

CENSUS

958

REC^d

REG^d 16 JAN 32

OF THE

ISLAND OF ST. HELENA.

IN

1891.

ST. HELENA :

Printed at the Government Printing Office, by CHARLES BRUCE.

1891.

St. Helena,
1st June, 1891.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Excellency, the returns of the decennial Census of the population of this Colony, taken on the night of the 5th of April last, and my report thereon. I submit also a return of Live Stock, taken at the same time.

The Census was carried out upon lines very similar to those adopted in taking the Census of 1881. There were, however, twelve less Enumerators employed than upon the previous occasion.

In the taking of the present Census, a column has been added to the form used in 1881 showing the number of Rooms in a House when the occupier has less than five. The information collated under this head is of great interest.

The statistics in this Report are based upon the Civil Population only, exclusive of the Garrison and Shipping.

The population of the Colony according to the returns is as follows :—

	M.	F.	Total.
Represented by 743 families (other than) Shipping and Garrison) - - - - -	1775	2102	3877
Garrison - - - - -	151	28	179
Shipping - - - - -	60	—	60
	1986	2130	4116

excluding the Garrison and Shipping the returns show a decrease of population of 634 as compared with 1881: of these 294 are males and 340 females, a decrease of a little over 14 per cent, and including the Garrison and Shipping a total decrease of 943.

The decrease is entirely due to the emigration of those who on account of the decline in the prosperity of the Island have been forced from their homes to seek more profitable fields for employment.

No reliable record has been kept of the Emigration and Immigration during the last decade ; but from the Table (No. 5) of Births and Deaths registered during that period the net emigration can with fair accuracy be arrived at. The Births registered were 921, and the Deaths 707, or an excess of births over deaths of 214. If therefore the inhabitants had not been driven by circumstances to leave the Island, the population could not have been less than 4725, an increase of 47 per cent, excluding immigrants : but it must be borne in mind that the emigrants have almost all been, the young, and the able bodied, in other words that portion of the population which would contribute the least to the death and most to the birth rate. It is therefore reasonable to infer that but for Emigration the increase in population would have been very considerable. If the actual number of persons returned by the Census, be taken from this 4725 there remain 848, which number is, I think, the lowest that should be credited to Emigration, during the 10 years.

There is a marked decrease in the age periods of 10 and under, and 20 and under, in both sexes, due doubtless directly to emigration and also to the large number of emigrants of the reproductive ages. In the male population there is an increase in the age periods of 30 and 70 ; and in the advanced periods of 60, 80, 90, and 100 years in females.

The females exceeded the males by 327, or in other words to every 100 males there are 118·4 females. The proportion of females to males has been steadily increasing since 1861 when it was 110·5. This excess may in some measure be accounted for by the number of men who have been compelled to leave the Island without being able to take their families with them. In 1851 there were only 84·6 females to 100 males, see Table 7.

The number of men employed in the American Whale Fishery is large comparatively. In 1890 there were over 100 employed in the Whaling fleet which though American is principally manned by Islanders.

The ages at which males are liable to serve in the Local Militia, under Ordinance No. 2 of 1874, are between 15 and 55. The number between these ages, the Census gives as 893 but from these figures 163 must be deducted representing the infirm the decrepit and those who have left the Island since the Census was taken there are therefore not more than 730 men liable to serve in the Militia under the existing Ordinance.

It is, however, in contemplation to raise under a new Ordinance a force of Militia of men between the ages of 17 and 40, the number of whom by the Census was 516, but of these 111 have since shipped in the Whaling fleet, and 28 have left the Island for the Cape, so that there remain only 377 men from whom to raise the force.

The Table (No. 4) of the places of birth show that 94.1 per cent of the population were born in the Colony; 3.3 per cent in the United Kingdom and British Possessions; and 2.6 per cent in Foreign Countries.

It will be observed that only 24 Paupers are returned (Tables 2 and 3) but in addition to this number 80 persons were receiving out-door relief.

The first record of the population of the Island dates as far back as 1683 when the population was 500, and the last enumeration by the East India Company was taken on the 30th September, 1817. There seems to have been no stated period for taking a Census until 1851 from which date an enumeration has been taken in each successive decennium see Table 6.

