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СООБЩЕНИЕ

УЧЕБНОЕ

УЧЕБНОЕ ПОСОБИЕ

ПО КУРСУ АЛГЕБРЫ



GEOGRAPHY OF VICTORIA.

PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY.

Victoria occupies the south-eastern part of Australia, lying between lat. 34° and lat. $39\frac{1}{4}^{\circ}$ S.; and between long. 141° E. and long. 150° E. The length, from east to west, is about 600 miles; the average width is 200 miles, and the area is 86,831 square miles, or 56,000,000 acres.

Victoria, though nearly as large as New Zealand, and larger than Great Britain, is only one-fourth the size of New South Wales and one-eighth the size of Queensland. It does not comprise one-thirtieth portion of the whole of Australia. It is bounded on the north by the River Murray, which separates it from New South Wales; on the south by Bass's Strait; and on the west by South Australia.

COAST LINE.

The coast of Victoria is not much indented, so that bays and gulfs are not numerous. The total length of coast line is about 600 miles. In very few places is the shore above 100 feet high, while in many it is low and sandy, as if recently rescued from the sea. Port Phillip is like a large plain filled with water through a break in the sandstone sea wall. The bays are getting shallower by the rise of land.

BAYS.

- Discovery Bay, mouth of the Glenelg River, by South Australia.
 Bridgewater Bay, S.E. of Discovery Bay.
 Portland Bay, between Portland and Belfast, old whaling bay.
 Port Fairy, off Port Belfast, E. of Portland.
 Lady Bay, at Warrnambool Port, E. of Belfast.
 Port Campbell and Curdie Inlet, W. of Cape Otway.
 Apoilo and Loutit Coal Bays, N.E. of Cape Otway.
 Port Phillip Bay, 40 miles long, to Melbourne, northward.
 Swan Bay and Geelong Harbour, in Port Phillip Bay, S.W. side.
 Corio Bay, the pretty inner bay of Geelong.
 Western Port, shallow, E. of Port Phillip Bay.
 Venus Bay, S.E. of Western Port.
 Anderson's Inlet, coal region, S.E. of Western Port.
 Sealers' Cove and Waterloo Bay, by Wilson's Promontory.
 Corner Inlet, shallow, N.E. of Wilson's Promontory.
 Port Albert, off Gipps' Land, E. of Corner Inlet.
 Bass's Strait, between Victoria and Tasmania.

CAPES.

Capes are constantly changing. In one era, the rise of land extends them into the ocean; in another, the descent shortens them. At all times the waves are tearing at them to destroy the rock.

- Bridgewater, E. of Discovery Bay; Nelson, M. of Bridgewater.
 Sir William Grant, sandstone head, S.W. of Portland Bay.
 Moonlight Head, N.W. of Cape Otway.
 Otway, bold rock, 60 miles S.W. of Port Phillip Heads.
 Bunbury, Patton, Addis, N.E. of Cape Otway.
 Point Lonsdale, W. head of Port Phillip Bay.
 Point Nepean, of sandstone, E. head of Port Phillip Bay.
 Gellibrand Point, basalt, by Williamstown, near Melbourne.
 Schank, limestone head, S.W. of Western Port.
 Grant, W., and Wollomai, E. of Phillip Island, Western Port.
 Griffith Point, E. entrance to Western Port.
 Patterson, coal cape, S.E. of Western Port.
 Liptrap, S. of Anderson's Inlet.
 Wilson's Promontory, southernmost point of Victoria.
 Ram's Head, off East Gipps' Land.
 Howe, the easternmost point of Victoria, by New South Wales.

ISLANDS.

At the time when Victorian land joined Tasmania, the granite isles, seen now in Bass's Strait, were hills amidst the plains.

Lawrence and Julia Percy, near Portland, volcanic origin.

French and Phillip, in Western Port.

Glennie and Seal, granite rocks, off Wilson's Promontory.

Snake and Sunday, flat isles, near Port Albert.

Gabo, by Cape Howe, bears a lighthouse.

PENINSULAS.

These are either the remnant of a country not yet torn by the ocean from the mainland, because of the hardness of the rock, or they are partial elevations of the sea-bed.

Otway, barren, between Warrnambool and Geelong.

Nepean, sandstone, between Port Phillip and Western Port.

Wilson's Promontory, granite, the southernmost part of Victoria.

MOUNTAINS.

A range of mountains, known as the Dividing Range, runs across the colony from east to west, midway between the Murray and the sea, dividing its affluents from the streams which flow into the sea. In the eastern part of the colony are the Australian Alps, which, in some summits, exceed 6,000 feet; and in the western part of the colony are the Grampians, which, in Mount William, reach a height of 5,600 feet. The country to the south-east of the Australian Alps is known as Gipps' Land.

Some of the elevations arise from earthquakes or volcanic action; but, in general, hills are only the remains of level land partially destroyed by wind and water. Rain washed away the softer parts, and rivers cut deep channels or broad valleys, leaving harder parts standing as hills. In Victoria there is evidence of floods having washed away rocks, thousands of feet in thickness.

Granite hills, like basaltic ones, were thus left when the

softer stones on and about them were destroyed by ocean or rains. Some rocks were saved by being metamorphosed, or changed, by flinty-like fluid to a greater hardness. These are commonly seen in mountains.

The Victorian hills are not high enough, in their latitude, to have eternal snow, with glaciers in their hollows; though patches of snow may be seen on the Australian Alps in summer. Mountains are the sources of rivers, and the guardians of metallic treasures.

The **Australian Alps** extend over eastern Victoria and south-eastern New South Wales.

The chief ranges and peaks on the Victorian side are :—

The Bogong Alps ; Mt. Feathertop, 6,300 ft. ; Hotham, 6,100 ft.
 Buckland Range, W. of Bogong ; Gibbo Alps, 5,760.
 Cobboras Range, slate and granite, N. of Gipps Land, 6,025.
 Buffalo Range, source of the Golden Ovens river.
 May-Day Hills and Fuller Range, near Buffalo hills.
 Forest-hill, on the border, 5,000, is the source of the Murray.
 Black and Pilot, woody, near Forest-hill.
 Aberdeen, of the Buffalo, 4,000 ; Wills, 5,760.
 Buller, S. of Buffalo range, 5,400.
 Selwyn and Howitt, near Buller, 5,700 ft.
 Delegete, between Forest-hill and cape Howe, on the border.
 Tambo, by Lake Omeo, 4,700 ; Matlock, Wood's Point, 4,560.
 Pinnabar, 4,100 ; The Twins, 5,575 ; Samaria, 3,140.

On the south, or Gipps' Land side of the Alps, are the **Strzelecki, Hoddle, and Fainting Ranges.**

Wellington Peak is 5,370 ft. ; Torbreck, 4,995.
 Brazen Nose, north-west of Wellington.
 Castle Hill, 4,850 ; and Valentia, 3,600, are east of Wellington.
 Mt. Useful, slate, 4,800, between Wellington and Woods Point.
 Ben Cruachan, 2,760, source of the Avon river.
 Notch Hill, 4,625 ; Bald Head, 4,650 ; Kent, 5,130.
 Tombaritha, 5,380, in North Gipps' Land.
 Howe Hill, 1,300, near cape Howe.
 Tom's Cap, 1,250, between Sale and Port Albert.
 Wilson, 2,350, in Wilson's Promontory, the granite peninsula.

The **Dividing Range**, running westward from the Alps, and nearly dividing the colony, has several chains, as :—

Cerberean Range, by the Goulbourn river, E.N.E. of Melbourne.
 Dandenong Range, of granite, slate, and basalt, N.E.

Plenty Ranges, slate and granite, 25 miles N.N.E. of Melbourne.
 Macedon Range, with Mt. Alexander Granite Spur, N.N.W.
 Blackwood Range, S. slope of Dividing Range, W. of Macedon,
 Buninyong and Ballarat Ranges, W.N.W. of Melbourne.
 Pyrenees and Amphitheatre, golden hills, W. of Ballarat.
 Maryborough Range, quartz and slate, N. of the Pyrenees.
 Jem Crow Ranges, farms and mines, S. of Castlemaine.
 M'Ivor, Northern spur of the Dividing Range.
 Ararat Mountains, western extremity of the Dividing Range.

