men aged 20—35 (including widowers) enumerated at the two ends
of the period, we have—

> 12·47 marriages per annum to each 100 men in Durham ;
> 10·92   „   „   Cardigan ;

but if we deduct from the Cardigan marriages 29 per cent. as really
belonging to other districts, and for the converse reason add 10½ per
cent. to the Durham rate, we arrive at—

> 13·78 marriages per 100 Durham men.
> 7·75   „   Cardigan „

Then, if we compare the marriages with the mean number of
unmarried women aged 20—35 (including widows), we have—

> 17·72 marriages per 100 Durham women.
> 7·07   „   Cardigan „

These last figures seem nearer to the true measure than any
others, yet I feel that the contrast is too strongly accentuated.

In the meantime, the ratios of persons married, calculated on
mean population, assuming the increase or decrease to be in arith-
metical progression, would be—

> 16·03 Durham ; | 12·01 Cardigan;

figures as clearly objectionable as any that could be chosen, since
they take nothing into account but the simple bulk of married and
unmarried people.   These last are in effect the Registrar-General's
figures, though, by a refinement assuming increase by geometrical
progression, he makes the Durham ratio a trifle higher, viz., 16·14.

II.—*The Assize of Bread at Oxford*, 1794-1820.   By ADOLPHUS
BALLARD, B.A., LL.B. (Lond.), Hon. M.A. (Oxon.).

THE following tables, compiled from *Jackson's Oxford Journal*, show
the prices of household bread fixed from week to week by the Vice-
Chancellor of the University of Oxford during the latter years of
the reign of George III.   In all municipal boroughs, except Oxford
and Cambridge, the Assize of Bread was set by the Mayor.   For
instance, during the first half of the seventeenth century, the Mayor
of Woodstock set the Assize of Bread and Beer to be observed by
the bakers, brewers, and victuallers within the Borough (see my
Chronicles of Woodstock, p. 141, where an assize is printed verbatim).
But in Oxford this business was gradually taken out of the hands of
the civic, and transferred to the University authorities.   In 1199
King John granted the City with all its liberties and appurtenances
to the citizens at fee farm, and under this grant the Assize of Bread
was set by the Mayor; but on 18th June, 1255, Henry III granted
a charter to the University providing the Chancellor should be
present at the Court when the Assize was set; and finally in 1355

Edward III granted the Assize of Bread, Beer, and Wine to the Chancellor, and thus took it out of the hands of the citizens.

That a power, which in other cities was exercised by the Mayor, should in Oxford be exercised by the University authorities was always a grievance, and during the period under review complaint was made that the University authorities exercised their power in a very oppressive manner, as was shown by the fact that on 7th November, 1801, they reckoned the average price of a bushel of wheat in the Oxford market as being 7s. 9d., whereas in reality it was 8s. 4¾d., thus causing a loss to the baker of 3s. 4d. on every sack of flour used by him. (*Oxford Journal*, 14th November, 1801.) And as evidence that this accusation was not entirely unfounded, it may be noted that the price of household bread in the city of Oxford was often 2d. or 3d. a peck less than that fixed by the Justices of the Hundred of Wootton, which adjoins the city on the north.

The records of punishment for breaches of the Assize are few, but this is probably because the doings of the local police courts were not then so fully reported as they are to-day. The *Oxford Journal* for 4th May, 1801, reports that :—

" On Monday last, two persons being convicted for selling hot bread, the penalty was laid out in bread and distributed to the poor of the parishes of St. Mary the Virgin and St. Peter-in-the-East, where the persons resided. The same day a baker was convicted for exposing to sale bread deficient in weight, 21 ounces in seven loaves ; and the forfeited bread and also the penalty were given to the poor of the parish of St. Giles of this city."

The former offence was in contravention of 40 Geo. III, c. 18, forbidding the sale of bread within twenty-four hours of its being baked.

Previously, on 18th July, 1795, it was reported that a baker was fined 5l. by the Vice-Chancellor for his bread being deficient 20 ounces.

The form in which the assize was set often appears in the newspaper as follows :—

" The second best price of a bushel of wheat being 12s. 6d., according to which price and a due allowance made to the baker, the assize and price of bread are as follows :—

		To Weigh			To be Sold for		
		lb.	oz.	dr.	s.	d.	
The 1d. loaf	standard wheaten	–	4	15	–	1	
	household	–	5	13	–	1	
The 2d. loaf	standard wheaten	–	9	15	–	2	
	household	–	11	9	–	2	
The peck loaf	standard wheaten	17	6	–	4	8	Avoirdupois
	household	17	6	–	4	–	weight.
The half peck	standard wheaten	8	11	–	2	4	
	household	8	11	–	2	–	
The quartern	standard wheaten	4	5	8	1	2	
	household	4	5	8	1	–	

"This assize took place on Wednesday, the 1st inst." (*Oxford Journal*, 4th January, 1800.)

