

TABLE OF PRINCIPAL EVENTS IN 1878.

- Jan. 1.—Expiration of "The Tolls Act," which provided for collection of tolls in Victoria.
The published returns of the number of sheep in New South Wales showed an increase of 3,748,095. On 1st January 1877 the numbers were 25,269,757, as against 21,521,662 for the previous year.
News by telegram of complications of a serious nature in South Africa; the 90th Regiment ordered for service at the Cape.
- „ 2.—First meeting of "The Australian Sheep Breeders' Association" at Messrs. Goldsbrough and Co.'s wool stores; Sir Samuel Wilson, president.
- „ 4.—Sale of Robertson Brothers' shorthorns, Colac; the bull 12th Duke of Derrimut sold to Mr. J. R. Lomax, of Wirrah station, N.S.W., for 2,450 guineas. The sale realized £25,742.
- „ 5.—Revenue returns published.—Victoria: revenue for the quarter, £1,100,821; for the year, £4,512,261; showing £49,998 increase on previous year. New South Wales: revenue for the quarter, £1,511,216; for the year, £5,751,878; increase on previous year, £714,216, including increase of land sales, £427,128. South Australia: revenue for the quarter, £342,804; for the year, £1,441,419; increase on previous year, £121,215. Queensland: revenue for the half year, £823,615.
Order of the Imperial Crown of India created by Her Majesty the Queen, who honored 36 ladies by the distinction.
- „ 8.—First annual sale of Mr. Samuel Gardiner's Brunswick shorthorn stock, realized £5,358.
Severe hurricane among the South Sea Islands, causing much damage to shipping and property on shore.
Supplement to the *Government Gazette* issued in the evening, announcing the removal from office of all judges of county courts, of courts of mines, and of the court of insolvency; also, of all chairmen of courts of general sessions, police magistrates, and coroners, together with a large number of officers of the civil service.
- „ 9.—This day (Wednesday) the persons whose removal from office had been notified in the previous evening's *Gazette* became aware of the fact of their connection with the public service having ceased.
First meeting of the Legislative Council since the Christmas holidays. The Hon. Mr. Cuthbert intimated that the Government had instructed him not to proceed with any Government business on the paper. Sir Charles Sladen moved an address to the Governor upon the circumstances attending the laying aside the Appropriation Bill by the Council.
Opening of the Portland and Hamilton Railway; His Excellency the Governor presided at the ceremony.
Died, Victor Emanuel, King of Italy, aged 57; succeeded by his son Prince Humbert, who took the oath to the Italian constitution on the 19th inst.
The New Hebrides visited by a terrific hurricane.
- „ 10.—Died, Mr. Edward Wilson, senior proprietor of the *Argus* newspaper, at Hayes, Kent, England, at the age of 63.
- „ 11.—Several cases of death from heat and sunstroke reported from Adelaide.
- „ 12.—A South Australian 4 per cent. loan of £4,500,000 successfully floated in London at an average price of £95 2s. 5d.
Accident, occasioned by the ascent of a balloon at Sydney. Two men injured; one mortally. The aeronaut subsequently found guilty, by a coroner's jury, of manslaughter from negligence.

- Jan. 13.—The heat at Dubbo, N.S.W., reported to be so intense that birds were dropping off the trees, or taking refuge in the houses. Other accounts received from Hay placed the highest reading of the thermometer at 121° in the shade.
- „ 14.—Wreck of the barque *Jane Spiers*, near Twofold Bay, on her passage from Melbourne to Newcastle.
Terrific gale at Port Darwin.
The Union Bank of Australia, at the meeting in London, declared a dividend and bonus, together amounting to 16 per cent., with £25,000 added to the reserve fund.
Opening of the first Juvenile Industrial Exhibition in the colony, at Emerald Hill, by Judge Cope.
- „ 15.—Eight thousand five hundred kangaroos reported to have been killed, in a week's battue, on Gourmana station, N.S.W.
Meeting of the Victorian Agricultural Society.
- „ 16.—Victorian yield of gold for 1877 estimated at 809,653 oz., showing a decrease of 154,107 oz. as compared with 1876.
Barque *Otago* capsized in the Yarra, not having sufficient ballast. After impeding the navigation for several days she was successfully raised on the 26th instant.
- „ 17.—South Australian amended revenue returns published, showing receipts for the year, £1,441,401; expenditure, £1,443,653.
Sir Charles Mac Mahon resigned his seat for West Melbourne in the Legislative Assembly.
- „ 18.—Revision Court for the City of Melbourne commenced its sittings.
The first sod of the transcontinental system of railway turned by Sir W. Jervois at Port Augusta, South Australia.
- „ 21.—The Hon. Graham Berry addressed the Geelong electors on the subject of the Appropriation Bill, asserting his belief that payments could be legally made on Votes of the Assembly without the sanction of the Council.
News received of a general rising of the Golekas in South Africa. Suppressed by the British troops after severe fighting.
Mr. J. H. B. Curtis, of Melbourne, Grand Secretary of the I.O.O.F., entertained at a banquet in Sydney.
The stone obelisk called "Cleopatra's Needle," having been recovered after its abandonment in the Bay of Biscay, arrived in England. It was subsequently erected on the Thames Embankment, London, on the 12th September.
- „ 22.—Legislative Council adopted an address to the Governor, asking for a copy of Mr. Berry's memorandum on the Audit Act, which had been sent to the Secretary for the Colonies.
- „ 23.—Legislative Council agreed upon an address to the Queen on the subject of the Constitutional Government of the colony.
- „ 24.—Lord Carnarvon resigned the office of Secretary of State for the Colonies.
- „ 25.—Victorian Indian Famine Relief Fund, amounting to £30,000, closed in Melbourne.
Government Gazette issued cancelling the order of the 8th instant for the removal of county court judges, coroners, and police magistrates. Three county court judges, three police magistrates, and three coroners retained; the rest dispensed with. Further reductions in the civil service departments, especially affecting the Education Office.
- „ 27.—British fleet entered the Dardanelles.
- „ 29.—Communication received by the Legislative Council from the Governor, declining to present the memorandum of Mr. Berry to the Colonial Secretary, asked for by the Council.
- „ 30.—Fatal railway accident at Emu Plains, N.S.W., by which three persons were killed, and rolling stock, &c., to the value of £8,000 destroyed.
Mr. Service made an important speech at Maldon.

- Jan. 31.—The highest price given in Australia for a yearling thoroughbred filly, fifteen hundred guineas, was paid by Mr. H. Power for sister to "First King," at Mr. J. Wilson's sale.
- Feb. 1.—Lord Carnarvon, late Secretary of State for the Colonies, succeeded in office by Sir Michael Hicks-Beach.
- „ 2.—Sir John Coode, an eminent engineer, arrived from England to advise the Harbor Trust as to the best scheme for improving the port of Melbourne.
The inclusion of payment of Members in the Estimates approved by Lord Carnarvon in a Despatch to the Governor.
Eclipse of the sun, visible in Melbourne.
Collision between s.s. *Lubra* and barque *Wandering Minstrel*, at the Heads.
- „ 4.—West Melbourne election. Sir Bryan O'Loghlen returned by a majority of 90 over his opponent, the Hon. J. G. Francis.
Pilot Board enquiry into the circumstances attending a collision between s.s. *Arawata* and barque *Albert the Good*. The commander of each vessel cautioned.
- „ 5.—Meeting of the Legislative Assembly after the recess.
The Hon. H. Cuthbert, in the Legislative Council, announced his retirement from the functions of Government leader in that chamber.
Sir Bryan O'Loghlen and Mr. Murray Smith took their seats in the Legislative Assembly—the former as member for West Melbourne, the latter for Boroondara.
The Despatches received from the Colonial Office *re* "Payment of Members" and "Land Tax" laid before Parliament.
- „ 6.—In the Legislative Assembly the Hon. Graham Berry moved—"That all grants passed in Committee of Supply become legally available for expenditure immediately such resolutions are agreed to by the Legislative Assembly; and that henceforth, in view of the serious public inconvenience caused by repeated rejections of the annual Appropriation Bill by the Legislative Council, the House resolves to resort to the practice which prevailed prior to 1862." Resolution carried by a majority of 52 to 23.
Great fall of rain in Sydney; 8 in. in 24 hours. Riverina also visited by heavy rains.
- „ 7.—Died, Pope Pius IX., aged 84.
Anaa, one of the Paumootoo Lagoon Islands, swept by a hurricane and tidal wave, occasioning great loss of life and destruction of property including vessels.
Collision on the Hobson's Bay Railway, unattended with any serious result.
- „ 8.—New South Wales population, on the 31st December 1877, estimated at 662,212.
Sir James McCulloch announced his determination to resign his seat for Warrnambool.
The Governor declined to forward a telegram from the Legislative Council to the Colonial Secretary, asking him to delay his decision on the Ministerial memorandum *re* the Crisis, sent to England some weeks ago.
The Governor of Tasmania presented Mr. James Smith, of Westwood, River Forth, with a testimonial, in acknowledgment of his services to the colony as the first discoverer of tin.
- „ 9.—In New South Wales the imports during the last week were the highest on record, their declared value being over £400,000.
The Governor of Tasmania laid the foundation stone of St. Mary's Cathedral, Launceston.