Principal Peaks of the Dividing Range :—

Cathedral, in the Cerberean Range, 2,100 ft. above sea-level.
 Baw Baw, source of the Yarra Yarra.
 Juliet and Observation, basalt, N. of the Upper Yarra.
 St. Leonard, of the Dandenong range.
 Disappointment, Plenty Ranges, N. of Yan Yean reservoir.
 Macedon, slate and granite, 3,000 ft., 36 miles N. of Melbourne.
 Diogenes and Alexander's Head, N. of Macedon.
 Brock's Hill, basalt, E. of Macedon.
 Big Hill, by farming Kilmore, N. of Melbourne.
 Buninyong, an extinct crater, 2,800 ft., near Ballarat.
 Warrenheip and Blowhard, craters, near Ballarat.
 Spring Hill and Bullarook, lava hills, near Creswick.
 Beckworth, granite, S. of Clunes gold field.
 Mercer, by the lava plains, S. of Ballarat.
 Emu and Misery, granite, W. of Ballarat.
 Pentland Hills and Egerton, E. of Ballarat.
 Steiglitz, W. of Mt. Blackwood, and N.W. of Geelong.
 Ida, near M'Ivor, antimony mine, S. of Mt. Carmel.
 Alexander, granite, 10 miles N.E. of Castlemaine.
 Tarrengower, granite, N.W. of Castlemaine.
 Franklin Crater, Jem Crow Ranges, by Daylesford.
 Bendigo and White Hills, rich in gold, near Sandhurst.
 Terrick and Hope, granite hills, by the Murray, W. of Echuca.
 Cole and Nevis, granite peaks of the Pyrenees.
 Larnegerim, between Cole and Ararat.
 Ararat, the granite western end of the Dividing Range.

The **Grampians**, west of the Dividing Range, extend 50 miles from Mt. Zero, in the north, to Mt. Sturgeon and Mt. Abrupt, in the South. The Grampians are north and south, while the Dividing Range is east and west.

Mt. William, 5,600 feet, eastern projection of the Grampians.
 Sierra and Victoria Ranges, the western Grampians.
 Black and Dundas Ranges, near the western border of the colony.
 Arapiles, solitary, on the plains, N.W. of Mt. Zero.
 Latrobe Ranges, in cape Otway Peninsula, to the south.

On the western plains are many volcanic hills ; as—

Gellibrand, Hesse, and Warrions, E. of lake Corangamite.

Porndon, Leura, Clarke or Elephant, Shadwell, and Noorat, W. of it.

Tower Hill Crater, between Belfast and Warrnambool.

Rouse, Eccles, Napier, Eckersley, and Clay Craters, between the Grampians and the sea.

apiers Cone, 1,440 ft. ; Eccles crater, 600 ; Franklin crater, 2,100.

Cape Otway Ranges, sandstone and coal, S. of lake Corangamite.

Barrabool Hills, vine clad, W. of Geelong.

Station Peak and Yow Yangs, granite, W. of Port Phillip Bay.

Eliza, Martha, and Arthur's Seat, granite, E. of Port Phillip Bay.

GEOLOGY.

Before Australia was a continent, when more than one deep sea divided it, Victoria may have formed several islands. The largest of these would be the part now standing high, as Alps and Dividing Range. The Grampian Hills would have been another island. Intrusive rocks of granite and basalt rose above the ocean. In time, the mountain roots below the water were covered with broken fragments, rolled pebbles, and sands, strewn about on the bottom of the sea. Ages passed, while shell fish and coral lived, died, and were buried in the lime mud below. Volcanoes poured out basalt and lava among the hills, and submarine craters covered the sea mud, or consolidated limestone and sandstone rocks, with sheets of lava, or deposits of ashes. As the bed of the sea arose, islands were joined together, and plains appeared of basalt, limestone, sandstone, or gravel. Air and rain acted on these to produce soil ; while vegetation arose, and the land of Victoria became as now seen. There has been more than one rise and fall of the land in the ocean.

The primary, or older, rocks are most developed on the eastern side, and in the central parts, forming the mountain ranges. The tertiary, or newer, rocks are chiefly found to the west and north-west, forming, also, much of the sea-coast, as well as the banks of the Murray. The secondary, or middle-aged, formations are but few, and occur near Western Port. Volcanic matter has appeared both in ancient and modern times. Denudations have swept off vast masses of rock in some places, and worn down plateaus into

hills and valleys, while earthquakes and volcanoes have raised other portions.

Granite has broken through the primary slates, sandstones, limestones, claystones, and conglomerates, forming mountain tops or plains. It is strongest in the Alps, the Upper Murray country, North Gipps' Land, the Dividing Range, and Wilson's Promontory. The granite islands of Bass's Strait now lie between the Promontory granite and that of north-east Tasmania.

The primary rocks are chiefly Silurian. They are supposed to be 30,000 feet thick. They are sometimes metamorphosed, or changed into marble, or micaceous and quartzose schists, by intruding granite or basalt. The Diggings are workings in the auriferous or gold quartz veins of silurian rocks, and in the debris broken off and washed away from them. Melbourne rests upon these old palæozoic, or early life, strata. Devonian, or Old Red Sandstone, rocks repose upon the Silurian in the Grampians and in Gipps' Land.

The Coal formation comes next in order. Part of this may be of primary rock, but most of it is secondary in age. It is seen about Cape Otway, and the country east of Western Port, though patches appear near Geelong, and on the Wannon. The coal field is neither so extensive as that of New South Wales, nor possessing such valuable mineral. The Western Port carboniferous region contains 1,500 square miles, but the seams are thin and difficult of access.

The tertiary formations result from the destruction of older rocks. While the New South Wales coast is wanting them, Victorian shores almost entirely consist of them. Though limestone occurs near Geelong, yet sandstone constitutes the greater part of the tertiary rock of South Gipps' Land, Warrnambool, Portland, and the Wimmera and Lower Murray districts. It is like the desert sandstone of Queensland, and that on the great western plains of New South Wales. The Brighton sands and the Prahran clays near Melbourne are tertiary. The miocene beds are older than the pliocene. In the latter are found the alluvial diggings, both of gold and tin. Western Port and Port Phillip Bay were joined together in the pliocene period.

Basalt and greenstone, with trachyte, porphyry, &c., have flooded the land from volcanoes, reaching the sea near Melbourne, Portland, Belfast, and Warrnambool. The basalt, or *bluestone*, covers many miles, around Melbourne, over the western plains, and on the sides of the great ranges. It covers both primary and tertiary rocks, and is more common in the Dividing Range than in the Alps. The old volcanoes discharged, also, great quantities of ashes and cinders. Stony Rises and Barriers are ridges of basalt, as if suddenly cooled: they are seen west and south-west of Port Phillip Bay.

Victoria has no active volcanoes, but a great number of extinct

cones and craters, especially on the south-western side of the Dividing Range. Most of the western lakes, as Wangoon, Keilambete, Purrumbete, Terang, &c., were once craters, burning, perhaps, since the pliocene time. Mount Elephant, Buninyong, Franklin, Shadwell, Leura, &c., are volcanic craterform hills. Porndon is a cinder cone. Mount Napier crater is 230 feet deep. Tower Hill crater is 6 miles round.

The Victorian fossils have a resemblance to those of Europe, especially in the silurian and tertiary rocks. Trilobites, corals, fish and plants of old formations, as well as fish and shells of the newer, are like those known in England and America. But the great fossil lizards of secondary rocks in Queensland have not yet been noticed in Victoria. The fossil quadrupeds are similar to existing kangaroos, &c., though often much larger in size. The diprotodon was an herbivorous marsupial, with kangaroo teeth, and was 16 feet long. It doubtless pulled down trees, to feed on their tender branches. The devil and tiger of Tasmania once lived in Victoria. The coal plants are somewhat like those in English coal fields.

Mineral wealth is, of course, according to the geology of a country. The principal site of the Victorian Gold Diggings is where the primitive rocks have been metamorphosed, or altered, by granites, porphyries, and basalts. The Dividing Range and the Alps, with their spurs, form the mining area; though the tertiary rocks, doubtless, cover a great extent of auriferous ground. Silver, lead, antimony, and copper, occur in silurian rocks. Iron is obtained, more or less, in all formations. Tin and precious stones are found in connection with granite.

The geology of Victoria is as favourable for gold, as South Australia for copper, Tasmania for tin, Western Australia for lead, and New South Wales for coal.

RIVERS.

