

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS,  
MELBOURNE.

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OFFICIAL  
YEAR BOOK  
OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,  
CONTAINING AUTHORITATIVE STATISTICS FOR THE PERIOD  
1901-1911

AND CORRECTED STATISTICS FOR THE PERIOD 1788 TO 1900.

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No. 5.—1912.

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PUBLISHED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS,

BY

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BY AUTHORITY.

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## PREFACE.

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By the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Commonwealth is empowered "to make laws for the peace, order, and good government of the Commonwealth, with respect to," *inter alia*, "Census and Statistics." In exercising the power so conferred, a "Census and Statistics Act" was passed in 1905, and in the year following the "Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics" was created. The publication here presented is the fifth authoritative Year Book issued under the Federal Constitution.

This Year Book furnishes corrected statistics for the whole period of Australian settlement, viz., from 1788 to 1911. Wherever space has permitted, detailed statistics have been furnished for each year since Federation, viz., from 1901 to 1911. In the few instances where this has proved impracticable, reference will be necessary to Year Books Nos. 1 to 4. The inclusion, as stated, of the total available information in the more important branches of statistics enables this publication to be used wherever it is desired to make a comparative survey of the evolution of this portion of the British Empire. Not only are the results given for the Commonwealth as a whole, but also for each State therein.

The general arrangement of the publication, which has been widely commended, corresponds with that of previous issues, and is shewn in the synopsis on pp. xiii. to xxix. immediately following.

In addition, however, to what may be called purely statistical matter, each issue contains special articles dealing at length with some particular subject or subjects of more or less permanent interest. These cannot of course be repeated year after year, but usually a brief condensation is given in subsequent issues. Though many articles in Year Books Nos. 1 to 4 have been reduced to synopses or deleted, sufficient indication is given to enable the subject to be traced in previous issues.

The present issue of the Year Book contains several new features of interest. Among these may be mentioned the section dealing with the Islands of Australia, Cost of Living, Northern Territory, and Preferential Voting. The section dealing

with Population contains results for the Census of 1911, additional tables also figuring in the Appendix. Considerable additions have been made to the section on Vital Statistics (see pp. 220 to 250), and Public Hygiene. A bibliography of recent works on Australia will be found on p. 10. Descriptions of Norfolk and Lord Howe Islands have been added to the Miscellaneous Section. A Statistical Summary and a Chronological Table, which will be found on pages xxxiii. to xl., appear for the first time and will, it is hoped, prove useful. Among the various additions and improvements to the maps and graphs, the maps shewing monthly and annual temperatures and wettest months, density of population at Census of 1911, and artesian areas in the Commonwealth may be specially mentioned. A large number of new graphs has been included in the section dealing with Vital Statistics. Blocks representing the three prize winning designs for the Federal Capital have also been included. The full text of the Commonwealth Constitution Act, and Amendments, appear on pages 13 to 24.

The subject matter throughout is dealt with, as far as possible, from the following points of view, viz :—

(i.) The development of the individual States. (ii.) The progress of Australia as a whole from the earliest times. (iii.) The statistical comparison of Australia with other leading countries of the world.

A feature of this publication is the use made of maps and diagrams. As a rule facts can be properly appreciated only by the use of graphs, and the progress of events, the characteristics of growth and decline, can in general be grasped much more readily graphically than numerically. The diagram or "graph" is a direct picture in which the relative magnitudes are preserved and by which instantaneous comparisons of a wide range of facts are made possible at a glance. The statistical data, however, are also given *in extenso* numerically.

The development of Australia has been in many instances very remarkable, and this could be shewn only by tables and graphs dating back to its beginning in 1788. In most cases accurate data are not available for years much before 1860. In such cases, therefore, it seemed sufficient at present to give continuous results from that year onwards.

The great mass of material embodied in each Year Book is always carefully examined, but it would be idle to hope that all error has been avoided. The Commonwealth Statistician desires to express appreciation of the opportunity afforded him of perfecting the matter of the Year Book, by those who have been kind enough to point out defects or make suggestions.

The corresponding years indicated in various sections of this book do not always necessarily refer to the same period, the year ending in some cases on 31st December, 30th June, or 31st March, etc. The precise period for which returns are given is indicated where necessary.

Recent information or returns which have come to hand since the various Sections were sent to press, may be found in the Appendix, p. 1219 *et seq.*, and the publication has been delayed slightly in order to include the more important results of the 1911 Census.

In conclusion, the Commonwealth Statistician desires to express his cordial thanks to the State Statisticians, and to the responsible officers of the various Commonwealth and State Departments, who have kindly, and often at considerable trouble, supplied all desired information.

G. H. KNIBBS,

*Commonwealth Statistician.*

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS,

25th June, 1912.

# INDEX TO SPECIAL ARTICLES, ETC., APPEARING IN PREVIOUS ISSUES.

These articles have appeared in former issues of the Commonwealth Year Book, but, owing to exigencies of space, they are not included in this publication.

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## CORRIGENDA.

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Page 50, in table "Square Miles of Territory per Mile of Coast Line," for "1,310 " read "11,310 " as Coast-line of Continent.

„ 352, in the sentence under the first table after the words "account for about 70 "per cent.," insert the following, viz., "of the aggregate number of bales "imported. Such a comparison is, however, somewhat misleading, as the "River Plate bale is much larger than the Australasian or the Cape bale. "Allowing approximately for the difference in size of the several bales, it "may be said that the importations from Australasia represent about 60 "per cent of the total."

„ 234, in the "Explanation of Graphs," for "1,000,000 of population " in lines 5, 6, and 7 of the Explanation, read "10,000,000 of population."

# STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

## STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR THE COMMONWEALTH, 1861-1910.

(Figures for 1911, where available, will be found in the Appendix, and, in some instances, have been incorporated in the succeeding sections.)

