A STATISTICAL ACCOUNT

OF

AUSTRALIA

AND

NEW ZEALAND 1903-4

BY

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Published by authority of the government of the state of New South Walls and $\omega_{\rm F}$ the commonwealth of Australia.

SYDNEY: W. A. GULLICK, GOVERNMENT PRINTER.

PREFACE.

THE general plan adopted in previous issues has been followed on the present occasion, but the scope of several chapters has been greatly enlarged. Owing to the necessity for printing off the chapters as they were compiled, no attempt has been made to arrange them in their natural order of sequence, but the voluminous index provided will save the reader inconvenience on this score.

In all cases the figures have been revised to accord with the latest information, and as a rule they refer either to the year 1903 or to the year 1904; in some instances, however, owing to the undue delay in publishing the official statistics, I have been compelled to use figures relating to 1902, but the instances where this was necessary were neither many nor important.

Care has been taken to correct errors which have escaped notice in previous editions, and to keep this edition free from them. Should any such have remained undetected, as in the multitude of references is quite possible, it would be deemed a favour if their nature and position were pointed out.

I desire to return thanks to the Statisticians of the States and New Zealand, and to the various officers of the Commonwealth and of the States who have on all occasions so readily supplied me with information asked for.

In the editions published in the year 1900-1 and 1901-2 there appeared short historical sketches of each state and of New Zealand; these have not been reprinted, as space was required for new matter.

T. A. COGHLAN.

Statistician's Office,

Sydney, 1st December, 1904.

CONTENTS.

									Page.
Area and Pl	ysical	Configu	ıration	•••	•••	•••			Ī
Australia	•••	•••		•••	•••			•••	2
New South	Wales	•••		•••	•••		•••	•••	6
Victoria	•••	•••		•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	19
Queensland	•••	•••	•••			•••	•••	•••	24
South Austra	alia			•••	•••	•••			30
Western Aus	stralia			•••		•••			3 6
Tasmania		•••		•••	•••		•••	•••	40
New Guinea	•••	•••		•••	•••				44
New Zealan	d			•••		•••	•••		46
Climate	•••		•	•••	•••				54
The Discove	ery of A	ustralia	and N	Vew Ze	aland				60
The Commo	nwealt	h		•••		•••			69
Constitution	of the	Comm	onwea	lth		•••			93
Constitution	s of the	e States	and N	Vew Zea	aland	•••			117
Population	•••						•••		148
Vital Statisti	cs	•••	•••	••1					177
Shipping	•/• •			•••	•••		•••	•••	210
Commerce			•••	•••		•••	•••	•••	228
Land and Se	ttlemen	nt	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	287
Agriculture	•••	•••			•••	•••			345
Pastoral Reso	ources	and Da	iry Ind		•••	•••	•••	•••	406
Industrial Pr					•••		•••		
Private Prope	-			•••		•••	•••	•••	443
Defence		•••			•••	•••	•••	•••	512

viii

								Page
Law and Crime	•••	•••	•••	•••		•••	•••	544
Railways		•••	•••	•••			•••	558
Commonwealth Fin	•••		••	•••	•••	635		
State Finance	•••	••• .	•••	•••	•••	•••		660
Posts and Telegrap	hs		•••	•••	•••		•••	737
Local Government	. • •	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	757
Accumulation	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	781
Social Condition		•••	•••			•••	•••	830
Education	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	855
Religion	•••	•••	•••	• • • •	•••	•••	•••	880
Food Supply	•••		•••	•••	•••	•••		889
Mineral Resources	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	913
The Manufacturing	•••		•••	•••	•••	961		
Employment and P	roduc	tion	•••		•••	•••	•••	1004
General Index		•••						1024