

Number of individual criminals. 851. The number of individuals convicted was 3,522 as compared with 3,531 in 1890, being a decrease of 9. In the following tables the number of convictions only are given, the convictions being treated as individuals.

Sex and residence of criminals, 1891. 852. The following table gives the sex and residence of persons convicted for indictable offences in the year 1891 :—

SEX AND RESIDENCE OF PERSONS CONVICTED FOR INDICTABLE OFFENCES 1891.

OFFENCES.	SEX.		RESIDENCE.		
	Males.	Females	Cities and Towns.	Rural Districts.	Not given.
Class I. ....	862	45	678	212	17
“ II. ....	279	4	220	63	.....
“ III. ....	2,315	183	1,992	452	54
“ IV. ....	45	5	28	21	1
“ V. ....	34	2	17	19	.....
“ VI. ....	147	43	146	40	4
Total. ....	3,682	282	3,081	807	76

Convictions of females. 853. The proportions of convictions of females to the total number of convictions was, in 1886, 8·6 per cent; in 1887, 8·3 per cent; in 1888, 11·2 per cent; in 1889, 7·8 per cent; in 1890, 8·1 per cent, and in 1891, 7·1 per cent, and the proportion per 100 convictions of males in the same years was 10·5 per cent, 9·0 per cent, 12·7 per cent, 8·5 per cent, 8·8 per cent, and 7·6 per cent, respectively.

Proportion of criminals, urban and rural. 854. It is invariably found in these days that cities and town have an increasing tendency to attract population, and the proportion of convictions among the urban population is consequently on the increase, as shown by the following figures for the years 1886 to 1891, inclusive, respectively; in cities and towns, 76·7 per cent, 79·3 per cent, 82·3 per cent, 81·8 per cent, 80·7 per cent, and 77·7 per cent; in rural districts, 22·5 per cent, 19·5 per cent, 15·7 per cent, 17·7 per cent, 18·2 per cent and 20·3 per cent of the total number of convictions, so that there was a small gradual increase in the number of convictions in rural districts in the last three years.

Convictions in certain countries. 855. The following table shows the number of convictions for indictable offences per 1,000 of the population in certain countries. The figures are the average of five years :—\*

Western Australia.....	15·0	New Zealand. ....	4·7
New South Wales.....	8·8	South Australia.....	3·7
Canada .....	8·1	Tasmania .....	3·7
Queensland. ....	7·4	England and Wales .....	3·6
Victoria.....	5·2	United Kingdom ..	3·6
Scotland.....	4·7	Ireland.....	2·8

\* Taken, with the exception of Canada, from Tasmanian Official Record, 1892.