

1897.

VICTORIA.

VICTORIAN RAILWAYS.

R E P O R T

OF THE

VICTORIAN RAILWAYS COMMISSIONER

FOR THE

QUARTER ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1896.

PRESENTED TO BOTH HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT PURSUANT TO THE ACT 54 VICTORIA No. 1135
AND ACT No. 1439.

By Authority:

ROBT. S. BRAIN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, MELBOURNE.

R E P O R T.

VICTORIAN RAILWAYS,
Melbourne, 28th January, 1897.

To the Honorable the Minister of Railways.

SIR,

In accordance with the provisions of the 58th section of the Railways Act, No. 1135, I have the honour to submit my Report for the quarter ending 31st December, 1896.

For comparative purposes the figures relating to the corresponding quarter of 1895 are also given.

Railways.	Quarter ending 31st December, 1895.	Quarter ending 31st December, 1896.
Miles open	3,120	3,129
Revenue—	1895	1896
Passengers	£283,339	£293,701
Parcels	13,486	15,125
Parcels stamps	13,077	14,221
Horses, carriages, and dogs	2,408	2,311
Mails	14,797	14,147
Rents	12,806	12,529
Miscellaneous	2,521	2,163
Live stock	37,142	40,795
Goods	296,914	330,781
	£676,490	£725,773
Expenditure	£381,459	£378,676
Train miles run	2,315,037	2,354,647
Revenue per train mile	5s. 10d. 13	6s. 1d. 98
Expenditure per train mile	3s. 3d. 55	3s. 2d. 59
Percentage expenditure to revenue	56.39	52.18
Number of passengers	10,476,320	10,532,678
Tonnage of goods traffic	513,181	534,318
Tonnage of live stock traffic	49,849	53,380

The revenue shows an increase of £49,283, and the expenditure a decrease of £2,783, the improved result for the quarter being £52,066.

The passenger revenue for the quarter is £10,362 in excess, and there is a satisfactory increase over the corresponding quarter last year of £33,867 in the goods traffic.

It will be observed with pleasure that the business of the Department generally shows a marked improvement. The revenue for this half-year is better than that of any corresponding period since December, 1893, being £10,000 over 1894, and £70,000 over 1895; but as it is well known that the harvest throughout the colony has not been up to expectations, it can hardly be expected that the rate of increase in revenue can be maintained for the ensuing six months.

I have now inspected the whole of the suburban system, and all the lines in the eastern and north-eastern, and some in the northern and western, districts of the colony. I hope to be able to complete my inspection of the remainder during the current quarter. I am again pleased to report that the lines which I have inspected are generally in good working order.

Improved accommodation is being provided where necessary as rapidly as circumstances will permit.

The line from Nathalia to Picola ($6\frac{3}{4}$ miles) was opened for traffic on the 15th December last.

I attach reports from the Engineer for Existing Lines on the general condition of the way and works, and from the Chief Mechanical Engineer on the state of the rolling-stock.

Returns relating to the staff, &c., are also submitted herewith.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN MATHIESON,

Railways Commissioner.

APPENDIX I.

Railway Department, Office of Engineer of Existing Lines,
Melbourne, 14th January, 1897.

SIR,

I have the honour to report that, during the quarter ending 31st December, 1896, the way and works of the Victorian Railways were efficiently maintained.

The work of improving the gradients is still in progress on the Geelong and Camperdown and North-Eastern Lines, whilst that on the Ballarat and Ararat Line was completed on the 10th October last.

The relaying of Serviceton line with 75-lb. rails was commenced on the 12th October, 1896, 17 $\frac{3}{4}$ miles having been relaid to the 31st ult.

I have, &c.,

C. E. NORMAN,
Engineer for Existing Lines.

The Victorian Railways Commissioner.

Victorian Railways, Chief Mechanical Engineer's Office,
Melbourne, 27th January, 1897.

SIR,

I have the honour to report that the rolling-stock was kept in good running order and condition during the quarter ended 31st December, 1896.

The deliveries of waggons under existing contracts for the quarter were 15 of the "U" class.

