Cape Town...
Green and Sea Point...
Woodstock...
Maitland...
Mowbray...
Rondebosch...
Claremont...
Wynberg...
Simon's Town...
Kalk Bay and Muizenberg...
Craddock...
East London...
George...
Graaff-Reinet...
Graham's Town...
Kimberley...
Beaconsfield...
King William's Town...
Malmesbury...
Mossel Bay...
Oudshoorn...
Paarl...
Wellington...
Port Elizabeth...
Prince Albert...
Queenstown...
Robertson...
Somerset East...
Stellenbosch...
Swellendam...
Uitenhage...
Worcester...

SMALLPOX.

ALI WAL NORTH	...	4 Coloured.
GRAHAM'S TOWN	...	2 Coloured.
PORT ELIZABETH	...	1 European, 17 Coloured.
UITENHAGE	...	8 Coloured.
GRAAFF-REINET	...	1 European, 7 Coloured.

BUBONIC PLAGUE.

EAST LONDON	...	1 European, 2 Coloured.
GRAHAM'S TOWN	...	1 Coloured.
KING WILLIAM'S TOWN	...	4 Europeans, 2 Coloured.
PORT ELIZABETH	...	9 Europeans, 61 Coloured.
QUEEN'S TOWN	...	5 Coloured.

MARRIAGES.

The number of marriages solemnized in 1903 was 12,192, compared with 12,163 in 1902, 9,547 in 1901, 8,741 in 1900, 8,535 in 1899, 8,718 in 1898. A regular increase up to 1899 (when the war caused a falling off) is noticeable. Friday was again regarded as the unpropitious day for the solemnization of the marriage ceremony, as out of 12,192 marriages 369 (compared with 236 out of 8,535 in 1899) of the whole took place on that day. Tuesdays were most frequently selected, 36.5 per cent. occurring then (38.5 in 1901 and 37.9 in 1902), Mondays coming next with a percentage of 29.2 (27.6 in 1901, and 27.3 in 1902), and while 1,945 happened on Wednesdays, 942 on Thursdays, 416 on Saturdays, and 502 on Sundays. One day is credited with *one* marriage only. The highest number, namely 111, on the contrary is recorded against the 6th October, with 109 on the 28th September. The largest number in a full week was 317 in the seven days ended the 18th April, and the lowest 171 in January. In 10,274 cases bans were called by Ministers of Religion or by Resident Magistrates, the remaining instances, 1,918, being by licence. The number of marriages before Protestant Clergymen was 10,406, before Roman Catholic 317, and before Jewish 101, while 1,334 (or 10.9 per cent.), compared with 1,351 (or 11.1 per cent.) in 1902, 10.6 per cent. in 1901, 8.00 per cent. in 1900, 7.22 per cent. in 1899, 6.4 per cent. in 1898, 5.8 per cent. in 1897, 5.3 per cent. in 1895 and 4.4 in 1896, were dealt with by

Magistrates, under the provisions of Act No. 16 of 1860. The majority of the parties wedded belonged to the Dutch Reformed Church, the number of marriages being 3,044. The Church of England follows next with 2,442 cases, which was 484 in advance of the Wesleyan Church, while London Missionary Society and Independents combined show 1,109 marriages. In point of *Education* 28.48 per cent. of the wives and 28.79 of the husbands could not write their names. It appears that in 862 cases widowers married spinners, in 452 bachelors married widows, and in 356 widowers married widows. There were 65 cases relating to divorced wives or husbands.

REVENUE, 1903.

Arranging the districts according to the amount of the collections on account of Births and Deaths Registration in each, it is found that they take the following order:—

Cape, with Wynberg and Simon's Town, £177 11s. 6d.; Port Elizabeth, £40 4s.; Kimberley, £29; East London, £17 18s. 6d.; Queenstown, £9 5s. 6d.; Albany, £8 1s.; Middelburg, £5 19s. 6d.; Paarl and Uitenhage, £5 6d. each; Beaufort West, £5; Cradock, 96s.; King William's Town, 93s. 6d.; Aliwal North, 84s.; Somerset East, 79s. 6d.; Mafeking, 79s.; Colesberg, 72s. 6d.; Worcester, 72s.; Stellenbosch and Victoria West, 67s. each; Oudtshoorn, 47s.; Graaff-Reinet, 47s.; Caledon, 42s.; Wodehouse, 40s.; Molteno and Stutterheim, 36s. each; Mount Currie, 35s.; Vryburg, 34s.; Barkly West, 31s.; Tarka, 25s.; Albert, 24s. 6d.; Alexandria, Cathcart and Malmesbury, 24s. each; Britstown, 22s.; Willowmore, 21s.; Calvinia and Uniondale, 20s. each; Ceres, 18s.; Knysna and Port St. John's, 17s. 6d. each; Fort Beaufort, 17s.; Hay, 15s.; Bathurst, Victoria East and Tulbagh, 12s. each; Hope Town and Xalanga, 11s. each; Glen Grey, Herbert, Herschel, Montagu, Riversdale, Robertson, Stockenström, Matatiële and Tsomo, 10s. each; George and Steytlerville, 8s. 6d. each; Prince Albert, 7s. 6d.; Aberdeen, Ladismith, Umzimkulu, Umtata, Ngqeleni, 6s. each; Barkly East, Bedford, Clanwilliam, Namaqualand, Prieska, Swellendam, Mount Frere, Elliot, Butterworth and Kuruman, 5s. each; Sutherland, 2s.; Kenhardt, 1s. Total, £383 15s. 6d.

Thus 76 Deputies collected £383 15s. 6d., compared with £314 11s. 6d. received by 68 in 1902, £251 received by 63 in 1901, £213 received by 62 in 1900, £144 18s. 6d. received by 54 in 1899, £126 1s. taken by 62 in 1898, £114 15s. 6d. taken by 64 in 1897, £82 10s. by 46 in 1896, and £53 4s. 6d. by 39 in 1895.

The Municipal Records of Births and Deaths kept prior to 1st January, 1895, and the Voluntary Births Registration Books are preserved in the fireproof safe of the Central Office, where £35 1s. 6d. was collected. The total revenue was therefore £418 17s., against £64 10s. 6d. in 1895, £102 14s. in 1896, £130 15s. 6d. in 1897, £153 1s. in 1898, £175 2s. 6d. in 1899, £233 12s. in 1900, £281 8s. in 1901, and £338 4s. 6d. in 1902.

The fee for alteration or assignment of a child's christian name is 2s. 6d.; for a search 1s. for each year or part of a year; for a certificate, 5s.—all payable in revenue stamps. If a certificate is *authenticated* by the Under Colonial Secretary, that officer charges a fee of 15s. in addition. It should be noted the *Bank of England* insists upon authentications.

For certified copies of duplicate original and R.M.'s MARRIAGE REGISTERS £108 3s. was received in 1903, £83 1s. 6d. in 1902, £76 18s. in 1901, £41 6s. 6d. in 1900, £62 4s. in 1899, £55 5s. in 1898, £40 in 1897, and £42 in 1896.

EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure brought to account for the financial year 1902-03 amounted to £6,665 for salaries and allowances to the staff in the Central Office, the Deputy Registrars, their Assistants and Field-cornets, and £103 for printing.

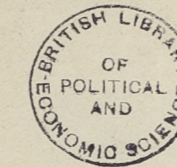
A. J. BRINTON,

Acting Registrar General of Statistics

General Register Office,
Cape of Good Hope,
November, 1904.

1904

68
R123



CONTENTS.

	Page.
REPORT	i-xiii
TABULAR STATEMENTS:	
<i>Births</i> .—I. General Comparative Summary	1
II. Total Births each District	2
III. Cities and Chief Towns	4
IV. Other Towns and Urban Areas	6
V. Urban Areas, Bechuanaland and Transkeian Territories	8
VI. Detailed Summary	8
<i>Deaths</i> .—I. General Comparative Summary	10
II. Total Deaths, by Races, each District	11
III. Cities and Chief Towns, by Races	13
IV. Principal Certificated and Uncertificated Causes of Deaths, with Ages, Cities and Chief Towns	14
V. Other Towns and Urban Areas, by Races	94
VI. Causes of Deaths, Other Towns and Urban Areas	96
VII. Bechuanaland, Transkeian Territories and Pondoland, by Races	104
VIII. Causes of Deaths, Bechuanaland and Transkeian Territories	106
IX. Accidents—Urban Areas, Colony Proper	110



CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

REPORT FOR 1904 OF THE REGISTRAR - GENERAL OF STATISTICS, RELATIVE TO MARRIAGES, BIRTHS AND DEATHS IN THE COLONY.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Excellency the Governor.
1906.

