

# VICTORIAN YEAR-BOOK, 1881-2.

## INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.

1. It is believed that the first Europeans who ever sighted any portion of the land now embraced within the limits of the Colony of Victoria were Captain James Cook, of the Royal Navy, and the crew of His Majesty's ship *Endeavour*. This vessel had been sent to Tahiti to observe the transit of Venus over the sun's disc, and Cook, who was in command, having accomplished that object, and having also made a survey of New Zealand, continued his course westward, in order to explore the eastern coast of "Terra Australis Incognita." He made the land on the 19th April 1770, and estimated a prominent point—which he named after the first discoverer, Lieutenant Hicks, one of the officers of his vessel—to be in latitude  $38^{\circ}$  south, longitude,  $211^{\circ} 7'$  west ( $148^{\circ} 53'$  east). Cook, however, did not attempt to land, or even to approach near the shore, but passed on to other discoveries. It may be observed that Point Hicks appears to be identical with the present Cape Everard, in Gippsland, situated about midway between Cape Howe and the mouth of the Snowy River.\*

Discovery of  
Victoria.

2. About the middle of February 1797, a ship called the *Sydney Cove*, whilst on a voyage from India to New South Wales, was wrecked at Furneaux Islands, in Bass's Straits. Mr. Clarke the supercargo, the chief mate and fifteen men, endeavored to reach Sydney in the launch, but were driven on shore somewhere to the south of Cape Howe, and therefore on the coast of Victoria. They started off by land for Sydney, but three only, viz., Mr. Clarke, an English sailor, and a Lascar, reached it alive. Clarke and his party were probably the first Europeans who ever set foot upon the Victorian shore.

First party  
to land.

3. The first attempt to colonize the district was made by an expedition under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel David Collins, a marine officer, who had previously held the post of Judge Advocate in Sydney. The party, which consisted of 307 convicts, with a guard of soldiers and a few civilians, making in all 402 persons, set sail from Portsmouth on the 26th April 1803, in two ships, which arrived at Port Phillip on the 7th and 11th October of the same year. They, however, remained

Early  
attempts  
at coloniza-  
tion.

\* The latitude of Cape Everard, according to the latest computations, is  $37^{\circ} 49'$  S., and the longitude  $149^{\circ} 17'$  E.

only about three months, and then abandoned the territory as unfit for the residence of civilized man. A second attempt was made to found a convict establishment in the beginning of 1826, the site of the settlement being Western Port, and the commander of the expedition Captain Wetherall. As, however, the place chosen was altogether unsuitable, and moreover the expense was objected to by the British Government, orders were soon given to remove to Sydney, which was accordingly done. Thus on a second occasion the territory was abandoned.

4. The first permanent settlement was at Portland Bay, situated near the western extremity of the colony, the pioneer being Mr. Edward Henty, who landed there from Tasmania, then called Van Diemen's Land, with a few followers, on the 19th November 1834, and soon began to till the soil, to run and breed stock, and to carry on whaling operations. In the following year two parties, also from Tasmania, established themselves at Port Phillip. The leader of the first party was John Batman, who landed on the 29th May 1835, at Indented Heads, about twelve miles from the entrance to Port Phillip; and the leader of the second was John Pascoe Fawkner, who landed on the 18th October 1835, having previously despatched a vessel which arrived on the 28th August. These three parties may be said to have paved the way to the successful colonization of the territory now called Victoria.

5. Victoria occupies the south-eastern portion of, and is the southernmost colony\* on, the Australian continent. It lies between the 34th and 39th parallels of south latitude and the 141st and 150th meridians of east longitude. Its extreme length from east to west is about 420, its greatest breadth about 250, and its extent of coast-line nearly 600 geographical miles.

6. According to the latest computation, the area of Victoria is 87,884 square miles,† or 56,245,760 acres. The whole continent of Australia is estimated to contain 2,944,628 square miles,† and therefore Victoria occupies about a thirty-fourth part of its surface. Great Britain, exclusive of the islands in the British seas, contains 89,644 square miles, and is therefore somewhat larger than Victoria.