The Alps, the Dividing Range, and the Grampians are the main sources of Victorian rivers. Some descend southward to the sea; others have their waters flowing northward to the Murray, that draining stream of south-eastern Australia; while a few lose themselves in lakes, or in the sands of the interior.

Some find a pretty straight course down the hill sides to the sea, or to other rivers. The sluggish course of some is owing to a long journey through a nearly level country, or to a want of rain. In the north-west, where little rain falls, and the hills are far from the main artery, the

Murray, we find streams have not supply enough to go the required distance, and so disappear in the loose sands.

Rivers are long or short, according to the distance they traverse before reaching an outlet. Some, like the Goulburn, attempt a way in one direction, but are turned aside by obstructing hills into another. The water is rapidly absorbed when passing through an open or sandy region, but is retained by clay or rock, and when shaded by forests.

Australia, generally, is ill supplied with rivers. Elevated ranges are wanting in the interior to give birth to streams, or the supply is insufficient to keep them running. Great heat and much sand absorb the water. Vapour brought by winds from the ocean is soon lost when passing over dry and warm lands.

Many Australian rivers that reach the sea find themselves more or less blocked up by sands, so that they cannot be entered by ships. This is the case with the Murray, the Glenelg, the Hopkins, and most other Victorian streams, where the coast rock is usually sandstone.

The Murray rises in the Alps, near Forest Hill, which is on the eastern boundary of Victoria. At first called the Indi, it runs northward, as the eastern boundary of Victoria; then westward, as the northern boundary.

It enters South Australia from the eastward, and turns suddenly to the south for the sea. It passes through the Lake Victoria, and over the sandy bar into Encounter Bay. Though 2,400 miles long, it is navigable nearly 2,000; for above a quarter of its length it flows in South Australia.

The chief Murray tributaries from the Alps, Dividing Range, and the westward, are:—

Mitta Mitta, rising near Lake Omeo, receiving the *Victoria* and *Livingstone* rivers, and falling into the Murray above Albany.

Ovens, from Bogong range, flows by Wangaratta; with its branches the *King*, *Buffalo*, *Buckland*, and the *Reedy* creek.

Goulburn, 500 miles long, running westerly from near Wood's Point, and then northerly. Good soil is near its banks. It falls into the Murray near Echuca.

Its chief branches are the *Howqua*, the *Broken*, the *Acheron*, the *Jamieson*, the *Delatite* or *Devil's River*, *King Parrot* or *Sun-*

day Creek, the Hughes, the Deegay, and Violet Ponds: the Seven Creeks enter the Violet Ponds.

Kilmore Creek reaches Mollison's Creek, from Mt. Macedon, a branch of the Sugar-Loaf Creek, which joins the Sunday Creek, near Seymour. The Broken Creek reaches the Murray.

Campaspe, from the west of Mt. Macedon, joins the Murray near the Goulburn junction with that river.

Its leading tributaries are Five Mile Creek from Mt. Macedon, Piper's Creek, Ida Creek, with the M'Ivor, the Coliban, and the Ece from Mt. Alexander. The Coliban rises near the source of the Campaspe and Loddon, not far from Daylesford.

Loddon, rises near the source of the Coliban in the Dividing Range, but flows north-westerly to the Murray by Swan Hill.

Among its branches are Fryer, Muckleford, and Campbell Creeks, the Jem Crow, Tullaroop, Kingover, Joyce, Korong, and the Sandy rivers. The Greenock and Creswick Creeks join the Tullaroop. The Forest and Barker's Creeks, from Mt. Alexander, join Campbell's Creek at Castlemaine. The Bendigo Creek, of Sandhurst, loses itself in the sands.

Avoca, from the Pyrenees, enters lake Baal Baal, and may then flow underground to the Murray, through the sandy mallée scrub. The Richardson joins the Avon, which sinks in the Wimmera sands.

Wimmera, from near Ben Nevis of the Pyrenees, flows north-west toward the Murray, receiving the Pleasant Creek, but falls first into lake Hindmarsh, and then into lake Albacuyta. The Yarriambiach runs north into the sands, as the Wimmera.

The head waters of the Loddon, Campaspe, and Murray rivers have auriferous sand, with gold quartz in the rocks near them.

The southern rivers, descending from the Alps and Dividing Range, are more numerous than the northern. The Gipps' Land streams, to the eastward, are:—

Genoa, from New South Wales, has its outlet near Cape Howe.

Snowy, 400 miles long, from the Alps of East Gipps' Land.

The Buchan is a branch. The country is rocky and scrubby.

Mitchell or M'Arthur, the Nicholson, and the Tambo, fall into Lake King. The Dargo flows to the Mitchell.

Latrobe, from Mt. Baw Baw, runs easterly, through good land, to Lake Wellington. It receives the waters of the M'Alister, the Thompson, the Tyers, and the Flooding Creek. Stringer's Creek and the Jordan of Jericho join the Thompson.

Avon or Dunlop, and the Perry, reach lake Wellington.

Crooked and Jordan, golden streams, are in West Gipps' Land.

Tarra and Albert, short streams, are near Port Albert.

Bass, Buneep, and Lang-Lang fall into Western Port.

Tarwin gains the Anderson Coal Inlet.

Port Phillip Bay receives the following rivers from the Dividing Range:—

Yarra-Yarra, from Mt. Baw Baw, flows westerly by Melbourne to Hobson's Bay, a branch of Port Phillip.

Its southern branches are the *Anderson* and *Gardiner's Creeks*. Its northern branches are the *Watt* and *Diamond Creeks*, the *Plenty* river from the Plenty ranges, the *Darebin* and *Merri Creeks*, and the *Saltwater River* near Williamstown.

The *Saltwater* or *Deep River*, from Mt. Macedon, receives the *Deep Creek*, the *Macedon*, and the *Moonie Ponds*.

Werribee, from the Dividing Range, is joined by the *Lerderberg* at Bacchus Marsh.

Kororoit gains the bay not far from Williamstown.

Little river has its outlet near Geelong harbour of Port Phillip.

Among the rivers flowing into Bass's Strait, to the westward of Port Phillip Bay, are—

Barwon, from the Otway ranges, north-east to Geelong, then into lake Connewarre, the sea lake near Port Phillip.

Its tributaries are, the *Moorabool*, and the *Leigh* or *Yarrowee*.

The *Lal Lal*, from Ballarat, falls into the Moorabool. The golden Leigh, through Ballarat, joins the Barwon 20 miles from Geelong.

Gellibrand, from Otway Ranges to Moonlight Head through scrub.

Curdie's Creek, from Lake Purrumbet to W. of cape Otway.

Hopkins, from near Ararat to Lady Bay of Warrnambool. Its branches are the *Salt Creek*, the *Emu* or *Taylor*, the *Muston* and *Brucknell Creeks*.

Merri, meets the sea at Warrnambool, passing through rich soil.

Moyn flows by Belfast farms.

Eumarella, Fitzroy, and Shaw flow to Portland Bay, by stations.

Glenelg, from the Grampians, flows westward and then southward to Discovery Bay, forming there the western limit of Victoria.

Its tributaries are the *Wannon*, from Mount William, the *Wando*, and the *Crawford*. The *Grange Burn*, from Mt. Sturgeon, by Hamilton, falls into the Wannon. *Mt. William Creek*, from Mt. William, flows to Lonsdale Lake.

Fiery Creek, from Mount Cole, runs into salt Lake Boloke.

Woody Yaloak enters Lake Corangamite.

Burrumbet, W. of Ballarat, reaches beautiful Lake Burrumbet.

The waters of a few southern rivers do not reach the sea.

LAKES.

Some are depressions filled by streams from the hills near. Others are old craters, with springs feeding

them. The rest are inlets or bays enclosed by a sea-wall of sand, which is occasionally broken to let off the overflow. Beside the long sandy shore of Gipps' Land are a number of these so-called sea lakes.

Victoria, 90 square miles ; Wellington, 70 ; Reeve, 40 ; King, and Denison, all unite as tidal Gipps' Land lakes. The sea entrance is often closed by sand, and opened by the settlers.

Tyers and Sydenham, sea lakes, west of Cape Howe.

Connewarre, tidal lake, south-east of Geelong.

Salt lakes abound to the west and north-west of the colony.

Hindmarsh, 30 miles round ; Tyrrell, 20 ; Baal, 20 ; Buloke and Albacuyta, are all N. W., toward the Murray.

Mitre, by Mount Arapiles ; Lonsdale, by the Grampians.

