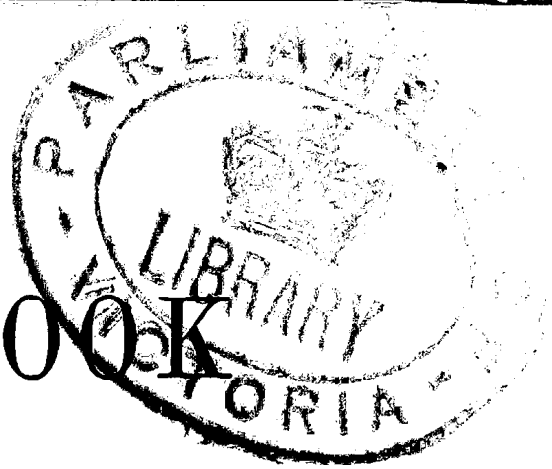


VICTORIAN YEAR-BOOK



FOR

1885-6.

(THIRTEENTH YEAR OF ISSUE.)

BY

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BY AUTHORITY.

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P R E F A C E.

THE tables embodied in previous issues of the *Victorian Year-Book* have been carefully revised and brought on to date in the present volume. The explanatory matter has, at the same time, been altered, elaborated, or entirely rewritten, as the case has required, in order to render it applicable to the changes which have taken place in the figures.

Much new matter has also been introduced. Fresh tables, together with explanations thereof and comments thereon, will be found scattered throughout the length and breadth of the work.

The three folding sheets at the commencement of the volume have been brought on to the end of 1885 by the insertion of the figures of another year.

As appendices, near the end of the work, are published eighteen tables embodying—(1) Australasian Statistics for the year 1885; (2) Revenue and Expenditure of Victoria during the last two financial years (1884-5 and 1885-6), and estimated revenue and expenditure during the current financial year (1886-7); (3) An interesting account of the objects and operations of the Central Board of Health of Victoria, contributed by its President, Mr. A. P. Akehurst; (4) Statements respecting the demand for and prospects of labour in different districts of the Colony, supplied by the municipal authorities; (5) Tariffs of all the Australasian Colonies, several of which have been much altered since their last publication in the issue of the work for 1881-2.

On the coloured map of Victoria at the end of the volume, the various railways existing, in progress, and authorized but not commenced, have been carefully marked, so as to give full information at the latest date.

In compiling the work, free use has been made, as usual, of the tables published by the Imperial Board of Trade under the direction of Mr. Robert Giffen; the Reports of the Agricultural Department of the Privy Council Office; the Reports of the Registrar-General of England, Scotland, and Ireland; the Reports of the Deputy Master of the London Mint; and other Imperial official documents. Occasional extracts have also been made from *The Statesman's Year-Book* (now ably conducted by Mr. J. Scott Keltie); *l'Almanach de Gotha*; *McCarty's Annual Statistician* (San Francisco); *Mulhall's Dictionary of Statistics*; *Kolb's Condition of Nations*; *The Statist and British Australasian* (London Journals); *The Transactions of the Statistical Societies of London and Paris*; that excellent Melbourne publication *The Australasian Insurance and Banking Record*; and other works. In all cases my indebtedness to these publications has been duly acknowledged.

Whilst thanking those who on previous occasions have pointed out mistakes which have been overlooked in this Department, I have to beg any who may find errors in the present volume also to be kind enough to inform me of the fact.

HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER,
Government Statist.

Office of the Government Statist,
Melbourne, 6th December, 1886.

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