Heading.		Years.						
		1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1906.	1910.
Population	Males	669,373	928,918	1,247,059	1,736,617	2,004,836	2,126,730	2,296,308
	Females	498,776	771,970	1,059,677	1,504,368	1,820,077	1,964,755	2,128,775
	Total	1,168,149	1,700,888	2,306,736	3,240,985	3,824,913	4,091,485	4,425,083
Births	No.	48,908	63,625	80,004	110,187	102,945	107,890	116,801
	Rate	42.28	38.00	35.26	34.47	27.16	26.57	26.73
Deaths	No.	20,061	22,175	33,327	47,430	46,330	44,333	45,590
	Rate	17.34	13.24	14.69	14.84	12.22	10.92	10.43
Marriages	No.	10,000	11,623	17,244	23,862	27,753	30,410	36,592
	Rate	8.64	6.94	7.60	7.47	7.32	7.49	8.37
Agriculture—								
Wheat	Area, acs.	704,431	1,279,778	3,002,064	3,335,528	5,115,965	5,982,186	7,372,456
	Yld., bshl	10,236,549	11,917,741	21,443,862	25,676,265	38,561,619	66,421,359	95,111,983
	Av. "	14.53	9.31	7.14	7.70	7.54	11.10	12.90
Oats	Area, acs.	129,738	225,492	194,816	246,129	461,430	581,843	676,688
	Yld., bshl	3,090,982	4,251,630	4,795,897	5,726,256	9,789,854	13,612,007	15,428,456
	Av. "	23.82	18.85	24.62	23.27	21.22	23.39	22.80
Barley	Area, acs.	27,093	48,164	75,864	68,068	74,511	106,336	108,424
	Yld., bshl	507,879	726,158	1,353,380	1,178,560	1,519,819	2,248,432	2,226,368
	Av. "	18.75	15.08	17.84	17.31	20.49	21.14	20.53
Maize	Area, acs.	61,178	142,078	165,777	284,428	294,849	325,581	414,914
	Yld., bshl	1,799,862	4,576,635	5,726,266	9,261,922	7,034,786	10,172,254	13,044,081
	Av. "	29.18	32.21	34.54	32.56	23.86	31.24	31.44
Hay	Area, acs.	222,003	303,274	768,338	942,166	1,688,402	1,657,000	2,258,405
	Yld., tons	298,184	375,871	767,194	1,067,255	2,024,608	2,259,240	3,175,851
	Av. "	1.34	1.24	1.00	1.13	1.20	1.36	1.41
Potatoes	Area, acs.	47,338	67,911	76,265	112,884	109,685	146,681	151,515
	Yld., tons	147,610	212,896	243,216	380,477	322,524	507,153	399,851
	Av. "	3.12	3.13	3.19	3.37	2.94	3.46	2.64
Sugar	Area, acs.	...	11,576	19,708	45,444	86,950	108,572	100,237
	Yld., tons	...	176,632	349,627	737,573	1,367,802	1,950,340	2,000,758
	Av. "	...	15.25	17.74	16.23	15.73	17.96	19.96
Cane	Area, acs.	7,010	16,253	14,570	48,882	63,677	62,557	59,114
	Yld., gal	495,000	2,104,000	1,488,000	3,535,000	5,816,037	5,940,943	5,866,049
Total value all agricultural production		£	8,941,000	15,519,000	16,480,000	23,835,000	25,349,000	39,752,000
Pastoral, dairying, etc.								
Live	(Sheep, No.	20,980,123	40,072,955	65,092,719	106,421,068	72,040,211	83,687,655	92,047,015
	Cattle "	3,846,554	4,277,928	8,010,991	11,112,112	8,491,428	9,349,409	11,744,714
	Stock "	431,695	701,530	1,088,029	1,584,737	1,630,420	1,765,186	2,165,866
Wool prod., lb. greasy	Horses	319,147	703,188	845,888	931,309	813,569	813,569	1,025,850
	Figs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Butter product'n, lbs.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bacon and ham	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total estimated value of pastoral and dairying production		£	20,736,000	29,538,000	39,256,000	36,890,000	59,000,000	74,380,000
Mineral production—								
Gold	...	£	9,950,000	7,239,106	5,194,390	5,281,861	14,005,732	14,631,745
	Silver and lead	£	5,702	29,488	31,130	3,717,825	2,367,687	3,623,912
	Copper	£	458,758	824,111	673,786	362,745	2,208,590	3,344,744
Tin	...	£	11,937	18,597	1,145,603	560,750	432,576	1,509,188
	Zinc	£	...	...	...	2,622	4,057	292,806
	Coal	£	228,935	325,747	626,746	1,908,028	2,602,770	2,669,948
Total value all mineral production		£	10,557,533	8,484,728	7,813,523	12,093,837	22,043,104	26,643,007
Forestry production—								
Quantity of local timber sawn or hewn		sup. ft.	†	†	†	†	452,131,252	429,166,603
Total value all Forestry production		£	†	†	†	†	4,879,000	4,789,000
Manufactories—†								
No. of factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,575	13,822
	Hands employed	...	...	...	...	...	228,560	286,831
	Wages paid	£	...	...	...	...	...	23,874,959
Total value of output		£	...	...	...	...	...	120,770,674
Value added in process of manufac.		£	...	...	...	...	31,172,000	48,048,032

## STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR THE COMMONWEALTH—(continued).

Heading.	Years.						
	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1906.	1910.
Shipping—							
Oversea vessels (No. ent. & cleared ton.)	2,466	2,748	3,284	3,778	4,028	4,155	4,048
Commerce—							
Imports oversea £	17,651,000	17,017,000	29,067,000	37,711,000	42,434,000	44,745,000	60,014,351
" per head £	15/5/2	10/3/3	12/16/2	11/16/0	11/3/11	11/0/4	13/14/8
Exports oversea £	17,413,000	21,725,000	27,528,000	36,043,000	49,696,000	69,738,000	74,491,150
" per head £	15/1/1	12/19/6	12/2/8	11/5/6	13/2/2	17/3/6	17/0/10
Total oversea trade £	35,064,000	38,742,000	56,595,000	73,754,000	92,130,000	114,483,000	134,505,501
" per head £	30/6/3	23/2/9	24/18/10	23/1/6	24/6/1	28/3/10	30/15/6
Customs and excise duties ... £	...	...	4,809,326	7,440,869	8,656,530	9,209,791	12,232,125
" per head, £	...	...	2/2/5	2/6/7	2/5/8	2/5/1	2/15/11
Principal Oversea Exports—							
Wool lbs. (greasy)	60,367,492	176,635,820	328,369,169	619,259,753	518,018,134	545,132,180	743,449,869
" bushels	5,005,799	9,459,629	13,173,026	19,940,029	15,237,454	22,645,769	28,777,283
Wheat £	87,249	799,924	5,364,653	9,794,791	20,260,058	30,262,335	47,761,895
" £	24,041	193,732	1,189,762	1,938,864	2,774,643	4,913,798	9,933,561
Flour tons	7,602	12,938	49,549	33,363	96,814	166,881	199,946
" £	113,172	170,415	519,635	328,423	589,604	1,216,849	1,244,165
Butter lbs.	664,160	1,812,688	1,298,758	4,239,494	34,607,397	75,802,356	87,928,151
" £	21,692	45,813	39,383	206,868	1,451,168	3,240,063	3,952,908
Skins and hides... £	180,292	100,123	316,878	873,685	1,250,938	2,752,711	3,950,258
Tallow ... £	148,201	914,278	644,149	571,069	677,745	878,699	1,890,867
Meats ... £	37,575	566,780	362,965	460,894	2,611,244	2,373,650	4,792,299
Timber (undressed) £	32,367	42,568	118,117	88,448	731,301	979,530	976,355
Gold ... £	9,957,056	7,184,833	6,445,365	5,703,532	14,315,741	16,875,456	4,746,929
Silver and lead ... £	4,237	37,891	57,954	1,932,278	2,250,253	2,958,258	2,853,646
Copper ... £	381,718	598,538	676,515	417,687	1,619,145	3,069,305	2,270,313
Coal... £	63,061	134,355	361,081	645,972	986,957	894,002	910,063
Railways—							
Lgth. of line open, mls.	205	970	3,832	9,541	12,577	13,887	15,467
Capital cost ... £	6,654,516	19,269,786	42,741,350	99,764,030	123,587,000	134,972,000	146,882,000
Gross revenue ... £	318,823	1,102,650	3,910,122	8,654,085	11,038,000	12,808,000	16,042,000
Working expenses £	234,040	608,332	2,141,735	5,630,182	7,149,000	7,541,000	9,899,000
Per cent. of work'g expenses on earnings%	73.41	55.17	54.77	65.06	64.76	58.87	61.70
Postal—							
Letters and postcards dealt with ... No.	12,844,000	24,382,000	67,640,000	157,297,000	220,853,000	317,049,000	392,851,000
" per head ...	11.13	14.54	29.61	49.07	58.26	78.09	89.89
Newspapers dealt with ... No.	9,603,000	13,336,000	38,063,000	85,280,000	102,727,000	103,793,000	132,415,000
" per head ...	8.32	7.95	16.66	26.61	27.10	25.56	30.30
Banks of Issue—							
Note circulation £	2,970,357	2,456,487	3,978,711	4,417,269	3,406,175	3,360,075	4,291,101
Coin & bullion held £	4,662,415	6,168,869	9,108,243	16,712,923	19,737,572	21,508,275	32,728,537
Advances ... £	18,261,129	26,039,573	57,732,824	129,741,583	89,167,499	92,246,958	105,030,155
Deposits ... £	13,817,435	21,856,959	53,849,455	98,345,338	90,965,530	107,675,919	135,145,240
Savings Banks—							
Number of depositors	27,877	100,713	250,070	614,741	964,553	1,185,608	1,483,573
Total deposits ... £	1,320,739	3,193,285	7,854,480	15,536,592	30,882,645	38,286,219	53,117,498
Aver. per depositor £	47/7/7	31/14/2	31/8/2	25/5/6	32/0/4	32/5/10	35/16/1
Population ... £	0/18/8	1/18/9	3/10/5	4/18/7	8/4/0	9/9/10	12/5/8
State Schools—							
Number of schools	1,864	2,502	4,494	6,231	7,012	7,308	7,910
Teachers ... No.	2,471	4,641	9,028	12,564	14,500	15,802	17,706
Enrolment ...	106,049	236,710	432,320	561,153	638,478	609,592	748,037
Aver. attendance ..	73,446	137,767	255,143	350,773	450,246	442,440	455,858

\* Partly estimated 1861, 1871, and 1881. † Owing to variation in classification and lack of information effective comparison is impossible, ‡ Information not available.

# CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE.

## CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE OF CHIEF EVENTS SINCE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SETTLEMENT IN AUSTRALIA.