In the circuit of 52 years Table (No. 7), the population has fluctuated as follows:—

In the period of 12 years from 1839 to 1851 the population increased 30.5 per cent; from 1851 to 1861 it remained nearly stationary; from 1861 to 1871 a slight increase of 6.2 per cent; from 1871 to 1881 a marked decrease of 22.7 per cent, due entirely to the Emigration which took place in the years 1871–2–3, when 1340 persons left the Island for the Cape and the West Coast of Africa; and from 1881 to 1891 a decrease of 14 per cent, making a net decrease in 52 years of 7.8 per cent.

The Table (No. 10) showing the House accommodation discloses the lamentably over-crowded condition of the Poor. It will be seen that 219 families representing 824 persons were living in 219 rooms, showing an average of nearly 4 persons to each room.

In the case of two families as many as 13 persons lived in one room, and there were four other families of ten, with only one room to each family.

The number of families living in 2 rooms was 226, representing 1135 persons, an average of 2.5 persons to a room; of

families living in 3 rooms was 106 representing 670 persons, an average of 2·1 per room; of families living in 4 rooms was 41 with 233 persons, an average of 1·4 per room; and of families living in houses of over 5 rooms was 151 representing 1101 persons, see Table No. 10.

The houses of the very poor rarely consist of more than one room, with an average cubical space of about 1112 feet. This would give about 86 cubic feet of space to each member of a family of 13 living in one room, or a little over the space allowed to a seaman!

In the case of the two families of 13 living in one room, the sexes and ages were as follows:—

<i>1st Family</i> —	M.	F.	F.	M.	F.	M.	M.	F.	M.	M.	M.	M.	F.
	61	48	26	25	23	20	15	18	14	10	4	4	10 months
<i>2nd “</i>	M.	F.	F.	F.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	F.	F.
	50	45	28	19	14	17	12	8	10	8	6	3	8

Such a very distressing state of over-crowding, cannot be otherwise than highly injurious to the moral and physical condition of the poor.

There were 187 illegitimate births registered in the decade, being in the proportion of 20·4 to every 100 children born.

The Live Stock returns show a decrease as compared with 1881, under all the heads save one, Asses, in which there is an increase of five. There is a marked decrease in Sheep, a little over 1000 head, or 25 per cent. The decrease in Goats is due to the measures that have been employed to exterminate them; the Colonial Government have since 1889 allowed any one, upon *one* day in each month, to destroy them on Government waste land. The decrease in Cattle and Sheep is due to the gradual decline in the importation in the last 10 years.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

ROBT. R. BRUCE,

Supervisor.

His Excellency

WILLIAM GREY-WILSON, C. M. G.
Governor.

TABLE NO. 1.

Table showing the Total Population including Shipping and Garrison, on the night of April 5th 1891, and showing decrease as compared with 1881.

1881													
DISTRICT.	Area Square Miles.	POPULATION											
		Inhabitants.			Garrison.			Shipping			Total.		
		M.	F.	Total.	M	F	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total.
Jamestown	6	1114	321	2435	194	44	238	310	310	1618	1365	2983	
Ruperts and Briars													
Longwood	16½	212	229	441						212	229	441	
Half-Tree-Hollow and Lemon Valley	24½	208	274	477						208	274	477	
Sandy Bay		133	160	293						133	160	293	
Central		199	226	425						199	226	425	
West of Casons Gate		208	232	440						208	232	440	
	47	2069	2442	4511	194	44	238	310	310	2573	2486	5059	

1891.

Jamestown		874	1120	1994	151	28	179	60	60	1085	1148	2233	
Ruperts and Briars													
Longwood		219	211	430						219	211	430	
Half-Tree Hollow and Lemon Valley		190	240	430						190	240	430	
Sandy Bay		112	132	244						112	132	244	
Central		204	227	431						204	227	431	
West of Casons Gate		176	172	348						176	172	348	
		1775	2102	3877	151	28	179	60	60	1986	2130	4116	
Decrease		294	340	634	43	16	59	250	250	587	356	943	

Table showing Male population classified according to Occupation, Ages, and Conditions.