- Feb. 10.—The Samoan authorities informed by Sir Arthur Gordon, Governor of Fiji, that the conditional protectorate of the Islands had been declined by Great Britain.
- „ 12.—The new Tolls Bill passed in the Legislative Council with few amendments. The Government, however, refused to proceed with it.
- „ 13.—Legislative Assembly adjourned till 5th March. Prior to adjournment an address to the Queen on the subject of the Crisis was adopted.
Sir William Jervois, Governor of South Australia, sailed for England on leave of absence.
- „ 14.—Exhibition of merino wool at Messrs. Goldsbrough and Co.'s wool stores.
Chief Justice Way sworn in Acting Governor of South Australia.
- „ 15.—Opening of the Australian Juvenile Industrial Exhibition at Ballarat by the Governor, Sir G. F. Bowen.
A sum of £4,000, for duty, illegally collected on maize since 17th August 1877, directed to be refunded by the Government.
Mr. Gudemann, late accountant of the Treasury, appointed inspector of banks' clearing house. This gentleman was one of the public officers discharged on the 8th January.
- „ 17.—Princess Charlotte, eldest daughter of the Crown Prince of Prussia and the Princess Royal of England, and granddaughter to Queen Victoria, married to the Hereditary Duke of Saxe Meiningen, at Berlin.
- „ 18.—Meeting of the Conclave at Rome for the election of Pope. Sixty-one cardinals present. Cardinal Gioachino Pecci, Archbishop of Perugia, elected to the office under the title of Leo XIII.
- „ 19.—His Excellency the Governor declined to produce to the Legislative Council the despatches received from the Colonial Secretary in the matter of the Crisis.
Second address to the Queen, in refutation of the charges in the Assembly's address, adopted by the Legislative Council.
Construction of the direct line of railway to Oakleigh commenced by Government.
Closing of the South Australian Indian Famine Relief Fund; amount subscribed £11,450.
- „ 20.—Great flood at Sandhurst, causing much damage.
Petition to the Queen not to sanction any violation of the Constitution of Victoria forwarded to the Governor for transmission to the Imperial Government.
- „ 22.—Contract for the Dunolly and St. Arnaud Railway (38 miles) obtained by Messrs. Monie and Pattinson at the sum of £71,974, under £1,900 a mile.
Population of Victoria on 31st December 1877 estimated at 860,787, being an increase of 20,487 during the year.
Seizure of Samoan war schooner *Elizabeth* by Sir Arthur Gordon, High Commissioner in the Pacific, as security for fines to be paid by the Islands.
- Mar. 1.—Opening of the Gippsland Railway from Oakleigh to Sale, 119 miles.
- „ 3.—Coronation of Pope Leo XIII. in the Sistine Chapel at Rome.
Reports received of the spread of the *phylloxera vastatrix* amongst the vineyards of the Geelong district.
- „ 4.—Died, Alexander P. L. Robertson, M.D., late Superintendent of the Metropolitan Asylum for the Insane, Kew.
Three cases of sunstroke in Melbourne.
Treaty of peace signed between Turkey and Russia, the former agreeing to pay an indemnity of £200,000,000.

- Mar. 5.—Sir Bryan O’Loughlen, as a member of the Executive Council, without office, took his seat on the Treasury Benches in the Legislative Assembly.
- A Ministerial memorandum to the Governor, and a cablegram received by His Excellency from the Colonial Office, on the subject of the Crisis, presented to Parliament.
- Mr. Fysh, Premier of Tasmania, obtained leave of absence to visit Europe; succeeded by Mr. Giblin.
- Thirty-one petitions approving the attitude of the Upper House during the Crisis presented to the Legislative Council. The leading barristers, merchants, and traders of the city of Melbourne, to the number of 7,650, signed one of them.
- More rain fell on this day in South Australia than was ever before registered in one day.
- „ 6.—In the Legislative Assembly, Mr. Berry gave notice of motion with reference to the alteration of the Constitution Act.
- „ 7.—In the Legislative Assembly, a resolution for a Special Appropriation for payment of Members was passed by a majority of 56 to 20, including pairs.
- Sir John Coode engaged by the Government to visit the Gippsland lakes, and report upon the entrance thereto. He arrived at Sale and commenced the inspection on the 11th inst.
- „ 8.—Contract for the construction of the Stawell and Horsham line secured by Messrs. D. Leslie and Co. for £118,291.
- „ 11.—Warrants to the amount of £350,000 signed by the Governor and the Audit Commissioners, under the 45th section of the Constitution Act.
- Arrival in Melbourne of Colonel Glover, managing director of the Eastern Extension Telegraph Cable Company.
- „ 13.—Outbreak of the inmates of the Pentridge Reformatory; the boys resisted the warders, and a considerable amount of property was destroyed.
- „ 14.—Fifth Annual Exhibition of the West Bourke Agricultural Society opened by the Governor.
- Will of the late Mr. Best Overend, of the firm of Overend and Robb, contractors, sworn at £50,000.
- Fatal boat accident in Hobson’s Bay. The steamer *Rescue* ran down a waterman’s boat, and two persons, the occupants, were drowned.
- Annual meeting of the Royal Society of Victoria held at Melbourne.
- „ 15.—S.S. *Chimborazo*, Capt. Vine Hall, went ashore in broad daylight at Beecroft Head, north of Jervis Bay, having previously struck on a rock at Point Perpendicular. The vessel was subsequently floated and taken to Sydney for repairs. The certificate of the commander was suspended for six months, and the third officer, who was in charge of the deck, was reprimanded and cautioned.
- Mr. Derbin Willder, Deputy Returning Officer at the last West Melbourne Election, fined £10 for misconduct. Conviction afterwards quashed on a law point.
- Payment of Members Bill brought before the Legislative Council by Mr. Cuthbert, without notice. He afterwards gave the ordinary notice for its second reading on the 19th.
- Rain reported general throughout the colony.
- „ 16.—The heaviest flood in Melbourne since 1863. A portion of the Yan Yean aqueduct carried away, producing a water famine for several days.
- „ 17.—Serious disturbances in Hyde Park, Sydney, in consequence of religious disagreements.
- „ 18.—The case “*Chirnside v. Sanderson*,” an action to try the right to 1,500 acres of pastoral country near Dunolly, eventuated in a verdict for defendant.
- Seven inches of rain fell in thirteen minutes at Paratoo, South Australia.