Year.	
1788	N.S.W.—Arrival of "First Fleet" at Botany Bay. Land in vicinity being found unsuitable for settlement, the expedition moved to Sydney Cove (now Port Jackson). Formal possession of Sydney Cove, Port Jackson taken by Captain Phillip on 26th January. Formal proclamation of colony on 7th February. Branch settlement established at Norfolk Island. French navigator La Pérouse visits Botany Bay.
1789	N.S.W.—First wheat harvest at Parramatta, near Sydney. Discovery of Hawkesbury River. Outbreak of small-pox amongst aborigines.
1790	N.S.W.—"Second Fleet" reached Port Jackson. Landing of the New South Wales Corps. Severe suffering through lack of provisions. First Circumnavigation of Australia by Lieut. Ball.
1791	N.S.W.—Arrival of "Third Fleet." Territorial seal brought by Governor King. First grape vines planted.
1792	N.S.W.—Visit of <i>Philadelphia</i> , first foreign trading vessel.
1793	N.S.W.—First free immigrants arrived in the <i>Bellona</i> .
1794	N.S.W.—Establishment of Settlement at Hawkesbury River.
1795	N.S.W.—Erection of the first printing press. Descendants of strayed cattle discovered at Cowpastures, Nepean River.
1797	N.S.W.—Discovery of coal at Illawarra, and on Hunter River. Introduction of merino sheep from Cape of Good Hope.
1798	Tas.—Tasmania proved an island by voyage of Bass and Flinders.
1800	N.S.W.—First export of coal.
1801	N.S.W.—First rough Census muster. First colonial manufacture of blankets and linen. First issue of copper coin.
1802	Vic.—Discovery of Port Phillip by Lieut. Murray.
1803	N.S.W.—First Australian wool taken to England by Capt. Macarthur. Issue of "The Sydney Gazette," first newspaper. Vic.—Attempted colonisation of Port Phillip by Captain Collins. Tas.—First settlement in Tasmania formed at Risdon by Lieut. Bowen.
1804	N.S.W.—Insurrection of convicts at Castle Hill. Vic.—Abandonment of settlement at Port Phillip. Tas.—Foundation of settlement at Hobart by Lieut.-Governor Collins, and at Yorktown by Colonel Paterson.
1805	N.S.W.—First extensive sheep farm established at Camden by Capt. Macarthur. Portion of settlers from Norfolk Island transferred to Tasmania.
1806	N.S.W.—Shortage of provisions, and floods. Tas.—Settlement at Launceston.
1807	N.S.W.—Final shipment of convicts from Norfolk Island. First shipment of merchantable wool.
1808	N.S.W.—Deposition of Governor Bligh.
1810	N.S.W.—First post-office established. Tas.—First newspaper printed.
1813	N.S.W.—Passage across Blue Mountains discovered by Wentworth, Lawson, and Blaxland.
1814	N.S.W.—Australia, previously known as "New Holland," received present name on recommendation of Flinders. Creation of Civil Courts.

- 1815 N.S.W.—Town of Bathurst laid out by Governor Macquarie. Evans discovered Macquarie River. Tas.—Arrival of first immigrant ship with free settlers. First export of wheat to Sydney.
- 1817 N.S.W.—Oxley's first exploration inland. Discovery of Lakes George and Bathurst, and the Goulburn Plains, by Meehan and Hume. Qld.—Lieut. King surveyed and charted portion of eastern coast.
- 1818 N.S.W.—Cessation of free immigration. Oxley reaches Macquarie River.
- 1819 N.S.W.—Opening of Savings Bank at Sydney.
- 1820 N.S.W.—Discovery of Murrumbidgee and Clyde Rivers. Tas.—First importation of pure merino sheep.
- 1821 N.S.W.—Foundation of Philosophical (now Royal) Society. Tas.—Establishment of penal settlement at Macquarie Harbour.
- 1823 N.S.W.—First Australian Constitution. Discovery of gold at Fish River by Assistant-Surveyor McBrien. Arrival in Sydney of Dr. John Dunmore Lang. Qld.—Oxley discovers Brisbane River.
- 1824 N.S.W.—Introduction of trial by jury. Proclamation of freedom of the press. First land regulations. First manufacture of sugar. Hume and Hovell's overland expedition to the south. Vic.—Hume and Hovell arrive at Corio Bay. Qld.—Expedition to prepare for establishment of penal settlement at Moreton Bay.
- 1825 N.S.W.—First jury empanelled at Sydney. Commencement of three years' drought. Tas.—Proclamation of Van Diemen's Land, as separate colony.
- 1826 N.S.W.—Darling River discovered by Captain Sturt. Vic.—Foundation of settlement at Western Port. Qld.—Penal settlement established at Moreton Bay. W.A.—Settlement founded at King George's Sound, Albany, by Major Lockyer.
- 1827 N.S.W.—Colony becomes self-supporting. Feverish speculation in land and stock. Qld.—Darling Downs discovered by Cunningham. Tas.—Copper ore discovered at Macquarie Harbour.
- 1828 N.S.W.—Second Constitution. First Census. Sturt's expeditions—discovery of Darling and Murray Rivers. Cotton first grown in Sydney Botanical Gardens. Vic.—Abandonment of settlement at Western Port. Qld.—Cunningham discovers a route from Moreton Bay to the Darling Downs, and explores Brisbane River to its source. Tas.—First land sales.
- 1829 N.S.W. and S.A.—Sturt journeys down Murrumbidgee and Murray Rivers to mouth of latter. W.A.—Foundation of settlement at Swan River, under command of Lieut.-Governor Stirling.
- 1830 N.S.W.—Insurrection of convicts at Bathurst. Inland exploration to southward by Sturt. Qld.—Murder of Captain Logan at Moreton Bay. W.A.—First Executive Council appointed. S.A.—Sturt discovers Lake Alexandrina. Tas.—Trouble with natives. Black line organised with object of forcing aborigines into Tasman's Peninsula. Attempt failed. Between 1830 and 1835, however, George Robinson, by friendly suasion, succeeded in gathering the small remnant of aborigines (203) into settlement at Flinders Island.
- 1831 N.S.W.—Lord Ripon's land regulations. Mitchell's explorations north of Liverpool Plains. Launching of first colonial steamer. Arrival at Sydney of first steamer *Sophia Jane*. First immigrant ship arrived. S.A.—Wakefield's first colonisation committee. Murder of Captain Barker by aborigines. W.A. and Tas.—Lord Ripon's land regulations. W.A.—Appointment of Executive and Legislative Council. First newspaper—"Fremantle Observer."
- 1832 N.S.W.—Initial appropriation of public funds for immigration.
- 1834 Vic.—Settlement formed at Portland Bay by Henty Bros. S.A.—Formation of the South Australian Association. W.A.—Severe reprisals against natives at Pinjarrah.
- 1835 N.S.W.—Establishment of dépôt at Fort Bourke on the Darling River, by Mitchell. Vic.—John Batman's arrival at Port Phillip. Makes treaty with the natives