POPULATION.

The number of persons in the Cape Colony at the Census (April, 1904), was 2,409,804, made up as follows : Colony Proper, 1,489,691 ; Bechuanaland, 84,472 ; Transkeian Territories, 631,887 ; Pondoland, 202,757, and Walfish Bay, 997.

IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION.

According to the Customs Department returns—which do not include Naval and Military passengers, and in which children are reckoned at the ordinary scale—there was an excess of departures by sea over arrivals between the 1st January, 1904 (the Census was held in April of that year), and the 31st December, 1904, of 1,369 practically all Europeans.

ADMINISTRATION.

The provisions of the Act have been carried out very mildly. In 1895 twenty persons were charged, in 1896 sixty (thirteen being Europeans), in 1897 one hundred and seven (twenty-nine being Europeans), in 1898 one hundred and twenty-four (fifty-five being Europeans), in 1899 two hundred and twenty-one (fifty-four being Europeans), in 1900 one hundred and eighteen (fifty-one being Europeans), with the result that one hundred and eight convictions followed, in 1901 only forty-eight (twenty being Europeans) were charged, with forty convictions, in 1902 fifty Europeans and forty Coloured persons were accused and 84 convicted ; in 1903, one hundred and two (fifty being Europeans) were charged and 97 convicted, and in 1904 ninety-four (forty-seven Europeans) were charged and 77 convicted.

There are 115 Deputy Registrars all told, the area comprised in their jurisdiction being 276,995 square miles.

An important alteration was made by G.N., No. 763, of 5th November, 1900, in Regulation No. XXIV., and since that date Births can be registered within 7 instead of 5 years.

The Resident Magistrate, Port Nolloth, is the only officer who still (November, 1905), retains the appointment of Deputy-Registrar *ex-officio*.

In all other cases, special appointments are made.

During the last fifteen and a half months (January, 1904, to 15th April, 1905), some few alterations as to Urban Areas have been made. Komgha, *Keiskama Hoek* (King Williamstown), Matatiel, Butterworth, *De Aar* (Bristown), Peddie and *Hermannus* (Caledon) and *Hankley* (Humansdorp) have by Proclamations 40, 72, 107, 118, 159, 170 and 298 of 1904, and 98 of 1905, respectively, been created Municipalities, while Van Rhyn's Dorp, Elliot, *Loeriesfontein* (Calvinia), and *Embokotwa* (Elliot), have by Proclamations 26, 117, 154 of 1904, and 100 of 1905, been placed under the " Village Management Act."

REGISTRATION OFFICE ROUTINE.

With our small staff, it is almost superfluous to record our inability to deal with the subject so often referred to in similar terms, viz., the great task of preparing a *General Alphabetical Index of Names of Persons Born and Died*. We have barely been able to accomplish the absolutely necessary work. An important subject connected with Diseases, e.g., *occupations*, cannot be discussed, while only the fringe of the *age* question can be touched. Errors, and the still more perplexing inconsistencies in *Dates* and *Names*, continue to take up as much of the time of the staff as ever, not only in Marriage cases, but in Births and Deaths matters, and it is an uphill task to endeavour, in the interests of those who may not be directly concerned for years to come, to rectify reports, while the only persons qualified to amend the same are accessible.

The practice of this Department in regard to the difficult subject of the Names of *Natives* remains the same as that stated in the Preliminary Report for 1896:—

“It is not the policy or intention of this Department to interfere with any distinct native custom. It is simply desired that one definite plan of reporting may be followed. If, therefore, a Christian native woman contracts a marriage, and such marriage is solemnized under the provisions of the Order in Council of 1838, or the marriage Act of 1860, it will surely not be unreasonable to require that when such person comes to report the birth of her child, or the death of her husband, she shall sign the information form in the manner contemplated by the regulations. All that is aimed at is *consistency*. If the Registration system is to be of any value for the purposes of identifying individuals and facilitating the tracing of claims to property, uniformity of practice must be insisted upon.”

TABULATION BY OCCURRENCE DATES.

Reports relative to Births and Deaths are rendered monthly (becoming due on the 16th of each month and now usually arriving within 10 days from such due date), but the *final* results appear according to the *dates of occurrences*, i.e., events that occurred for example in 1895, but were only reported and registered in 1904, being added to the events of 1895, previously accounted for.

SYSTEM OF REPORTING.

Reports are made by Informants (a) by Forms (b) in Books.

Books are made use of in Locations specially treated, and the native informants have to appear personally before the Deputy-Registrar or the Assistant, and sign the proper Book. In some few Native Districts, where exceptional circumstances obtain, the Headmen or Chiefs are allowed to make periodical bulk statements (*Numerical System*) of the number of males and females born or died in their locations. Transcripts of the book entries are forwarded to the Registrar every month.

In Municipalities, Villages under Board Management, and Special Urban Areas, Births, Still-births and Deaths must be reported in person to the Deputy-Registrar or Assistant, in whose presence the Informant must sign the Registration forms; otherwise the forms must be declared to before a J.P., Minister, or Medical Man. Outside Municipalities, Villages under Board Management, and Special Urban Areas, the Informants must appear personally before the Deputy-Registrar, or Assistant, or Field-cornet, or any Police Officer, and sign the forms, or must have them declared to, or must sign them in the presence of a witness. The Deputy-Registrar transcribes the entries from the forms into his Registration Book, and forwards the original forms to the Registrar.

RACE DISTINCTION.

The following main race distinctions are observed, viz.: (1) European or White, (2) Malay, (3) Fingo, Kafir and Bechuana, (4) Hottentot, Mixed and Other. The *European or White* population consists of the descendants of the original Dutch Colonists and French Refugees, and of the immigrants chiefly of British and other Teutonic races, who more recently entered the Colony. The *Malay* class, consisting of only 15,682 souls at the Census (1904) date, owes its distinctive existence rather to the bond of a common and uniform faith than to any feeling of race. As its name implies, it is of Asiatic origin. *Hottentots*—the name given to the aboriginal natives with whom the Dutch pioneers first came into contact—include a sprinkling of Korannas, Bushmen and Namaquas. But it will no doubt be found that the term “Hottentot” is used as synonymous with “mixed.” “Hottentot” births, therefore, are classed with “mixed,” the separate specification being too doubtful. The number of pure-bred Hottentots can be but small. The *Fingoes* form part of the Bantu family, but were separately considered in the Census tables in consequence of the peculiar relations in which, by force of circumstances, they stand to the Colony, and of their progress in civilisation. *Kafirs and Bechuanas* include—taking them in order of numerical importance—Amaxosa, Tembu, Pandomise, Baca, Xesibe, Bechuana, Basuto and other similar tribes. *Mixed and Other Coloured Races* include the great and increasing population which has sprung from the intercourses of the Colonists with the indigenous races, and Indians, Chinese, Mozambiques, Griquas, &c. They also comprise children born of parents belonging to *different* elements of the four main races.

The proportion of each race to the total population of the whole Colony in 1904 was as follows:—European, 24.06; Malay, 0.65; Hottentot, 3.79; Fingo, 12.89; Kafir and Bechuana, 46.23; Mixed and Other, 12.38.

PROPORTION OF THE SEXES, 1904.

It was established by the Census figures that to every hundred males alive on the 17th April, 1904, there were 97.70 females. When, however, the races are considered separately, conspicuous variations are noticeable. Thus, the proportion for Hottentots was 94.06 for every 100 males; for Europeans, 82.00; for Kafirs, 104.25; for Mixed and Other, 95.30; for Malays, 98.96; and for Fingoes, 110.96. In the District of Kimberley the employment of a large male population in the Diamond Mining industry accounts for the low proportion of females, viz., 56.21 in 1904. This cause still operates, and renders so striking the present disproportion between Births and Deaths at Kimberley and Beaufort West.

