



(2) That the increase of the population was extremely slow from the middle of the 16th Century (11,165,000) to the end of the 17th, when it had risen to 13,180,000. This century and a-half gave an increase of only eighteen per cent.

We must not forget that, if the 16th Century is the age of the Arts and Academies, the century of Michelangelo, of Ariosto, of Tasso and Machiavelli and the 17th century the century of Galileo, the whole period was subject to wars and epidemics, some of which were on a tremendous scale. It is therefore not surprising that the eleven millions of 1550 had only risen to thirteen 150 years later.

(3) That, on the other hand, the 18th Century begins to show a more rapid increase. At the end of the century, the 13,180,000 have become 18,125,000.

The increase, comparing the end of the 17th with the end of the 18th is as 100 to 135 or thirty-seven per cent.

We must remember that, during the whole of the 18th Century, the material conditions of life were improving, science and literature were held in honour, new knowledge was spreading and epidemics became less violent.

(4) In the 19th Century the upward movement of the population becomes more rapid and more visible. The first half of the 19th Century gives an increase of the population from 18,125,000 to 24,348,000, which represents thirty-four per cent: the second half of the century brings the population of 24,348,000 up to