- for 600,000 acres of land, but claim disallowed by Imperial Government. John Pascoe Fawkner founds Melbourne on site previously selected by Batman.
- 1836 N.S.W.—Fall of snow in Sydney. Mitchell's explorations in the south (Australia Felix). "Squatting" formally recognised. Vic.—Proclamation of Port Phillip district as open for settlement. Captain Lonsdale appointed Resident Magistrate. S.A.—Founding of South Australia under Governor Hindmarsh.
- 1837 N.S.W.—Appointment in London of Select Committee on Transportation. Heavy snowfall near Sydney. Vic.—Governor Bourke arrived from Sydney and gave the name of Melbourne to metropolis of Victoria. First sale of Crown lands in Melbourne. S.A.—First newspaper published in Adelaide. Tas.—Sir John Franklin assumes Governorship.
- 1838 N.S.W.—Discontinuance of assignment of convicts. Drought and failure of crops. Frenzied speculation. Vic.—First Census of Victoria—population 3511. Qld.—Settlement of German missionaries at Moreton Bay. S.A.—"Over-landing" of cattle along the Murray route by Hawden and Bonney.
- 1839 N.S.W.—Finding of gold near Hartley by Count Strzelecki. Vic.—Appointment of Mr. C. J. LaTrobe as Superintendent Port Phillip district.
- 1840 N.S.W.—Abolition of transportation to New South Wales. Land regulations—proceeds of sales to be applied to payment for public works and expenditure on immigration. Foundation of viticultural industry. Monetary crisis. Vic.—Determination of northern boundary. Colonists desire separation from New South Wales. Qld.—Breaking up of penal settlements and throwing open of Moreton Bay district to free settlers. S.A.—Eyre begins his overland journey from Adelaide to King George's Sound. Tas.—Visit of the *Erebus* and *Terror* to Hobart. Dr. Hooker investigates the island flora.
- 1841 N.S.W.—Alluvial gold found near Bathurst by Rev. W. B. Clarke. Separation of New Zealand. W.A.—Completion of Eyre's overland journey from Adelaide to King George's Sound. Tas.—Renewal of transportation.
- 1842 N.S.W.—Incorporation of Sydney. Vic.—Incorporation of Melbourne.
- 1843 N.S.W.—First Representative Constitution. First manufacture of tweed. Financial crisis. Qld.—Moreton Bay granted legislative representation. S.A.—Discovery of copper at Kapunda. Tas.—Agitation against further introduction of convicts.
- 1844 S.A.—Sturt's last expedition inland. Qld.—Leichhardt's expedition from Darling Downs to Port Essington.
- 1845 N.S.W.—Mitchell's explorations on the Barcoo. S.A.—Discovery of the Burra copper deposits. Qld.—Explorations by Mitchell and Kennedy. Census in March shewed population as 2210. W.A.—First steam vessel (*H.M.S. Driver*) visited Fremantle.
- 1846 N.S.W.—Mr. Gladstone proposed to revive transportation. Initiation of meat preserving. Qld.—Foundation of settlement at Port Curtis. S.A.—Proclamation of North Australia. W.A.—Organisation of first mining company. Foundation of New Norcia Mission.
- 1847 N.S.W.—Crown Land Leases Act. Opening of iron smelting works near Berrima. Vic.—Melbourne created a City by Royal Letters Patent. Qld.—Explorations by Burnett and Kennedy. W.A.—Issue of regulations for leasing Crown lands. First export of guano.
- 1848 N.S.W.—Attempts to revive transportation. Influx of Chinese. Vic.—Earl Grey returned as Melbourne member of the Legislative Council. Qld.—Leichhardt's last journey. Kennedy speared by the blacks at York Peninsula. Chinese brought in as shepherds. W.A.—Copper and lead discovered in the Champion Bay district by the Messrs. Gregory. First Census of the colony.