BIRTHS.

PROPORTION OF THE SEXES, 1904.

It appears to be the general rule in European countries for male births to exceed the female. This rule also applies to the Cape Colony.

Taking the figures for the *Colony Proper* for 1903-1904 we can derive the following percentages, viz.:—

Race.	To each 100 Girls.	To each 100 Boys.	Race.	To each 100 Girls.	To each 100 Boys.
European ...	1903 106.59 boys.	93.82 girls.	Mixed and others ...	1903 103.39 boys.	96.72 girls.
	1904 104.70 ..	95.51 ..		1904 101.98 ..	98.05 ..
Fingo, Kafir and Bechuana	1903 103.31 ..	96.79 ..	All Races ...	1903 104.57 ..	95.63 ..
	1904 105.64 ..	94.65 ..		1904 103.90 ..	96.25 ..
Malay ...	1903 105.31 ..	94.95 ..	Other than European...	1903 103.40 ..	96.71 ..
	1904 99.32 ..	100.69 ..		1904 103.41 ..	96.70 ..

Placing the figures above quoted alongside of those given in the Census Tables, the following interesting comparison attracts attention, viz.:—

Race.	Females alive 17th April, 1904, to every 100 males.	Females born in 1904, to every 100 males.	Females born in 1903, to every 100 males.
European ...	82.16	95.51	93.82
Fingo, Kafir and Bechuana	91.70	94.65	96.79
Hottentot, Mixed and Other	94.64	98.05	96.72
Malay ...	98.81	100.69	94.95

GENERAL COMPARATIVE SUMMARY. COLONY PROPER, 1902, 1903 AND 1904, WITH PROPORTIONS.

* Events having been extracted to 15th April, 1905, in regard to 1902, 1903 and 1904, the grand total of Births for 1902 computes to 53,900, for 1903 to 56,278, and for 1904 to 56,802. The figures for Bechuanaland are 1,313, 1,433, 1,609 respectively. The figures for Walfish Bay are small, only 20, 18 and 16 respectively, Pondoland 1,090, 993, 799, while for the combined other Transkeian Territories they are 9,259, 9,369, and 7,958. For purposes of comparison it is expedient to restrict attention to the Colony Proper, although even then in some of the areas like Glen Grey, carrying an overwhelming Kafir, Fingo, and Bechuana population, birth reports, owing to the strong prejudices of the people, are manifestly imperfect. The figures are:—

COLONY PROPER, excluding BECHUANALAND AND NATIVE TERRITORIES.

SEX AND YEAR.	White.	Malay.	Fingo, Kafir and Bechuana.	Hottentot, Mixed and Other.	Total other than European or White.	Total.
M. 1902 ...	7,772	342	5,837	7,626	13,805	21,577
1903 ...	8,465	337	5,775	8,152	14,264	22,729
1904 ...	9,006	291	6,035	8,321	14,647	23,653
F. 1902 ...	7,329	280	5,711	7,316	13,307	20,636
1903 ...	7,940	320	5,591	7,882	13,793	21,733
1904 ...	8,602	293	5,712	8,159	14,164	22,766

The undermentioned percentage proportions are calculated on these figures:—

SEX.	Year.	White.	Malay.	Fingo, Kafir and Bechuana.	Hottentot, Mixed and Other.	Total other than European or White.	100.00
M.	1902 ...	36.01	1.59	27.05	35.35	63.99	100.00
	1903 ...	37.24	1.48	25.42	35.86	62.76	100.00
	1904 ...	38.08	1.23	25.51	35.18	61.92	100.00
F.	1902 ...	35.51	1.36	27.68	35.45	64.49	100.00
	1903 ...	36.53	1.47	25.73	36.27	63.47	100.00
	1904 ...	37.78	1.29	25.09	35.84	62.22	100.00

* Including “at Sea” cases.

The population of the Colony Proper was 1,489,691 (Census) April, 1904, which gives a Birthrate of 31.16 per 1,000.

Birthrates for European Countries and Australasian States and Colonies may be quoted from Coghlan's *Statistical Account of Australia and New Zealand, 1903-4*, as follows:—

EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.—Mean rate, 1893-1903, per 1,000 of population: Hungary, 39.83; Austria, 36.93; Italy, 34.24; German Empire, 35.88; England and Wales, 29.15; Scotland, 29.75; Norway, 29.79; Belgium, 28.55; Switzerland, 28.17; Ireland, 23.14; France, 22.00.

AUSTRALASIAN STATES.—Mean rate, 1894-1903, per 1,000 of population: Queensland, 29.81; New South Wales, 28.20; Tasmania, 28.94; South Australia, 26.55; New Zealand, 26.16; Western Australia, 29.20; Victoria, 26.39.

The subjoined return shows as regards a selection of the Principal Cities and Towns the total number of Births which occurred during the three years 1902-1903 and 1904, and had so far been registered.

CITIES AND CHIEF TOWNS, 1902, 1903, 1904.

Cities and Towns.	1902.			1903.			1904.			
	M.	F.	Both.	M.	F.	Both.	M.	F.	Both.	
Cape Town ...	2,580	2,588	2,856	702	694	675	Claremont ...	467	468	450
Kimberley ...	1,002	839	866	416	468	500	Graham's Town ...	367	444	451
Port Elizabeth...	1,720	1,423*	1,214*	401	418	414	Uitenhage ...	374	419	402
Woodstock ...	1,145	1,239	1,349	...	...	...	Paarl ...	...	...	...
East London ...	673	687	717	...	...	...	Graaff-Reinet ...	...	...	...
Wynberg ...	687	718	765	...	...	...	Queen's Town...	...	...	...

* The removal of natives to the location established outside the Municipality of Port Elizabeth accounts for the fall in Births since 1903.

If attention be paid to *European Births* by themselves, the results show themselves thus:—

CITIES AND TOWNS.	M.			F.			CITIES AND TOWNS.	M.			F.		
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1902.	1903.	1904.		1902.	1903.	1904.	1902.	1903.	1904.
Cape Town ...	459	476	519	430	447	584	Claremont ...	113	110	102	104	104	119
Kimberley ...	224	225	233	274	222	226	Graham's Town ...	119	116	108	93	86	100
Port Elizabeth...	329	347	351	333	341	352	Uitenhage ...	96	105	105	111	111	130
Woodstock ...	394	406	444	365	434	457	Paarl ...	57	74	75	63	56	66
East London ...	220	245	277	214	207	253	Graaff-Reinet ...	61	70	80	69	73	68
Wynberg ...	103	127	151	113	119	136	Queen's Town ...	84	68	70	77	81	68

URBAN AND RURAL CASES, 1902, 1903 and 1904.

Not only are Municipalities treated as Urban areas, but localities under the operation of the Village Management Act and regions specially proclaimed to be Urban.

In the Colony Proper there had been 22,488 Urban Births and 19,725 Rural in 1902, 22,931 Urban and 21,531 Rural in 1903, and 23,557 Urban and 22,862 Rural in 1904. For the White and Coloured Races and for the two Sexes the comparative figures are as follows:—

COLONY PROPER, *excluding* BECHUANALAND AND NATIVE TERRITORIES.

