

1885.

VICTORIA.

MELBOURNE MINT.

DESPATCH DATED 30TH MAY, 1885, FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR
THE COLONIES, ENCLOSING REPORT OF THE DEPUTY-MASTER OF THE
ROYAL MINT, LONDON, ON THE WEIGHT AND FINENESS OF GOLD COINS
STRUCK AT THE MELBOURNE BRANCH OF THE ROYAL MINT.

PRESENTED TO BOTH HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT BY HIS EXCELLENCY'S COMMAND.

By Authority:

JOHN FERRES, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, MELBOURNE.

VICTORIA,
No. 43.

SIR,

Downing-street,
30 May, 1885.

I am directed by the Secretary of State to transmit to you the documents specified in the annexed Schedule.

I have the honour to be,
&c., &c., &c.,

(Signed) . ROBERT G. W. HERBERT.

The Officer Administering
The Government of Victoria.

Date.	Description of Document.
28 May, 1885 ...	Copy of a letter from the Treasury forwarding a copy of a Report on the Gold Coinage at the Melbourne Branch of the Royal Mint for the year ended 30th June, 1884.

The Treasury to the Colonial Office.

8212/85.

SIR,

Treasury Chambers,
28th May, 1885.

I am directed by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to transmit to you herewith, for the information of Lord Derby, copy of a Report, dated the 12th instant, from the Deputy-Master of the Mint, and its enclosure, giving sundry Returns relative to the gold coinage at the Melbourne Branch Mint during the year ended 30th June, 1884.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) C. G. BARRINGTON.

To the Under Secretary of State,
&c., &c., &c.,
Colonial Office.

The Mint to the Treasury.

SIR,

Royal Mint, 12th May, 1885.

I have the honour to acquaint you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, that the following Returns have been duly received from the Deputy-Master of the Melbourne Branch of the Royal Mint, in conformity with the Order in Council of the 7th of August, 1869.

I. Twelve Monthly Returns showing the transactions in bullion of the Melbourne Branch of the Royal Mint, from July, 1883, to June, 1884, inclusive.

The coin issued to the public was as follows :—

1883.		Sovereigns. Ozs.	Half-sovereigns. Ozs.
In July	... ..	66,515·82	... ..
„ August	... ..	42,632·05	... ..
„ September	... ..	36,469·40	... ..
„ October	... ..	30,562·18	... ..
„ November	... ..	33,387·65	... ..
„ December	... ..	38,651·96	... ..

1884.				Sovereigns.	Half-sovereigns.
				Ozs.	Ozs.
In January	...	...	...	70,112·53	...
„ February	...	...	...	79,359·84	...
„ March	...	...	...	68,828·83	...
„ April	...	...	...	45,714·36	...
„ May	...	...	...	50,595·83	...
„ June	...	...	...	41,479·47	3,082·44

II. Four Returns of waste in coining gold at the Melbourne Branch of the Royal Mint for the quarters ended the 30th of September and the 31st of December, 1883, and the 31st of March and the 30th of June, 1884.

III. Four Returns by the Board of Verification to the Governor of the colony on the state of the bullion in the Mint on the 30th of September and the 31st of December and the 31st of March and the 30th of June, 1884.

The charges for coinage have been in accordance with the rates fixed by the Governor of Victoria in his Order in Council of the 7th of October, 1878.

I have also to request that you will submit to their Lordships my Report, enclosed, being the fourteenth, on the weight and fineness of the gold coins produced at the Melbourne Branch of the Royal Mint during the twelve months, July, 1883, to June, 1884, both inclusive, that Report being based on the assay of Pyx pieces transmitted by the Deputy-Master for examination, in accordance with the provisions of the Order in Council before referred to. The preparation of this Report has been delayed, owing to the accidental detention of the Pyx pieces for the June quarter by the Bank of Australasia at Melbourne.

A copy of this Report has been forwarded, as usual, to the Deputy-Master at Melbourne, for his information.

I have, &c.,

The Secretary,
Treasury, S. W.

(Signed)

C. W. FREMANTLE.

FOURTEENTH Report, addressed to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury on the weight and fineness of gold coins struck at the Melbourne Branch of the Royal Mint, and transmitted by the Deputy-Master for examination, in accordance with the provisions of Her Majesty's Order in Council of the 7th of August, 1869.

PIECES taken without preference by the officer appointed by the Governor of the colony at the deliveries of the Melbourne Mint.

Quarter ending.	Denomination of Coin.	Number of Pieces.	Total Weight.	Average Weight of a Piece.	Average proportion of Gold in 1,000 parts.
1883.			Ozs.	Ozs.	
30th September	Sovereigns	122	31·324	·2567	916·570
31st December	Sovereigns	89	22·853	·2567	916·544
1884.					
31st March	Sovereigns	182	46·743	·2568	916·553
30th June	Sovereigns	117	30·052	·2568	916·594
„	Half-sovereigns	6	·771	·1284	916·450

The standard weight of the sovereign is oz. ·25682, and of the half-sovereign oz. ·12841 ; and the standard fineness (in 1,000 parts) is 916·666.

Royal Mint,
12th May, 1885.

(Signed)

C. W. FREMANTLE,
Deputy-Master and Comptroller.