Twenty-five (25) iron sheep trucks, "L" class, were completed and turned out from the Newport workshops during the quarter.

Tenders have been let for 200 iron medium waggons, "I" class.

The drawings, &c., are in preparation for the new car stock.

I have, &c.,

T. H. WOODROFFE,
Chief Mechanical Engineer.

The Victorian Railways Commissioner.

APPENDIX II.

VICTORIAN RAILWAYS.—ACT 1135, SECTION 58.

STATEMENT OF REMOVALS OF EMPLOYÉS.

QUARTER ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1896.

Name in Full.	Date of Entry.		Date of Leaving.	Branch.	Rank, Grade, or Position.	Salary or Wages.	Remarks.
	Approx.	On or after 1.11.83.					
Anderson, Francis ...	...	21.5.88	7.11.96	Traffic ...	Porter ...	6s. 6d. per day	Resigned
Angwin, Géo. Henry Kent ...	...	23.4.88	4.12.96	" ...	" ...	6s. 6d. "	Dismissed
Baker, Fredk. Openshaw ...	10.10.81	...	9.11.96	Locomotive ...	Fitter ...	13s. "	Retired
Besemerer, Frank ...	...	20.8.88	10.11.96	Traffic ...	Porter ...	6s. "	Resigned
Biddle, Milton Charles Sperling	...	11.8.90	29.10.96	Existing Lines	Repairer ...	6s. "	"
Brown, George Edwin ...	...	28.1.89	8.11.96	Locomotive ...	Fitter ...	10s. "	Deceased
Cahill, William ...	...	6.2.86	18.11.96	Traffic ...	Porter ...	7s. "	Dismissed
Canavan, Columban Stephen	2.4.79	...	4.12.96	" ...	Guard ...	8s. 6d. "	Retired
Carey, Lucius Francis ...	23.10.81	...	14.10.96	Locomotive ...	Driller ...	7s. 6d. "	Deceased
Clark, Richard ...	20.6.70	...	10.12.96	Traffic ...	Guard ...	10s. 6d. "	Retired
Connerty, John ...	17.6.80	...	4.11.96	Existing Lines	Repairer ...	7s. "	"
Conway, Eugene Thomas ...	17.10.81	...	31.10.96	Traffic ...	Station-master	£175 per ann.	"
Cook, George ...	31.3.79	...	29.10.96	" ...	Head porter ...	9s. 6d. per day	Dismissed
Cottrill, Robert ...	12.11.66	...	30.12.96	Locomotive ...	Driver ...	15s. "	Retired
Cutten, Charles Francis ...	8.3.68	...	30.11.96	Traffic ...	Station-master	£237 10s. per ann.	"
Dalton, Henry ...	1.11.77	...	6.11.96	Existing Lines	Gatekeeper ...	6s. per day	"
Donaldson, Thomas Marshal	1.9.78	...	31.10.96	Traffic ...	Guard ...	9s. "	"
George, Ernest Alfred ...	...	23.4.88	4.12.96	" ...	Clerk ...	£107 10s. per ann.	Dismissed
Harding, Charles ...	1.8.83	...	24.12.96	Existing Lines	Ganger ...	9s. per day	Deceased
Haslam, William Henry ...	18.5.71	...	25.11.96	Locomotive ...	Fitter ...	13s. "	"
Hogan, William ...	26.2.83	...	7.11.96	Existing Lines	Gatekeeper ...	5s. 6d. "	"
Hollow, Theodore Norwood	20.12.76	...	30.11.96	Existing Lines	Clerk ...	£125 per ann.	Retired
Keane, Michael ...	...	12.6.89	7.12.96	Existing Lines	Labourer ...	6s. 6d. per day	Dismissed
Lawley, Stephen ...	25.10.63	...	20.11.96	" ...	Inspector ...	£310 per ann.	Retired
Lee, Thomas ...	...	9.9.89	23.11.96	Locomotive ...	Labourer ...	6s. 6d. per day	Dismissed