- Mar. 19.—The salmon ova, brought out by the s. s. *Chimborazo* for New Zealand, turned out a failure.
- Confidential despatches of the late Viscount Canterbury, previously unpublished, in the matter of the Darling Grant, laid before the Assembly.
- „ 20.—Temporary repairs to the Yan Yean aqueduct completed.
- Professor Pearson's Report on Public Education presented to Parliament.
- Opening of the Queen Victoria Vegetable Market, West Melbourne.
- „ 21.—The Minister of Railways recalled the railway passes issued to ex-Ministers of the Crown.
- Second reading of the Payment of Members Bill moved in the Legislative Council, by Mr. Cuthbert. Amendment proposed by Sir Charles Sladen that the Bill be postponed until receipt of a new Appropriation Bill.
- The indemnity to be paid by Turkey to Russia definitely settled at £50,000,000.
- „ 24.—Died, Mr. Joseph Nicholson, one of the first agricultural machinists in the colony.
- H.M.S. Training Ship *Eurydice* sank in a squall off the Isle of Wight; 325 lives lost.
- „ 25.—“Moses bearing the Tables of the Law,” a replica of J. R. Herbert's fresco in the House of Lords, first exhibited at the Melbourne National Gallery.
- „ 26.—Messrs. Lyell and Munro, M.P's., arranged terms of conference between the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council, it being understood that Mr. Berry's notice of motion for a committee to search the records of Parliament for the Appropriation Bill, laid aside by the Council, should be the first step towards the introduction of the new Appropriation Bill excluding the Payment of Members item.
- Mr. R. Le Poer Trench resigned the position of Attorney-General; succeeded by Sir Bryan O'Loghlen, who was sworn in the following day.
- „ 27.—Payment of Members Bill passed the second reading in Legislative Council without a division.
- In New South Wales the opening of the Free Public Library and Museum on Sunday afternoons was agreed to by the Assembly. Public meetings were subsequently held to protest against the opening, but without success, and the institutions were eventually opened for the first time on Sunday the 5th May. Attendance on that and subsequent occasions large, but most orderly.
- News received that the Earl of Derby, Foreign Secretary, had resigned office, in consequence of his disapproval of the warlike attitude assumed by England.
- „ 28.—Termination of the Crisis. The Legislative Council adopted the Payment of Members Bill, and the new Appropriation Bill was passed through the Assembly.
- „ 29.—An Australian team of cricketers, selected from amongst the best players in Victoria and New South Wales, together with one player from Tasmania, left Sydney for England. They arrived at Liverpool on the 13th May, and played a number of matches with the best English cricketers, in the majority of which they were successful.
- Mr. G. Wilson Brown gazetted Secretary of Education. He had formerly occupied the position of Inspector-General.
- Autumn meeting of the Horticultural Society of Victoria at the Town Hall, Melbourne.

Apr. 1.—Revenue returns—Victoria : for the quarter ended 31st March 1878, £1,139,455, a decrease of £22,453 on the corresponding quarter of 1877 ; and for the year ended 31st March 1878, £4,489,807, a decrease of £18,828 on the year 1877. New South Wales : for the quarter ended 31st March 1878, £1,208,097, a decrease of £223,661 on last year for the same period. South Australia, £396,951 for the same quarter. New Zealand, £919,502 for the like period.

Criminal information filed by Mr. J. G. Francis against Mr. Knaggs, returning officer at the late West Melbourne election.

„ 2.—The Earl of Leitrim, together with a clerk and car-driver, shot dead near Milford, county Donegal, Ireland.

„ 3.—The new Appropriation Bill passed the Legislative Council.

The number of electors in the colony of New South Wales stated to be 170,317.

„ 4.—On the motion in the Legislative Assembly for an address to the Governor “thanking him for his impartial and constitutional action during the Crisis,” the Opposition members left the House.

Conference between the two Houses of Parliament on the Oakleigh and Goulburn Valley Railway lines collapsed.

„ 6.—Publication of correspondence between the Governor and Sir Wm. H. F. Mitchell, President of the Legislative Council.

„ 8.—Died, Thomas Howard Fellows, late Justice of the Supreme Court of Victoria, aged 55. A large number of persons, including several members of the Government, attended his funeral, which took place on the 10th inst.

News received of the massacre of a number of Wesleyan agents at New Britain, Duke of York group. The natives ate the bodies. Reprisals afterwards made by friendly natives under the Rev. G. Brown, head of the mission ; a number of men concerned in the massacre were killed and several villages burnt.

Sir William Manning elected Chancellor of the University, Sydney.

„ 9.—Prorogation of the first session of the ninth Parliament of Victoria.

Captain and mate of the brig *Alexandra* arrested and subsequently imprisoned for attempting to wreck the vessel.

„ 10.—Deputation of Victorian colonists in England waited on the Colonial Secretary relative to the Crisis.

„ 11.—Sir Bryan O’Loughlen returned a second time for West Melbourne, by a majority of 109 over Mr. J. G. Francis.

Died, Dr. Selwyn, Bishop of Lichfield, formerly Metropolitan Bishop of New Zealand.

„ 14.—Died, Mr. James McCutcheon, for 24 years Superintendent and Secretary of the Melbourne Benevolent Asylum, aged 60.

„ 15.—Three additional county court judges, twelve police magistrates, and a few other public servants, dispensed with on 8th January, re-appointed by the Government.

„ 16.—A Tasmanian 4 per cent. loan of £300,000 subscribed for in London at 92½ and upwards.

„ 17.—Publication of South Australian Agricultural Statistics. Area under wheat, 1,163,646 acres, giving an average of 7 bushels 46 lbs., and leaving a surplus for export of 170,000 tons.

„ 20.—Great flood at Sandhurst, causing much damage.

„ 22.—Eighth Annual Easter Fair at Sandhurst, formally opened by Sir G. F. Bowen ; 10,000 persons present.

„ 23.—The *Swan* expedition schooner arrived at Port Moresby, New Guinea.

Apr. 24.—Opening of the Queensland Parliament.

Disturbance of a less serious character than the former one on March 13th occurred amongst the boys at the Pentridge Reformatory.

„ 25.—At the Magdala mine, Stawell, reef struck at a depth of 1,925 feet.

„ 27.—Annual commencement of Melbourne University.

„ 28.—Steamer *Bunyip*, from Echuca, navigated the Goulburn as far as Seymour.

„ 29.—State school at Heidelberg opened by the Minister of Education.

„ 30.—Hon. D. Moore elected President of the Melbourne Chamber of Commerce at the annual meeting.

Earthquake reported at the New Hebrides. At Tanna the land along shore was raised 20 feet, and large numbers of fish thrown up and destroyed.

May 1.—Mr. Woods's railway brake tested on the Sandhurst line.

Eighteenth anniversary of the Deutsche Turn Verein in Melbourne.

A deputation consisting of twelve aborigines waited on the Chief Secretary from the Coranderrk Station, requesting an alteration in its management.

„ 2.—The Minister of Education re-appointed several of the discharged singing and drawing masters.

„ 3.—Will of the late Mr. Justice Fellows proved at £24,200; and that of the late Mr. Edward Wilson's Victorian estate at £23,000.

Second reading of the Electoral Bill of the Farnell Government, N.S.W., rejected in the Legislative Council by 14 to 8.

„ 4.—Sir James McCulloch resigned his seat for Warrnambool.

„ 6.—Announcement by the Government Astronomer of New South Wales that the future longitude of Sydney Observatory would be assumed to be 10h. 4m. 50.8s.

„ 7.—Transit of Mercury over the sun's disc.

Hon. J. G. Francis entertained at a banquet in recognition of his public spirit evinced by his two contests for West Melbourne.

Complimentary banquet given to Sir W. Jervois, Governor of South Australia, at Willis's Rooms, London, by a number of colonists.

„ 9.—First sitting of the Intercolonial Cable Conference at Melbourne.

The Mayor of Melbourne, Councillor Pigdon, laid the foundation stone of the new Eastern Market.

By cable, news received that the honor of knighthood had been conferred on Mr. Edward Eyre Williams, late judge of the Supreme Court of Victoria, and on the Hon. Thomas Elder, M.L.C., South Australia.

Died, Mr. T. S. Mort, of Sydney, a well known merchant and meat preserver under a particular process, aged 62.

