

The labourers and the industrial and commercial classes furnish the largest number of criminals, and the following have been the proportions of these classes to the total number during the three years 1884, 1885 and 1886 :—

	1884.	1885.	1886.
Labourers.....	42 per cent.	46 per cent.	44 per cent.
Industrial.....	16 “	15 “	15 “
Commercial.....	10 “	8 “	8 “

588. In the three years above named not less than 19 per cent., 18 per cent. and 21 per cent. of the number convicted were returned with the occupations not given, showing still more clearly the unnecessary carelessness of those making the returns. Incomplete returns.

589. The various sentences passed on the persons convicted in 1886 were as follow :— Sentences of convicted, 1886.

	Number.
Death.....	14
Penitentiary, two years and under five.....	316
“ five years and over.....	136
“ life.....	13
Gaol, with option of a fine.....	622
“ under one year.....	1,731
“ one year and over.....	203
Sent to reformatories.....	153
Sentences deferred.....	286
Various sentences.....	35
Total convictions.....	3,509

590. Out of the 14 persons sentenced to death, all of them for the crime of murder, 7 were Indians in the North-West Territories, who were implicated in the rebellion of 1885. Sentences to death.

591. There were 30,365 summary convictions, of which 27,782 were commitments to gaol with the option of a fine, and 1,695 without that option. The proportion of summary convictions per 1,000 of the population was 6·33. This is very low, and contrasts favourably with similar figures for the Australasian Colonies in 1885, which ranged from 100·85 per 1,000 in Western Australia to 25·84 per 1,000 in South Australia. While, however, these small figures are undoubt- Summary convictions.