7. On the north and east Victoria is bounded by the River Murray, and by a right line running in a south-easterly direction from a place near the head waters of that stream, called The Springs, on Forest Hill, to Cape Howe. On the west it is bounded by South Australia, the

\* In consequence of its position at the extreme south of the Australian continent, Victoria is often mistaken, by English writers and others not well acquainted with Australian geography, for an adjacent colony, which has been misnamed South Australia, the truth being that only a very small part of South Australia is situated further south than even the most northern portion of Victoria. A chapter on the Geography of Victoria was given in the *Victorian Year-Book*, 1874: Ferres, Melbourne.

† The estimated area of Australia has been revised since last year by Mr. Surveyor-General A. J. Skene, the result being that these figures exceed by 609 square miles those given in the *Victorian Year-Book* 1880-1.

Permanent settlement of the district.

Position of Victoria.

Area of Victoria.

Boundaries.

dividing line being about 242 geographical miles in length, approximating to the position of the 141st meridian of east longitude, and extending from the River Murray to the sea. The southern boundary is formed by the Southern Ocean, Bass's Straits, and the Pacific Ocean.

8. The southernmost point in Victoria, and consequently in the whole of Australia, is Wilson's Promontory, which lies in latitude  $39^{\circ} 8' S.$ , longitude  $146^{\circ} 26' E.$ ; the northernmost point is the place where the western boundary of the colony meets the Murray, latitude  $34^{\circ} 2' S.$ , longitude  $140^{\circ} 58' E.$ ; the point furthest east is Cape Howe, situated in latitude  $37^{\circ} 31' S.$ , longitude  $149^{\circ} 59' E.$ ; the most westerly point is the line of the whole western frontier, which, according to the latest correction, lies upon the meridian  $140^{\circ} 58' E.$ , and extends from latitude  $34^{\circ} 2' S.$  to latitude  $38^{\circ} 4' S.$ , or 242 geographical miles.

Extreme points of Victoria.

9. The Melbourne observatory is a building specially erected for observatory purposes in the Government reserve on the south side of the River Yarra. According to the latest computation, its latitude is  $37^{\circ} 49' 53''$  south, and its longitude  $144^{\circ} 58' 42''$  east.

Position of Melbourne.

10. Victoria is traversed, with more or less regularity, throughout its entire length from east to west, by a chain of mountains and lesser hills, completely dividing it into two parts, and known as the Dividing Range. The summit of this range runs generally at a distance of 60 or 70 miles from the coast. The streams to the north of it flow towards the River Murray, and those to the south of it towards the sea. The eastern part of the range, which divides the Gippsland district from that of the Murray, is named the Australian Alps; and that part which separates the county of Ripon from that of Borung, and extends into the county of Kara Kara, is named the Pyrenees. The higher peaks of the Dividing Range are covered with snow for several months in the year. The mountainous country is, for the most part, densely wooded to the very summits with fine timber, but the peaks above the winter snow-line are quite bare, or only partially covered with dwarfed trees or shrubs. From near Kilmore eastward, a distance of 200 miles, the mountains generally are so steep and inaccessible as to present a considerable barrier between the parts of the colony north and south of them, and they can only be traversed with great labor by the few passes that exist. From Kilmore westward the range rapidly dwindles, so that, although presenting in places points of considerable height—such as Mount William and Mount Macedon—it is easily crossed. From Mount Macedon it becomes, as it stretches away to the Western district, a chain of hills, in parts only of considerable altitude, and

Physical features.

offering no serious obstructions to crossing in very many places. That portion of the Murray basin commencing at Wodonga on the east as a point, and extending in the form of a regular triangle to a width of 200 miles along the western boundary of Victoria, has almost a flat surface, with a very slight inclination towards the Murray. The remaining country north and south of the Dividing Range and its spurs is moderately undulating; it is in some parts destitute of timber, but closely wooded in others.