	Colonial Officials.	Professions.	Merchants and Shopkeepers.	Farmers and Gardeners.	Mechanics' and Apprentices.	Mercantile Clerks.	Boatmen and Fishermen.	Domestics.	Labourers.	Pensioners and Houseproprietors.	Schoolmasters and Teachers.	Police.	Mariners.	Imbecile.	Paupers.	Lunatics.	Occupation not stated.	Children.	Total.
Town	10	7	26	7	41	10	99	29	113	8	4	4	82	1	10	2	65	293	811
Briars	—	—	2	1	9	—	—	3	8	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	11	38
Ruperts	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	10	25
Longwood	—	3	1	14	3	3	—	6	81	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	16	90	219
Half-Tree-Hollow	—	1	1	3	8	1	13	4	44	2	1	—	4	—	—	—	19	89	190
Central	3	2	1	15	2	1	5	6	53	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	16	96	204
Casons	—	—	—	17	—	1	1	—	52	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	11	92	176
Sandy Bay	—	—	—	5	—	—	6	2	41	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	4	52	112
Total.	13	13	31	62	63	16	131	50	398	13	7	5	92	2	10	2	134	733	1775

TABLE No. 2, Males—*Continued.*

	Under 10.	Under 17.	Under 20.	Under 30.	Under 40.	Under 45.	Under 50.	Under 60	Under 70.	Under 80.	Under 90.	Total.	Single.	Married.	Widowers.	Total.
Town... ..	222	147	57	130	67	41	34	47	45	18	3	811	568	224	19	811
Briars	7	7	4	7	1	1	2	4	4	1	—	38	22	15	1	38
Ruperts	6	6	1	6	—	2	1	2	1	—	—	25	16	8	1	25
Longwood... ..	58	49	19	29	20	2	8	16	10	7	1	219	160	54	5	219
Half-Tree-Hollow ...	48	44	17	26	13	4	8	12	10	8	—	190	135	52	3	190
Central	71	38	7	25	15	6	6	20	9	4	3	204	141	59	4	204
Casons	60	41	9	20	13	6	11	8	6	2	—	176	122	51	3	176
Sandy Bay	33	22	7	19	4	6	5	6	3	5	2	112	76	33	3	112
Total	505	354	121	262	133	68	75	115	88	45	9	1775	1240	496	39	1775

TABLE NO. 3.

Table showing Female population, classified according to Occupations, Ages, and Conditions.

	Seamstresses.	Domestics.	Laundresses.	Labourers	Shopkeepers & Merchants	Schoolmistresses and Teachers.	Nurses and Midwives.	Disabled and Infirm.	Occupation not stated.	Imbecile	Children under 14.	Paupers & Lunatics.*	Totals.	Under 10.	Under 20	Under 30.	Under 40	Under 50.	Under 60.	Under 70	Under 80.	Under 90.	Under 100	Totals.	Widows.	Single.	Married.
Town	53	139	212	5	9	5	14	3	278	2	295	14	1029	225	226	175	180	68	65	66	46	6	2	1029	95	679	255
Briars	6	6	13	—	—	—	1	—	14	—	9	—	49	7	8	12	10	8	4	3	2	—	—	49	3	31	15
Ruperts	1	3	11	—	—	1	1	—	9	—	16	—	42	12	12	5	6	3	1	3	—	—	—	42	6	29	7
Longwood .	4	17	33	1	—	1	1	—	88	—	66	—	211	51	55	32	21	19	23	10	6	4	—	21	12	146	53
½ Tree-Hollow.	2	15	33	—	—	—	3	—	106	—	81	—	240	56	63	38	25	21	13	15	8	1	—	240	19	161	60
Central	5	20	37	1	—	1	6	—	79	1	77	—	227	56	51	41	22	23	16	11	5	2	—	227	19	152	56
Casons	6	20	9	2	—	2	—	—	72	—	61	—	172	49	36	32	18	13	13	6	3	—	—	172	6	115	51
Sandy Bay ..	3	12	32	—	—	1	—	—	36	—	48	—	132	30	33	25	11	13	7	8	4	1	—	132	8	95	29
Total	80	232	380	9	9	11	26	3	682	3	653	14	2102	486	486	360	233	193	132	122	71	14	2	2102	108	1408	526

* Lunatics 1

TABLE NO. 4.