YEAR.	White.				Coloured.				Total.			
	Urban.		Rural.		Urban.		Rural.		Urban.		Rural.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1902 ...	4,563	4,324	3,209	3,005	6,861	6,740	6,944	6,567	11,424	11,064	10,153	9,572
1903 ...	4,853	4,544	3,612	3,396	6,893	6,641	7,371	7,152	11,746	11,185	10,983	10,548
1904 ...	5,298	5,115	3,708	3,487	6,631	6,513	8,016	7,651	11,929	11,628	11,724	11,138

and they give the understated percentage proportions:—

YEAR.	White Urban.	White Rural.	Coloured Urban.	Coloured Rural.	Total Urban.	Total Rural.
1902 ...	10.81	10.24	7.60	7.12	16.26	15.97
1903 ...	10.91	10.22	8.12	7.64	15.51	14.94
1904 ...	11.41	11.02	7.99	7.51	14.29	14.03

As a similar statement has been abstracted in regard to the Deaths which occurred in and outside the Cities and Towns, we are enabled to make an interesting comparison, showing the concentration of population in the Townships, thus:—

YEAR.	Births.					Deaths.				
	Urban.		Rural.		Both.	Urban.		Rural.		Both.
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	
1902 ...	11,424	11,064	10,153	9,572	42,213	10,674	8,826	6,095	5,751	31,348
Percentage ...	27.07	26.21	24.05	22.67	100.00	34.05	28.16	19.44	18.35	100.00
1903 ...	11,746	11,185	10,983	10,548	44,462	10,472	8,315	6,860	6,399	32,046
Percentage ...	26.42	25.16	24.69	23.73	100.00	32.68	25.95	21.40	19.97	100.00
1904 ...	11,929	11,628	11,724	11,138	46,419	9,054	7,593	7,314	6,823	30,784
Percentage ...	25.70	25.05	25.26	23.99	100.00	29.41	24.67	23.76	22.16	100.00

URBAN CASES ALONE, 1904.

Births.—Discarding all rural cases, it is found that at present there are only 23,557 events in the Colony excluding Bechuanaland and the Native Territories, to be treated of, and it is only too evident that there are numerous unreported cases. For sex, the division is 50.64 per cent. boys and 49.36 girls. European or White infants absorbed 44.20 per cent. of the whole; Malay 2.31; Fingo, Kaffir and Bechuana, 14.19; Hottentot, Mixed and Other, 39.30.

Deaths.—There is no reason to think, on the contrary, that the Town mortality statistics are not fairly comprehensive. There were in 1904 in Cities, Towns and Special Urban Areas in the Colony Proper no less than 16,647 cases, whereof considerably more than half (54.39) were of males. Europeans contributed 27.25 per cent. of the total; Malays, 2.51; Fingo, Kaffirs and Bechuanas, 27.65; Hottentots, Mixed and Others, 42.59.

The above returns may be exhibited side by side thus:—

	Urban Total.	%		European.	Malay.	Fingo, Kaffir and Bechuana.	Hottentot, Mixed and Other.
		M.	F.				
Births ...	23,557	50.64	49.36	44.20	2.31	14.19	39.30
Deaths ...	16,647	54.39	45.61	27.25	2.51	27.65	42.59

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.

The total number of births of *European or White* infants was 17,608 in the Colony Proper, comprising 9,006 males and 8,602 females; of these 406 were illegitimate, 199 being male and 207 of the female sex. It follows, therefore, that the percentage of illegitimate to total births was 2.31. By way of comparison, the following figures taken from *Coghlan's Statistical Account of Australia and New Zealand* are given:—

VARIOUS COUNTRIES.—Illegitimate births to every 100 children born, based on the latest quinquennial period: Austria, 14.55; Sweden, 10.80; German Empire, 9.21; Belgium, 8.51; France, 8.26; Prussia, 7.84; Scotland, 6.33; Norway, 7.35; Italy, 6.34; England, 4.04; Ireland, 2.65. Australian percentages, 1903: New South Wales, 6.71; Victoria, 5.73; Western Australia, 4.69; Queensland, 6.79; Tasmania, 5.61; New Zealand, 4.55; South Australia, 4.16.

Before discussing the subject of percentages obtained from the figures published on other pages, it is worth while to advert to the difficult question of marriage by *Native Custom*. The Chief Justice, in deciding on the appeal case of *Ngqobela vs Sihle*, heard in the Supreme Court, December, 1893, delivered an elaborate judgment, from which the following items of information are taken. Act No. 16 of 1860 provides for the appointment of Marriage Officers for solemnising the marriages of persons professing the Mohammedan faith according to the Mohammedan customs and usages, but not for marriages according to Native custom, and a union therefore founded only upon native usage and custom within the Colony proper is not a marriage, and Courts of Law are bound to treat the intercourse as illicit. Any marriage which would be regarded as valid in any of the dependencies of the Colony, must be regarded as valid in the Colony, although Colonial solemnities have not been observed (and this is important), if it is not opposed to the essential nature of the contract as

understood in the Colony. The Court held the effect of Proclamation No. 14 of 1885 is to dispense with the solemnities required by the laws of the Colony Proper in the case of natives electing to marry in Tembuland (it was a case originating there that was before the Court) according to their own customs. If they register the marriage it has the same effect as marriage contracted under Colonial law; if they do not register it remains valid, but its effect must be judged by the native custom of the territory. The Supreme Court can only administer the law of the Colony, but for that purpose it may become necessary to give effect to the laws of other countries and dependencies so far as they affect the validity of any contract entered into by the parties to the suit, &c.

From the foregoing considerations it will be evident that from the information obtainable from the general run of natives, it is impossible to state for certain how many births are legitimate or natural. In the Registration Books specially framed for use in Native Locations no enquiry is made as to the date or place of marriage, and under the numerical system the sole question asked is whether the infant is a boy or girl. The returns of Fingo and Kafir births have been tabulated under three headings, Legitimate Cases, Native Custom, Illegitimate, but such an arrangement can only be viewed as a temporary expedient. When the difficulties of deciding the validity of certain native marriages in the Transkeian Territories are so great as to necessitate appeals to the Supreme Court to settle the moot points, this Department must reasonably be excused from tabulating decisively births the result of Native marriages as to which there is no evidence to prove the domicile of the parties at the time of the union.

It would be futile to investigate any proportion where such uncertainty exists.

Births of children belonging to the *Mixed, Other and Hottentot Races with Malays* amounted in 1904, in the *Colony Proper* only, to 17,064 in all, 8,612 being boys and 8,452 girls; of these events 5,381 were illegitimate, consisting of 2,704 males and 2,677 females, giving the following percentage proportions, viz.:-

Illegitimate births to total Mixed and Other births (Colony Proper only) ... 31.53

STILL BIRTHS.

The number of Still Births reported in the Urban Areas was as follows for the three years 1902, 1903, 1904, the events being taken out to 15th April, 1905 :-

YEAR.	European.		Coloured.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
	1902	153	130	334	247
1903	175	157	385	344
1904	196	158	346	316

DEATHS.

GENERAL COMPARATIVE SUMMARY.—COLONY PROPER, 1902, 1903 AND 1904—with proportions.

In all, deaths to the number of *40,695 had been recorded for the year 1904.

Adding to the deaths registered in 1903, the events of that year subsequently recorded, a grand total of 40,826 cases is arrived at; similar figures for 1902 are stated to be 41,207. The figures for Walfish Bay are insignificant—55, 41 and 32 deaths for the three years—while those for the Transkeian Territories 8,001, 6,496 and 7,341; Bechuanaland, 876, 1,150 and 1,294; Pondoland, 938, 1,028 and 1,031, for 1904, 1903 and 1902 are unavoidably imperfect, consequently it is advisable to compare—partially as it can now be done—simply the Colony Proper occurrences, which in 1904 numbered 16,409 as regards Males, and 14,416 for Females. 24.13 per cent. of the Male Deaths were amongst Whites and 75.87 amongst the Coloured Races; similar figures for Females show 21.03 and 78.97 per cent. respectively. It will be noticed that the percentages for European or White Deaths are remarkably similar to those of the previous year. The subjoined statement affords a general view of the data :-

* Including "at Sea" cases.

RETURN showing for each of the years 1902, 1903 and 1904 the number of Deaths of Male and Female persons of each of the four Main Races with percentage proportions.

COLONY PROPER ONLY, excluding BECHUANALAND AND NATIVE TERRITORIES.