**Mountains.**

11. Besides the main Dividing Range, there are also other ranges extending in different parts of the country, many of them being spurs of the main chain. The highest peaks are found in the Dividing Range and its offshoots, between St. Clair and the eastern boundary of Victoria. The chief of these are:—The Bogong Range, 6,508 feet; Mount Feathertop, 6,303 feet; Mount Hotham, 6,100 feet; Cobberas, 6,025 feet; Mount Cope, 6,015 feet; Mount Bulla, 5,911 feet; Gibbo Range, 5,764 feet; Mount Wills, 5,758 feet; Mount Howitt, 5,715 feet; Mount Buffalo, 5,645 feet; The Twins, 5,575 feet; Mount Tamboritha, 5,381 feet; Mount Wellington, 5,363 feet; Mount Cobbler, 5,342 feet; and Mount Kent, 5,129 feet. So far as is at present known by observation, there are at least 15 peaks over 5,000 feet high, and 15 between 4,000 and 5,000 feet. There are, however, many peaks above 4,000 feet whose actual heights have not yet been determined.

**Rivers.**

12. The rivers in Victoria are, for the most part, inconsiderable, and many of them are liable to be partially dried up during the summer months, so as to be reduced at that season to mere chains of pools or waterholes. With the exception of the Yarra, on the banks of which the metropolis is situated; the Goulburn, which empties itself into the Murray about eight miles to the eastward of Echuca; the Murray itself, and the La Trobe and Mitchell in Gippsland, not one of them is navigable except by boats. As, however, they drain the watershed of large areas of country, some have already been, and others will ultimately be, made feeders to permanent reservoirs for the purposes of irrigation, gold-washing, and manufactures. The Murray, which forms the northern boundary of the colony, is the largest river in Australia. Its total length is 2,400 miles, for 670 of which it flows along the Victorian border. The names and lengths of the other principal Victorian rivers are as follow:—The Goulburn, 230 miles; the Glenelg, 205 miles; the Loddon, 150 miles; the Wimmera, 135 miles; the Avoca, 130 miles; the Hopkins, 110 miles; the Wannon, 105 miles; the Ovens, 100 miles; the La Trobe, 90 miles; the Mitta Mitta, 90 miles; the Yarra Yarra, 90 miles.

13. Victoria contains numerous salt and fresh water lakes and lagoons, Lakes. but many of these are nothing more than swamps during dry seasons. Some of them are craters of extinct volcanoes. Lake Corangamite, the largest inland lake in Victoria, covers 76 square miles, and is quite salt, notwithstanding its augmentation by numerous fresh-water streams. It has no visible outlet. Lake Colac, only a few miles distant from Lake Corangamite, is a beautiful sheet of water, 10 square miles in extent, and quite fresh. Lake Burrumbeet is also a fine sheet of fresh water, embracing  $8\frac{1}{2}$  square miles. The Gippsland lakes—Victoria, King, and Reeve—are situated close to the coast, and are only separated from the sea by a narrow belt of sand. Through this there is an entrance which is often navigable, but is subject to be closed at irregular intervals in consequence of the shifty nature of the sand at its mouth. Works have been commenced with the view of making the entrance permanent. Lake Wellington, the largest of all the Gippsland lakes, lies to the westward of Lakes Victoria and Reeve, and is united with the first-named by a narrow channel. South-east of Geelong is Lake Connewarre, connected with the sea at Point Flinders.

14. From its geographical position, Victoria enjoys a climate more Climate. suitable to the European constitution than any other colony upon the continent of Australia, resembling that of the more favored portions of Southern Europe. Upon examining a chart showing isothermal lines, it will be found that Melbourne is situated upon or near the line corresponding with that in the Northern Hemisphere on which Marseilles, Bordeaux, Bologna, Nice, Verona, and Madrid are situated. The difference, however, between summer and winter, and the hottest and coldest month, is far less in Melbourne than in any of these places. In the twenty-three years ended with 1881, the maximum temperature in the shade was  $111\cdot2^{\circ}$  Fahr., viz., on the 14th January 1862; the minimum was  $27^{\circ}$ , viz., on the 21st July 1869; and the mean was  $57\cdot4^{\circ}$ . Upon the average, on four days during the year the thermometer rises above  $100^{\circ}$  in the shade; and generally on about three nights during the year it falls below freezing point. The maximum temperature in the sun in the twenty-three years ended with 1880 was  $160^{\circ}$ . The mean atmospheric pressure, noted at an observatory 91 feet above the sea-level, was, in the seventeen years ended with 1880, 29.93 inches; the average number of days on which rain fell was 130, and the average yearly rainfall was 26 inches.\*

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\* For further information respecting the meteorological observations, not only for Melbourne, but also for other parts of the colony, see Part IV., Vital Statistics, *post*. A chapter on Meteorology and Climate was given in the *Victorian Year-Book*, 1874.

