

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1887.

Vincent, C. E. H., Sheffield, Central, C.	Watson, T., Derbyshire, Ilkeston, L.	Wiggin, H. Staffs., Handsworth, L.	Wodehouse, E. R., Bath, U. L.
Vivian, Sir H., Swansea District, U. L.	Watt, H., Glasgow, Camlachie, L.	Will, J. S., Montrose Burghs., L.	Wolmer, Visct., Hampshire, E., U. L.
Waddy, S. D., Lincolnshire, North Brigg, L.	Wayman, T., Yorks, West Riding, North, Eiland, L.	Williams, A. J., Glamorgans, S. L.	Wood, Col. N., Durham, Houghton-le-Spring, C.
Wallace, K., Edinburgh, East, L.	Webster, Sir R. E., Isle of Wight, C.	Williams, J., Lancashire, North, Lancaster, L.	Woodall, W., Hanley, L.
Walrod, Lieutenant-Colonel W. H., Devonshire, N. W., Tiverton, C.	Webster, R. G., St. Pancras, E., C.	Williamson, S., Kilmarnock Dist., L.	Woodhead, J., Yorkshire, West Riding, East, Spen Valley, L.
Walsh, Hon. A. H. J., Radnorshire, C.	West, W. Cornwallis, Deunghshire, West, Vale of Clwyd, U. L.	Wilson, C. H., Hull, West, L.	Worms, Baron H. De, Liverpool, East Toxteth, C.
Wardle, H., Derbyshire, South, L.	Weymouth, Vis., Somerset, Frome, C.	Wilson, H. J., Yorkshire, West Riding, South Holmfirth, L.	Wright, C., Lancs., S. W., Leigh, L.
Waring, Col. T., Down County, N., C.	Wharton, J. L., Yorks., West Riding, East Ripon, C.	Wilson, L., Middlesbrough, L.	Wright, H. S., Nottingham, South, C.
Warvington, C. M., Monmouthshire, West, L.	Whitbread, S., Bedford, L.	Wilson, Sir Samuel, Portsmouth, C.	Wroughton, P., Berks, North, C.
Watkin, Sir E., Hythe, C.	White, J. Bazley, Gravesend, C.	Winn, Hon. Rowland, Pontefract, C.	Yerburgh, L. A., Chester, C.
Watson, J., Shrewsbury, C.	Whitley, E., Liverpool, Everton, C.	Winterbotham, A. B., Gloucester, East, U. L.	Yeo, F. A., Glamorganshire, W., L.
	Whitmore, C. A., Chelsea, C.		Young, C. E. B., Christchurch, C.

TABLE SHOWING THE BALANCE OF PARTIES AFTER EACH OF THE GENERAL ELECTIONS SINCE THE DATE OF THE FIRST REFORM BILL.

GENERAL ELECTIONS.	ENGLAND.			WALES.		SCOTLAND.			IRELAND.			Totals.
	Counties.	Boroughs.	Universities.	Counties.	Boroughs.	Counties.	Burghs.	Universities.	Counties.	Boroughs.	University.	
1832 Liberals	104	244	—	6	10	21	22	—	45	27	—	479
Conservatives	40	79	4	9	4	9	1	—	19	12	2	179
1835 Liberals	74	192	—	6	6	16	22	—	41	26	—	353
Conservatives	70	131	4	9	8	14	1	—	23	13	2	275
1837 Liberals	47	185	—	3	8	11	22	—	44	29	—	349
Conservatives	97	188	4	12	6	19	1	—	20	10	2	309
1841 Liberals	20	167	—	3	7	19	21	—	34	23	—	289
Conservatives	124	156	4	12	7	20	2	—	25	16	2	368
1847 Liberals	36	186	—	3	7	12	22	—	37	26	—	329
Conservatives	108	135	4	12	7	18	1	—	27	13	2	327
1852 Liberals	29	166	1	4	7	11	22	—	39	24	—	323
Conservatives	115	133	3	11	7	19	1	—	25	15	2	331
1857 Liberals	50	215	1	5	9	15	23	—	33	22	—	373
Conservatives	94	104	3	10	5	15	—	—	31	17	2	281
1859 Liberals	45	201	1	5	9	16	22	—	28	20	—	347
Conservatives	59	118	3	10	5	14	1	—	36	19	2	307
1865 Liberals	48	198	—	6	12	18	23	—	32	23	—	360
Conservatives	99	122	4	9	2	12	—	—	32	16	2	298
1868 Liberals	45	197	1	9	13	24	26	2	37	28	—	382
Conservatives	127	89	4	6	2	8	—	—	27	11	2	278
1874 Liberals	27	143	1	6	13	17	22	1	10	8	—	249
Conservatives	145	139	4	9	2	15	4	1	21	10	2	352
1880 Home Rulers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	32	19	—	51
Liberals	54	201	1	13	15	26	26	1	8	5	—	350
Conservatives	118	81	4	2	—	6	—	—	11	13	2	238
1885 Home Rulers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	45	19	—	64
Liberals	134	110	1	19	9	32	30	—	—	1	—	336
Conservatives	100	114	4	1	3	7	1	2	11	3	2	248
Home Rulers	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	76	10	—	87