But in later years the price of the peck loaf (household) alone is given.

The dates in the table are those of the papers in which the price appears, and the dates of the various assizes are not given. In the example quoted above, the assize was set on the previous Wednesday, but after August, 1817, it was set on the previous Saturday. The paper appeared on Saturdays.

1794.		1795.		1796.		1797.	
Date.	Peck Loaf	Date.	Peck Loaf	Date.	Peck Loaf	Date.	Peck Loaf
	s. d.		*s. d.*		*s. d.*		*s. d.*
				Jan. 2	4 –		
				,, 16	4 –		
				Feb. 6	3 10		
				,, 13	3 8½		
Feb. 22	2 2						
		Feb. 28	2 6	,, 27	3 10		
				Mar. 5	4 2		
				,, 12	4 4		
				April 2	4 –		
				,, 9	3 5		
				,, 16	3 –		
				,, 30	3 2		
						May 13	2 1
				June 11	3 4		
				July 2	3 5		
		July 18	3 –				
				,, 23	3 2	July 15	2 4
				Aug. 6	3 –		
		Aug. 14	3 8				
				,, 27	2 8	Aug. 26	2 5
				Sept. 2	2 5		
		Sept. 12	3 2			Sept. 9	2 7
		,, 19	3 –			,, 16	2 8¾
		,, 26	3 2				
				Oct. 1	2 7		
		Oct. 9	3 3½				
		,, 24	3 6			Oct. 21	2 7¾
						Nov. 11	2 6
				Nov. 26	2 6		
		Dec. 5	3 5				
						Dec. 9	2 5
		,, 19	3 9				
Dec. 20	2 4						
				Dec. 31	2 4		
	2 3*		3 3*		3 4*		2 5½*

* Average for the year (calculated to nearest farthing).

1798. Date.	Peck Loaf s.	d.	1799. Date.	Peck Loaf s.	d.	1800. Date.	Peck Loaf s.	d.	1801. Date.	Peck Loaf s.	d.
						Jan. 4	4	–	Jan. 3	5	10
									,, 10	5	6
									,, 17	5	8
									,, 24	5	9
						Feb. 1	4	4	,, 31	6	2
						,, 8	4	5	Feb. 7	5	10
			Feb. 16	2	2¾	,, 15	4	7	,, 14	6	4
						,, 22	4	9			
						Mar. 1	4	7			
Mar. 17	2	5									
,, 24	2	3½				,, 22	4	5	Mar. 14	7	–
,, 31	2	4				,, 29	4	7			
April 7	2	5	April 6	2	3½	April 5	4	8	,, 28	6	8
						,, 19	4	10	April 4	6	4
			,, 27	2	4	,, 26	5	1	,, 18	5	8
						May 3	5	4	May 2	5	3½
			May 11	2	7	,, 10	5	3	,, 9	4	8
						,, 17	5	2	,, 16	4	7
						,, 24	5	7			
June 2	2	3½				,, 31	4	9	,, 30	4	10
,, 9	2	2¾				June 7	5	1			
						,, 21	5	4			
						,, 28	5	5			
									July 18	5	2
July 28	2	1				July 26	4	11	,, 25	5	7
						Aug. 2	4	2	Aug. 1	5	5½
Aug. 11	2	–				,, 9	3	3¼	,, 8	5	–
,, 18	2	2							,, 15	4	7½
						,, 23	3	7	,, 22	4	1
						,, 30	4	2	,, 29	3	6
						Sept. 6	4	7			
									Sept. 12	3	8½
						,, 20	4	4	,, 19	3	7
			Sept. 28	2	10	,, 27	3	2			
						Oct. 4	3	5	Oct. 2	3	2
			Oct. 12	3	2	,, 11	4	4	,, 10	2	10
Oct. 20	2	1	,, 19	3	5	,, 18	4	11	,, 17	2	7
						,, 25	5	4	,, 24	2	5
Nov. 10	2	2	Nov. 9	3	7				Nov. 7	2	7¾
,, 24	2	1	,, 23	3	9				,, 21	2	10
			,, 30	4	–				,, 28	3	–
						Dec. 6	5	2			
						,, 13	5	4	Dec. 12	2	10
			Dec. 14	3	10	,, 20	5	7			
			,, 21	3	8	,, 27	5	11			
Dec. 29	2	2	,, 28	3	8				,, 26	3	–
	2	2½*		3	2¼*		4	8½*		4	7¼*

* Average for the year (calculated to nearest farthing).