Principal  
events.

15. The following are the dates of some of the principal events connected with the discovery and history of Victoria\* :—
1770. April 19th.—Victorian land first discovered by Capt. James Cook, R.N.— (“Point Hicks,” believed to be either the present Cape Conran or Cape Everard in Gippsland).
1798. June 4th.—Western Port discovered and entered by Surgeon George Bass, R.N.
- „ Nov. and Dec.—The existence of a strait between Australia and Tasmania proved by Flinders and Bass, who sailed round the latter island in the sloop *Norfolk*.
1800. Dec. 4th to 9th.—Bass’s Straits first sailed through from the westward by Lieutenant James Grant, R.N., in H.M.S. *Lady Nelson*, of sixty tons burden, bound from England to Port Jackson. On this occasion Grant discovered and gave the present names to Capes Bridgewater, Nelson, and Sir William Grant, Portland Bay, the Lawrence and Lady Julia Percy Islands, Capes Otway, Patton, Liptrap, &c.
1802. January 5th.—Port Phillip Bay discovered by Acting Lieutenant John Murray, R.N., in the *Lady Nelson*. Heads entered by the launch on February 2nd, and by the vessel on February 15th.
- „ April 26th.—Port Phillip Bay entered and examined by Commander Matthew Flinders, R.N., who was not aware it had been previously discovered by Murray.
1803. Jan. and Feb.—Port Phillip Bay surveyed and the Yarra and Saltwater Rivers discovered by Charles Grimes, Surveyor-General of New South Wales, and party.
- „ October 7th.—Attempt to colonise Port Phillip by Colonel David Collins, in charge of a party of convicts.
1804. January 27th.—Port Phillip abandoned by Collins as unfit for settlement.
1824. Dec. 16th.—Hume and Hovell arrived at Corio Bay, having travelled overland from Sydney.
1834. Nov. 19th.—Permanent settlement founded at Portland Bay by Edward Henty.
1835. May 29th.—John Batman arrived in Port Phillip and made a treaty with the natives for a grant of 600,000 acres of land.
- „ August 28th.—John Pascoe Fawcner’s party sailed up the Yarra in the *Enterprise* and founded Melbourne. (Fawcner followed shortly after, and landed on the 18th October.)
1836. April to Oct.—Major (afterwards Lieutenant-Colonel Sir) Thomas Livingstone Mitchell made extensive explorations in the Port Phillip District, the western portion of which he named Australia Felix.
- „ Sept. 29th.—Regular Government established under Captain William Lonsdale, who was sent from Sydney to act as Resident Magistrate.
1837. March 2nd.—Governor Sir Richard Bourke arrived from Sydney and gave the name of Melbourne to the metropolis of the new settlement.
- „ June 1st.—First sale of Crown lands took place in Melbourne. Average price of half-acre town lots, £35.
1839. Sept. 30th.—Mr. Charles Joseph La Trobe arrived from Sydney and took charge of the Port Phillip District under the title of Superintendent. The territory over which he exercised jurisdiction was much smaller than the present colony of Victoria, being bounded on the east and west by the 146th and 141st meridians and on the north by the 36th parallel.
1842. August 12th.—Melbourne incorporated as a Town by Act of the Legislature of New South Wales 6 Vict. No. 7.

\* For a detailed account of the early history of Victoria, see *Victorian Year-Book*, 1874.