SEX AND YEAR.	White.	Malay.	Fingo, Kaffir and Bechuana.	Hottentot, Mixed and Other.	Total other than White.	Total.
M. 1902	4,119	258	6,191	6,203	12,652	16,771
1903	4,262	287	6,451	6,332	13,070	17,332
1904	3,949	235	6,459	5,725	12,419	16,368
F. 1902	3,257	245	5,048	6,027	11,320	14,577
1903	3,190	260	5,253	6,011	11,524	14,714
1904	3,031	210	5,552	5,623	11,385	14,416

From the above data, the following percentages are derived :-

SEX AND YEAR.	White.	Malay.	Fingo, Kaffir and Bechuana.	Hottentot, Mixed and Other.	Total other than White.	Total.
M. 1902	24.55	1.54	36.92	36.99	75.45	100.00
1903	24.59	1.65	37.23	36.53	75.41	100.00
1904	24.13	1.43	39.46	34.98	75.87	100.00
F. 1902	22.34	1.68	34.63	41.35	77.66	100.00
1903	21.68	1.77	35.70	40.85	78.32	100.00
1904	21.03	1.46	38.51	39.00	78.97	100.00

The population of the Colony Proper was 1,489,691 (Census) April, 1904, which would give a death rate of 20.66 per 1,000.

The death rates for the undermentioned countries have been taken from Coghlan's "Statistical Account of Australia and New Zealand."

EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.—Mean rate, 1893-1903, per 1,000 of population: Austria, 25.66; Italy, 23.37; German Empire, 21.47; France, 20.90; Ireland, 18.03; Switzerland, 18.43; England and Wales, 17.21; Scotland, 17.78; Norway, 15.42.

AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES AND STATES.—Mean rate, 1894-1903, per 1,000 of population: W. Australia, 14.64; Victoria, 13.43; Tasmania, 11.97; S. Australia, 11.62; Queensland, 12.31; N.S. Wales, 11.87; New Zealand, 9.87.

CHIEF TOWNS, 1902, 1903 and 1904.

After the *non-resident* hospital cases have been deducted from the total number of deaths that happened in the most important centres of population, it is seen that the following comparative results show themselves, namely :-

Cities and Towns.	1902.	1903.	1904.	Cities and Towns.	1902.	1903.	1904.
Cape Town	1,922	1,909	1,522	Claremont	374	386	330
Kimberley	1,243	1,104	897	Graham's Town	396	451	326
Port Elizabeth	1,425	975*	631*	Uitenhage	357	352	382
Woodstock	585	635	543	Paarl	298	358	333
East London	397	418	386	Graaff-Reinet	487	307	416
Wynberg	405	513	461	Queen's Town	346	384	251

* The removal of Natives to the Location established outside the Municipality of Port Elizabeth accounts for the fall of deaths since 1903.

URBAN AND RURAL CASES, 1902, 1903 and 1904.

For the purposes of the Act No. 7 of 1894, areas under Municipal and Village Board control, as well as certain specially so proclaimed, are termed and treated as "Urban." Confining attention to the Colony Proper alone, it will be seen that there were 19,500 Urban and 11,848 Rural in 1902, and 18,787 Urban and 13,259 Rural in 1903, and 16,647 Urban Deaths and 14,137 Rural in 1904, and that the component items for the two Races and Sexes give the following results :-

YEAR.	White.				Coloured.				Total.			
	Urban.		Rural.		Urban.		Rural.		Urban.		Rural.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1902...	2,884	2,146	1,235	1,111	7,790	6,680	4,862	4,640	10,674	8,826	6,097	5,751
1903...	2,917	2,014	1,315	1,176	7,555	6,301	5,515	5,223	10,472	8,315	6,860	6,399
1904...	2,624	1,913	1,325	1,118	6,430	5,680	5,989	5,705	9,054	7,593	7,314	6,823

From these figures the subjoined percentages are derived :-

YEAR.	White.	Malay.	Fingo, Kaffir and Bechuana.	Hottentot, Mixed and Other.	Total other than White.	Total.
1902...	9.20	6.85	3.93	3.54	24.85	21.31
1903...	9.10	6.29	4.19	3.67	23.58	19.66
1904...	8.52	6.22	4.30	3.63	20.89	18.45

AGES, NUMBERS AND PERCENTAGES, 1902, 1903 and 1904.

In the Colony Proper European children under 5 years of age to the number of 3,079 died, compared with 3,128 in 1903, and 3,104 in 1902, and Coloured Children to the number of 12,259, 12,281 and 12,625 respectively. There is a large fluctuation in the number of Europeans over 5 years that passed away in the three years (3,901, 4,324 and 4,272), and the Coloured Deaths of that age period rose from 11,347 in 1902 to 12,313 in 1903, and fell to 11,545 in 1904.

The main results of the return may be stated as follows:—

COLONY PROPER, *excluding* BECHUANALAND AND NATIVE TERRITORIES.

YEAR.	European.									Coloured.									
	Total.			Unspeci- fied.		Over Five Years.		Under Five Years.		Persons.	Total.			Unspeci- fied.		Over Five Years.		Under Five Years.	
	M.	F.	Per- sons.	Cer- tified	Un- cer- tified	Cer- tified	Un- cer- tified	Cer- tified	Un- cer- tified		M.	F.	Per- sons.	Cer- tified	Un- cer- tified	Cer- tified	Un- cer- tified	Cer- tified	Un- cer- tified
1902 ...	4119	3257	7376	...	...	3139	1133	1974	1130	12652	11320	23972	...	...	5198	6149	5143	7482
1903 ...	4262	3190	7452	...	...	3137	1187	2013	1115	13070	11524	24594	...	...	5866	6447	5521	6760
1904 ...	3949	3031	6980	...	...	2833	1068	1944	1135	12419	11385	23804	...	...	5042	6503	5069	7190

or arranged by percentages thus:—

YEAR.	M.	F.	Per- sons.	Cer- tified	Un- cer- tified	Cer- tified	Un- cer- tified	Cer- tified	Un- cer- tified	M.	F.	Per- sons.	Cer- tified	Un- cer- tified	Cer- tified	Un- cer- tified	Cer- tified	Un- cer- tified
1902 ...	13.13	10.39	23.52	...	...	10.01	3.61	6.30	3.60	40.36	36.12	76.48	...	...	16.58	19.62	16.41	23.87
1903 ...	13.30	9.95	23.25	...	...	9.79	3.70	6.28	3.48	40.79	35.96	76.75	...	...	18.30	20.12	17.23	21.10
1904 ...	12.83	9.84	22.67	...	...	9.20	3.47	6.31	3.69	40.34	36.99	77.33	...	...	16.38	21.12	16.47	23.36

DETAILED AGES OF DECEASED.

By the commendable exertions of the quite inadequate staff of Tabulators the Department has been enabled again to present some details on the important subject of the ages of persons who died in 55 chief towns. The statistics are arranged to show (a) the number of certified and uncertified European and Coloured cases and (b) the principal certified and uncertified causes of death in each chief town.

The subjoined analysis relates to 12,402 events, the specific ages being wanted in 2 instances of adults and 1 infant, and we find that amongst Europeans 22.62 per cent. were males under 5, and 18.37 females; 36.58 males over 5, and 22.43 females. For Coloured persons the figures were, under 5, 27.38 and 25.23 per cent.; over 5 years, 26.86 and 20.53.

As the return may fairly be taken as typical of the age distribution of the general death tables it is as well to give a short abstract in the following shape:—

PROPORTIONS PER CENT.—FOR EUROPEANS AND ALL OTHERS SEPARATELY—OF DEATHS AT EACH AGE PERIOD TO TOTAL DEATHS.

Race.	0 Days to 1 Month.		1 to 6 Months.		6 to 12 Months.		12 Months to 2 Years.		2 to 3 Years.		3 to 4 Years.		4 to 5 Years.		Total Under 5 Years.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
European ...	5.45	3.68	7.28	6.08	4.44	4.82	3.44	2.15	.90	.82	.65	.46	.46	.36	22.62	18.37
All Others ...	5.19	4.20	7.19	6.39	6.54	5.41	4.75	5.52	1.87	1.92	1.24	1.31	.59	.48	27.38	25.23

Race.	5 Yrs.—		10 Yrs.—		15 Yrs.—		20 Yrs.—		25 Yrs.—		30 Yrs.—		35 Yrs.—		45 Yrs.—		55 Yrs.—		65 Yrs.—		75 Yrs. Up.		Unspeci- fied.	Total over 5 Years.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.					
European	1.14	1.31	.60	.60	1.28	1.12	3.19	1.61	3.27	1.44	3.87	1.58	6.79	3.57	5.86	2.78	3.76	2.53	4.09	2.37	2.73	3.52	...	36.58	22.43
All Others	1.60	1.81	1.13	1.24	1.44	2.10	2.76	2.22	3.56	2.19	2.83	1.74	4.74	2.55	3.12	1.99	2.41	1.65	1.64	1.37	1.61	1.67	...	26.86	20.53

(a) One Male under 5 years = .01, (b) Two Male Adults = .02. Ages Unspecified (included).