„ 10.—Sir George Grey, Premier of New Zealand, and about 4,000 Maories, were present at a meeting to consider native questions at Hikurangi, which passed off without result.

Publication of the Victorian Agricultural Statistics for the year ended 31st March 1878.

„ 11.—First prize (£300) for the best design for the Melbourne Exhibition Building awarded to Messrs. Reed and Barnes.

Native meeting at Wellington, New Zealand. Maori king refused Sir George Grey's offer of £500 a year and certain grants of land, and claimed sovereignty over all the "King Country."

Attempt to assassinate the Emperor of Germany by a Leipsic tinsmith named Hoedel, who fired at His Majesty without effect. Hoedel was executed on the 16th August.

Death announced of George V., ex-king of Hanover, cousin to Queen Victoria.

„ 14.—Report on the late outbreak of the Pentridge Reformatory recommended the breaking up of that establishment.

- May 16.—New South Wales Legislative Council rejected "Parliamentary Powers and Privileges Bill" by 8 to 7.
- „ 17.—Appointment of a Royal Commission to report on the Land question.
- „ 18.—Report of the Cable Conference adopted, by which New South Wales and Victoria were authorized to enter into an agreement with the Eastern Extension Company, for a second cable direct from Singapore to Banjoewangie, and thence to Port Darwin, avoiding the Java land line; the subsidy not to exceed £32,400 per annum, payable for twenty years, with 50 per cent. reduction to Port Darwin on Government messages, and 75 per cent. on Press ditto.
- „ 20.—Upwards of 800 of the unemployed applied to the Government for work. P. and O. S.S. *Siam* delivered the English mail *viâ* Suez in 37½ days. Died, Mr. J. H. Clark, editor and part proprietor of the *South Australian Register*.
- „ 21.—Hon. J. G. Francis returned for Warrnambool by a majority of 111 over Mr. J. H. Craig. Fatal carriage accident reported near Palmerston, N.Z., by which Mr. C. Nichols, of the firm of Dalgety, Nichols, and Co., and Mr. E. Maitland, a lad of 16, were killed, and other passengers severely wounded. Prorogation of New South Wales Parliament.
- „ 23.—Torchlight procession of 1,300 members of the united fire brigades through Melbourne. Mr. J. Farrell, M.L.A., resigned his seat for Castlemaine.
- „ 24.—Annual levée at Government House. The following creations of the Order of St. Michael and St. George announced:—A. Michie, Agent-General for Victoria, K.C.M.G.; Rt. Rev. C. J. Perry, late Bishop of Melbourne, Prelate of the Order, *vice* Bishop Selwyn, deceased; and Colonel W. A. D. Anderson, Commandant of Victorian Forces, C.M.G. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Colonial Secretary, entertained several colonists at an official dinner in celebration of the Queen's Birthday.
- „ 25.—Government engaged a large number of the unemployed in drainage and other operations between the St. Kilda Railway and the beach. Died, Mr. Charles Maplestone, of Ivanhoe; an old colonist and successful wine grower, aged 70.
- „ 26.—P. and O. S.S. *China* caught fire in Bombay Harbor; afterwards scuttled, raised, and docked.
- „ 28.—Died, Earl Russell, aged 86. Succeeded by his grandson Viscount Amberley, aged 13. Queensland 4 per cent. loan of £1,200,000 floated in London at an average price of 92½, being above the minimum. On the same day the Estimates were submitted to the Queensland Parliament.
- „ 29.—Three cases of small-pox reported on board the P. and O. S.S. *Siam*, which arrived at Williamstown on the 20th; the vessel was placed in quarantine.
- „ 31.—Chief Justice Way, Acting Governor, opened the South Australian Parliament.
- June 1.—Wreck of the ship *Loch Ard*, 1,623 tons, from London, at the Caves, 14 miles from Moonlight Head. All on board perished, with the exception of Miss Eva Carmichael, one of the passengers, and Thomas R. Pearce, midshipman; the former owed her life to the gallant exertions of the latter.
- „ 2. Died, Dr. Macartney, M.L.A. for South Gippsland. S.S. *Blackbird* wrecked on the Ninety-mile Beach, on the passage from Newcastle to Melbourne; no lives lost. Extraordinary high tide at Botany, N.S.W., causing much damage to fishermen's boats and buildings bordering on the bay.

June 2.—Died, Mr. Samuel Bennett, proprietor of the *Sydney Evening News*, aged 63.
The Emperor of Germany fired at and wounded in the arm by a Socialist named Dr. Nobiling.

Native Indian troops arrived at Malta.

„ 3.—Applications for allotments of the New Zealand five per cent. loan of £3,500,000 exceeded the amount required three times over.

„ 4.—*Government Gazette* notified the appointment of Mr. Morrah as Secretary of Lands, *vice* Mr. W. H. Archer dispensed with during the Crisis.

„ 5.—Crown Prince of Germany proclaimed to perform Imperial functions pending the recovery of the Emperor.

„ 6.—S.S. *Garonne* homeward bound from Australia went ashore at Ras Haffoon, near the entrance of the Red Sea. Two lives lost. Successfully floated off on the 9th inst.

Mr. W. M. Akhurst, author of several successful pantomimes and burlesques for the Melbourne stage, died on his return voyage from England.

„ 7.—Professor Pearson returned to the Legislative Assembly for Castlemaine by a majority of 250.

„ 8.—An immense meteor observed in Victoria and New South Wales about three o'clock in the afternoon. It appeared to be as large as the sun, and eventually exploded with smoke and a loud report.

„ 11.—Sale by auction of the wreck of the ship *Loch Ard* and cargo, realized, £2,120.

Sir Charles DuCane, formerly Governor of Tasmania, appointed chairman of the Board of Customs in London.

Royal Commission on the Land question sat at Horsham.

Prorogation of Parliament to the 9th July for the despatch of business.

„ 12.—Died, James Purves, an old colonist of 44 years' standing, at the age of 65.

„ 14.—S.S. *Cuzco*, from England, put into Portland under sail, having broken her main shaft on the 28th May, in lat. 41° 15' S., long. 117° 45' E. She arrived in Hobson's Bay on the 18th in tow of two steamtugs.

Another flood in the Yarra, but more gradual, and causing less damage than the last.

„ 16.—Died, Revd. W. B. Clarke, an eminent geologist, of New South Wales, aged 80.

„ 17.—Inauguration of the new building of Trinity College. A donation of £1,000, to assist in the foundation of Scholarships, presented by the Bishop of Melbourne.

„ 19.—Thomas Pearce, of *Loch Ard* celebrity, presented, by the Governor, with a gold watch and chain, the gift of the Government.

Very heavy fall of snow at Wood's Point.

Mr. F. C. Mason elected member of the Legislative Assembly for South Gippsland.

„ 20.—Thomas Pearce received the gold medal of the Victorian Humane Society, for the rescue of Miss Carmichael in the *Loch Ard* disaster.

„ 21.—Dense fog in Melbourne.

Information received that Mr. Gresley Lukin, proprietor of the newspaper *Queenslander*, had organized an expedition for a primary survey of the proposed trans-continental railway from Blackall to Port Darwin.

„ 22.—£250 damages awarded against the *Age* newspaper in an action for libel brought against it by Hon. A. Fraser, M.L.C.

Imperial Government introduced a Bill in the House of Lords to apply £1,000,000 of the surplus funds in the hands of the Church Commissioners for the promotion of middle-class education.

