

RETURN NO. 15.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the MILEAGE OPENED, CAPITAL EXPENDED, EARNINGS, EXPENSES, &c., of RAILWAYS in the following Colonies (taken from latest Official Records):—

Colony.	Area in Square Miles.	Population.	Average Miles open.	Gauge.	Total Cost.	Cost per Mile for Total Mileage constructed.	Population per Mile of Railway.	Cost per Head of Population.	Train Miles run.	Gross Earnings.	Earnings per Train Mile.	Working expenses per Train Mile.	Profit on Working.	Net Earnings per Train Mile.	Percentage of Net Earnings to Capital.	Percentage of Working expenses to Earnings.	Earnings per Head of Population.	Passengers carried.	Tonnage of Goods.	Earnings per Average Mile open.	Working expenses per Average Mile open.	Net Earnings per Average Mile.	Maintenance per Mile of Railway.	Locomotive, Car, and Wagon per Train Mile.	Traffic per Cent. of Revenue.	General Charges (including Compensation, &c.) per Cent. of Revenue.	Number of Locomotives.	Number of Passenger-carriages.	Number of Wagons and Brake-vans.	Year ending	
Victoria ..	87,884	1,170,304	3,126	5 3	38,829,402	12,250 344	32 15	0 9	228,687	2,615,935	68 08	1,563,805	40 67	1,032,130	27 36	2 74	59 78	2 4	942,263	2,383,445	837	500	337	122	14 39	19 00	5 05	517	1,068	9,053	1897. 30 June.
New South Wales	310,700	1,311,440	2,575	4 8 4	37,369,205	14,157 509	28 9	1 18	130,405	3,014,742	88 99	1,601,218	47 25	1,413,524	41 75	3 79	53 11	2 6	2,672,924	4,567,041	1,171	622	549	139	21 46	14 76	2 35	502	1,026	10,503	1896. 31 Dec.
Cape of Good Hope	221,311	526,000	2,253	3 6	21,193,417	9,407 233	40 5	10 9	987,448	4,078,561	98 0	1,921,809	46 20	1,867,199	51 80	8 98	47 10	15 1	7,978,652	1,378,345	1,810	853	957	193	20 67	11 30	4 0	411	478	7,308	1897. 30 June.
Queensland	668,224	480,079	2,427	3 6	17,280,569	7,068 198	35 19	11 4	939,159	1,179,273	57 25	684,146	33 25	495,127	24 0	2 86	58 01	2 9	2,633,556	1,243,603	486	282	204	111	10 81	13 91	2 20	287	333	4,360	1897. 30 June.
South Australia	903,690	361,632	1,868	3 6	13,755,622	7,364 194	38 0	9 3	706,021	1,042,943	67 54	633,220	41 01	409,723	26 53	2 98	60 71	17 8	5,803,008	1,149,443	559	339	220	93	19 29	14 09	1 45	326	376	6,353	1896. 31 Dec.
Natal ..	20,461	46,788	402	3 6	6,236,555	15,514 116	133 5	11 2	277,106	1,136,214	119 75	421,990	44 47	714,224	75 28	11 45	37 14	24 5	898,259	628,799	2,826	1,050	1,777	182	18 92	10 27	4 65	102	221	1,717	1896. 31 Dec.
Tasmania	26,215	160,834	420	3 6	3,524,051	8,395 383	21 18	3	739,828	162,932	52 85	122,171	39 63	40,761	13 22	1 15	74 38	1 0	542,825	229,707	281	285	96	109	12 43	18 97	3 75	63	156	1,071	1897. 30 June.
Western Australia	975,876	157,819	830	3 6	3,734,477	4,499 190	23 13	4 2	537,192	915,483	86 59	577,655	54 64	337,828	31 95	9 04	63 09	5 16	3,607,486	845,225	1,103	696	407	117	20 98	24 64	3 60	151	224	3,485	1897. 30 June.
New Zealand	104,471	717,649	2,016	3 6	15,577,392	7,719 356	21 14	2 3	403,218	1,286,158	90 5	739,054	55 55	497,104	34 95	3 19	61 35	15 10	4,439,387	2,363,927	638	391	247	150	18 05	16 63	4 76	269	529	8,611	1897. 31 Mar.
"	104,471	731,713	2,043	3 6	15,993,908	7,783 356	21 17	2 3	666,483	1,376,008	90 0	857,191	56 11	518,817	33 89	3 24	62 30	17 7	4,672,264	2,518,367	673	420	254	161	17 97	16 91	4 37	273	543	8,975	1898. 31 Mar.