Corangamite, salt and shallow, 75 sq. m., 60 miles W. of Geelong.

Colac, Murdeduke, Modewarre, E. of Corangamite.

Colongulac, or Timboon, Gnarpurt, Gnotuk, Bullen-Merri, and Booknar, W. of Corangamite.

Terang, Purrumbete, Keilambete, Wangoon, Elingamite, western lakes, were once volcanic craters, having tufa banks.

Burrumbeet and Learmonth, near Ballarat.

Boloke, salt, by Wickliffe ; Cooper, by the Campaspe river.

Omeo, shallow, in the eastern Alps, with gold near.

CLIMATE.

The cold of the Australian Alps contrasts with the heat of the Murray and Wimmera plains ; while the wet of the coast contrasts with the dryness of the north-west, and the Lower Murray Valley. Much exposed to the south-westerly breezes, the south of the colony is rendered more moist, cool, and bracing. The wind from the interior of Australia, though very hot in summer, is often cold in winter, throughout Victoria. Few countries, in so small an area, can show such varieties of climate, grow such a diversity of vegetable products, and yet be so thoroughly adapted to the European constitution.

The colony is not so hot as New South Wales and South Australia, though warmer than Tasmania. Victoria has less rain, cold, and wind than New Zealand. The Dividing Range causes the northern half of the colony to be drier and warmer than the southern. On the South Australian border, where the land is generally low and level, the climate is greatly different from the hilly region to the east, where the snowy Alps extend. The

valley of the Murray is hot and dry, though subject to floods from the upland waters and melted snow. The coast, westward of Cape Otway, is exposed to frequent showers, and to wintry cold. The southern slope of the central Dividing Range has a milder summer, a colder winter, and more rain than the northern slope. Gipps' Land, which is protected from the hot winds by the Alps, enjoys a mild summer. The Wimmera district, to the north-west, has a climate more like the dry and warm Riverina district of New South Wales. A true English winter of ice and snow may be experienced on the Alpine plateaus of eastern Victoria.

The Hot Wind from the interior of Australia is unpleasant, but not unhealthy. It rather removes diseases than brings them. The south winds are cold and bracing. While, in one year, there were 39 days with northerly winds, there were 42 with southerly. Easterly winds blew on 31 days, and westerly on 34.

The Heat of the colony varies according to the physical geography. Melbourne is cooler than Sandhurst, but warmer than Ballarat and Warrnambool. The greatest heat known for many years (in 1862) was 111° in the shade. The thermometer is seldom any year below the freezing point in Melbourne. Melbourne climate is rather like that of southern Italy, and has a mean temperature of 58° ; Sydney having 63° ; Brisbane, 69° ; Adelaide, 65° ; Hobart Town, 55° ; and Dunedin, 51° .

The Rain average for the past fifteen years in Melbourne is 26 inches per annum. In 1865 but 16 fell; in 1863, $36\frac{3}{4}$ inches. In 1874, the rain was 20 at Sandhurst; 21 at Geelong; $27\frac{3}{4}$ at Ballarat; 28 at Melbourne; 31 at Sale; 36 at Beechworth; $42\frac{3}{4}$ at Cape Otway. The south-westerly breezes which prevail in the southern hemisphere, in corresponding latitudes with the northern, are the rain-bringers to Victoria, as the south-eastern are to Queensland.

The barometer is higher in autumn and winter than in spring and summer. The ozone is greater at night than day at Melbourne, and in largest quantity among the hills.

The colony is very healthy: while 23 per thousand die annually in England, but 15 die in Victoria. The seasons are opposite to those in Europe—summer for winter, and spring for autumn.

The Tides rise 3 feet at Portland, Belfast, Warrnambool, and Nepean Head; $2\frac{3}{4}$ in Hobson's Bay, at Melbourne; 6 at Gabo Id.; 7 in Venus' Bay and at Point Lonsdale; 8 at Port Albert.

The Magnetic Needle dips 67° at Melbourne, though 61° at Sydney, 35° at Port Essington, and 70° at Hobart Town. The needle varies in different places, and at various times. It was 3° from E. in 1642, south of Tasmania, but is about 11° E. there now. While Adelaide variation is 7° E., that of Melbourne is nearly 10° E. The south magnetic pole is about 75° S., and 154° E. Earthquakes, ever slight, are seldom known in Victoria.

NATURAL PRODUCTIONS.

Victoria, as part of Australia, contains the oldest forms of animal and vegetable life known in the world. The native quadrupeds are not used for food by Europeans, though some are eaten by the Aborigines. Many birds have a beautiful plumage. The country has better native grasses than most colonies. The timber is plentiful and valuable. The native fruits are useless for the table.

VEGETATION.—Victoria has a similar vegetation to New South Wales and Tasmania, though somewhat differing from that of Western Australia. The forests are often very dense, but the scrub is not so thick as in Tasmania. The Eucalypti family, as the gum and stringybark, reach at times the height of 450 feet in the south-eastern gullies. Sheltered places produce palms and tree ferns; while the mountain tops have Arctic plants like those of the Scottish Grampians. The fragrant acacias are of great variety. Many woods take an excellent polish, and are useful as furniture. Most of the colonial timber is close and hard. The evergreen character of vegetation makes winter and summer alike in the bush landscape. Some plants, as the shea-oak and cherry-tree, with their pendant, leafless branchlets, resemble those found in a fossil form elsewhere, being the oldest species of living trees in the world. They are now dying out.

The colony has nearly 2,000 species of plants. There are sixty sorts of large timber trees. The red gum wood lasts long in damp ground, and resists the teredo worm. Gum trees bear a mistletoe. Gums are excellent for shipbuilding. Gum trees, with blackwood and acacia, like good soil, while the honeysuckle and stringybark thrive on poor or sandy land. The Mallee scrub, toward the Murray, is a dwarf sort of gum; one kind yields water from its rootlets. The iron-bark, which sheds its fluted, heavy bark in masses, is one of the Eucalypti. The stringybark sheds its bark in long strings, while others fall in waving ribands. Pines are numerous and beautiful, though not equal to some in Queensland and Norfolk Island. The Xanthorrhœa, or grass tree, throws up a spike of flowers often eight feet high. The Banksia, or honeysuckle, has rigid leaves and bottle brush flowers. The salt bush of the Wimmera is fattening to sheep. The apple tree is a myrtle, and the myall an acacia. The tea tree, growing near swamps, has stiff leaves and white flowers. Mangroves grow near salt water, and shelter mosquitoes. Bush flowers abound in sandy districts. The orchis is in great variety. The epacris, or colonial heath, is unlike the Cape or English heath. Everlasting flowers are common. Almost

all trees and shrubs are highly aromatic. Victoria is a flowery land.

QUADRUPEDS.—These are, like those of other parts of Australia, quite different from European quadrupeds, being almost entirely marsupial; some want the pouch, but have the marsupial bones. There are above 100 species in Victoria; including the kangaroo, opossum, wombat, flying phalanger or opossum, koala or native bear, native cat, bandicoot, kangaroo rat, platypus or water mole, and echidna or ant-eater. The flying fox, so destructive to fruit, is a kind of opossum. Some rats, building nests in trees, are not marsupial. The dingo or native dog may not be indigenous, though it has been found in a semi-fossilized state. Among the acclimatized animals, brought from other lands, the rabbit has become a nuisance, from its rapid production in the bush.

BIRDS.—Most of these, though having English names, are unlike European birds. There are eagles, hawks, emus, bustards, magpies, moreporks, ducks, geese, pelicans, black swans, gulls, penguins, pigeons, ravens, crows, brush-turkeys, scrub-pheasants, cuckoos, cockatoos, parrots, swallows, owls, goat-suckers, snipes, finches, quails, plovers, bee-eaters, &c. The honey-suckers are of many species. The lyre-bird is the mountain pheasant. The robins have more beautiful breasts than the English ones. The emu wren has a gorgeous plumage. The merry laughing-jackass is a sort of kingfisher. The crane or native companion abounds near the lakes. Some birds are very good songsters. There are over 300 species of birds in Victoria.

REPTILES.—With no alligator, as in New South Wales and Queensland, yet there are many forms of lizard life. The sea snakes are all dangerous; but it is said that only three Victorian land-snakes are so. The black snake is very venomous; but the beautiful diamond one is quite harmless.