- June 24.—A deputation of the National Agricultural Society waited on Mr. Berry *re* retaining the prohibition on Stock.
 A nugget weighing 400 oz. found by a Chinaman at Jericho, near Bealiba.
 Died, Dr. R. C. Hope, aged 66, an old colonist, and formerly a Member and Chairman of Committees of the Legislative Council.
- „ 25.—Frightful massacres perpetrated by two native tribes in New Caledonia.
 Terms for the purchase by Government of the Melbourne and Hobson's Bay United railway arranged by Messrs. Munro and Lyell, M.P's., at the price of £1,320,820.
 Died, Mr. Daintree, late Agent-General of Queensland.
- „ 26.—Died, Mercedes, Queen of Spain, aged 18. She was daughter of the Duc de Montpensier, youngest son of the late Louis Philippe, who was formerly King of the French.
- „ 27.—The Carlton Gardens taken formal possession of by the Victorian Exhibition Commissioners.
 The Imperial Government instituted proceedings against a Foreign Office official for stealing the Anglo-Russian agreement published in the *Globe* newspaper.
 Died, Mr. Nehemiah Guthridge, a very old colonist, and some years ago a prominent citizen of Melbourne. He arrived in the colony in 1842.
- „ 28.—Resignation of Judge Rogers as county court judge.
- „ 30.—Sydney deprived of water supply for two days in consequence of the bursting of the Botany main.
- July 2.—“Le grand prix” for wool awarded to New South Wales at the Paris Exhibition.
 The following appointments of Queen's Counsel made by the Executive Council :—R. A. Billing, Esq., called to the Bar in 1839, admitted in Victoria 1856 ; Robert Le Poer Trench, Esq., called in 1842, admitted in Victoria 1855 ; and J. W. Rogers, Esq., late judge of county court, called in 1846, admitted in Victoria 1857.
 Pan-Anglican Synod at Lambeth Palace ; 95 bishops were present, including Colonial and American prelates.
- „ 4.—Property valued at £50,000 destroyed by fire at Ipswich, Queensland.
 Sir James Martin and Hon. W. B. Dally resigned their seats in the Sydney University Senate ; Sir Alfred Stephen, Hon. E. Butler, and Mr. Bell elected.
- „ 5.—Died, W. Kyffin Thomas, the last of the original proprietors of the *South Australian Register*, and an old colonist.
 Publication of the 10,000th issue of *The Argus* newspaper, Melbourne.
 Victorian Revenue for quarter ended 30th June £1,150,321 ; for the year, £4,488,803. New South Wales, £1,167,830 for the quarter. Queensland, £383,718 for the quarter ; £1,559,111 for the year. South Australia, £400,504 for the quarter ; £1,501,411 for the year.
 Sale of an allotment of land with 66 feet frontage to Collins and Little Collins streets for £35,000, being £11,000 less than the amount offered a few months previously.
 Re-appointment gazetted of Mr. R. Gudemann as accountant to the Treasury and an officer of the 1st class.
- „ 6.—News by telegram that Sir Samuel Wilson had been awarded the highest prize for bale of washed wool at the Paris Exhibition.
 South Western Railway (N.S.W.) opened to Junee.
 Chief Secretary signed contract for purchase of the Melbourne and Hobson's Bay United Railway by the Government.
 Revenue receipts of the Yan Yean published, showing an amount of £3,000 over the Treasurer's estimates.
- „ 7.—Funeral in Melbourne of the late Mr. Edward Wilson, who died in England, but had directed his remains to be brought to the colony ; numerous attended.

- July 8.—England concluded a treaty with Turkey, whereby the former agreed to assume the protectorate of Asia Minor and to defend the integrity of the Sultan's Asiatic possessions.
- „ 9.—Commencement of the second session of the ninth Victorian Parliament. Additional Despatches connected with the political Crisis presented to Parliament.
Professor Pearson made his first speech in the Legislative Assembly.
- „ 10.—The Legislative Assembly adopted the address in reply to the Governor's speech, with one amendment.
Honorable C. J. Jenner elected Chairman of Committees in the Legislative Council.
First reading of Sir Charles Sladen's Bill for the amendment of the Constitution of the Legislative Council.
- „ 11.—Government of New Zealand consented to join in the scheme for cable duplication.
A nugget, weighing 250 oz., obtained within a few inches of the surface, near Buninyong.
Mr. Macpherson resigned his seat for Dundas.
Colonial Marriage Bill laid aside by the Imperial Parliament.
- „ 12.—Messrs. Fishbourne and Morton successfully tendered for the construction of the Springs and Wahgunyah railway (14 miles) at the sum of £30,463.
Extension of Sir Hercules Robinson's term of governorship of N.S.W.
- „ 13.—Arrival in Melbourne of Sir Arthur Gordon, Governor of Fiji, *en route* for England.
Cyprus formally taken possession of by the British.
- „ 14.—Messrs. Wright, Orr, and Co.'s dry dock formally opened.
- „ 15.—Presentment filed against Messrs. L. Stevenson and Sons for conspiring to remove goods from the Customs unlawfully. On the trial the jury were unable to agree.
- „ 16.—Opening of the Tasmanian Parliament.
Estimates for 1878-9 laid before Parliament.
Reply to the Governor's opening speech adopted by Legislative Council.
Decided by the South Australian Legislature to create an Education Department, to be presided over by a responsible Minister, and to abolish the Council of Education.
Government introduced a Bill for the repeal of the duty on wattle bark, and varying that on red gum.
- „ 17.—First reading of the Constitution Act Amendment Bill in the Legislative Assembly.
The Governor assented to a Supply Bill of £900,000.
- „ 18.—Information received that a nugget weighing 187 oz. was found by a miner in private property near Rokewood.
- „ 19.—Issue of the new regulations affecting the salaries of State school teachers.
- „ 20.—By cablegram: The Queen invested the Earl of Beaconsfield with the Order of the Garter.
Died, William Dutton, one of the oldest Victorian settlers, and at one time a great whaling celebrity.
- „ 23.—Second reading of the Constitution of the Council Amendment Bill moved, in the Legislative Council, by Sir Charles Sladen.
Bill to amend Clause 56 of the Constitution Act introduced into the Legislative Council and read a first time.
Loss of barque *James Service*, 40 miles south of Fremantle, in the passage from Calcutta to Melbourne; with all hands.
Banquet to the Australian Eleven at Willis's Rooms, London, the Duke of Manchester presiding.
In the Legislative Assembly the Hobson's Bay Railway purchase confirmed by a majority, the Opposition voting with the Government

- July 24.—The sum of £1,200 subscribed to relieve the Chinese sufferers from famine remitted to Shanghai.
- „ 25.—Will of the late Mr. James Purves sworn at £19,500.
- „ 26.—Opening of the New Zealand Parliament by the Marquis of Normanby.
Turning of the first sod of the Horsham Railway.
- „ 27.—Honorable H. Cuthbert, Postmaster-General, resigned office, not approving of the Government Reform scheme.
Lady Bowen opened the new rifle ranges at Williamstown.
- „ 28.—A sextant, telescope, &c., presented to Thomas Pearce, of the *Loch Ard*, at Sydney.
- „ 29.—A public meeting at the Town Hall, Melbourne, adopted resolutions approving Lord Beaconsfield's Eastern policy. A congratulatory telegram also sent from the two Ballarat councils to the British Government. A public meeting also held at Sydney at which like resolutions were passed.
The Honorable J. B. Patterson, Minister of Public Works, appointed Postmaster-General without salary.
Mr. Sergeant elected for Dundas by a majority of 44.
By telegram: Marquis of Lorne appointed Governor-General of Canada.
- „ 30.—Recovery by Mrs. Potts of her infant, which had been stolen on the 15th December last; the thief, Mary Agnes Fitzgibbon, confessed the crime, and was sentenced to two years' imprisonment.
Return presented to Parliament of the cost of the application of Mr. Woods's continuous break on the Government Railways showed the amount to be £1,794 7s. 8d.
- „ 31.—Legislative Council passed the Goulburn Valley Railway Bill.
- Aug. 1.—Publication of Mr. R. Brough Smyth's work on the Victorian Aborigines.
Goulburn Valley Railway Bill passed into law.
Extraordinary rain-storm in Sydney; 2 inches fell between 9 a.m. and 12.30 p.m.; of which 1 inch was registered in 6 minutes about noon.
Died, W. Stitt Jenkins, an old colonist, poet, and advocate of temperance.
Tree planting commenced in Melbourne by the corporation.
- „ 3.—Sailed from Melbourne schooner *Dove*, for New Guinea, with a party of explorers.
Died in London, Mr. Somerville Learmonth, an old and respected colonist; at one time member of the firm of T. and S. Learmonth, squatters; also interested in the Egerton mine, which proved a fruitful source of litigation.
- „ 7.—Miss Nora Robinson, second daughter of Sir Hercules Robinson, Governor of New South Wales, married Mr. A. K. Finlay, of Glenormiston, Victoria.
- „ 8.—Died, Rev. J. D. Lang, D.D., at Sydney, aged 79; a very old colonist; he arrived in New South Wales in 1823, and for many years took an active part in public affairs.
- „ 9.—Acceptance of Messrs. Topham, Angus, and Co.'s tender for the construction of the Geelong and Queenscliff Railway for the sum of £58,977 7s. 6d.
The shareholders of the Hobson's Bay Railway Company confirmed the purchase by the Government.
- „ 10.—Funeral of the late Dr. Lang, at Sydney, attended by several thousand persons. The hearse was preceded by about 300 Chinamen, the procession being a mile long.
- „ 12.—National Agricultural Society's sixth annual horse show.