Table showing the proportion of the Native to the whole Population.

St. Helena.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Colonies.	West Coast of Africa.	United States of America.	Austria.	France.	Germany.	Spain and Portugal.	Sweden.	Holland.	Total.
3650	84	45	16	54	19	1	1	1	4	1	1	3877

TABLE NO. 5.

Table showing the Number of Births and Deaths at different age periods, registered from April 1881 to April 1891.

PERIOD.	Births	Deaths										Total.	Excess of Births over Deaths.	Excess of Deaths over Births.	
		Under 10	Under 20	Under 30	Under 40	Under 50	Under 60	Under 70	Under 80	Above 80					
4th April to 31st Dec.															
1881	41	14	2	11	4	—	11	5	6	5	58	—	17		
Year... 1882	78	29	4	7	5	4	3	6	13	4	75	3	—		
" 1883	77	23	4	2	1	3	1	7	8	5	54	23	—		
" 1884	60	17	0	6	8	6	7	6	7	5	62	—	—		
" 1885	89	11	3	5	6	1	5	11	4	10	56	33	—		
" 1886	89	30	5	6	10	4	8	12	8	5	88	1	—		
" 1887	106	31	2	11	8	6	6	9	8	5	86	20	—		
" 1888	107	14	5	7	5	6	7	14	10	6	74	33	—		
" 1889	126	9	5	3	5	2	3	8	11	4	50	76	—		
" 1890	122	32	8	5	3	11	11	9	8	6	93	29	—		
Jan. to 5th Apr. 1891	26	3	1	1	—	1	1	—	2	2	11	15	—		
		921	213	39	64	55	44	53	87	85	57	707	233	19	

Net excess of Births over Deaths, 214.

TABLE NO. 6.

Table showing Population of the Colony from 1683 to 1821.

Year.	Total.	Remarks.
1683	500	
1714	832	Exclusive of Company's Slaves
1716	883	Do. " "
1716	953	Inclusive of " "
1718	801	Exclusive of Garrison
1720	834	Do " "
1723	1110	Inclusive " " and Blacks.
1802	2511	" " " " "
1814	3587	" " " " "
Napoleon arrived 1815	3721	" " " " "
1816	5511	" " " " "
1817	6157	" " " " "
1818	5468	" " " " "
1819	6061	" " " " "
1820	5827	" " " " "
Napoleon died 1821	5097	" " " " "

TABLE NO. 7.

Table showing the Population of the Colony, at each of the stated periods; distinguishing Sex, and exhibiting the decrease or increase as compared with the previous Census.

Census.	Males.	Females	Total.	Difference from previous Census.		No. of Females to 100 Males.	Remarks.
Years				Decrease	Increase		
1839	2066	2139	4205	—	—	103.5	Exclusive of Garrison 531
1851	2975	2517	5490	—	1285	84.6	" " 704
1861	2610	2886	5496	—	6	110.5	" " 948
1871	2681	3157	5838	—	342	117.7	" Shipping 416
1881	2069	2442	4511	1327	—	117.9	" Garrison 302
1891	1775	2102	3877	634	—	118.4	" Shipping 101
				—	—		" Garrison 238
				—	—		" Shipping 310
				—	—		" Garrison 179
				—	—		" Shipping 60
				1961	1633		

Net Decrease in 52 years... 328

TABLE No. 8

Table of Deaths of both sexes from different causes in each of the years 1881 to 1890, Garrison, Seamen and Passengers included.