FISHES.—Sharks are not so large as in the tropics. One kind, the shell grinder, is like a fossil shark that formerly ate shell-fish. Many fine eating fish have English names; as, perch, cod, whiting, bream, mackerel, mullet, &c., without having similar appearances. The fresh water fish, on the north side of the Dividing Range, *i. e.*, in the Murray waters, are not all like those on the southern or sea-board side. Cray-fish represent the European lobster; while crabs and shrimps are not unlike those elsewhere. Oysters were once common in the Victorian bays, but are now wanting. The frogs are large and noisy.

INSECTS.—Butterflies and beetles are beautiful. Scorpions and centipedes are dangerous, while flies, ants, and mosquitoes are plagues in summer. The grasshopper is sometimes very destructive, and the tree-locust provides some shrill bush music. The tarantula is a large spider, whose bite is very painful.

POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

Under the term Political Geography we include the history of the colony, the people and industry, and the divisions and chief towns.

HISTORY.

The history of Victoria is one of peaceful progress, and not of wars. For, perhaps, several thousands of years, the land had only savage inhabitants. Settled by free people from other colonies and from Europe, it has not been a burden, but a source of profit, to the home country. Tasmanian colonists made the first settlements in it about forty years ago, though the bulk of the population came from Great Britain. The march of discovery, the spread of stations and farms, the growth of commerce and manufactures, the gold discovery in 1851, the development of free institutions, and the planting of schools and churches, furnish the chief subjects for the history of Victoria.

Captain Cook discovered Point Hicks, near Cape Howe, April 19th, 1770. It was once thought that what is now called Victoria was united to Tasmania. Messrs. Flinders and Bass, in a small boat from Sydney, in 1798, discovered Western Port, and afterwards sailed through Bass's Strait, proving Tasmania to be an island. Lieutenant Grant discovered Portland Bay and Cape Otway. Lieutenant Murray, February 15, 1802, entered Port Phillip Heads. Captain Flinders sailed into the bay a few weeks after. In 1824, Messrs. Hovell and Hume left Sydney, crossed the Hume, or Murray river, near Albury, and reached the south coast. In 1835, Major Mitchell crossed the Murray, discovering the Loddon and Wimmera, ascending the Grampians, Pyrenees, and Macedon mountains, and reaching Portland Bay. Delighted with the country, he called it *Australia Felix*—the Happy. Gipps' Land was first made known by Count Strzelecki and Mr. M'Millan, in 1840. The interior of Victoria has been, as elsewhere, chiefly revealed by enterprising squatters.

Captain Cook had called all Eastern Australia by the name of New South Wales. Subsequently, the north boundary was confined to lat. 26° S. ; but the part of the colony south of the

Murray became Port Phillip District in 1836. The Surveyor-General, in 1817, had pronounced the region south of the Lachlan a desert; but Hume and Mitchell found the contrary. The first attempt at a settlement failed, through the acting Governor, Collins, landing on the sandy side of Port Phillip Bay, near the Heads, in October, 1803. Instead of searching for better quarters, he removed the establishment, in January 1804, to Van Diemen's Land. In 1826, owing to the representations of Captain Hovell, who had mistaken Western Port for Port Phillip, the Sydney authorities founded a settlement on the sandy and marshy eastern shore of Western Port; this was relinquished in a few months, and Port Phillip was declared uninhabitable.

Mr. Hume, who believed in the country, wished his fellow-townsmen, Australian born, John Batman, to get up a party in Tasmania to settle it. Batman tried in 1826, and failed. He succeeded, in 1835, in forming a private company, called the Port Phillip Association, and landed near Geelong in May of that year. Through his friend, Mr. Gellibrand, a deed of conveyance of land had been prepared; and Mr. Batman, supposing he had the consent of the blacks to a treaty, gave them 100 blankets, 50 looking-glasses, 100 tomahawks, flour, beads, &c. He thus appropriated a large extent of country round the sites of Melbourne and Geelong, and then went back to Launceston, to fetch sheep and cattle to stock the pastures.

A small party was afterwards got up by Mr. John Pascoe Fawcner, of Launceston. The men landed in August 1835, near the Yarra, and were followed by their leader in October. This company intended to trade, while Batman's Association went to depasture as well as trade. Other independent parties soon came across from Tasmania, with flocks and herds.

As the Sydney Government had before refused to allow Batman to settle near Port Phillip, they now warned off all trespassers. But the new comers were unwilling to leave the fine land. So, accepting the situation, the Governor sent down persons from Sydney to organize an administration on the banks of the Yarra. In 1836, Captain Lonsdale was nominated Commandant. Governor Bourke proclaimed Melbourne on May 19, 1837, and had the first land sales on June 1st, when half acres of the town sold for from £20 upwards each. The new settlement grew so rapidly that it was soon declared the Port Phillip District of New South Wales, and Mr. Latrobe, on October 1st, 1839, became its first Superintendent. Mr. Batman died in Melbourne, a week after the appointment of Mr. Latrobe.

The district progressed. Many were induced, by Major Mitchell's glowing report, to leave Britain for Port Phillip. By 1841 there were 12,000 inhabitants in the country, sheep and cattle stations increased, the towns grew rapidly, prices rose to a wonderful height, and fortunes were made. Suddenly, in 1841,

the over speculation brought on a crisis, and numbers were ruined. Population scarcely changed for years. The boiling down of sheep and cattle for tallow brought better prices for stock. With more prudence, good times revived, though without fortunes. The gold discovery of 1851, however, produced a great social revolution. The 80,000 inhabitants were doubled in a few months. Wealth poured in, and prices rose higher than ever known before. The colony, which had been separated from New South Wales, in July 1, 1850, under the name of Victoria, soon exceeded the mother colony of New South Wales in population. Since 1852, though checks have occurred through overtrading, Victoria has gone on prospering, and developing in true civilization. In 1855, a liberal constitution was granted by the English Government. For the means of instruction, the support of religion, internal prosperity, and general progress, Victoria cannot be excelled among the British colonies.

PEOPLE.

POPULATION.—There were 114 Europeans in 1835, and 76,000 in 1850. The population in 1877 was 850,000, including 20,000 Chinese, and 1,500 Aborigines. Above one-third are in gold-field townships. In England there are 350 persons to the square mile; in Victoria, but 10. The births in England are $33\frac{1}{2}$ per thousand; in Victoria, 38. The deaths in England are $22\frac{1}{2}$ per thousand; in Victoria, only 15. There are 10 males to 9 females in the colony.

The Aborigines are similar in appearance and habits to other Australian blacks. They seem to have no adaptation for our civilization, except in smoking and drinking. Many of their customs suggest a prior connection with a higher state; and they have rude ideas of the Deity and of immortality. Some great catastrophe must have cut them off from other countries in very remote antiquity; as, in *physique* and grammatical language, they resemble the hill tribes of India and the Asiatic Islands. Like the Indians and Maories, they are rapidly dying off, leaving few children to succeed them. Whole tribes in Victoria have disappeared within the last twenty years, and only 1,500 remain. Six religious bodies have, at different times, attempted to Christianise this dying race. The government make provision for the instruction and support of those who will go to the aboriginal stations.

GOVERNMENT. — The Governor is appointed by the English Crown. The Executive Council consists of

the Governor and the Ministry—10 persons. The Legislative Council, or Upper House of Parliament, has 30 members, from six electoral provinces, five to each province. The Legislative Assembly, or Lower House, has 78, chosen in 49 electoral districts. There are six times as many electors for the latter as for the former. Elections are by ballot. The voting for the Assembly is on the basis of manhood suffrage.

The revenue of the Government, to be expended on public works, schools, police, the civil service, &c., is derived from taxation, the sale and leasing of land, railways, postage, &c. Customs duties are levied upon certain goods imported into the colony. The revenue in 1850 was only £229,388; but, in 1875, was £4,628,800. The Public Debt—fourteen millions—was incurred for the construction of railways, and other public works.

Local government exists in *Boroughs*, which are townships, having a revenue of £10,000. These, having municipal councils, can levy rates, and make local laws. A town with a revenue of £20,000 is called a *City*. A *Shire* is a country self-ruling division, paying over £500 a year in rates. The State gives aid to boroughs, shires, and road districts.

EDUCATION. — The State schools, 1,750 in number, with 240,000 children, give a free and secular instruction, at a cost of half a million pounds a year. Attendance is compulsory between the ages of 6 and 16; 95 per cent of such are scholars. The Sunday Schools have an attendance of 130,000. Collegiate schools have had State aid. The Melbourne University was established by Government, in 1854. Free libraries and mechanics' institutes, partly sustained by the State, exist in 140 towns.