1802.

Date.	Peck Loaf.
	s. d.
Jan. 23	2 10
Mar. 20	3 –
April 3	2 10
„ 10	2 7¾
Aug. 7	2 9½
„ 21	2 7¾
„ 28	2 7
Oct. 23	2 6
Nov. 13	2 5
Dec. 11	2 4
„ 25	2 3½
	2 7½*

1803.

Date.	Peck Loaf.
	s. d.
April 9	2 3½
May 28	2 4
June 4	2 6
July 2	2 4
Oct. 1	2 3½
Dec. 10	2 2¾
	2 4*

1804.

Date.	Peck Loaf.
	s. d.
Jan. 21	2 2
Mar. 17	2 1
„ 31	2 2
July 21	2 2
„ 28	2 3½
Aug. 11	2 4
„ 25	2 9½
Sept. 15	2 7¾
„ 29	2 8½
Oct. 13	2 11
„ 27	3 1
Nov. 10	3 3½
„ 17	3 5
Dec. 8	3 4
	2 8*

1805.

Date.	Peck Loaf.
	s. d.
Jan. 5	3 5
„ 19	3 6
„ 26	3 8
Feb. 9	3 10
Mar. 16	3 11
„ 23	4 –
April 13	3 10
„ 20	3 9
„ 27	3 8
May 18	3 7
June 1	3 8
„ 8	3 8½
„ 29	3 7
July 6	3 8½
„ 20	3 8
Aug. 3	4 1
„ 17	4 –
„ 24	3 11
„ 31	3 8
Sept. 14	3 4
Oct. 5	3 5
„ 19	3 4
„ 26	3 3½
Nov. 2	3 2
„ 23	3 1
Dec. 7	2 11
„ 14	2 10
„ 28	3 1
	3 6¾*

* Average for the year (calculated to nearest farthing).

1806.		1807.		1808.		1809.	
Date.	Peck Loaf.	Date.	Peck Loaf.	Date.	Peck Loaf.	Date.	Peck Loaf.
	s. d.		*s. d.*		*s. d.*		*s. d.*
		Jan. 3	3 4			Jan. 7	4 –
		,, 10	3 2¾			,, 14	3 10
		,; 17	3 4				
		,, 24	3 3½				
				Feb. 6	2 11		
				,, 13	2 10		
Feb. 22	3 2						
Mar. 1	3 2¾						
						Mar. 3	3 11
,, 15	3 2			Mar. 12	2 11		
				April 9	3 –		
April 19	3 3½					April 8	3 10
,, 26	3 6	April 25	3 2			,, 15	3 10
				May 7	3 1		
May 17	3 5						
						May 27	3 8½
June 7	3 4						
				June 11	3 2¾		
		June 27	3 1				
						July 15	3 6
July 26	3 4					,, 29	3 8½
		Aug. 8	2 11	Aug. 6	3 3½	Aug. 12	3 11
		,; 15	3 1				
						,, 26	4 1
				Sept. 3	3 5	Sept. 9	4 3
						,, 23	4 4
				,, 24	3 8	,, 30	4 7
		Oct. 3	2 9½			Oct. 7	4 9
						,, 14	4 7
		,, 17	2 7¼	Oct. 15	3 6	,, 21	4 6
				,, 22	3 8	,, 28	4 3
		,, 31	2 6	,, 29	3 8½		
				Nov. 5	3 11	Nov. 11	4 6
				,, 12	3 8½	,, 18	4 8
Nov. 22	3 2¾			,, 19	3 10	,, 25	4 9
,, 29	3 3½	Nov. 28	2 7				
		Dec. 5	2 8¾			Dec. 2	4 7
Dec. 13	3 4			Dec. 10	3 8	,, 9	4 9
,, 20	3 2¼	,, 19	2 10			,, 16	4 8
		,, 26	2 11			,, 23	·4 9
				,, 31	3 10	,, 30	4 8
	3 3¼*		2 11½*		3 5*		4 3¼*

* Average for the year (calculated to nearest farthing).