1847. June 26th.—Royal Letters Patent erecting the Town of Melbourne into a City signed at this date; gazetted in Sydney on the 5th February 1848.
1849. October 12th.—Geelong incorporated as a Town by Act of the Legislature of New South Wales 13 Vict. No. 40.
1851. July 1st.—Port Phillip separated from New South Wales and erected into an independent colony under the name of Victoria.
- „ July and Aug.—Discovery of gold in Victoria.
1853. February 8th.—Road districts (the origin of the present shires) established by Act 16 Vict. No. 40.
1854. November. —Riots on Ballarat goldfield. (Eureka Stockade taken on the 2nd December.)
- „ Dec. 29th.—Municipal institutions (the origin of the present cities, towns, and boroughs) established by Act 18 Vict. No. 15.
1855. Nov. 23rd.—New Constitution proclaimed in Victoria.
1856. March 19th.—The ballot as a means of electing members of both Houses of Parliament prescribed by Act 19 Vict. No. 12.
1857. August 27th.—Property qualification of members of the Legislative Assembly abolished by Act 21 Vict. No. 12.
- „ Nov. 24th.—Universal suffrage for electors of the Legislative Assembly made law by Act 21 Vict. No. 33.
1869. January 1st.—Property qualification of members and electors of the Legislative Council reduced by Act 32 Vict. No. 334.
1880. February 6th.—Fortnightly mail service between Victoria and England commenced.
- „ October 1st.—First Victorian International Exhibition opened. It was closed on the 30th April 1881.
1881. Nov. 28th.—Property qualification of members and electors of the Legislative Council further reduced, number of provinces and members increased, and tenure of seats shortened by Act 45 Vict. No. 702.

16. Subjoined is a list of the Governors and Acting-Governors of Victoria, with the dates of their assumption of and retirement from office:—

GOVERNORS OF VICTORIA.

| Name.   | Date of Assumption of Office. | Date of Retirement from Office. |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Charles Joseph La Trobe ...   | 30th September 1839*          | ...                             |
| John Vesey Fitzgerald Foster (acting)   | 15th July 1851 ...            | 5th May 1854                    |
| Sir Charles Hotham, K.C.B. ...  | 8th May 1854 ...              | 22nd June 1854                  |
| Major-General Edward Macarthur (acting)   | 22nd June 1854 ...            | 31st December 1855†             |
| Sir Henry Barkly, K.C.B. ...  | 1st January 1856 ...          | 26th December 1856              |
| Sir Charles Henry Darling, K.C.B. ...   | 26th December 1856            | 10th September 1863             |
| Brigadier-General George Jackson Carey, C.B. (acting)                               | 11th September 1863           | 7th May 1866                    |
| The Right Honorable John Henry Thomas Viscount Canterbury, K.C.B.                   | 7th May 1866 ...              | 15th August 1866                |
| Sir William Foster Stawell, Kt.(acting)   | 15th August 1866 ...          | 2nd March 1873                  |
| Sir George Ferguson Bowen, G.C.M.G.†  | 3rd March 1873 ...            | 19th March 1873                 |
| Sir Redmond Barry, Kt. (acting) ...   | 31st March 1873 ...           | 22nd February 1879              |
| Sir William Foster Stawell, Kt.(acting)   | 3rd January 1875 ...          | 10th January 1875               |
| The Most Honorable George Augustus Constantine, Marquis of Normanby, G.C.M.G., P.C. | 11th January 1875 ...         | 14th January 1876               |
|   | 27th February 1879            | Still in office                 |

\* At the first of these dates Mr. La Trobe assumed the office of Superintendent of Port Phillip; at the second he became Lieutenant-Governor of Victoria.

† Sir Charles Hotham died at this date.

‡ Sir G. F. Bowen was absent on leave from the 31st December 1874 to the 14th January 1876.

Duration of  
Governor-  
ships.

17. Since Victoria has been an independent colony, the average time during which the Governors of Victoria, prior to Lord Normanby, not including the Acting-Governors, have held office has been about four years and four months.

Interregna  
in Victoria.