- Aug. 13.—The Legislative Council Constitution Act Amendment Bill was read a second time.
 City of Melbourne 5 per cent. loan of £125,000 subscribed twofold in London, at an average of £102 6s.
 At the annual sale of draught and thoroughbred stock at Kirk's Bazaar, 41 lots fetched 8,035 guineas.
 Died, Edward Henty, the first permanent settler in Victoria, aged 69. He established a farming and whaling station at Portland in 1834.
- „ 14.—Intercolonial Postal and Telegraph Conference held in Melbourne.
- „ 15.—Mr. Berry made his financial statement.
 Return of Sir W. Jervois, C.B., to South Australia.
 By telegram from Paris gold medal awarded by the Paris Exhibition Commissioners to the Melbourne Meat Preserving Company, and a silver medal to the Western Meat Preserving Company, Colac; also a silver medal to Mr. Isaac Whitehead for paintings.
- „ 16.—Mr. W. J. Clarke returned unopposed for the Southern Province in the Legislative Council.
 Prorogation of British Parliament.
- „ 21.—The Legislative Council passed the South Yarra and Oakleigh Railway Bill.
- „ 22.—The case of "Stevenson and others," charged with conspiring to defraud the Customs, came to an end, and jury discharged, there being two jurymen for a conviction, and ten for acquittal.
- „ 23.—Appointment of Honorable W. J. Clarke President of the Melbourne International Exhibition.
 Honorable C. J. Jenner returned for the South-Western Province in the Legislative Council without opposition.
- „ 26.—The "Act to authorize the construction of the South Yarra and Oakleigh Railway" received the Royal assent, also the "Bills of Exchange Act 1878."
- „ 27.—First exhibition of Australian Sheep Breeders' Association in Melbourne.
 In Legislative Council, Sir Charles Sladen explained his scheme for the subdivision of provinces.
 In the New Zealand Parliament, Honorable Mr. Macandrew, Minister of Public Works, submitted railway proposals involving altogether an expense of £8,385,000.
 Return of Dr. Hearn for the Central Province in the Legislative Council, *vice* the Honorable T. T. a'Beckett, who retired by rotation. Voting—Hearn, 3,854; Byrne, 1,659; majority, 2,195.
 At a liberal meeting in Sydney an address was adopted, approving the policy of Messrs. Gladstone and Bright on the Eastern question.
- „ 28.—Second reading of the Reform Bill agreed to by the Legislative Assembly, Mr. Service's amendments being previously negatived by 59 to 22.
- „ 29.—First railway train crossed the Murray by the new bridge at Echuca.
- „ 30.—Failure of negotiations with the Eastern Extension Company for a duplicate cable service on the question of combination messages.
 Estimated population of N.S.W. on 30th June, 675,316.
- Sep. 2.—International Exhibition Commission gazetted.
- „ 3.—Budget debate opened in the Legislative Assembly.
 Opening of the railway from Dunolly to Bealiba (12 miles) for traffic.
 The Southern Railway (N.S.W.) to Wagga Wagga opened.
 Publication of the awards to Victorian exhibitors at the Paris Universal Exhibition, viz. :—10 gold medals, 32 silver do., 41 bronze do., together with 33 certificates of "honorable mention."
- „ 4.—Mr. William Ross elected for the Western Province in the Legislative Council, and the Honorable W. Wilson (unopposed) for the Eastern Province.

- Sep. 6.—Messrs. McDermott, Anderson, and King's tender—viz., £40,901 12s. 4d.—for the Warrenheip and Gordons line (13 miles 15 chains) accepted. Commodore Hoskins succeeded by Captain J. C. Wilson in the command of the Australian squadron.
Banquet at Scott's hotel to Dr. Charles Ryan, a young Victorian surgeon, who distinguished himself under the Turkish flag during the late war with Russia. Professor Halford presided.
- „ 9.—The Act for the extension of the Daylesford Railway to Carlsruhe received the Royal assent.
- „ 10.—Opening of the N.S.W. Parliament.
Died, Mr. Morton Allport, well known as an energetic acclimatisator of salmon in Tasmania.
- „ 11.—Loan Bill for £5,000,000, at 4½ per cent., introduced by Mr. Berry in the Legislative Assembly.
Wrecked on the passage from Sydney to Newcastle s.s. *City of Newcastle*.
- „ 12.—A Land Tax Bill passed through New Zealand Assembly by 40 to 7.
- „ 13.—Tender for the construction of the Oakleigh and South Yarra line by Messrs. J. P. Higgins and Co., for £48,868, accepted.
- „ 16.—Re-election of the Honorable F. Robertson for the North-West Province by a great majority.
News received by telegram from Pine Creek, Northern Territory, that 28 tons of quartz had yielded 393 oz. of gold.
- „ 17.—Opening of the Church of England Assembly by the Bishop of Melbourne, who delivered an important address on the subject of education. Legislative Council passed the “Constitution Act Amendment Bill.”
The “Loan Bill” passed second reading in the Legislative Assembly.
Died, Mr. Justice Stowe, judge of the Supreme Court, Adelaide, aged 50.
- „ 18.—On the motion of Mr. Berry, the Reform Bill sent down by the Legislative Council read a first time in the Assembly.
- „ 19.—Australian Eleven left England for Australia, *viâ* America. Whilst in the latter country they played several matches, in none of which were they defeated.
Funeral of the late Mr. Justice Stowe at Adelaide. The largest ever seen in South Australia. Attended by the Governor, Chief Justice, chief legislators, and other leading men.
- „ 21.—Died, Lady Duffy, wife of the Honorable Sir Charles Gavan Duffy, K.C.M.G., Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, aged 56.
The Ameer stopped the British Mission to Cabul at the Khyber Pass.
- „ 25.—Loan Bill (£5,000,000) passed in the Legislative Council.
Held by the Supreme Court that a county court judge could be summarily dismissed with or without cause by the Governor in Council.
Mr. Boucaut, Premier of South Australia, sworn in judge of the Supreme Court. Mr. Morgan entrusted to form a ministry. Judge Boucaut took his seat on the Bench for the first time on the 29th inst.
- „ 26.—The purchase of the statue of Her Majesty, by Marshall Wood, for £3,000, agreed to by the Legislative Assembly by a majority of 8.
Supply Bill for £411,000 passed through all its stages.
Supreme Court quashed the conviction in the case of Derbin Willder for misconduct at the West Melbourne election; also verdict obtained by merchants against the Crown as to the definition of “hosiery.”
- „ 27.—Died, The Hon. William Sackville Gordon, a letter carrier, Toorak, son of the late Lord Henry Gordon, and cousin to the Marquis of Huntly, aged 36.
Mr. Morgan formed a Ministry in South Australia.
- „ 30.—“The Railway Loan Act 1878” assented to by the Governor.