1810.		1811.		1812.		1813.	
Date.	Peck Loaf	Date.	Peck Loaf.	Date.	Peck Loaf.	Date.	Peck Loaf.
	s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.
Jan. 6	4 5	Jan. 5	3 10				
		,, 12	4 –	Jan. 11	4 6½	Jan. 9	5 1
,, 20	4 5½	,, 19	4 1			,, 30	5 –
		,, 26	3 11	,, 25	4 5		
				Feb. 1	4 6½		
		Feb. 9	4 –	,, 8	4 5½	Feb. 6	5 1
Feb. 17	4 5½	,, 16	4 1				
				,, 22	4 7½	,, 20	5 2
Mar. 10	4 5	Mar. 2	4 –	Mar. 7	4 6½	Mar. 6	5 1
,, 24	4 6½	,, 23	4 –	,, 21	4 7	,, 20	5 2
		,, 30	4 1	,, 28	5 –		
April 7	4 9	April 6	4 –	April 4	5 4		
,, 14	4 6½	,, 13	3 10	,, 11	5 5	April 10	5 2
				,, 18	5 6		
,, 28	4 6½			,, 25	5 7	,, 24	5 3
				May 2	5 4	May 1	5 2
		May 11	3 9				
				,, 16	5 5		
		,, 25	3 8	,, 23	5 4	,, 22	5 1
May 26	4 9					,, 29	5 –
June 2	4 6⅝	June 1	3 8½				
		,, 8	3 8	June 13	5 6	June 12	5 1
		,, 15	3 7	,, 20	5 5		
,, 23	4 6½	,, 29	3 7				
,, 30	4 8						
July 14	4 10	July 13	3 6	July 4	5 7	July 3	5 –
,, 21	4 7			,, 11	5 10		
,, 28	4 9	,, 27	3 8				
Aug. 4	4 7½	Aug. 3	3 8½	Aug. 1	5 8		
		,, 10	3 10	,, 8	5 10	,, 31	4 11
		,, 17	4 –	,, 15	5 9	Aug. 7	4 10
		,, 24	4 3				
		Sept. 7	4 4			,, 21	4 8
		,, 14	4 5½	Sept. 12	5 5	Sept. 11	4 2
						,, 18	4 –
Sept. 29	4 7½					,, 25	4 1
				Oct. 3	5 3	Oct. 2	4 –
				,, 10	5 –	,, 9	4 1
Oct. 13	4 5			,, 17	4 7		
		Oct. 19	4 6½	,, 24	4 6½		
		Nov. 2	4 7	,, 31	4 7½	,, 30	4 –
		,, 16	4 8	Nov. 7	5 1	Nov. 6	3 10
		,, 23	4 9	,, 14	5 3	,, 13	3 8
		,, 30	4 8	,, 21	5 2	,, 20	3 6
Dec. 8	4 4					Dec. 4	3 4
,, 15	4 3	Dec. 14	4 7½			,, 11	3 2
,, 22	4 1					,, 18	3 4
,, 29	3 11					,, 24	3 7
	4 6*		4 –½*		5 1¼*		4 5½*

* Average for the year (calculated to nearest farthing).

2 U 2

1814.		1815.		1816.		1817.	
Date.	Peck Loaf.	Date.	Peck Loaf.	Date.	Peck Loaf	Date.	Peck Loaf.
	s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.
Jan. 1	3 4			Jan. 6	2 7	Jan. 4	4 6
„ 8	3 6					„ 11	4 7
„ 15	3 7	Jan. 14	3 2			„ 18	4 6
		„ 21	2 11			„ 25	4 7
		„ 28	2 10	„ 27	2 8		
		Feb. 4	2 9	Feb. 3	2 9	Feb. 1	4 8
		„ 11	2 10				
Feb. 19	3 6	„ 18	3 2	„ 17	2 10	„ 15	4 7
„ 26	3 6	„ 25	3 5				
				Mar. 2	2 9	Mar. 1	4 8
Mar. 12	3 6	Mar. 11	3 6			„ 8	4 10
„ 19	3 7	„ 18	3 4				
„ 26	3 9	„ 25	3 5			„ 22	5 2
				„ 30	2 10	„ 29	5 5
April 9	3 5	April 1	3 3	April 6	2 9	April 5	5 2
„ 16	3 6	„ 8	3 4	„ 13	2 11	„ 12	5 3
„ 23	3 3	„ 15	3 5	„ 20	3 –	„ 19	5 –
„ 30	3 1	„ 22	3 4				
May 7	3 2			May 4	3 3	May 3	5 1
		May 13	3 5	„ 11	3 4		
„ 21	3 2	„ 20	3 4	„ 18	3 8	„ 17	5 –
„ 28	3 3	„ 27	3 2	„ 25	3 11	„ 31	5 1
June 4	3 4			June 1	3 8		
		June 10	3 3	„ 8	3 7	June 7	5 3
„ 18	3 3					„ 14	5 4
		„ 24	3 –	„ 22	3 7	„ 21	5 7
July 2	3 2			„ 29	3 6	„ 28	5 8
		July 8	3 2			July 5	5 5
		„ 15	3 –			„ 12	5 –
„ 23	3 4	„ 22	3 2	July 20	3 5	„ 19	4 8
		„ 29	3 1	„ 27	3 7	„ 26	4 4
Aug. 6	3 5					Aug. 2	4 -½
		Aug. 12	3 –	Aug. 10	3 8	„ 16	4 2
„ 20	3 8			„ 17	3 9	„ 23	3 11
„ 27	3 10	„ 26	3 –	„ 24	4 –	„ 30	3 10
Sept. 3	3 11	Sept. 2	2 10				
„ 10	3 10			Sept. 7	3 10	Sept. 6	4 1
„ 17	3 8			„ 14	3 8		
„ 24	3 10			„ 21	3 9	„ 20	3 4
		„ 30	2 9	„ 28	3 7		
Oct. 8	3 11	Oct. 7	2 11	Oct. 5	3 6	Oct. 4	3 5
„ 15	3 9	„ 14	2 10			„ 11	3 8
				„ 19	3 10		
„ 29	3 8	„ 28	2 9			„ 25	3 7
Nov. 5	3 8			Nov. 2	4 2		
„ 12	3 7	Nov. 11	2 8	„ 9	4 5	Nov. 8	3 8
„ 19	3 6	„ 18	2 9	„ 16	4 4	„ 15	3 9
„ 26	3 7	„ 25	2 8	„ 23	3 10	„ 29	3 10
Dec. 3	3 6			„ 30	4 2		
„ 10	3 7			Dec. 7	4 5	Dec. 6	3 9
„ 17	3 4	Dec. 16	2 9	„ 14	4 4		
„ 24	3 2			„ 21	4 2	„ 20	3 10
„ 31	3 3	„ 30	2 8	„ 28	4 4		
	3 6½*		3 0½*		3 8¼*		4 6¼*