- 1849 N.S.W.—Indignation of colonists at arrival of convict ship *Hashemy*. Exodus of population to goldfields of California. Vic.—Outburst of indignation at arrival of *Randolphe* with convicts. Qld.—Assignment of convicts per *Hashemy* to squatters on Darling Downs. W.A.—Commencement of transportation to Western Australia.
- 1850 N.S.W.—Final abolition of transportation. First sod of first Australian railway turned at Sydney. S.A.—Representative government granted. W.A.—Pear oysters found by Lieut. Helpman at Saturday Island Shoal. Tas.—Representative government granted. Discovery of coal at the Don and Mersey.
- 1851 N.S.W.—Payable gold discovered by Hargreaves, near Bathurst. Telegraph first used. Vic.—Separation of Port Phillip—erected into independent colony under the name of Victoria. Discovery of gold. “Black Thursday,” Feb. 6th, a day of intense heat, when several persons died and a vast amount of damage to property was occasioned by fires. Qld.—Agitation for separation from New South Wales. S.A.—Financial depression. Tas.—Serious exodus of population to goldfields on mainland. W.A.—Proclamation of Legislative Council Act.
- 1852 N.S.W.—Destruction of Gundagai by flood—77 lives lost. Arrival of the *Chusan*, first P. and O. mail steamer from England. S.A.—First steamer ascends the Murray River to the junction with the Darling. Tas.—Meeting of first elective Council protests against transportation. Payable gold discovered at The Nook, near Fingal, and at Nine Mile Springs.
- 1853 Tas.—Abolition of transportation. Name Van Diemen’s Land disappears—replaced by Tasmania.
- 1854 N.S.W.—Russian war-scare and volunteer movement. Vic.—Opening of first Australian railway—Flinders Street to Port Melbourne. Riots on Ballarat goldfields. Storming of the Eureka Stockade, Dec. 3rd. Fifth Census—population 236,798.
- 1855 N.S.W.—Opening of railway—Sydney to Parramatta. Introduction of responsible Government. Vic.—Proclamation of Constitution. Qld.—Gregory’s expedition in search of Leichhardt. S.A.—Responsible government. Tas.—Responsible government.
- 1856 N.S.W.—First elective Parliament. Pitcairn Islanders placed on Norfolk Island, which was placed under jurisdiction of Governor of New South Wales. Tas.—Opening of first Parliament. W.A.—A. C. Gregory’s expedition in search of Leichhardt.
- 1857 N.S.W.—Heavy floods. Wreck of the *Dunbar* (119 lives lost), and *Catherine Adamson* (21 lives lost), at Sydney Heads. Select Committee on Federation. S.A.—Exploration by Babbage and Warburton.
- 1858 N.S.W.—Establishment of manhood suffrage and vote by ballot. Telegraphic communication between Sydney and Melbourne. S.A.—Passage of Torrens’ Real Property Act. Stuart’s explorations. Qld.—The Canoona gold rush.
- 1859 Qld.—Proclamation of Queensland as separate colony. Tas.—First submarine cable, via Circular Head and King Is., to Cape Otway.
- 1860 N.S.W.—Disastrous floods on the Shoalhaven and at Araluen. Vic.—Burke and Wills start on their journey across Continent. S.A.—Copper discoveries at Wallaroo and Moonta.
- 1861 N.S.W.—Anti-Chinese riots at Lambing Flat and Burrangong goldfields. Opening of first tramway in Sydney—Cars drawn by horses. Robertson’s Land Acts. Messrs. Parkes and Dalley proceed to London as emigration lecturers. Regulation of Chinese immigration. Vic.—Seventh Census—population 540,322. Conference of Statisticians, Melbourne. Qld.—Burke and Wills perish in the Great Stony Desert. Expedition despatched to search for their remains. First Census. W.A.—Exploration of F. Gregory in the North-west.
- 1862 N.S.W.—Raid by bushrangers on the Lachlan gold escort (£14,000 taken). Abolition of State aid to religion. Real Property Act. Vic.—C. Gavan Duffy’s

- Land Act. S.A.—Stuart crosses the Continent from north to south. Qld.—McKinlay's explorations. Heavy floods on Fitzroy River. W.A.—Severe floods—damage to property, £30,000. First export of pearl-shell.
- 1863 N.S.W.—Bathurst and Canowindra "held up" by bushranger Gilbert. Vic.—Inter-colonial conference at Melbourne. S.A.—Taking over of the Northern Territory. W.A.—Initiation of settlement in the North-west district.
- 1864 N.S.W.—Frequent outrages by bushrangers. Qld.—First railway begun. First sugar made from Queensland cane. W.A.—Messrs. Panton, Harding and Goldwyer, murdered by natives. Tas.—First successful shipment of English salmon ova.
- 1865 N.S.W.—Destruction by fire of St. Mary's Cathedral, Sydney. Qld.—Opening of first railway.
- 1866 N.S.W.—Passage of Public Schools Act of (Sir) Henry Parkes. Vic.—Political deadlock. Qld.—Financial crisis. S.A.—Introduction of camels for exploration, etc.
- 1867 Vic.—Imposition of protective tariff. Qld.—Discovery of gold at Gympie.
- 1868 N.S.W.—Attempted assassination of the Duke of Edinburgh at Clontarf, near Sydney. Qld.—Passage of Act to regulate island labour traffic. W.A.—Arrival of the *Hougomont*, last convict ship. Tas.—First sod of first railway (Launceston and Western) turned by Duke of Edinburgh.
- 1869 N.S.W.—Establishment of Eskbank Iron Company. Vic.—Reduction of property qualification for members and electors of Legislative Council. W.A.—Opening of first telegraph line, from Perth to Fremantle. Tas.—Opening of second cable.
- 1870 N.S.W.—Opening of Intercolonial Exhibition at Sydney in celebration of centenary of Cook's landing in Australia. Withdrawal of Imperial troops. Vic.—Intercolonial Congress at Melbourne. S.A.—Commencement of trans-continental telegraph. W.A.—Meeting of first Legislative Council under Responsible Government.
- 1871 N.S.W.—Permanent military force raised. Vic.—Increase of protective duties. Qld.—Foundation of Queensland National Bank. W.A.—Passage of Elementary Education Act. Forrest's explorations. Tas.—Discovery of tin at Mount Bischoff. Launceston-Western railway opened for traffic.
- 1872 N.S.W.—International Exhibition at Sydney. Death of W. C. Wentworth, Qld.—Discovery of tin at Stanthorpe, copper at Mt. Perry, coal at Wide Bay, gold at the Palmer. S.A.—Cable from Singapore to Port Darwin. Completion of trans-continental telegraph line. W.A.—Cyclonic storms—destruction of town of Roeburne. Tas.—Completion of direct telegraphic communication with England.
- 1873 N.S.W.—Intercolonial Conference at Sydney. First volunteer encampment. Inauguration of mail service with San Francisco. W.A.—Warburton crosses from transcontinental telegraph line to head of De Grey River.
- 1874 N.S.W.—Triennial Parliaments Act passed. Intercolonial Conference. Qld.—Dalrymple's discoveries on north-eastern seaboard. W.A.—Explorations by E. Giles.
- 1875 Qld.—Transfer of Port Albany Settlement to Thursday Island. S.A.—Wreck of the *Gothenburg*—Judge Wearing and other well-known Adelaide citizens drowned. Education Act passed. Explorations by Giles, Gosse, and Warburton. W.A.—J. and A. Forrest cross colony from east to west. Tas.—Conference of Statisticians, Hobart.
- 1876 N.S.W.—Completion of cable—Sydney to Wellington. Vic.—Members of Legislative Assembly increased to 86. W.A.—Violent gale at Exmouth Gulf, number of pearling vessels wrecked, 69 lives lost. Giles crosses colony from east to west. Tas.—Death of Truganini, last representative of Tasmanian aborigines.