RELIGION.—All religious denominations of Christians are equal in the sight of the law. There is no State Church, and, therefore, there are no dissenters. Government aid was formerly given to Protestant and Roman Catholic Churches. There is now no State grant to any,

and no State control. According to the returns for 1875, the following was the attendance at places of worship:—Wesleyans, 90,000; Roman Catholics, 77,000; Presbyterians, 63,000; Church of England, or Episcopalians, 39,000; Baptists, 10,000; Independents, 9,000; Lutherans, 2,500; &c.

INDUSTRY.

The chief branches of industry are sheep-farming, the cultivation of the ground, and mining. Wool is the staple production of the colony, the quantity exported being far greater for its area than from any other British Possession. In 1876, there were 12,000,000 sheep, 1,000,000 cattle, and 200,000 horses.

Wool is the chief export of the colony. The squatters, or stockholders, lease their *runs* from the Government; these lessen in number and extent as the land is required by farmers.

AGRICULTURE. — Instead of dependence upon other colonies for corn and fruit, as formerly, the colony is beginning to export vegetable produce. The gold discovery gave the start to farmers; town factories now provide consumers. Twenty years ago only 60,000 acres were cropped; there are now twenty times as many.

For about twenty years the colonists have been allowed control of the public lands, and sales and leases of farms have been thus facilitated. One-sixth of the area has been sold, and two-thirds are occupied. There are 40,000 holdings. Agricultural machines are in common use. Besides English plants, maize, tobacco, olives, figs, grapes, and oranges flourish. The value of agricultural produce, in 1876, amounted to £4,500,000.

MANUFACTURES.—Some of these are protected against foreign competition by import duties. In 1876, besides 5,000 mining machines, there were 2,000 factories and works; including 160 flour mills, 160 steam timber cutting works, 100 breweries, 90 tanneries, 6 woollen cloth factories, chemical works, &c.

MINERALS.—The principal metals are, gold, silver, tin, antimony, lead, copper, bismuth, and cobalt; though only gold, tin, silver, lead, and antimony are worked to profit. The seven gold field districts are Ararat, Ballarat, Beechworth, Castlemaine, Gipps' Land, Maryborough, and Sandhurst. Ballarat and Castlemaine have been the leading alluvial workings; and Sandhurst, Ararat, and Maryborough, the quartz. While one-third of the colony is recognized as auriferous, only one-thirtieth of the ground has been prospected. There are 3,500 proved quartz reefs.

The gold diggings of California, in 1849, attracted some Australians. One of these, Mr. Hargreaves, returning in 1851, found gold near Bathurst, New South Wales. Gold fields were discovered in Victoria three months after. The yield was greatest during 1856, amounting to three million ounces, worth nearly £12,000,000; it is now only about one million ounces. As the washing grounds are being worked out, quartz reefs are opened. The deepest mine is 1,750 feet. Diggers pay a pound a year for the right to work on crown lands. *Deep leads* are in the beds of ancient rivers, now covered with earth and basalt. The *Welcome Stranger* nugget, found a foot below, was worth £9,534.

Silver lead is found at St. Arnaud, and in Gipps' Land; a little copper, by Thompson river; antimony, at Mt. Ivor and Maryborough; tin, in the auriferous sands of the Ovens, Latrobe, Yarra, and other streams; zinc, in Gipps' Land and Daylesford; cobalt, at Yea; bismuth, in the Alps; lead, in Gipps' Land; and manganese, at the Snowy River and Pleasant Creek. Precious stones, as the diamond, topaz and sapphire, are seen in gold and tin workings. Coal, to some extent, is known near Western Port, the Wannon, &c. Kaolin is got at Bulla Bulla and Buninyong; and sulphur, at Tarrengower. Building stones are of all varieties.

TRADE.—The *imports*, including articles not raised or manufactured in the colony, are now valued at about £17,000,000 a year. The *exports*, including wool, gold, tin, tallow, manufactures, and some imported goods, now average £16,000,000. The wool export is increasing, and that of gold is decreasing. The wool brings between six and seven millions a year; and the gold, but four millions. Above two thousand vessels, with a tonnage of 800,000 tons, enter the ports every year.

RAILWAYS.—The first railway was in 1856. Those al-

ready open extend 650 miles ; those in the course of construction will make 350 more. The northern line is from Melbourne to Echuca, on the Murray ; the north-eastern, to Wodonga, on the Murray ; the western, through Geelong and Ballarat to Ararat and Stawell. Smaller lines connect Maryborough with Castlemaine, Creswick with Ballarat, &c. The uncompleted lines are from Hamilton to Portland, 55 miles ; Hamilton to Ararat, 64 ; Sandhurst to Inglewood, 30 ; Geelong to Colac, 50 ; Sale to Melbourne, 130.

The Electric Telegraph was introduced in 1857. The lines of wire reach 5,000 miles. The post-office annually distributes twenty millions of letters, and eight million newspapers.

DIVISIONS.

Victoria is divided into *six Districts* and *thirty-seven Counties*. The Districts are, **Western Port**, in the centre ; **Gipps' Land**, to the south-east ; **Portland Bay**, south-west ; **Loddon**, north ; **Murray**, north-east ; **Wimmera**, north-west.

The **Western Port District** reaches northward to the Murray at Echuca, and southward to the sea, lying between Gipps' Land and the Portland Bay Districts. It is divided into ten counties.

BOURKE extends from Western Port and Port Phillip Bays northward to the Dividing Range, and westward from the Plenty to the Werribee river.

GRANT is west of Bourke, from the Werribee to the Leigh, and north of Port Phillip Bay to the Dividing Range.

EVELYN is east of Bourke to Mount Baw Baw, source of the Yarra Yarra.

MORNINGTON is south of Evelyn, including Western Port, and the western shore of Port Phillip.

POLWARTH, south-west of Grant, contains Cape Otway peninsula.

GRENVILLE, west of Grant, extends north from Lake Colac to the Dividing Range.

North of the Dividing Range are, **TALBOT**, between the Coliban and Bet Bet rivers.

DALHOUSIE, north of Bourke, and between the Coliban and the Goulburn.

ANGLESEY, east of Dalhousie, and north of Evelyn.

RODNEY, north of Dalhousie, between the Murray, the Campaspe, and the Lower Goulburn rivers.

The **Portland Bay district**, west and south-west of Western Port District to the South Australian border, is divided into seven counties.

FOLLET is between the western border and river Glenelg.

NORMANBY, east of Follet, between the Wannon river and Portland Bay.

DUNDAS, north of Normanby, from the Wannon to the upper Glenelg.

VILLIERS, east of Normanby, to the river Hopkins.

HEYTESBURY, south-east of Villiers, and west of Cape Otway.

HAMPDEN, north of Heytesbury and east of the Hopkins.

RIPON, north of Hampden to Mount Ararat, and west from Lake Burrumbeet to the Grampians.

The **Wimmera District** is north of the Portland Bay District to the Murray, and west of the Avoca river to the South Australian boundary. It is divided into seven counties.

LOWAN and **BORUNG**, are north of Dundas and Follet.

KARA-KARA and **TATCHERA**, west of the Loddon river.

KARKAROOK, **WEEAH**, and **MILLEWA** form the north-west corner of the colony; Millewa being about the junction of the Darling and Murray.

The **Loddon District** is north-central, between the Wimmera and the Murray Districts. It has three counties.

GUNBOWER, from Echuca west to the Loddon river, has the Murray to the north.

GLADSTONE, between the Avoca and the Loddon rivers.

BENDIGO, between the Campaspe and the Loddon.

The **Murray District** comprehends the north-east part of the colony, about the Alps. There are $4\frac{1}{2}$ counties.

BENAMBRA is between the Upper Murray and the Mitta-Mitta.

BOGONG, having the Bogong Alps, extends from the Mitta-Mitta west to the Ovens.

MOIRA, west of the Ovens to the Goulburn.

DELATITE, south of Moira and Bogong.

West half of **WONNANGATTA**, Murray side of the Dividing Range, containing the sources of the Goulburn.

Gipps' Land District, between the Alps and the sea, is the south-eastern corner. It contains $5\frac{1}{2}$ counties.

CROAJINGOLONG is between the New South Wales boundary and the Snowy river.