Lynar, William Conway ...	1.4.78	...	22.12.96	Existing Lines	Clerk ...	£155 per ann.	Deceased
McFarlan, Alexander ...	15.5.82	...	14.12.96	Locomotive ...	Carriage builder	10s. per day	Dismissed
Meaney, Thomas ...	...	25.7.90	10.10.96	Traffic ...	Porter ...	5s. 6d. "	Resigned
Middlemiss, Archibald ...	13.11.82	...	16.10.96	Existing Lines	Signal adjuster	9s. "	Retired
McAles, David ...	25.5.82	...	20.10.96	Locomotive ...	Driller ...	7s. 6d. "	Deceased
McCarthy, Daniel George	...	17.1.87	29.12.96	Traffic ...	Porter ...	7s. "	Killed on duty
McGoldrick, John ...	2.11.73	...	31.12.96	Existing Lines	Repairer ...	7s. "	Retired
McKay, Daniel ...	2.12.82	...	5.12.96	Locomotive ...	Fireman ...	10s. "	Deceased
Neville, Geo. Wilmott ...	7.5.83	...	8.10.96	" ...	" ...	10s. "	Dismissed
*O'Shea, George William	19.4.75	...	30.9.96	Traffic ...	Clerk ...	8s. "	Retired
Peacock, Fredk. John ...	...	17.11.84	30.12.96	" ...	Station-master	7s. 6d. "	Resigned
Plunkett, Nicholas ...	...	9.2.86	10.10.96	" ...	Guard ...	8s. "	"
Reilly, John Samuel ...	...	8.3.89	2.11.96	" ...	Porter ...	6s. "	Deceased
Robinson, Robert Finlay ...	1.6.77	...	26.12.96	" ...	Gateman ...	5s. 6d. "	"
Ryan, Cornelius ...	...	22.2.86	5.10.96	" ...	Clerk ...	£117 10s. per ann.	"
Shapcott, Albert Abraham	...	26.4.88	23.11.96	" ...	Porter ...	6s. 6d. per day	Resigned
Slater, Louis ...	24.11.73	...	25.12.96	Existing Lines	Ganger ...	9s. "	Deceased
Slattery, William ...	...	26.4.87	16.12.96	Traffic ...	Labourer ...	6s. 6d. "	Dispensed with
Smith, Henry ...	...	30.10.88	5.11.96	Existing Lines	Repairer ...	6s. 6d. "	Dismissed
Stephens, Thomas ...	...	9.1.88	2.11.96	Traffic ...	Porter ...	7s. "	Resigned
Walsh, John James ...	...	1.12.88	29.11.96	Existing Lines	Repairer ...	6s. 6d. "	Deceased
Williams, Isaac ...	16.1.61	...	30.11.96	Locomotive ...	Night Foreman	£275 per ann.	Retired
Wills, Arthur ...	6.10.80	...	30.10.96	Traffic ...	Station-master	8s. per day	Dismissed

* Omitted from previous quarter.

VICTORIAN RAILWAYS.—ACT 1135, SECTION 58.

STATEMENT OF APPOINTMENTS OF EMPLOYÉS.

QUARTER ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1896.

Name in Full.	Date of Birth.	Branch.	Position.	Date of Appointment or Reinstatement.	Salary or Wages.	Remarks.
*Balaam, Benjamin ...	17.11.33	Existing Lines	Inspector ...	23.9.96	£320 per ann.	Reinstated, Act 1324, Sec. 21, (retired 15.8.93)
Carroll, John ...	15.3.41	"	Gatekeeper ...	22.12.96	4s. per day	By-law 70
Phillips, John ...	24.8.36	"	Ganger ...	12.11.96	9s. "	Reinstated (retired 24.8.96)
Poulton, George Scott ...	25.12.55	Locomotive ...	Sawmaker ...	20.10.96	11s. "	Act 1135, Sec. 81
Smith, Alexander ...	3.8.36	Existing Lines	Repairer ...	12.11.96	7s. "	Reinstated (retired 3.8.96)
Wood, Margaret ...	2.5.65	"	Office cleaner	2.11.96	20s. per week	By-law 70

* Omitted from previous list.