18. During the twelve days between the 19th and the 31st March 1873, the former being the day on which Sir W. F. Stawell left the colony, and the latter that on which Sir G. F. Bowen arrived, also during the five days between the 22nd and 27th February 1879, the former being the day on which Sir G. F. Bowen left, and the latter that on which Lord Normanby arrived, there was neither Governor nor Acting-Governor in Victoria.

Ministries.

19. Since the inauguration of responsible government, twenty-one Ministries have held office in Victoria. The following are the names of the respective Chief Secretaries or Premiers, and the dates of their assumption of and retirement from office:—

#### MINISTRIES.

| Name of Premier.                   | Date of Assumption<br>of Office. | Date of Retirement<br>from Office. |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. William Clark Haines ...        | 28th November 1855               | 11th March 1857                    |
| 2. John O'Shanassy ...             | 11th March 1857 ...              | 29th April 1857                    |
| 3. William Clark Haines ...        | 29th April 1857 ...              | 10th March 1858                    |
| 4. John O'Shanassy ...             | 10th March 1858 ...              | 27th October 1859                  |
| 5. William Nicholson ...           | 27th October 1859 ...            | 26th November 1860                 |
| 6. Richard Heales ...              | 26th November 1860               | 14th November 1861                 |
| 7. John O'Shanassy ...             | 14th November 1861               | 27th June 1863                     |
| 8. James McCulloch ...             | 27th June 1863 ...               | 6th May 1868                       |
| 9. Charles Sladen ...              | 6th May 1868 ...                 | 11th July 1868                     |
| 10. James McCulloch ...            | 11th July 1868 ...               | 20th September 1869                |
| 11. John Alexander MacPherson ...  | 20th September 1869              | 9th April 1870                     |
| 12. James McCulloch ...            | 9th April 1870 ...               | 19th June 1871                     |
| 13. Charles Gavan Duffy ...        | 19th June 1871 ...               | 10th June 1872                     |
| 14. James Goodall Francis ...      | 10th June 1872 ...               | 31st July 1874                     |
| 15. George Briscoe Kerferd ...     | 31st July 1874 ...               | 7th August 1875                    |
| 16. Graham Berry ...               | 7th August 1875 ...              | 20th October 1875                  |
| 17. Sir James McCulloch, Kt. ...   | 20th October 1875 ...            | 21st May 1877                      |
| 18. Graham Berry ...               | 21st May 1877 ...                | 5th March 1880                     |
| 19. James Service ...              | 5th March 1880 ...               | 3rd August 1880                    |
| 20. Graham Berry ...               | 3rd August 1880 ...              | 9th July 1881                      |
| 21. Sir Bryan O'Loghlen, Bart. ... | 9th July 1881 ...                | Still in office                    |

Duration of  
Ministries.

20. Before the present Government assumed office the average duration of Ministries had been about one year and three months.

Parliaments.

21. The present is the eleventh Parliament since the inauguration of responsible government in Victoria. The following table shows the

number of Sessions in each Parliament, the dates of opening and of closing or dissolution :—

PARLIAMENTS.

