

## TABLE OF PRINCIPAL EVENTS IN 1880.

- Jan. 9.—Subscriptions started throughout Australia for relief of the distress in Ireland. Eventually £31,675 was collected in Victoria, £25,000 in New South Wales, and large amounts in other colonies.
- „ 13.—Opening of the Goulburn Valley Railway for public traffic.
- „ 20.—Re-assembling of the Victorian Parliament after the Christmas recess. Death of Jules Favre, French statesman.
- „ 21.—Capture of Khelat-i-Ghilzai, Afghanistan, by General Stewart.
- „ 30.—Alteration in the charge of postage from eightpence to sixpence on letters to England, *viâ* Brindisi, gazetted.
- Feb. 2.—S.S. *Strathleven* arrived at Gravesend from Melbourne and Sydney with the first cargo of fresh meat, preserved by the Bell-Coleman freezing process. The meat was in fine condition.
- „ 5.—Victorian Parliament prorogued. Imperial Parliament opened by the Queen in person.
- „ 6.—First Fortnightly English mail service by the P. and O. Company commenced with the departure of s.s. *Indus*.
- „ 9.—Dissolution of the Victorian Parliament.
- „ 19.—Trial of Provincial and Suburban Bank Directors commenced, and resulted in the conviction of four of their number, who were fined £50 each, also with that of the manager, who was fined £250.
- „ 20.—One hundred and eighty-two candidates nominated for the Victorian General Election :—Ministerial, 80 ; Opposition, 76 ; Corner and Independent, 24 ; doubtful, 2.
- „ 28.—Defeat of the Berry Ministry at the elections, the result being, for the Government 37 members, for the Opposition 49. The Government tendered their resignation on the 1st March.
- Mar. 4.—Formation of the Service Government, viz.:—Premier and Treasurer, Mr. James Service ; Chief Secretary and Minister of Education, Mr. R. Ramsay ; Attorney-General, Mr. Kerferd ; Minister of Justice, Dr. Madden ; Commissioner of Railways, Mr. D. Gillies ; Commissioner of Crown Lands and Survey, Mr. J. G. Duffy ; Minister of Public Works, Mr. T. Bent ; Minister of Mines and Water Supply, Mr. R. Clark ; Commissioner of Customs and Postmaster-General, Mr. H. Cuthbert ; Mr. J. G. Francis and Mr. R. S. Anderson, seats in the Cabinet without office.
- „ 5.—Berry Government retired and Service Government sworn in. Parliament summoned for 11th May.
- „ 17.—Opening of the railway between Trentham and Daylesford.
- „ 24.—Dissolution of the Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland by Royal Proclamation.
- „ 31.—Commencement by the Harbor Trust of the new river cutting through Fisherman's Bend.
- Apr. 13.—Foundation stone of the new Anglican Cathedral, Melbourne, laid by His Excellency the Marquis of Normanby.
- „ 20.—Notice issued that rewards offered by the Governments of Victoria and New South Wales for the capture of the Kelly gang of bushrangers would be withdrawn three months from date.
- Elections for British House of Commons completed, resulting in the return of 353 Liberals, 237 Conservatives, and 62 Home-rulers. Lord Beaconsfield's Ministry resigned on the following day. Mr. Gladstone formed a Ministry on the 28th. Imperial Parliament formally opened on the 29th.