TAMBO, between the Snowy and Tambo rivers.

DARGO, west of the Tambo to the Wonnangatta river. East half of **WONNANGATTA**, between the Wonnangatta and the Dividing Range.

TANGIL, between the Mitchell and Latrobe rivers.

BULN-BULN, from the Latrobe south to the sea, including Wilson's Promontory.

The Western Port District is the most important and best populated. It contains the ports of Melbourne and Geelong, the farms of Bourke and Grant counties, pastoral *runs* on the east and west, with mining townships on the hills. The floor of the central and western part is of basalt. Most of the Victorian manufactories are in this district.

The Portland Bay is pre-eminently pastoral, though much of the best land is occupied by selectors' farms. The ports of Warrnambool, Belfast, and Portland are there. The eastern portion is dry and sandy; and much of the other is covered with basalt or *blue stone*, which flowed to the base of the Grampians and the Dividing Range.

The Wimmera District, with the exception of a little fair soil near the rivers, is occupied by sheep and cattle stations. A large proportion is sandy and ill watered; though the salt-bush supplies the deficiency in grass, and wells are sunk for water.

The Loddon District is pastoral on the northern plains, agricultural on the better soil, and mining among the southern hills. The Sandhurst gold mines are in Loddon.

The Murray is sparsely populated. The lowlands are leased by squatters, farmers take the accessible good soil, and miners find gold in the snowy ranges. The railway

along the western base of the Alps has made the fine Goulburn plains available. Extensive marshes are caused by the overflowing of the Murray river.

Gipps' Land is of three different regions. The gold-bearing Alps are northwards, vast marshes and salt lakes near the seaboard, and rich agricultural and pastoral areas in the middle. Cut off from the Melbourne side by dense forests and lofty ranges, the population has been inconsiderable; but the railway to Sale will now yield the required means of communication with the metropolis.

TOWNS.

The earliest towns—Melbourne, Geelong, and Portland—had their first land sales in 1837. Other townships, as Kyneton, rose in the midst of farms. The gold-fields



MELBOURNE.

gave the great start to town making. Ballarat, Castlemaine, and Sandhurst were the earliest mining townships. Agricultural townships grew when land was more easily obtained. Private land is also cut up for townships.

Note.—Distances of towns are reckoned from Melbourne.

Melbourne and Geelong were granted municipal freedom in 1842. There are now about 70 other corporate boroughs, with mayors and councils, and power of self-government. Of the townships, 350 have less than 1,000 inhabitants; 50 between 1,000 and 3,000; 20 between 3,000 and 10,000; and 10 between 10,000 and 30,000.

Western Port District.

BOURKE COUNTY—

Melbourne, capital, near the mouth of the Yarra Yarra, by Hobson's Bay, off Port Phillip, in lat. 38° S., and long. 138° E. Its population, including the suburbs, is nearly 200,000.

Melbourne has wide streets and fine public buildings. There are ten parks or gardens for the people. It has a public library of 90,000 volumes, a general museum, a technological museum, a picture gallery, and a university. Twenty-five periodicals are published there. It is well provided with churches and schools. The Bishops of Melbourne are Church of England and Roman Catholic. The town was named after Lord Melbourne, the English Prime Minister, in 1837. It is now a most important manufacturing town.

N. of Melbourne are Hotham and Carlton; Brunswick, 2 miles from Melbourne; Pentridge or Coburg, 5; Essendon, 6; Broadmeadows, 12; Epping, 14; Yan Yean, 20; Whittlesea, 25; Wallan Wallan, 28; Romsey, 39; Lancefield, 45.

N.W. of Melbourne—Footscray, 2; Keilor, 9; Campbellfield, 10; Mickleham, 18; Bulla, 20; Sunbury, 24; Gisborne, 40; Macedon, 43; Blackwood, 68.

W. of Melbourne—Wyndham, 20; Melton, 24; Bacchus Marsh, 32; Pentland, 40; Ballan on the Werribee, 45.

S.W. of Melbourne—Port Sandridge, 3; Port Williamstown, 10.

S. of Melbourne—Emerald Hill, 2; St. Kilda, 3; Brighton, 8; Mor-diallac, 18.

S.E. of Melbourne—Prahran, 3; Oakleigh, 10; Dandenong, 19.

E. of Melbourne—Collingwood, 2; Richmond, 2; Hawthorn, 4; Kew, 5.

N.E. of Melbourne—Northcote, 3; Preston, 7; Heidelberg S.

GRANT COUNTY—

Geelong, between the Barwon river and Geelong harbour of Port Phillip, 45 S.W. of Melbourne.

Geelong, the great seat of colonial industries—as woollen mills and foundries—has 24,000 inhabitants, 22 places of worship, 8 banks, and an excellent Mechanics Institute.

Drysdale, 57 from Melbourne; Portarlington, 63; Queenscliff, watering place, near C. Lonsdale, 65, are on the southern Indented Heads of Port Phillip Bay.

Fyansford, 48; Ceres, off Barrabool hill, 51; Moorabool, 52; Gnarrerwarre, 57; and Modewarre, 60, are all agricultural.

Inverleigh, 63, at the junction of the Leigh and Barwon.

Lethbridge, 65; Meredith, 74; Steiglitz, 77, W. of Melbourne.

NORTH GRANT—

Ballarat, on the Upper Leigh, 100 W.N.W. of Melbourne.

Ballarat has been the chief of the alluvial diggings, and is a great railway centre, in the midst of fine farms. There are east and west municipalities. With a population of 28,000, it has 40 churches and chapels, with 2 bishops. Above 200 steam engines are employed at the mines. There are woollen mills and large foundries.

Gordon's Diggings, 56; Egerton, by the Moorabool, 60; Lal Lal, 87; Buninyong, by Mt. Buninyong, 93; and Warrenheip, near Ballarat, 97, have gold fields and good land near them.

GRENVILLE COUNTY—

Winchelsea, by the Barwon, 68 S.W., on the plains.

Colac, by Lake Colac, 92, rich grasses near.

Shelford, 68; Rokewood, 84; Cressy, 90; Pittfield, 100; Chepstow, 125, are toward the plains.

Part of Ballarat is in Grenville county.

W. of Ballarat are Miner's Rest, 105; Learmouth, 109; Burrumbeet, 113; and Carnham, 119 miles from Melbourne.

S.W. of Ballarat are the mining towns of Sebastopol, 102; Durham, 93; Cardigan, 102; Haddon, 103; Smythesdale, 110; Scarsdale, 112; Happy Valley, 114; Brown's, 109; and Linton, 119.

EVELYN COUNTY—

Eltham, 14 E.; Warrandyte, Anderson's Cr., 16, woody.

Lillydale, 25; Queenstown, 30; Healesville, 32, near the Yarra.

MORNINGTON COUNTY—

Cranbourne, 30; Berwick, 28; Frankston, 27 S.E., farms.

Mornington, Schnapper Point, Port Phillip Bay, 35.

Dromana, by Arthur's Seat, 47; Sorrento, near the Heads, 60.

Hastings, Western Port, 42; Cowes, on fair Phillip Island.

Corinella, E. of Western Port, 74, near coal field.

POLWARTH COUNTY—Very sparse population; poor land.

TALBOT COUNTY—

Daylesford, gold field, on the Jem Crow river, 75 N.W.

Yandoit, 100; Hepburn, 84; Bullarook, 110; Glendaruel, 110; Smeaton, 114; Kingston, 115; Ascot, 115; Springs, Mt. Bolton, 112—all farming localities.

Creswick, 112 N.W. of Melbourne, and 12 N. of Ballarat. Mining town; 4,000 population.

Clunes, 123; Craigie M'Callum, 110; Majorca, 110; Greenock, 120; and Coghill, 121, are near gold mines.

Lexton, on Burn Bank, 120; Amherst, 110; Talbot, 133.

Maryborough, 112 N.W., but 34 from Castlemaine, mining town.

Carisbrook, 108; Alma, 107; Chinaman's Flat, 115, gold.

Castlemaine, on Forest Creek, 78 N.W. of Melbourne.

Castlemaine, with 7,500 inhabitants, injured by the diminution of its gold workings, has now opened manufactories. It is pleasantly situated, and very healthy.

Elphinstone and Glenlyon, 70; Chewton, by Castlemaine, 80.

Harcourt, by Mt. Alexander, 90; Newstead, on Loddon, 92.