* Average for the year (calculated to nearest farthing).

1818.		1819.		1820.	
Date.	**Peck Loaf.**	**Date.**	**Peck Loaf.**	**Date.**	**Peck Loaf.**
	s. d.		s. d.		s. d.
		Jan. 2........	3 8	Jan. 1.......	2 11
		,, 9......	3 7	,, 8........	3 -
Jan. 17	3 10	,, 16........	3 8	,, 15........	2 11
,, 24	3 11	,, 23........	3 7	,, 22	3 -
				,, 29.......	3 1
Feb. 7	4 -				
,, 14	3 11			Feb. 12.......	3 1
,, 21	4 0			,, 19........	3 3
,, 25	4 1	Feb. 27........	3 6		
Mar. 7	3 11	Mar. 6........	3 7	Mar. 4	3 4
				,, 11	3 5
,, 28	4 -			,, 25.......	3 7
April 4	4 1	April 3........	3 8	April 1........	3 4
,, 11	4 2	,, 10	3 6	,, 8.......	3 4
,, 18	4 3	,, 17........	3 5	,, 15	3 3
,, 25	4 1	,, 24	3 4		
May 9	4 -				
,, 16	3 11				
		May 22........	3 3		
,, 30	3 10	,, 29.......	3 1		
June 6	3 8	June 5........	3 -		
,, 13	3 10	,, 12........	3 -½		
,, 20	3 9				
,, 27	3 11			June 24.......	3 5
July 4	3 10	July 3........	3 4		
		,, 10........	3 5		
,, 18	3 11	,, 17.......	3 6		
		,, 24	3 5		
Aug. 1	3 10			July 29.......	3 4
,, 8	3 7			Aug. 5.......	3 5
,, 15	3 8	Aug. 14........	3 4	,, 12........	3 4
,, 29	3 9				
Sept. 5	3 10	Sept. 4	3 3		
,, 12	3 11			Sept. 10.......	3 2
,, 26	4 -				
		Oct. 2	3 2	Oct. 7	2 11
Oct. 10	3 11			,, 14.......	2 9
		,, 16.... ..	3 3		
,, 24	3 10	,, 23........	3 2	,, 28........	2 10
				Nov. 4.......	2 11
Nov. 14	3 10			,, 18	2 10
		Nov. 30........	3 4	,, 25........	2 9
		,, 27........	3 3	Dec. 2........	2 8
Dec. 5	3 8	Dec. 4........	3 4	,, 9........	2 10
,, 12	3 9	,, 11	3 2	,, 16.......	2 8
,, 19	3 8	,, 18........	3 3		
,, 26	3 9	,, 25.......	3 1		
	3 10½*		3 4*		3 1*

* Average for the year (calculated to nearest farthing).