

VICTORIAN YEAR BOOK

CONTAINING

A DIGEST OF THE STATISTICS OF THE COLONY

FOR THE YEAR

1 8 7 3,

BY

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GOVERNMENT STATIST OF VICTORIA.



BY AUTHORITY.

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PREFACE.

THE contents of the following pages are, with some slight modifications, identical with those of a Report upon the Statistics of Victoria, 1873, which was recently addressed by me to the Honorable the Minister presiding over the Department of the Chief Secretary, and laid before Parliament.

It was, however, considered desirable by the Government that the information contained in the Report should be disseminated somewhat largely, both in this colony and in Europe; and it was thought that if the work were issued in a pamphlet or book form it would be more convenient for reference than if circulated on the large-sized and somewhat formidable looking pages upon which the Parliamentary Papers of this colony are printed. Hence the appearance of the present work.

With approval, I propose to issue a similar volume each year. I have therefore named the work "THE VICTORIAN YEAR BOOK."

It will be my endeavor in this succession of volumes to record facts with correctness and impartiality; to comment upon them only so far as may be necessary to elucidate them properly; to set up no theories except such as may be fairly deducible from the materials before

me ; and, in drawing inferences, to exercise perfect fairness to all sections of the community. By keeping these points steadily in view I shall, I trust, be able to give to the world a series of publications which will be of service to persons of many aims and ends not only in Australia but in the mother-country and elsewhere.

The facts and figures contained in this work have been verified and checked by various officers in this Department. It is possible, however, that, notwithstanding the pains which have been taken to secure accuracy, some errors may have escaped observation. If any such should be found, I shall esteem it a favor if the discoverer will notify the fact of their existence to me.

HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER,
Government Statist.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNMENT STATIST,

MELBOURNE, 1ST OCTOBER 1874.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF VICTORIA	vii
PRELIMINARY REMARKS	1
STATISTICS : PART I.—BLUE BOOK	2
" " II.—FINANCE	4
" " III.—POPULATION	9
" " IV.—ACCUMULATION	12
" " V.—INTERCHANGE	15
" " VI.—LAW, CRIME, ETC.	31
" " VII.—RELIGIOUS, MORAL, AND INTELLECTUAL PROGRESS	41
" " VIII.—PRODUCTION	51
" " IX.—VITAL STATISTICS	72
" CONCLUSION	101
ALPHABETICAL INDEX	103