DETAILED AGES, 1904.—EUROPEAN CASES.

Taking advantage of the opportunity now afforded of instituting a comparison between the proportions per cent. by the different age periods of deaths, amongst males and females to total deaths of Europeans in Sydney and in the Chief Towns of this Colony, we are enabled to exhibit the following figures, noting in passing, that the New South Wales returns account for 5,937 (3,190 males and 2,747 females) fatal cases in 1902, and ours for 3,669, (2,172 males and 1,497 females) for the year, 1904.

LOCALITIES.	0 Months to under 12 Months.		12 Months and under 2 Years.		2 Years and under 3 Years.		3 Years and under 4 Years.		4 Years and under 5 Years.		Total under 5 years.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Cape, Chief Towns, 1904	17.17	14.58	3.44	2.15	.90	.82	.65	.46	.46	.36	22.62	18.37
Sydney ... 1902	13.17	11.37	2.31	2.22	.79	.69	.32	.37	.27	.27	16.86	14.92

LOCALITIES.	5 Years and under 20.		20 Years and under 30.		30 Years and under 45.		45 Years and under 65.		65 Years and Upwards.		Total over 5 Years.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Cape, Chief Towns, 1904	3.02	3.03	6.46	3.05	10.66	5.15	9.62	5.31	6.82	5.89	36.58	22.43
Sydney ... 1902	3.18	2.78	3.34	4.06	8.00	6.27	11.69	8.52	10.66	9.72	36.87	31.35

It will be observed that while in Sydney 24.54 per cent. of the European deaths occurred before children had reached the age of 12 months, we had unfortunately a percentage of 31.75 in 1904. The higher age at time of demise becomes apparent in the Australian statement from the age 30 years and under 45.

DETAILED AGES, 1904.—COLOURED CASES.

The Registrar-General's 1903 Report on the Vital Statistics of Ceylon supplies the means of placing side by side data stating the relative proportions of deaths in a temperate and a tropical climate at various age points to all deaths, the only factor for which no allowance can be made is the impracticability of assessing the influence of rural cases in the Ceylon figures (96,084), which are for the Island generally, whereas ours (8,733, including 3 unspecified for exact age in 1904), are simply urban.

LOCALITIES.	0 Days to under 12 Months.		12 Months and under 2 Years.		2 Years and under 3 Years.		3 Years and under 4 Years.		4 Years and under 5 Years.		Total under 5 Years.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Cape, Chief Towns, 1904	18.92	16.00	4.75	5.52	1.87	1.92	1.24	1.31	.59	.48	27.38	25.23
Ceylon ... 1903	13.39	11.96	2.47	2.63	2.37	2.76	2.32	2.68	1.48	1.69	22.03	21.66

LOCALITIES.	5-10.		10-15.		15-20.		20-25.		25-35.		35-45.		45-55.		55-65.		65-75.		75 up.		Total Over 5.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.			
Cape, Chief Towns, 1904 ...	1.60	1.13	1.44	2.76	6.39	4.74	3.12	2.41	1.64	1.61	26.86	20.53									
Ceylon 1903 ...	3.00	1.84	1.60	1.69	3.97	4.15	3.75	3.43	2.40	3.05	28.88	27.43									

(a) One Male Under 5 years = .01, (b) Two Male Adults = .02. Ages Unspecified, Included.

It was found that the Cape figures for *Europeans* contrasted most unfavourably with those for Sydney as regards the tender ages of children, and we remark a similar bad feature now as to *Coloured* persons, and in relation to a worse climate. The proportions are—

Cape—Coloured Infants under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	(1904) 34.92
Ceylon	“	“	...	...	...	...	...	...	(1903) 25.29

The excess of male over female deaths is readily accounted for by the fact of the existence of large locations of male adults at Kimberley, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and other towns.

The mortality statements for the Colony of *British Guiana* allow us to show another comparison—also unfavourable to ourselves.

LOCALITIES.	Under 1 Year.	1 Year to under 5.	Total under 5.	5-10.	10-20.	20-30.	30 up.	Total over 5.	REMARKS.
Cape, Chief Towns, 1904	34.92	17.68	52.61a	3.41	5.91	10.73	27.32	47.39b	Percentages worked on 8,733 deaths—4,139 over 5 Years.
British Guiana ... 1903	20.58	10.10	30.68	3.25	4.33	12.07	49.67	69.32	Percentages worked on 8,741 deaths—6,059 over 5 Years.

(a) One Male Under 5 years = .01, (b) Two Male Adults = .02, Ages Unspecified, Included.

Thus it appears that *more than half* of the Cape Coloured persons who died in 1904 in the cities and large towns were under 5 years of age, whereas in tropical British Guiana less than *one third* of the total deaths took place before the fifth year of age was reached. The proportion for Ceylon was 43.69 per cent.

CERTIFICATION, 1902, 1903 and 1904.

COLONY PROPER, *excluding* BECHUANALAND AND NATIVE TERRITORIES.

Of the Deaths which occurred in 1904, 14,888 were certified compared with 16,537 in the previous year, and 15,454 in 1902; and 15,896 uncertified contrasted with 15,509 in 1903, and 15,894 in 1902. In other words 48.36 per cent. of the cases in 1904 were certified and 51.64 uncertified; again for 6.31 per cent. of the European infantile deaths medical evidence was afforded, compared with 3.69 per cent. wherein such was absent, and 16.47 per cent. of the Coloured infantile deaths were certified and 23.36 per cent. not. In these figures are included reports from the native districts like Herschel, Glen Grey, parts of Queenstown, Peddie and K. W. Town, rarely supported by medical evidence. The data may be summarised as follows:—

YEAR.	Certified Cases.									Uncertified Cases.															
	Total.			Unspeci-fied.			Over Five Years.			Under Five Years.			Total.			Unspeci-fied.			Over Five Years.			Under Five Years.			
	E.	C.	Per-sons.	E.	C.	Per-sons.	E.	C.	Per-sons.	E.	C.	Per-sons.	E.	C.	Per-sons.	E.	C.	Per-sons.	E.	C.	Per-sons.	E.	C.	Per-sons.	
1902	5113	10341	15454	...	...	...	3139	5198	1974	5143	2263	13631	15894	...	...	...	1133	6149	1130	7482	...	...	...	...	...
1903	5150	11387	16537	...	...	...	3137	5866	2013	5521	2302	13207	15509	...	...	...	1187	6447	1115	6760	...	...	...	...	...
1904	4777	10111	14888	...	...	...	2833	5042	1944	5069	2203	13693	15896	...	...	...	1068	6503	1135	7190	...	...	...	...	...

These results may be represented from another point of view, thus:—

1902	...	16.31	32.99	49.30	...	...	10.01	16.58	6.30	16.41	7.21	43.49	50.70	...	...	3.61	19.62	3.60	23.87
1903	...	16.07	35.53	51.60	...	...	9.79	18.30	6.28	17.23	7.19	41.21	48.40	...	...	3.71	20.12	3.48	21.09
1904	...	15.51	32.85	48.36	...	...	9.20	16.38	6.31	16.47	7.16	44.48	51.64	...	...	3.47	21.12	3.69	23.36

TABLE SHOWING THE BIRTH AND DEATH RATES PER 1,000 OF THE POPULATION IN CERTAIN CHIEF TOWNS OF THE COLONY PROPER TOGETHER WITH THE EXCESS OF BIRTHS PER 1,000 INHABITANTS.