- Oct. 1.—Proposed terms for contract with the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company laid before the Parliament of Victoria and New South Wales.
The site of Messrs. Wright and Orr's old dock, in the Yarra, cause of serious dispute between the firm and the Harbor Trust. Some damage done to property owing to the adoption of forcible measures.
- „ 2.—Failure of City of Glasgow Bank, with liabilities amounting to £10,000,000.
Legislative Assembly passed a resolution in favor of a penny postage. It was subsequently decided that the change was inadvisable at the present time.
- „ 3.—Revenue returns for the quarter ended 30th September: Victoria, £1,167,423; New South Wales, £1,074,575; South Australia, £391,659; Queensland, £434,472.
Want of confidence motion against the Tasmanian Government lost by one vote.
Opening of National Agricultural Show at Geelong.
Supply Bill for £613,000, and an Act to amend the Land Statute, with regard to easements, assented to by the Governor.
Conditions of the mail service contract laid before Parliament.
- „ 4.—Order for the advance of British troops on Cabul.
The Honorable Graham Berry laid the foundation stone of the Ballarat Public Library.
- „ 5.—Gerald Henry Supple, liberated from Pentridge after 8 years' confinement for shooting at the late Mr. G. P. Smith, whom he missed, but killed Sergeant Walsh.
- „ 7.—Bishop of Melbourne delivered an address at a public meeting held in the city on the question of scriptural education in State schools.
- „ 8.—Government Reform Bill passed its third reading by 50 to 21.
Conference on the Reform Bills of the two Houses suggested by Mr. Berry to Sir Charles Sladen.
- „ 9.—Councillor Story, M.L.A., elected Mayor of Melbourne by a majority of one.
- „ 11.—Messrs. Hough and Balfour, a leading export firm (Manchester and London), failed, with £2,000,000 liabilities.
- „ 15.—Opening of the Great Western Railway (N.S.W.) to Tamworth.
Charge of embracery against David Henry (money lender) and two others, heard at the City Police Court before a full bench of magistrates. The prisoners were subsequently committed for trial.
- „ 17.—Serious panic, reported by telegram, as having occurred in Manchester in connection with building societies.
- „ 18.—Died, Mr. Alexander Stevenson, of the firm "Stevenson and Elliott," carriage builders, aged 50.
- „ 19.—Hospital Saturday in the Melbourne district.
- „ 20.—Hospital Sunday; £4,307 collected. The amount subsequently distributed among the charities £5,929.
Arrest of Martin Wiberg, at one time carpenter on the R.M.S.S. *Avoca*, on a charge of stealing 5,000 sovereigns from that vessel in the month of August 1877. Prisoner in a confession implicated the then chief officer, who was afterwards arrested in England, but discharged, there being no grounds for Wiberg's statement.
- „ 21.—Died, Archibald Gilchrist, M.A., L.L.B., Inspector-General of State schools, aged 40.
"The Stock Conversion Act 1878" assented to by the Governor.
Victorian Government invited tenders for alternate postal service *viâ* Aden and Galle.
By telegram: The Directors of the Glasgow Bank arrested for frauds in connection with that institution.

- Oct. 22.—Appointment of Conference composed of a joint committee of both Houses of Parliament to consider the Reform Bills. For the Legislative Council, Sir C. Sladen, Mr. Anderson, and Dr. Hearn. For the Assembly, Mr. Berry, Sir Bryan O’Loughlen, and Professor Pearson.
City of Auckland, immigrant ship, wrecked near Otaki, New Zealand; no lives lost.
- „ 23.—Second reading of the Bill to allow private schools to be paid by results moved by Sir J. O’Shanassy.
 Arrival of H. M. S. Corvette *Sapphire*, Commander E. H. Murray, from Sydney.
 Failure reported in Glasgow of the firm of James Morton & Co. for £2,500,000.
- „ 24.—Another Glasgow failure reported by telegraph, Matthew Buchanan & Co., with liabilities, £1,250,000; and through the same source, that an Egyptian loan of £6,000,000 entertained by Messrs. Rothschild.
 Mail contract between England and South Australia authorized by the South Australian Parliament.
- „ 25.—The Order of C.M.G. conferred upon Messrs. J. J. Casey, G. C. Levey, Coombes, Boothby, and Hodgson, Australian representatives at the Paris Exhibition.
 An enormous roach captured in the river Yarra, weighing 3¼ lbs., and 18 inches in length.
 Alfonso, King of Spain, fired at by a cooper named Moncasi. His Majesty escaped without injury.
- „ 26.—Four bushrangers, headed by a notorious person named Edward Kelly, murdered a sergeant of police and two constables at Stringy Bark Creek, a few miles from Mansfield. The police had been sent into the district to arrest Edward Kelly and his brother Daniel.
 A crushing of 470 tons of stone by the Tasmanian Company, at Brandy Creek, yielded 1,824 oz. of retorted gold.
- „ 29.—Failure of the conference on the Reform Bills, after three sittings.
 Two overseers of the Hon. W. J. Clarke’s property killed by lightning near Donnybrook.
- „ 30.—The sum of £10,000 realized at the first sale of Sir S. Wilson’s stud sheep.
 Railway Construction Bill, providing for 1,121 miles of line at a cost of £6,125,000, placed in the hands of the Members of the Assembly.
- „ 31.—Felons Apprehension Bill, outlawing felons in certain cases passed through Parliament. The measure rendered necessary in consequence of the police murders by Kelly and his gang.
- Nov. 2.—New Zealand Parliament prorogued.
- „ 4.—Decided at a Cabinet Council that Mr. Berry, Professor Pearson, and Sir C. G. Duffy, should proceed to England to confer with the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the subject of Reform and other matters. Sir Bryan O’Loughlen to be acting Chief Secretary during Mr. Berry’s absence.
- „ 6.—Terms of the cable duplication contract agreed to by the N.S.W. Legislative Assembly.
 The Treasurer submitted his Budget to the N.S.W. Assembly.
 In the N.S.W. Assembly, Petition against the influx of Chinese presented. The document was signed by 15,000 residents in Sydney, and measured 500 feet in length.
- „ 7.—Commencement of the annual meeting of the Victorian Rifle Association.
 Mr. Berry asked for £5,000 to defray the expenses of the Embassy to England; the money was afterwards voted by the Assembly.

Nov. 9.—Inaugural banquet given at the Town Hall by Councillor Story, M.L.A., Mayor of Melbourne.

„ 12.—Meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church.

Sir Charles Gavan Duffy stated his determination not to join the Embassy.

„ 13.—An amendment by Mr. Munro in the Assembly, to prohibit the Embassy from asking the English Government to interfere in local legislation except requested so to do by the people of Victoria, negatived by 45 to 32.

„ 14.—Publication of the draft of the Legislative Council's manifesto to the Colonial Secretary.

The Governor gave the Royal Assent to the following Acts of Parliament :—“ An Act to enable Government to purchase the M. and H. B. United Railway ” ; the “ Rosstown Junction Railway Act ” ; “ The Lien on Crops Act ” ; “ Victorian Exhibitions Act ” ; “ The Banker's Book Evidence Act ” ; “ Juries Statute Amendment Act ” ; and “ Regulations of Fisheries Act.”

Mr. Berry, at Sale, delivered an important political speech.

Declaration of outlawry against the “ Kelly gang ” under the “ Felons Apprehension Act.”

„ 17.—Attempt by an Internationalist to stab Humbert, King of Italy, on his entry into Naples. The king and Signor Carioli were wounded.

„ 18.—Strike of the seamen employed by the A. S. N. Company, in consequence of the engagement of Chinese labor on board the company's boats.

„ 19.—David Henry, a money lender, and William Ireland, tried for embracery and convicted—the former sentenced to pay a fine of £500, with four years' imprisonment—the latter £50 with two years' imprisonment.

Victorian Year Book, 1877-8, issued.

„ 20.—British troops crossed the Afghan frontier.

Chinese Famine Relief Fund in Melbourne reached nearly £4,000.

„ 21.—“ Customs Act Amendment Act,” passed into law.

Australasian Statistics, 1877, forwarded for presentation to Parliament.

„ 22.—Ali Musjid, a fort in the Khyber Pass, captured by the British.