- May 4.—Died, Sir Edward Eyre Williams, in England ; for many years one of the judges of the Supreme Court of Victoria.
- „ 10.—Melbourne Exchange opened by Hon. James Service.
- „ 11.—Tenth Parliament of Victoria opened by commission. Sir Charles Mac Mahon elected Speaker.
- „ 14.—Publication of Victorian Agricultural Statistics.
- „ 15.—Died, Hon. Niel Black, M.L.C., of Mount Noorat, Victoria, aged 76.
- „ 19.—Motion by Mr. H. R. Williams for an address to His Excellency the Governor, asking that provision might be made for payment of members, carried in the Legislative Assembly by 42 votes to 28.
- „ 20.—Official opening of the newly elected Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland by Her Majesty.  
First reading of the Service Reform Bill.
- June 7.—Second reading of Mr. Williams' Payment of Members Bill in the Legislative Assembly carried by 38 to 24, and an amendment allowing the payment of members of the Council to be treated as a separate measure negatived.
- „ 25.—Second reading of the Service Reform Bill negatived by 43 to 41.  
Hon. James Service, at an interview with His Excellency the Governor, submitted his reasons for a dissolution of Parliament, which was granted.
- „ 26.—Victorian Parliament prorogued to the 29th June.  
Two of the Kelly gang of bushrangers shot a man named Aaron Sherritt dead for having rendered assistance to the police against them.
- „ 27.—Glenrowan, a station on the North-Eastern Railway, taken possession of by the Kelly gang, who then removed some of the rails, in order to destroy a special train containing a body of police sent from Melbourne to arrest them. This design was frustrated by the presence of mind of a schoolmaster named Curnow, who signalled the train to stop by means of a candle placed behind a red scarf.
- „ 28.—Destruction of the Kelly gang by the Victorian police after desperate fighting. Edward Kelly, the ringleader, was secured, badly wounded ; Byrne was shot dead ; and the dead bodies of Hart and Daniel Kelly were afterwards found charred among the débris of the Glenrowan Hotel, which had been set on fire by the police. Two civilians were killed during the encounter. Kelly was lodged in the Melbourne Gaol, and subsequently executed for murder.
- „ 29.—Tenth Victorian Parliament dissolved.
- July 6.—Nominations made for the Victorian Legislative Assembly :—162 candidates nominated for the 86 seats.
- „ 14.—Victorian General Election :—35 Ministerial, 44 Opposition, and 7 Independent members returned for the Legislative Assembly.
- „ 16.—Victorian Parliament summoned for the 22nd July.
- „ 22.—Eleventh Parliament of Victoria opened by commission. Mr. Peter Lalor elected Speaker, and Mr. Berry gave notice of want of confidence motion.
- „ 23.—Mr. Berry carried his want of confidence motion under protest by the Ministerial members that the motion could not be submitted until the causes for calling Parliament together had been declared by the Crown.
- „ 25.—Proclamation of Abdul Rahman as Ameer of Afghanistan under British auspices.
- „ 27.—The Victorian Parliament formally opened by His Excellency the Governor. Amendment to the address moved by Mr. Berry, and carried by 48 votes to 35.  
Defeat of a British force under General Burrows by Afghan troops under Ayoub Khan.

July 28.—His Excellency the Governor issued a memorandum in which he expressed his regret that the majority of the Legislative Assembly had disregarded a parliamentary law or practice in considering questions of public policy before the House had been formally opened.

Resignation of the Service Ministry; Mr. Berry sent for.

Aug. 3.—New Berry Ministry sworn in, consisting of the following members :—  
Chief Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Graham Berry; Attorney-General and Minister of Justice, Mr. W. M. K. Vale; Commissioner of Crown Lands and Survey, Mr. R. Richardson; Commissioner of Railways, Mr. J. B. Patterson; Minister of Education, Mr. W. C. Smith; Commissioner of Trade and Customs, Mr. A. T. Clark; Minister of Mines, Mr. H. R. Williams; Commissioner of Public Works, Mr. G. D. Langridge; Mr. C. H. Pearson and Mr. R. D. Reid, seats in the Cabinet without office. Assembly adjourned until the 31st instant.

„ 11.—Unsuccessful attempt of the British garrison at Candahar to break through the lines of the Afghan army.

„ 31.—Relief by Sir Frederick Roberts of the British troops besieged at Candahar by the Afghans under Ayoub Khan.

Sep. 1.—Ayoub Khan completely defeated before Candahar by Sir Frederick Roberts.

„ 3.—Stranding of the Orient s.s. *Sorata* on Cape Jervis, in the Backstairs Passage, on her way from Adelaide to Melbourne. Passengers, including the Duke of Manchester and Sir Herbert Sandford (British Commissioner for the Melbourne International Exhibition), all the crew, and most of the cargo, saved. After many months' delay, and heavy expense, the vessel was eventually floated off, and brought on to Melbourne for repairs.

