

1886.

—  
VICTORIA.

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MELBOURNE MINT.

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DESPATCH DATED 31st OCTOBER, 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.

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

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By Authority:

JOHN FERRES, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, MELBOURNE.

APPROXIMATE COST OF PAPER.

	£	s.	d.
Preparation--Not given.			
Printing (760 copies) ..	..	..	..
			3 0 0

VICTORIA,  
No. 86.  
SIR,

Downing-street,  
31st October, 1885.

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

I have, &c.,

(Sgd.) ROBERT G. W. HERBERT.

The Officer Administering  
The Government of Victoria.

Date.	Description of Document.
28th Oct., 1885...	Copy of a letter from the Treasury enclosing a Report from the Deputy-Master of the Mint on the Coinage of the Melbourne Mint.

*Treasury to Colonial Office.*

16211/85.

SIR,

Treasury Chambers,  
28th October, 1885.

I am directed by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to transmit to you herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, copy of a Report, dated 19th instant, which my Lords have received from the Deputy-Master of the Mint, and of its enclosure, on the subject of the coinage of the Melbourne Mint.

I am, &c.,

(Sgd.) FRANK MOWATT.

The Under Secretary of State,  
Colonial Office.

*Royal Mint to Treasury.*

SIR,

Royal Mint, 19th October, 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, 1884, to June, 1885, inclusive.

The coin issued to the public was as follows :—

1884.				Sovereigns. Ozs.	Half-sovereigns. Ozs.	
July	...	...	...	57,527·35	...	...
August	...	...	...	52,905·73	...	...
September	...	...	...	56,498·41	...	3,082·43
October	...	...	...	75,502·64	...	...
November	...	...	...	70,366·35	...	...
December	...	...	...	86,672·69	...	...

1885.				Sovereigns. Ozs.		Half-sovereigns. Ozs.
January	...	...	...	69,083·40	...	...
February	...	...	...	55,987·41	...	...
March	...	...	...	67,930·19	...	...
April	...	...	...	52,392·38	...	...
May	...	...	...	56,501·41	...	...
June	...	...	...	69,857·95	...	...

II. Four Returns of waste in coining gold at the Melbourne Branch of the Royal Mint for the quarters ending

30th September, 1884,  
31st December, 1884,  
31st March, 1885,  
30th June, 1885.

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 September, 1884,  
31st December, 1884,  
31st March, 1885,  
30th June, 1885.

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 fifteenth, on the weight and fineness of the gold coins produced at the Melbourne Branch of the Royal Mint during the twelve months, July, 1884, to June, 1885, 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.

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

The Secretary,  
Treasury.

I have, &c.,  
(Sgd.) C. W. FREMANTLE.

FIFTEENTH 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.
1884.			Ozs.	Ozs.	
30th September ...	Sovereigns ...	139	35·697	·2568	916·601
„ ...	Half-sovereigns	5	·642	·1285	916·500
31st December ...	Sovereigns ...	191	49·044	·2568	916·610
1885.					
31st March ...	Sovereigns ...	160	41·086	·2568	916·619
30th June ...	Sovereigns ...	151	38·779	·2568	916·628

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,  
19th October, 1885.

(Sgd.) C. W. FREMANTLE,  
Deputy-Master and Comptroller.