1877. Vic.—Deadlock on question of payment to members. S.A.—Inauguration of University of Adelaide. W.A.—Opening of telegraphic communication with South Australia. Tas.—Discovery of rich gold-bearing quartz reef at Beaconsfield.
- 1878 N.S.W.—Seamen's strike. Vic.—Visit to England of Victorian delegation *re* alteration of Victorian Constitution. "Black Wednesday"—wholesale dismissal of civil servants. Qld.—Restriction of Chinese immigration.
- 1879 N.S.W.—First artesian bore at Killara. International Exhibition at Garden Palace, Sydney. First steam tramway. W.A.—Celebration of 50th anniversary of foundation of colony. A. Forrest's explorations in the Kimberley district.
- 1880 N.S.W.—Public Instruction Act passed. Sydney streets partially wood-paved. Vic.—Opening of first Victorian International Exhibition at Melbourne. Federal Conference at Melbourne and Sydney.
- 1881 N.S.W.—Further restrictions on Chinese immigration. Women admitted as students at University. Vic.—Reduction of property qualification for members and electors of Legislative Council, number of members increased to 42. W.A.—Cyclone near Roeburne wrecks number of pearling vessels. On the Ashburton, 1000 sheep destroyed by cyclone.  
First simultaneous Australian Census. Visit to Australia of T.R.H. Prince Albert Victor and Prince George of Wales.
- 1882 N.S.W.—Garden Palace destroyed by fire. W.A.—Nugget of gold found between Roeburne and Cossack.
- 1883 N.S.W.—Discovery of silver at Broken Hill. Completion of railway between New South Wales and Victoria. Qld.—Annexation of New Guinea—repudiated by Imperial authorities.  
Federal Conference held at Sydney.
- 1884 N.S.W.—Land legislation restricting sales by auction. Vic.—Appointment of First Public Service Board. W.A.—Stockdale's explorations.  
Federation Bill passed in Victoria. Similar measure rejected in New South Wales.
- 1885 N.S.W.—Military contingent sent to the Soudan. Opening of the Broken Hill Silver Mines. Qld.—Agitation for division of the colony. W.A.—First gold found by prospectors on the Margaret and Ord Rivers in the Kimberley district. Tas.—Silver-lead discovered at Mount Zeehan.  
Formation of the Federal Council of Australia.
- 1886 N.S.W.—Industrial depression. Wreck of the *Ly-ee-Moon*, *Coringamite*, and *Helen Nicol*. Qld.—Discovery of gold at Mount Morgan. W.A.—Proclamation of Kimberley goldfields. Tas.—Discovery of gold and copper at Mount Lyell. First session of Federal Council met at Hobart on the 26th January.
- 1887 N.S.W.—Disaster at Bulli coal mine (83 lives lost). Peat's Ferry (Hawkesbury River) railway accident. S.A.—International Exhibition at Adelaide. W.A.—Cyclone destroyed nearly the whole pearling fleet off the Ninety-Mile Beach—200 lives lost. Gold discovered at Yilgarn and Southern Cross.  
Australasian Conference in London. Australasian Naval Defence Force Act passed.
- 1888 N.S.W.—Destructive bush fires. Centennial celebrations. Restrictive legislation against Chinese. Imposition of poll-tax of £100. Strike of coal-miners at Newcastle. Vic.—Second Victorian International Exhibition held at Melbourne. Members of Legislative Council increased to 48, and of Assembly to 95. Qld.—Railway communication opened between Sydney and Brisbane. W.A.—Favenc's explorations.  
Centenary of first settlement in Australia. Conference of Australian Ministers at Sydney to consider question of Chinese immigration. First meeting of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science held in Sydney. Imperial Defence Act passed.