In the above table members who were returned as Independents are classed as Liberals.  
 In 1832 the number of members of the Lower House was finally fixed at 653; but in 1844 Sudbury (two members) was disfranchised, and in 1852 St. Albans (two members) suffered the same fate. These four seats were, in 1861, allotted as follows:—Two the West Riding of York, one to South Lancashire, and one to Birkenhead.  
 In 1867 the number of members of the House of Commons was again fixed

at 658; but in 1870 Beverley (two members), Bridgewater (two members), Cashel, and Sligo were disfranchised, and these six seats were not re-allotted.  
 In 1885 the number of members of the Lower House was finally fixed at 670; England returning 465, Wales 30, Scotland 72, and Ireland 103 members. The previous distribution had been—England 469, Wales 30, Scotland 60, and Ireland 103 seats. There are now 377 county members, as against 233; 284 borough members, as against 360; and 9 University members, as against 9.

AN ANALYSIS OF THE ELECTIONS OF 1886.

The Election of 1886 was remarkable, in many ways, in the political history of the country—in the demand for Home Rule, and, above all, in the division that took place among the Liberals; the latter became divided into Liberals, Dissident Liberals or Unionists, Home Rulers, and Parnellites. The complete Parliament consists of 670 members; these were elected by 642 constituencies, inclusive of 226 whose return was unopposed. These were divided as follows:—

Liberals	196
Dissident Liberals	73
Conservatives	316
Parnellites	85
<b>Total</b>	<b>670</b>

The Conservatives and Dissident Liberals combined, numbering 389, have a majority of 108 over Liberals and Parnellites, who together number 281. The Liberals and Dissident Liberals number 269, a minority of 49, as compared with the Conservatives. The Liberals, Dissident Liberals, and Parnellites combined number 354, a majority of 38 over the Conservatives.

A careful analysis of the Election returns of 1886 shows the aggregate votes in the whole of the United Kingdom were:—

For Liberals	1,800,233	2,174,996
„ Parnellites	374,763	
„ Conservatives	1,687,823	2,128,343
„ Dissident Liberals	440,520	

Majority for Home Rule... 46,663

It will be seen from the above analysis that the total number of electors in favour of Home Rule is 2,174,996, that of electors against it 2,128,343—leaving a clear majority in its favour of close upon 50,000. It may be remarked, as confirming the general accuracy of these estimates, that the total number of electors thus accounted for is 4,303,339, which is almost exactly 75 per cent of the total electorate of Great Britain.

The changes effected by the Election of 1886 in Ireland, as compared with that of 1885, are scarcely worth consideration. The Unionists carried the whole of Londonderry and South Tyrone. The Nationalists, on the other hand, secured a seat in Belfast; and the popular idea of a Loyalist Ulster is a delusion, a corner of it having been torn from the Loyalists or Unionists. Nevertheless, every seat there was any chance of winning from the Parnellites was hotly contested. There were thirty-three seats, returning

thirty-four members, contested. Mr. Sexton, it should be noted, was returned for two places—Belfast West and Sligo; and at present (time of going to press) sits for both, not being allowed by the rules of the House to choose which of the two he prefers, because of a petition having been presented from Belfast against his return.

RULES FOR THE ADMISSION OF STRANGERS TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Formerly members used to issue tickets for the Strangers' Gallery in wholesale fashion; and at times Inspector Denning has had to conduct a ballot for seats in which 500 persons have participated; but under the new regulations only as many tickets are issued for a given day as there are seats. A stranger desirous of attending a sitting of the House applies, by letter or personally, to a member of the House, signifying the day for which he desires the ticket of admission, and the gallery (Strangers' or Speaker's) in which he preters to sit. There are sixty-five seats in the Strangers' and forty-two in the Speaker's Gallery. These tickets are obtained by the members from the authorities of the House, who have to be furnished by the member with the name and address of the applicant, which are entered in a book. Persons provided with tickets of admission to the Strangers' Gallery assemble in St. Stephen's Hall at a quarter to four o'clock on ordinary days, and at a quarter to twelve on Wednesdays, taking a seat on the benches running along the north side of the Hall. After prayers, these ticket-holders are conducted in batches by the police through the Central and Inner Lobbies into the Strangers' Gallery. Possessors of tickets for the Speaker's Gallery assemble at a quarter to four o'clock on the west side of the Central Lobby, next to the rails protecting the approach to the corridor leading to the Inner Lobby, and on there exhibiting their tickets to the policeman on duty, they are passed on into the Inner Lobby, whence they enter the gallery by a door to the east of the entrance to the House. On entering either the Speaker's or Strangers' Gallery, the ticket-holder has to enter his name and address in a book, which is compared with the name and address given by the M.P. issuing the ticket. Except in times when interest in the sittings is widespread, strangers who have failed to obtain tickets in the ordinary course may often obtain admittance to one or other of the galleries by sending on their card or a note to a member, from the Central Lobby. Ladies obtain tickets for the Ladies' Gallery by writing in the same way to a member, but they generally obtain admittance to the House by a door in the vicinity of the members' private entrance to the House, which is approached from Palace-yard.