Cities and Chief Towns.	Population Census April, 1904.			Births, 1904, and Birth rate per 1,000.			Deaths, 1904, and Death rate per 1,000.			Excess of Births per 1,000 Inhabitants.	
	Europ'n	Coloured	Total	Europ'n	Coloured	Total or Mean	Europ'n	Coloured	Total or Mean	Europ'n	Coloured
Aliwal North	1,758	3,808	5,566	63	123	186	29	145	174	...	...
Beaufort West	2,208	3,270	5,478	35.84	32.30	33.42	16.50	38.08	31.26	19.34	-5.78
Burghersdorp	1,283	1,611	2,894	42.12	37.31	39.25	26.27	57.19	44.72	15.85	-19.88
Cape Town	44,203	33,465	77,668	64.69	34.14	47.68	23.38	42.21	33.86	41.31	-8.07
Green and Sea Point	7,474	1,365	8,839	1,103	1,753	2,856	557	1,073	1,630	...	...
Woodstock	21,783	7,649	29,432	24.95	52.38	36.77	12.60	32.06	20.99	12.35	20.32
Maitland	2,466	2,605	5,071	208	25	233	60	14	74	...	...
Mowbray	7,532	2,057	9,589	27.83	18.31	26.36	8.03	10.26	8.37	19.80	8.05
Rondebosch	3,776	2,259	6,035	901	448	1,349	311	238	549	...	...
Claremont	7,571	7,401	14,972	41.36	58.57	45.83	14.28	31.11	18.65	27.08	27.46
Wynberg	9,335	9,142	18,477	120	207	327	41	158	199	32.03	18.81
Simon's Town	4,843	1,800	6,643	48.66	79.46	64.48	16.63	60.65	39.24	22.71	19.44
Kalk Bay and Muizenberg	2,119	1,488	3,607	259	90	349	88	50	138	...	...
Cradock	3,054	4,708	7,762	34.39	43.75	36.39	11.68	24.31	14.39	22.71	19.44
East London	14,674	10,546	25,220	114	119	233	43	57	100	...	...
George	1,829	1,677	3,506	30.19	52.68	38.61	11.39	25.23	16.57	18.80	27.45
Graaff-Reinet	4,055	6,028	10,083	221	454	675	103	227	330	15.59	30.67
Graham's Town	7,283	6,604	13,887	29.19	61.34	45.08	13.60	30.67	22.04	15.53	14.33
Kimberley	13,556	20,775	34,331	287	478	765	142	347	489	...	...
Beaconsfield	2,794	6,584	9,378	30.74	52.29	41.40	15.21	37.96	26.46	15.53	14.33
King William's Town	5,897	3,609	9,506	81	59	140	36	57	93	9.29	1.11
Malmesbury	1,966	1,845	3,811	16.72	32.78	21.07	7.43	31.67	14.09	9.29	1.11
Mossel Bay	1,657	2,549	4,206	42	62	104	14	28	42	13.21	22.85
Oudtshoorn	4,145	4,704	8,849	19.82	41.67	28.83	6.61	18.82	11.64	13.21	22.85
Paarl	5,041	6,252	11,293	114	183	297	81	219	300	...	...
Wellington	2,408	2,473	4,881	37.33	38.87	38.26	26.52	46.52	38.65	10.81	-7.65
Port Elizabeth	21,987	10,972	32,959	530	217	747	175	215	390	24.20	1.19
Queen's Town	4,157	5,459	9,616	36.12	20.58	29.61	11.92	20.39	15.46	24.20	1.19
Robertson	2,038	1,206	3,244	63	88	151	26	62	88	20.23	15.50
Somers East	1,847	3,369	5,216	34.44	52.47	43.07	14.21	36.97	25.10	20.23	15.50
Stellenbosch	2,497	2,472	4,969	148	266	414	73	350	423	...	...
Swellendam	1,139	1,267	2,406	36.50	44.13	41.06	18.00	58.06	41.95	18.50	-13.93
Uitenhage	6,680	5,513	12,193	208	242	450	123	252	375	...	...
Worcester	3,588	4,297	7,885	28.56	36.64	32.40	16.89	38.16	27.00	11.67	-1.52
				459	407	866	247	726	973	...	...
				33.86	19.59	25.22	18.22	34.94	28.34	15.64	-15.35
				111	152	263	35	327	362	...	...
				39.73	23.09	28.04	12.53	49.66	38.60	27.20	-26.57
				213	133	346	100	143	243	...	...
				36.12	36.85	36.40	16.96	39.62	25.56	19.16	-2.77
				60	97	157	18	65	83	...	...
				30.52	52.57	41.20	9.15	35.23	21.78	21.37	17.34
				75	120	195	23	93	116	...	...
				45.26	47.08	46.36	13.88	36.48	27.58	31.38	10.60
				164	268	432	67	225	292	...	...
				39.56	56.97	48.82	16.16	47.83	33.00	23.40	9.14
				141	310	451	83	250	333	...	...
				27.97	49.58	39.94	16.46	39.99	29.49	11.51	9.59
				58	86	144	27	81	108	...	...
				24.09	34.77	29.50	11.21	32.75	22.13	12.88	2.02
				703	511	1,214	303	374	677	...	...
				31.97	46.57	36.83	13.78	34.09	20.54	18.19	12.48
				138	264	402	62	199	261	...	...
				33.20	48.36	41.80	14.91	36.45	27.14	18.29	11.91
				78	82	160	21	68	89	...	...
				38.27	67.99	49.32	10.30	56.38	27.43	27.97	11.61
				67	133	200	34	163	197	...	...
				36.27	39.48	38.34	18.41	48.38	37.77	17.86	8.90
				48	173	221	33	127	160	...	...
				19.22	69.98	44.47	13.21	51.37	32.20	6.01	18.61
				27	59	86	10	32	42	...	...
				23.70	46.57	35.74	8.78	25.26	17.46	14.92	21.31
				235	265	500	90	292	382	...	...
				35.18	48.07	41.01	13.47	52.96	31.33	21.71	-4.89
				102	207	309	58	215	273	...	...
				28.43	48.17	39.19	16.16	50.03	34.62	12.27	-1.86

Taking the population of the Colony Proper as enumerated at the Census of April, 1904, and the total number of Births and Deaths registered for this section during 1904, the above return of Birth and Death Rates regarding a selection of the Chief Towns has been prepared. From this return it will be observed that for the births of European children Burghersdorp leads with a rate of 64.69 per 1,000; following on comes Maitland with 48.66; Mossel Bay, 45.26; Beaufort West, 42.12; Woodstock, 41.36; Beaconsfield, 39.73; and Oudtshoorn with a rate of 39.56 per 1,000. Kalk Bay and Muizenberg, Stellenbosch and Simon's Town contributed respectively only 19.82, 19.22 and 16.72 per 1,000. The apparently low rate for Kalk Bay and Muizenberg may be attributable to the fact that at the time of the Census enumeration (April) a large proportion of the inhabitants would have been temporary residents only, and this rate cannot therefore be accepted as normal. Simon's Town being a Naval Station, has a preponderance of Males, which would in a measure account for its low rate. The Coloured population of Green and Sea Point is but small, and that of Kimberley mostly mine labourers. The European death rates, as a whole, are good, Green and Sea Point having the lowest with 8.03 and Swellendam next with 8.78 per 1,000. The highest rate 26.52, is at Cradock. For the Coloured death rate, the highest is at Maitland 60.65, and the lowest at Green and Sea Point, 10.26 per 1,000.

ESTIMATED BIRTH AND DEATH RATES, 1895-1904—COLONY PROPER.

The subjoined Table shows for the Colony Proper the Birth and Death Rates per 1,000 of the population for the decennial period 1895-1904. Owing to the outbreak of hostilities in 1899 and to their continuation during the years 1900, 1901 and 1902, the population became displaced and vital statistics incomplete. It is impossible, therefore, to give more than a general idea of the rates for those years. As the figures for the Native Territories including Pondoland are imperfect it is considered advisable to compare the figures of the Colony Proper only:—

Figures for Colony Proper only.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
Births	37,907	38,689	40,412	41,523	41,083	40,870	41,205	42,213	44,462	46,419
Rate	32.40	32.19	32.73	32.74	31.53	30.54	29.97	29.90	30.66	31.16
Deaths	24,905	26,059	26,604	30,032	28,039	36,378	31,163	31,348	32,046	30,784
Rate	21.28	21.68	21.55	23.68	21.52	27.18	22.67	22.20	22.09	20.66
Population estimated	1,170,035	1,201,932	1,234,677	1,268,307	1,302,818	1,338,254	1,374,642	1,411,789	1,450,330	1,489,691*

* Actual Population—Census.