| Number of Parliament. | Number of Session. | Date of Opening.     | Date of Closing and of Dissolution.          |
|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--|
| 1                     | 1                  | 21st November 1856   | ... 24th November 1857                       |
|                       | 2                  | 3rd December 1857    | ... 4th June 1858                            |
|                       | 3                  | 7th October 1858 ... | ... 24th February 1859<br>9th August 1859    |
| 2                     | 1                  | 13th October 1859    | ... 18th September 1860                      |
|                       | 2                  | 20th November 1860   | ... 3rd July 1861<br>11th July 1861          |
| 3                     | 1                  | 30th August 1861     | ... 18th June 1862                           |
|                       | 2                  | 7th November 1862    | ... 11th September 1863                      |
|                       | 3                  | 26th January 1864    | ... 2nd June 1864<br>25th August 1864        |
| 4                     | 1                  | 28th November 1864   | ... 28th November 1865<br>11th December 1865 |
| 5                     | 1                  | 12th February 1866   | ... 5th April 1866                           |
|                       | 2                  | 11th April 1866 ...  | ... 1st June 1866                            |
|                       | 3                  | 17th January 1867    | ... 10th September 1867                      |
|                       | 4                  | 18th September 1867  | ... 8th November 1867                        |
|                       | 5                  | 25th November 1867   | ... 25th November 1867<br>30th December 1867 |
| 6                     | 1                  | 13th March 1868 ...  | ... 29th September 1868                      |
|                       | 2                  | 11th February 1869   | ... 29th December 1869                       |
|                       | 3                  | 15th February 1870   | ... 15th July 1870                           |
|                       | 4                  | 27th October 1870    | ... 29th December 1870<br>25th January 1871  |
| 7                     | 1                  | 25th April 1871 ...  | ... 23rd November 1871                       |
|                       | 2                  | 30th April 1872 ...  | ... 17th December 1872                       |
|                       | 3                  | 13th May 1873 ...    | ... 25th November 1873<br>9th March 1874     |
| 8                     | 1                  | 19th May 1874 ...    | ... 24th December 1874                       |
|                       | 2                  | 25th May 1875 ...    | ... 7th April 1876                           |
|                       | 3                  | 11th July 1876 ...   | ... 22nd December 1876<br>25th April 1877    |
| 9                     | 1                  | 22nd May 1877 ...    | ... 9th April 1878                           |
|                       | 2                  | 9th July 1878 ...    | ... 6th December 1878                        |
|                       | 3                  | 8th July 1879 ...    | ... 5th February 1880<br>9th February 1880   |
| 10                    | 1                  | 11th May 1880 ...    | ... 26th June 1880<br>29th June 1880         |
| 11                    | 1                  | 22nd July 1880 ...   | ... 2nd August 1881                          |
|                       | 2                  | 4th August 1881 ...  | ... 24th December 1881                       |
|                       | 3                  | 25th April 1882 ...  | ...  |

22. Parliaments in Victoria have existed, on the average, for two years and two months. Sessions have lasted, on the average, for nearly seven months. Duration of Parliaments.

23. The following are the names of the present Governors of all the Australasian colonies, and the dates of their assuming office :— Governors of Australasian colonies.

## GOVERNORS OF AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES.

| Colony.             | Name.  | Date of Assumption of Office. |
|---------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Victoria ...        | The Most Honorable George Augustus Constantine, Marquis of Normanby, G.C.M.G., P.C.              | 27th February 1879            |
| New South Wales     | The Right Honorable Sir (commonly called Lord) Augustus William Frederick Spencer Loftus, G.C.B. | 4th August 1879               |
| Queensland ...      | Sir Arthur Edward Kennedy, K.C.M.G.  | 10th November 1876            |
| South Australia ... | Lieut.-General Sir William Francis Drummond Jervois, R.E., G.C.M.G., C.B.                        | 3rd July 1877                 |
| Western Australia   | Sir William Cleaver Francis Robinson, K.C.M.G.   | 10th April 1880               |
| Tasmania ...        | Major Sir George Cumine Strahan, K.C.M.G.  | 7th December 1881             |
| New Zealand ...     | The Honorable Sir Arthur Hamilton Gordon, G.C.M.G.   | 29th November 1880            |

Reigning sovereigns.

24. The names of the reigning sovereigns or other rulers of the principal countries in the world, together with the years of birth and of succession to or assumption of office, are as follow:—

