

EXCESS OF BIRTHS OVER DEATHS IN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, 1887-92.

COUNTRIES.	EXCESS PER CENT OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS.						Mean for 6 years.
	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	
Norway	92	82	71	69	77	67	76
Sweden	84	80	73	63	68	51	70
Holland	71	66	65	60	63	52	63
England and Wales	67	72	71	55	55	60	63
Scotland	67	73	68	54	51	65	63
Denmark	75	61	68	60	55	52	62
Prussia	58	64	60	52	65	55	59
German Empire	53	54	54	46	58	48	52
Belgium	52	45	48	40	41	33	43
Italy	38	36	50	36	42	39	40
Switzerland	38	39	36	27	36	45	37
Hungary	31	37	47	25	28	..	*34
Austria	32	30	39	25	37	26	32
Ireland	27	28	30	23	26	16	25
France	7	5	11	5†	1†	2†	2·5

*Mean of 5 years. †Deaths in excess of births.

The following table gives the number of children to a marriage in the undermentioned countries. The figures in most cases are for a series of years :—

NUMBER OF CHILDREN TO A MARRIAGE IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

COUNTRIES.	Children to each Marriage.	COUNTRIES.	Children to each Marriage.
Ireland	5·46	Scotland	4·43
New Zealand	5·21	Holland	4·34
Western Australia	4·82	Victoria	4·20
Tasmania	4·74	Belgium	4·21
New South Wales	4·72	England	4·16
South Australia	4·72	Sweden	4·01
Queensland	4·60	Denmark	3·55
Italy	4·56	France	2·98

PENITENTIARIES.

For the punishment of criminals there are five penitentiaries in the Dominion, situated at Kingston, Ontario; St. Vincent de Paul, Montreal, Que.; Dorchester, N.B.; Stony Mountain, Man., and New Westminster, B.C. The total number of persons confined in these five penitentiaries on the 30th June, 1896, was 1,361, of whom 1,331 were males and 30 were females.