

CONCLUSION.

Australasian
Statistics.

346. It was originally my intention to have so far extended the scope of this Year-Book as to have introduced certain statistical facts relating to each of the Australasian colonies, and showing the relative importance of each colony. To this end a form I prepared, containing enquiries under various heads with blank spaces for replies, was despatched by this Government to the Governments of the other Australian colonies, and of Tasmania and New Zealand, in July last, with a request that the information sought to be obtained might be embodied therein, and the form returned without delay. This was promptly responded to in some of the colonies, but not so in others, and all the returns have, even yet, not been received. I therefore prefer, rather than detain this work any longer, to send it to the Press in its present state.

Conclusion.

347. The careful student of its pages will, I feel assured, find therein ample indication that, in spite of a few blots which point to the conclusion that here, as elsewhere, the social system is not without its imperfections, the evidences of active progress and present prosperity are such as are rarely to be found recorded in the statistical annals of so young a country.

HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER,
Government Statist of Victoria