## REIGNING SOVEREIGNS, ETC., 1881.

| Country.                  | Name.                             | Year of Birth. | Office.  |                        |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|--|------------------------|
|                           |                                   |                | Title.   | Year of Assumption of. |
| Great Britain and Ireland | Victoria I. ...                   | 1819           | Queen of Great Britain and Ireland             | 1837                   |
| Austro-Hungary            | " ...<br>Franz Joseph I. ...      | " ...<br>1830  | Empress of India ...<br>Emperor of Austria ... | 1877<br>1848           |
| Belgium                   | " ...<br>Leopold II. ...          | " ...<br>1835  | King of Hungary ...<br>King of the Belgians    | 1867<br>1865           |
| Brazil                    | ...<br>Pedro II. ...              | ...<br>1825    | Emperor of Brazil ...                          | 1831                   |
| China                     | ...<br>Quang-Su ...               | ...<br>1871    | Emperor of China ...                           | 1875                   |
| Denmark                   | ...<br>Christian IX. ...          | ...<br>1818    | King of Denmark ...                            | 1863                   |
| Egypt                     | ...<br>Mohamed Tewfik             | ...<br>1852    | Khedive of Egypt ...                           | 1879                   |
| France                    | ...<br>F. P. J. Grévy...          | ...<br>1813    | President of the French Republic               | 1879                   |
| Germany                   | ...<br>Wilhelm I. ...             | ...<br>1797    | King of Prussia ...                            | 1861                   |
| "                         | ...<br>" ...                      | ...<br>"       | Emperor of Germany                             | 1871                   |
| Greece                    | ...<br>Georgios I. ...            | ...<br>1845    | King of the Hellenes                           | 1863                   |
| Holland                   | ...<br>Willem III. ...            | ...<br>1817    | King of the Netherlands                        | 1849                   |
| Italy                     | ...<br>Umberto I. ...             | ...<br>1844    | King of Italy ...                              | 1878                   |
| "                         | ...<br>Leo XIII. (Giachino Pecci) | ...<br>1810    | Supreme Pontiff ...                            | 1878                   |
| Japan                     | ...<br>Mutsu Hito ...             | ...<br>1852    | Mikado of Japan ...                            | 1867                   |
| Montenegro                | ...<br>Nicholas I. ...            | ...<br>1841    | Hospodar of Montenegro                         | 1860                   |
| Morocco                   | ...<br>Muley-Hassan               | ...<br>1831    | Sultan of Morocco ...                          | 1873                   |
| Persia                    | ...<br>Nassr-ed-Din ...           | ...<br>1829    | Shah of Persia ...                             | 1848                   |

REIGNING SOVEREIGNS, ETC., 1881—*continued.*

| Country.              | Name.                 | Year of Birth. | Office.                        |                        |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
|                       |                       |                | Title.                         | Year of Assumption of. |
| Portugal ... ..       | Luis I. ... ..        | 1838           | King of Portugal ...           | 1861                   |
| Roumania ... ..       | Karl I. ... ..        | 1839           | Prince of Roumania             | 1866                   |
| Russia ... ..         | Alexander III.        | 1845           | Emperor of Russia ...          | 1881                   |
| Servia ... ..         | Milan I. ... ..       | 1855           | { Prince of Servia ...         | 1872                   |
|                       |                       |                | { King " ...                   | 1882                   |
| Spain ... ..          | Alfonso XII. ...      | 1857           | King of Spain ...              | 1874                   |
| Sweden and Norway ... | Oscar II. ...         | 1829           | King of Sweden and Norway      | 1872                   |
| Tunis ... ..          | Sidi Mohamed-el-Sadok | 1813           | Bey of Tunis ...               | 1859                   |
| Turkey ... ..         | Abdul-Hamid II.       | 1842           | Sultan of Turkey ...           | 1876                   |
| United States ... ..  | C. A. Arthur...       | 1830           | President of the United States | 1881                   |

25. It will be observed that only one ruler—the Emperor of Germany —was born before the commencement of the present century; also that, with the exception of the Emperor of Brazil, who ascended the throne at the early age of 6 years, no monarch has reigned so long as the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland. Oldest and longest reigning sovereigns.

PART I.—POPULATION.

26. A census of Victoria was taken on the 3rd April 1881, that being the date on which the census was also taken in the United Kingdom, in the other Australasian colonies, and in most other portions of the British Empire. Census of 1881.

27. The Victorian census was taken under a Statute (44 Vict. No. 667) specially passed for the purpose of giving legality to the undertaking. This Statute fixed the day on which the enumeration was to be made, gave the Governor in Council power to appoint the requisite officers, and made the Government Statist the officer responsible for carrying out the work. Census Act.

28. According to the census, the total population of this colony was as follows :— Population, 1881.

|                |         |
|----------------|---------|
| Males ... ..   | 452,083 |
| Females ... .. | 410,263 |
| Total ... ..   | 862,346 |