„ 4.—Wreck of the *Eric the Red* off Cape Otway; four lives lost, the rest of the crew saved by the s.s. *Dawn*. The vessel contained a cargo of American exhibits for the Melbourne International Exhibition.

„ 5.—Died, Mr. Thomas Higinbotham, Engineer-in-Chief of Victorian Railways, aged 60.

Close of the Imperial Parliament by Royal Commission.

„ 12.—Heavy floods at Melbourne, Geelong, and Sale, causing considerable damage.

„ 22.—Sir Charles Sladen introduced his Reform Bill into the Legislative Council, being in most respects the same as that of 1879.

The following Acts of Parliament received the Royal assent, viz. :—  
“Lancefield Railway Act 1880” and “Suspension of Customs Act.”

„ 29.—Victorian 4½ per cent. loan of £2,000,000 successfully floated in London at an average of £103 3s. 8½d., exclusive of £1 10s. accrued interest. The net proceeds averaged £102 5s. 11d.

The following Acts of Parliament received the Royal assent, viz. :—  
“Sale of Liquors at Exhibition Act,” “Treasury Bonds Act 1880,” and “Consolidated Revenue Act (No. 2).”

Oct. 1.—Opening of the Melbourne International Exhibition with great ceremony by His Excellency the Marquis of Normanby. Among the visitors present were the Governors of the adjoining Australian colonies, their ladies and suites, the Commanders of the ships of war of various nations, the Duke of Manchester, and many other distinguished visitors from abroad. A telegraphic message announcing the fact was sent from Melbourne to Her Majesty the Queen at Balmoral in 23 minutes. Naval illuminations in the Bay at night.

„ 5.—The following Acts of Parliament received the Royal assent, viz. :—  
“Expired Laws Continuance Act” and “Payment of Members Act.”

„ 11.—First meeting of the Melbourne Social Science Congress. The president, Mr. R. L. J. Ellery, F.R.S., delivered the inaugural address.

- Oct. 11.—Conversazione and concert at the Exhibition Building by invitation of the Commissioners; about 13,000 visitors present, the building illuminated by electric light.
- „ 19.—Treasury bonds to the amount of £500,000 successfully floated in Melbourne; £1,228,967 worth tendered for.
- „ 26.—The Treasurer, Mr. Berry, delivered his financial statement and proposed new taxation, amounting to between £250,000 and £300,000 per annum.
- „ 29.—The following Acts of Parliament received the Royal assent, viz.:—  
“The Census Act 1881,” “Tobacco Act 1880,” “Beer Duty Act 1880,”  
“Consolidated Revenue Act (No. 3),” and “Daylesford Railway Extension Act.”
- Nov. 12.—*Victorian Year-Book*, 1879–80, published.
- „ 23.—Died, Sir Redmond Barry, K.C.M.G., Supreme Court Judge, aged 67; appointed to the Bench in 1852.
- „ 26.—Representatives of Victoria, New South Wales, and South Australia met in conference at Melbourne to consider questions affecting the joint interests of the respective colonies.
- „ 29.—Died, Hon. William Highett, M.L.C., aged 73; an old colonist.
- Dec. 3.—Adjournment of the Intercolonial Conference, to meet at Sydney on 13th January 1881.
- „ 14.—Mr. L. L. Smith’s motion for a vote of want of confidence in the Berry Government negatived by 44 votes to 39.
- „ 21.—General rising of the Boers in the Transvaal, with the intention of restoring their former Republic. The British troops expelled from the town of Heidelberg, which was immediately occupied by the Boers.
- „ 28.—The following Acts of Parliament received the Royal assent, viz.:—  
“Passengers Harbors and Navigation Statute,” “Dower Abolition Act,” “Army Discipline Act,” “Bank of New South Wales Act,”  
“Consolidated Revenue Act (No. 4),” “Cemeteries Statute Abolition Act,” “Inland Bonded Warehouses Act,” “Beer Duty Amendment Act,” “Tobacco Act Amendment Act,” “Land Act 1869 Amendment Act,” “Railway Construction Act 1880,” “Rabbit Suppression Act 1880,” “Phylloxera Vine Disease Act 1880,” “Railway Loan Account Act.”
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