DISEASES.	1881	1882	1883	1884	1885	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890
Accidental - -	3	1	1	—	1	6	5	1	—	9
Apoplexy - -	2	3	1	4	2	7	4	4	—	3
Brain - -	5	2	1	—	1	1	3	2	2	0
Bronchitis - -	2	7	3	4	2	1	9	6	1	4
Cancer - -	3	2	1	1	2	4	3	2	1	1
Consumption -	10	6	7	7	5	9	5	6	8	6
Debility (Infants)-	4	9	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Diarrhœa - -	2	—	4	1	1	1	—	2	1	1
Dysentery - -	1	1	1	2	1	—	2	1	1	—
Fever - -	1	3	1	2	4	1	1	3	1	4
Heart - -	4	3	2	4	5	5	4	9	6	7
Inflammation of bowels	6	2	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
“ of lungs	4	8	1	2	—	3	4	4	3	5
Senile Decay -	2	5	3	7	10	10	10	10	15	9
Paralysis - -	7	8	4	4	4	3	2	1	2	1
Teething & Convulsions	9	11	8	5	9	11	9	5	2	4
Various - -	11	4	13	18	9	26	25	15	7	39
	76	75	54	62	56	88	86	74	50	93

TABLE No. 9.

Live Stock.

Table showing the number of Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Goats, and Asses, in each of the stated periods.

	1881.	1891.
Horses.....	202	126
Cattle.....	1444	1139
Sheep.....	4145	3115
Goats.....	1491	929
Swine.....	325	231
Asses.....	922	927

TABLE No. 10.

Table showing Accommodation of population, on the 5th April 1891.

1 Room.			2 Rooms			3 Rooms.			4 Rooms.		
No. of Families.	Family of	Total No. of persons.	No. of Families.	Family of	Total No. of persons.	No. of Families.	Family of	Total No. of persons.	No. of Families.	Family of	Total No. of persons.
34	1	34	11	1	11	1	1	1	1	1	1
43	2	86	31	2	62	4	2	8	2	2	4
41	3	123	29	3	87	10	3	30	3	3	9
37	4	148	38	4	152	13	4	52	8	4	32
18	5	90	24	5	120	17	5	85	4	5	20
20	6	120	32	6	192	19	6	114	11	6	66
8	7	56	23	7	161	11	7	77	4	7	28
7	8	56	14	8	112	9	8	72	4	8	32
5	9	45	11	9	99	9	9	81	1	9	9
4	10	40	7	10	70	3	10	30	1	10	10
2	13	26	4	11	44	6	11	66	2	11	22
			1	12	12	2	12	24			
			1	13	13	1	13	13			
						1	17	17			
219	—	824	226	—	1135	106	—	670	41	—	233

	Families.	Persons.
1 Room	219	824
2 Rooms.....	226	1135
3 "	106	670
4 "	41	233
over 5 "	151	1015
	<hr/> 743	<hr/> 3877

TABLE NO. 11.

Table of number of Horses, Cattle, Sheep and Swine imported in the Colony, in each of the years from 1881 to 1890.

Year.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Swine.	Remarks.
1881	—	276	1089	22	Animals imported from the following places:—
1882	1	164	515	11	
1883	—	202	414	—	Australia
1884	—	87	329	2	Cape of Good Hope
1885	1	136	286	1	Falkland Island
1886	—	118	444	—	Buenos Ayres
1887	4	88	547	—	United Kingdom
1888	2	102	530	—	West Coast of Africa
1889	—	30	219	6	Tristan d' Acunha
1890	—	2	211	1	
	8	1205	4584	43	

TABLE NO. 12.

Table showing number of Schools, and of Scholars of each Sex on the Rolls on the 31st December 1890.

SCHOOLS.	No. of Schools.	Scholars on the Rolls.		Total.	How Maintained.
		M	F		
<i>Government.....</i>	4				Colonial Government
Town Day, Boys ...	—	83	—	83	
“ “ Girls ...	—	—	90	90	
Country	—	73	39	112	
Infant, Town	—	17	26	43	
<i>Hussey Charity.....</i>	4				By a Bequest of Miss Rebecca Hussey
Town Day	—	38	29	67	
“ Night	—	35	14	49	
Country (2 Schools)	—	53	61	114	By Voluntary Contributions and income from Invested Funds
<i>Benevolent Society</i>	2				
Town, Day	—	34	24	58	Contributions from Scholars.
Sandy Bay, Day ...	—	36	35	71	
<i>Baptist Mission.....</i>	1				
Sunday School ...	—	44	64	108	
Total		413	382	795	