Guildford, 84; Vaughan, 88; Joyce, 95, mines and farms.

Maldon, of Mt. Tarrengower, 89, quartz mines and granite.

DALHOUSIE COUNTY—

Kilmore, on the Dividing Range, 40 N., a farming centre.

Broadford, 47; and Pyalong, 52, agricultural.

Heathcote or M'Ivor, gold, 70; Costerfield, antimony, 90.

Woodend, 48; Tylden or Carlsruhe, farms, 53.

Kyneton, on the Upper Campaspe, 57, rich, high land near.

Malmsbury, 63; and Taradale, 68, on the Coliban.

ANGLESEY COUNTY—

Seymore, on the Goulburn, 62 N. of Melbourne, farming.

Avenel, on the Hughes, 72; Tullarook, 56, forest land.

Yea, 75 N.E.; Molesworth, 82; and Marysville, 65, farms.

RODNEY COUNTY—

Echuca, junction of the Campaspe and Murray, 156 N.

Whroo, 84; Graytown, 90; Rushworth, 122.

Murchison, 94; and Shepparton, 160, farms, on the Goulburn.

Axedale, 125; Campaspe, Runnymede, 128; and Rochester, 139, are on the rich flats.

Gipps' Land District.

Sale, at the junction of the Thomson and Latrobe, 145 E.

Sale, capital of Gipps' Land, near the Thompson river, pop. 3,500; has splendid land in its neighbourhood, and is a rising place. Like all Victorian townships, it has good churches and schools.

Port Albert, 50 S.W. of Sale, marshes in the neighbourhood.

Alberton, Tarraville, and Welshpool, near the port Albert.

Bairnsdale, 185, mouth of the Mitchell, by lake King.

Stratford on Avon, 156; Maffra, 160, farming.

Traralgon, 112; and Rosedale, 128, on the Latrobe river.

Crossover, 95; Tangil, 96; Moe, 100, gold mines.

Walhalla, 120; Bull Town, on Crooked River, 225, gold mines.
 Bruthen, 200; and Tongeo, 240, on the Tambo river.
 Jericho, on the Jordan, near Wood's Point, 130. mining town.

Portland Bay District

FOLLET COUNTY—

Lindsay, on the South Australian Border, 285 W., sandy.

NORMANBY COUNTY—

Portland, on Portland Bay, 226 W.; Narrawong, 216.

Portland, 2,500 inhabitants, is the wool port of the farther west.
 Its climate is cool, and situation good. The Messrs. Henty
 settled there in 1834.

Heywood, 240; Hotspur, 245; Digby, 250, woody.

Merino, near the Wannon, 255; Branxholme, 260, farms.

Hamilton, on the Grange Burn, 210 W., important agricultural
 and squatting centre.

Dartmoor, 270, and Nelson, 260, on the Lower Glenelg.

DUNDAS COUNTY—

Casterton, junction of the Wannon and Glenelg, 256 W.

Harrow, on Upper Glenelg, 274; Cavendish, 228.

Wannon, 222; Sandford, 240; Coleraine, 236. The Wannon
 country has fine soil and grass.

VILLIERS COUNTY—

Warrnambool Port, near the Hopkins, 163 W. of Melbourne.

Warrnambool, 5,000 population, the outlet for much farming
 produce, is a beautiful, healthy, and progressive port.

Woodford, 157; Allansford, 156; and Framlingham, 155, farms.

Tower Hill, or Koroit, volcanic soil, 173; Yambuck, 198.

Belfast, Port Fairy, 185 W.; 2,500 population, good land.

Woolsthorpe, 212; Caramut, 190; Chatsworth, 167.

Hexham, on the Hopkins, 110; Peshurst, Mt. Rouse, 180.

Dunkeld, near Mt. Sturgeon of the Grampians, 190, farms.

HEYTESBURY COUNTY—

Cobden, by Lake Elingamite, 130 W. of Melbourne.

HAMPDEN COUNTY—

Camperdown, by Mt. Leura, 122 W., fine grass land.

Darlington, Mt. Emu Creek, 123; Lismore, 110.

Mortlake, by Mt. Shadwell, 145; Noorat, 82, volcanic ash soil.

Terang, 135; and Panmure, 141, farms.

RIPON COUNTY—

Ararat, head of the Hopkins, 157 W. of Melbourne.

Ararat, 4,000 pop., is the centre of a mining district, with

farms, stations, and vineyards near. Rails connect it with Melbourne, and will soon do so with Portland.

Raglan, 128; and Streatham, 148, on Fiery Creek.

Skipton, 128; and Beaufort, 129, on Mt. Emu Creek.

Wickliffe, on the Hopkins, 168, with good land.

Loddon District.

BENDIGO COUNTY—

Sandhurst, on the Bendigo Creek, 101 N.N.W. of Melbourne.

Sandhurst, pop. 25,000, is wealthy and progressive. Its valuable auriferous quartz mines employ 250 steam engines.

Eagle Hawk, White Hills, and Epsom, near Sandhurst, mines.

Lockwood, 95; Mandurang, 113; Jones' Creek, 105.

Myer's Flat, 113; Huntly, 112; Strathfieldsaye, 108.

Newbridge, 121; and Bridgewater, 117, on the Loddon, farms.

Raywood, 126, between the Campaspe and Loddon, pastoral.

GLADSTONE COUNTY—

Avoca, on the Avoca river, 122 N.W.; and Bet Bet, 121, mines.

Dunolly, 125; Moliagul, 115; and Tarnagulla, 130, mines.

M'Intyre, 120; Kingower, 129; and Lamplough, 130, mines.

Inglewood, near the Loddon, 134; and Berlin, 133, mines.

Wedderburne, or Korong, nugget-land, 147; Homebush, 140.

GUNBOWER COUNTY—

Echuca, 156 N., on the Murray, and partly in Rodney County.

Echuca, connected by rail with Melbourne, is the depôt of wool and other produce, brought by steamers along the Darling and Murray rivers, and by rail or road from the inland squatting stations of Riverina District, in New South Wales. Farms, vineyards, and saw-mills are near. It is called the Chicago of Australia. Population, 3,000.

Terrick Terrick, 158; Kerang, on the Loddon, 185.

Murray District.

Avenel, on Hughes Creek, 72 N.N.E., farming.

Benalla, 121 N.E.; and Mansfield 137, on the Broken river.

Longwood, 85; Euroa, 94; and Violet Town, 105, are between Avenel and Benalla, a timber land.

Nagambie, 80; Alexandra, 90; and Gaffney's Creek, 122, farms.

Wangaratta, on the Ovens, 145 N.E., farms and mines.

Myrtleford, 185; and Bright, 207, on the Ovens river.

Jamieson, on the Upper Goulburn, 162; Greta, 142, farming.

Wodonga, on the Murray, opposite Albury, 187 N.E.

Wahgunyah, 180; and Rutherglen, 185, by the Murray.

Chiltern, on the Indigo, 168; and Buckland, 230, vines and mincs,

Beechworth, W. of Wangaratta, 189, high quartz workings.
 Everton, 179; Barnawatha, 184; Oxley, 173, farms.
 Eldorado, Reedy Creek, 190; and Mitta Mitta, 245, gold mines.
 Yackandandah, mines, S. of Wodonga, 190; Eurobin, 200.
 Growler's, 190; Louisville, Dargo, 255; Wombat, 275.
 Matlock, Wood's Point, head of the Goulburn, 110.
 Wood's Point, high and rugged, was the centre of very promising
 gold quartz veins in a sort of igneous rock. Roads to it are very bad.
 Omeo or Livingstone, in the Alps, 250 N.E., mining.

Wimmera District.

Stawell, on Pleasant Creek, 176 W.N.W., quartz mines.
 Armstrongs, 162; and Great Western, 168, N. of Ararat, mines.
 Crowlands, 150; and Elmhurst, 138, on the Upper Wimmera.
 Landesborough, 150; Redbank, 137; and Navarre, 152, mines.
 Moyston, 162; Stuart Mill, 165; Edenhope, 294.
 Glenorchy, 180; and Horsham, 210, on the Wimmera.
 St. Arnaud's Silver Mine, 150; Gre-Gre, 160.
 Castle-Donnington, Swan Hill, on the Murray, 230 N.N.W.
 Euston, on the New South Wales side of Murray, 320.
 Wentworth, New South Wales, at the junction of Darling and
 Murray, 407, important river steamer station.



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