

Series
VICTORIAN YEAR-BOOK

FOR

1880-81.

(EIGHTH YEAR OF ISSUE.)

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BY AUTHORITY.

MELBOURNE:

JOHN FERRES, GOVERNMENT PRINTER.

PUBLISHED ALSO BY GEORGE ROBERTSON, LITTLE COLLINS STREET.

LONDON:

GEORGE ROBERTSON, 17 WARWICK SQUARE.

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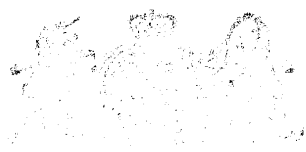
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P R E F A C E.

THE present volume of the *Victorian Year-Book* is published at a later date than usual, the principal reason being that the time and attention of its Author, and of the Department over which he presides, were almost entirely occupied during the first six months of this year in devising and carrying into effect the operations of the census of this colony, which was taken on the 3rd April, and in subsequently pushing on the compilation of the returns to such a point that the numbers of the population, upon which so many of the calculations in the *Year-Book* depend, might be finally determined.

The plan of the work generally differs but little from that followed in previous issues. An exception must, however, be made in the case of the Part called "Population,"* the early portion of which, in order to adapt it to receive the particulars gathered at the census, has been entirely rewritten. The information in the other parts has been brought on to the latest dates, and occasionally much amplified. Fresh subjects have also, in many instances, been introduced.

As evidence of the amplification referred to, it may be pointed out that on the present occasion for the first time the number of pages in the work exceeds five hundred and the number of paragraphs exceeds one thousand.

The information derived from the census, embodied in Part "Population," is that relating only to the number of Inhabitants of the colony and of the Dwellings in which they reside. The compilation of the returns of Ages, Birthplaces, Religions, Occupations, Conjugal Condition, Education, &c., was not sufficiently advanced at the time of going to press to admit of any particulars being given thereof.

In Appendix A is published a short statistical account of the Empire of Japan, translated for this work by Mr. Torao Kida, of the Imperial Treasury at Tokio. The translator was in Melbourne

at the beginning of this year, in connection with the Japanese Commission to the Melbourne International Exhibition, and he has furnished this statement in return for copies of the *Victorian Year-Book* and other statistical works relating to this colony then supplied to him from this Department.

The last *Victorian Year-Book* contained a description of the land systems of the various Australasian colonies. On the present occasion an account of the system of Public Instruction prevailing in each colony has been given instead. The accounts for Victoria, Queensland, and South Australia, were specially prepared for this work, unofficially, by Mr. Thomas Bolam, Inspector-General and Acting Secretary for Education, in the first-named colony; Mr. J. G. Sanderson, Under Secretary for Public Instruction, in the second; and Mr. James Bath, Chief Clerk and Accountant in the office of the Inspector-General of Schools, in the third. Mr. W. Wilkins, Secretary to the Council of Education in New South Wales, was, I regret to say, prevented by illness from fulfilling his intention of furnishing a statement; he, however, forwarded printed official documents relating to Public Instruction in New South Wales, as also, respecting the systems in force in their several colonies, did Mr. C. H. Clifton, Secretary to the Central Board of Education in Western Australia; Mr. George Richardson, Secretary to the Board of Education in Tasmania; and Mr. John Hislop, Secretary for Education in New Zealand, the last of whom also forwarded some manuscript notes; and from these documents it has been found possible to compile in this office a sketch of the Education systems existing in those four colonies. Statements prepared in this manner are not quite so satisfactory as if they had been drawn up by officers acquainted with the practical working of each system, but great care has been exercised, and it is not likely that any serious mistake has occurred. The accounts of the Education systems will be found in Appendix B.

The Tariffs of the Australasian colonies and of the United Kingdom have been revised to the latest dates, and are published in Appendices C and D.

In Appendix E three census tables are published. These contain summaries of as much of the information as was available at the time of going to press.

The information in the three folding sheets at the beginning of the work has been brought on to 1880 by the addition of the figures for another year.

The table of Principal Events, which immediately precedes the Appendices, has been much reduced in bulk in comparison with the similar table in previous years, by the exclusion of all matters not of historical interest.

A lithographed map of Victoria, somewhat larger than that published in the last *Victorian Year-Book*, has been prepared for this work by the Surveyor-General, Mr. A. J. Skene; the numbers of the population, according to the returns of the recent census, being placed in each county. This map has been printed in the Government Printing Office in colors, to effect which it has been necessary to use four stones, and, as a matter of course, to pass each map through the steam lithographic press that number of times.

In compiling the work I have made free use of the admirably clear and comprehensive tables and reports issued by Mr. Robert Giffen, the head of the Statistical Department of the Imperial Board of Trade, of the able reports of the Registrars-General of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and of many other official documents published in various countries. I have also on several occasions, with due acknowledgment, made extracts from *Martin's Statesman's Year-Book*, *l'Almanach de Gotha*, and the *Australasian Insurance and Banking Record*. These works, in point of accuracy, are little, if at all, inferior to official publications.

As usual, every portion of the work has been subjected to close examination by the officers in this Department. Should, however, any errors have been left uncorrected, I shall feel grateful to those who may inform me of their existence.

HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER,
Government Statist.

Office of the Government Statist,

Melbourne, 2nd November 1881.

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