- 1889 N.S.W.—Destructive floods, Hunter River. W.A.—Framing of new Constitution.
- 1890 N.S.W.—Strike at Broken Hill. Maritime and shearers' strikes. Payment of members of Parliament. Destructive bush fires. Qld.—Wreck of the *Quetta*—146 lives lost. Floods and hurricanes. Industrial depression. W.A.—Granting of responsible government. Tas.—Opening of University.  
Meeting at Melbourne of Australasian Federation Conference. Pre-censal Conference of Statisticians at Hobart.
- 1891 N.S.W.—Election to Legislative Assembly of 35 Labour members. Arrival of Australian Auxiliary Squadron. Collapse of several building societies. Cessation of assisted immigration. Death of Sir John Robertson. W.A.—Opening of first Parliament under responsible government.  
Federal Convention in Sydney, draft bill framed and adopted.
- 1892 N.S.W.—Broken Hill miners' strike. Run on Government Savings Bank. Opening of Women's College, Sydney University. Vic.—Suspension of Railway Commissioners. W.A.—Discovery of gold by Messrs. Bayley and Ford at Coolgardie.
- 1893 N.S.W.—Departure by the *Royal Tar* of colonists for "New Australia." Electoral Act—"One man one vote." Financial crisis, chiefly affecting the eastern States.
- 1894 N.S.W.—Shearers' strike. S.A.—Adult Suffrage Bill assented to. Industrial depression.
- 1895 N.S.W.—Crown Lands Act of 1895. Death of Governor Sir R. Duff. Free-trade tariff. Land and income taxes.  
Conference of Premiers at Hobart *re* Federation.
- 1896 N.S.W.—Death of Sir Henry Parkes. Re-organisation of Public Service. Women's franchise. People's Federal Convention at Bathurst. S.A.—Departure of Calvert expedition.
- 1897 S.A.—Town of Palmerston destroyed. Floods and storms at Adelaide. Death of Sir Thomas Elder. Earthquake and hurricane in Northern Territory.
- 1897-8 Sessions of Federal Convention at Adelaide, Sydney and Melbourne.
- 1898 N.S.W.—First surplus of wheat for export.  
Draft Federal Constitution Bill submitted to electors in Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia, and Tasmania. Requisite statutory number of votes not obtained in New South Wales.
- 1899 N.S.W.—First contingent of troops to assist the British army in South Africa.  
Conference of Premiers in Melbourne to consider amendments in Federal Constitution Bill. Referendum—Bill accepted by New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, and Tasmania.
- 1900 N.S.W.—Old-age Pensions instituted. W.A.—Agitation for separation by gold-fields. Strike of railway engine drivers and firemen.  
Commonwealth Constitution Act receives Royal Assent, 9th July. Mr. (afterwards Sir) Edmund Barton forms first Federal Ministry.
- 1901 Proclamation of the Commonwealth at Sydney, and swearing-in of Ministry. Opening of first Federal Parliament at Melbourne by the Duke of Cornwall and York, who visits each State of the Commonwealth. Contingents sent to South Africa and China. Simultaneous Australasian Census.
- 1902 N.S.W.—Disastrous explosion at Mount Kembla Colliery—95 lives lost. Women's franchise. Jubilee of Sydney University. S.A.—Reduction of number of members of both Houses of Parliament. W.A.—Opening of pumping station at Northam in connection with Goldfields water supply.
- 1903 Vic.—Railway Strike (Enginemen). W.A.—Opening of Coolgardie and Kalgoorlie water supply.  
Inauguration of the Federal High Court. Conference of Statisticians in Melbourne.
- 1904 N.S.W.—Reduction of members of Legislative Assembly from 125 to 90.
- 1905 N.S.W.—Re-introduction of assisted immigration.

- 1906 Wireless telegraphy installed between Queenscliff, Vic., and Devonport, Tas. Consummation of Commonwealth Free-trade interstate by cessation of special Western Australian tariff. Conference of Statisticians of Australian States and New Zealand, under the presidency of the Commonwealth Statistician. Papua taken over by Commonwealth.
- 1907 N.S.W.—Strike of coal-miners in Newcastle district. Vic.—Opening of first Australian Exhibition of Women's Work in Melbourne. Bakers' strike, Melbourne. Opening of telephone, Sydney to Melbourne.  
Imperial Conference in London—Australia represented by the Hon. A. Deakin, Prime Minister. Introduction of new tariff in Federal Parliament. Allowance to Federal members of Parliament increased from £400 to £600.
- 1908 N.S.W.—Tramway employees' strike, Sydney. Fire at Newcastle—damage to property £150,000. Vic.—Railway accident at Braybrook Junction (Sunshine)—44 killed, 412 injured; compensation paid, £126,000.  
Yass-Canberra chosen as site of Federal Capital. Interstate Premiers' Conference at Melbourne. Visit of American Fleet to Australia.
- 1909 N.S.W.—Miners' strikes at Broken Hill and Newcastle. Arrest of strike leaders at Newcastle. Qld.—Opening of Queensland University. S.A.—Foundering of *Clan Ranald* in St. Vincent's Gulf—40 drowned. W.A.—Cyclone at Broome.  
Imperial Defence Conference in London—Commonwealth sends three representatives. Premiers' Conference at Hobart. Conference at Melbourne of Commonwealth and State Ministers *re* financial relations. Death at Parliament House of Sir Frederick Holder, Speaker of the House of Representatives. Commonwealth orders two destroyers and one first-class cruiser for fleet unit. Federal Treasurer orders £200,000 Australian silver coinage from British Mint. Visit of Lord Kitchener to report and advise on Commonwealth military defence. Loss of the *Waratah*—vessel sailed from Melbourne on 1st July with 300 passengers and crew, left Durban on the 26th July. Opening of Empire Commerce Congress at Sydney. Commencement of payment by Commonwealth of Old-age Pensions.
- 1910 Vic.—Railway accident at Richmond—9 killed, over 400 injured; compensation paid £129,000. S.A.—Strike of transport workers at Adelaide. W.A.—Cyclone at Broome—several pearling vessels wrecked, 3 whites and many coloured fishermen drowned. Strike of tramway employees at Perth. Wreck of the *Pericles* off Cape Leeuwin.  
Rt. Hon. Sir G. H. Reid takes up duty as High Commissioner for the Commonwealth of Australia in London. Defeat of the "Fusion" Government under the Hon. A. Deakin. The Hon. A. Fisher becomes Prime Minister. Referendum on financial relations between the Commonwealth and the States—electors accept proposal for transfer to Commonwealth of State debts, but reject proposal for return of 25s. per capita to States out of Commonwealth revenue for period of 25 years. Question settled for 10 years by Commonwealth deciding to pay the amount fixed—matter to be reopened at end of that period. Proclamation taking over Yass-Canberra (in New South Wales) as site for Federal Capital. Imposition of Federal Land Tax. Application of toll system to telephone services. Penny Postage. Visit of Scottish Agricultural Commission. Dutch squadron visits Australia. Arrival of the *Yarra* and *Parramatta*, first vessels of Australian navy. Australian Notes Act empowers Federal Treasurer to issue notes of various denominations. Admiral Sir R. Henderson visits Australia to advise on naval defence.
- 1911 First issue of Commonwealth notes. First Federal Census. Federal referenda relating to Monopolies and Industrial Legislation—proposals rejected. Introduction of compulsory military training. Launch of Commonwealth destroyer *Warrego* at Sydney. Establishment of penny postage to all parts of British Empire. Erection of first Commonwealth wireless station at Pennant Hills, Sydney.