THE COMMEMORATION OF

HER MAJESTY’S REIGN

BY THE

CHILDREN OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NEW SOUTH WALES,

IN THE PRESENCE OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE
GOVERNOR, VISCOUNT HAMPDEN.

AT THE

SYDNEY
CRICKET GROUND,

ON

Monday, 21st June, 1897.

"Revered, beloved—o you that hold
A nobler office upon earth
Than arms, or power of brain, or birth.
Could give the warrior kings of old.
"Her court was pure: her life serene:
God gave her peace: her hand reproved:
A thousand claims to reverence closed
In her as Mother, Wife and Queen."

Tennyson.

PEEL
PALMERSTON
DISRAELI
ROBSON
SALISBURY
WENTWORTH
PARKES
PALMER
GREY
MACAULAY
HALLAM
MENDELSSOHN
SULLIVAN

1837-1897.

TENNYSON
WORDSWORTH
LEIGHTON
MULLAE
WOLSELEY
DICKENS
THAIKNERAY
ELIOT
IRVING
HUXLEY
TYNDALL
CARLACE
KENDALL

1837-1897.

1837-1897.

1840.

ANTHONY HORDERN'S.

RAYMARKET (ONLY) SYDNEY.
Collection Highlight

The Commemoration of Her Majesty’s Reign

This rare document is the Colony of NSW official program for the Public Schools’ celebration of Queen Victoria’s Diamond Jubilee held in the Sydney Cricket Ground on Monday 21st June 1897. Included within the day’s official events was the official opening by the Governor of NSW, Viscount Hampden, and a rendition of the National Anthem “God Save the Queen”, “Rule Britannia” and “Australia’s Sunny Clime” by a combined choir of 3000 school children and school bands. On page 4 of this rare ephemera item are details of the Public Schools and Athletics Association of NSW, which was established in 1888. The names of the President and Committee of the organization are listed along with the names of all the sports officials involved in this event.

The Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria was celebrated by a variety of events in all Australian Colonial schools. Concerts, sports events, official visits to schools by local colonial and municipal officials, local mayors and military officials. At that time in 1897, the British Empire, of which colonial Australia was one of its wealthiest and most loyal components, had reached its zenith as the predominant world power. Quite a number of Australian towns, shires and municipalities produced specially minted commemorative medallions for the Diamond Jubilee which were distributed to all primary school children in their respective local schools. The ANME has one of these 1897 commemorative medallions in its collection.

Image: ANME (Brown Collection)