

170. The women over the working age (55 and upwards) numbered 224,848 in 1891, and 193,674 in 1881, an increase of 31,174.

171. Girls under 15 years numbered 855,382 in 1891, and 811,603 in 1881, an increase of 43,779.

172. Thus taking the population of males and females of the working age we have in 1891, 2,562,366 persons supporting 2,207,759, against 2,258,573 persons supporting 2,007,468 in 1881. The supported in 1891 were 86·16 per cent of the supporters, and in 1881 they were 88·88 per cent. Taking this rough test it seems that the persons to be supported in 1891 were fewer proportionately than in 1881.

173. In the following table a division of the population is made into seven classes :—

1st, Infants, those under 1 year old ; 2nd, children, those from 1 year to 5 years old ; 3rd, boys and girls, those from 5 years to 15 years old ; 4th, youths and maidens, those from 15 to 20 years old ; 5th, young men and young women, those from 20 to 30 years ; 6th, middle aged men and women, those from 30 to 50 years old ; and 7th, old men and women, those over 50.

	1891.		1881.		Per ct. of whole Population.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	1881.	1891.
1 Infants.....	61,308	59,149	61,704	59,473	2·80	2·49
2 Children	244,807	238,341	238,318	220,956	10·60	10·00
3 Boys and girls.....	577,274	557,892	540,376	521,174	24·52	23·50
4 Youths and maidens..	258,325	254,412	237,317	239,281	11·00	10·61
5 Young men and women	431,675	429,028	376,973	384,007	17·60	17·81
6 Middle aged.....	523,546	493,952	435,671	424,954	20·00	21·05
7 Old men and women..	332,001	308,413	274,505	250,338	12·10	13·25
Not given.....	31,535	31,581	28,920	29,849	1·38	1·29

174. Making the dividing line between the 5th and 6th class, we find that 34·30 per cent of the people whose ages were given was for the 6th and 7th classes in 1891, and 32·10 per cent in