MARRIAGES.

The number of marriages solemnized in 1904 was 12,026, compared with 12,219 in 1903, 12,179 in 1902, 9,552 in 1901, 8,741 in 1900, 8,537 in 1899.

A regular increase, up to 1904, is noticeable. The 1904 figures, however, show a decrease of 193 as compared with the previous year, probably due to the depression in trade, &c.

Friday was again regarded as the propitious day for the solemnisation of the marriage ceremony, as out of 12,026 marriages 376 (compared with 369 out of 12,219 in 1903) of the whole took place on that day. Tuesdays were most frequently selected, 35.2 per cent. occurring then (37.9 in 1902 and 36.5 in 1903), Mondays coming next with a percentage of 30.9 (27.3 in 1902, and 29.2 in 1903), while 1,864 happened on Wednesdays, 819 on Thursdays, 473 on Saturdays, and 541 on Sundays. Three days are each credited with two marriages only. The highest number, namely 132, on the contrary is recorded against Tuesday, 5th April, with 111 on Tuesday, 3rd May, and again on Tuesday, 4th October.

The largest number in a full week was 350 in the seven days ended on 9th April, and the lowest 178 in January.

In 10,472 cases banns were called by Ministers of Religion or by Resident Magistrates, the remaining instances, 1,554, being by licence.

The number of marriages before Protestant Clergymen was 10,510, before Roman Catholic 304, before Orthodox Greek 1, and before Jewish 62, while 1,108 (or 9.2 per cent.), compared with 1,334 (or 10.9 per cent.) in 1903, 11.1 per cent. in 1902, 10.6 per cent. in 1901, 8.00 per cent. in 1900, 7.02 per cent. in 1899, 6.4 per cent. in 1898, 5.8 per cent. in 1897 and 5.3 per cent. in 1895, were dealt with by Magistrates, under the provisions of Act No. 16 of 1860.

The majority of the parties wedded belonged to the Dutch Reformed Church, the number of marriages being 3,291. The Church of England follows next with 2,449 cases, which was 645 in advance of the Wesleyan Church, while Congregational, including Independent and London Missionary Society show 1,169 marriages.

In point of Education 25.78 per cent. of the wives and 26.47 of the husbands could not write their names.

It appears that in 807 cases widowers married spinsters, in 400 bachelors married widows, and in 337 widowers married widows. There were 66 cases relating to divorced wives or husbands.

REVENUE, 1904.

Arranging the districts according to the amount of the collections on account of Births and Deaths Registration in each, it is found that they take the following order:—

Cape, with Wynberg and Simon's Town, £203 1s. 6d.; Kimberley, £31 16s.; Port Elizabeth, £28 11s. 6d.; East London, £19 3s. 6d.; King William's Town, £7 15s. 6d.; Uitenhage, £7 0s. 6d.; Albany, £5 15s.; Colesberg, £5 14s.; Queenstown, £5 8s. 6d.; Cradock, 96s.; Middelburg, 87/6; Paarl and Worcester, 82s. each; Beaufort West, 70/6; Stellenbosch, 67/-; Wodehouse and Mafeking, 60s. each; Malmesbury, 48s.; Aliwal North, 47s.; Somerset East, 42s.; Tulbagh, 40s.; Oudtshoorn, 38s. 6d.; Britstown, 37s. 6d.; Graaff-Reinet, 36s.; Ceres, 32s. 6d.; Victoria West, 30s. 6d.; Fort Beaufort and Mossel Bay, 30s. each; Prince Albert, 29s. 6d.; Aberdeen, 27s. 6d.; Caledon, 24s.; Bedford, 23s.; Willowmore, 20s. 6d.; Hope Town, Uniondale and Matatiele, 20s. each; Calvinia and Swellendam, 18s. each; Carnarvon, 17s. 6d.; Clanwilliam and Libode, 17s. each; Albert, 16s.; Tarka, Mount Currie, Umtata and Vryburg, 15s. each; Hanover, 14s. 6d.; Philip's Town, 12s. 6d.; Alexandria, Bredasdorp, Cathcart, Jansenville, Knysna, Molteno, Murraysburg and Victoria East, 12s. each; Bathurst and Montagu, 11s. each; Fraserburg, Peddie and Xalanga, 10s. each; Gordonia, 9s. 6d.; George, Ladismith, Riversdale, Robertson, Van Rhynsdorp and Elliot, 6s. each; Hay, Steynsburg, Engcobo, Butterworth and Tsomo 5s. each; Kenhardt, 3s. 6d. and Stutterheim, 3s. Total, £395 3s.

Thus 75 Deputies collected £395 3s. 0d., compared with £383 15s. 6d. received by 76 in 1903, £314 11s. 6d. by 68 in 1902, £251 received by 63 in 1901, £213 received by 62 in 1900, £144 18s. 6d. received by 54 in 1899, £126 1s. taken by 62 in 1898, £114 15s. 6d. taken by 64 in 1897, £82 10s. by 46 in 1896, and £53 4s. 6d. by 39 in 1895.

The Municipal Records of Births and Deaths kept prior to 1st January, 1895, and the Voluntary Births Registration Books are preserved in the fireproof safe of the Central Office, where £38 11s. 0d. was collected. The total revenue was therefore £433 14s., against £64 10s. 6d. in 1895, £102 14s. in 1896, £130 15s. 6d. in 1897, £153 1s. in 1898, £175 2s. 6d. in 1899, £233 12s. in 1900, £281 8s. in 1901, £338 4s. 6d. in 1902 and £418 17s. in 1903.

The fee for alteration or assignment of a child's christian name is 2s. 6d.; for a search 1s. for each year or part of a year; for a certificate, 5s.—all payable in revenue stamps. If a certificate is authenticated by the Under Colonial Secretary, that officer charges a fee of 15s. in addition. It should be noted the *Bank of England* insists upon authentications.

For certified copies of duplicate original and R.M.'s MARRIAGE REGISTERS £110 2s. was received in 1904, £108 3s. in 1903, £83 1s. 6d. in 1902, £76 18s. in 1901, £41 6s. 6d. in 1900, £62 4s. in 1899, £55 5s. in 1898, £40 in 1897, and £42 in 1896.

EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure brought to account for the financial year 1903-04 amounted to £7,399 for salaries and allowances to the staff in the Central Office, the Deputy Registrars, their Assistants and Field-cornets.

FINAL.

Owing to the transfer early in 1904 of two of the Tabulating Staff to the Census Department, the issue of the Final Births and Deaths Report for the year 1903, was considerably delayed, and it was not until November of 1904 that it was out of the Printers' hands.

On the 27th June of the same year instructions were received to the effect that in future all Departmental Reports were to deal with the period covered by the Financial Year, instead of as hitherto, the Calendar Year, and that a report for the half-year ending 30th June, 1904 was to be immediately prepared for presentation to both Houses of Parliament. This half-yearly report was completed in May, 1905. On 11th April of this year a resolution was adopted by the Honourable the House of Assembly to the effect that the Government should revert to the practice in vogue heretofore under which Departmental Reports were brought up to the 31st December preceding the Annual Meeting of Parliament. It was necessary, therefore, that a Report for the whole of the year 1904 (irrespective of the half-yearly Report issued) should be prepared.

It will be evident then that within twelve months, two Births and Deaths Reports have been issued, instead of as hitherto one Annual Report. This additional strain has taxed to the utmost the capabilities of the small staff of tabulators at my disposal, and in this connection, my personal acknowledgements are due to these gentlemen for the great assistance so willingly rendered during the last eighteen months and without which it would have been impossible to cope with the exceptional volume of work which has, during that period, passed through our hands.

A. J. BRINTON,

Registrar of Births and Deaths.

General Register Office,
Cape of Good Hope,
29th December, 1905.