

Popula-
tion of the
world.

95. According to figures in the Statesman's Year Book 1888, the estimated population of the world in 1886 was :

	Millions.
Europe.....	347
Asia.....	789
Africa.....	197
America.....	112
Oceanica	38
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The World.....	1,483
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PART II.—VITAL STATISTICS.

Collec-
tion of
vital
statistics.

96. Twenty-six towns made returns of mortuary statistics for the year 1887, and with the exception of certain figures collected by the Provincial Government, with more or less accuracy, these returns are the only means of information respecting the urban rate of mortality in Canada that are available, and they, moreover, comprise the only vital statistics of any nature collected by the Dominion Government, except such as are obtained at the taking of each census, and except those statistics of the French population of Quebec, which are taken by the Roman Catholic Church.

Deaths in
certain
towns in
Canada.

97. The following table gives the number of deaths in twenty-six cities and towns in Canada, together with the ratio per 1,000 deaths at different ages. The figures are taken from the mortuary statistics, and, while fairly correct, must be accepted with a certain amount of reserve :—