„ 23.—Seizure of Orsini bombs at Copenhagen. Life of the King of Denmark threatened.

„ 25.—Intercolonial Rifle Match commenced at Sydney.

Return of the Australian Eleven to Sydney, having completed their cricketing campaign in England and the United States.

„ 26.—Marquis of Lorne landed at Halifax, N. S., on his assumption of the Governor-Generalship of Canada. Both he and the Princess Louise heartily welcomed.

The Legislative Council adopted Mr. Cuthbert's reform resolutions by a majority of 11.

Afghans abandoned Jellalabad.

„ 28.—The following Acts of Parliament received the Royal Assent :—“ Successory Trusts Act ” ; “ Neglected and Criminal Children Act ” ; “ Forfeiture for Treason and Felony Act ” ; An Act amending the “ Lunacy Statute ” ; and “ Railway Loan Appropriation Act.”

Dec. 1.—The A. S. N. Company telegraphed to Hong Kong for 300 Chinamen, in consequence of the strike among the seamen.

„ 2.—The Royal Assent was given to the following Acts of Parliament :—An Act defining the meaning of the words “ public place ” in the Police Offences Statute 1865 ; Conservation of Public Health Act ; and an Act dealing with the Albert Park Reserve.

Died, Mr. A. G. Dumas, Clerk-Assistant of the Legislative Assembly from 1856 to the time of his death.

- Dec. 3.—Some Antwerp carrier pigeons thrown up at Junee (N.S.W.) early in the morning reached Sydney about mid-day, distance 287 miles.
General Roberts gained an important victory at the Peiwar Pass. The Afghans suffered considerable loss.
An English team of cricketers, captained by Lord Harris, arrived in Adelaide.
- „ 4.—Bathurst Hospital, N.S.W., destroyed by fire.
Large anti-Chinese meeting in Hyde Park, Sydney; 10,000 persons present.
The Appropriation Bill and Land Bill passed in the Legislative Council; the former with a protest against the Embassy vote.
Two months' additional leave of absence granted to Mr. Justice Stephen for the benefit of his health.
Fatal case of snake-bite reported from Alexandra, the subject a farmer's son, aged 12.
- „ 5.—Opening of the Imperial Parliament, specially summoned to deliberate on Afghanistan affairs.
An official trip down the bay by Ministers, Members of Parliament, and a large number of guests, in the *Nelson*, on the completion of the alterations which had been made in the vessel.
In N.S.W. Parliament, Mr. Farnell's Land Bill lost by 41 to 22.
- „ 6.—Prorogation of Victorian Parliament—The Royal Assent given to the following Acts of Parliament: "Appropriation Act 1878-9," and the "Land Act Amendment Act."
A notorious criminal, James Corrigan, committed for trial for a ferocious onslaught upon a police constable named Brennan, whom he stabbed in several places.
Intelligence of the complete capture of the Piewar Kotul (Pass) by the British, after severe fighting, but without heavy loss.
- „ 7.—The Marquis of Normanby, Governor of New Zealand, appointed Governor of Victoria.
Reconstruction of Queensland Ministry.
- „ 9.—Mr. Younghusband's station, Euroa, stuck up by Kelly and his gang.
Died, at Paris, Charles Summers, sculptor, formerly of Melbourne. The Burke and Wills monument in Collins street and several works in the Melbourne National Gallery were by him.
Failure announced of the West of England and South Wales District Bank, with liabilities amounting to £3,500,000.
- „ 10.—Arrival from England *viâ* California and Sydney of the Australian Eleven in Melbourne.
In the House of Lords, Lord Cranbrook's motion that the expenses of the Afghan war should be charged on the Indian Exchequer, carried by 215 to 65.
Daring robbery of the Euroa bank in midday, by the notorious "Kelly gang"; £2,000 in notes and gold were carried off by the thieves, and the manager, with his wife and family, employés, and servants deported to Mr. Younghusband's station, which had been in possession of the robbers since the previous day.
Died, at Quorn Hill, Tasmania, Thomas Biggs Clarke, second son of the late Hon. W. J. T. Clarke.
News received of the flight of Shere Ali, Ameer of Afghanistan, into Turkistan.
- „ 11.—Sir Hercules Robinson appointed Governor of New Zealand.
Attempt made to form a Ministry in New South Wales, under the leadership of Sir John Robertson.
Plans, by Mr. Butterfield, for a new Anglican cathedral to be erected in Melbourne accepted by the Church of England Assembly.
- „ 12.—Arrival of Mr. McArthur, M.P. for Lambeth, connected with an important mercantile firm in Melbourne, overland from Sydney.

- Dec. 13.—Sir John Robertson, unsuccessful in forming a Government in New South Wales, resigned his seat for Mudgee.
On a motion in the House of Commons, censuring the Afghan policy, the Government obtained a majority of 101.
Died, aged 77, Eliza, relict of the late Hon. W. J. T. Clarke.
- „ 14.—Died, H.R.H. Princess Alice of Hesse Darmstadt, second daughter of Queen Victoria; born April 1843.
- „ 17.—Appointment of Mr. T. W. Jackson, Chief Clerk, Post-office, to the office of Deputy Postmaster-General, *vice* Mr. W. Turner, superannuated; and of Mr. G. H. Jenkins as Clerk-Assistant to the Legislative Assembly.
Presentation to Mr. Elsdon, Chief Engineer of the Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway by the employés, on the occasion of the purchase of the lines by the Government.
- „ 18.—Opening of the first section of the Stawell and Horsham Railway to Murtoa.
Defeat of Mr. Giblin's Tasmanian Ministry. Mr. Reibey subsequently successful in forming a Government with Dr. Crowther Premier.
Funeral of H.R.H. Princess Alice of Hesse Darmstadt.
- „ 19.—Defeat of the Farnell Government of New South Wales, which had consented to retain office in consequence of Sir J. Robertson's inability to form a Ministry.
Will of the late J. H. McKean, settler in the Western District, proved at £128,000; and that of Mr. J. Wood, late of Collingwood, brewer, at £38,000.
Died, Commander Henry Amsinck, R.N., aged 80.
- „ 20.—Yakoob Khan, son of Shere Ali, appointed Regent of Afghanistan.
Heavy gale at Chiltern, causing considerable damage to property.
A New South Wales Ministry formed by Sir H. Parkes.
Banquet to Messrs. Berry and Pearson at the Town-hall, Melbourne, previous to departure for England on a special mission to the Imperial Government.
Martin Wiberg escaped from police custody, on the occasion of a feigned disclosure of a plant of some of the *Avoca* gold, at the Tarwin river, Gippsland.
- „ 21.—Jellalabad occupied by the British troops under General Sir G. Brown.
Marriage of the Duke of Cumberland with Princess Thyra of Denmark.
Day of general mourning, for the death of Princess Alice, throughout the colonies.
- „ 23.—Lord Harris's team of English cricketers arrived in Melbourne. Their first match, with 15 of Victoria, which ended in a draw, took place on the 28th inst. Both sides made heavy scores.
The King of Denmark's life threatened at Copenhagen; a number of bombs seized.
- „ 24.—Loss of s.s. *Mecca*, in Torres' Straits.
An expedition, originated by Sir Thomas Elder, left Eucla in search of Messrs. Farie and Woolley.
- „ 26.—Yakoob Khan, successor to Shere Ali, the late Ameer of Afghanistan, submitted to the British forces.
Cabinet meeting, Sir Bryan O'Loghlen appointed Acting-Chief Secretary, and Major Smith, Treasurer, during the absence of Mr. Berry in England.
- „ 28.—Meeting of Hospital Sunday Committee, at Town-hall, showing receipts, Saturday, £1,622 0s. 3d.; Sunday, £4,306 11s. 3d.; total collections, £5,928 11s. 6d.
The Victorian Embassy, consisting of the Hon. Graham Berry and Professor C. H. Pearson, with Mr. H. H. Hayter, as secretary, left by the mail steamer *Assam* for England.
- „ 30.—Destructive fire at Parkes, N.S.W.